



Jahleel Anthony Deroux

March 24, 2009 - December 9, 2023

Jahleel Anthony deRoux (or Jah-Jah as he was lovingly called) passed away Saturday, December 9, 2023, at his home in Brandywine, Maryland, surrounded by his loved ones after fighting osteosarcoma for over seven years. He was 14 years old.

Selfless, bright, loving, curious, joyful, loyal, determined, strong and precocious, these are the beginnings of how we will always remember Jah-Jah. Jahleel was born on March 24, 2009, in Clinton, Maryland to Marquis and Tashida deRoux. Jahleel was the youngest of the three deRoux boys. Along with older brothers, Jabari and Jadon, they formed a trio of the most pleasant boys known to all. With the addition of younger sister, Adia, the four children shared a closeness you could see from afar.

From a very young age, Jahleel was independent minded. He had his own ideas, his own opinions, and never gave in to adult pressures to make conversation with strangers or force emotion he didn't feel. He stuck to his gut and could sometimes appear to be reserved. The welcome exception to this was when he was with his family and friends. Jahleel was a true friend, loved being around people - never shying away from a good time. When he was with his parents, siblings, cousins and friends, an entirely different side of Jahleel came out. He was boisterous, laughed like there was no tomorrow, and spoiled his sister and girl cousins. He was equal parts a "boy's boy" and a "mama's boy." You could hear him calling Tashida every two minutes for one thing or another - or, to be honest, for no reason at all. We know he knew God because he knew the love of his mother.

In July of 2016, when Jahleel was 7, he started complaining to his mother about having knee pain that would not go away. After a doctor's visit, where Jah Jah was sent to Children's Hospital for further testing, his first cancer diagnosis was made. This would be the beginning of a seven-year journey of Jahleel, his parents and siblings, battling

osteosarcoma fiercely. While the cancer began in Jah Jah's knee, it later spread to his hip, ribs, cervical spine and eventually, lungs. Jahleel had a slew of surgeries, endured years of countless chemotherapy and radiation therapy treatments, and spent more time in a hospital than one wants to imagine. Over the last seven years, there were few periods of time where Jah Jah was not fighting for his life. Jahleel had a knee replacement, partial hip replacement, was in a half body cast due to a fall, and experienced significant physical reactions to his medical treatments. Through it all, Jah-Jah was a warrior. Make no mistake, he hated every single second of the fight, but he refused to let the cancer win. This is what we mean when we say #Jahleelstrong.

While Jah-Jah's battle against osteosarcoma is the defining part of his life; it did not define him for he always maintained his sense of humor. He loved mocking his beloved father's quixotic quest to become a social media influencer. He loved video games, which he often played with Jadon and definitely loved whooping his cousins Noah, Izzy, King, and Kaleb. He loved Japanese anime – especially My Hero Academia, Sonic the Hedgehog like many other teens (and his adult uncles), and YouTube. He liked watching Youtubers review restaurants, movies, games, you name it. And of course, Mr. Beast.

More importantly, Jahleel knew God and he reflected that love. Jahleel loved deeply, loyally, and always thought of others before himself. At the depths of his illness, Jahleel never lost his personality trait. There are not enough nor sufficient words to describe the hole that has been left in our hearts now that he no longer has to fight anymore.

Jahleel will be sadly missed by his mother, Tashida, his father, Marquis, older brothers, Jabari, Jadon, younger sister, Adia, grandfathers, Newton deRoux and Lloyd Evelyn, and a host of uncles, aunts, and cousins in Maryland, Jamaica, Barbados, and the United Kingdom.

A funeral service in memory of Jahleel will be held on Wednesday, December 20th, at 11:00 a.m. at Waldorf SDA Church, 111245 Berry Rd, Waldorf, MD 20603. A repast will immediately follow the service.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 20. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Waldorf Seventh- Day Adventist Church
11245 Berry Road
Waldorf, MD 20603

Service

DEC 20. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Waldorf Seventh- Day Adventist Church
11245 Berry Road
Waldorf, MD 20603

Tribute Wall

RD

“ Rev Ohaney deRoux lit a candle in memory of Jahleel Deroux



Rev Dr Ohaney deRoux - December 19, 2023 at 03:38 PM

CM

“ Our condolences going out to the Deroux family on this heartbreaking occasion. We pray that God will grant you peace and comfort.
From your family in Epsom, Camiel, Ms. Veron, Othniel, Kenny, Zhanae. We love you all❤️



Camiel Morrison - December 18, 2023 at 11:01 AM

CM

“ Camiel M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.

Camiel M. - December 18, 2023 at 10:40 AM

CM

“ I know there are no words that can ease the pain however I am praying that God will provide the family with peace and comfort at this heartbreaking time.



Love
Camiel Smith Morrison
Jamaica

Camiel Morrison - December 18, 2023 at 10:27 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



December 18, 2023 at 09:48 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



December 16, 2023 at 01:55 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



December 15, 2023 at 07:13 PM

BJ

“ I am so sorry, my dear sweet Adia. My heart is with you and your family.



Bridgette Johnson - December 14, 2023 at 05:48 PM

TB

“ Temola Brooks lit a candle in memory of Jahleel Deroux



Temola Brooks - December 14, 2023 at 12:22 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



December 14, 2023 at 12:10 PM

TB

“ Craig and family...sending you warm hugs and deepest sympathy as you say, say see you later to your darling boy, Jahleel. May you all find comfort knowing he's safe in the arms of his heavenly father until you see him again. Love from Tamara, Temola and family xx

Temola Brooks - December 14, 2023 at 12:09 PM

DS

“ Dani Pankey, ITP SLP purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



Dani Pankey, ITP SLP - December 14, 2023 at 10:47 AM

DS

“ Dani Pankey, ITP SLP planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.

Dani Pankey, ITP SLP - December 14, 2023 at 10:47 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



December 14, 2023 at 07:47 AM

LC

“ To the family of Jahleel my heartfelt condolences to you all. Jahleel was such a sweet young man that I enjoyed seeing him shine, smile, and just being happy while at school. Continued Prayers to you all. Love, Mrs. Coleman formerly Brawner.

LaTasha Coleman - December 14, 2023 at 07:37 AM

AT

“ Words can never express my most sincere condolences to the entire deRoux family at this time. Jahleel was one of the most loving and high spirited young men I've ever met. From the first day I met Jahleel he had a smile on his face. He has the most contagious smile and laugh. Even on the days where he wasn't feeling his best he still managed to crack a smile and was always there for others. I truly do love and appreciate you all and please know that you are ALWAYS in our prayers. However we can support you at this time and beyond please know we will be there. We will continue to lift your family in prayer. May the Lord bless you, keep you, and give you peace at this time knowing you WILL see Jah-Jah again with that great big smile on his face! Love always, Mrs. Thompson and the entire Brandywine Elementary School Family.

Alicia Harrison Thompson - December 13, 2023 at 10:42 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



December 13, 2023 at 07:54 PM

SG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Stacy Gatling - December 13, 2023 at 07:11 PM

CS

“ Jah Jah - your strength, your humor, your resilience in spite of insurmountable odds I will NEVER forget. Rest King!

Claudette Smith - December 13, 2023 at 06:21 PM

CW

“ I was lucky to have Jahleel for two months in my U.S. History class at GP this year. He was so funny, kind and smart...always willing to work hard, but quick to joke around with us. I consider myself lucky to have known him for the time that I did. He was such a joy. I will never forget his smile and determination to do things his way, which was without any assistance or special treatment. Even though he was so independent, he let me fuss over him like a momma does. He would smile, roll his eyes and say “Ms. Wallace, you sound like my mom”, when I would ask how he was feeling, if he ate his lunch, why he looked tired, did he need anything...I told him that I lost my dad last year to cancer that spread into his bones and Jahleel said “I’m so sorry about your dad. I can probably tell you some stuff about bone cancer if you have any questions.” I told him I appreciated that more than he could know.

Then 5 minutes later, I tripped over one of his crutches and he couldn’t stop giggling. To me, that sums Jahleel up. Kind hearted and compassionate - but 100% normal teenage boy. I will never forget him.

All my love to the entire Deroux family.

Christie Wallace

Christie Wallace - December 13, 2023 at 05:32 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



December 13, 2023 at 05:01 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



December 13, 2023 at 03:27 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.



December 13, 2023 at 03:18 PM

IP

“ *Isatu and Philipp planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jahleel Anthony Deroux.*

Isatu and Philipp - December 13, 2023 at 03:18 PM

AN

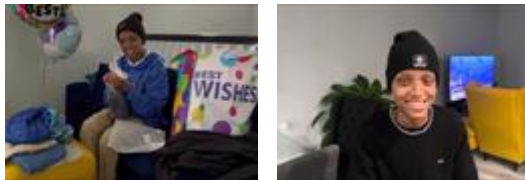
“ *A dedicated motivated strong active even when he sleeps he is with you!! Hero's are forever!! Love u always and forever Jahleel..*



andrew - December 13, 2023 at 01:57 PM

TS

“ *2 files added to the album Best Bro*



Tahj Smith - December 11, 2023 at 07:33 PM

TS

“ *I used to be friends with Jahleel in middle school. We ended up in different high schools, but every day in Art class in 8th grade was so much fun. We would discuss shows together, flip water bottles and a few times we even did prank calls with some of the other students. His being gone really affected me and a lot of the other students around him and so on behalf of all of us I would like to send our condolences to his loved ones. He was taken from us far too soon and it's impossible to grasp the level of grief from his parents. I especially appreciate his mother who replied to my text when I texted his phone to pay my respects. You were always loved and will always be loved. We won't forget you bro, rest in peace Jahleel.*

-Tahj Smith, Darrius Prelo, Josiah Turner

Tahj Smith - December 11, 2023 at 07:24 PM



“ We the March Family and Marshall-March Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - December 11, 2023 at 05:59 PM

CA

It is too sad to hear about the death. The Lord will definitely comfort the family. We will never forget and pray for peace for the whole family.

-Connie Austins- The Arbor Senior Living.

Constance Austins-Onyijen - December 13, 2023 at 04:01 PM

DN

To the family, I did not know Jahleel personally, only that he was a Gwynn Park High School student through Nurse Elizabeth. I pray for peace, love, comfort, and, the most difficult one, understanding. May the Lord lead and guide your family and friends graciously through this process, and may only love lead and follow them all for the rest of their lives. Sleep well, my dear Jahleel. May the Angels lead you into the arms of the Lord forever.

Dr. Alice Newton - December 13, 2023 at 05:00 PM

LP

My sincere condolences to the family. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your.

LAWANDA PEOPLES-LAMBERT - December 14, 2023 at 10:38 AM

PM

Tashida and family, sending condolences in the loss of your precious boy. Thinking of you and praying for your comfort and peace.

Patty Miller - December 17, 2023 at 12:07 PM

SC

Dear Tashida, my deepest condolences on the passing of your sweet son. I am so sorry for your loss. I pray for you and your family's peace, comfort, and strength during this incredibly difficult time and in the years ahead.

Susan Cooper

Susan Cooper - December 21, 2023 at 10:13 PM