



## Aja Akua Alford

May 20, 1991 - February 28, 2022

Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away

To a land where joy shall never end, I'll fly away

Aja Akua Alford was born on May 20, 1991 at Howard County Hospital, Columbia, Maryland to Lloyd and Judy Alford. She was then followed by two brothers, Alexander Amiri in 1992 and Andre Lloyd in 1996.

Aja spent the early years of her life in Columbia and Elliott City, Maryland. The family moved to Florida in 2000, first to Tavares, Florida and then moved to Gainesville in 2004. She attended Fort Clarke Middle School and graduated from Buchholz high School in 2009, where she was inducted into the Spanish Honor Society. She graduated from the University of Florida in 2013 with a Bachelor's degree in Animal Sciences. She furthered her education receiving a Master's Degree in Public Health in 2017.

From an early age, Aja had a love for animals and children. As a child, she would often pretend to be a teacher, lining up her dolls as classroom students. She maintained hopes to become a veterinarian.

Aja was baptized in 2002 at Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church in Eustis, Florida. As a high school student, she attended Mount Carmel Baptist Church.

Aja was an intelligent, helpful and loving woman with a fun and sometimes biting sense of humor. She was well loved by family, friends, and colleagues.

She left us much too soon.

Left to honor Aja's memory are her parents Lloyd Alford and Judy Lightsey-Alford of Gainesville, FL, brothers, Alexander Alford, New York City, NY, and Andre Alford, Gainesville, FL; her grandmother, Louise Lightsey, Gainesville, FL; aunt, Sherry Lightsey, Gainesville, FL; uncle, Andre Lightsey, Philadelphia, PA; cousins, Rose Marie Butler-Jackson (Calvert), Society Hill, SC, Danielle Smalls (Edward) of Springfield Gardens, NY, and Inez Dodge (Benjamin), Satsuma, FL, as well as many other relatives and friends.

"But God will redeem my life from the grave; he will surely take me to himself."  
Psalm 49:15

Written In Sorrow,  
The Family

Visitation for Ms. Alford will be Tuesday, March 8, 2022 from 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church Family Life Center, 2505 NE 8th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32641.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Rev. Destin Williams, Pastor, Officiating. Burial will follow in Evergreen Cemetery.

Due to COVID-19, all in attendance are asked to please wear a facial covering.

Family and friends are asked to meet at 9:15 AM, at the home of her parents, 6014 NW 58th Place, Gainesville, FL 32653 to form the Cortege.

Arrangements Entrusted to the Care of Chestnut Funeral Home. Cards may be sent to 18 NW 8th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601. To order floral arrangements, please visit [www.chestnutfh.com/obituary/ajaalford](http://www.chestnutfh.com/obituary/ajaalford). Any questions may be directed to 855-5-CHESTNUT. "A CHESTNUT SERVICE"

# Tribute Wall

JL

“ *With deepest sympathy,*

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**Joseph M. Lightsey** - March 09, 2022 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ *We pray the love of God enfolds you during your journey through grief. You and the family will be in our prayers. We love you and are here to help.*

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**Cheryl & Adrian Allen; Nat & Doris Willis & MCBC Diaconate** - March 08, 2022 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers - Morgan and Delano Cobran*

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**Morgan Cobran** - March 08, 2022 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ *Brother Rodney and Pamela Davis are praying for you all. We are praying God's strength and perfect peace for the family. Love MCMB fam*

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**Rodneyvand Pamela Davis** - March 08, 2022 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *Thinking of your family during your time of bereavement. Praying for strength!*

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**Morgan and Delano Cobran** - March 08, 2022 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ Through Gods love, we pray that He grant you the comfort that He alone can give. Our hearts and prayers are with you.

Kenneth Lightsey / Deborah Lightsey-Bethea - March 07, 2022 at 12:00 AM

PL

“ Our prayers and condolences are with you. May GOD Almighty give you His Peace and Comfort. Love your Cousins Phoebe, Marie, and Camarion

Phoebe Lightsey - March 07, 2022 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Judy and Lloyd, we are all so very sorry for the loss of your beautiful daughter. Our heartfelt condolences are with you and your family.

Mill Hammock HOA - March 07, 2022 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. Romans 15:13 Kenneth and Jacqueline Lightsey



Kenneth Lightsey - March 07, 2022 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ My deepest sympathy and sincerest condolences go out to the Alford family. May God bless and keep you.

Gwendolyn Saffo - March 07, 2022 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ With heartfelt condolences, Your TimberRidge Family

Tribute Store - March 07, 2022 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Gwendolyn Saffo lit a candle in memory of  
Aja Akua Alford



Gwendolyn Saffo - March 07, 2022 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ Our deepest condolences in the loss of your daughter. We offer our heartfelt support and friendship in this difficult time. May God grant you peace

Charles and Janet King - March 05, 2022 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ The Arts High School Class of '78 sends its deepest condolences to the Lightsey and Alford families. May the life Aja lived give you beautiful memories to sustain you in the coming days ahead and May God continue bless each of you and keep you in His loving care.

Patricia Baker Scott - March 04, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ My deepest sympathies to the Alford family. Through all of the grief and pain, hold on to God's hand for your strength. Just know that you will see her again. With Love

Dorothy Mckinzie - March 04, 2022 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *May the memories of Aja continue in your hearts and be everlasting. Your Line sister Soror Tara George Stahle and Soror Dale George Harris.*

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**Tribute Store** - March 04, 2022 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ *God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. 1 John 1:5. Know that your sweet baby girl is in the arms of Almighty God! May God strengthen you during this difficult time and in the days ahead.*



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**Sarah Richardson** - March 04, 2022 at 12:00 AM

YG

“ *My love, prayers and condolences go out to my family: your parents Roy and Judy, your brothers Alex and Andre and your Grandmother. We don't understand that's God needed you more in his eternal kingdom. You will be greatly missed cousin Aja. Sleep in eternal peace Aja until we meet again.. Love and hugs, Your cousins Yvette Guidry and ABK family*



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**Yvette Guidry** - March 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ *Our tears like weeping willows shed our loss of you, yet we know you are safely bonded in the hands of God. With Love the Holmes Family!*

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**Adriane Holmes-Wright** - March 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *Praying for your family. Hoping you find the strength to carry on!*

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**Sylvia Hoover** - March 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ *Rest easy dear one. My prayers and deepest condolences go out to your family!*



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**Telisha S Martin** - March 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *Sylvia Hoover lit a candle in memory of Aja Akua Alford*



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**Sylvia Hoover** - March 03, 2022 at 12:00 AM