



Sheila White

OCT 25, 2023



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Sheila White

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Sheila Yvonne White (née Narine) was born to Irene Narine in New Amsterdam, Guyana, on December 18th, 1940. She had three natural siblings: Raymond, Doreen, and Barbara.

In her infancy, Sheila was adopted by another Irene, Irene Haynes. She gained several siblings in the process, with whom she would remain close for the rest of her life: Doreen Thom, Leon Haynes, Noel Haynes, Carole Charles, Edna Haynes, Winston Haynes, Paul Deflormont, Edna Mahase, Yvonne Porter, Jean Denny, Doreen McPherson, and Edna McPherson. Edna McPherson would give Sheila her surname, giving her yet another sibling, Edna's son Michael.

Later in life, as these siblings themselves went on to start their own families, she would gain still more family members-among them Myrtle Haynes, who, along with Carole Charles, very attentively cared for her until her passing, and Winston Thom, who walked her down the aisle at her wedding.

In her youth, Sheila was known for her beauty and grace and was named Miss New Amsterdam. At 24, she met the man she would marry and start her family with, Robert White. Sheila and Robert began their life as a couple in New Amsterdam and eventually had four children together: Cameil, Kathy, Reginald, and Gregory. They enjoyed a carefree, loving life as a young family in New Amsterdam for a number of years. Sheila also developed a very close bond with her late mother-in-law, as well as Robert's sisters, Amy and Clarissa. Sheila continued through life to have a special connection with Amy. In 1975, the family left Guyana for Senegal, where Robert received a promotion in the sugar industry. Sheila would spend the next several years moving between Senegal, the United Kingdom (where her children were in school), and the Gambia, spreading herself thin trying to balance her intense devotion to her husband and her motherly duties which stemmed from her great love for her children.



During this period of her life, she developed a reputation as an exceptional entertainer and a chef whose dishes achieved a degree of local fame wherever she went. She truly loved seeing people happy and strove to transmit her own joie de vivre to her guests through the (always excessive but never unappreciated) food, drinks, music, and dancing that were staples of the parties she hosted. Wherever she went, she was an amazing ambassador for her native country-the embodiment of all the joy, humour, and beauty that characterise Guyana. She indirectly taught everybody she met to love Guyana as they came to love her personality. Sheila loved plants and flowers (red roses in particular) and could often be found walking around her garden with her hands in the dirt or admiring the fruits of her labor. She had a green thumb, and could nurse even the saddest plant back to life. She often told her children, "You have to talk to them; don't forget." She shared this deep understanding and a lifelong love of gardening with her husband. Sheila's nurturing nature also extended to animals. Wherever she lived, if she could adopt an animal, she would. She would wash, clean, and take care of any animal in need that she happened upon. She took in dogs, cats, monkeys and birds. Amongst these, she had a special connection to cats. Her love for plants and animals brought out the nurturing spirit that defined her.

Throughout her life, Sheila would make many lifelong friends, all of whom she would remain very close with and loyal to until her passing, even though they often lived in different countries or continents. Lillette Grimmond, Lucia Binda, Fatou Sumner, Shirley Anderson, and Janice Kagbo, whose daughter Senthoo was like a third daughter to Sheila and eventually becoming her daughter-in-law, were among these.

As the family expanded, Sheila particularly developed a loving, but playful relationship with her son-in-law, Mark Moorman, who was instrumental in Robert and Sheila's retirement plans to the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and after Robert's passing, Mark was a steadfast support to Sheila and the family. Eventually, when Robert retired, the couple would move to America to be closer to their children and growing number of grandchildren. Sheila was an affectionate grandmother and loved each of her grandchildren fully and deeply. She never missed an opportunity to share her wisdom and bestow a valuable learning lesson. She was elegant, principled, and held her head high. She loved to host family gatherings, all of which included generous amounts of delicious food and drink. In the summers, she would make ice cream from scratch (her grandchildren's favourite).

She would spend hours and days making her own Sorrel, Ginger Beer, and black cake for holidays. Her patties and chow mein became the talk of school bake sales and were always the first



Obituary

Sheila White

to sell out. She had an instinctual knack for cooking, and never needed to write down or use recipes.

As she got older, before she left the US, her family and friends, Janice, Molly, Janet, Dorothea, David, Lorris, Marcus, and Michelle were instrumental in assuring her comfort and joy. In their own ways, each of them would engage Sheila in deep conversations about Guyana and talk about the friends and family they left behind. They would discuss their culture and customs, and laugh about memorable events, proverbs, and jokes. Sheila always loved talking about Guyana, and frequently told her children about her many happy childhood memories. For this and all the great moments of care and joy, we would like to personally thank these family and friends.

Towards the end of her life, Sheila returned to Guyana, where she spent the rest of her days surrounded by her beloved sisters and family. Among these, her sisters Carole, Myrtle, Doreen, and Edna, as well as her nieces Brittney, Mariska, and Danique played an especially important role in her later life as they went above and beyond to care for her in the face of her declining health. Sheila loved children, and Danique's presence in the home brought her a lot of happiness and laughter during her illness.

As a family, we would like to voice our profound gratitude toward them for the immense efforts they made over the course of the past few years toward making Sheila happy and comfortable. They brought so much warmth and love into her life in its later stages, and the importance of their attentive care to her cannot be overstated.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, a charitable contribution be made in the name of Sheila White to Union United Methodist Church at P.O. Box 978, St. Michaels, Maryland, 21663.



Visitation

 **Friday**, November 17, 2023


 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

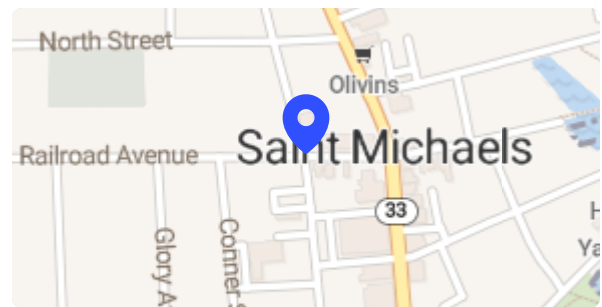
 Union A.M.E. Church

Funeral Service


 **Friday**, November 17, 2023

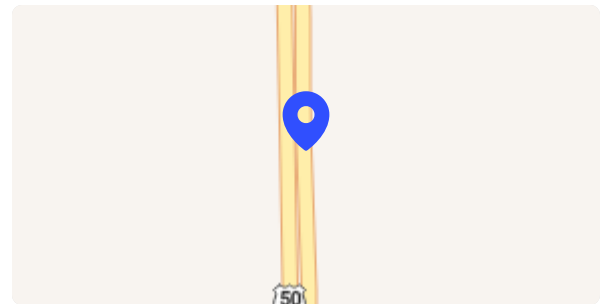
 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET

 **Union A.M.E. Church**
RailRoad Ave. & Freemont St., Saint Michaels MD
21663



Cemetery Details

 **Woodlawn Memorial Park - Easton**
11365 Ocean Gateway, Easton MD 21601





Tribute Wall

Sheila White

EF

Errol Thompson, The Thompson Law Firm planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Sheila.

November 15 at 11:35 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the White family.

November 15 at 11:35 AM



EF

Esteban Familly posted:

Toutes nos sincères condoléances à vous ses enfants, toute sa famille et tous ses proches. Votre maman Sheila, notre amie repose en paix. Une étoile supplémentaire brille désormais, elle illuminera vos nuits et continuera de veillez sur vous tous. Courage à vous chers Grégory, Réginald, Coumil et Cathy. Nous partageons votre peine et sommes de tout cœur avec vous par la pensée. Famille Esteban.

November 15 at 10:19 AM

TL

The Jaundoo Family With Love. sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the White family.

November 15 at 9:29 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the White family.

November 14 at 6:17 PM





Tribute Wall

Sheila White



Robert Kagbo posted:

I first met Auntie Sheila and her late husband Uncle Bob in Richard Toll, Senegal in the early 80s when I worked in Gambia. And when uncle Bob asked me to help the family move to Gambia from Senegal, our two families started becoming closer. Finally, and surprisingly to the point of my daughter getting married to their youngest son, Gregory. Whenever am alone with Auntie Sheila or in the car going to the Caribbean store, she would always tell me how much the African dances and culture reminded her so much of Guyana. She would even try to imitate the dances which always made me wish I could visit Guyana. But we became much closer in 2020 when our families went through the horror of COVID in Upper Marlboro. However, it was when my mum died in 2010 that Auntie Sheila became like a real mother to me even though my mum was over 100 years old. I still can't believe she's gone as I keep seeing her sitting on that reclining chair in Upper Marlboro. You are so dear to me Auntie Sheila. May your soul rest in perfect peace! Robert Kagbo

November 10 at 5:42 AM



Tribute Wall

Sheila White

DU

Dayo Udiani posted:

Aunt Shelia was our cherished neighbor, a devoted mother of four, who graced our lives with boundless love and generosity for 11 remarkable years. Her warm smile and open heart were beacons of light to me and my family when we moved in to the Perrywood community in Prince Georges County, Maryland, leaving an indelible mark on all who were fortunate enough to know her. Her children were the center of her universe, and her love for them was a testament to the depths of her maternal devotion. She imbued them with values of kindness, compassion, and selflessness, creating a legacy that will endure for generations to come. Her benevolence extended beyond her immediate family, reaching out to neighbors, friends, and even strangers in need. Her door was always open, her table always set, and her heart always ready to welcome others with open arms. She believed in the power of love to heal, to mend, and to uplift, and she lived that truth every day. As we prepare to bid farewell to this extraordinary woman, let us carry forward the lessons she so gracefully imparted. May her legacy of love and generosity continue to inspire us all, reminding us of the profound impact one person's kindness can have on the world. She will forever be cherished and dearly missed. Dayo Udiani

November 7 at 7:38 PM

RK

Robert Kagbo November 9 at 2:30 PM

I first met Auntie Sheila and her late husband Uncle Bob in Richard Toll, Senegal in the early 80s when I worked in Gambia. And when uncle Bob asked me to help the family move to Gambia from Senegal, our two families started becoming closer. Finally, and surprisingly to the point of my daughter getting married to their youngest son, Gregory. Whenever am alone with Auntie Sheila or in the car going to the Caribbean store, she would always tell me how much the African dances and culture reminded her so much of Guyana. She would even try to imitate the dances which always made me wish I could visit Guyana. But we became much closer in 2020 when our families went through the horror of COVID in Upper Marlboro. However, it was when my mum died in 2010 that Auntie Sheila became like a real mother to me even though my mum was over 100 years old. I still can't believe she's gone as I keep seeing her sitting on that reclining chair in Upper Marlboro. You are so dear to me Auntie Sheila. May your soul rest in perfect peace! Robert Kagbo

ML

Michelle Louis posted:

The world is an emptier place without Shelia in our lives. I have so many fond memories shared at family gatherings at the Moorman and White households in St. Michaels. Shelia had such a warm heart and deep soul she made the people around her feel like family. I feel blessed to have shared time with Shelia and her amazing family. I loved her like a Mother figure. Shelia's love, kindness, wisdom, sense of humor will never be forgotten! Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." So sorry for your loss 😭

November 6 at 7:29 PM



Tribute Wall

Sheila White

PG

Pierre Giraudeau posted:

Mes chers Camille Cathy, Gregory et Reginald, La famille Giraudeau vous présente ses sincères condoléances. Sheila était une personne généreuse, exceptionnelle, qui a apporté son soutien et son écoute à de nombreuses personnes au cours de sa vie. Elle était comme une maman pour moi, elle avait le coeur sur la main et a fait beaucoup de bien autour d'elle. Que la terre lui soit légère et que le paradis soit sa demeure éternelle. Sincères condoléances à ces superbes enfants et à toute sa famille.N'goné

November 4 at 3:46 PM

CR

Corrine Jaundoo Rhodes posted:

Camille, Kathy, Reginald, Gregory.

November 4 at 7:38 AM

CR

Corrine Jaundoo Rhodes posted:

To Camille, Kathy, Reginald, Kathy, grands and all extended family and relatives, my sincere condolences, love and heartfelt sympathy to you. To my dear cousin Sheila, you're the bright candle that provided light to many in so many different ways. You're an exception to most! Your kind, loving, talented, witty, smart, beautiful spirit lives on in the many lives you touched. I thank God for placing you in my life! You will always stay close in my heart. ❤️🙏

November 4 at 7:36 AM

CR

Corrine Jaundoo Rhodes lit a candle in honor of Sheila.



November 4 at 7:24 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Sheila by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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