



"A Great Soul"

*"A great soul serves everyone all the time.
A great soul never dies.
It brings us together again and again."*

-Dr. Maya Angelou



*The family wishes to extend their
deepest gratitude to all those who
offered support in this very
difficult time.*

Interment

**Evergreen Cemetery
Stoughton, MA**

Celebrating THE LIFE OF



Kayla Iman Motley

April 4, 1996-July 18th, 2023

July 28, 2023

**Morning Star Baptist Church
Mattapan, MA**

A Celebration of Life

Kayla Iman Motley was born in Boston, MA on April 4, 1996. She grew up in Stoughton, MA and graduated from Stoughton High School, where she was an outstanding student and superior athlete. Kayla earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, majoring in Social Thought and Political Economy. She had a passion for public service and giving back to the greater Boston community, which led to her work at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute and as a development team member at Partners in Health. Kayla grew up on the UMass Boston campus, and was very proud of the recent naming of Motley Residence Hall.

Kayla was known for her beautiful smile and generous spirit. She loved to travel with family, including cruises to the Caribbean, leadership missions to Costa Rica, and trips to London and Paris with her Mom and Grandmother Gloria. She also enjoyed visiting her sister Jordan in Miami and New York City, and her extended family in Pittsburgh and the DMV. Kayla loved Martha's Vineyard and was instrumental in her parents changing from wanting to purchase a home in Nassau, Bahamas to selecting Oak Bluffs, MA. She often traveled with Jordan to be with her cousins for dining and fun across the country. Kayla's friends brought so much joy to her life; as did spending time in Boston for nights on the town, dancing and screaming at concerts, and binge watching reality TV shows. Everyone expected a slice of Kayla's famous "Giant Coconut Cake" at the annual Motley Cookout.

Kayla loved sports; often playing volleyball, basketball, and softball. Among her favorite pastimes were watching the Boston Celtics, New England Patriots, and Boston Red Sox (especially Big Papi). She loved fishing in the backyard with her Dad at their home on Ames Pond, often winning the first and biggest fish competition. Sometimes she even cheered for the Pittsburgh Steelers, just to make her Daddy happy and to mess with her big brother Keith Allyn who she loved unconditionally.

Kayla is survived by her mother, Angela Motley, and father, Dr. J Keith Motley; brother, Keith Allyn Motley (Marie, Maya, and Michael); sister, Jordan Motley; grandmother, Cornelia Williams; grandfather, Charles Lester; great aunts Jeannette Williams, Barbara Parker, Maxine Holman, Marie Nunley; great uncle Thomas Motley (Lillie); aunts, Kimberly Motley-Phillips (Gonzell), Julie Motley-Williams, Lesia Motley-Hughes, Vicki Motley, Dr. Stephanie Lester-Simmonds (Dale). Cousins: Pam Massey, Kim Lester, Charles Proctor (Yolanda), Khalil Nash, John Robinson, Tinika Spells (Alfonso), Sean Motley (Briana), Nia Phillips, Teresa Baksh (Kemal), Imani Motley, Rashaad Phillips, Nile Simmonds, David L. Hughes, Ian Simmonds; and many other family members and close friends she considered extended family.

Kayla is preceded in death by her grandfather John Motley; grandmother, Gloria Lester; grandfather, Leandrew Williams; great aunts Lorraine Briscoe and Dorothy Higgs; uncle Rev. John Motley III, and sister-cousin Jewelle Lei Motley.

In lieu of flowers, The Motley Family is requesting contributions to the Kayla Motley Memorial Fund at Eastern Bank.
397 Washington St. | Stoughton, MA 02072.



Order of Service

Hosts

Boston Chapter of The Girl Friends Incorporated

Memorial Service

Middlesex Chapter (MA) of the Links Incorporated

Invocation and Opening Remarks

Bishop John M. Borders, III

Musical Selection

The Lord's Prayer
Athene Wilson

Congregational Musical Selection

"We've Come This Far By Faith"

Scripture Reading and Remarks

Minister Julie Motley-Williams
Old Testament - Psalm 39: 4-7; Isaiah 41:10
New Testament - John 14:1-7

Prayer of Comfort and Remarks

Rev. Dr. Steven D. Neville

Soloist

Imani Motley

Celebration of Life Reading and Acknowledgements

Nia K. Phillips

Reflections

Kayla's Krew

Nicole "Nikki" Margolis, Guy "Junior" Jean Baptiste, & Emily Cramer

Kayla's Kousins

Rashaad Phillips

Kayla's Elders

Joseph Feaster, Charlie Titus, Richard Harris,

Kayla's Family

Dr. Stephanie Lester-Simmonds, Keith Allyn Motley,
Jordan Motley, & Dr. J. Keith Motley

Solo

Athene Wilson

Eulogy

Bishop John M. Borders, III

Recessional

Pallbearers

Keith Allyn Motley, Sean Motley, Rashaad Phillips, Nile Simmonds,
Ian Simmonds & David Langston Hughes