



## Eric Wesley Stipe

February 21, 1948 - December 3, 2021

Eric Wesley Stipe, age 73, passed away peacefully at his home in Sharpsburg, GA on Friday, December 3, 2021. He was born in York, PA on February 21, 1948, to John Wesley Stipe and Annette McClain Panton.

Eric is preceded in death by his father, John Wesley Stipe. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn Teague Stipe; mother, Annette McClain Panton; children, Carla Stipe of Charleston, SC, Andrea Meadows and her husband Kurt of Senioa, GA. He is also survived by grandchildren, Sawyer McClain, Finley Kathryn and his siblings, Deanna Williamson (Allen), Debbie Gordy (Dan), Sea Stipe (Colleen Bevins) Shirley Stipe-Zendle (Neal), Sabra Stipe, Skipper StipeMaas (Jim), Stormy Stipe (James Pollock), Shad Stipe and numerous nieces and nephews.

Eric grew up in Athens, GA and was a 1966 graduate of Athens High School. He attended Albany Junior College and graduated from the University of Georgia. Eric served as the Recreation Director for the City of College Park, GA from 1977-2011. During his tenure, he was instrumental in developing programs such as gymnastics, baseball, basketball, football and cheerleading as well as summer camps. He was also involved in obtaining funding for city improvements including park renovations for Barrett, Charles E. Phillips, and Richard D. Zupp Parks; facilities renovations for Conley Gymnastics Facility, City Auditorium, Badgett Football Stadium, Brady Recreation Center, and two

community pools; and the creation of Tracey Wyatt Recreation Center at Godby Road. He was well respected and loved by all staff and colleagues.

Eric enjoyed entertaining people with his stories and making people laugh. He emphasized experiences over material things, and his family cherishes the memories of trips they took together. Eric found great pleasure in sports of all kinds and initiated the first fast pitch travel softball league in Coweta County. He coached his daughter Andrea's softball team for 6 years. Second only to his love of God and family was Georgia football. His most recent greatest joys were his grandchildren.

The memorial service celebrating Eric's life is Tuesday, December 7, 2021, at 11:00 AM in the sanctuary of Newnan First United Methodist Church, with Rev. Charles Robinson officiating. The family will receive friends following the service in the Annex Hall at the church.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made in Eric's name to National Park Foundation ([give.nationalparks.org](https://give.nationalparks.org)) or Newnan First United Methodist Church (<https://www.newnanfumc.org/give>).

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com).

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

# Cemetery Details

## McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
care@mckoon.com  
<http://www.mckoon.com>

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

DEC 7. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Newnan First United Methodist Church  
33 Greenville Street  
Newnan, GA 30263

# Tribute Wall

SH

“ Terry and I are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Susan Houston - December 11, 2021 at 01:05 PM

PR

“ Kathy and family, I am so sorry that you have lost Eric. I am thinking of you and praying for each of you. Pam McCollum Reynolds

Pam Reynolds - December 07, 2021 at 07:36 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Eric Wesley Stipe.



December 06, 2021 at 09:26 PM

KK

“ Our deepest sympathy prayers are with the family at this time of sorrow. He was a very nice man and will surely be missed by all.

Charlie and Kathy Kneuer

katherine kneuer - December 06, 2021 at 05:00 PM

JP

Am so sorry for your loss. Sending love and prayers to you all.

jenny B. Passler - December 07, 2021 at 06:21 PM

BW

“ *Bruce and Cheryl Wardlaw purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Eric Wesley Stipe.*



---

**Bruce and Cheryl Wardlaw** - December 06, 2021 at 03:18 PM

CW

“ *To Kathy and Family,*

*Bruce and I are so very sorry for your loss. Eric was always such a kind, clever and charming person. He will be sadly missed by everyone who was fortunate enough to know him. What a lovely and loving man.*

*Our deepest sympathy,  
Bruce and Cheryl Wardlaw*

---

**cheryl Wardlaw** - December 06, 2021 at 03:11 PM

JP

“ While I share condolences with Kathy and all of Eric's family and friends, I also share the joy of having known Eric and enjoying his friendship for 40 years. Friendship is a word that comes up often when it comes to Eric because I felt like I had known him all my life from the moment I met him. Kathy and I were in each others weddings so the subject of our marriage longevity came up in recent years whenever we would talk. When I called Kathy in June, she and Eric were on the way to pick up a pizza. When Kathy got out to go in for the pizza, she said, keep talking to Eric while I get the take out. As Eric and I continued to talk and laugh, he said: "Jamie, you know Kathy is the best thing that ever happened to me." Eric was truly open, concerned about others, and always trying to create happiness and laughter. He was truly lifelong. While we will miss him, he is always with us.

*Jamie and Sarah Potter*

---

**James Potter** - December 06, 2021 at 01:34 PM