



# MARKEAL DICKEY

**OCTOBER 10, 1993 -  
JUNE 5, 2015**





*Celebrating  
the Life of*  
**MASTER  
MARKEAL  
DICKEY**

*October 10, 1993 – June 5, 2015*

**Saturday, June 13, 2015**

Bethel A.M.E. Church

501 Orange Avenue

Tallahassee, FL 32310

11:00 am

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr., Presiding Bishop

Reverend Dr. Carlton Taylor, Presiding Elder

Reverend Julius McAllister, Pastor

Reverend Anton G. Elwood, Officiant

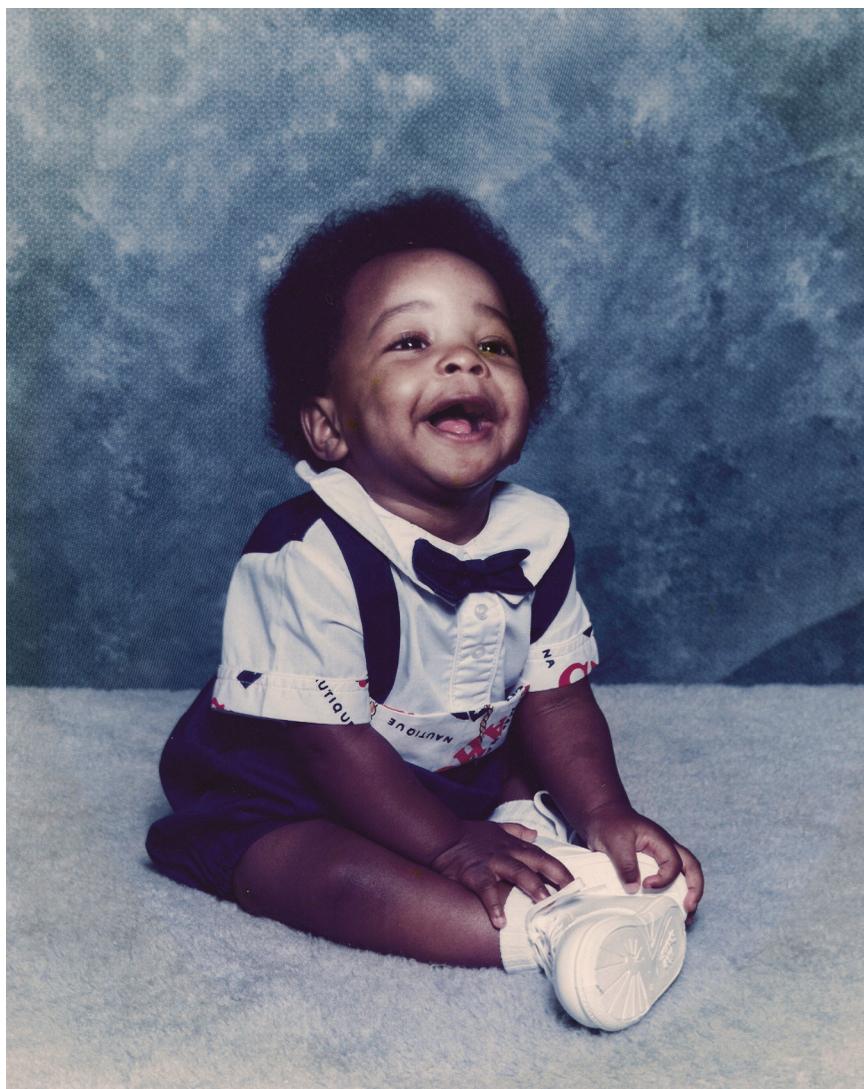




# IN REMEMBERANCE OF

# **MARKEAL DEVONTE DICKEY**

October 10, 1993-June 5, 2015



Dignity, panache, dapper, courage, faith-filled and strength are all words that describe Markeal Dickey--- a leader and an innovator. He was a vibrant individual with a serene and enthusiastic personality. Even at such a young age, Markeal has left a legacy of leadership, empowerment, and dedication within the Tallahassee community. On June 5, 2015, Markeal Dickey transitioned to his eternal reward.

Markeal Devonte Dickey was born in Tallahassee, Florida on October 10, 1993, the third born child of Mr. Melvin and Dr. Marilyn Dickey. He inherited a legendary heritage of faith, family, character, music, leadership, and entrepreneurship.

Markeal was an active member of New Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church in Tallahassee, Florida. He was christened as a baby and later baptized alongside his sister, accepting Jesus Christ as his personal savior. Markeal served as an usher, youth choir member, Young People Division (YPD) member, and in the media ministry. He was a devoted Christian and truly loved the Lord.

Growing up, Markeal was an enthusiastic and cheerful child. His parents placed a high value on education and made enormous sacrifices to ensure that Markeal, his older brother, Tre, and his sister, Melesa, received the best possible education. Markeal's education began at Chaires Elementary

School. In 2001, he was moved to Roberts Elementary School where he joined the Boys Scouts of America, was a member of the soccer team, and was a proud graduate of the D.A.R.E. Program.

Markeal's musical and acting skills were evident early on. Being that his father was a zealous singer, pianist, guitarist, and drummer, Markeal took on singing lessons. He later debuted his impressive singing skills at the *2004 Jesse and Bessie Simmons Family Reunion* where he sang "I Want It That Way" by the Backstreet Boys. In addition, Markeal was a model for Marsha Doll Models, where he was exposed to many print, commercial, acting, and runway jobs. No matter how small or big the activity, Markeal was determined to be involved.

From 2005 to 2008, Markeal attended Swift Creek Middle School where he began to make his mark within the community. Markeal followed in his brother Tre's footsteps and was a member of the Swift Creek Middle School band where he played percussions.





He was also a member of the track team, Student Government Association, and the Yearbook Club. As Markeal continued to maintain academic success, he decided he wanted to do and become something greater.

Markeal Dickey joined The Boys' Choir of Tallahassee, Florida at the age of 10. When he entered the choir he was a small boy with glasses and a smile that lit up the choir rehearsal hall. Markeal was placed in the 1st tenor section and eventually moved to the 2nd tenor section. As he grew older Markeal joined the show choir and praise team dancers that won 1st place Superior Awards every year at the Choral Music Festival. He was also a member of the choir's step team. Being a member of the boys' choir afforded Markeal and his fellow choir members an opportunity to perform at many prestigious venues and community outreach facilities including:



- The Essence Music Festival in New Orleans for Bishop T. D. Jakes
- Brookland Baptist Church, Columbia, *South Carolina*
- Empowerment Temple, *Baltimore, Maryland*
- The Walter Reed Army Medical Center for our nations wounded veterans
- Community service concerts for the Department of Juvenile Justice, *Miami, Florida*
- Westminster Oaks Nursing Home
- The opening of Tyler Perry's Motion Picture Studios, *Atlanta, Georgia*
- Both of President Barack Obama's Inaugurations
- The United States Pentagon
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church, *Selma, Alabama*
- Morehouse College, *Atlanta, Georgia*
- Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University
- Florida State University
- University of Florida
- Advent Christian Village
- Ebenezer Baptist Church of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Dr. Earle Lee wrote that, "there is a void in the Boys' Choir family, a young man that we love so much has gone home to be with the Lord with 10 other choir members that proceeded him in death. We will miss Markeal greatly and we will never forget him. Gone home to glory is a young man that loved the Lord, was not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ and loved his fellow brothers in the Boys' Choir. Sleep on my Son, my heart is hurting because I will miss you so much. You were not just a choir member, you were my Son and I love you with all my heart. I will see you at the River Jordan."





After completing middle school, Markeal attended Lincoln High School from 2008 to 2012. During his time at Lincoln, Markeal's academic achievements continued to soar. He was enrolled in the Advanced Placement (AP) program, where he took college level courses throughout his high school career. In addition to the AP courses he took, he was also enrolled in honors and gifted courses. Outside of the classroom, Markeal was a member of the Student Government Association, Key Club, Future Business Leaders of America, and was voted Senior Homecoming King 2011-2012.

In May of 2009, Markeal joined Distinguished Young Gentlemen of America, Inc. This exceptional program functions as an accelerated training ground for high school minority males, which develops and prepares the next generation of effective, local, state, and national leaders. In 2011, Markeal was elect president of the Tallahassee chapter of DYG and also served as the DYG Step Team Co-Captain. In addition, he actively participated in many community projects including:

- Project Goo/DYG Turkey Drive Give Away
- Riley House Museum Rock-a-thon
- Tallahassee Community College Black History Calendar Unveiling
- The 7th Annual Corporate CEO Breakfast
- COPE Press Conference
- New Members Service Learning Project,
- Back to School Community Experience
- City of Tallahassee Grand Parents Picnic

Immediately after graduating from high school in 2012, Markeal enrolled at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University where he studied business. While he maintained his status on the Dean's List, he consistently made strides to become a leader at the university and ran for 2012-2013 Freshman Class President. Although he did not win the title, it did not stop him from being a leader at FAMU. Markeal stayed on with DYG during his college years and played critical roles in different campaigns, including one where he taught middle school students how to tie ties and urged them not to sag their pants.

FAMU held a special place in Markeal's heart. He was a fourth generation Rattler, following the footsteps of his mother, grandfather, great-grand mother and numerous aunts and uncles, as well as his brother and sister. Being the daring and valiant person he was, Markeal decided he wanted change; so he transferred to Tallahassee Community College (TCC) to earn his associate's degree. While at TCC, Markeal was the Prose Editor for the Eyrie Art and Literary Magazine, a writer for *The Talon*, and a member of the Global Gateway Program.

Upon receiving his associate's degree from TCC, Markeal enrolled at Florida State University where he was majoring in marketing and communications with an emphasis on editing, writing, and media and advertising. Markeal was destined for greatness. He was looking forward to a successful career in advertising.

Markeal's tireless efforts have earned recognition all over the City of Tallahassee and surrounding areas. Many people have benefited from the heart and soul of a great leader and humanitarian. No matter who you spoke to, Markeal was described the same across the board: brilliant, driven, well-respected, and community oriented.

Markeal leaves his legacy of love and reconciliation to his parents Melvin and Marilyn Dickey, his devoted brothers, Roosevelt "Tre" Ealey, and Desmond Dickey; his loving sister, Melesa Dickey; his nieces Tanyiah Ealey, Asia Dickey, Allesha James, and Keira Dickey; his maternal grandmother, Edith Y. Crump; caring godmothers Rhonda Hester and Althea "Sugar" Peterson; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, loving friends, and extended family.



# I'm still with you

I know that it's hard for you right now, but I'm okay.  
I was taught to put all of my trust in God who will lead me, guide me and protect me.

He did that for me and really, I'm okay. I'm resting now.  
Although I'm not with you physically anymore, I'm with you spiritually.  
I'm in your thoughts, I'm in your prayers, and I'm in your hearts.  
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you. When you cry, I'll cry with you.  
God loved me so much that he wanted me to rest from my labor on this side.  
I don't know why He wanted me so soon, but as I was taught, we have to trust God and know that He knows what's best for us, even when we don't understand it. He's too wise to make a mistake.

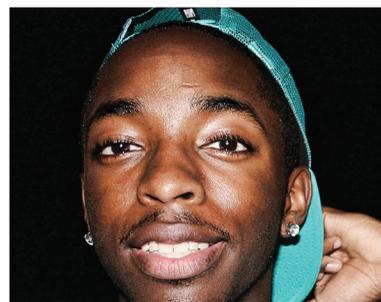
When you think of me, I'm there. When you pray about me, I'm there. As long as you never forget me, I'll always be with you.  
I know that you will cry and that's okay. God will use your tears to help cleanse your soul. It's good for you, so don't feel bad when you cry.  
Not only will God wipe away your tears, He will also comfort you.  
Day by day it will get a little easier. It doesn't mean that you won't hurt because you will.

It doesn't mean that some days you won't think that you have the strength to go on, but you can.

Remember, you will see me again. I'm okay, I'm still with you, right there in your heart.

So when you start missing me, just remember my smile remember my jokes and know that one day soon, we will all be together again.

*By Ramona Powell-Poole*





# ORDER OF SERVICE

*Officiant – Pastor Anton G. Elwood*

Prelude

Processional..... New Generation Singers

Prayer..... Deacon Billy Doyle

Greater Saint Mark Primitive Baptist Church

Selection.....Boys Choir of Tallahassee

The Holy Scriptures:

Old Testament.....Reverend Oliver Simmons

St. Paul A.M.E. Church, St. Augustine, FL

New Testament ..... Elder Charleston Hester

The Church of Jesus Christ, Quincy, FL

Selection.....Boys Choir of Tallahassee

## Expressions

Mr. Derrington Abnar, Jr.

Childhood Friend

Mr. Ramon Alexander, Co-Founder

Distinguished Young Gentlemen

Dr. Earle Lee, Director

Boys Choir of Tallahassee

Solo ..... Mr. Fred Lee

Bethel A.M.E. Church

Resolutions & Acknowledgements..... Ms. Shauna Y. Smith, Professor

Tallahassee Community College

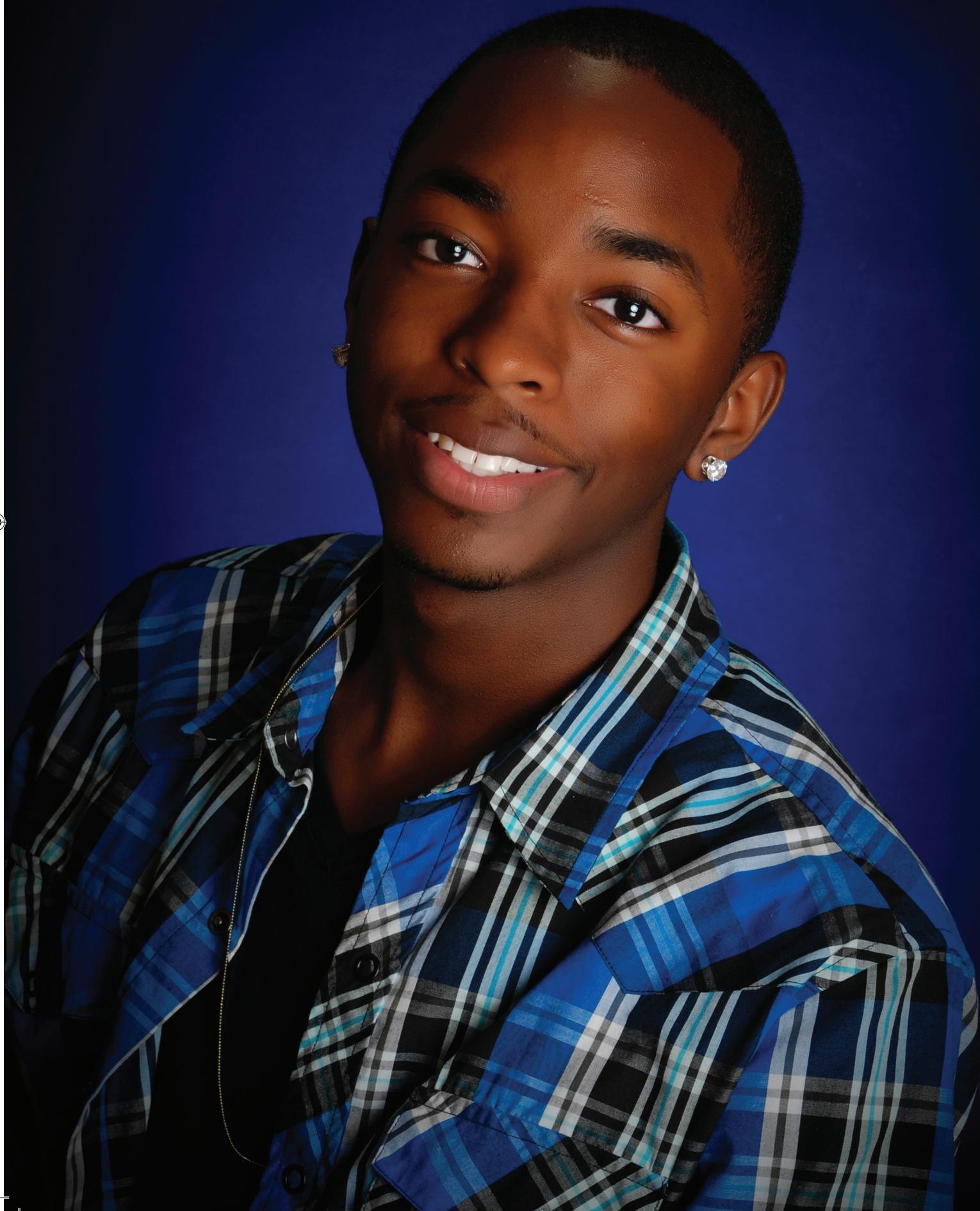
Selection.....Boys Choir of Tallahassee

Words of Comfort ..... Pastor Anton G. Elwood

New Mount Zion A.M.E. Church

Recessional.....Boys Choir of Tallahassee





## Honorary Pallbearers

Distinguish Young Gentlemen  
Boys Choir of Tallahassee  
Shella Alexander  
Brett Herring  
Arnold Dickey  
Earle Lee  
Ramon Alexander

## Active Pallbearers

Alphonso Dorsey  
Major Ottley

Samuel Dickey  
Deforest Simmons

Greg Ervin  
Cornell Dickey

## Flower Attendants

Family & Friends

## Interment

Oakland Cemetery  
Tallahassee, FL

## Acknowledgement

To those of you who reached out to us in love, prayers or any other generosity of time, talent, or resources, we extend our profound appreciation. For those of you who shared his amazing and inspiring journey, we thank you and ask that you continue to perpetuate his legacy of love, peace, and nonviolence in your lives and in the lives of all that you touch. May we all walk, as he did, with dignity, courage and confidence in the knowledge that we are all children of The One God.

We ask that you continue to remember us in prayer as we will remember you. May God bless you all!  
*The Dickey Family*

## Repast

The family will receive family and friends immediately after interment at Bethel A.M.E. Church – Fellowship Hall

## Services Entrusted to



A. L. Hall Funeral Directors, Inc.  
dba  
*Tillman Funeral Home*  
620 East York Street • P. O. Box 425  
Monticello, Florida 32345  
Phone: (850) 997-5553 • Fax: (850) 997-4706  
4006 Crawfordville Road • Tallahassee, Florida 32305  
Phone: (850) 942-1950 • Fax: (850) 942-2375  
**Alfonza "AL" Hall**  
**Tray Crump • Thomas J. Griffin • Isaac Miller, Jr.**  
**Vangie Scott**  
Funeral Directors & Embalmers  
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Train up a child in the way he should go:  
and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

*Proverbs 22:6 King James Version (KJV)*

LAYOUT DESIGN BY:

