

Celebration of Life
Sunday, May 7, 2023 3:30 PM
St. John Missionary Baptist Church
1282 Bradford Heights Road
Gastonia, North Carolina 28054

Order of Service

Presiding Officiant, Elder Troy Bethune

Processional	
Call to Worship	
Praise and Worship	Celebration Choir
Prayer	Pastor Anarah Henderson
Scripture Reading	Zenitra McGrinson
Poem	Darlene Young Gingle
Selection	Celebration Choir

Words of Reflection

Class of 2001 - Shannon Gardin
YMCA - Crystal Mills
Friend - Kimberly Stellato
Aunts and Uncle - Pastor Robbins Young
James Love Elementary - Principal Kepner

Selection	Celebration Choir
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Woodhill Elementary - Principal Anarah Henderson
Class Presentation
Co Worker - Tabitah McGriff
Elevation Church - Valerie L. Cotton
Cousin - Shawn Tate

Reading of Obituary	Denada McDowell
Selection	Celebration Choir
Motivational Speech	Brother
Selection	Celebration Choir
Special Acknowledgement	Young Family
Committal	Elder Troy Bethune



Melinda Antoinette Young, affectionately known as Miss Missy, was born June 19, 1983, in Gastonia NC. She was the first-born child of Melvin E. and Mary T. Young, born on Father's Day.



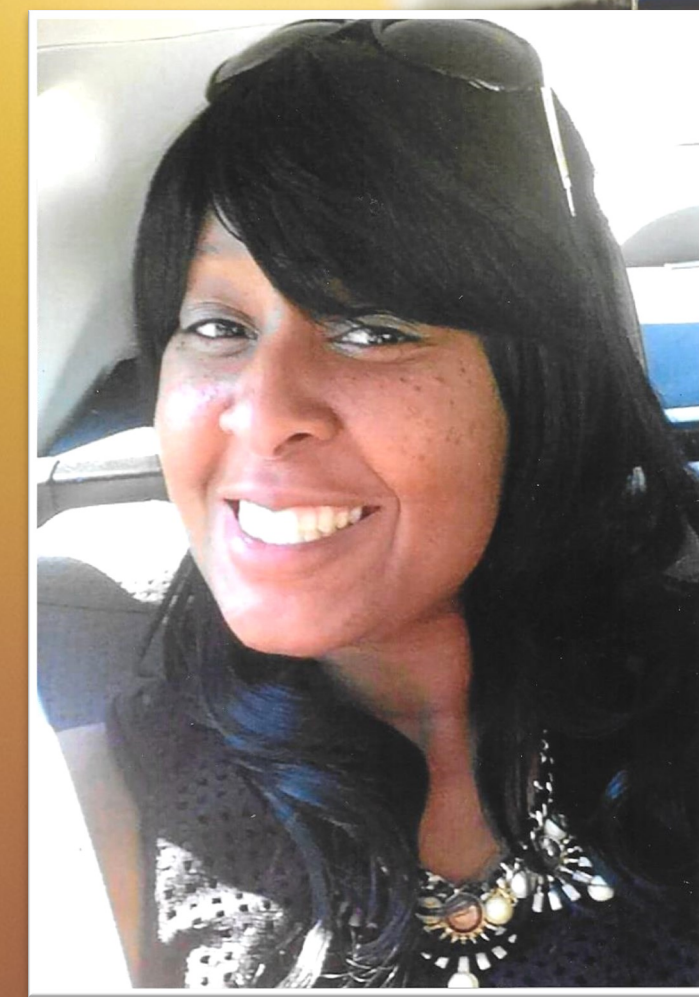
From a young age, Melinda was a loving, caring and giving person. She loved to spend quality time with her paternal and maternal grandmothers. She attended Arlington Elementary, York Chester Middle, and then graduated from Hunter Huss High School. While enrolled at Huss, she was a dedicated member of the Marching and Concert Band. Post high school graduation, she enrolled at Gaston College, where she received an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education. Melinda then continued her education at Belmont Abbey. While achieving this goal, she became employed by Gaston County Schools. She worked as a co-teacher at Forest Heights Elementary and as a Technology Specialist at Woodhill Elementary. Once she received her Bachelor's Degree, she became a Head Kindergarten Teacher at Woodhill Elementary. She furthered her education and received a Master's Degree from Grand Canyon University.

Melinda has always had a passion to teach and encourage children. It began years prior when she worked as a YMCA Counselor and After School Site Director. Missy also worked in Cleveland County Schools for three years at James Love Elementary, where she was named Teacher of the Year. In August of 2022, she returned to Woodhill as a Lead Kindergarten Teacher, where she remained until she went to be with the Lord. Melinda worked for public education for 16 years.

Outside of work, she was a faithful member of the Elevation Church. She devoted her life to service through the ministry of giving and mentorship. She participated in E-Groups, greeting staff, and the overall mission of the church. This spirit of service also carried over into her personal life. She constantly checked in on family members and friends. Melinda sent encouraging messages, provided grocery runs, celebrated birthdays, and supported many students in extracurricular activities.

She leaves to cherish memories of her: parents, Melvin and Mary Young; one brother, Marcus A. Young of High Point NC; god parents James and Doris Reynolds, and a host of family and friends. She will truly be missed, and her legacy of faith, love and service will live on, forever in our hearts.

A Beautiful Life Remembered



Melinda Antoinette Young

JUNE 19, 1983 - APRIL 27, 2023

I'm There Inside Your Heart

Right now,
I'm in a different place
And though we seem apart
I'm closer than I ever was,
I'm there inside your heart.

I'm with you when you greet
each day
And while the sun shines
bright
I'm there to share the sunsets,
too
I'm with you every night.

I'm with you when the times
are good
To share a laugh or two,
And if a tear should start to fall
I'll still be there for you

And when that day arrives
That we're no longer apart,
I'll smile and hold you close
to me, Forever in my heart.



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www.costnerfuneralhome.com

You have left our lives,
but you will never leave
our hearts.

