



## Velma Ann McGuire Stokes

December 21, 1942 - October 14, 2022

Velma Ann McGuire Stokes was born December 21, 1942, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the sixth of seven children, to Lua Clayton McGuire and Thelma Josephine Herd McGuire. She died Friday, October 14, 2022, in Collinsville, Oklahoma, at the age of 79 years. Velma began her education attending Cherokee School in Turley, Oklahoma. The school held class for 4th to 9th grade, at which time she attended Tulsa Central High School her sophomore and junior years. For her senior year, Velma moved back with her sister and family to Owasso, Oklahoma, where she graduated with the Owasso High School Class of 1961. She also attended Lucille's Beauty School in Collinsville, then worked in her sister's beauty shop after graduation.

Velma had always wanted to go into the military, so in 1961 she enlisted with the United States Army. This would be her first time to travel outside of Oklahoma and her first airplane ride as she was sent to Fort McClellan, Alabama. She was stationed here for eight weeks and was made Acting Sergeant for Basic Training. She was later sent to Fort Gordon, Georgia, and was chosen to go through Secret Service School, which is where she met her future husband, Stanley Stokes. After completing her Secret Service School, she was sent to Fort Meade, Maryland. She and Stanley were married on July 17, 1962 in the chapel at Fort Meade. She was discharged from the Army on July 27, 1962, as a Private in the Adjutant General Corp-Regular Army. After her discharge, Velma moved back to Tulsa, Oklahoma. In 1970, Velma became active with the American Red Cross. She completed the Introduction

to the Red Cross at Fort Knox, Kentucky, then the Senior course of instruction in Lifesaving and Water Safety. In 1973, she was authorized to teach American Red Cross courses in Beginner and Advanced Beginner Swimming in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In 1976, she completed the Standard First Aid and Personal Safety course of instruction in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Through the years, Velma always came back to the Owasso area to be with family. She had been an active member of the Eta Mu Sorority. She had worked in the cafeteria at the Baptist Village in Owasso and later at Sequoyah Point Living Center. Those she leaves behind who hold many cherished memories include:

Her daughter; Virginia LaFromboise and husband Joe

Granddaughter; Autumn Whitney

Three great granddaughters;

Brothers; Robert McGuire and Rollie McGuire

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Stanley, and siblings, Lua Clayton McGuire, Jr., Richard McGuire, Virginia Shadrick, and Roy McGuire.

She will be laid to rest at Fort Gibson National Cemetery in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Fund

OCT **14**. 10:00 AM (CT)

North Country Assisted Living  
2300 West Broadway  
Collinsville, OK 74021

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ God bless the life & legacy of Sgt Velma Ann McGuire Stokes. Her legacy is our country & our freedom. She served with honor throughout her life until her final breath. She was a member of ESA ETA MU #2877 supporting local youth & St Jude Hospital. She loved & honored her family supporting her sister that was a breast cancer survivor & being by her side in her final moments in life on earth. She completed the veterans history project honoring her late husband & all who served in her family. She was an Angel to residents & staff in North County Nursing home. Encouraging love of God, country & one another. Her .strength & love for others never wavered. She had so much joy when she told about getting to go on outing recently with North County Nursing to shop at Hobby Lobby purchasing gifts for her daughter & granddaughters. North County staff are the hero's in her story. They kept watch over her in her final days & hours of life giving comfort & peace. May God bless them always!

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Joe Keith VFW Post 3077 Auxiliary - October 19, 2022 at 05:44 PM