



Robert J Sturnes

October 23, 1947 - December 1, 2025

Robert J. Sturnes, 78, of Chattanooga, peacefully entered eternal rest on Monday, December 1, 2025, in a local hospital. Born on October 23, 1947, in Montezuma, Georgia, Robert moved to Chattanooga in 1970, where he built a life grounded in hard work, loyalty, and deep love for his family.

In August 1975, Robert married Juliet Readus, with whom he shared 35 years of marriage until her passing in 2010. A devoted husband and father, Robert worked tirelessly to provide for his family—often holding two full-time jobs for more than 30 years at Erlanger Hospital and Planters Life Savers, where he served as a dedicated supervisor at both. Even after retiring, he continued to work part-time at Food City on Hwy 58, demonstrating the strong work ethic for which he was well known.

A lifelong member of Mt. Canaan Baptist Church, Robert faithfully served on the Usher Board, supported Environmental Services, and was an active member of the Widow's Ministry. His faith guided his steps, his character, and his service to others.

Robert was known for his storytelling, his love of sports, and his stern yet caring nature. He enjoyed fishing, was an avid bowler, and could always be counted on for honest wisdom and steady guidance. Above all, he was a man who worked hard, loved deeply, and provided faithfully, ensuring his daughters

always had what they needed.

He will be remembered as a devoted father, a loyal worker, a man of faith, and a steady presence in the lives of all who knew him. His legacy of perseverance, service, and love will continue to resonate in the hearts of his family, friends, and community.

Robert was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Juliet R. Sturnes; his mother, Annie Lee Sturnes; and his grandparents, Roland and Fannie Sturnes. He leaves to cherish his memory his loving daughters, Shenikia Sturnes, Robin Sturnes, and Denise Morris; and grandchildren, all of Chattanooga; his sister, Annie Ussery of Chattanooga; cousins, Phyllis (Cornel) Williams of Houston, TX, and Fannie Mae Carter of Jacksonville, FL; and a host of sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law who loved him dearly, including Jo Ann Cooper, Evelyn (John Lee) Moore, Zebedee Williams, and Bernard Readus. He also has several nieces and nephews that loved him dearly. He also leaves behind special friends, Martha White, Ruth Boykin, and Phillip Gilles, who held a meaningful place in his life.

Robert will lie-in-state on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, at 9 a.m. at Taylor Funeral Home. Funeral service will follow at 12 noon in the Chapel with Dr. Ternae Jordan, Sr. as the Eulogist. Burial in Lakewood Memory Gardens, East.

Cemetery Details

Lakewood Memory Gardens East

4621 Shallowford Road
Chattanooga, TN 37411

Previous Events

Lie-In-State

DEC 9. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Taylor Funeral Home
3417 Wilcox Boulevard
Chattanooga, TN 37411-1076

Funeral Service

DEC 9. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Taylor Funeral Home
3417 Wilcox Boulevard
Chattanooga, TN 37411-1076

Burial

DEC 9. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Lakewood Memory Gardens East
4621 Shallowford Road
Chattanooga, TN 37411

Tribute Wall



“ *My condolences to the Family, May God Bless each one of you, I pray that God will continue comfort you and strengthen the Family.*

Margaret Ryan - January 03 at 01:16 AM



“ *He was a great Supervisor at Erlanger*

Yahunna Wadley - December 12, 2025 at 02:31 PM



“ *Our prayers are with the entire Sturnes Family in this time. May God continue to hold you and may you cherish each other in this difficult time.*
-Dr. Rai and Jake Klaus

Rai Klaus - December 11, 2025 at 03:41 PM



“ *Cheryl Locke lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes*

Cheryl Locke - December 10, 2025 at 09:48 AM



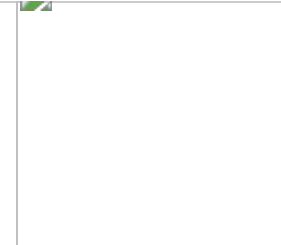
“ *JoAnn Whaley Whitlock lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes*



JoAnn Whaley Whitlock - December 10, 2025 at 09:37 AM



“ *The Toney family would like to extend our prayers and condolences to the family in their time of bereavement*



Randy Toney - December 10, 2025 at 02:21 AM



“ *Hello to the Sturnes family. It is with love for each of you, especially Joann and my girls Robin and Shenika, that I send my love and regret for your loss. Mr. Sturnes was always a wonderful man who was always smiling and who I loved being around. I thank God for his life and that I got the chance to meet and know him. I'm so sorry for your loss and may God bless each of you, especially my girls.
In His love,
Henrietta Taylor*

Henrietta Taylor - December 09, 2025 at 01:51 PM

T

“ Robert was one of my best employees before he became a Supervisor. He was a very kind guy, he always made sure I had a way home before he left for home. Robert was a good storyteller. We worked together for over 20yrs...I will truly miss him. My heart and prayers go out to his daughters and the rest of his family.
Rest in peace,
Hazel M. Simmons

Tina Tate - December 09, 2025 at 12:20 AM

k

“ I meet Mr. Sturnes in the PACE program. We talked about the jobs he worked and when he worked them. By the way he talked I could tell he was a hard working man with a lot of knowledge . We had that in common.
Mr .Sturnes remained me of my father. Now you can rest in peace sir.

kenneth hammocksr - December 09, 2025 at 12:04 AM

LS

“ RIH Mr. Robert You will be missed.

LaWanda Smith - December 08, 2025 at 06:59 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert J Sturnes.*



December 08, 2025 at 03:42 PM



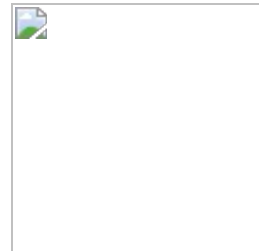
“ *To the family of Robert Sturnes, Your heart holds his legacy-the wisdom he taught you, the strength he gave you, the love he showed you. Shenikia & Robin Sturnes and Family we're praying that God give you strength doing this difficult time!* 🙏🙏🌟🌟🌟

*Linda R Thompson,
Malika Thompson Maples & Family*

Linda Thompson - December 08, 2025 at 12:58 AM



“ *Joann Ballard sent a virtual gift in memory of Robert J Sturnes*



Joann Ballard - December 07, 2025 at 11:23 PM



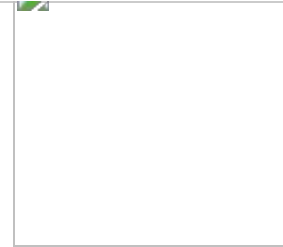
“ Robert and I go a long way back. We use to have a Boy Scout Troop at Mt Cannan Baptist Church, I was a Den Mother for the troops, Robert worked with us with whatever we needed done. 40yrs or more. I will miss Robert, rest in Glory.



Joann Ballard - December 07, 2025 at 11:22 PM



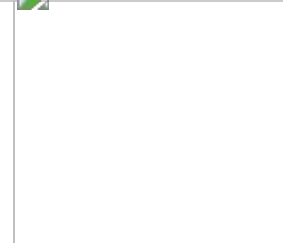
“ RIH! My deepest condolences to the family!



Arletra Bolden - December 07, 2025 at 01:20 AM



“ Marva Taylor lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes



Marva Taylor - December 06, 2025 at 05:11 PM



“ Praying for the loving daughters and the entire Sturnes family as you celebrate the life and legacy of your dear loved one. God is always faithful to his promises. Continue to cherish the precious memories that you shared and trust in God to see you through. 🙏
Rev Henrietta Erskine-SMBC.

Henrietta Erskine - December 06, 2025 at 02:00 PM

LS

“ *Lillie Sampson-Roshell lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes*

Lillie Sampson-Roshell - December 06, 2025 at 05:41 AM

F

“ *Freida Lewis lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes*

Freida Lewis - December 05, 2025 at 07:36 PM

D

“ *Our prayers are with you in the loss of your father.*

Deborah Bramlett - December 05, 2025 at 07:22 PM

RB

“ *Ruth Boykin purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert J Sturnes.*



Ruth Boykin - December 05, 2025 at 04:14 PM

RB

“ During this difficult time, may God's love and mercy be with you and your family. May He give you strength and courage to face this loss.

RB

Ruth Boykin - December 05, 2025 at 03:40 PM

V

“ Our sincere condolence is extended to the Sturnes and Readus familiarity .We pray that God grants peace and comfort to each of you. Vinvinetta Brown and family.

Vincinetta Brown - December 05, 2025 at 09:26 AM

V

“ Valery Norwood lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes

Valery Norwood - December 05, 2025 at 06:11 AM

BL

“ Bessie Lovelace sent a virtual gift in memory of Robert J Sturnes



bessie lovelace - December 04, 2025 at 11:47 PM

BL

“ *Light acandleforrobertdtearms*

bessie lovelace - December 04, 2025 at 11:44 PM

T

“ *Tovasha Myree lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes*

Tovasha Myree - December 04, 2025 at 11:01 PM

AW

“ *Praying for the family of Mr. Sturnes. May God strengthen you in this time of sorrow. Sending sincerely condolences.*



Allene Ward - December 04, 2025 at 09:50 PM

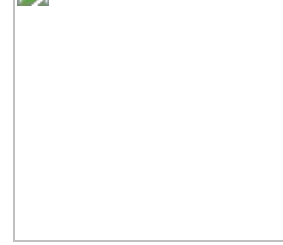
R

“ *Minister Rosalyn Dodson*

Rosalyn Smedley Dodson - December 04, 2025 at 06:23 PM



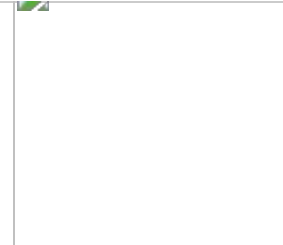
“ Robert was a coworker of mine at Planters Lifesavers ,Kraft a great guy.



Evelyn Baker - December 04, 2025 at 04:57 AM



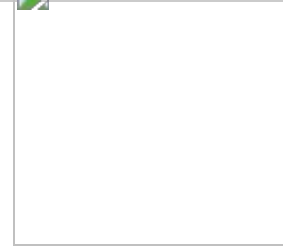
“ Sincere Condolences to the Family!



Dr. L. A. Davidson - December 04, 2025 at 04:47 AM



“ My heartfelt condolences to the family.



Christopher Cooper - December 03, 2025 at 11:57 PM



“ Iciephine Smith lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes



Iciephine Smith - December 03, 2025 at 06:54 PM

JP

“ *My sincere condolences to the Sturnes and Readus families, with Love and Prayers!*

Janice Parham - December 03, 2025 at 06:25 PM



“ *Yolanda Dave lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes*

Yolanda Dave - December 03, 2025 at 05:31 PM

MB

“ *Marilyn Brown lit a candle in memory of Robert J Sturnes*



Marilyn Brown - December 03, 2025 at 04:40 PM