

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



CURTIS
LEE KNOX, JR.

MARCH 9, 1985 - JUNE 6, 2026

MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2026

VIEWING: 10:00 A.M. | SERVICE: 11:00 A.M.

FROM THE HEART CHURCH MINISTRIES®
4949 ALLENTOWN ROAD | SUITLAND, MD 20746
BISHOP JOHN A. CHERRY, II - PASTOR

OBITUARY

Curtis Lee Knox, Jr. was born on March 9, 1985, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to Stacey Pharrams and Curtis Knox. He was his mother's only child and father's only son. At birth, he required an emergency delivery because he was in a breech position with the umbilical cord wrapped around his neck. He fought to survive on that day, and carried on until June 6, 2026.

By kindergarten he showed great academic aptitude, receiving awards in math, reading readiness, and overall academic performance. He attended Pittsburgh's Shadyside Academy Junior School where he continued his academic development in a rigorous educational environment. Curtis began his entrepreneurial endeavors around that time too by purchasing candy, bagging it up, and selling it to his classmates. "Hustleman" as he was called, could sell anything and was equally good at negotiating optimal prices for purchases. In fact, he started a lawn service without equipment, and convinced friends to join him. The business grew; however, his friends desired other ventures and consequently terminated the partnership.

Although he spent some of his adolescent years in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, Curtis graduated from Westinghouse Academy in Pittsburgh. He participated in multiple sports during his academic journey; basketball was his favorite. He earned the nickname "Mixed Tape" due to his athletic abilities; however, he was particularly known for his wickedly good crossover, a key basketball dribbling technique. He was a part of the 2003 City of Pittsburgh basketball all-stars.

Not only was Curtis intelligent, but he was also compassionate and caring—always willing to help others in need. For example, he befriended Dwight, a neighbor who lived with a debilitating disease. Curtis was his only friend, and when Dwight was unable to walk across the street to his house to play video games, Curtis carried him. He also came to the aid of a person he saw on the street who had been robbed of his clothing. He called a cab and took the individual to his house where he gave him clothes, shoes, and some money.

On March 24, 2004, Curtis became a father when his daughter, Anazia Marie Pharrams, quietly entered the world in pure love. He was a loving and dedicated father to his beautiful daughter. He loved and adored her, taking her with him wherever he went—when you saw one, you saw the other. They were undeniably similar in their mannerisms, wit, facial expressions, and realistic outlook on life.

OBITUARY *(CONTINUED)*

Curtis gave his life to Jesus Christ at a young age. In 1997, he and his grandmother were at From the Heart Church Ministries in Maryland when he dedicated his life to Christ. He told his grandmother, “That Dude” pushed him out of his seat and he went up to the altar. When asked what dude, he responded, “You know, God.” He subsequently joined From the Heart and was later baptized there. He attended several Youth Institutes and Reality Enrichment classes at From the Heart, and formed a close bond with Reverend Porter Lawson, Jr.

Curtis obtained a barber license from Bladensburg Barber School and organized an annual event where he provided free haircuts to students. After barbering for several years, he decided to further his education. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Morgan State University, pledged Iota Phi Theta Fraternity (Alpha Chapter), and completed one year of a master’s degree program. He also was certified through Teach for America and served as an organizer and activist during the pandemic, promoting health and wellness in his community.

Curtis’ legacy is in the people who carry his memory—the homeless children who received haircuts from a kind barber, students who over the years got haircuts their first day of school, recipients of clothing he collected and distributed, and students who learned math from someone who looked like them. For some his legacy is strategy, sportsmanship, discipline, and teamwork. Kindness, compassion, willingness to help, enthusiasm, passion, and love are his legacy to others.

Curtis will be dearly missed by those who knew and loved him. He leaves to cherish his memory his daughter, Anazia Pharrams; mother, Stacey Pharrams; grandmother, Doris Pharrams; aunt, Kimberly Hosecloth (Keith); sister, Shakelah Bey (Rashod); nieces, Alyana and Aria; nephew, Rashod, Jr.; and a host of cousins and friends.

Curtis was preceded in death by his great-grandmother, Clara “GG” Pharrams, and father, Curtis Knox.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Invocation

Congregational Hymn“Blessed Assurance”

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Psalm 23
New Testament: John 14:1-6

Prayer of Comfort

Selection.....Brother William Carter

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Dr. Lorenza Pharrams, Cousin
Mrs. Shakelah Bey, Sister
Mr. Greg Holmes, Friend
Ms. Anazia Pharrams, Daughter

Obituary *(Read Silently)*

Song of PreparationBrother William Carter

Message of HopeReverend Porter L. Lawson, Jr.

Call to Christ

Recessional

Interment

Heritage Memorial Cemetery
13472 Poplar Hill Road | Waldorf, MD 20601

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Chorus

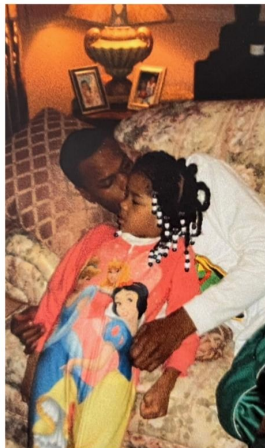
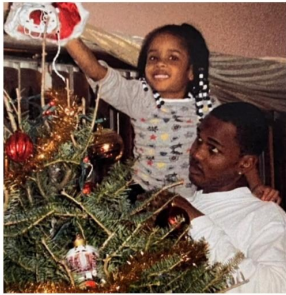
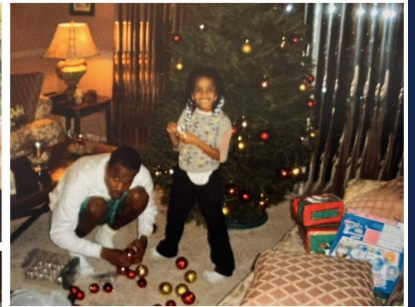
*This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

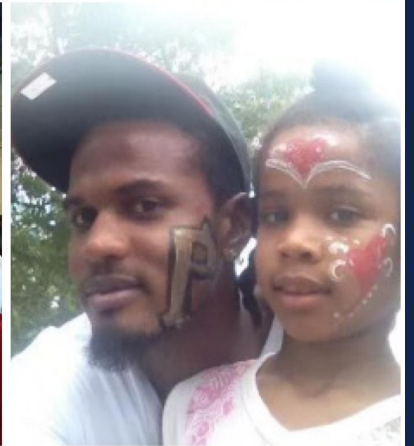
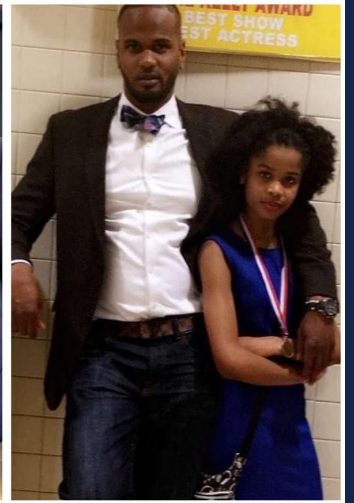
Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above,
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Chorus

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Chorus





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*We thank you so much for all the kindness you have shown. For friendship's healing touch,
with gratitude our hearts are full, though words cannot convey the tender thoughts
and thankfulness we hold for you today.*

~ Love, the family

PALLBEARERS

*Franklin Banks, Jeff Knox, Diante McDonald, Lorence Ottley,
Tyrell Reed, Daryl Washington*

FLOWER BEARERS

Family and Friends

SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO:

*Wiseman Funeral Home
4591 Allentown Road | Suitland, MD 20746*