



## Gary Masters

August 14, 1958 - August 8, 2025

Gary Masters, 66, of Bell, Florida, passed away on August 8, 2025 at Haven Hospice in Chiefland, FL. Born on August 14, 1958, in Newport, Arkansas, Gary lived a life marked by generosity, integrity, and quiet strength.

He dedicated his career to education, serving as an agriculture teacher, bus driver, principal, superintendent, and transportation director, who inspired students, colleagues, and the community. His commitment to learning, fairness, and the success of others left a lasting legacy in the schools and institutions he served.

Outside of work, Gary was happiest when he was out on his boat, exploring the Suwannee River and the Gulf of Mexico, or playing the guitar for family and friends. He cherished time with his grandchildren most of all, sharing stories, laughter, and songs that will live on in their memories. He was a member of the Midway Church of Christ and served as an elder for the congregation. He will be remembered by all the members there for his song leading and humorous Bible lessons.

Gary's greatest pride was his family. He is survived by his wife, Linda Masters; his three children, Lesa, Jerod (Keisha), and Lauren; and five grandchildren — Zeke, Deuce, Ronin, Gunnar, and Brody — who will forever treasure his warmth, humor (he was very punny) and his wisdom.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth and Genola Masters, as well as his sister, Jerri Cook, and brother, Jerry Don Masters.

A celebration of Gary's life will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at Midway Church of Christ in Bell, Florida. The family invites all who knew him to join in honoring his memory.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Caring for Kenya at [www.caringforkenya.org](http://www.caringforkenya.org).

Gary will be remembered not only for the life he lived, but for the love, music, and laughter he gave so freely to all who were fortunate to know him.

Arrangements have been placed under the care of the Rick Gooding Funeral Home Chiefland Chapel, with locations in Cross City 352-498-5400 and Chiefland 352-493-0050. Please sign the online guest book at [rickgoodingfuneralhomes.com](http://rickgoodingfuneralhomes.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Midway Church of Christ Cemetery

5750 W CR 232  
Bell, FL 32619

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

AUG 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Midway Church of Christ  
5750 W CR 232  
Bell, FL 32619

# Tribute Wall



“ Rick Gooding Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Gary Masters



Rick Gooding Funeral Homes - August 12, 2025 at 01:24 PM



Grateful to have known Mr. Masters. He was a gentle and caring soul. May he rest in peace.

Sherrie Schuler - August 12, 2025 at 07:50 PM

AK

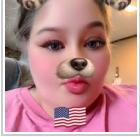
Two words I could describe Gary Masters... Jovial and Caring... May he rest easy in eternal peace.

Augustus Kimanzi - August 14, 2025 at 02:20 PM

CJ

“ I was blessed to work with Mr. Masters a few years in Levy County and I believe he was one of the kindest and most humble men I have ever worked with. I learned that all I needed to do with be quiet and listen to Mr. Masters and his words would always be clear and ring true. He calmed my blood pressure a few times. We did a summer program and Mr. Master would come by and encourage the kids, one day bringing his guitar and surprising us all with a song. He was a man on many talents but you have to be still and quiet in order to see those talents. Carol Jones DuBois

Carol Jones - August 15, 2025 at 02:23 PM



“ *Mr. Masters was the superintendent at our school in Marked Tree, Arkansas. We all loved him and he was awesome. I am so sorry to hear of his passing and will keep the family in my thoughts and prayers in this time of need. God bless u all*

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**Crystal Elinburg** - August 13, 2025 at 08:33 PM

TB

“ *Praying for all of you. May all of the wonderful memories lift you up in the days ahead. Mitchell and I have so many wonderful memories of the entire Masters family. There was never a dull moment when we were around them. Love each of you.*

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**Tabatha Burcham** - August 12, 2025 at 11:39 PM

RC

“ *Gary Masters' greatest legacy is the family he and Linda built together, and the lives touched by them are innumerable. What an honor and privilege it was to have worked with, taught, and known them. My family sends its deepest condolences to the Masters family and hope you all find great comfort in the many thoughtful sentiments and prayers that are being sent your way. Peace and blessings for a life well lived.*

*Rosalie Craig*

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**Rosalie Craig** - August 12, 2025 at 12:50 PM

LS

“ Linda, I can't tell you how sorry I was to read of Gary's illness the other day and more so of his passing now. He was a very kind and special person, good to everyone. So quiet when we were growing up but I will always remember that sense of humor and his great smile. I am so very sorry. My sympathies to you , the kids, and the grandkids. This loss is very hard and the world is less bright without him in it

Laura Hodges Smith

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Laura Smith - August 12, 2025 at 12:40 PM

LW

“ I remember Mr Masters when he was Superintendent at Marked Tree School in Arkansas. He was always layed back, cmpasinate , carying and genuine. He always communicated with the students in cafeteria , hallway wherever they were he was also. I remember also he was always willing to drive School Bus when needed & i remember when Mr masters and myself drove busses of students to Six Flags to Saint Louis what atrip. Rest in peace Mr Masters one of the worlds great individuals.

Larry, Wilkerson

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Larry D Wilkerson - August 12, 2025 at 11:35 AM

PP

“ Gary had such a calm soul. I enjoyed working with him at two different schools. He made my transition from EPC to Rivercrest so easy. He was such a good man.

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Portis Pleasants - August 12, 2025 at 10:56 AM

QP

“ My prayers to Mr. Masters family. A humble and peaceful spirit has gained His wings. He always say “ITS GOING TO BE A GOOD DAY” 🌹

Quanda Parker - August 12, 2025 at 09:13 AM

VW

“ I was fortunate to work with Gary and we had many days filled with issues of the day that could be very stressful. Gary was such a caring person and would go beyond to help anyone. The life he lived was an example of a Christian. My prayers are with Linda and his family during this difficult time. 🌹 🙏

Virginia Williams - August 12, 2025 at 08:31 AM

IC

“ I remember Gary, as a fun loving boy with his brothers, Terry & Jerry Don. They were always full of laughter!  
Praying for you all as you grieve!

Sincerely,  
Ina Clark

Ina Clark - August 12, 2025 at 08:21 AM

TP

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. I will be thinking of you and your family. He was a good man. I know he will be missed. -Tara Turner Pearson

Tara Pearson - August 12, 2025 at 07:35 AM

VV

“ Gary was a great n gentle person I know he will be missed

Verla VanOven - August 12, 2025 at 01:01 AM

TC

“ I remember I was very young and had come to spend the week with them. Gary terry and Jerry don had built a covered wagon and we were goin to spend the night in it. They started telling scary stories and I can't remember who told the story but it was about a killer that right before he would get someone u could smell the smell of a skunk. To say the least it wasn't long before we had to go inside because u could almost always smell a skunk at granna's house

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**Tony cook** - August 11, 2025 at 11:09 PM

AK

The visit of you and Gary and the greatest daughter to ketrace is like yesterday. The guitar he played before us is a memory that cannot be errased out of my mind. Go thee well Gary Masters.

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**Augustus Kimanzi** - August 12, 2025 at 11:18 AM

WH

“ What a wonderful Christian man Gary was to all who knew him. Such a gentle voice he had but when he meant business (as a superintendent), you knew you were in his kind of trouble. Gary set the bar very high for all Christian men to follow. He will be missed by all. Prayers to Linda and family. If you need anything, please let us know at Broadway church of Christ.

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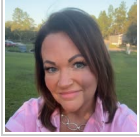
**Willie Harris** - August 11, 2025 at 10:57 PM

RC

“ Mr. Masters life of love, compassion, dedication, wisdom and integrity will be a lasting legacy for all who knew him. Thank you to the family for sharing him with those of us who were blessed to work with him as a leader in our schools.

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**Renella Clemons** - August 11, 2025 at 10:50 PM



“ *Mr. Masters was such a kind and humble soul! I had the pleasure of being his confidential secretary when he came to the Levy County school district, as principal at Bronson High School. He was never in a rush about anything, and he was so calm. I've seen parents treat him horrible and he would just listen then say something like, I'm sorry you feel that way or well that's the way it is going to be, without ever changing his mind to go against what was right. He brought a humbleness and peace to the office that I had never felt there before, when he played his guitar and would sing. Thank you Gary Masters for extending Gods love, grace and kindness wherever you went. May you rest in the arms of the Lord now. All my love and prayers to the Family! ~Shawn Myers*

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**Shawn Myers** - August 11, 2025 at 10:45 PM



“ *Linda, our prayers are with you and the family. We all loved Gary, and have so many wonderful memories of him.. My most treasured memories are when he baptized my Grandson Trey, and later when he baptized my Grandson Quinton . We will keep all of you in our prayers. Love Norma Jean*

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**Norma Anderson** - August 11, 2025 at 04:58 PM