



Maya LaFonn Smith

July 27, 2005 - September 6, 2019

Remembering Maya

Maya LaFonn Smith, age 14, while sleeping quietly away to be with the Lord on September 6, 2019 at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Health Systems in Richmond, VA.

Maya was born on July 27, 2005 to the parents of Ronald L. Smith, Jr. and Melissa LaFonn Smith. A strong intelligent, born leader that loved the Lord, her family and friends. At the age of four she began attending Landmark Christian School, in Richmond Va., receiving perfect attendance and honor student status until her diagnoses. Maya accepted Christ at an early age. She was baptized at Little Elam Baptist Church on August 26, 2012 and became a member of the youth choir. To know Maya was to love Maya. She believed in excellence; mediocrity was not an option. She was an author, dancer, cheerleader, athlete, band member, mistress of ceremony, worship leader, public speaker, and the family personal assistant and activities director.

Her dad called her Thumper; her poppy called her Miss Molly; her GiGi called her Miss Wiggles but most called her Maya. God Filled her with about as much love for life and tenacity as she could hold. During her two- year battle with brain cancer Maya co-authored a book called "Flight of Friendship" which will be in the Library of Congress Control number 201990202. She raised over

15,000 for the Children' Hospital Foundation to support programs for the Children's Hospital of Richmond (CHoR) at VCU. Maya became the spokesperson for the 2018 Anthem Lemonaid Stand fundraisers. In addition .she made appearances on numerous television station and radio broadcasts educating viewers and listeners about her faith, and the importance of giving to support childhood cancer. Maya,with her generous heart,donated a portion of her book proceeds to two foundations that supports kids with cancer and their families: ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation and Conner's Heroes Childhood Cancer Foundation.

Maya was preceded in death by her paternal grandfather Ronald Smith Jr.; and maternal uncle, Alfred L. Jones Jr. In addition to her parents, Maya is survived by her brother, Ronald (Trey);maternal grandparents, Alfred and Frances Jones, paternal grandmother, Barbara Smith; maternal great-grandmother, Vernice Wade; aunts, Rhonda and Ronette Smith, Shelly Jones (God mother); God fathers, Stanley Richards and Vernardo Brooks; adult best friend (as name by Maya),Martia Gains; and a host of other special great-uncles and aunts; two extra special, Larry and Carolyn Easley, cousins and friends.

Maya never complained nor did she experience the horrible side effects predicted during the last days. She will be terribly missed and never ever forgotten. You will find yourself smiling and telling countless stories of her honesty and directness, talent, smile, energy ,confidence, resilience and overall love for life.

Maya told her family

I've accepted Christ and I have a relationship with him.

I know where I am going; I am going to be okay.

Trusted in the Lord and they were inseparable!

Kept her in perfect peace!

Cemetery Details

Little Elam Baptist Church Cemetery

8840 Church Lane
Charles City, VA 23030

Previous Events

viewing

SEP 13. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Family Hour

SEP 13. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Celebration of Life

SEP 14. 1:00 PM (ET)

Little Elam Baptist Church
8840 Church Lane
Charles City, VA 23030

Tribute Wall

DS

“ To the family of Maya Smith. My deepest sincere sympathy to you all. I didn't know her personally but, I saw her Mother on CBS 6 news Thursday night. On Friday, I went to the Anthem Lemon-Aid event at CBS 6 and I met her Rhonda. I took a picture with her. Maya will be missed very much by everyone who knew her and loved her. May God Bless you all. With love, David Shaw
Richmond, Virginia

David Wayne Shaw - July 23, 2025 at 05:10 PM



“ Maya LaFonn Smith

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM

MJ

“ love you maya ☐



Mytashia Jones - July 14, 2020 at 08:47 AM

LJ

“ Logan Jones lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



Logan Jones - January 24, 2020 at 02:43 PM

AB

“ *Antoinette Brown lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Antoinette Brown - September 14, 2019 at 06:39 PM

FJ

“ *Frances Jefferson lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Frances Jefferson - September 14, 2019 at 05:51 PM

MB

“ *MaLinda Brown lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



MaLinda Brown - September 14, 2019 at 05:29 PM

RT

“ *Rosette Byrd Turner lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Rosette Byrd Turner - September 14, 2019 at 04:09 PM

GJ

“ *Gena Jones lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Gena Jones - September 14, 2019 at 11:03 AM

SC

“ *Maya, You are gone from this earth, I will see you when we all get to heaven. you are the most bravest and precious young ladies I've ever seen. hats off to Ronald And mellisa. my heart is heavy, but I know you are in a better place HEAVEN love to the whole family Your cousin Rev Sheila*

sheila Crump - September 13, 2019 at 08:36 PM

DB

“ *Diane Burt lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Diane Burt - September 13, 2019 at 05:53 PM

SI

“ *You are all in my heart and mind. May God give you all the peace you seek. Ms.Silena*



Silena - September 13, 2019 at 05:02 PM

GB

“ *Gayle & Glenn Bowman lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Gayle & Glenn Bowman - September 13, 2019 at 04:29 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.*



September 13, 2019 at 03:37 PM

JW

“ *Janeen Walker lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Janeen Walker - September 13, 2019 at 03:04 PM

MF

“ *Minister Brandon Greene And Family lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Minister Brandon Greene and Family - September 13, 2019 at 01:54 PM

LA

“ Leo And Cynthia “Sister” Aaron lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



Leo and Cynthia “Sister” Aaron - September 13, 2019 at 11:34 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.



September 13, 2019 at 11:28 AM

WF

“ With Love & Prayers, Aunt Emma's Family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.



With Love & Prayers, Aunt Emma's Family - September 13, 2019 at 09:49 AM

WI

“ With our Deepest Sympathy, NGB-HRP / IPPS-A purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.



With our Deepest Sympathy, NGB-HRP / IPPS-A - September 13, 2019 at 08:51 AM

KB

“ *Keisha Bradby lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Keisha Bradby - September 13, 2019 at 06:53 AM

BC

“ *My sincerest condolences and deepest sympathy to the Smith family. May God wrap his arms of comfort around you.*

Bruce Cutler - September 13, 2019 at 12:54 AM

AA

“ *I am sending my condolences, prayers and ((hugs)) to Ronald, Missy and Trey! My heart is sadden. Maya was a courageous beautiful and vibrant young teen who had a smile out of this world. She will be missed The Akrie-Williams Family will be lifting you all up in our daily prayers*

Alicia L Akrie-Williams - September 12, 2019 at 11:31 PM



“ *My Yellow Flower!*

*She grew and sprouted in the sun
In the rays of the Holy Spirit's light
Her smile shined so bright like a dandelion; that leaned and moved
in the wind.*

She danced.

I remember when the seed was growing

And your mama was showing

For the ones that was related to you

Just knew...You were going to be great!

I am still stunned and in shock that you have ascended away...

For not only were we both named God's Creative Power

But, this very hour

I sit in the field of grass filled with memories

*Where you've used your creativity and spunk and imprint your M.S.
touch on this county and city*

But, in the end of summer '19

you can share with the many

You are and you were a talented author, dancer, and lady

Now you are a sweet guardian angel with the Great Almighty...

Love,

Maya Burton

Maya Burton - September 12, 2019 at 11:21 PM

RL

“ To Ron, Melissa and Trey,

On behalf of Aunt Barbara's Day Care and the Lewis Family, we would like to extend our deepest sympathy to each of you on the passing of Maya. Maya was a delightful baby when she began staying with Miss Barbara. She grew into a precocious little girl who brought each of us laughter and joy. It is our desire today to choose to cherish those memories of Maya. She squeezed a whole lot of living in to what is seemingly short years on earth and we are so proud of the young lady she had become. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of her life's journey. We love you and we will continue to pray for you through the days, weeks and months to come. We are only a phone call away.

Peace & Blessings be unto to you.

*Barbara Young (Aunt Barbara's Daycare)
Reverend James and Mrs. Renada Lewis
Stephen Lewis
Jayda Lewis*

Renada Lewis - September 12, 2019 at 09:10 PM

EW

“ *Smith and Jones Family,*

I am so very sorry to hear about the loss of your sweet precious baby girl. It breaks my heart to know the pain and sorrow you and your family are experiencing now and in the future. It is hard to say goodbye to those closest to our hearts but God now has your Angel by his side in glory above. My deepest sympathies, thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Ed Whipple

Edmund Whipple - September 12, 2019 at 04:43 PM

SJ

“ *Staff & Administration of Bon Air JCC purchased the Touching Tribute Spray for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.*



Staff & Administration of Bon Air JCC - September 12, 2019
at 04:01 PM

TF

“ *The DeMena and Mickens Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.*



The DeMena and Mickens Family - September 12, 2019 at
01:48 PM

AC

“ *Allean Cotman lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Allean cotman - September 12, 2019 at 10:57 AM

SJ

“ *Sharon Jones lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Sharon Jones - September 12, 2019 at 09:59 AM

FT

“ *To the Smith Family,*

May the pain you feel now be nothing compared to the joy found within the precious memories of Maya.

*Warmest Condolences,
Frances Tabb-Howell & Family*

Frances Tabb-Howell - September 12, 2019 at 09:30 AM

PG

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Paula M Giles - September 12, 2019 at 08:54 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.*



September 12, 2019 at 08:02 AM

LJ

“ *LaToya Johnson-Davis lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



LaToya Johnson-Davis - September 12, 2019 at 07:51 AM

TP

“ *The Richmond Riders Motorcycle Club & PBTF purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.*



The Richmond Riders Motorcycle Club & PBTF - September 11, 2019 at 11:35 PM

JB

“ *To the Smith/Jones Families,*

Warren and I were deeply saddened to learn of Maya's passing and extend our sincerest sympathies. We pray that God's presence in your lives will bring you solace during this most difficult time. May you find comfort in knowing your many friends are praying for you and with you.



*Love,
Warren and JoAnne*

JoAnne Crawley Bell - September 11, 2019 at 10:50 PM

BG

“ I will always remember Maya's bright smile, giggles and her personal granddaughter expressions of love for her grandmother, Maxine at her birthday party.

Remember to lean on the Lord for all of your understanding. He will not leave you or forsake you. Family and friends forever.

*The Gardners,
Bonnie, Ryan, Charra
and Grandchildren*

Bonnie Gardner - September 11, 2019 at 06:36 PM

YP

“ Your Family and Friends of the Fort Lee Police purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.



Your Family and Friends of the Fort Lee Police - September 11, 2019 at 05:50 PM

MO

“ MARIA OWENS lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



MARIA OWENS - September 11, 2019 at 05:27 PM

CA

“ LOVE YOU MAYA RIP MY ANGEL.



Cassandra Allen - September 11, 2019 at 04:33 PM

YB

“ Yvonne Bradby lit a candle in memory of
Maya LaFonn Smith



Yvonne Bradby - September 11, 2019 at 02:24 PM

RM

“ Rhonda Miles-Crump lit a candle in memory
of Maya LaFonn Smith



Rhonda Miles-Crump - September 11, 2019 at 12:30 PM

VM

“ Val, Ebony Sharonda,lorita,Angie,Huu, Muoi
purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of
Maya LaFonn Smith.



Val, Ebony Sharonda,lorita,Angie,Huu, Muoi - September 11,
2019 at 12:24 PM

JC

“ *Jenine Cotman lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Jenine Cotman - September 11, 2019 at 11:27 AM

TJ

“ 😞 😞



Tamisha Jones - September 11, 2019 at 10:59 AM

SB

“ *Shanda Bullock lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Shanda Bullock - September 11, 2019 at 10:54 AM

PF

“ *Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation - September 11, 2019 at 08:43 AM

LC

“ *Lori Crewe lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Lori Crewe - September 11, 2019 at 07:48 AM

LJ

“ *Lisa M Jones lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Lisa M Jones - September 11, 2019 at 02:50 AM

CR

“ *Thinking of you during this season of "GRIEF", only your FAITH will comfort you during this difficult time. IT was an honor and pleasure being Maya's basketball coach. She was an asset to the team with her sportsmanship, team spirit, and smile. Coach Rudy and Family.*



Coach Rudy - September 10, 2019 at 11:21 PM

CI

“ *Charles City Volunteer Fire/EMS Inc. purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.*



Charles City Volunteer Fire/EMS Inc. - September 10, 2019 at 09:58 PM

NC

“ *Nicole Adkins & Shayna Crewe lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Nicole Adkins & Shayna Crewe - September 10, 2019 at 09:33 PM

SB

“ *CSM Smith & Family,
I'm very sorry to hear about the loss of Maya. May the good Lord
bless you, keep you safe, and always be with you.
SFC Baldwin*

SFC Baldwin - September 10, 2019 at 07:59 PM

SA

“ *CSM Smith and family,
Deepest sympathy with the loss Maya. May
God comfort you during this time.
SFC Anderson*



SFC Anderson - September 10, 2019 at 07:11 PM

CB

“ *Cecelia Wynn Bradby sent a virtual gift in
memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Cecelia Wynn Bradby - September 10, 2019 at 06:51 PM

MB

“ Prayers and love go out to the family of the the most loving and sweetest girl Maya Smith 💖
from Madison bradby



Madison Bradby - September 10, 2019 at 06:16 PM

CK

“ Chiquita Kersey lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



Chiquita Kersey - September 10, 2019 at 06:08 PM

DS

“ Dee Dee Sears lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



Dee Dee Sears - September 10, 2019 at 03:20 PM

GG

“ Gail Greene lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



Gail Greene - September 10, 2019 at 01:35 PM

MA

“ *Smith & Jones Family we are standing in the gap with others to God to continue to give you the strength and comfort that you need now and going ahead. This is one of the greatest midnight hours that we must face but God is ever present in your valley. Your faith and love for one another has kept you this far. Hold on, God has not and will not leave you.*

Marilyn, Harris, Tiffany, Vannie

Marilyn - September 10, 2019 at 11:45 AM

AJ

“ *Anthony L L Jones lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Anthony L L Jones - September 10, 2019 at 11:26 AM

DH

“ *Daurice Sheneka And Saint Hackney lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Daurice Sheneka and Saint Hackney - September 10, 2019 at 11:13 AM

(B

“ *(God Dad) Vernardo Brooks lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



(God Dad) Vernardo Brooks - September 10, 2019 at 11:06 AM

(B)

“ ((God Daddy) Vernardo Brooks lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



((God Daddy) Vernardo Brooks - September 10, 2019 at 11:03 AM

CB

“ Carolyn Brooks lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



Carolyn Brooks - September 10, 2019 at 11:01 AM

(B)

“ (God Sister) Kaneisha Brooks lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



(God Sister) Kaneisha Brooks - September 10, 2019 at 10:59 AM

WH

“ Wendy Hoffman purchased the Magnificent Life S pray for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.



Wendy Hoffman - September 10, 2019 at 10:19 AM

MS

“ Marie Smith lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



Marie Smith - September 10, 2019 at 10:05 AM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.



September 10, 2019 at 09:31 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Maya LaFonn Smith.



September 10, 2019 at 09:06 AM

CR

“ Charlene Redman sent a virtual gift in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith



Charlene Redman - September 10, 2019 at 08:24 AM

EC

“ *Elaine Carter lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Elaine Carter - September 09, 2019 at 11:54 PM

JH

“ *Jane Harris lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



Jane Harris - September 09, 2019 at 09:04 PM

KT

“ *KENNETH TABB lit a candle in memory of Maya LaFonn Smith*



KENNETH TABB - September 09, 2019 at 06:32 PM

WD

“ *The Dickerson family extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of Maya. We will always cherish and thank God for placing her in our lives; we have been blessed beyond measure by her life.*

*Your brother and sister in Christ,
Wesley (Teach) & Julia*

Wesley Dickerson - September 09, 2019 at 05:50 PM



“ *We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

March Funeral Homes - September 09, 2019 at 04:38 PM