



## Erica Camille Vaughns

December 5, 1975 - February 20, 2023

### OBITUARY

#### ERICA CAMILLE VAUGHNS

December 5, 1975-February 20, 2023

Erica was born December 5, 1975 in Washington, D.C., the second daughter of Vera Simms Vaughns and the late Joseph Christopher Vaughns (1985). She was a thoughtful loving child with a great smile, deep laugh, and apple cheeks.

Erica attended public schools in Prince Georges County, Md. She graduated from Gwynn Park High School, received her bachelor's degree from Salisbury State University, her first masters from University of Maryland and was working on her second masters at Morehead State University. Erica received her Certified Scrum Master (CSM) in 2017 and her Project Management Professional (PMP) Certification in 2018. As member of the American Sociological Association, she reflected her interest in serving the community.

Erica was baptized at Peace Lutheran Church, D.C., later confirmed at Hope Lutheran Church in Clinton. When she moved to Waldorf, she became an active participant at Peace Lutheran Church also in Waldorf, but maintained her membership at Hope. She was a devoted Christian and wore the Love of God on her sleeve. She facilitated a book club and Bible studies over the

years

Erica had a calm and loving demeanor which stood her success as an educator in the Archdiocese school system of Washington D.C. for several years. Her demeanor also contributed to her successful Federal career at the Library of Congress where she was employed at the time of her transition. There, Erica Founded the NSL Aspiring Leaders Internship Program using donor funding. She was Project Coordinator for the Braille Certification Learning Management System - from inception to the execution process, including identifying stakeholders, writing the project charter and developing a test plan for the system. She wrote a 41-page document titled The Professional Visitor Program Information Guide. Erica is published. She conceived and wrote Talking Rooms: Walking through History at the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Headquarters, a booklet on the history of National Library Services which won the APEX 2010 Award of Excellence for one of-a-kind Government publication. (Library of Congress, 2009).

Erica's hobbies and interests were varied; she loved to sew, crochet, cook, read, and have philosophical discussions. Erica was a Certified Crochet Master and Instructor. She spent time volunteering in support of communities in need. Warm nights, refugee relief, those aging out of Foster Care, and food banks are examples of how she spent her spare time. Writing was her favorite, she loved to write as she expressed many times, for her it was stress-releasing and freeing and she was a member of the Victorian Letter Writers Guild. Even with all her activities, Erica did not neglect but thrived on Bible study. She studied the Bible often with her uncle Brooks. Family was of utmost importance to Erica, especially her nieces and nephew. She loved spending time with them and was not just a proud Aunt, but their Godmother, a spiritual advisor, mentor, confidant, and friend. She was heavily invested in their all-around well-being, as well as a constant cheerleader and supporter.

The amount of love and positive influence that Erica poured into them will forever be a guiding force in their lives.

Left to cherish her memory, her mother, Vera Vaughns, sisters Christina Britt (Jason), Angela Matthews (Ishmael), step-brother and sister, Darryl Jones (Marilyn) and Andrea Hayes (Dwight), nieces Jailynn and Josett Britt, Camille and nephew Christopher Matthews, aunts Lorraine Neal and Bettina McClendon, uncle Richard Simms (Michelle), great aunt Irma Brown and many cousins and friends. She was predeceased by her step-father Edward Jones, step-brother Thomas Jones, uncles Robert W. Simms (Carol and Yvette), Charles N. Vaughns (Roslyn), and Brooks Neal.

# Cemetery Details

## Resurrection Cemetery

8000 Woodyard Road  
Clinton, MD 20735

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

MAR 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

peace Luthern Church 11610 Rubina Pl. Waldorf, Md.

## Funeral Service

MAR 3. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM.

peace Luthern Church 11610 Rubina Pl. Waldorf, Md.

# Tribute Wall

SU

“ You will be missed my love, rest easy.

Shamika Underwood - March 17, 2023 at 04:22 PM

KD

“ I could hear her laughter from the other side of the building. It was infectious. No matter what I was doing, hearing her laugh would make me stop and think about the things most important to me. That will stick with me. She will be missed.

Kyle Downes - March 03, 2023 at 04:13 PM

MJ

“ Erica meant so much to me as a stable, calm presence during challenging times. She would always listen, always relate, and provide counsel when called upon. I will miss her so much.

Mary Dell Jenkins - March 03, 2023 at 02:35 PM

AS

“ I first met Erica in 2014 when working with NLS. She was an intelligent, down to business person that truly cared about the work she was doing. On top of that, her boisterous laugh was infectious and lit up a room or situation no matter where you were, since you could definitely hear it. She will be missed greatly.

Andrew Skinner - February 27, 2023 at 07:09 AM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Ms. Erica Camille Vaughns.

February 27, 2023 at 07:06 AM

JA

“ Sending love and condolences to Erica's family and friends. Erica was a true ray of sunshine in the office, always radiating positivity and helping out whenever she could. Her laughter could brighten anyone's day, and her dedication to creating a wonderful internship program has already made a lasting impact. Erica was one of the most welcoming, warm, and professional people I've ever had the pleasure of working with. She will be deeply missed.



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**Juliette Appold** - February 24, 2023 at 03:16 PM

JW

Words cannot express the shock and sorrow that I feel right now. I am still trying to accept it. She has gone too soon. I worked with Erica and I enjoyed her she was so funny and she loved to laugh. Erica was very intelligent there was nothing she could not handle at work. She knew when to be firm and handled her business. She was such an asset to NLS and will be greatly missed, she was our totem pole who held us all together right now we are lost without her. I do not care who replaces her it will never be the same. Again with big tears I will miss her laugh, having conversations with her and will miss her beautiful presence!!!!

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**Janice Wallace** - February 27, 2023 at 09:33 AM

ID

I was very saddened to learn of Erica's passing. I worked with her for nearly 10 years at NLS and always found her to be very warm and professional, and a calm and steady presence. She kept that front office in line. And that laugh! Those of us who knew her will miss her and remember her fondly.

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**Ingrid Davitt** - February 28, 2023 at 01:11 PM

JH

*I miss Erica. I miss her laugh, her willingness to always help and make you feel like you and your problems mattered to her. She made you feel special. She felt like a rock/solid ground you could always count on whether it was professional or personal help you needed. She would honestly get 30 people coming to her daily with questions/issues and no matter how busy she was she wouldn't turn anyone away. I am sad and angry and feel she was taken at too young of an age but I will try to emulate what was so important to her - have more time for people, love more, be kind more and choose JOY as one of her friends, Season, shared at Erica's funeral. I thank God that Erica was in my life and I will try and carry her light, spark and love of life within me and to share this.*

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**Jody Heintzelman** - March 04, 2023 at 08:57 AM