



## Sylvia Porter Harrison

July 14, 1938 - January 13, 2018

Sylvia Porter Harrison passed away on the morning of Jan. 13, 2018, at her home in Chesapeake, VA. She is survived by her husband of 56 years, James, her daughter and son-in-law Kimberly and Barton Greer of Ashburn, Virginia, and three grandsons: Cameron, Garrett and Bryce Greer. She leaves to mourn her passing a sizeable extended family as well as a host of friends and colleagues in the Tidewater/Richmond area, the Delaware/Philadelphia region and throughout Northeast Ohio.

Born July 14, 1938, in Charlottesville, VA, Sylvia displayed academic excellence at an early age, graduating from Jackson P. Burley High School at age 15 and immediately enrolling in Virginia State University. There, she earned a degree in English Education and by age 19 was teaching English in the Norfolk County Public Schools system at Crestwood High. She would go on to teach English in the Norfolk Public Schools system at Lake Taylor High School, retiring in 1998—sort of. Even in retirement, her former vocation kept her busy writing English curricula and approving reading materials for use in the Norfolk school system. Over her 45-year teaching career, she was recognized by peers and students alike for her commitment to education and proficiency in her field.

Sylvia was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and a longtime, active member of St. James Episcopal Church in Portsmouth, VA, where she served in many support and fellowship roles over her four decades as a parishioner there. Well-known and respected for her graceful, compassionate

style, Sylvia was ever-ready with words of support and encouragement or with a kind gesture. She volunteered her time freely in service to her community and to her church and was a constant advocate for literacy and language arts programs. Caring for and nurturing her family was always a top priority for Sylvia and, in her later years, her three grandsons were a source of constant pride and delight for her. Even when her health began to decline, she would not hear of missing a special event or graduation by any one of “her boys.”

# Cemetery Details

## Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd  
Chesapeake, VA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 19. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services  
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.  
Chesapeake, VA 23323  
(757) 487-3700  
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com  
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

## Service

JAN 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. James Episcopal Church  
928 Effingham Street  
Portsmouth, VA

# Tribute Wall

DA

“ Soror Kim, I just want you to know that I love you and am thinking about you. I'm grateful for your parents who raised you to be the beautiful person you are. Times like these are so difficult because we realize we will no longer be able to actively get the wise counsel we've relied on through the years. Embrace the blessing that you can and will continue to draw on that counsel for the rest of your life because she will always be with you. God's continued blessings for you and your family today and every day.

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Daphne - January 20, 2018 at 12:10 PM

PG

“ I wish to extend my sincerest condolences to the family of Mrs. Porter Harrison. I attended class under her tutelage and am a much better person for it. In fact, my minor was English at VSU. I attended Crestwood High School (Class of 1962). Rest in Heaven. Thanks for the fond memories.



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Patricia A. Griffin - January 19, 2018 at 02:37 PM



“ 17 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - January 19, 2018 at 01:26 PM

DB

“ *Mrs. Harrison was my homeroom teacher and one of my English teachers at Crestwood Senior High School. She also was one of our Class Sponsors of the "1964 Senior Class."*

*Mrs. Harrison was a wonderful person and one reason so many of her former students have done well simply because "we" were in her presence. She and other magnificent teachers are the reason so many "Crestwood Graduates" were successful. Thank you Mrs. Harrison.*

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**Donald A. Bly** - January 19, 2018 at 12:26 PM

AS

“ *Remembering Sylvia P. , as known and remembered by many of her students of Crestwood High School. We loved and admired her. She was a woman that I always wanted to be like when I grew up.*

*The class of 1966 sends their sincere and heartfelt condolences to Mr Harrison and daughter for your loss. We too feel the lost of such a wonderful and sweet spirit. God bless.*

*Arnetta Rollins Sherrod '66.*

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**Arnetta Sherrod** - January 19, 2018 at 10:23 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Sylvia Porter Harrison.*



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January 19, 2018 at 09:01 AM



“ *Our hearts ache because Sylvia has left us. However, we know that she is at peace with God. Harrison, Kim, Bart, and "the boys", we wish you peace and God's grace. Sylvia was a wonderful cousin, beaming with intellect, compassion, style, and grace. She was a "Porter" girl, with all the strength that women from that Family tree possessed. We were proud to love her as a cousin and admire her as a phenomenal human being. We miss her. But, we know that she is with the Porters who have gone on to glory before her, and most notably with Grandparents Viola and Horace Porter, as well as Mom Bea and Sister Sheila. You are in our prayers and thoughts always.*

*Our Heartfelt Condolences,  
Cousin Jane (Midge) Porter Harris Gray  
and Adrienne Gray Rhone*

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**Adrienne Rhone** - January 18, 2018 at 10:32 PM



“ *What can you say to describe this very special lady? She was respected by her professional peers. I valued her friendship and the professional support she gave me as we served together in the Instructional Department for Norfolk Public Schools. I pray that God will show her family grace and mercy during this time of sorrow.*

*Joyce G. Beamon*

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**Joyce Beamon** - January 18, 2018 at 08:29 PM

RM

“ *My deepest sympathy to the Harrison family. Sylvia was a wonderful wife, mother, and grandmother. I take comfort knowing that she resides with God. My memory of her will be with me forever.*  
*Love,*  
*Richard McLane*



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**Richard J. McLane** - January 18, 2018 at 10:12 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sylvia Porter Harrison.*



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January 17, 2018 at 09:56 PM