

Celebration of Life

for

Germaine Dair Wander Stokes

Sunrise
August 30, 1962

Sunset
July 31, 2022



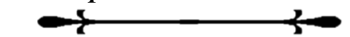
Celebration Service

Monday, August 8, 2022 ~ 11:00 AM

Apex First Baptist Church

419 South Salem Street

Apex, NC 27502



Celebration Service

Thursday, August 11, 2022

Viewing 10-11 AM ~ Service 11-12:30 PM

Pope Funeral Home

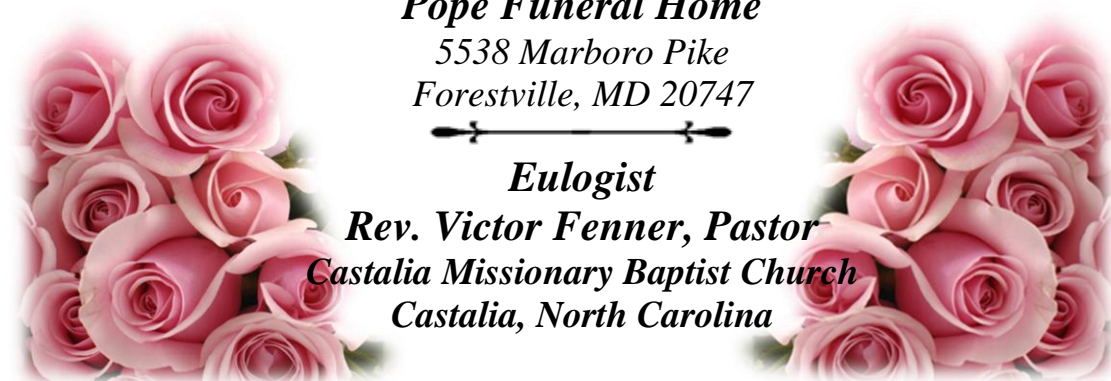
5538 Marboro Pike

Forestville, MD 20747



Eulogist

Rev. Victor Fenner, Pastor
Castalia Missionary Baptist Church
Castalia, North Carolina



Acknowledgements

The Stokes family express their many thanks to their neighbors, friends, Pastors, work families, churches, and funeral homes for the many cards, calls, acts of kindness you have shown in our time of bereavement.

~The Family~

Arrangements Entrusted To:

Albright Funeral Home

500 South Salem St.

Apex, North Carolina

919-362-8329

Programs Designed by:

Memorable Moments by Helen
919-300-1413



~*Order of Service*~

Presiding ~ Reverend Victor Fenner

- Prelude Musician
- Processional Clergy and Family
- Moments of Visitation.....
- Opening Song..... Bishop Timothy Farrar
- Scripture.....
 - Old Testament - Sister Carolyn Winder
 - New Testament - Sister Nicole Dozier
- Prayer of Comfort..... Brother Jonathan Lee Kelly
- Solo Sister Darlene Guye
- Reflections...2-3 minutes please..... Sister Nicole Dozier
Sister Laurie Singh and staff
Brother Artist Guye
Sister Carolyn Winder
- Acknowledgements & Obituary..... Sister Katrina Byrd
- Solo..... Bishop Timothy Farrar
- Eulogy..... Reverend Victor Fenner
Pastor Castalia Missionary Baptist Church
Castalia, North Carolina
- Recessional. Funeral Director’s Brief



~*Obituary*~

Mrs. Germaine Stokes (August 30th, 1962 – July 31st, 2022)

There are people who come into the world and use their time here to help others live a fuller life. And every now and again there are very special people like Germaine Stokes who use what’s special about them to put a sparkle or rather a “Twinkle” in the lives of those around them. Germaine was a comet, a flash of brilliant light that guided so many around her to be enveloped in the love that she had for each day. Germaine realized that we should seek the joy in life and not take for granted the delights each new day presented, on a beach with her family, whether enjoying Maryland Style Crab-Boils, in a museum or park with kids, taking field trips to the zoo, up in a hot air balloon, promenading around Disney or a lovely visit to the park she knew the fun was in making the most of the day ahead and taking time to smell the flowers.

For Germaine, life is about showing up but not losing sight of why we show up. Germaine deeply enjoyed her career in government and the professional fulfilment that it brought her, yet she knew to build a more complete life it would require yielding those skills to build a home, enrich her marriage and nurture her own children. Her actions speak louder than words in terms of the home she built with care, bounded by tireless support in the labor of love. As a dedicated wife, she was by Keith’s side daily, for more than a year, as he went through his liver transplant treatment at Duke Hospital and did so in style with a little Taylor and Spencer in tow by Stroller. She found her way to the front of meetings, neighborhood driveways for community gatherings and parades, a cheerful participant at concerts, and a tireless advocate for causes like women’s empowerment and breast cancer support networks of which she had been a survivor in the 2000s.

To her family, Twinkle, as she was known by everyone, was born in Alexandria, VA to Patricia Stanard, and quickly accepted Christ into her life at an early age while attending the Mt. Jezereel Baptist Church. She grew lifelong friendships the old fashion way, starting early in life with enduring connections to family, classmates at High Point High (Beltsville, MD) / Virginia State University and multiple posts in the Federal Government (Department of Energy and the Library of Congress). Her life took a turn for adventure when she met her beau, friend and husband Keith Stokes. They shared many adventures in life, including her most valued work as the mother to Taylor and Spencer Stokes. She placed a lifetime of love into time with them, such that it only makes sense now how much loved she poured into each of them. The love she had for them spilled over to other young ones, as she loved the possibilities possessed of little children. Germaine relished the chance to teach children to live, one hug or kiss at a time that somehow made it easier for them to learn to read and count. She never lost sight of what and who mattered, and even on the shortest of trips back home to DC she would let everyone know she was back in town. Trips to her Grandmother’s (Mrs. King), found her never empty handed but always with a room to eat a great meal with friends from the neighborhood.

There is something regal to a life lived like Germaine’s. It’s not just the sense of fashion that she displayed that rubbed off on her family and those around her. It’s the presence of mind to own each day in this life that gave her flair and allowed her to shine in the eyes of those who knew her. In her last days, she found an outpouring of love not just from those to whom she made a difference to but more importantly those whose lives she made different – like one of her students who showed up at her house asking to do dishes while she was sick and others seeking to complete chores or anything that might show how much they loved her. This is the way she touched lives and they responded in kind to the Twinkle she placed in their lives even at such a very young age.

Germaine attended Apex Baptist Church and Hope Chapel in Apex, NC. She is survived by her mother and best-friend, Patricia Wander Stanard and Step-Father Melvin Stanard, pre-deceased by her father Eugene Custis Wander. She leaves behind her life’s work in a loved husband, Keith Stokes, and two adored children – Taylor and Spencer Stokes. Her brother Andre Wander (Veronica), siblings Dario Milton, Dena Briscoe, Melvin Stanard, Sherrod Stanard (Stephanie), Damien Stanard (Shawn), and special nieces like Ariell and Kody Wander will miss her dearly and cherish her role in their lives. A host of family to including Sisters-in-law, Brother-in-laws, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews, and friends will never forget the Twinkle she left in both their eyes and hearts.



If Roses Grow in Heaven
By Delores M. Garcia

If Roses grow in Heaven
Lord, please pick a bunch for me.
Place them in my Mother’s arms
and tell her they’re from me.

Tell her that I love her and miss her,
and when she turns to smile,
place a kiss upon her cheek
and hold her for a while.

Because remembering her is easy,
I do it every day,
but there’s an ache within my heart
that will never go away.

Love, Taylor & Spencer

