



## Stephen Christian Cooke Jr.

October 14, 1991 - December 29, 2025

Stephen Christian Cooke, age 34, passed away on December 29, 2025. He was born wild, chaotic, and loud on October 14, 1991, and lived every day of his life exactly that way.

Stephen was, above all else, a devoted father. He loved his three boys more than anything in this world: Riley Dean Cooke (9), Skyler Michael Cooke (5), and Logan Caldwell Cooke (2). They were his greatest pride, his motivation, and the center of his universe.

Stephen was welcomed into heaven with a huge hug and a joke from Gramps, Dean Caldwell and Great Grandma Melt, Arlene Melton was there to hold his hand and lead the way.

Stephen is survived by his loving and caring parents, Tammi and Darrin Shope, and his father, Stephen Christian Cooke; Melissa Ridgway, the mother of his children; his siblings, Kara (John) Duty, Christina Cooke, Katherine (Jeremy) Donald, Joshua Shope, and Samantha (Jay) Modi, his grandmother, Gwen Caldwell; ten nieces and nephews whom he loved as his own; his aunt, Sherri (Darren) Reese; his uncle, David Caldwell; and two wonderful cousins he felt lucky to grow up with, Kevin Bowler and Kelly Reusser. Stephen also had aunts and uncles who loved him unconditionally and countless friends whom he considered family. He was rarely alone and was always

accompanied by his faithful and beloved dogs, Macy and Zoey.

Stephen lived life fast and hard—and he lived it fully. Always on the move and unmistakably himself, he could be found either in a tank top and flip-flops or dressed to impress in a fur coat and dress shoes. He had a way of making an entrance—you often heard him before you saw him—and he was never afraid to crack a joke, even if the timing was a little questionable.

He didn't know a stranger. Stephen made friends everywhere he went, arriving on his one wheel and usually leaving the same way. He called often, showed up even more, and made sure the people he loved knew it.

He celebrated life loudly, boldly, and unapologetically. In his 34 years, he lived more life than most will ever be lucky enough to experience. Stephen will be remembered as charming, goofy, reliable, handsome, genuine, and stylish, with a heart of gold and a personality larger than life. His presence filled rooms, his laughter lingered, and his love ran deep.

In lieu of flowers, the family invites those who wish to honor Stephen's memory to consider contributing to the college funds established for his three children. Donations may be made through [Ugift529.com](https://Ugift529.com). Please be sure to contribute to each child's individual account using their unique Ugift code — Riley: J66-54J, Skyler: R53-C1T, and Logan: 275-87X. Your generosity will help support their future academic endeavors. For additional information about Maryland529 plans, please visit <https://maryland529.com/>.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2026 from 1-3pm at 10226 Old Ocean City Blvd., Berlin, MD 21811. Stephen's legacy lives on through his children, his family, and the many lives he touched simply by being himself.



# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

APR 18. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Address

10226 Old Ocean City Blvd.

Berlin, MD 21811

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ It was wonderful having Stephen across the street on our cul-de-sac throughout his childhood. He and his dear friend, Michael would always have smiles on their faces when I would see them. They were always so polite and friendly. My dearest thoughts and prayers are with you, Tammi and Darrin, and your children and Stephen’s children and siblings and nieces and nephews at this very difficult time.

Until I got off of FB and IG, it was always fun to see Stephen’s posts. He had such a funny sense of humor.

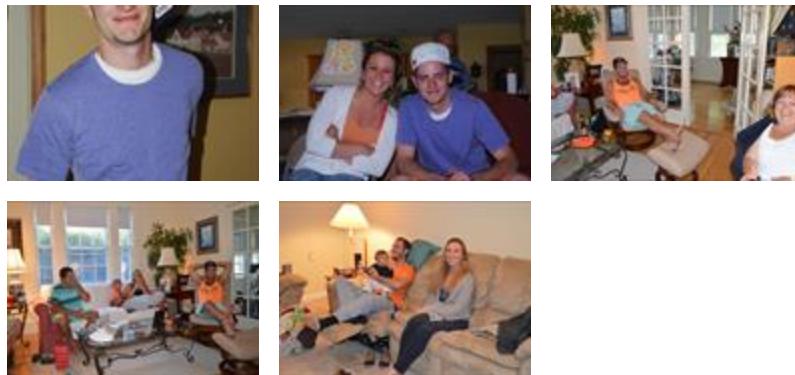
The obituary was so beautifully written. It definitely described Stephen to a T. ❤️

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**Jeannie Muehlfeld** - February 06 at 12:22 PM

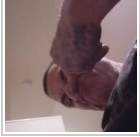
SR

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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**Sherri Reese** - January 22 at 07:52 AM



“ All I can say is I lost a lot of friends but this guy here. I can remember us cutting up in IOP. And I've seen us both in tears talking about life. I remember him bring him his extra one wheel and us cruising around. When things for sure if you were having a bad day this guy will put a smile on your face. I mean he sold us our furniture to the house. Well as I can say is until we meet again. As far as your family I don't know you folks but if there's anything I can do seriously reach out I can help I will definitely try. 667-977-9269 until we meet again bro I'm sure you're one Wheeling it up around there. Much love and respect until we meet again my bro

**Brian Pittman** - January 14 at 09:49 AM



Geez I'm sorry for the gibberish but in the nutshell if you're having a bad day and you running him he'll he'll change your whole day. I love you bro

**Brian Pittman** - January 14 at 09:51 AM



Thank you for your kind words 🙏

**Tammi Shope** - January 17 at 11:19 PM



“ I didnt know this gentleman very long, but I feel truly blessed to have been able to experience this exceptional human for the period of time that I did! His obituary was beautifully written and depicts the person I experienced for sure! Although I'm not much older than Stephen, he brought out the mothering side of me for sure! Lol. I'm happy he is at peace! Stay fresh my dude! Holler at Shaun for me up there! 😊



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**Brittany Hansen** - January 10 at 02:04 PM

GR

“ Stephen (my dear Grandson) left this earth way too soon, but will never leave my heart. He had such a sweet and loving personality from the moment he was born. He brought so much joy to both his Grandfather and myself.  
He was a gift and blessing from God and I will cherish the memories of him for the rest of my life. He is in Heaven now with his Grandfather who he adored. Stephen will be missed by so many people. He was such a precious Grandson! ❤️

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**grandmother** - January 09 at 05:40 AM

GC

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



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**gwen caldwell** - January 08 at 10:00 PM

MO

“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



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**Mom** - January 08 at 09:14 PM

ME

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



Melissa - January 08 at 01:32 PM

KA

“ 16 files added to the tribute wall



Kara - January 08 at 01:29 PM

AV

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**ava** - January 08 at 01:24 PM



“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



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**Katie Donald** - January 08 at 01:16 PM



“ 15 files added to the tribute wall



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**Katie Donald** - January 08 at 01:06 PM