



James A. Stokes, Jr.

September 16, 1942 - March 31, 2025

James Albert Stokes, Jr., an advent Cowboy fan and affectionately known to many as “Chop,” was born on September 16, 1942, in Norfolk, Virginia. He was the beloved first son of eight children born to the late James Alphonso Stokes, and the late Irene Stokes.

James attended Booker T. Washington High School in Norfolk, where he met the love of his life, Patty Gray. The two married and shared 63 beautiful years together.

From their union came three children: James, Atleacia, and Deborah. He was a loving husband and father who cherished his wife and children deeply and built a life rooted in faith, family, hard work, laughter, and love.

James was a man of many passions. He loved crabbing, frying turkey for family gatherings, bowling with friends, and working in his yard with pride and purpose. He also found deep joy in serving God and his church community. He gave his life

to Christ

under Bishop Sammuel L. Carruth at Holy Light Church of Deliverance, where he

served as head of the Deacon Board, ushered faithfully, and taught Sunday School.

Later, he and his family joined Grove Church under the leadership of Dr. Melvin O.

Marriner, where he continued teaching and growing in his faith. He was a faithful

member of the Deacon board, Men's ministry, and Usher board and supported his wife

as a member of the Senior's ministry.

His first job was with the Norfolk and Southern Railroad, where he worked as a

Conductor and Brakeman for 40 years, faithfully providing for his family and exemplifying a strong work ethic. Even after retirement, James remained active. He

worked with Leaders of Tomorrow Academy (LOTA), a business founded by his

daughter Atleacia where he supported students and families in various roles.

Later, he

joined Apex Oil Company under Glen Hollins, working part-time on the docks where he

monitored the loading and unloading of fuel. He often said this was the best job he ever

had, cherishing the relationships he built there.

He is survived by his loving wife, Patty Stokes; his three children: James Stokes,

Jr. (Lorraine), Atleacia Gibson (James), and Deborah Norris (Ross); his

grandchildren,

James Stokes, James (Franchot) Gibson (Kim), Jamal Gibson, Cameron Stokes

(Annia), Jasmine Gibson, Caitlyn Stokes, Daijah Norris, and Ross Norris.

Great-grandchildren Aiden, Kendra, Yuri, Samia, Kiarah and a host of nieces, nephews,

cousins, and friends who loved and respected him. He is also survived by his siblings:

Elsie Edmond, Earnestine Adams (George), Maxine Taylor (Donny Ray), Alphonso

Stokes (Elaine), and Milton Stokes (Wanda). He was preceded in death by his parents,

James and Irene Stokes; his sister Jereline Lynn, and his brother Benjamin Stokes

(Christine).

James Albert Stokes, Jr. "Chop", a man of integrity, leaves behind a legacy of love, strength, service, and faith. His life was a blessing, and his memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew him.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd
Chesapeake, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **10**. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23323
(757) 487-3700
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

Service

APR **11**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grove Church
5910 W Norfolk Rd
Portsmouth, VA 23703
(757) 484-4149

Tribute Wall



“ *J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of James A. Stokes, Jr.*



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - August 13, 2025 at 04:07 PM

MP

God bless Stokes family. I remember when my baby was attending LOTA. It the best. My son loved it and especially when Mr Stokes would stop in. You know you have an angel watching over you.

Michelle Parker - August 18, 2025 at 02:39 PM

AS

“ *Love ..Comfort and Strength to Mrs.Stokes and Family..*

Death takes the body.
God takes the soul.
Our mind holds the
memories. Our heart
keeps the love. Our
faith lets us know we
will meet again.

Amanda Snead - April 11, 2025 at 12:21 PM

LJ

“ Remembering Deacon James Stokes, Sr. - an Awesome Man of God, Loving & Caring husband, father, grandfather to his family! He and his beautiful wife, Sis Patty of 60 years have always been an inspiration of what a beautiful marriage looks like. We're thankful for our connection to the Stokes family and for he & Sis Patty being wonderful godparents for our son, Darius. We pray for comfort, strength, encouragement, and peace to Sis Patty, Atleacia, Deborah, James, Jr. and the entire Stokes family. May Deacon Stokes' Legacy continue to live on through his family and everyone whose life he impacted! Much love. ❤️ Leroy & Phyllis Jones and Family



Leroy, Jr & Phyllis Jones - April 11, 2025 at 09:47 AM

AC

“ Anita Colley lit a candle in memory of James A. Stokes, Jr.



Anita Colley - April 10, 2025 at 11:47 AM

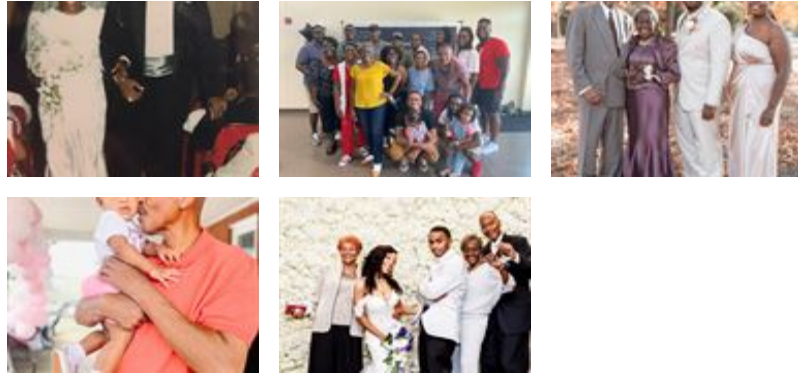
BS

“ Brother Stokes was always a nice man and I'm glad I had the opportunity to to know him. The Solomon Family will continue to to pray for y'all during this difficult time time.

Boney Soloman - April 10, 2025 at 05:56 AM



“ 26 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - April 09, 2025 at 09:57 PM

TA

Brother Stokes will be missed but never forgotten...

Tony Alexander - April 10, 2025 at 04:02 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James A. Stokes, Jr..*



April 09, 2025 at 07:02 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James A. Stokes, Jr..

April 09, 2025 at 07:02 PM

TC

“ The family of the late Helen Coles purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of James A. Stokes, Jr..



The family of the late Helen Coles - April 08, 2025 at 08:58 PM

NJ

“ *"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord." Psalm 37:23 We will always remember Deacon Stokes as a good man, a family man, a wise man and God's man. We offer our sincere condolences and prayers to Mother Patty and the entire Stokes Family. May God continue to strengthen and keep you. Much Love....*

Nathaniel & Shirley Jackson - April 08, 2025 at 12:30 PM

GM

“ Grove Baptist Church Missionary Ministry purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James A. Stokes, Jr..



Grove Baptist Church Missionary Ministry - April 08, 2025 at 11:12 AM

NJ

“ *"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord."and we will always remember Deacon Stokes as a good man. Lifting Mother Patty, and the entire family in prayer. Much love ❤️*



Nathaniel & Shirley Jackson - April 07, 2025 at 08:57 PM

MW

“ Margaret and Ray Waters purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of James A. Stokes, Jr..



Margaret and Ray Waters - April 06, 2025 at 11:56 PM

MW

“ Margaret and Ray Waters planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James A. Stokes, Jr..

Margaret and Ray Waters - April 06, 2025 at 11:56 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James A. Stokes, Jr..



April 06, 2025 at 09:54 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James A. Stokes, Jr..

April 06, 2025 at 09:54 PM

CH

“ Condolences to the family on the loss of your love one. May God continue to strengthen you each and every day.

Doctor Charmont Hall-Stephen



Charmont Hall-Stephen - April 06, 2025 at 07:34 PM

DS

“ Dr. S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James A. Stokes, Jr..

Dr. S. - April 06, 2025 at 02:47 PM

DG

“ I remember Mr. Stokes as quiet man and a loving father. Last time I saw him, he was so happy and had such a fabulous time celebrating his grandson, Franchot's wedding. Mr. Stokes smiled the entire evening.



Dr. Sharon Gaston - April 06, 2025 at 02:44 PM