



## Sylvia Sammons

August 20, 2024

### Sylvia Sammons

This is not your typical obituary, but Sylvia was not your typical person. Sylvia Sammons' remarkable life on Earth came to a close yesterday (Tuesday, August 20, 2024).

For those who knew this amazing woman, the descriptive phrase "remarkable life" is not hyperbole. At a young age, "Sib" (as her family knew her) became blind, but she did not allow her condition to slow her down. She attended Furman University, and never stopped learning; reading several books every week throughout her long life, as well as listening to podcasts and radio broadcasts. She had a uniquely open mind and could offer an informed opinion on any subject. Her memory was highly developed and she had an uncanny sense of spatial awareness – family members could depend on her for travel directions decades before navigation apps.

Sib was fiercely independent and traveled extensively via airplanes and bus lines with the help of one of her beloved Seeing Eye dogs. She started and maintained several successful businesses and owned as many as three houses concurrently. At one point some silly person told her that since she was blind, she couldn't start a woodworking shop because she would cut off a finger – well, she not only started a shop (in Highlands, NC), she created

some of the most wonderfully tactile pieces ever . . . and managed to keep all ten digits.

Sib had a unique appreciation for music and loved Bach. She was a songwriter, a musician and a very talented folk singer. She was a veteran of the Greenville coffee house circuit and other regional music venues of the 60's and 70's. Sib had a tremendous sense of humor and could offer a joke on virtually any subject. Any visit to see Sib was guaranteed to generate smiles and laughter.

She is survived by two loving sisters, several nieces and nephews, their spouses and children. The family plans a private dinner/memorial, with a quartet playing classical music primarily by Johann Sebastian Bach – as Sylvia requested.

This truly inspirational and amazing woman will forever leave a void in the lives of those friends and family members that she left behind.

Mountain View Funeral Home - Pickens Chapel is serving the Sammons family

# Tribute Wall

RI

“ The family of Gold In Art Jewelers has leased a storefront from Sylvia since around 1989. As a tenant, there's usually a fear in the back of your mind about what the landlord can do to you. We watched as other buildings changed hands and new landlords doubled and tripled the rent. Not Sylvia. She lived her Christian faith and always treated us more than fairly. She became a friend through the years as we talked about faith, family and hockey. She loved the Tampa Bay Lightning. She had more health problems than everyone I know put together, but the only thing she ever complained about was the tax man. (Kiddingly, of course.) She truly was one of the bright lights of the world.

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**Richie** - September 03, 2024 at 08:03 PM

TJ

“ The Family of Gold In Art Jewelers purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Sylvia Sammons.



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**The Family of Gold In Art Jewelers** - September 03, 2024 at 01:58 PM

NB

“ Sylvia was a very good friend and a fun person. I attended Cedar Springs School for the Deaf and Blind with her and she was my roommate for a number of years. We kept in touch and the last time I spoke with her was Christmas. She always was in high spirits and very positive.

*Nancy Buchanan*

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**Nancy Buchanan** - August 27, 2024 at 11:48 AM

PT

“ Patricia Turner lit a candle in memory of Sylvia Sammons



Patricia Turner - August 22, 2024 at 04:12 PM

MoV

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Mountain View Funerals and Cremations - August 22, 2024 at 02:51 PM

MoV

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Mountain View Funerals and Cremations - August 22, 2024 at 01:23 PM

MB

“ Michelle, Zoe, Easton Bishop planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sylvia Sammons.

Michelle, Zoe, Easton Bishop - August 22, 2024 at 12:07 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Sylvia Sammons.*



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August 22, 2024 at 12:07 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Mountain View Funeral Home** - August 22, 2024 at 09:28 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Mountain View Funerals and Cremations** - August 22, 2024 at 09:24 AM

AC

“ Getting off a Greyhound bus for her Seeing Eye dog, Jacob, to take a quick bathroom break during the 1960's/hippie period, Sylvia asked a stranger, "Where can I find some grass?"  
Stranger huffily answered, "I don't know where you're from. Missy, but we don't approve of drug use in our neck of the woods".  
Sib quickly responded, " Oh, it's not for me, it's for my dog."

*We'll always cherish our memories and love you, Sib. Alexandra Coleman, sister*

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**Alexandra Coleman** - August 22, 2024 at 06:50 AM