

Remembrance

Jeffery Otis Stokes,

63

Feb. 2, 1956 - April 21, 2019

HARLAN – Romans 5 begins:

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put

us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Jeff inspired us all because he persevered in his battle of cancer. His fight was quiet, patient, positive and faith-filled.

He brought flavor to our lives with his gravy, his baking, his spices and his precise and exquisite taste.

He brought beauty to us through his original music, his guitar playing, and many performances with his friends in Akoostic II, E String Band and several church praise bands.

He brought us enrichment through wonderful stories of growing up in Walthill, NE, adventures experienced during his proud military service and his tales of travel. So many customers benefitted from the dedicated 28 years of his self-owned business, Metro Office Machines.

He brought love to us all, because he was always sensitive to the needs of others, but especially to Marian. He was dependable, caring, generous, genuine and kind.

He showed us how to smile through discomfort, sing through weakness, pray in despair and Glory in the Lord. We rejoice with Jeff today because he has been freed of his pain, sickness and sufferings. He is once again whole in the presence of the Lord. Can't you see him smile?

Jeffery passed away on Sunday, April 21, 2019, after a courageous battle with cancer at the Veteran's Medical Center in Omaha, NE, having attained the age of 63 years, two months and 19 days. He is preceded in death by his father Carol Stokes.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife Marian Greer-Stokes of Harlan; children Matthew (Kathi) Stokes of Woodland, CA; Justin (fiancé Sarah Pinnell) Stokes of Woodland, CA; Erin Stokes of Council Bluffs; mother Rhodora Stokes of McClelland; step-children Ben Greer of Bellevue, NE; Lindsey Greer of Iowa City; grandchildren Mikayla Stokes, Derrick Stokes, Rhett Stokes; siblings Rhonda (Jeff) Ervin of El Dorado Springs, MO; Marty Stokes of McClelland; Brent Stokes of McClelland; nieces and nephews; other family and many friends.

A 10 AM funeral service was held at Fresh Encounter Fellowship on Thursday, April 25, 2019 with Pastor Joe Pennington officiating and eulogist Pastor Ray Peters. Casket Bearers were Darren Stokes, Brent Stokes, Lee Ervin, Paul Cunningham, Dennis Hopp and Mike Bryant. Interment was held at the Iowa Veteran Cemetery in Van Meter with military rites

