



Sheila Sinclair

August 8, 1947 - September 12, 2021

Sheila Eubanks Sinclair (Sheila Banik) was born on August 8, 1947, in Miami, FL. At the age of 74, while residing at her apartment in Cambridge, MA, Sheila unexpectedly took her last breath on September 12, 2021. She was buried in New Haven, CT where she spent most of her childhood. Sheila knew as a young child she would matriculate at Harvard University. Being one of six African American women to graduate from Harvard-Radcliffe class of 1969, she was bound to stand out. Sheila graduated magna cum laude, with an Atrium Baccalaureus (A.B.) in History and Literature. Subsequently, she pursued a Masters of Philosophy in American Studies at Yale University (1976).

Sheila was an indubitable talented woman with many trades. She was a journalist for the New Haven Register, Pennsylvania Gazette, and Philadelphia Bulletin. She was the Director of Corporate Marketing at WGBH, Deputy Director for the American Center in Paris, and Client Engagement Manager for Strategic Resource Development. Sheila was a fashion writer for Women's Wear Daily (WWD) under the direction of John Fairchild at the time. She wrote for New York Times Fashion, Parent's Magazine, and Reader's Digest. She worked for an ad agency in NYC, the Council of Responsible Genetics, ClearPath Advisors, and most recently as a patient advocate for Mount Auburn Hospital.

Some of her favorite past times were fine dining, listening to music, walking, baking, art appreciation, movies and popcorn, sewing, and fashion. She was an active member of her community and contributed to several local projects. Shelia loved her furry companion, Yum Yum, her Persian cat.

Being quite the historian, Shelia spent her final years researching about her ancestry. Her passion for genealogy manifested in her recent publications highlighting the origins of her family. Preceded in death by her parents St Clair and Annie Louise Eubanks along with three sisters Valerie Ford-Hall, Frances Patricia Ross, and Sharon Eubanks. Sheila is survived by several nieces and nephews, and friends. She was laid to rest in Evergreen Cemetery on September 27, 2021. If desired, friends may donate a memorial contribution to <https://www.mspca.org/donate-now/> or <https://community.alumni.harvard.edu/give/41094324> (specify to donate to projects IBWA/DBR in her name).

Shelia wrote:

“If you feel it when you write it, others will feel it too!”

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery

769 Ella T Grasso Blvd
New Haven, CT 06519
(203) 624-5505

Tribute Wall



“ *Sheila Sinclair*

October 09, 2023 at 06:14 AM



“ *I only came to know of Sheila reading her obituary in the Cambridge Chronicle. What a beautiful photo of her! I was struck that she was one, of only six, African American women to graduate at Harvard-Radcliffe in 1969 & so decided to visit this website for any more inspiring information. I sure found it! Her short video of her Dad's life during Jim Crow was very moving & sad. My deepest sympathy to Sheila's family for your unexpected & deep loss.*

Maureen Urban - November 11, 2021 at 04:21 PM



“ *I always took extra care in selecting my outfit when I knew I would be seeing Sheila. She had a natural sense of style -- never forced or fussy but always just right, even when we were just having a cookout in the backyard of the Cambridge condo where Sheila was a neighbor for many years. When Sheila gave me a compliment I knew it was genuine and really made my day.*

Sheila also made the best peach cobbler I have ever tasted. I only wish we could share more sweet desserts and lovely summer evenings.

Rest in peace, Sheila.

*Patricia Harris
Cambridge, Mass*

Patricia Harris - November 09, 2021 at 09:28 AM

SF

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Susan Fleischmann - November 08, 2021 at 04:32 PM

DH

“ I'm proud to have been able to walk among this inspiring angel. We have never met, but knowing how she have achieved her legacy make me proud to have been within her reach and spirit. What an inspiring individual. May God bless her family and my prayers are with them

Diane Hamilton-Toles - November 06, 2021 at 08:22 AM

AS

“ Sheila and I went all through school together and graduated from Wilbur Cross together she was a great person. I always wonder where she was living. I missed seeing her since we left school. May you rest in peace Sheila.

Anna Onofrio Simeone - November 04, 2021 at 04:33 PM

JC

“ My memories of Sheila have lasted me a lifetime she made us so proud I lived next door to her on Grand avenue with my many cousins and Sheila and her sister Sharon where my best friends her parents Louise and saint Clair eubanks we're like family to me what a wonderful family God bless them

Julie Candido - November 04, 2021 at 10:44 AM

ER

Hello Julie,

It is good to hear memories of my aunt and the rest of my family of their times in New Haven. Thank you for sharing.

Elysia Ross - November 22, 2021 at 11:53 AM

CT

I am stunned and saddened! I met Sheila years ago at WGBH-TV in Boston. We were close for many years and lost touch heading into Covid. My heart goes out to her beloved nieces, nephews, and friends.

Christie Taylor - November 26, 2021 at 12:35 PM

EK

“ I was lucky enough to be a member, with Sheila, as undergraduates, of a small band of American History & Lit majors. We learned together, excitedly. Sheila was incredibly elegant, with those long fingers. I was also incredibly lucky to reconnect with her at our 50th reunion, where I realized again how much I cared about & for her. I bitterly regret that I won't see her again. Sheila, RIP.

Elizabeth Kendall - November 03, 2021 at 05:01 PM

ER

Hello Elizabeth,

Thank you for sharing this beautiful memory of my aunt. It is good to know how much she was loved by many.
-Elysia

Elysia Ross - November 22, 2021 at 11:51 AM