



Kenya Malene Griffin

February 10, 1971 - November 12, 2020

Sometimes it is hard to understand...why certain things must be. But there is a reason for it all...Beyond our power to see. The cover of Life's Book has closed for Ms. Kenya Malene Griffin, of Decatur, Georgia when she passed away, Thursday, November 12, 2020 at the age of 49.

Kenya Malene Griffin was born on February 10, 1971 at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C. to parents, Chester H. Griffin and Janis Erwin Griffin. The family relocated to Atlanta in 1975 where Kenya began school, completing sixth grade at Our Lady of Lourdes and on to Sts. Peter & Paul in Decatur where she completed eighth grade. Always alert, inquisitive, and talkative, Kenya found her passion early in life when she was enrolled by her parents in Barbara Sullivan's Atlanta Dance Theater on Auburn Ave. in Atlanta. Later transferring to Jacobs School of Dance,

Kenya cherished the opportunity to express herself through movement – ballet, tap, & jazz - and it was there that her creative side took flight. She attended Southwest DeKalb High School, as well as Avondale School for the Performing Arts. Later, at Savannah State College, she further honed her dance skills, studying with Alvin Ailey Dance Company and finally finding her true passion in Modern Dance. Always active with her family at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, it was an easy transition from Modern to Liturgical dance and it was there that she blossomed and thrived.

In 2000, with the blessing and encouragement of her pastor, Fr. John Adamski, the Amazing Grace Liturgical Dance Company was formed. Today, AGLD is known throughout the country, offering workshops to young and old, and training young dancers to “Dance like David danced”. Kenya and AGLD have given liturgical dance workshops all over the US and also in the Republic of Kenya – bringing a new passion and level of spirituality to every worshipper they have touched. Since 2006, she has produced over 15 productions and debuted her first ballet entitled “HOPE”, which was a tribute to those affected by and living with HIV/AIDS – no doubt influenced by her daily contact with the patients and her co-workers at Grady’s Infectious Disease Program (IDP) where she had been employed for the past 10 years as Assistant to the Director. She loved the patients dearly and never missed an opportunity to invite them to AGLD concerts and performances.

In 2013 AIB TV awarded Kenya the William Womack Award for her creativity, powerful choreography, as well as for all the lives she and AGLD have touched through the years. In 2016, AGLD was the first place Rice Awards winner in Music & Arts.

Kenya leaves to cherish her memory her parents, her younger brother, Khary; niece, Kaisonna; nephews, Khaleel, Kheenan, & Keyon, all of Columbia, SC; aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Griffin (Jane); aunt and uncle, Mr. & Mrs. Louis G. Griffin III (Maggie), uncle, Roy H. Erwin, and cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Erwin (Tasha), Mr. and Mrs. Lerone Erwin (Angela), Mr. and Mrs. Rick Thompson (Karen), Mr. Delano Cothran, and Kamau and Njeri Griffin. Also, her dear godmothers Gloria Manson of Atlanta and Cynthia Clarey of Chicago. She also leaves a host of cousins, other relatives, friends, and new dancers all over the world.

Service Info:

Monday, November 23, 2020 at 10:30AM

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Atlanta, GA

The service will be closed due to the COVID pandemic, but may be viewed via
livestream at www.lourdesatlanta.org

A link will be provided on the website to view the service.

Janis Griffin

Bloom where you are planted!

Previous Events

Memorial Service - Live Streamed

NOV 23. 10:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
25 Boulevard, NE
Atlanta, GA 30312

Burial

NOV 23 (ET)

Honey Creek Woodland Cemetary 2526 Ga. 212
Conyers, GA

Tribute Wall

DW

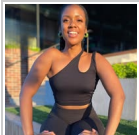
“ Today, February 7, 2021, I learned of Kenya's transition; I am deeply saddened and shocked. I met in the early days of her work building Amazing Grace Dance. I provided workshops for the company and listened as Kenya shared her plans and dreams for herself and the company. Her work with the company was her calling. Kenya and I lost touch when I left the country in response to my own calling, but Kenya and her dreams for Amazing Grace stayed with me. My sincerest condolences to her family, the Our Lady of Lourdes community, and the Atlanta Dance community.

Dr. Carol Marie Webster - February 07, 2021 at 11:32 AM

IL

“ To God be the Glory for the things he have done. Kenya and I met at church and had some good times. We had fun with the girls getting together to eat Ms Janis im praying for you all

Ingrid Barnes New Orleans Louisiana - November 27, 2020 at 03:04 PM



“ Thank you Kenya for introducing me to a love for dance that still drives me today. Thank you for showing me what pure passion and spirit look like through movement. It was a great gift that will last a life time. I feel honored to have been your student with Amazing Grace. And I hope I can carry on a piece of your legacy. Peace and love and light to all her family and loved ones.



Taylor Armoni Moody - November 23, 2020 at 11:05 PM

VD

“ To the griffin family,chester and janice my heart was very sad when we heard of Kenyans passing, it's been a long time but the memories are never forgotten. Our sympathy and prayers go out to you and your family,keep the faith and be strong for kenya,she loved you and you loved her ,,but God loved her more .she 8is now in his hands,no more pain. Love always Charlie and Victoria dowdy.



Victoria Dowdy - November 22, 2020 at 10:43 PM

MM

“ My daughter danced with Amazing Grace several years ago and it was truly a great experience for all of us. Kenya lit up the world with her gifts and her presence. Her light was a blessing to us all and we stand grateful. Sending you all boundless love. -- Monica Moody

Monica Moody - November 22, 2020 at 05:58 PM

JA

“ Such a beautiful spirit. I met kenya via a friend and her energy was simply amazing.....Heaven gained an angel

Jacklynn - November 20, 2020 at 05:06 PM



“ In Memory - Comfort Candles was purchased for the family of Kenya Malene Griffin.



November 20, 2020 at 08:55 AM