



## Soyini Ayanna George

June 23, 2023

Soyini Ayanna George, daughter of Joan P. George and the deceased Emil C. George, passed on unexpectedly in her sleep on June 23, 2023, at the age of 51. She was an artist and owner of Yinibini Baby and a native resident of the District of Columbia.

From 1978 to 1985, Soyini attended St. Margaret's Primary School and Queen's College in Georgetown, Guyana and from 1985 to 1990 she attended Convent High School and Clifton Dupigny Community College in Roseau, Dominica. Soyini studied at Northeastern University in Boston, MA and graduated with a Bachelor's in Art & Graphic Design and Visual Communication and a Certificate in Film Studies in 2005.

Soyini loved art, design, and color, which was inspired from her childhood in the Caribbean and her time in Washington, D.C. She was also inspired by local folklore and personal stories, as she thought that these stories had powerful and unique impact on peoples' lives. Her love for art, design and storytelling led her to create Yinibini Baby, where she weaved color, design, and the magic of storytelling into every garment she designed. She ensured that her store carried a curated selection of toys, books and other items for kids that encouraged imagination and play, just as she experienced in her childhood.

Her work was award-winning as her company, Yinibini Baby, was a finalist in

the Martha Stewart American Made Awards and she won the Judges Award, Clifton Day Festival for her baby clothes designs in 2014. Yinibini Baby was also recognized by the Washington City Paper's Best of DC for Best Handmade Products for Kids (first place in 2016, 2019 and 2022 and second place in 2017 and 2018). Previous to the creation of Yinibini baby, Soyini was a successful jewelry crafter and was recognized by the Washington City Paper's Best of DC for Best Local Crafter, Reader's Poll in 2012 and 2014.

Soyini is survived by her daughter, Zarina Farmer-George, her mother Joan George, her brothers, Carlton George and Bediako George and three sisters, Patsy George, Dr. Damali Martin and Niambi George, her brother-in-law, Julien Martin and sisters-in-law, Yumiko George and Dr. MaryEllen McGuire. She is also survived by her great aunt Mrs. Dorothy Norton of Georgetown, Guyana. She was the niece of Roy Martin (deceased) and Norma Martin, Alan Stancil (deceased) and Joy Stancil, Dr. Neville and Bridget Martin, Dr. Keith and Camille Martin and Conrad and Laurel Martin. She is survived by her nieces, nephews, cousins and numerous other relatives and friends.

A Celebration of Soyini's life is scheduled at SMSC Conference Center, 224 2nd St SE, Washington D.C. on July 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Soyini's favorite charity No Kid Hungry, Share Our Strength, 1030 15th Street NW, Ste 1100W, Washington, DC 20005, 1-800-969-4767.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUL **21**. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

SMSC Conference Center  
224 2nd St SE  
Washington, DC 20003

*INFO ON TRANSPORTATION TO 224 2ND STREET SE, WASHINGTON DC 5 minutes walking: Capital South Metro Station 355 First Street SE Washington DC 6 minutes walking: A&R Parking 412 first Street SE Washington DC Shuttle Bus to 224 2nd Street SE, operating from 9:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. from: Pacific Parking 545 South Capitol Street SW Washington DC 20024*

# Tribute Wall



“ *Genesis Cremation & Funeral created a Live-streaming of service in memory of Soyini Ayanna George*



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**Genesis Cremation & Funeral** - July 18, 2023 at 09:52 PM

DG

“ *Condolences to her daughter & family.  
I remember Soyini and her sister from CHS in  
Dominica.  
Thanks to Facebook, we reconnected.  
I felt the passion she got from her work via  
her posts and pop up shops.*

*May her light shine in our lives forever....*

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**Darin G** - July 25, 2023 at 05:52 PM



AA

“ *Soyini, thank you for your light and beautiful  
spirit. It will always live on. -Art Auré*

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**Art Auré** - July 22, 2023 at 05:36 AM



DN

“ *Diana N'Diaye lit a candle in memory of Soyini Ayanna George*



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**Diana N'Diaye** - July 21, 2023 at 11:21 AM

DS

“ *Condolences to Aunty Pam, Zarina, brother and sister. May the memories you carry with you bring you comfort in the days ahead. 🙏*



*Soyini I'll miss our laughs .*

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**Diekola Scotland** - July 21, 2023 at 10:07 AM

UC

“ *Our hearts ache for the loss of our beautiful niece, Soyini. Gone too soon. We pray God will help her mother, Pamela, daughter, Zarina and her siblings find peace knowing that she lived a life of purpose and accomplished so much in this short space of time, and knowing she is at rest now. May everyone who loved her and was blessed to share a part of her life receive peace and comfort. May our beautiful queen rest for now and rejoice in heaven. Many blessings to all.  
From Uncle Keith and Aunt Camille*

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**Uncle Keith & Aunt Camille** - July 20, 2023 at 10:31 AM

KM

“ Keith Martin lit a candle in memory of Soyini Ayanna George



Keith Martin - July 20, 2023 at 09:50 AM

DM

“ Dr. Keith A Martin lit a candle in memory of Soyini Ayanna George



Dr. Keith A Martin - July 20, 2023 at 09:48 AM

UK

Candle lit by Dr. Keith Martin

Uncle Keith - July 20, 2023 at 10:34 AM

SR

To the Family of Soyini George:  
Please accept my deepest sympathy on the passing of Soyini. We worked together at the Smithsonian's Anacostia Museum for a period of time. Soyini worked as a project coordinator on a variety of community outreach and research projects. She was a pleasure to work with and Soyini made positive contributions to the work of the museum during her tenure. She was a lovely person and it was my pleasure to know her and work with her. Please accept my condolence on the loss of this beautiful soul.  
Sincerely,  
Sharon Reinckens

Sharon Reinckens - July 20, 2023 at 05:40 PM

CM

“ *Camille Martin lit a candle in memory of Soyini Ayanna George*



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**Camille Martin** - July 20, 2023 at 09:42 AM