



Amadine Griffin Chiles

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Born in Louisville, Kentucky on Jan. 13, 1925
 Departed on Feb. 10, 2009 and resided in Norfolk, VA.

Memorial Service: Friday, Feb. 13, 2009

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NORFOLK, VIRGINIA; Amadine Griffin Chiles died peacefully on February 10, 2009 at her home on Cloncurry Road in Norfolk with family at her side. She was born on January 13, 1925 in Louisville, Kentucky, the daughter of Dr. John Lindley Griffin and Sarah Amadine Smith Griffin. She attended Parsons School of Design in New York, the University of Louisville, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She met the love of her life, Dr. Noah Hampton Chiles, in Louisville, Kentucky where he was a medical student. They raised their six children in High Point, North Carolina.

Griffin was a gifted and talented artist who pursued her lifelong career in art with passion and dedication, beginning as a newspaper fashion illustrator and working through multiple media, including watercolor, pastel, oil and acrylic. The last twenty years of her life in art was dedicated to bronze sculpture, during which she created over two hundred life-size sculptures of North American Indians. Griffin and her husband co-authored the book, "The American Indian", published in 1998. They donated over fifty of her bronze sculptures of American Indians to Christopher Newport University in Newport News, Virginia where they are on permanent display. Her bronze sculptures grace the homes of private collectors, museums, and government buildings, including the State Capitol Building in Nashville, Tennessee. She was a member of the National Arts Club. Griffin was beloved and warmly welcomed by tribal members of North American Indians throughout the country. The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians granted Griffin the title of "Honorary Tribal Member" and gave her the Indian name of "Dhotwoidy."

She was preceded in death by her husband of 56 years, her parents, her sister Elizabeth Olivia Griffin, and her brother John Allan Griffin. She is survived by daughter Lisa Chiles, Esq. and her spouse Dr. Austin I. Pule of Washington, D.C. and Singapore, daughter Dr. Cynthia Chiles MacGregor and her spouse Dr. Stephen D. MacGregor of Newport News, Virginia, daughter Dr. Caroline Chiles and her spouse Willis Howard Slane, III of Lewisville, North Carolina, daughter Dr. Catherine Chiles and her spouse Dr. Pieter Joost van Wattum of Hamden, Connecticut, daughter Julia Elizabeth Chiles and her partner Anthony Sylvester of Norfolk, Virginia and Ocracoke, North Carolina, and son Christian Hampton Chiles, Esq. and his spouse Patricia Ann Holt, Esq. of Norfolk, Virginia; grandchildren Roshani Pule, Barrister of London, England, Ananda Julian Pule of Washington, D.C., Carri Griffin MacGregor of Richmond, Virginia, and Noah Hampton Chiles, III, Chloe Holt Chiles, Cooper Lindley Chiles, all of Norfolk, Virginia.

The Chiles family extends deepest sympathy to Griffin's loving companion, Dr. Roger Perry of Newport News, Virginia, who meant so much to her and to the family. They also recognize the SeniorCorp providers, especially Luz Aranzazu, Cheryl Latimer, and Claudette Rice for their loving and supportive care within her home.

A memorial service for Amadine Griffin Chiles will be held on Friday, February 13, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. in the Norfolk chapel of H.D. Oliver Funeral Apartments, 1501 Colonial Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia. Donations in lieu of flowers may be directed to the American Indian Education Foundation, P.O. Box 27491, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125, 1-800-881-8694, or www.aiefprograms.org. Online condolences may be sent to the family at hdoliver.com

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This Memorial Obituary provided by [H.D. Oliver Funeral Apts., Norfolk Chapel](#)