



Sylvia Ellamae Smithers

September 10, 1956 - June 7, 2023

Obituary

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer. Psalm 19:14

Sylvia Ellamae Smithers was called home to glory while surrounded by family on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. She was born September 10, 1956, to the late Edward and Candace Garner in Mechanicsville, VA.

Sylvia attended Mechanicsville High School, formerly Lee Davis High School in Hanover County, and was an alumna of the Class of 1975. She received an associate degree from J. Sargent Reynolds in 1977. She acquired several State of Virginia certifications in criminal justice. She retired from the State of Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, after 33 years of service. She also was a former member of CASA; a trained volunteer appointed by a judicial officer to provide advocacy for a child who is under the jurisdiction of the courts. Sylvia was a compassionate advocate for children, always willing to give a helping hand whenever needed.

At an early age, she was baptized at the Greater Nazarene Baptist Church in Mechanicsville, VA., under the leadership of Rev. Elijah Hill. In 2016 she became a member of City Church under the leadership of Dr. Dimitri Bradley

and currently Pastor Nicole Bradley. Sylvia loved the Lord and believed that the Lord loved her. Her faith was Trusting the Lord will all her heart and leaning not to her own understanding, but in all her ways acknowledging God, knowing that He would direct her path.

To many she was compassionately known as "Syl", advocate for her family, a confidant, a friend, an advisor, a mediator, and a personal coach. She was an excellent "Listener ", she always had great feedback, and her analytical skills were respected. Her wisdom and knowledge, not to mention her gift of giving of herself could be witnessed not just with her family, but her friends, co-workers and anyone who would listen. She was a giant giver of herself, expressing the gift of "Grace"

She touched the hearts of many friends, acquaintances, cousins; and most significantly, her brother, daughter, granddaughter, great -grandchildren, and nieces; they gave her great joy; affectionally calling her "Syl, Ma ,Nana, GG and Boobie" She was also known as Auntie Syl and Aunt Sylvia, a nurturer and protector.

She leaves to cherish her memory and legacy, daughter, LaTricia Smithers; granddaughter,Shana Smithers-Ralph; greatgranddaughter, Aslahn and A'slin Avery;brother Edward Garnerl III;nieces Ashley Walton (Brandon); and Kristen Garner; nephews, Zarrod C. Garner and Brayden Walton; devoted freinds,Vanessa Grooms and Wesley Crews; work daughters, Tomika Hayden and Sherese Harrison-Kelly; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Public Viewing

JUN **20**. 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Celebration of Life with live streaming

JUN **21**. 2:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Tribute Wall



“ *March Funeral Homes created a To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Sylvia E. Smithers, Please Click the Link below. in memory of Sylvia Ellamae Smithers*



March Funeral Homes - June 13, 2023 at 05:32 PM

DR

“ *My sincere condolences, to Shana, Latricia and the entire Family. My deepest sympathy for your lost. May your memories of her life brings comfort to your hearts. I will always remember how much Sylvia Loved her Children. Rest in peace. Love, Aunty Dale*

Dale Ralph - June 21, 2023 at 01:16 PM

KR

“ *Dear family. I worked a number of years with Sylvia at the Court Service Unit. She was an intake officer. She was passionate about her families and the community that she served. It was an honor to work with her. She will be missed. Sincerely, Kimberly Russo*

Kimberly Russo - June 21, 2023 at 12:53 PM

DR

“ My sincere and deepest condolences to you Latricia, my niece, Shana, the rest of the family, and all those who loved and admire Syliva. I am extremely saddened to learn of Syliva’s passing. Especially, knowing how Syliva loved her family. I will always remember her beautiful smile and the endearing warmth it displayed every time I saw Sylvia. Sylvia is indeed missed. So, sorry for this precious loss. May her soul rest peacefully. In Jesus name. Amen.
Annie Ralph

D Ralph - June 21, 2023 at 09:39 AM

DE

My heartfelt condolences to Latricia, Shana and the rest of the family. I am still in disbelief of Sylvia’s passing . May God keep you in the palm of his hands, and you find comfort in the memories you shared. Sylvia, may you rest in eternal peace. 🙏

Denecia Ralph

Denecia - June 21, 2023 at 10:35 AM



“ 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.

March Funeral Homes - June 13, 2023 at 03:53 PM