



## Mr. Matthew D. Day Jr.

May 26, 2008 - November 23, 2025

Matthew “MJ” Darnell Day Jr., 17, of Peoria, IL sadly transitioned to be with the Lord November 23, 2025, at 12:03 a.m. at OSF St. Francis Medical Center.

Born in Peoria, MJ currently attended Peoria Manual High School as a senior honor roll student. MJ was a member of the football team, swim team, and JROTC. Throughout the years MJ had begun to learn many trades such as lawn Care, welding, home repairs/remodeling, and was employed by the Peoria Park District as a lifeguard.

MJ is survived by his beloved mother: Vanity (Darvin) Banks; father: Laharold “Pete” (Anisha) D. Washington Sir of Peoria; Siblings: Alexis Smith, Anniyha Smith, Mylena Johnson, Telena Johnson, Di’nisha Banks, Darvin Banks Jr, Darvonte Banks, and Darvon Banks; God parents: Michelle (Antonio) Washington all of Peoria; a special aunt: Angalena Horn; a host of aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, cousins, and friends.

MJ is preceded in death by his grandfather: Dwight Cockroft; aunt: Janice Regina Cockroft; great grandmother: Pam Horn; Great aunt: Cathy Jackson; cousins: Patrick Moton and Katrina Horn; one aunt: Tyresa Moton.

MJ was a young man whose radiant smile could brighten even the darkest of

rooms, and whose warm presence ensured that if you did not know him when he arrived, you certainly did by the time he left. Known for his generous spirit, he was always quick to offer a helping hand and possessed a natural social nature that allowed him to fit in effortlessly wherever he went. He was kind of boy who might appear at his family's doorstep with his book bag and his play station game console in hand, fully expecting an evening of companionship and laughter. A devoted and loving son, sibling, nephew, cousin, godchild, student, and friend. He touched the lives of those around him with sincerity, kindness, and an open heart. Gifted athletically and admired for his ability to lightheartedly compete in sports. MJ carried himself with grace and ease that made him unforgettable to all who had the privilege of knowing him.

MJ's memory will continue to live on in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to have known him.

Celebration of Life Service will be held on Friday, December 5, 2025, at Bethel United Methodist Church (210 N. Richrd Pryor Place) at 11:00 a.m. with visitation commencing one hour prior at 10:00. Rev. Tyson Parks III, Pastor will present the eulogy.

Arrangements were made especially for the "Day" family and professionally directed by T.W. Parks Colonial Chapel. To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of "Matthew "MJ' Day Jr." please visit our Sympathy Store.

# Cemetery Details

**Cremation Rites Accorded**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

DEC 4. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

T.W. Parks Colonial Chapel  
201 N. Mac Arthur Hwy  
Peoria, IL 61605  
twparksc@yahoo.com

### Visitation

DEC 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Bethel United Methodist Church  
210 N. Richard Pryor Pl  
Peoria, IL 61605

### Celebration of Life

DEC 5. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Bethel United Methodist Church  
210 N. Richard Pryor Pl  
Peoria, IL 61605

# Tribute Wall

VJ

“ Vanessa Humes Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Matthew D. Day Jr.



Vanessa Humes Johnson - December 04, 2025 at 12:05 AM

TS

“ Umm dang I really got a lost for words but yk we gone make your name stay alive. It's gone always be LONGLIVEMJ in yk datt tho RIP

Terion Stewart - December 03, 2025 at 06:40 PM

LD

“ Lisa Duncan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Matthew D. Day Jr.



Lisa Duncan - November 29, 2025 at 11:31 PM

KA

“ My sincere condolences to you for your loss. Sending prayers and May God send his angels of strength and comfort to you in this difficult time. 🙏🙏

Kendra Appling - November 27, 2025 at 11:16 PM

LO

My condolences to the family.

Loretta - November 28, 2025 at 04:36 AM

LO

*Give your grandpa Dennis a hug for me and tell him I still love him, always and forever.*

**Loretta** - November 28, 2025 at 04:37 AM

TT

*“ I cant believe this is really a thing for you MJ rest in peace and love, you will truly be missed!*

**Tink Tink** - November 27, 2025 at 01:15 PM

MB

*“ Grandma love and miss you...RIHL  
(restinheavenlylove)*



**Mildred Baldon** - November 26, 2025 at 03:10 PM