Celebrating the Life Of

Nadia Morgan, M.B.B.S., M.H.S.

January 16, 2019
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center
Asthma and Allergy Center Atrium

1983 - 2018
Celebration of Life
to Honor our Friend and Colleague

Nadia Morgan, M.B.B.S., M.H.S.

OPENING PRAYER
Reverend Christopher V. Brown, M.Div., B.C.C.

SPEAKERS
Philip Seo, M.D., Mentor
David Hellmann, M.D., M.A.C.P., Vice Dean, Johns Hopkins Bayview
Antony Rosen, M.B.Ch.B., Director, Division of Rheumatology, Vice Dean for Research, JHU

MUSICAL SELECTION
Division of Rheumatology Choir, Ukuthula

SPEAKERS
Laura Hummers, M.D., ScM, Mentor
Chris Mecoli, M.D., MHS, Co-Fellow and Classmate
Nashay Clemetson, M.D., Friend

EULOGY
Reverend Christopher V. Brown, M.Div., B.C.C.

MUSICAL SELECTION
The Johnson Sisters

SPEAKERS
Ellen Ginzler, M.D., MPH, Mentor
Distinguished Teaching Professor of Medicine and Chief of Rheumatology
SUNY Downstate Medical Center
Caitlin Bishop, Fellowship Colleague
Mildred Henry, Clinical Colleague
Gwen Leatherman, Clinical Research Colleague
Sherita Hill Golden, M.D., MHS, Executive Vice-Chair, Department of Medicine

CLOSING PRAYER
Reverend Christopher V. Brown, M.Div., B.C.C.

In Loving Memory

In a limestone Chapel, cool Caribbean breezes blew through open windows

Her Ashes in a tall Golden vase

Her memory in our beating hearts

It began... “Stand, if you are able”

Scriptures enforced Faith

Tears and song from school time friends

Childhood to times with us recalled

Heads tilted in prayer as the music of a trumpet filled the air

We marched out into a sun-filled Jamaica Sky

Holding a Photo of our Beloved Nadia

Standing stretched, pointing to the sky like a BOLT

Her brilliance, energy and passion never forgotten

Written by Dr. Fredrick M. Wigley, Director, Scleroderma Center
“The most memorable moment of Nadia I carry with me is from her first year of fellowship. All fellows are required to give a 30 minute presentation at grand rounds, and everyone is somewhat following the same format. Nadia’s presentation nevertheless was dazzling. She was a master of powerpoint and had a vivid imagination; whatever she envisioned, she could make it a slide. I still remember how one of her slides entailed different pieces of a puzzle coming all together to make a picture! This style of presentation was novel, and she received some concerning comments that perhaps it would be better to make it more simple, because the audience might not be pleased. Contrary to what I would expect from a first year fellow to do, she knew what was the right thing for her to do and she stuck to her initial slides. Her presentation was a big success, of course. That moment showed me how confident and strong Nadia was. And her strength was stemming from the fact she knew it in her heart what was right and was taught to follow that road with passion.”

- Eleni Tiniakou

“Nadia was, no doubt, the main driving force behind the attempts at keeping “the gang” together and upholding traditions established in early years of fellowship. Tradition, as formed by the 2014 class, was to gather at the end of every year for a celebratory dinner. Everyone took turns in trying to organize, but Nadia had the most success with corraling all involved parties. The food was always great but the conversation, jokes, and dedicated time away from the Hopkins hustle and bustle made this time with Nadia (and Eric, Chris, and Dr. Seo) that much more special.”

- Caitlin Bishop

“Nadia was dedicated, hard-working, and always bursting with energy. I will miss her bright smile.”

- Jill Ratain
“For four and a half years, it was a great privilege to have Nadia Dominique in my life, and to have participated in her training and mentorship, to have observed her wonderful professional growth, and to experience her professionalism, genuine caring, warmth and collegiality as a faculty colleague.”

- Allan Gelber

“I worked for her every day and this has been very hard.. you can not put into words the kind of person she was.. praying for all of us.”

- Consuelo Laws

“DETERMINE D, BRIGHT, SPIRITED, SUNNY, JOYFUL, REAL, KIND, ATTENTIVE AND COMMANDING ATTENTION, PROUD, REGAL, GENEROUS … words cannot begin to describe or summarize our Nadia. She filled every room she entered. Her loving heart shone through those kind eyes and this was instantly felt by those who interacted with her. A beautiful person, who loved life, family and her native land. I am eternally grateful that I met Nadia on my journey. We talked about cricket and our native lands. I will forever cherish a gift she brought back from her beloved Jamaica – a sports cap signed by Usain Bolt – a reflection of her generosity and spirit. Nadia was a gift to us all. For now, we will somehow have to live without her, her memories beating in our hearts forever.”

- Uzma Haque
“Nadia was first a fellow, then a colleague, neighbor, carpool mate, shopping buddy, and always, a friend. Although losing her as we did saddens me a great deal, I am assured that All is Well. I had always thought Nadia was a “unified” person, meaning she was someone who knew who she was, what her purpose in life was, and lived this with passion --- all as a result of knowing Who she belonged to. She lived and died as a friend of the God she believed in. She had more than used her brief time as one for loving, for giving, and for using her gifts with excellence. And by her life with us we have been blessed.”

- Myrna Albayda

“God is in control. God is good. God is with me.”

“These were the words that Nadia always shared with me in our day to day conversations. While there was no question that Nadia was a brilliant, rising star in our Division, her deep love for God was even more palpable and present in every encounter we had. Over weekly lunches, we would share in the joys and challenges of life and I distinctly remember Nadia being grateful to God in all things. Her faith was inspiring and is the only thing that comforts me amidst this tragedy. I know she is now in heaven with the God she dearly loved. She was a dear friend, confidant, and fellow sister in Christ. I know her warm spirit has touched us all while she was with us and will leave an indelible mark in our souls. I will miss you. Rest in peace, my dear friend Nadia.”

- Julie Paik

“Such a beauty, always smiling and ready for my camera. She never missed a beat. You will be missed Nadia!! Love Z”

- Zahira Clark
“Nadia was a good friend and one of my co-fellows in the entering class of 2014. Together with (Tanmayee) Bichile and (Chris) Mecoli, Phil, and Cait, we had a lot of good laughs and memories together over many dinners over the years. I will miss those dinners and fire and spirit that Nadia always brought with her to these gatherings.

Goodbye, Morgan. We miss you. We love you.”

- Eric Gapud

“I had the privilege of traveling and sharing a room with Nadia at the ACR State of the Art meeting in Chicago while we were in our fellowship. Of course, Nadia seamlessly handled the details of our transportation to and from the airport and of our travel in general. Organization was second nature to Nadia, and she was happy to take care of her colleagues. I really enjoyed our one-on-one time during that trip getting to know more about Jamaica and her family, whom she loved so much. I even got to hear her phone conversations with her sister where her Jamaican roots came out in what sounded like a very lively debate! I miss hearing her lovely voice in the hallway as I’m sitting in my office. You always knew when Nadia was talking even if you couldn’t see her due to her crisp enunciation and her animated delivery. We all miss her incredibly.”

- Laura Cappelli

As a patient with scleroderma cared for by Dr. Morgan, I wanted to share how truly sorry I am for her tragic and sudden loss. I had the privilege of seeing Dr. Morgan just two times in 2018, but I will always be grateful for her genuine concern and excellent care. As a practicing neurologist at an academic institution, I know I am not alone in my gratefulness to her and for the extra time she spent with me at those two clinic visits. She remains an inspiration to me in my own practice as well. As a result of her expertise, concern, and hard work, she discovered another condition that I have that is treatable and potentially curable. I remain ever grateful to her. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

- Dr. Rhodemarie Maron
Clinical Associate Professor of Neurology
University of Alabama Birmingham
“Nadia’s passing has had a profound effect on so many of us. As healthcare providers, we recognize life’s fragility, yet we rarely experience its potential fleeting nature so unexpectedly nor so intensely. We also may not appreciate our friends’ and colleagues’ extraordinary influence on our lives in real time. What a privilege it was to know Nadia. She was a spiritual, kind, compassionate, fun-loving woman. She lived her life as a wonderful example of the way we should treat one another, and her tragic untimely passing will forever remind us all to strive to live that same way every day. She was passionate about her research and sincere in her interactions with everyone. Nadia could light up a room with her enthusiasm. The last time I saw her, she gleefully shared her good news about receiving her grant. We hugged as we celebrated together, and the last words she said to me were, “God is good.” Your love for your family was palpable, Nadia, and despite what must be immeasurable grief, may they take comfort in knowing that they raised an amazing woman whose legacy will most certainly live on.”

- Lisa Christopher-Stine

“Kind, Knowledgeable, Encouraging and simply a beautiful person all around! I will miss our heart to heart talks about our families and especially our sisters. I’m so glad that God allowed our paths to cross and I am forever grateful of our last encounter at the Divisional Holiday Party. I will miss your warm smile and awesome hugs the most.”

- Kyrstal Burgess
“Nadia brought joy and light with every interaction. Every patient encounter. Every presentation. Every moment passing in the hall or by her office. There was unequivocal joy. You will be so very missed, Nadia.”

- Rebecca Manno

“The first time I met Nadia she was a first-year fellow and I was an applicant interviewing for the program. In fact, I remember little else from the interview day except for my interaction with Nadia. She was telling me about her upcoming holiday in Jamaica and how she managed to consolidate her vacation time so she could spend all of December with her family. Her face lit up with excitement as she told me about her upcoming trip with her family. Her love for her family was so palpable that it has stuck with me all these years in an unexpected way.

As a fellow one year my senior, Nadia was always the model fellow. She was always put-together and prepared, which stood in sharp contrast to the rest of us who needed to be trained by Dr. Seo to show up on time. She offered lots of advice to the younger fellows and expertly helped guide us as we navigated through fellowship and developed our future careers. She was always available to listen. Through her influence as a teacher and a caretaker, her influence will reverberate for a life-time. Nadia created so much love and light, with both her family in Jamaica and her work-family here at Hopkins. Her presence and smile will be sorely missed.”

- Brit Adler

“I worked closely with Nadia on a number of research projects. She was an amazing person with an exceptionally bright personality. You couldn’t help but smile and laugh with her. Her famous catch phrases, ‘fair enough’ and ‘I’ll circle back’ still hang in the air as if she will say them again soon. It is unfashionable that she is no longer with us, but for some reason she has been called home. We all miss you friend. You were one in a million.”

- Margaret Sampetro

“I am a Research Coordinator in the Division of Rheumatology. Although I did not work directly with Nadia, I saw her everyday. I will miss her warm smile and contagious laughter that filled the halls. I will always remember the pride in her voice when she shared a story of her father at our recent Town Hall Meeting. She was a light in our division that can never be replaced, but will also never go out. We will all remember her and try to live up to the standard and example she set. Nadia you will always live in our hearts and your family will be in my prayers.”

- Michelle Jones

“Nadia will be remembered always for her kindness and her beautiful smile. Her life was a blessing, when ever we spoke she was always happy. Her presence is missed, her memory I will always treasure. Nadia you were an angel on earth and now in heaven watching over us.”

- Penny Athanasiou
Brochure Photography: Nadia Morgan, M.B.B.S., M.H.S.