



Mr. Keith Cornelius Pitchford

December 3, 1973 - May 13, 2023

Keith Cornelius Pitchford passed away on May 13, 2023, at the age of 49 at New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington, North Carolina. His battles with many medical issues in recent years show that he was a courageous fighter who faced his challenges head-on and stayed strong until the very end.

Keith was born on December 3, 1973, in Fayetteville, NC, to Margaret Pitchford and the late James Lee Pitchford. Growing up, he was an active member of Guiding Star Holiness Church. He was educated in the Cumberland County School System, where he excelled in academics and sports. He graduated from E.E. Smith High School in 1992, earning the North Carolina Teaching Fellow Scholarship to continue his education at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. There, he met and married the love of his life, Kayonna Spencer, and began his family and career. Keith taught middle school social studies in Guilford County, Cumberland County, and Sampson County, spending most of his career in Cumberland County. In addition to being the favorite teacher to many, he coached several sports, the most often being his passion: basketball. As an enthusiastic and loyal Duke basketball fan, he showed his sense of humor by relentlessly ribbing all of the UNC fans he came across, no matter Duke's record for the year. He enjoyed spending time with his family, grilling, gardening, and traveling with his wife.

Those left to cherish his memory include: his loving wife of 27 years, Kayonna; son, Keith "Darren" of Fayetteville; daughter, Katherine "Katie" of Kansas City, MO; mother, Margaret, of Fayetteville; one sister, Lisa Barne, of Fayetteville, and one brother-in-law, Patrick Spencer (Kyna) of Durham, NC. He was preceded in death by his brother, Timothy, of Fayetteville. He also leaves many family members and friends. He was especially close to his uncle John Leggette of Fayetteville, his aunt, Faye Leggette, and his cousins, Christa and Nick; as well as aunt Connie Hammond of Greensboro, NC; aunt Annie Pressley (John) of Philadelphia, PA; best friends Raymond Thomas, Will Grace, Gardell Chavis, and Matthew Wells; and special player and "adopted son" Marcus Graham (Adrienne) of Roseboro, NC. Keith will be missed by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, co-workers, students, and friends.

Previous Events

Viewing

MAY **20**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Max Abbott Middle School
590 Winding Creek Rd
Fayetteville, NC 28305

Funeral

MAY **20**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Max Abbott Middle School
590 Winding Creek Rd
Fayetteville, NC 28305

Tribute Wall



“ *Colvin Funeral Homes & Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Keith Cornelius Pitchford* ”



H. M. Colvin Funeral Home - May 17, 2023 at 05:28 PM

PM

My Condolences gose out to the family he will be miss I will keep you'll in my prayers he was a good friend .

Patricia M Moore - May 18, 2023 at 10:22 PM

CS

With deepest sympathy and condolences , to this Family! God will bless , comfort , and keep you! Look to the hills , from whence cometh your help , your help is in the Lord! 🙏🙏

Carl L. Stephens - May 18, 2023 at 10:36 PM

DC

Rest in peace one of my “ other son”

Dr. Annie McCullough Chavis - May 18, 2023 at 11:06 PM

JM

I worked with Keith for several years and he was a fantastic coworker, teacher, and friend. He brought a sense of humor to his classroom, along with his model cars, Duke regalia, and pride in his heritage. He will be missed by many.

Jennifer Mullen - May 19, 2023 at 05:06 PM

MR

I send my most deepest condolences to the family!! Praying 🙏 for you all!!

Merita Rich - May 19, 2023 at 05:14 PM

CR

I extend my sincerest condolences to the family. Pitchford was a kind soul whom I had the pleasure of working with at Max Abbott. If I needed him to get something done, he did so without hesitation; always a team player. May God provide you comfort, strength, and understanding of His will during this difficult time. He is sorely missed!

Cherrell Ray - May 19, 2023 at 11:28 PM

LB

My thoughts and prayers are with the family! Rest in paradise my friend!

Lakeisha Brown - May 20, 2023 at 03:47 AM

LM

Our condolences to you and your family. Wishing you peace, comfort, courage, and lots of love at this time of sorrow. We will continue to pray for you.

With Love, McCoy and Hill Family

Linda McCoy - May 20, 2023 at 09:10 AM

LM

God brother we will continue remember the good times and your smiles through out the years._ Love Audrey & Linda McCoy

Linda McCoy - May 20, 2023 at 09:14 AM

DH

*Condolences to the family with deepest sympathy. Rest in peace "little brother "
Neicy & Family*

Denise Haskins - May 20, 2023 at 01:18 PM

PW

Sending my deepest condolences and prayers 🙏🙏🙏

Patricia Wilson - May 20, 2023 at 04:46 PM

JJ

Sorry for your loss praying for you and the family love y'all

Jessie Wilson Jr. - May 20, 2023 at 11:58 PM

EB

Rest in Peace Keith, you will truly be missed. You were the son I never had. You never forgot me on those "Special Occasion" days. I will miss seeing your sweet smile; you didn't talk much but your smile said it all. You will always be with me in Spirit until we meet again. My condolences to your family.

Emma Benson - May 21, 2023 at 08:57 PM

KP

“ *Kay Pitchford lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith Cornelius Pitchford*



Kay Pitchford - May 22, 2023 at 11:49 AM

KB

“ *I met Keith during my freshman year at UNCG. He was gentle and understanding as he helped me through my freshman year. Prayers to Kay, his children and other extended family. May God give you enduring strength during these days ahead.*

Ketia Brooks - May 20, 2023 at 03:08 PM

LW

“ *Letha White lit a candle in memory of Keith Pitchford*



Letha White - May 20, 2023 at 12:32 PM

BW

“ *I was B and he was P. We were kindred spirits because of Social Studies. We became friends because of mutual respect for each other. He never apologized for who he was and wore t-shirts to proclaim his "blackness". I loved that about him. Mostly, I loved how, next to God, his main goal was to take care of Kay and his children. I will miss our talks P, but I know God has you in his arms now. Rest easy my friend.*

Bari White - May 19, 2023 at 10:45 PM

BM

“ *Betty Martin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Keith Cornelius Pitchford*



Betty Martin - May 17, 2023 at 11:44 PM



“ *Memorial Trees was purchased for the family of Mr. Keith Cornelius Pitchford.*

May 17, 2023 at 09:15 PM

VW

“ Prayers for the family. Golden bulls forever
c/o 92



vicky walker - May 17, 2023 at 09:03 PM

MS

“ MARVIN L. HARGROVE SR. lit a candle in
memory of Mr. Keith Cornelius Pitchford



MARVIN L. HARGROVE SR. - May 17, 2023 at 07:59 PM