



Auda Jovan Cottrell

November 7, 2022

Auda Jovan Cottrell, 43, died Monday, November 7, 2022, after a second courageous battle from cancer. She was born in Louisville, KY, and the daughter of Donna M. Cottrell and the late Bobby Lanier.

She graduated from Morgantown High class of 1997. She was an avid player of soccer and a member of the thespian society. She moved to North Carolina and received her Bachelor's Degree from Johnston C. Smith University; moved to South America for a year to teach children; and then moved to Washington, DC where she received her Master's Degree from George Washington University while teaching in the public school system. She realized she wanted to experience some more cultures and traveled to a multitude of countries. She had an unwearied passion for teaching, soared with adventure, and had a smile that lit up every room. She loved singing karaoke with family, sharing her joy of cooking with loved ones and being a support to her four Godchildren.

She is survived by her mother Donna M. Cottrell, brother Priest, and special Aunt Rebecca Mitchell; Aunts: Faye Sexton and Nanette Mitchell; Uncles:

Richard Mitchell, Jr, and Anthony Mitchell, Sr; Sisters: Shenita Gasper, Tiffany White-Diaz, and Ray-Ray Hester-White; Cousins: Terrill Mitchell, Tazra Mitchell, Danielle Mitchell, William Jeffrey and Krista Mitchell, Keaton Goode, Anthony Mitchell, and Clifford A. Mitchell/Meriweather; and Godchildren: Malik Gordon, Solomon Davis, Sophia Davis, and John Davis. There are many other cousins and loved ones not mentioned...too many.

In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by her baby brother (Bobby C Lanier), grandmothers (Nancy L. Mitchell and Lucille Lanier), grandfather (Richard H. Mitchell, Sr), and her uncle (Clifford A. Mitchell).

"GOD SAW HER GETTING TIRED, A CURE NOT MEANT TO BE, SO HE WRAPPED HIS ARMS AROUND HER AND WHISPERED 'COME WITH ME.'"

YOU ARE SO VERY LOVED, MY CHILD, MY JOY.

Tribute Wall

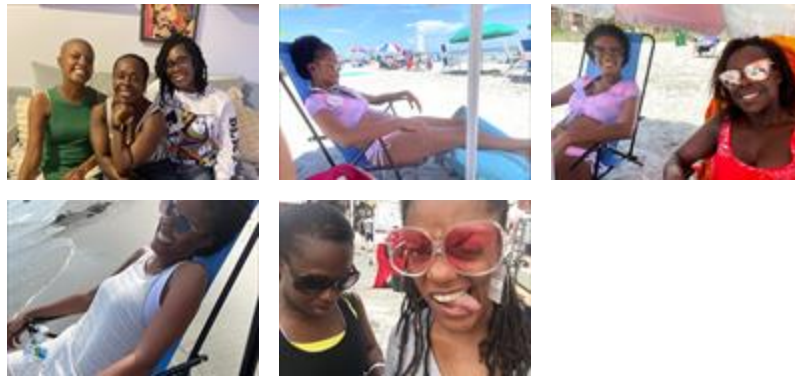
JE

“ Worked with Auda at Piney Branch. She was so full of wisdom and light. That smile of hers was infectious! I am heartbroken to learn about her passing. She made such a powerful impact for children while she was here and she is greatly missed, but fiercely remembered.

JE - March 09 at 04:44 PM

SU

“ I will continue to cherish our time together. Your beautiful smile brightens my days. Miss u my luv always 🥺💕



Suzett - December 13, 2022 at 09:26 PM

SU

“ *I miss my friend so much.* ”



Suzett - December 13, 2022 at 09:02 PM

OT

She was an absolutely amazing soul.

Otis - December 14, 2022 at 02:05 PM

RJ

Ms. Cottrell was my daughter's summer and 4th-grade teacher during the pandemic's virtual school.

Her dedication, sense of humor, love, and wisdom meant so much to us.

Because I was also working from home, I had the privilege of overhearing the beautiful, moving things she said to her class. More than once, her words were what I needed to hear that day. More than once, I cried.

As the news today focuses on police brutality, I think of Ms. Cottrell's teachings on empathy and anti-racism.

"This sadness you experience when you see a black person getting killed by the police or targeted by their race is with black people all the time. If you are white, you can carry on and forget about what is happening. But black people always carry that feeling."

Ms. Cottrell made the world a better place. We are so deeply sad we lost her.

I hope this message reaches others who loved her. I wish I could give her mother a hug and thank her for the wonderful person she brought to the world.

Renata Johnson - January 27, 2023 at 10:00 PM