

'He's in God's hands now'**Trevyan**

Hundreds attend wake to honor Trevyan Rowe's life, memory

Will Cleveland, Patti Singer and Justin Murphy

Rochester Democrat and Chronicle USA TODAY NETWORK

Trevyan Rowe was quiet and respectful. But he also had a mischievous smile, not because he was up to something, but because he was shy and reserved.

Trevyan was missing for more than four days before his body was pulled from the Genesee River. Thousands of volunteers searched the parks and wooded areas near his South Wedge school when he was first reported missing.

The same community that embraced Trevyan gathered Thursday at Bethel Christian Fellowship church on East Avenue to pay its respects and honor a life ended too soon.

The church was filled to capacity, numbering in the hundreds. And the expected sadness was met with an equal amount of laughter. Trevyan's family thanked the

See **TREVVAN**, Page **12A**



Ty'miere Holmes, 5, and his father, Peter Holmes Jr., greet people at the door of Bethel Christian Fellowship during the wake for Trevyan Rowe.

MAX SCHULTE/ @MAXROCPHOTO

'He's in God's hands now'

Trevyan

Continued from Page 1A

community for the outpouring of support.

"He's in God's hands now," one man said. "We've got to love everybody. It's the only way to support each other and strengthen our community."

"I came here tonight to lift up a mother and a community," another attendee offered.

Trevyan walked away from James P.B. Duffy School 12 on the morning of March 8. The city and the Rochester City School District acknowledged multiple missteps and failures in the situation. Over the past few days, the Rochester Police Department and the Monroe County District Attorney, the office of the state attorney general and the state Education Department have announced investigations.

A steady stream of community members, school officials and teachers, and Mayor Lovely Warren waited in line to view Trevyan's open casket and offer condolences to his family, including Trevyan's mother Carrie Houston. Trevyan will be interred next week in his native Little Rock, Arkansas.

Warren, more as a mother than a mayor, took to the microphone and again offered her condolences to Trevyan's family.

This community is made better "by working together," she said. Again, she apologized for the mistakes that were made. Warren took ownership of this tragedy. She offered, "Sorry is not enough for his family. Sorry is not enough for his community. We need action. We promise you that."

"His death will not be in vain," Warren promised.

The community was there to support Trevyan's family. Long waits in the viewing line were punctuated with long embraces. It was an opportunity to comfort each other and show how this area came together to search for one of its own.

There was an outpouring of emotion for someone who wasn't known to embrace others. He was most comfortable with his loved ones. Trevyan always showed respect but didn't engage in conversations.

"To have you as my son was the greatest gift of all," Houston said in a remembrance in the memorial program.

RCSD Superintendent Barbara Deane-Williams waited her turn in line. She viewed Trevyan's body, offered her condolences, embraced Houston, and left.

School Board President Van Henri White did the same, as did several members of the school board and City Councilman Malik Evans.

One community member took to the microphone and recited some of Martin Luther King Jr.'s final speech before his assassination. "The ultimate measure of a man (and woman) is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy," she said.

Classmates earlier described Trevyan as quiet and unassuming.

“He was just shy,” said 14-year-old Khalil Lewis, who knew Trevyan from James P.B. Duffy School 12 on South Avenue.

“He wasn’t public about what he was interested in,” said 13-year-old Carter Wright.

At the Carter Street R-Center, Trevyan would attend after-school programs with his younger brother and sister. Trevyan stood out as being quiet.

“A lot of the kids, they come in here and even if you have a friend, by the third or fourth day somebody’s talking to you,” said Joe Reed, a recreation leader. “The ones here daily have relationships and bonds.”

Reed said Trevyan came infrequently and always with his younger brother and sister. “That was how he was comfortable. They were very tight knit.”

WCLEVELAND@Gannett.com PSINGER@Gannett.com JMURPHY7@Gannett.com

“We’ve got to love everybody. It’s the only way to support each other and strengthen our community.”

Man at Trevyan Rowe’s wake