



Thomas Rhett Stokes

July 28, 1933 - January 17, 2023

Thomas Rhett “Tommy” Stokes, 89, died Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

A celebration of Tommy's life will be held on Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 1 PM at the Darlington Presbyterian Church. Burial will follow at the Florence National Cemetery.

Tommy was born in Darlington County. He was the son of the late Johnny Austin and Dolly Pearce Stokes. Tommy graduated from St. John's High School where he was a star athlete, having played football, baseball and basketball. Following high school Tommy served his country in the United States Army. He served as the Personnel Director for Perfection Gear Company and later retired from Woodmen of the World Insurance Company. His love for sports followed him his entire life. He played golf and fast pitch softball well into his prime years and was the King of “Stopper Ball” (If you know, you know) He also was an Official for SCESA in all three sports. Tommy also loved to dance. He had perfected the “Jitterbug” and the “Shag” and danced up until the end.

Tommy and his brothers, often referred to as “The Stokes Boys” played in practically every sports contest Darlington had for many years. Johnny, Darrell, and Dennis, Tommy's brothers, preceded him in death as well as his sister, Lexie Margaret Stokes Collie.

Survivors include his sons, Thomas Rhett Stokes, Jr. (Beth) of Charleston and William Liston Stokes (Amy) of Fort Mill; daughters, Lisa Kea of Florence and Margaret Elizabeth Stokes Balcer (Mike) of Charleston; his brother Pete Stokes of Columbia. He is also survived by grandchildren Tori Kea Dickerson (John), Joshua Edwin Kea (Crystal), Christopher Kea, Liston Stokes, Kate Stokes, Bricelin Balcer, Preston Langley, Evan Langley, and predeceased by Bradley Clark. Also survived by great grandchildren, Allison Kea, Justin Kea, Michael Kea, Joshua Edwin Kea Jr..

Memorials are suggested to The Southern 500 Golf Tournament C/o The Darlington Country Club 1256 Country Club Road, Darlington, SC 29532.

Tribute Wall



“ 78 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Kistler-Hardee Funeral Home - January 26, 2023 at 09:55 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Thomas Rhett Stokes.*



January 26, 2023 at 08:08 AM



“ *My love, thoughts and prayers are with the family. Tommy and his brothers and sister were all great athletes and very popular in school and in Darlington! May you rest in peace Tommy and may God Be with this family!*



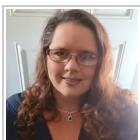
Ruth Campbell - January 21, 2023 at 08:58 PM

MB

“ *Matt And Betsy Bramlett lit a candle in memory of Thomas Rhett Stokes*



Matt and Betsy Bramlett - January 20, 2023 at 07:20 AM



“ *Mr. Tommy was a funny man. We always shared good talks and laughter when he would come to the shop. He used to tell me stories about dancing with my mother in law at the VFW and Sardis. He will surely be missed.*

Rebecca Kelly - January 18, 2023 at 03:25 PM

MH

“ *Tommy , his Mother and Father all of his brothers and his sisters have been very close friends my entire life. I am sad to see him go and he will be missed. Your Friend Mike Howle*

Mike Howle - January 18, 2023 at 12:43 PM