



## Mrs. Meryle Hayes Lawrence

December 21, 1954 - March 8, 2019

Condolences are being expressed to the family of Mrs. Meryle Denise Hayes Lawrence, age 64, who passed away on Friday, March 8, 2019.

The daughter of Dorcas and Pete Hayes, Meryle graduated from Durham High School, where she was Vice President of the student body, and went on to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation Administration; she later did graduate work at North Carolina Central University. Meryle loved sports, so it was only fitting that after completing her academic career, she served as Assistant Women's Basketball Coach and Faculty Cheerleader Adviser at Livingstone College at Salisbury, NC. Subsequently, she worked in various insurance administration positions in Rochester, NY; Durham, NC; Charlotte, NC; and Atlanta, GA.

She was married to her high school sweetheart, Michael Lawrence who absolutely adored her as they had known each other since the second grade at Burton Elementary School and began dating in the eleventh grade.

She leaves many treasured memories in the hearts and minds of her devoted husband, her loving daughter and granddaughter, Melinda and Morgan Lawrence; a brother, Ted Hayes; two sisters, Tammy and Tonya Hayes; sisters-in-law Tonita Alston and Vanja Watson; brother-in-law Raymond

Alston; and a host of other relatives, including her dear nieces and nephews, and friends.

Funeral services will be conducted at Russell Memorial CME Church, 703 S Alston Ave., Durham, N.C. 27701, at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 23, 2019, with a visitation at

11:00 a.m., one hour prior to the service. Interment will be at Beechwood Cemetery, followed by repass at Russell Memorial CME Church.

# Cemetery Details

## Beechwood Cemetery

3300 Fayetteville St  
Durham, NC 27707  
(919) 560-4154

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAR 23.** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Russell Memorial CME Church  
703 S Alston Ave  
Durham, NC 27701  
(919) 682-2523  
[adrian@russellmemorial.com](mailto:adrian@russellmemorial.com)  
<http://www.russellmemorial.com>

## Celebration of Life

**MAR 23.** 12:00 PM (ET)

Russell Memorial CME Church  
703 S Alston Ave  
Durham, NC 27701  
(919) 682-2523  
[adrian@russellmemorial.com](mailto:adrian@russellmemorial.com)  
<http://www.russellmemorial.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Meryle Hayes Lawrence*

October 05, 2023 at 11:31 AM



“ *Joyce Lloyd Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Meryle Hayes Lawrence*



**Joyce Lloyd Williams** - March 20, 2019 at 08:50 PM



*My heart was truly broken when I saw Meryle's picture in the paper. We graduated from Durham High together and both of us went to UNC. My prayers are with you. Be strengthened in the Love of God. Love You!*

**Joyce Lloyd Williams** - March 20, 2019 at 08:56 PM



“ *Wayne Bostick lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Meryle Hayes Lawrence*



**Wayne Bostick** - March 19, 2019 at 05:05 PM



*Please accept my sincere condolences in the loss of your loved one. Who was also one of the best and brightest students to graduate as a member of the Durham High School Alumni Family. May God comfort and keep you today and tomorrow; until you shall one day be united again.*

**Wayne Bostick** - March 19, 2019 at 05:16 PM

AF

“ Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.”

*Mike, Mindy, Morgan and The Hayes Family,  
Please accept my deepest condolences in the  
loss of Meryle. Meryle was a genuinely authentic person that I very  
much admired and respected.*

*Alison Faison*



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**Alison Faison** - March 18, 2019 at 12:55 AM

SS

“ Meryl and I went to Burton Elementary school. She was very smart and had the prettiest smile. She was liked and loved by many. I was saddened to hear about her passing. My condolences to Michael and his family for their loss. May God comfort all of you at this time and God will help each and everyone of you as time passes, get thru this. Take one day at a time and cherish the memories. May she rest in peace and heaven.

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**Sheila Stone** - March 16, 2019 at 11:48 PM

SC

“ My sincere condolences to the family of Meryle. May the love and joy you shared with her, sustain you during this difficult time.

*Rest in Paradise, Tar Heel!*

*Sylvia Collins  
High Point, NC*



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**Sylvia Collins** - March 16, 2019 at 03:39 PM

JF

“ Joseph F. Fleming lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Meryle Hayes Lawrence



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Joseph F. Fleming - March 16, 2019 at 11:59 AM

JF

My deepest condolences to the family of my former classmate. May the peace and blessings of our Creator be with the family at this time and the many days to come.

Joseph F. Fleming  
(Retired Police Commander)

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Joseph F. Fleming - March 16, 2019 at 12:04 PM

CB

“ I was sadden to hear about the passing of my Durham High School classmate, Merlye. I remember her as being smart with a great smile. My sincere condolences to the family, and may God give you the strength during this difficult time.

Charles E. Bright  
Washington, D.C.  
Durham High School Class of 1973

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Charles E. Bright - March 15, 2019 at 03:01 PM

VM

“ Virginia McCovery lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Meryle Hayes Lawrence



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Virginia McCovery - March 15, 2019 at 06:44 AM

VL

“ Offering heartfelt condolences to Michael Lawrence & the entire bereaved Hayes / Lawrence families. May God bless, comfort, strengthen, and forever keep you in the days, and years ahead.



*John 14:27 " Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. "*

*The Harry Lawrence Jr. Family*

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**Vincent Lawrence** - March 14, 2019 at 12:33 PM

LG

“ The Magic Express Tennis Club offer our deepest condolence in the loss of your wife Meryle. You and your family are in our prayers.

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**Larry Greene** - March 13, 2019 at 10:45 PM

JJ

*By His grace, expressing sympathy in the passing of my Durham High School classmate; strength to the family in this season of bereavement. God is a healer of those who diligently seek him. Regards and fervent prayer in the days to come. Joseph King Davis Jr.*

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**Joseph King Davis Jr.** - March 15, 2019 at 12:32 PM

SD

*May God Hold and Keep you doing your time of bereavement and know she will always be with you god bless RIP my precious sista/friend MDHL love you Sandra Davis always.*

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**Sandra Davis** - March 23, 2019 at 12:35 AM