Susan Lamb, beloved public relations officer and dedicated public servant, dies at 58

RALEIGH, N.C. – Longtime Public Information Officer for the North Carolina Museum of History Susan Hooper Friday Lamb died peacefully at her home on December 3, 2017, after an extended illness. She was 58.

In 1998 Lamb began a nearly 20-year career as the Public Information Officer of the North Carolina Museum of History. In 2017 she received Raleigh Public Relations Society’s highest honor, the Watt Huntley Award for Lifetime Achievement. She was also awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, which is among the most prestigious awards presented by the Governor of North Carolina.

“We will all miss Susan greatly,” said North Carolina Museum of History Director Ken Howard. “She was a tireless worker on behalf of the museum, an excellent writer who knew how to encourage the public to visit our exhibits and programs, and a wonderful friend to everyone.”

Lamb’s role as Public Information Officer was a tremendous task – the North Carolina Museum of History offers an array of rotating programs, classes, festivals and exhibits to hundreds of thousands of visitors annually. She also served as lead writer for the museum’s Circa magazine and has been applauded by journalists for her writing and editing skills and professionalism.

“Lamb enjoys a real gift of descriptive and tantalizing stories that make North Carolinians proud of and interested in visiting the wonderful Museum of History. She works tirelessly to engage citizens of North Carolina in their own state history and all it has to offer,” said former Secretary of the North Carolina
Department of Cultural Resources (now Department of Natural and Cultural Resources) and current North Carolina Museum of History Foundation Board member Betty McCain earlier this year.

Born June 15, 1959, in Gastonia, North Carolina, and raised in nearby Lincolnton, Lamb graduated from Lincolnton High School. She earned a degree in English from Lenoir-Rhyne College in 1981, where she was a member of Zeta Tau Alpha and president of the Panhellenic Council. Following graduation, she worked in Chapel Hill. In 1983 she married Terrell “Terry” Hadley Lamb, a Graham, North Carolina, native.

She is survived by her mother, Lila Ponder Friday; husband, Terry; sister, Sarah Friday Peters (Alexander), all of Raleigh; and her daughters Elizabeth Lamb Poindexter (Matthew) of Hillsborough; and Emily Allison Lamb (fiancé Matthew Viva) of Durham. She is also survived by a granddaughter, Cora Watts Poindexter, and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her father, the Honorable John Ralph Friday.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Susan’s name may be made to West Raleigh Presbyterian Church, 27 Horne Street, Raleigh, NC 27607. Condolences may be made at BrownWynne.com.

About the NC Museum of History, a Smithsonian affiliate
The NC Museum of History is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 400,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

For information about the NC Museum of History, call 919-807-7900 or access ncmuseumofhistory.org or follow on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or YouTube.

About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
The NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state’s natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR’s mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries and nature in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state’s history, conserving the state’s natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums and Jennette’s Pier, 39 state parks and recreation areas, the NC Zoo, the nation’s first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the NC Arts Council, State Preservation Office and the Office of State Archaeology, along with the Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, please call 919-807-7300 or visit www.ncdcr.gov.

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