

The MASON family are heartbroken to announce the sad passing of

Jade Michelle MASON

Jade Michelle Mason was born 2 September 1992 in Morningside, Johannesburg, South Africa. Jade and her brother Paul had a very happy childhood, raised by parents Karen and Alan in Johannesburg and later Perth, Australia. She was always a water baby and the family have many happy memories of trips to the seaside, water fights and games in the pool, and hiking in the Drakensberg mountains with Jade on her dad's shoulders.

At high school, Jade volunteered with youth advocacy groups - the beginnings of a commitment to social justice that would go on to define how she approached work and life.

She went to the University of Western Australia, where she completed a double degree in health science and commerce.

At university, her passion for public health began to grow. She moved to Geneva in 2018 to study a master's degree in Global Health, during which she worked with Dr Ruiz de Casteneda on a project at the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya. She went on to co-author a scientific article published in the journal One Health.

Jade has worked at the World Health Organisation since 2020. In August 2021, she joined the Office of the Executive Director of the Emergencies Programme, supporting key inter-agency collaborations, including the UN Biorisk Working Group. As well as enjoying success professionally, while in Geneva she loved swimming in the lake at Bains des Paquis, climbing and skiing, parties and adventures.

Jade will be remembered by her family and many friends for her sharp sense of humour and appetite for fun, but also how much she cared for and loved those around her. She was a true, loyal and sincere friend, always ready to listen and help those around her. It was really something to have Jade in your corner.

Survived by her parents Karen and Alan and her brother Paul, Jade was a global health advocate, activist, adventurer and sparkling light in the lives of all who met her. A child of Africa, Jade's brother will be returning her home to Johannesburg this week.