



David F. Stoke

June 28, 1944 - January 5, 2026

David F. Stoke, 81, of New Bloomfield, went to be with the Lord on Monday, January 5, 2026, at his home. He was the son of the late B. Lee and Inez (Stambaugh) Stoke of Blain. After graduation from Blain Union High School in 1962, he received a bachelor's degree in music from Westminster Choir College and did his post graduate study at Glassboro State College. He became a high school choral director and church music minister. He retired from Providence United Methodist Church in Charlotte, NC. Under his direction, the Chancel Choir performed many major venues including singing at the Avery Fisher Hall in New York City. He was formerly the assistant conductor of the Oratorio Singers of Charlotte and the Youth Oratorio of Charlotte. For years, he was the chorus master of the opera "Carolina." He was founder and director of Carolina Choral Artists, a 24 voice Choral ensemble composed of professional singers. He served on the North Carolina ACDA Board as chairperson for standards and repertoire in the church music area. He also served as a choral clinician in North Carolina, New Jersey, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Upon retirement, he became Head Manager of the Belk Theatre at Blumenthal Performing Arts Center of Charlotte.

He loved to travel and took many trips with friends and family, touring much of Europe and Russia. Upon becoming aware of his illness, he said, "I've had a good life and have had opportunities many have not."

Surviving are three sons, Scot and wife Krissy of Woodstock, Ga., David Michael and wife Joy of Lexington NC and Laban and wife Christine of

Lilesville, NC. 6 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Two sisters, Donna Bistline of Mechanicsburg and Patricia Reisinger of Blain. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Elwood.

At his request, there will be no services.

The Boyer Family is honored to handle the arrangements for the Stoke/Reisinger Families.

Tribute Wall

DB

“ *The smile, the hearty laugh, the swagger and ability...Miss you David here at PUMC after all these years. I remember when I “threatened to join the choir”(and I can’t sing!) and he said “come on, I’ll fix you up”. See you later*

Dee Ballard. - February 08 at 12:06 PM

JM

“ *My heartfelt condolences to Donna, Pat and all of the children and grandchildren on the loss of their beloved David. I have lots of wonderful memories of BUHS basketball, band and of course Methodist church and Sunday school services shared with Dave as well as times on the farm with your mother and dad.*

John Magill - January 22 at 05:07 PM

TM

“ *David was always such a friendly, familiar presence at Blumenthal, even after he retired. When I first joined the BA Family as a Volunteer (now Senior Usher) in 2019, I distinctly remember looking forward to working Charlotte Symphony Orchestra events knowing that David would be the House Manager. He led our briefings with a detailed rendition and breakdown of whatever CSO performance we were about to listen to. Full of such knowledge and passion for the arts, I know I speak for many of my colleagues when I say that his passing has left a deep void. I’m comforted to know he is no longer in pain and hope his transition to the after life, whatever that may look like, is a smooth one. Rest easy, friend.*



Taylor Montalto - January 17 at 03:46 PM

LM

“ My favorite memory of David was as a mentor and friend to our children who sang in his choirs. For the young children’s choirs, parents were asked to take turns sitting in the rehearsals and monitoring behavior. One day, David’s assistant director was leading the rehearsal and discussing the upcoming Trinity Sunday. She mentioned that Trinity Sunday honored 3 important names in the church and asked the children to guess them. They immediately got God and Jesus but there was a long silence when she said “That’s right! Good for you. Can you guess the third name?”. Finally, a little girl guessed, “Mr. Stoke?”. The assistant director, the other parent and I later agreed that was a pretty good guess.

Leslie Marsicano - January 14 at 10:52 AM

JR

“ Jacqueline Reid lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke



Jacqueline Reid - January 13 at 08:33 AM

HL

“ Being greeted with a bright smile and hug from you, dear David, was always the highlight of my day at the theater. I've missed you and will miss you until I see you again.



HEIDI LIND - January 12 at 03:21 PM

BW

“ *I’m sorry for your loss
I had the privilege of working with David for about eight years here
at the theater, where he was the House Manager and a steady,
familiar presence.*

*One thing I will always remember about David is his bow ties. He
wore so many different ones, and I always made a point to
comment on them. They became part of who he was to me wearing
with quiet confidence never flashy, just unmistakably David. He will
be missed all who knew him. Brenda W.*

Brenda Whittaker - January 11 at 04:42 PM

RF

“ *Rina F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David F. Stoke.*

Rina F. - January 10 at 08:15 PM

RF

“ David holds a special place in my heart because of who he was to my son William, Jr. He made volunteer days much brighter for us and he SAW William. I relished each moment he spent with us as he greeted William with the biggest sincerest smiles, complemented his various bowties that they had in common and shared stories of his own many ties. David was proud to share anything we had in common and was a pure human being My husband had the honor of meeting David when we were patrons and received the same reception as if he too was a long time family member. His immediate comments were how David carried himself as a gentle giant among giants. David was one of a kind, gentle and loving to both of us and everyone who knew him. When he retired, he left a void in our hearts. I have missed him tremendously but I know that he will bring joy in his new heavenly home.

Rina Fitzgerald - January 10 at 08:11 PM

SE

David was such a joyful person all the time. It was a pleasure to volunteer at the theater when David was there. He was the ultimate professional, and his bow ties helped define his "dapperness." I missed him when he retired, but had an occasion to see him when he came here for a show last year or circa 2024. My heartfelt condolences to the family. He was loved and will be missed.
Sheila Etheridge-Boddie

Sheila Etheridge-Boddie - January 23 at 12:59 AM

DM

“ David was a dear friend. I will miss our trips to the fish camp and to Cracker Barrel. I know he will keep the heavenly choir in line. I will see you again my friend.

Donald Mcallister - January 10 at 11:56 AM

BS

“ Love You David.
Remembering 2 of your sayings: Many hands
make light work and celebrate fabulously.
Your Girl Betty.



Betty Stephenson - January 10 at 09:46 AM

KE

“ I knew David from my years at Blumenthal.
He always welcomed me with a hug, smile
and a “ well hello my dear” I loved his stories,
his kind personality. He meant the world to
everyone who knew him. I will miss him so
much. Prayers to his family and friends.



Kendra - January 10 at 07:49 AM

LM

“ Louise McCrorie lit a candle in memory of
David F. Stoke



Louise McCrorie - January 10 at 07:47 AM

LM

David was my mentor as a house manager at Blumenthal. He defined
house management at Blumenthal for years. He is definitely missed!

Louise McCrorie - January 10 at 07:49 AM

DJ

David was our church choir director for 20 plus years. He was a true gift to our church. I loved seeing him at Blumenthal. We always were excited to see each other. Our daughter was in his youth choir and adored him. He always asked about her. Bless you David.

Delores Jones - January 11 at 12:44 PM

SG

*“ As a volunteer usher I was pleased to know David and learned a lot about the music we were hearing each time he was our leader. Now I appreciate him even more for all the things he did for Charlotte!
Sarah Goad*

Sarah Goad - January 10 at 06:40 AM

JG

“ Miss you David. So grateful to have known you



jennifer goodwin - January 10 at 06:36 AM

SF

“ Sueann Fusselman lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke



Sueann Fusselman - January 10 at 01:35 AM

CB

“ *Chuck Boufford lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke*



Chuck Boufford - January 09 at 08:33 PM

CB

David, you were a bright light in the lives of both Nancy and me during our years at The Blumenthal - you always lit up the room in your own special way - RIP, my friend.

Chuck Boufford - January 09 at 08:38 PM

SC

“ *I will miss you my friend. RIP*



Schelly Conneely - January 09 at 06:50 PM

MO

“ *Monica lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke*



Monica - January 09 at 06:28 PM

CS

“ Cecily Smith lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke



Cecily Smith - January 09 at 06:25 PM

TO

“ Tommy lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke



Tommy - January 09 at 05:03 PM

ME

I knew David while ushering at Blumenthal. I loved seeing him and he always had a smile and a welcoming greeting. I looked forward to his explanation of the performances and learned so much. I loved the very stylish bow ties he always wore and still missed him at every performance that I was an usher. He made the world a brighter place. Keeping his family in my heart.

Melissa - January 12 at 02:31 PM



“ Lois Briggs lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke



Lois Briggs - January 09 at 04:39 PM

AA

“ David was my choir director and voice teacher about 30+ years. He taught me pretty much everything I know about choral music and singing. He invited me to sing in Opera Carolina’s chorus. He made a difference in my life and thankfully I was able to tell him all that he meant to me a couple of months ago. He had a laugh that filled a room, he cared deeply for his friends and family, he inspired me to be a better musician, he was loved by all. I’m going to miss this dear man who truly was a gift to all who knew him. Heaven has gained a real gem. Rest in peace, my friend. Ann Atkinson

Ann Atkinson - January 09 at 04:29 PM

GN

“ Grace & Eric Norby lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke



Grace & Eric Norby - January 09 at 04:21 PM

DY

“ Donna Yonkovic lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke



Donna Yonkovic - January 09 at 03:53 PM

SS

“ *Susan Starnes lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke*



Susan Starnes - January 09 at 03:33 PM

PS

“ *Patti Smith lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke*



Patti Smith - January 09 at 03:28 PM

PA

“ *Pam lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke*



Pam - January 09 at 03:03 PM

MW

“ *I worked with David for 13 years at the Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. He was an amazing leader and a true friend. He brought a smile to the faces of everyone he encountered, and he made my time there feel like I was part of a family! I miss our "talks" and his input on things, He made everything better. He will be missed. Rest in Peace my dear friend!*

Monica Wojtkowski - January 09 at 02:51 PM

HH

“ Hope Hopkins lit a candle in memory of David F. Stoke



Hope Hopkins - January 09 at 02:46 PM

HH

“ I knew David from Blumenthal. He had such a love for the theater. Keeping his family and friends in prayer during this difficult time.

Hope Hopkins - January 09 at 02:46 PM

MS

“ I think will remember my grandfather's diction most of all. He used a lot of words to tell stories from his travels and musical career that my younger self dubbed as "fancy" because I couldn't understand them. It got easier to follow and ask questions as I got older, but one thing that never changed were the nicknames he used. I still have his voicemails saved on my phone so I can hear him say "My girl" and "Sweetie" when I'm having a rough day. I miss you Papa, forever and always.

Megan Stoke - January 09 at 02:31 PM

RF

“ David was my choir director, vocal coach, mentor and friend. As a high school student, he encouraged me to keep singing - lessons that I will never forget. He helped to shape a generation of singers at First UMC in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio and was dearly loved by all.

Robin Fillmore - January 06 at 03:09 PM

CM

David was a dear friend and gave our family so many happy memories. We sang in his choirs, played handbells, did crafts and treats for children's choirs, made Christmons for the sanctuary tree and had a million fun times together. He will be missed but never forgotten.

Cindy Mitchell - January 07 at 12:50 PM

CH

My Uncle taught Me at a Very Young age, how to keep My hands together by locking My thumbs so I could do a proper dive off a diving board. When I moved within an hour of NYC, He pushed Me to take advantage of taking in Broadway Shows. So many influences that He gave Me, will always guide Me to enjoy life to the fullest. I am Blessed & Grateful that Uncle David showed Love & Caring to Us All. Until We Are Together Again.

Chipper - January 09 at 06:05 PM