

DUFFY LITURGICAL DANCE ENSEMBLE 1919 East 107th Street Cleveland, Ohio 44106 216.921.0734 Email: <u>duffylit@att.net</u> Website: duffylit.org

AISHA M. FRASER A LIFE THAT FED MY LIFE WITH JOY AND GLADNESS. GONE TOO SOON!

I was glad when Aisha joined Duffy Liturgical Dance Ensemble. I was glad when she arrived in Nashville, Tennessee to participate in her first national performance with DuffyLit at the Worship and Arts National Convocation where she danced beautifully for all to see. I was glad when she traveled with the Company on our European Tour to Paris, France, Barcelona, Spain and Geneva, Switzerland. While there, she danced with joy while at the same time seemingly enjoying the food, sights and sounds of another world culture. I was glad when she danced with the Company on the Samsung Stage at the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia. With all of our performance experiences, the ones she treasured the most were our local community performances at schools and churches.

I was thrilled when she told me she was going back to school to get a Master's Degree in Education because she wanted to become a teacher. She said she wanted to "help the little ones". She made my heart sing when she completed her degree and left the business world to become a teacher in the Shaker Heights City School System where I had met Aisha in my beginning Spanish class at Shaker Heights High School.

Aisha was a community treasure. She loved and nurtured the children in her classroom and at her church. She was an excellent role model for young girls especially African American youth.

Aisha left this earth too soon. She has left two lovely daughters and the precious memories of how she made me glad with her presence and joy-filled giving life.

Aisha's Law may help stem the domestic violence death epidemic that seems to be permeating our society today. This Law will be a step up a ladder that when we reach the top may save the lives of many young women who follow.

There are too many young women today who have fallen and/or will fall victim to the domestic violence that Aisha suffered to an untimely death unless we act now. Let's help stop the senseless violence by passing this Bill, HB-3, "Aisha's Law".

Sincerely,

Edna Duffy Artistic Director, DuffyLit Ensemble Aisha's 9th Grade Spanish Teacher at Shaker Heights City Schools