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**JULY 2009** 

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## Gone Too Soon

Along with solving the problem of the black theatre's decline, Hamlin also solved the problem of finding a single word to express how he felt about theatre —"marvtastic." He invented the term which combines "marvelous" and "fantastic" and was a frequent user of the term.

Hamlin, in his own right, was simply marvtastic. He won several awards and prestigious honors and made a true mark, a most prevalent mark, for black theatre. It is unfortunate that many do not know of this theatrical genius' contributions or who he really was. Unlike Jackson, Hamlin wasn't in the media spotlight and didn't receive the notable attention that was worthy of his undertakings. His impact on and for black theatre was and still is significant.

Hamlin, like Jackson passed away in the month of June. He met his eternal rest on the sixth day of June in 2007 after dealing with sickness for some time. Al-

though we 'Never Can Say Goodbye' to those 'Gone too Soon,' their legacies live on through their greatness. Their accomplishments, work, impact and service to and for society serves as the basis for the knowledge, motivation, resiliency and passion to continue to succeed. Legends never die for their legacy continues to live on with us day after day. "Surely he shall not be moved for ever: the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance." - Psalm 112:6. Let us embrace this verse and remember that through their deeds, those gone too soon have blessed us in ways unimaginable. The real legacy they have left stems from God and extends to the lives they impacted with their gifts; which have touched lives all over the world.

MJ & Larry RIP

Gone too soon, but never forgotten.





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