



DeShayla Vanity Shelley

September 20, 1989 - May 23, 2025

With profound sadness and deep love, we announce the passing of Deshayla Vanity Shelley, age 35, a beloved daughter, sister, aunt, cousin, friend, and cherished member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. DeShayla left us far too soon, but her light will continue to shine in the hearts of all who knew her.

Born to Diane Shelley and Larry Roberts, DeShayla was a bright light from the very beginning. She graduated from Southern Connecticut State University in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science degree and a minor in Sociology. During her time there, she proudly became a member of Sigma Gamma Rho, embracing the values of sisterhood, service, and scholarship that she carried with her throughout her life.

Professionally, she served as an Assistant Director at CONNTAC-EOC, where she dedicated herself to helping others access educational opportunities and achieve their goals. Her work reflected her deep commitment to uplifting her community and empowering individuals through education.

She was a radiant soul whose energy lit up every room she entered. Her calendar was always full—not out of obligation, but because she truly loved being with people. Whether it was belting out her favorite songs at karaoke, hosting unforgettable game nights, planning Cousins Night get-togethers, or enjoying special date nights, she lived life with intention and heart.

Shayla had a gift for making everyone feel seen, heard, and loved. Her laughter was contagious, and her presence was comforting to many. She believed in celebrating the little things, and she brought people together in the most beautiful ways. At home, she was a devoted dog mom to her two dogs, DeNiro and Pacino Shelley, who brought her endless joy and companionship. She also shared a deep and loving bond with her life partner, George Giraldo, with whom she built a life full of love, laughter, and shared dreams.

Shayla is survived by her loving parents, Diane Shelley and Larry Roberts; her four brothers, Lionel Shelley, Lenny Shelley, Lawrence Roberts, and Lomar Roberts; and her two sisters, Marcella Roberts and Telly Hines. She was a proud and loving aunt to Cam'ron and Cali Shelley, as well as many other nieces and nephews who adored her. DeShayla also shared a special bond with her aunt, April Shelley Barr, who was lovingly known as her second mother, who referred to Shayla as Bessie Mae. In addition, she leaves behind a large and loving extended family of aunties, uncles, and cousins, as well as her sorority sisters and a wide circle of friends who became family.

She will be deeply missed, forever loved, and never forgotten.

The family will receive relatives and friends on Wednesday, June 4th from 9am – 11am at Bosak Funeral Home & Cremation, 453 Shippan Avenue, Stamford, CT. A Celebration of Life will be held at 11am at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Woodland Cemetery, 66 Woodland Place, Stamford, CT.

If you wish to make an online remembrance for the family, you may sign the family guestbook at www.bosakfuneralhome.com or www.facebook.com/bosakfuneralhome.

Cemetery Details

Woodland Cemetery

66 Woodland Place
Stamford, CT 06902

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 4. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bosak Funeral Home & Cremation
453 Shippin Avenue
Stamford, CT 06902

Celebration of Life

JUN 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bosak Funeral Home & Cremation
453 Shippin Avenue
Stamford, CT 06902

Tribute Wall

CF

“ *Cheremie Frisby-Spencer lit a candle in memory of DeShayla Vanity Shelley*



Cheremie Frisby-Spencer - June 09, 2025 at 07:27 AM

CF

“ *Aunt Dianne, I still cannot find the words to express my deepest sorry for you and the rest of the family. As with so many others, I too pray that God will comfort you always. I hope that the many faces and texts and calls show you that both of you are so loved by so many. I hope that you are able to hold to fact that you loved your daughter very well, and that she loved her mom very well. I love you so much, may the peace that surpasses all understanding guard your heart and mind.*

Cheremie Frisby-Spencert - June 09, 2025 at 07:22 AM

RR

“ *My deepest condolences to Diane Larry and the family I'm so sorry to hear about your daughter Deshayla she was such a beautiful person and a sweetheart may the lord give each of you strength through your difficult time you all will be in my heart losing a child is going to be hard always remember the good times that you all shared with her ❤️ R.I.P Angel I love you guys.*



Robin Reason - June 04, 2025 at 06:05 PM

DS

“ *Diane and Family,*

I am sadden to hear about Shayla. I am going to miss sending her Happy Founders Day. I made sure I reached out to her every year to give my favorite Sigma Gamma Rho Love. Even though we wore Royal Blue we were in a different Organization but we still had love for one another. She will always be my D9:Sister and Cousin. Rest easy Shayla.

Dr. Felisha Shelley - June 04, 2025 at 04:13 PM

PS

“ *Dear Diane & Family,*

*Our deepest sympathy to all of you at this very difficult and sad time. Our hearts go out to you now and in the days ahead. We hope your loving memories of DeShayla will give you comfort and peace. Support & Prayers go out to all of you. Fondly,
Patti, Phil & Noelle Saad*



patti Saad - June 03, 2025 at 02:15 PM

SM

“ *A memory i had with Deshayla!! We was in 5th grade i believe at this time at Roxbury School! As you can see we all was not ready to take this pic. She will definitely be missed by many. Get your rest Beautiful! 🕊️👤❤️*



Shayna Manning - May 30, 2025 at 06:16 PM