



Matthew Eric Stapula

DEC 23, 1971 - FEB 2, 2020



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Matthew Eric Stapula

DEC 23, 1971 - FEB 2, 2020

Matthew Eric Stapula, 48 of Concord passed away tragically on February 2, 2020. He was born on December 23, 1971 in Würzburg, Germany to Eric and Linda Stapula.

Matt never met a stranger. He made friends instantly and was loved by so many. He loved everything about flying. He loved airplanes and anything that flew from the age of 5 when he used to sit on his father's lap to fly airplanes. He also loved model airplanes and shared that love with his father. He loved watching drag racing and motocross. Matt was good with his hands and loved building anything from model airplanes to a "She Shed" for his mother. He was good at doing everything he put his mind to, from repairing cars to flying 100-ton jets.

In addition to his parents, survivors include his loving wife Michelle Mayes Stapula; sons Eric Stapula (Hannah) and Drew Brownfield (Alexis); daughter Rebecca (Jake) Miers; brother Patrick (Mandy) with nephews Austin and Cole and his grandchildren; Noah, River, and Elijah; grandmother, Kaye Stapula; aunt Carol Franks, uncles Gene and Ed Wilson, great uncle Harold and cousin Clinton Wilson, mother and father in-law Jerry and Mardee Stover; sisters-in-law Jeri Stover (Doug Beavers) and Megan Miller (Drew); nephew Atticus Miller; nieces Lincoln Miller and Lennox Miller. He raced motocross with his uncle Steve and aunt Pam Stapula and was like a brother to his cousins Michael and Laura. He was dearly loved by Michelle's grandmother, BJ Folz, and Aunt Beth (JC) Anderson. He was thrilled to be able to share his grandmother's 90th birthday last week with his uncles Doug and Mike Reed. There are many cousins aunts and uncles that will miss him dearly as well. Matt had so many friends it would be difficult to name them all.

Matt had a second family and that consisted of all the special people he worked with at Piedmont Airlines and American Airlines. These were some of the relationships he treasured most and their outpouring of love at this tragedy speaks to that special bond he had with them. Piedmont was also where he had the good fortune to fly with his daughter Rebecca who was a flight attendant and who also made sure that everyone boarding the plane knew it was her father who was captain and that he would be taking very good care of them on that flight.



Obituary

Matthew Eric Stapula

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A memorial service will be held at 3pm Saturday, February 8 at James Funeral Home with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Carolina Aviation Museum,
<http://www.carolinasaviation.org> and click give.

James Funeral Home of Huntersville is serving the family.




Events


Matthew Eric Stapula

DEC 23, 1971 - FEB 2, 2020

Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, February 8, 2020

 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM ET


 **James Funeral Home**
10520 Arahova Dr, Huntersville NC 28078



Reception

 **Saturday**, February 8, 2020

 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM ET

 **James Funeral Home**
10520 Arahova Dr, Huntersville NC 28078





Tribute Wall

Matthew Eric Stapula

DEC 23, 1971 - FEB 2, 2020



Anonymous sent a virtual gift in honor of Matthew.

March 5 at 6:50 AM



Shirley & Frank Christmas lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 8 at 9:45 AM



SC Shirley & Frank Christmas February 8 at 9:47 AM
Praying for God's peace and comfort for all family and friends.



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Stapula family.

February 8 at 3:59 AM



Bruce Freedman lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 7 at 10:29 PM



Allen Fingerhut lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 7 at 9:49 PM



The Miers Family sent a Small Garden Dish to the Stapula family.

February 7 at 6:47 PM





Tribute Wall

Matthew Eric Stapula

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Anonymous sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Stapula family.



February 7 at 12:29 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Stapula family.



February 7 at 12:04 PM



Michelle Newkirk posted:

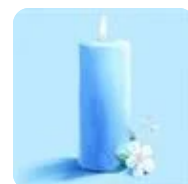
Stapula Family, On behalf of the members of the AA Pilot Wives Facebook Group, we would like to say that we are deeply sorry about your loss. We know your hearts are aching and we want you to know that we are here for you. We've sent a sizable donation via GoFundMe but if there is ever anything we may do to help or bring comfort in any way, please do not hesitate to reach out. Our hearts are with you as we send wishes of love and strength during this very difficult time. Sincerely, Janessa Lowe, Christina Lindsay, Tamara Thovtrup, Stacie Blackwell, Peggy Garter, Brent Holding, Pamela Ingersoll, Tracy Curtis, Dana Johnson, Adrienne Ruth, Michelle Tonielli, Angie Savanick, Kristen Kirkland, Ashley Strausser, Heidi Stark, Lee Lauren Clifford, and Michelle Ramsey

February 7 at 9:44 AM



Linda Davis lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

Michelle you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. May God comfort you in your time of need. Please know that I am here for your anytime you need me. Tears and laughter heals the soul. God and I love you very much.



February 7 at 9:39 AM



Peter Nakhoul sent a Pink Tribute Spray to the Stapula family.



February 7 at 8:54 AM



Tribute Wall

Matthew Eric Stapula

DEC 23, 1971 - FEB 2, 2020



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Stapula family.

February 7 at 6:58 AM



Ann Satterfield lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 6 at 6:47 PM



Michelle Potter-Plavocos posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with your family. From another AA family member. Michelle Plavocos
AA CLT Customer Service

February 6 at 1:53 PM



Stacey Martin posted:

My memories of Matt are when we worked together doing NDT on aircrafts so we traveled often. We rented a small plane for a short trip and it was my first time flying and Matt decided I had to face my fears so he did a couple "tricks" in the air! He was right, I no longer was afraid to fly after realizing I survived lol. I'll never forget that or him, my sincere condolences to Michelle, Becca, Eric and the rest of his family. And thank you Kari for getting me that job, Matt always had everyone around laughing!

February 6 at 11:57 AM



Stacey Martin lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 6 at 11:36 AM



Regina Barber lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 6 at 11:09 AM





Tribute Wall

Matthew Eric Stapula

DEC 23, 1971 - FEB 2, 2020



The Kulling Family sent a Beautiful Heart Bouquet to the Stapula family.



February 6 at 10:59 AM



Jennifer Archer lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

You do not know us but we are a part of the AA family and were so saddened to hear about this. Please accept our sincerest condolences. May God hold you close during this time. The Archer Family



February 6 at 9:27 AM



Anonymous sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the Stapula family.



February 6 at 8:38 AM



The Carlton Family sent a Country Basket Blooms to the Stapula family.



February 6 at 5:36 AM



Anonymous sent an Enchanted Cottage to the Stapula family.



February 6 at 5:02 AM



Kirsten lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

You were always so sweet and kind to me. You will be missed. Sending love and prayers yo your family.



February 6 at 4:21 AM



Tribute Wall

Matthew Eric Stapula

DEC 23, 1971 - FEB 2, 2020



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Stapula family.

February 6 at 3:24 AM



Angela Talley lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

Michelle, I'm so sorry for your loss, but know you will cling to the memories you made together. Don't hesitate to cry as you need, it's a healthy response for grieving. Laugh and talk about the fun times any time you can as it brings happiness to your grief period. And may God be your source for comfort and peace as you grieve his passing. It's never the right time. God loves you and I love you. Prayers continue for you and the family.

February 5 at 8:13 PM



Tara Ferrell lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

Hold tight to all of the great memories Michelle. Praying for you.

February 5 at 4:02 PM



R Sampson posted:

Matt was a pleasure to fly with and always a consummate professional pilot. He was always welcoming and possessed great wit. A great loss. May you know God's peace and comfort in this time. Skip Sampson - PDT and AA family

February 5 at 3:43 PM



Tera Booker posted:

Praying for you to feel God's comfort and peace in the days and weeks to come. Doug and Tera Booker, AA. CLT

February 5 at 2:49 PM



Tribute Wall

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Erica posted:

Our heartfelt condolences to the Stapula family, our prayers are with you at this sad time. Erica and Eddie (AA PHX)

February 5 at 2:44 PM



Marie Wormhood posted:

Sending prayers from an AA family in NH. Joe & Marie Wormhood

February 5 at 2:26 PM



Rhonda Mayes lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 2:25 PM



Rhonda Mayes lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 2:23 PM



Rhonda Mayes sent a virtual gift in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 2:23 PM



Rhonda Mayes lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 2:22 PM





Tribute Wall

Matthew Eric Stapula

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Rhonda Mayes lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 2:22 PM



Rest In Peace Matt. Mayes Barber Ford Fa lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 2:17 PM



Kim Vinson posted:

Prayers from AAfamily in DFW area.

February 5 at 1:44 PM




Marie Wormhood February 5 at 2:24 PM

Sending prayers from an AA family in NH. Joe & Marie Wormhood



Lisa & Ken Petschow posted:

Love to you & your family. From a Pilot Wifey & Husband - Captain Ken Petschow (777 LAX Base)

 Big hugs from another aviation family to yours xxxx Fly with the Angels

February 5 at 12:41 PM



Anonymous sent a Serene Retreat to the Stapula family.

February 5 at 12:19 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Stapula family.

February 5 at 12:09 PM





Tribute Wall

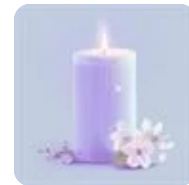
Matthew Eric Stapula

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Maud Milewski lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 11:55 AM



Ruri Murakami lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 11:12 AM



Anonymous sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Stapula family.

February 5 at 10:20 AM



Jodi Hall lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 8:24 AM



Victoria James lit a candle in honor of Matthew.
prayers are with the family and friends FLY FREE !!!

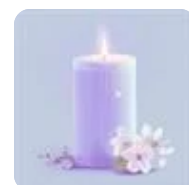
February 5 at 7:51 AM



Lynnette Bradley lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

I never had the chance to be your flight attendant with Piedmont but we are Piedmont Family, I send my sincere condolences to his family, Heaven has gained another Angel.

February 5 at 7:35 AM





Tribute Wall

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Paul Morse lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 7:19 AM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Stapula family.

February 5 at 6:46 AM



Brad Guthrie lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 6:34 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Stapula family.

February 5 at 6:34 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Stapula family.

February 5 at 6:19 AM



Uncle Jc lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 5:34 AM





Tribute Wall

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KG

Kathy German lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 5:31 AM



AB

Aunt B lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 5:29 AM



BC

Bertha Cardenas lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 5:24 AM



KA

Kari Alquist posted:

He was the father of my children, a friend and a good man, you will be greatly missed by all you touched lives and gave your heart to so many RIP Matt

February 5 at 5:22 AM

WH

Winter Howell lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 5:14 AM



WH **Winter Howell** February 5 at 5:16 AM

May the Lord provide comfort to you and your family... Sending prayer and love your way.

DP

Dana Pastores lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.

February 5 at 5:07 AM





Tribute Wall

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AS

April Shutters lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 5:03 AM



CH

Corey Harvey lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 5:01 AM



MC

Michelle Campbell lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 4:59 AM



ME

Mandy Endicott sent a virtual gift in honor of Matthew.

Sending my love to you all. Prayers for healing and peace. Mandy Endicott

February 5 at 4:57 AM



DC

Deshawna Christian lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 4:54 AM



JR

Janeen Reid lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

February 5 at 4:50 AM





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KF

Kim Fountain posted:

Sending prayers to everyone who knew and Loved you Mr. Matthew. My heart goes out to you and your Family Michelle, I remember you telling me about your wedding day & your were just smiling like crazy, I know it's going to be hard for you but remember to continue smiling even when you don't want to, keeping you lifting in prayer. Kim Fountain

February 5 at 4:49 AM

CH

Connie Holmes lit a candle in honor of Matthew.



February 5 at 4:45 AM

AW

April Whaling lit a candle in honor of Matthew.

Michelle I am so sorry for your loss. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers. Please let me know if you need anything. April Whaling



February 5 at 4:44 AM

LK

Loretta Keller lit a candle in honor of Matthew.



February 5 at 4:40 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Matthew by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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