



Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes

July 31, 1945 - December 1, 2020

Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes, age 75, of Bishopville, SC, passed away Tuesday, December 1, 2020 due to complications from Covid-19. Born on July 31, 1945 in Florence, SC, he was the son of the late Thomas Edward Stokes, Sr. and the late Katherine Pate Stokes.

Bobby was an active member of Bethlehem United Methodist Church, where he opened the doors every Sunday morning and made coffee for the Men's Club. Bobby also served 24 years as the superintendent of the Bethlehem Methodist Cemetery, spending countless hours keeping up the grounds and battling pesky fire ants. It is said, though, that Bobby knew everyone who was ever buried there. He thoroughly enjoyed his weekday ritual of "Hardee's biscuits" with his buddies, then visiting other friends around town, many times over a Coca-Cola. His love for his friends was only surpassed by his love for his family. He was the "greatest" uncle to Tom and Greer. As children, he taught them to ride bikes, took them to jump off the old sawdust pile, searched for arrowheads at the farm, rode in the combine, and taught them how to pick seeds out of cotton. As adults, he showed them how to be patient, kind-hearted, and selfless people. Bobby adored his great-nieces and great-nephews, Sarah Grace, Peyton, Miller, and Wells, and wore out the highway attending their confirmations, birthdays, games, competitions, and graduations.

Bobby had a profound love of service and fraternity, especially those found in the Bodies of the Masonic Lodge, where he served as Past Master of Bishopville Masonic Lodge #104 and Past Master of Lucknow Masonic Lodge #212. He was a member of Saint David's Lodge #72, Hartsville Masonic Lodge #173, Honorary Life Member of Patesville Masonic Lodge #295, and an Honorary Member of McBee Masonic Lodge #313. He was a member of the Omar Shrine, Past Director, and the sitting Treasurer of the Darlington County Red Fez Shrine Club, and The Jolly Jeepsters.

He was a 54-year member of the Bishopville Masonic Lodge and the Red Fez Shrine Club. He faithfully supported the Shriner's Hospital for Children and was a member of the \$100 Million Club. He attended the Shrine Bowl each year and was a recipient of the Medal of Honor Fez.

Bobby was a member of the Columbia Consistory of the SC Scottish Rite, where he received his 32nd Degree as a Master Mason. He was affiliated with the Orient of the East (1801) in Charleston, SC.

Bobby was a recipient of the Young Farmer of the Year Award. He was loved by many, looked after others, and did a lot of good for others without expecting anything in return. Bobby will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his sister-in-law, Nancy Williams Stokes of Columbia, SC; nephew, Thomas Edward Stokes, III, and his wife April Denny Stokes of Charleston, SC; niece, Greer Stokes McDougald, and husband, Jesse Fretwell McDougald of Anderson, SC; great-nieces, Sarah Grace McDougald, Peyton Elise Stokes; great-nephews, Miller Thomas Stokes, Jesse Fretwell "Wells" McDougald, Jr.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Thomas

Edward Stokes, Jr.

Graveside funeral services with Masonic Rites will be held at 1 o'clock on Saturday, December 5, 2020, in the Bethlehem United Methodist Church Cemetery, with the Rev. Frances Connell officiating. Friends may visit Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Home on Friday afternoon to pay their respects and sign the register. Hancock-Elmore-Hill Funeral Directors are caring for the family.

Due to Covid-19 protocols, masks are mandatory and social distancing is encouraged.

Serving as pallbearers will be Mike Pate, Tim Pate, Andy Pate, Pearce O'Kelley, Wells McDougald, and Miller Stokes.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his honor to the Shriner's Hospital for Children, 950 W. Faris Road, Greenville, SC 29605.

Cemetery Details

Bethlehem Cemetery

110 Pinchum Sly Road
Bishopville, SC 29010

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*

October 08, 2023 at 04:16 PM



“ *Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*

March 25, 2023 at 11:01 AM



“ *Glenna Register Rogers lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



glenna register rogers - December 06, 2020 at 05:11 PM



“ *Beautiful service for my childhood friend and BHS Class of '63 classmate. Many good years of friendship*



Becky Grantgam McWatty - December 06, 2020 at 06:31 AM



“ *Wally DesChamps lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



Wally DesChamps - December 05, 2020 at 09:40 PM



“ *Skip and I lift our thoughts and prayers for Bobby's family. He was a dear person, willing to help anyone when needed. He is now with his wonderful parents and brother, making Heaven an even sweeter place and receiving joy far beyond our understanding. Blessings upon blessings to each of his family. May God give you the strength you need to face each day.*
Irene Reames Lewis

irene lewis - December 04, 2020 at 07:17 AM



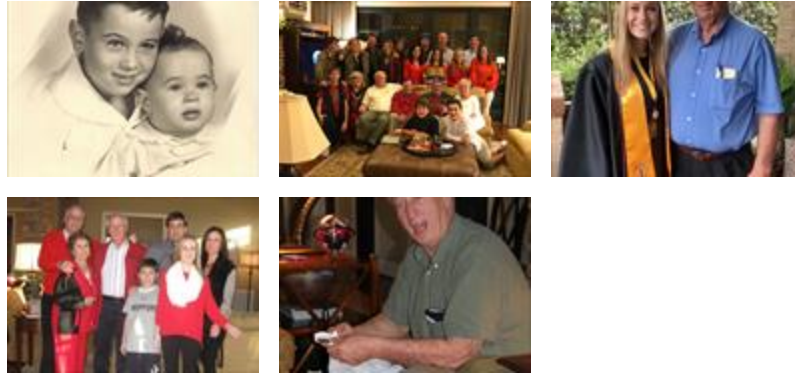
“ *Cheryl Feagin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



cheryl feagin - December 03, 2020 at 09:52 PM

GR

“ 14 files added to the album Stokes Family Photos



Greer - December 03, 2020 at 09:38 PM

CF

So many great memories

cheryl feagin - December 04, 2020 at 07:02 PM

JB

“ Jackie Buckner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes



Jackie Buckner - December 03, 2020 at 06:11 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes.



December 03, 2020 at 04:04 PM

LL

“ *Laura Logan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



Laura Logan - December 03, 2020 at 03:19 PM

KA

“ *Kay Amerson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



Kay Amerson - December 03, 2020 at 11:33 AM

LF

“ *He was very dedicated to the Masonic Lodge and the Shriners. He will be missed by all of us. His memories will be with us forever in remembering the times where we saw him at Masonic and Shrine functions such as chicken bogs at the Hartsville lodge and shrine parades and selling tickets and chocolate candy bars. He was a good person who you could always count on to help.*



luke perdue and family - December 02, 2020 at 10:21 PM

RD

“ I had some wonderful years knowing Bobby and this picture was from last year at the Shrine Hospital. We sure will miss you brother.



Robert Davis - December 02, 2020 at 08:29 PM

JD

“ Jimmy & Sharon Droze lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes



Jimmy & Sharon Droze - December 02, 2020 at 08:25 PM

ML

“ Bobby and his family meant so much to me and my family . Our family shared a pew with Bobby and his mother. I grew up with the memory of them always being there on Sunday. His mother headed up a group of church ladies that made the Christmon tree ornaments . Each year as we hang them we talk about how beautiful they are on the tree. Bobby and his family were such faithful members of BUMC . We will miss his presence and his faithfulness. Miriam "Mima" Tisdale Laney

Mima Laney - December 02, 2020 at 08:00 PM

PC

“ Phillip & Sandra Cates lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes



phillip & sandra cates - December 02, 2020 at 07:43 PM

ST

“ Sharon Torlay lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes



Sharon Torlay - December 02, 2020 at 07:38 PM

ST

Bobby will be missed by so many. He was a wonderful man, and a good friend. Rest in Peace my friend.

Sharon Torlay - December 02, 2020 at 07:39 PM

JE

“ PROUD TO HAVE KNOWN THIS GREAT MASON & SHRINER Jerry0wens--MM--#204

Jerry0wens - December 02, 2020 at 07:37 PM

DC

“ Della Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes



Della Clark - December 02, 2020 at 05:59 PM

JC

“ *Our sincere condolences to the family. Bobby was a dedicated and committed Mason and Shriner and will be missed.*



J.J. & Missi Cruz - December 02, 2020 at 05:10 PM

NH

“ *Norman And Iris Hayes lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



Norman and Iris Hayes - December 02, 2020 at 03:33 PM

KJ

“ *Kathy Cockman Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



Kathy Cockman Jackson - December 02, 2020 at 03:27 PM

CC

“ *Charlene Craven lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



Charlene Craven - December 02, 2020 at 03:24 PM

NL

“ Nancy Laney Lindsay lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes



Nancy Laney Lindsay - December 02, 2020 at 03:10 PM

CM

“ Clara McElveen lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes



Clara McElveen - December 02, 2020 at 02:53 PM

ST

“ Susan O Thrasher lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes



Susan O Thrasher - December 02, 2020 at 02:22 PM

ST

I am really going to miss Bobby. Cousin, friend, family. His heart was good and tried to help Bethlehem and Bishopville in so many ways. His efforts, along with my daddy, were tireless working on the cemetery committee. I hate that he was a victim of this horrible virus. Let Bobby be a warning to all.

Susan O Thrasher - December 02, 2020 at 02:28 PM

RO

“ *Rosalie.Hyatt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



Rosalie.Hyatt - December 02, 2020 at 01:43 PM

JG

“ *Bobby will be missed. Sending comfort to the Stokes family.*

Jeanne Gardner - December 02, 2020 at 12:54 PM

MB

“ *Matt & Betsy Bramlett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



Matt & Betsy Bramlett - December 02, 2020 at 12:34 PM

RA

“ *Robin Arrants lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert "Bobby" McDonald Stokes*



robin arrants - December 02, 2020 at 12:24 PM

BM

“ *We will miss our longtime friend and BHS Class of '63 classmate. Becky Grantham McWatty*

Becky Grantgam McWatty - December 02, 2020 at 12:19 PM