

Gary Leroy Norman

December 28, 1941 - January 6, 2026

Gary Leroy Norman affectionately known as “Sleepy,” age 84, of Taylors, South Carolina, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on January 6, 2026. A proud graduate of Parker High School, Class of 1960, Gary honorably served his country in the United States Army as a Sergeant stationed in Germany. Following his military service, he devoted 40 years of hard work and dedication to The Greenville News, where he was a familiar and respected presence until his retirement.

Gary was a man of many passions, but none greater than his love for his family and his faith. He was a devoted member of Locust Hill Baptist Church in Travelers Rest. A true outdoorsman at heart, Gary found joy and peace in life’s simple pleasures—tending to his cattle, enjoying a sunny day on the golf course, or relaxing at the beach.

More than anything, Gary was a comedian and a family man. He was a beloved father, Papa, and husband to his wife, Ann, with whom he shared a beautiful 60-year marriage built on love, laughter, and rhythm. They were often found dancing together in the kitchen or golfing side by side with their grandchildren.

Gary is survived by his beloved wife, Ann Norman; his daughters, Wendy Looper (Randy) and Melissa Miller (Billy); and his three grandchildren, who were his pride and joy: Austin Looper, Ashley Looper, and Megan Miller. He is also survived by his brothers, Donald Norman, TD Norman, and Tim Norman. He was preceded in death by his father, Boyd Posey Norman of Spartanburg;

his mother, Geneva Elizabeth Lewis of Greenville; and his stepmother, Evelyn Dockins Norman of Greenville.

Gary's legacy of hard work, unwavering love for his girls, and the twinkle in his eye as he danced with Ann will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

A visitation will be held on Friday, January 9, 2026 from 1:00 - 2:00 PM with a funeral service being held at 2:00 PM at the Howze Mortuary, 6714 State Park Rd., Travelers Rest, SC. Burial will follow at Locust Hill Baptist Church Cemetery, Travelers Rest, SC.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Charles George VA Hospice Center in Asheville, North Carolina. The family as a whole would like to give a special "Thank You" for the love and support that the hospice staff provided to Gary and his entire family; we were so very fortunate that he was able to spend his last days in such a special place with exceptionally special people.

Cemetery Details

Locust Hill Baptist Church Cemetery

5534 Locust Hill Rd.
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

The Howze Mortuary, Inc.
6714 State Park Road
P.O. Box 369
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
(864) 834-8051
thehowzemortuary@yahoo.com
<https://www.thehowzemortuary.com/>

Funeral Service

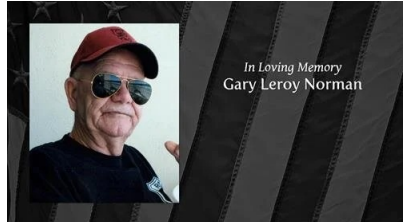
JAN 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

The Howze Mortuary Chapel
6714 State Park Rd.
Travelers Rest
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
thehowzemortuary@yahoo.com

Tribute Wall



“ *The Howze Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Gary Leroy Norman*



The Howze Mortuary - January 07 at 04:39 PM

JD

“ *I was with Gary in the USArmy 1961-1964. I have some pics you may like to have. Jim Decker. email. jd12318@sbcglobal.net*

Jim Decker - January 28 at 09:56 AM

BM

“ *I worked with Gary for almost 30 years at the NEWS, and he was one of those people you could count on to get the job done and done right. His positive attitude was inspirational to everyone lucky enough to know him. Count Gary a friend to many.*
Bern Mebane

Bern Mebane - January 09 at 02:40 PM

PO

“ *Pat O. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Gary Leroy Norman.*



Pat O. - January 09 at 11:16 AM

PO

“ *Pat Olson lit a candle in memory of Gary Norman*



Pat Olson - January 09 at 11:09 AM

JW

“ *Jimmy Watson lit a candle in memory of Gary Norman*



Jimmy Watson - January 09 at 09:20 AM

RN

“ With sincere condolences to Uncle Gary, Ann cousins Wendy and Mellisa and their families. We wish His love and comfort to you all all.

Love
Richard (Mark) & Debra Norman
Pinehurst, NC

Richard M Norman - January 08 at 01:33 PM

SV

“ Scott and Cheryl Vaughn purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gary Leroy Norman.

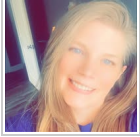


Scott and Cheryl Vaughn - January 08 at 11:08 AM

SV

“ Scott and Cheryl Vaughn planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Leroy Norman.

Scott and Cheryl Vaughn - January 08 at 11:08 AM



“ *Ann, Wendy, Missy and family; I am so sorry to hear of Sleepy’s passing. He and your whole family have always been a huge part in our families life. He was definitely the best of the best. I’m sending love and prayers to each of you.*



*With Love,
Brandy Ballew Knight*

Brandy Knight - January 07 at 06:25 PM