

Forever Loved



Blake Vince Payne

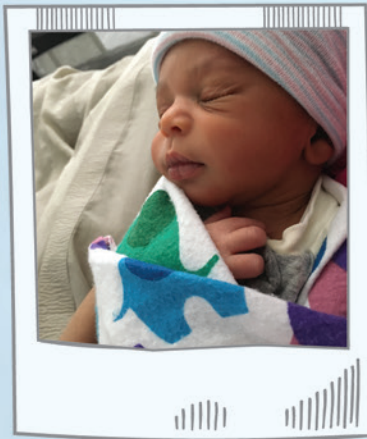
Sunrise: March 14, 2019 – Sunset: April 14, 2021

Friday, April 23, 2021

Family Viewing/Visitation • 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. • Narthex
Homegoing Celebration • 11:00 a.m. • Sanctuary

Alfred Street Baptist Church

301 South Patrick St., Alexandria, VA 22314
Rev. Dr. Howard John Wesley, senior pastor



Blake Vince Payne, affectionately known as "Blakey," was born on March 14, 2019 in Arlington, Virginia to parents Kedric and Rene Marsh Payne.

He immediately began spreading joy and love to those who met him. His warm smile, playfulness, and bright eyes melted family and friends' hearts. More importantly, Blake inspired those who knew his journey. His strength, endurance, and enjoyment of life showed an extreme resilience that encouraged those around him daily. In the face of many challenges, Blake always wanted to engage in his favorite activities. He loved reading, especially his favorite books by Sandra Boynton. He also enjoyed singing and listening to music. He had a wide range of top picks, including Mozart's Serenade No. 13 and Bob Marley's "Who the Cap Fit."

He began learning sign language at an early age and then started teaching his parents new signs that he invented. He spent many hours bossing his parents around with his signs for going outside, driving his electric car, pouring water into cups, playing music, and brushing his teeth. And like a little angel should, Blake developed the habit of randomly clasping his hands together in prayer formation, closing his eyes at various times throughout the day, reminding his parents to pray. Blake's timing was always perfect. When he was not making requests with signs, Blake's favorite word was "no". However, Blake never said "no" to snuggles with mom, peek-a-boo, tickle time, Mickey Mouse, *Sesame Street*, or *Mira, Royal Detective*.

Blake gained his heavenly wings on April 14, 2021, after a brave year and a half battle with brain cancer. Blake's life was short but impactful, as demonstrated by the outpouring of love, tributes, and prayers in his honor from family, strangers, medical professionals, and countless others touched by his story.

Blake was preceded by maternal grandfather Vincent Marsh. Blake is survived by his mother Rene Marsh Payne and father Kedric Payne, his grandmothers Elaine Marsh, Faye Payne, Trina Payne, grandfather John Payne, aunts Michelle Marsh and Leesa Payne, cousin Nicolas Mason and many other family members.





Order of Service

Prelude Instrumentalist

Invocation..... Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley

Hymn of Rejoicing: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Roderick Giles, Soloist
"Skip" Pruitt, Saxophonist

Scripture Readings

Proverbs 3:1-6 Deacon Doris Winstead

James 1:2-4 Michelle Marsh, Aunt and Godmother

Lamentations 3:20-23, 31-33..... Leventon Brown, Godfather

Prayer of ComfortDeacon Darryl Howell

Musical Selection: "It Is Well With My Soul"

Tribute to Blake.....Rene Marsh Payne

Musical Selection: "Order My Steps"

Eulogy..... Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley

Closing Prayer and Benediction..... Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley

Recessional: "Let the Church Say Amen"



A poem by René Marsh Payne

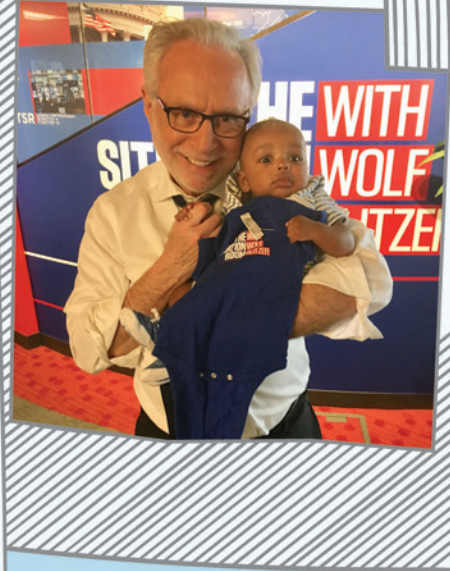
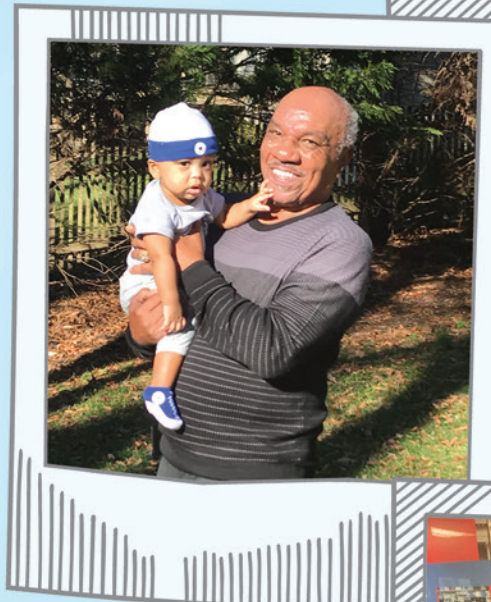
Mommy's Angel



You were the best part of my every day.
I'll miss how you'd squeeze your eyes shut, clasp your hands
and remind me to pray.

You were an angel, right here on earth,
and a blessing since the day of your birth.
I'll never understand why your time here was so brief,
or why you departed before living out your dreams.
My dreams for your future are gone too, my son.
I look forward to the day we reunite as one.

Until then precious Blake, please keep your spirit nearby.
Allow mommy to always feel your presence close by my side.
I love you forever, forever my sweet Blake.
Your memory lives in my heart,
that's one thing your death cannot take.





Acknowledgments

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, kindness, and sympathy during our time of bereavement. The family is also thankful to Alfred Street Baptist Church and Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley.

We also want to thank the doctors and nurses at Johns Hopkins Hospitals who cared for Blake, Dr. Annie Huang at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto and Dr. Roger Packer at Children's National Hospital.

Thank you CNN for the continued love, support, video and streaming services.

Pallbearers

Kedric Payne
Leventon Brown
Nicolas Mason
James Ingram

*In lieu of flowers, Blake's family asks
that you make a donation to the
Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation
in Blake's honor.
(www.rememberingblake.com)*

Interment

Fairfax Memorial
Park Cemetery

Funeral arrangements
are entrusted to
Pope Funeral Home
2617 Pennsylvania Ave. SE
Washington, DC 20020