



## Sylvia B. Hamlin

May 31, 1938 - July 9, 2017

Sylvia Bruce Phillips Hamlin, the first born of the late Willie Edward and Grace Irene Ghee Phillips was born on May 31, 1938 in Mecklenburg County, Virginia. Sylvia, affectionately called Bruce, entered into eternal peace and rest on Sunday, July 9, 2017.

Before Sylvia's third birthday, the young Phillips family migrated to Baltimore City. Later they resided on the Eastside, Westside and Cherry Hill communities. At the age of twelve, Sylvia was baptized at Faith Baptist Church.

Sylvia attended and graduated from Dunbar High School in February 1957. While attending Dunbar, Sylvia discovered two major joys in her life-participating in the Pauline Wharton Choir and meeting Robert Hamlin, Jr., the love of her life.

Shortly, after graduation, Bruce and Robert were united in holy matrimony on April 14, 1957. She then joined Robert at New Friendship Baptist Church. This loving and dedicated union of thirty-one years produced four beautiful children: Renee Yvonne, Cheryl Ann, Robin Tamara and Robert Hamlin III.

As a young woman, Sylvia possessed the qualities and sense of responsibility that characterized her as a dedicated and devoted mother and wife.

Throughout her professional business career, she was employed by the State of Maryland, C&P Telephone CO., and the Baltimore City Public School System, as an Educator, where she had the pleasure of teaching her two younger children.

The Hamlins settled down in their first home at 2929 Kirk Avenue. This location placed them in close proximity to the Huber Memorial United Church of Christ. On October 6, 1968, the Hamlin family was received into full membership by Pastor Robert C. Meissner and the Huber Memorial Congregation. Sylvia was a diligent and conscientious servant of the Lord. She served as Church Secretary, Brownie Leader, Choir Member, Sunday School Teacher, Church Council Secretary and Director of Christian Education.

Over time, social conditions began to impact both the neighborhood and church populations. The congregation of the Church and the neighborhood transitioned to become predominantly African-American; the congregation declined to approximately fourteen members. Sylvia was one of these dedicated members who was determined to keep the Church alive. She used her natural talents of cooking, sewing, crocheting, organizing bazaars, and church dinners, to help the Church survive. After much prayer, a young Minister, P.M. Smith was sent by Godly Intervention and the rest is history.

Robert and Bruce retired to Virginia in April 1988. After Robert's passing on May 11, 1988, Bruce joined her family's ancestral church, New Grove Baptist Church, pastored by Reverend Curtis Bagley, Jr. There she became an active member of the choir, substitute Sunday School Teacher and a member of the Missionary Circle. Sylvia Bruce retained her membership with the Huber, remaining active in Tuesday morning Bible Study and Champions of the Faith.

Sylvia truly loved serving The Lord, her family, her Church Families and her

friends.

She leaves to cherish her memory; three daughters, Renee Gaston (Kenneth), Cheryl Hamlin, Robin Moore (James) and one son, Robert III (Angela); nine grandchildren, Candyce, Crystal, Kenneth, Jr. (Lillian), Gabrielle, Brandon, Janae, Destiny, Robert IV, Aliya, one grand-puppy, Onyx; three great-grandchildren, Kendal, Kameron, and Noah; two sisters, Annie Phillips, Edna Mack (Eddie), one brother, Gregory (Pamela) and sisters-in-law, Joyce Hamlin Black, Gail Phillips (Dickie, d.); two Aunts, Sallie Ghee, Pauline Ghee, one Great Aunt, Estelle Bell; Nieces, Wanda, Terry, Wendi, Roni, Rae; Nephews, Demetric, Deante (Pallbearers), Godchildren; Stacey, George, Rachel and a host of devoted relatives and friends.

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JUL 17. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
info@marchfh.com

## Family Hour

JUL 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
info@marchfh.com

## Wake

JUL 18. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Huber Community Life Center  
5700 Loch Raven Blvd  
Baltimore, MD

## Service

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JUL 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Huber Community Life Center  
5700 Loch Raven Blvd  
Baltimore, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ *Sylvia B. Hamlin*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *The Rose Beyond The Wall by A. L. Frank*  
*Near Shady wall a rose once grew Budded*  
*and blossom in God's free light watered and*  
*fed by morning dew, shedding its sweetness*  
*day and night.*



*As it grew and blossomed fair and tall, slowly rising to Loftier height,*  
*it came to a crevice in the wall through which they're shown a beam*  
*of light.*

*Onward it crept with added strength with near a thought of fear or*  
*pride, it followed the light through the crevice length and unfolded*  
*itself on the other side.*

*The light, the dew, the broadening view were found the same as*  
*they were before, and it lost itself in beauty's new Breathing its*  
*fragrance more and more.*

*Shall claim of death cause us to grieve And make our courage faint*  
*and fall? Nay! Let us faith and hope receive - The rose still grows*  
*beyond the wall,*

*Scattering fragrance far and wide just as it did in days of yore, just*  
*as it did on the other side, just as it will forever more.*

Mollie Golden - July 19, 2017 at 02:03 PM



*Time and prayers will heal your mom will always be by your side and*  
*watch over you from heaven above.*

*With deepest Sympathy to Cheryl and the family.*  
*Mollie & Danny*

Mollie Golden - July 19, 2017 at 02:08 PM

CJ

“ *My deepest sympathy to the family.  
We were neighbors many years ago in Cherry Hill.*



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**Carole Jackson** - July 17, 2017 at 09:27 AM

GH

“ *Gwen Henson lit a candle in memory of Sylvia B. Hamlin*



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**Gwen Henson** - July 17, 2017 at 07:54 AM

DG

“ *DORIS GHEE lit a candle in memory of Sylvia B. Hamlin*



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**DORIS GHEE** - July 16, 2017 at 09:25 AM

DG

*My condolences sent to the family. May your precious memories will help you get through these difficult times . You are in my prayers.*

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**DORIS GHEE** - July 16, 2017 at 09:29 AM

SU

“ *Student Health at UMES purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Sylvia B. Hamlin.*



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**Student Health at UMES** - July 14, 2017 at 03:00 PM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Sylvia B. Hamlin.*



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July 14, 2017 at 02:37 PM

SF

“ *Our condolences to Candyce Gaston and family. May God continue to comfort you.*

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**Spencer Family** - July 13, 2017 at 01:06 PM

CH

“ *I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. I pray that your family will find comfort and peace from our loving Creator (2Cor1:3,4). Gods word has brought me such comfort at times like this knowing that there will be a time when no one will get sick or die (Rev21:3,4). A time soon when we will welcome back our loved ones (John5:25). Until then may the memories shared and the love of family and friends surround you.*

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**C Hall** - July 13, 2017 at 10:48 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Sylvia B. Hamlin.*



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July 12, 2017 at 03:36 PM



“ *To the Gaston Family-may you all be comforted during this difficult time. You are in my prayers.*

*Sincerely,  
Valerie Williams*

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**Valerie** - July 12, 2017 at 08:25 AM

“ *A life well lived.*

*Yesterday, I received news that one of my mentors in the art of caring had passed away unexpectedly in Baltimore.*

*Mrs. Sylvia Hamlin was the mother of Robert Hamlin II; EMT/firefighter and one of our band of brothers at Station 32 (Pikesville VFC) of the Baltimore County Fire Department.*

*Mrs. Hamlin ensured I was always welcome in her home, in her church, and in her neighbourhood – and always found the time to sit with me and ask how I was getting on with my life.*

*Mrs. Hamlin was blind to the trivial and focused on the ties that bind us together. And so it was she even managed to get me involved at Huber Memorial United Church on the Alameda in central Baltimore.*

*She ensured I was welcome in her church, that Pastor Smith spent a moment with me getting acquainted, that I learned the significance of Kwanza and watched as the congregation celebrated the academic achievements of its youngest members.*

*I became another son of Sylvia Hamlin.*

*Robert and I became brothers of different mothers: ages and worlds apart and yet essentially the same when it matters most.*

*Mrs. Hamlin personified the art of caring – taking time to teach me things important to her – the essentials that became a cornerstone in my long career as a paramedic and well beyond.*

*Rest easy, Miss Sylvia. You were one of a kind. You made a great deal of difference and your legacy lives on in the good works of your children and grandchildren and the rest of your extended family - including a band of brothers of a certain age from Station 32.*

*Peace.*

*- Hal Newman (Stanstead, Quebec)*

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**Hal Newman** - July 11, 2017 at 06:48 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sylvia B. Hamlin.*



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July 11, 2017 at 06:46 PM



“ *We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

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**March Funeral Homes** - July 11, 2017 at 08:47 AM