



Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley

March 15, 1946 - October 19, 2011

Sylvella Sibley was the sixth child born to Bromfield and Elizabeth Greer on March 15, 1946 in Chicago, Illinois. The family moved to Kalamazoo, MI during her formative years, where she resided until her death. Sylvella accepted Christ at a young age, under the leadership of Pastor Robinson. She faithfully served as First Lady of New Covenant Church founded by the late Reverend Nathaniel White Sr. In 2002, she became a charter member of Way of Life Christian Center, under the leadership of Jeffrey P. Boggan. At Way of Life, Sylvella continued to introduce many to God's loving kindness through her love for Him. It was her desire for everyone she met to accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior, and experience His matchless love. Sylvella graduated from Kalamazoo Central High School in 1964. She was affectionately known as "Rosemary" to her classmates and others in the Kalamazoo community. She attended college, vocational school, and many ministry leadership trainings. Sylvella worked as a sales representative for Johnson and Johnson until her retirement. Sylvella had a big heart and was known as a "giver". She was generous with her both her time and material possessions. She enjoyed helping people experience the beauty of life. When others experienced challenges, she would often be the first person there to assist. She viewed it as her opportunity to do what God desired for us all to do—"love our neighbors as ourselves." As a result, she never found it a challenge or imposition to give her last to benefit others. She often would contact local businesses, seeking donations to help non-profit agencies. She

loved serving the Lord, assisting in the church, decorating, planning weddings and shopping. Sylvella also had a special love beautiful clothes and hats. Sylvella truly loved her family. Aside from her relationship with God, her family was her prize. Sylvella was united in marriage to Aaron Sibley. Also left to cherish her memory are four children from her union to the late Reverend Nathaniel White: Valerie and Jeffery Boggan, Vanessa and Vernon Coakley Jr., Nathaniel and Kimberly White Jr., all of Kalamazoo, MI; and Rebecca Wendell Smith, of Grand Rapids, MI; nine grandchildren: Sylvella Boggan, Nathaniel White III, Vernon Coakley III, Joe Boggan, Valerie Coakley, JeNessa Boggan, Vincent Coakley, Jordyn Boggan, and Joshua Boggan, all of Kalamazoo, MI; five sisters and one brother: Eddener and Thomas Davis, Elizabeth and Wallace Baker, Bromfield and Carol Greer II, and Gwindland and Elder Richard Worthy, all of Kalamazoo, MI; Martener and Arthur Thompson of Orlando, FL; and Nina Senior of Atlanta, GA, and a host of special nieces, nephews and cousins. Sylvella was preceded in death by her parents, Bromfield Greer and Elizabeth Adams; the father of her children: Reverend Nathaniel White Sr.; and five grandchildren: Kareem DeShawn White, Jeffery Paul Boggan II, Rebecca Marie Smith, Whitney Ann Smith, and Jalen Juan White. Sylvella fought the good fight of faith until she was called home by God, on Wednesday, October 19, 2011. She entered eternal rest peacefully at Rose Arbor Hospice Facility, surrounded by her family. She will be truly missed by her husband, children, grandchildren, siblings, (uncle) Leon and Elizabeth Austin of Chicago, IL; sisters of the heart: Willie White and Nettie Martin; godchildren, Donald West, LaResa Worthy and Kimberly Collins; nieces, nephews, cousins, and spiritual family, as well as a host of friends and loved ones.

Cemetery Details

Grand Praire Cemetery

Kalamazoo, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **24**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home, Inc.
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
(269) 342-1000
info@harperfuneral.com
<https://www.harperfuneral.com>

Visitation

OCT **25**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church
1216 North Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Service

OCT **25**. 11:00 AM (ET)

The Galilee Baptist Church
1216 North Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley



Harper Funeral Home - October 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ Aunt Sylvella I miss u ...my last bday with u I will never forget ..I watch the help every year now !!! U will never be forgotten ..all my love..I kno ur watching over me ...



Blackirish Hubbard - July 28, 2015 at 04:05 AM

JS

“ Our family was very saddened to learn of Sylvella's passing, and we'd like to express our sincerest condolences to her children. We have many great memories of Sylvella's shining personality, brilliant smile, and laughter that filled the room. We feel blessed to have known her and her friendship (particularly with our mom, Tori) is something we'll always cherish.

We love you, Sylvella!
The Strouds

Johnnie Stroud - November 03, 2011 at 12:30 PM

LC

“ Lillie Cotton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley



Lillie Cotton - October 28, 2011 at 12:23 PM

LC

Sylvella, what a beautiful women of God she was. I never knew her as Rose, but that is a name that is very befitting. A beautiful Rose. I met Sis Sylvella and Valerie attending a T.D. Jakes Women Though Are Loosed Conf in Atlanta GA. I will never forget how they looked out for me trying to catch that bus them running- me could not run too fast. That is the kind of women she was, always looking out for others A classey lady with a beautiful smile. Surely will miss you, but I know we shall meet again.

Lillie Cotton - October 28, 2011 at 12:30 PM

JR

“ *In memory of "Rose" Sylvella. You will be greatly missed. We've known you since schooldays. God bless to your family!*

Leroy and Esther (Jeffries) Reid

James and Esther Reid - October 25, 2011 at 06:50 PM



SH

“ *Sandra Hines lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley*

Sandra Hines - October 25, 2011 at 06:31 PM



“ *Iyannah And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley*

iyannah and family - October 25, 2011 at 05:47 PM



DF

“ *Donald Hoskins And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley*

Donald Hoskins and Family - October 25, 2011 at 12:58 PM



ST

“ Sarah Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley



Sarah Taylor - October 25, 2011 at 06:52 AM

RP

“ Rodney And Delores Cross Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley



Rodney and Delores Cross Phillips - October 24, 2011 at 08:34 PM



“ Carolyn Walker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley



Carolyn Walker - October 24, 2011 at 07:14 PM

ME

“ SYLVELLA WAS A TRUE INSPIRATION. FULL OF LOVE, JOY AND A CONTAGIOUS LAUGH, WHICH WILL BE MISSED BY ALL YOU KNEW AND LOVED HER. SHE'S WITH GOD AND FAMILY ALREADY CALLED HOME. MY CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY BE STRONG. SOMETIMES PEOPLE SAY THEY KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING BUT TRULY DON'T,I DO AND HAVE ON NUMEROUS OCCASSIONS. MUCH LOVE TO ALL WISH I COULD BE THERE FOR YOU BUT AT HEART AND IN SPIRIT, I AM..... AND WILL BE.

MICHEAL E. EVANS
GRAND RAPIDS, MI.

MICHEAL EUGENE EVANS - October 24, 2011 at 05:18 PM

SB

“ I will really miss her calls to say to me lets pray,truly blesses lady and she will be missed from the Riley family.



Shirley Blanchard - October 24, 2011 at 05:15 PM

VF

“ Vance & April Goodwin And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley



Vance & April Goodwin and Family - October 24, 2011 at 11:56 AM

MR

“ To the family of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley;

The journey into God's presence requires a departure, and that brings sorrow for those who remain.

But what joy to think of your loved one's arrival into the very arms of a loving Heavenly Father.

With caring Thoughts of Sympathy

Janie Reed



Ms. Janie Reed - October 24, 2011 at 11:17 AM

VT

“ May the family of Mrs. Sylvella Sibley find comfort in your loving memories, and in knowing that God is "near to those that are broken at heart; and those who are crushed in spirit he saves." (Psalm 34;18) Our loving Creator has promised to soon "swallow up death forever...and wipe the tears from all faces." (Isaiah 25;8) With deepest sympathy,

valerie thompson - October 23, 2011 at 08:17 PM

FA

“ Faye Washington - Cousin / Chgo Area sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley



Faye Washington - Cousin / Chgo Area - October 23, 2011 at 02:47 PM

FA

“ *Faye Washington - Cousin / Chgo Area lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley*



Faye Washington - Cousin / Chgo Area - October 23, 2011 at 02:46 PM

MJ

“ *Ms. Debbi Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley*



Ms. Debbi Jones - October 22, 2011 at 06:50 PM

HT

“ *Hazel Tellis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Sylvella Loyd Sibley*



Hazel Tellis - October 22, 2011 at 11:16 AM