



# Emily Camille Stokes

July 22, 1994 - May 21, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Emily Camille Stokes. Surrounded by family, friends, and her beloved dog-son, the Woodruff, SC resident transitioned from earth to glory on May 21, 2025 after battling a rare form of ovarian cancer.

Born in Charlotte, NC, July 22, 1994, Emily was the daughter of the late Franklin Stokes. She is survived by her mother, Wanda Johnson-Stokes, sisters Lelia Stokes of Woodruff, SC, Maiya Stokes of Yadkinville, NC, maternal grandmother, Shirley Johnson of Woodruff, SC, one nephew, three nieces, her trusted dog, Olly, and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Emily selflessly fought to live during her bout with cancer, but she understood this world was not her home, so we celebrate her life as it embodied words from one of her favorite songs, **"because I knew you, I have been changed for good."**

Emily lived and loved with passion, intention, and a heart for Jesus, family, friends, and even strangers. She held memberships at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Walnut Grove, SC and Cornerstone Baptist Church in Spartanburg, SC.

After graduating from Woodruff High School in 2012, Emily went on to study at Charleston Southern University (CSU) where she earned a BA in graphic design and received CSU Most Outstanding Graphic Design and Studio Art awards. Shortly after graduating from CSU, Emily served as an admissions counselor for the university. She later freelanced as a graphic designer for Arrowhead Design Company, before starting a full time job as an all-occasion event print designer at Swoozie's in Greenville, SC. In 2019, she landed a position as a graphic designer and creative strategist at Your Marketing Co. in Greenville where she made every project a personal mission of excellence.

Emily's quick wit, dedication, sometimes dark sense of humor, and deep, constant empathy for others will leave an unforgettable mark on people who knew her. Laughter was an art form for Emily. No one escaped her jokes. Her laughs were contagious! She had an innate ability for sharing, and making people comfortable. She was a loyal friend with soul-healing loyalty. Her presence was both a joy and a gift.

Emily enjoyed various genres of music and played trumpet for the WHS Marching Band, and the CSU Marching band. A kid at heart, Emily loved Disney movies, watching cartoons, and old sitcoms like the Golden Girls with her baby sister Lelia, and close friends. She also enjoyed spending time with her mother watching medical, first responder shows, romcoms, and old movies, like Steel Magnolias.

We will celebrate her life by wearing colorful attire, fascinator (derby), and church hats reminiscent of the the movie's wedding scene as Emily also appreciated theme-based affairs.

**We will honor Emily's life Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at First Baptist Woodruff located on 801 Cross Anchor Road. Services begin with a public viewing at 1 p.m., followed by the funeral at 2 p.m. The family will hold a private burial at a later time.**

The family also will recognize parents who lost a child, as well as cancer fighters and survivors during the funeral service.

The W.J. Gist Mortuary at 519 Workman Avenue, Woodruff, SC is in charge of funeral arrangements.

**Emily boldly shared her faith in Jesus and often sketched, pinned, and painted artwork that reflected His love. She was born on purpose, lived with purpose and died completing His purpose.**

