

Stacy Duckett, vice president, chief compliance officer, corporate secretary, and friend to all, passed away Friday, March 20. "Our dear friend and colleague has taken her final journey home," wrote SPP President and CEO Nick Brown in an email to all staff. "It's been both a painful and inspiring trip to witness, and I'm grateful that she is finally at peace. Please continue to keep her family in your thoughts and prayers."

Stacy's visitation will be 5-6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 26 at [Ruebel Funeral Home](#) (6313 W. Markham St., Little Rock, AR 72205). Her service will be 2 p.m. Friday, March 27 at Trinity United Methodist Church (1101 N. Mississippi St., Little Rock, AR 72207) and will be streamed via the church's website: www.tumclr.org.

Those who are unable to attend Stacy's service at 2 p.m. Friday are welcome to gather in Auditorium B to view a live streaming of the memorial.

Stacy was filled to the brim with hope and determination. She set her sights high and went above and beyond in everything she did.

Stacy began her work at SPP in 2000 as an attorney in the transmission and regulatory policy group, quickly assumed project-management responsibilities, was named director of corporate affairs, and served as general counsel prior to her most recent executive position.

"If I had to pick out one word to describe her, it would be 'giving,'" said Laurie Reynolds, a paralegal III with SPP. "She was not just unselfish; she always went the extra mile to unselfishly provide for the benefit of others."

Stacy served as the 2014-2015 chair of the Hendrix College Alumni Association Board of Governors. She was a board member at the Heart of Arkansas United Way, and was most recently named chair of CareLink's 2015 board of directors.

"Stacy always had a quick wit and a sarcastic sense of humor," said Vice President of Corporate Services Malinda See, who had known Stacy since the early '80s, during their time as undergraduate students at Hendrix College. "She never hesitated to offer her opinion, always in a positive manner. Her advice was always wise and straightforward."

Prior to joining SPP, Stacy moved her way up the ranks at TCBY Enterprises, Inc., where she eventually became vice president and assistant general counsel. In her teens, she served frozen yogurt at TCBY's first store, as the first employee who was not a member of the founder's family, according to a [1999 Arkansas Business article](#).

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree from Hendrix College, Stacy soon moved to TCBY's corporate office, and she worked full-time while getting her law degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

"It's not something you recommend for everybody," Stacy said in the *Arkansas Business* article in which she was named one of Arkansas' 40 under 40 in 1999. "It requires self-discipline and focus."

Self-discipline and focus were traits Stacy had in abundance, [wrote family friend Paul Levy in his blog](#). Stacy's mother, Cherry, worked with Paul in the late 1970s. As a teenager, Stacy babysat Paul's daughter.

“So we met this young woman, who was already showing the depth of character that would characterize her for years to come,” Paul wrote. “Inevitably polite and kind in that Southern kind of way, she also offered a deep intelligence and curiosity about the world, and was an excellent conversationalist, even as a teenager. She also displayed a marvelous irreverence about the world that was refreshing and very funny.”

Stacy also was the first babysitter for Malinda’s daughter Taylor. “Through the years, a group of college friends would get together frequently for dinner and conversation. As babies came along in the group, Stacy quickly became ‘Ms. Stacy’ to the children,” Malinda said.

Stacy hosted annual holiday dinners, during which she loved to spoil the children and teach them lessons about manners and proper behavior, all the while giving advice and guidance to their parents.

“Stacy was a tremendous friend to me and my children,” Malinda added. “Her advice and comments will remain with me always. We are better people because of our dear friend Stacy and the influence she had on our lives.”

*“Hope” is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -
And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -
I’ve heard it in the chillest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.
— Emily Dickinson*