



Ruffus Levane Stokes

March 23, 1950 - May 1, 2026

Ruffus Levane Stokes, lovingly known for his warm spirit, charm, and generous heart, passed away on May 1, 2026, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the age of 76.

Born on March 23, 1950, in Burkesville, Virginia, Ruffus was the son of Ruffus Stokes and Alease Stokes. He proudly served his country in the United States Army from 1970 to 1976, where he earned recognition as a sharpshooter. Following his military service, he built a career as a computer engineer.

Ruffus was truly one of a kind. Outgoing, loving, and gregarious, there was hardly a person who met him who did not immediately fall for his charm. He had a magnetic personality that made people feel welcomed, valued, and seen. Known for being kind, generous, and giving to a fault, Ruffus never expected anything in return for the love and support he freely gave to others.

He enjoyed spending his days people-watching at the park, learning and sharing holistic and nutritional knowledge, traveling, and most importantly, spending quality time with those he loved. He had a deep appreciation for life, conversation, laughter, and connection. One of his favorite sayings was, "If someone shows you who they are, believe them."

Ruffus leaves to cherish his memory his daughters, Alyshia Steele and Scyita

Goffrey; his grandchildren, Michael Sims and Lyric Steele; his sisters, Inez Carter, Theresa Stokes, and Shirley Day; along with a host of nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends who will forever carry his memory in their hearts.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAY 23. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

FDR Park
1500 Pattison Av
Boathouse Pavilion
Philadelphia, PA 19145

In honor of Ruffus' vibrant spirit and love for fellowship, family and friends are invited to join in a celebration centered around love, remembrance, music, food, and togetherness as his life and legacy are remembered.