



## SINKLER William

October 9, 1937

June 14, 2017

In the loving open arms of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ our beloved William (Bill) Sinkler, 79, departed this life in a peaceful sleep on Wednesday, June 14, 2017, at the Salem Health & Rehab Center, Salem, Va., following an illness.

He was born October 9, 1937, to the late William and Mary Haskell-Sinkler in Eutawville, S.C.

Bill was preceded in death by three brothers, Levi (Elizabeth), Charlie (Leola), and Ishum (Betty) Sinkler; and four sisters, Helen Sinkler, Julie Sinkler, Modstean Sinkler Sherrill, and Susie Fickens.

Bill was educated in South Carolina Public Schools and later graduated from Morris College, Sumter, S.C., in 1960. Bill served in the United States Army before continuing his education at Virginia State College, finishing at the University of Virginia where he received a Master's Degree in Education.

At the time of his retirement, Bill had spent approximately 40 years as an Educator, where he served as a Math and Science Teacher, Assistant Principal and Principal. He began his career as a Science and Chemistry Teacher in Latta, SC, but his distinction blossomed in Lynchburg (Dunbar HS), Roanoke (Booker T., Jefferson, Ruffner, Lucy Addison, Patrick Henry, and Lincoln Terrace). He dearly loved his students.

As an active member of his community and civic organizations, Bill served on the Salem School Board from 1993-2009, notably the first African American member. At the time of his resignation, Bill was the Vice-Chairman of the Salem School Board. He received a Virginia General Assembly Resolution commending him for his dedication to students of all ages in Lynchburg, Roanoke and Salem. Bill also served on the City of Salem's Fair Housing Board and Planning Commission for many years.

As a very active member of his church (Shiloh Baptist), he held several positions. He was Chairman of the Trustee Board, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School Teacher and various other notable ministries.

Bill was an active member of the Salem Rotary Club, Boule, The Links, Inc., life member of the NAACP, Kappa Delta Pi and his beloved Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. He received many accolades for his service to the Community including: Salem Police Department's "Citizen Academy Certificate of Recognition", and "Roanoke Valley Father of the Year" for Education. In 2002, Morris College awarded Bill the National Alumni Association's "Professional Alumnus Award" for his professional work ethics and lifetime achievements. Roanoke College awarded Bill the "Charles Brown Award" in 2016.

Those left to cherish the memories of his life are his wife of 52 years, Marzetta Fitts Sinkler; two sons, William I. (Beth) and Wayne E. (Maud); two beloved grandchildren, Karis and Mitchell; one sister, Mary Q. Sinkler, Eutawville, SC; and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, his extended Shiloh church family, and special friends too numerous to mention by name.

The Celebration will be held on Saturday, July 1, 2017, at Shiloh Baptist Church, Salem, VA. Special services by Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and The Links, Inc. will be at 10:30 a.m. followed by 11 a.m. viewing, and funeral at noon with the Rev. Adrian E. Dowell officiating. Interment will be at Sherwood Memorial Park. Friends may call on Friday afternoon for viewing at Hamlar-Curtis Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the William Sinkler Honorary Education Scholarship Fund. Make checks payable to "Shiloh Baptist Church". Condolences may be sent to [www.Hamlar-Curtis.com](http://www.Hamlar-Curtis.com).