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WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL

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Sprinkle-Hamlin

# Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin

1945 - 2022



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[Salem State University](#)**RECORDS**[View more records for Sprinkle-Hamlin on Ancestry.com®](#)

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## Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin Obituary

**S**prinkle-Hamlin, Sylvia

April 25, 1945 - January 3, 2022

Mrs. Sylvia Yvonne Sprinkle-Hamlin, the daughter of the late Thelma Norwood Holtzclaw and Arthur Sprinkle, Sr., was born on April 25, 1945 in Forsyth County and departed this earthly life on Monday, January 3, 2022 at Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Upon graduating from Carver High School in 1963, she attended Winston-Salem State University, where she received a B.S. degree in Education. After teaching in the public schools for a brief while, Sylvia furthered her education at Clark Atlanta University, where she earned an M. S. degree in Library Science and later on, a Certificate of Advanced Study in Educational Administration at Cheyney State University in Pennsylvania.

After working in the library system in Pennsylvania for a few years, Sylvia returned to

her alma mater, Winston-Salem State University, where she was employed in the C. G. O'Kelly Library. In 1979, she was hired as head of Children's Outreach at the Forsyth County Central Public Library. It was there that she ultimately became the director of the entire Forsyth County Public Library system, the first female and the first African American to serve in that position.

At a young age, Sylvia joined Center Grove AME Zion Church in Tobaccoville. Later on, she became a member of St. Stephens Episcopal church, where she served on the vestry and was a part of other ministries at the church as well. Sylvia was very active in the community. Her proudest achievement was serving as the executive producer of the National Black Theatre Festival, the largest event in the history of Black theatre in the world. She took on this monumental task after the death of her husband of twenty-five years, Larry Leon Hamlin, who preceded her in death in 2007. In essence, Sylvia Sprinkle Hamlin was indeed a phenomenal woman.

She leaves behind to cherish her memories one brother, Arthur (Peculiar) Sprinkle; her stepson, Larente Hamlin; her grandsons, Jaquan Hartsfield and Angel Hartsfield; nieces, Beleita Taylor Lomax, Michelle Hines, Karen Norwood, Renee Owens, Tomika Sprinkle, April Sprinkle, Chantele Shear; nephews, Rodney Mitchell, Antoine Norwood, Nathaniel Norwood, Jr., London Norwood, Brian Norwood, Timothy Norwood, O'Lando Speas, Arthur Conrad; mother-in-law, Annie Johnson; sisters-in-law, Audrey Norwood, Mattie Norwood, Sherry Hamlin Robinson and Linda Hamlin; her godmother, Mrs. Mattie Glenn; and a host of other relatives and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the C. G. O'Kelly Friends of the Library, Winston-Salem State University or the North Carolina Black Repertory Company (NCBRC) of Winston-Salem, NC.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, January 12, 2022, at 11:00am from Galilee Missionary Baptist Church and interment will follow in Piedmont Memorial Gardens. Services will be streamed via <https://galileembc.thechurchonline.com/> The family will receive friends Tuesday, January 11, 2022, from 6pm until 8pm at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church. At the request of the family there will be no public viewing. Arrangements are in the care of Douthit Funeral Services.

Douthit Funeral Home

515 Specialty Park Dr, Winston-Salem, NC 27105

To plant trees in memory, please visit the [Sympathy Store](#).

Published by Winston-Salem Journal on Jan. 11, 2022.

## Memories and Condolences for Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin

Add a memory or share condolences

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**5 Entries**

It was indeed a pleasure interviewing you for an exclusive article in Trend Magazine Online regarding your role in the founding and maintaining of the National Black Theatre Festival in your hometown of Winston-Salem, NC.

Continue to R.I.P.

J. Whipple

Publisher

**J. Whipple**

Work

June 27, 2024

Offering condolences to the family.

**Lexie Miller**

January 12, 2022

Sylvia and Larry was a great team for the Black Theatre Festival. She carried the legacy on. Prayers for her family.

**Sheila Stokes-Langford**

Friend

January 11, 2022

I was so blessed to have met Ms. Hamlin and done a lot of business with her and her husband over the years with the National Black Theater. I am so sorry to hear of this passing. Blessing to all of her friends. Relatives and business partners.

**Gail Kolishcak**

January 11, 2022

Sylvia will truly be missed, and she was jewel to all that was in her presence.

Thanks for sharing her with us.

**Carl B. Smalls**

January 11, 2022

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## Memorial Events for Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin

**JAN 11** Visitation

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

NC

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**JAN 12** Funeral service

11:00 a.m.

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

NC