



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

DEREK TARRELLE
Christie

SUNRISE
October 3, 1985

SUNSET
January 21, 2025

FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 7, 2025 | 11:00 AM
TRUMPET IN ZION FELLOWSHIP, INC.
6007 Seaboard Avenue | Jacksonville, Florida 32244
PASTOR PHILLIP GENERAL, OFFICIATING



THE LIFE STORY OF DEREK

Derek Christie was born in Jacksonville, Florida on October 3, 1985, to the parents of Voncile Christie and Omerest Allen. He attended Central Riverside Elementary School, Eugene J. Butler and Mandarin Middle School. Derek was a graduate of Robert E. Lee High School.

Derek received his certification and credentials as a merchant mariner from Bluewater Maritime. He was also a Certified Juvenile Officer, Certified Nursing Assistant and Manager of Christie Cakes.

In 2006, Derek married his love, Betty Lakeisha Christie, and they were in marital bliss for eighteen years.

He was employed with Daniel Memorial, Inc., as a Residential Counselor where he impacted and touched the lives of a lot of young people in the short time he was there.

Derek had an unwavering passion for life and his sense of humor was one of his defining traits. He had a knack for making others laugh, often cracking jokes and spreading joy wherever he went. He was the life of the party.

While rhythm may not have been his strong suit, Derek never let that stop him from dancing to his favorite tunes. Especially during the long drives in his monster truck around the city, music blasting and windows down which represented his big free spirit. He loved a variety of music and was skilled at rapping.

Derek was very outgoing, never afraid to try new things and his love for football was just one of the many things that defined him. He was a dedicated fan of both the Jacksonville Jaguars and Florida State University (FSU).

Derek found great joy in bringing his family together. Whether he was enjoying a home-cooked meal or whipping up something on the grill, food was always a source of comfort and connection with his family and friends. He especially loved working out with his sons and had a love for movies, always seeking the next great film.

His outgoing nature and willingness to try classified him as a natural born leader in both his personal and professional life. Over the years, he inspired countless youths and colleagues, earning respect for his strength of character, dedication and guidance. Above all, he was a strong provider and protector and dedicated family man. There was no limit to what he would do for his family. Derek was known for his determination and strong will, often being referred to as “Superman” by his children and reminding others that “I’m built different” (and he was). He faced every challenge head-on, never backing down and always pushing forward, no matter what the odds. He was a true example of resilience and strength, leaving a legacy of perseverance, love, laughter and inspiration.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather: Frank Christie.

Left to forever cherish his memories are his wife: Betty “Keisha” Christie; children: Ty’keriyah, Derek Jr., Da’Veion and Dereiona Christie; parents: Voncile Christie (David Cooper) and Omerest Allen; father-in-law and mother-in-law: Raymond and Alicia Perry; grandparents: Shirley Christie and Lenora Allen; siblings: Elaine Paulk, Devin Paulk, Shedrick Allen, Tyreka Allen-Curry (Johnny Curry) and Tacori Allen; godsister: Toi’rika Collins; brothers-in-law: Paul McCloud, DaJuan McCloud, Gregory McCloud, Tally McCloud (Jessica) and Jovantae McCloud and sister-in-law: Latoya Dassie.

He shared a particularly special bond with his Auntie Sharon Taylor. He was also blessed with two best friends of over twenty years, Antonio Saunders and Christopher Perkins and often referred to them as “My Brothers”. Derek was surrounded by an abundance of loving extended family and friends, including a host of uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Elder Terrence Brandon, Sr., Presiding

Processional/Viewing

Selection

TIZ Praise Team

Scripture:

Old Testament

Minister Percy Brown

New Testament

Pastor Vincent Holland

Prayer

Minister

Solo

Marquia Perry

Reflections

As a Father - The Christie Children

As a Cousin - Keyana Brown

Words of Encouragement - Pastor Oliver Jenkins

Acknowledgements and Resolutions

Priscilla Williams

Selection

TIZ Praise Team

Eulogy

Pastor Phillip General

Recessional



AS A HUSBAND



Babe,

I never imagined this day or feeling pain and hurt so deeply. Words can't begin to sum up all that I'd like to express. Gone far too soon, but God saw further and predicted my son needed rest. A strong man, loving husband, and as a father, you were the best. Our family provider, my husband, and rider. We journeyed through these years, a lot of laughs and shed some tears, God joined us together before the foundations of the earth God gave us to another. You taught me to be strong, confident and to love hard but forgive harder you were my rock, my confidant and my protector. Throughout these twenty-one years we've made lasting memories that can't be erased or tarnished. I'll forever cherish those in my heart remembering all the good times. I'll miss your beautiful smile, your silly dances and your words of affirmation always reminding me (your words) "You pressure, Babe". When God joined us together, truly nothing or no one could tear us apart. It has been an honor and pleasure to be by your side in sickness and health until death did us apart. I love you forever and ever, Babe. Until we meet again.

Your Wife and Babe,

Keisha Christie





AS A FATHER

We never thought we'd be saying goodbye to you so soon. The hurt is real, and every day without you, it feels like something is missing. We'll miss your jokes, your crazy driving like we were in a Fast & Furious movie and just having you around to remind us that family is everything. Your many talks and words of encouragement still echo in our hearts, guiding us through life just like you always did. But knowing you're resting in paradise with the Lord brings us so much peace, because we know you're free. Life is different without you, but we'll carry your spirit in everything we do. Your love, your strength, and your wisdom will live on in us.

With Love From Your Kids,

*Tykeriyah, Derek Jr.
Daveison and Dereisa
Christie.*

AS A SON

To My Son,

Son, I'm sitting here with a heavy heart filled with grief, trying to find the words to say. Oh, how I miss you. I feel an emptiness that I have never felt before. I have so many memories we shared, so many good times, things I will always cherish. I remember the day I had you, so small. You taught me how to be a mother. Your smile, your laughter, and even your silliness will never be forgotten.

You grew into this wonderful, mannerable man. You touched so many people with your kindness and love. I'm so proud of the young man you were. There's forever a void in my heart that can never be filled. Until we meet again, my sweet boy.

I love you beyond words.

With All My Love,

Mom



PALLBEARERS

Christopher Perkins
Terrance Christie
TreVaughn Stinson
Michael Taylor
Gregory McCloud
David Cooper

FLOWER ATTENDANTS

Family and Friends

INTERMENT

Restlawn South Memorial Park
3301 Moncrief Road West
Jacksonville, Florida 32209

REPAST

The Legend Center
5130 Soutel Drive
Jacksonville, Florida 32208

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of the Christie family, we would like to express our deepest and most sincere gratitude to all of our family, friends and our Trumpet In Zion Church Family. Your love, words of wisdom and generosity have been a source of strength and comfort to us during this difficult time. We appreciate every phone call, text message and visit. May God bless each of you for your continued prayers, love and support. May God's love surround you as you have surrounded us.

*To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven.
-Ecclesiastes: 3:1*

A wise man leaves an inheritance to His children's children: and the wealth of the wicked is laid up for the just. - Proverbs 13:22

Q.L. DOUGLAS
FUNERAL HOME

QUINTON L. DOUGLAS, L.F.D.I.C.

MIXON TOWN CHAPEL
2403 EDISON AVENUE | JACKSONVILLE, FL 32204
(904) 683-3044

WWW.QLDOUGLASFUNERALHOME.COM