# Former Stoke City Goalkeeper Matija Sarkic Dies at Age 26



**Former Stoke City Goalkeeper Matija Sarkic Dies at Age 26**

Matija Sarkic, the former Stoke City goalkeeper, has passed away at the age of 26. Sarkic, who played for Stoke on loan last year and was part of the Montenegro national team, had recently featured in a match where he delivered a standout performance. He was preparing for his second full season with Millwall, where he was instrumental in helping the team retain their Championship status.

Gianni Infantino, president of FIFA, sent a personal letter to the Montenegro national team expressing his condolences. He acknowledged Sarkic's career journey, noting his beginnings with Anderlecht and stints at Aston Villa, Wolves, Birmingham, and most recently, Millwall. Infantino stated, "Words seem inadequate to express the sadness we feel for this loss."

Dejan Savićević, a former Yugoslavian and AC Milan legend, also mourned the loss, describing Sarkic as a "true professional," and a "phenomenal guy, family-oriented, dedicated."

Millwall manager Neil Harris shared that Sarkic was looking forward to visiting his family in Montenegro and was known for his positive demeanor and dedication.

The football community continues to remember Sarkic for his contributions on and off the pitch.