



Norman Steadman

December 28, 1940 - December 24, 2025

Norman Russell Steadman, 84, passed away December 24, 2025, surrounded by his loved ones in the very home where he was born December 28, 1940. He was a fifth-generation resident of Columbia County, spending his entire life on his family's farm in Fort White. He was a farmer and educator.

Norman received his associate degree from Chipola Junior College, bachelor's degree from Florida State University, and his master's degree in education administration from The University of Florida. Following his college graduation, he returned to his Alma Mater, Fort White High School as a teacher and principal, beginning his 39-year career with the Columbia County School system. He retired in 2001 after serving as the principal at Eastside Elementary School for 29 years.

While attending Chipola Junior College he first met his wife, Lenora. After eyeing each other throughout campus, and sitting beside each other at their graduation, they began dating when they both started attending Florida State University. After marrying in 1962, Norman and Lenora spent their entire marriage together on the homeplace in Fort White.

Norman continued farming throughout his entire life, transitioning from row crops and livestock to timber and gardening. He continued his farming career while teaching and sustaining his role as a principal. Until his passing,

Norman planted crops year-round in his two large gardens. Every year, his gardens produced an abundance of produce which provided for his entire family, and friends and neighbors. Eventually running out of room, he started growing plants on his porch, you would even find the occasional plant gathering sunlight in the windowsills throughout his home.

In his younger years, Norman was an avid quail hunter and fisherman. He spent many years perfecting his hunting and fishing craft. He went on to teach his hunting and fishing secrets to his children and grandchildren.

Norman is preceded in death by his father Lloyd Russell Steadman and mother Jessie Lee Guynn Steadman.

Norman is survived by his wife of 63 years, Lenora Steadman, his son Joseph Steadman (Kimberly) and his daughter Chontelle Brown (Jeremiah). He is also survived by his granddaughters Sydney Steadman, Chesney Brown, and Mia Steadman, and numerous cousins.

The funeral service will be held at Shiloh Baptist Church at 2pm on Monday, December 29, 2025. In all kinds of weather, Norman enjoyed sitting on the porch "solving all the world's problems". In honor of Norman, please dress casually in your favorite porch sitting attire. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Haven Hospice Lake City.

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.

Cemetery Details

Shiloh Baptist Church Cemetery

173 SW Shiloh St
Fort White, FL 32038
<http://www.myshilohbaptist.com/index.cgi?page=home>

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 29. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Shiloh Baptist Church
173 SW Shiloh Street
Fort White, FL 32038

Funeral Service

DEC 29. 2:00 PM (ET)

Shiloh Baptist Church
173 SW Shiloh Street
Fort White, FL 32038

Tribute Wall



“ Rick Gooding Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Norman Steadman



Rick Gooding Funeral Homes - December 31, 2025 at 11:20 AM

LM

“ Deepest sympathies to Lenora, Chontelle, Chesney and all the family members and friends of Mr. Steadman. I hope your memories of him will bring you blessings! With hugs, Lu & Forrest (neighbors)

Lucinda Merritt - December 29, 2025 at 04:30 PM

JF

“ Jonnie Gilchrist & Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Norman Steadman.



Jonnie Gilchrist & Family - December 29, 2025 at 12:35 AM

JF

“ Jonnie Gilchrist & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Norman Steadman.

Jonnie Gilchrist & Family - December 29, 2025 at 12:35 AM

BG

“ *Bart, Cindi, and Brantley Goodson purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Norman Steadman.*



Bart, Cindi, and Brantley Goodson - December 28, 2025 at 09:39 PM

ET

“ *Edna, Carolyn, Marilyn, Lanora, & Taylor purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Norman Steadman.*



Edna, Carolyn, Marilyn, Lanora, & Taylor - December 28, 2025 at 04:51 PM

JS

“ *I'll miss Uncle Norman a lot . I'll miss riding the property , learning about the pine trees , the garden and telling me about the survey lines . I learned about the bugs on the garden , how to kill them . He was so knowledgeable. Rest in Peace Uncle Norman , Love and Miss you Judy*

Judy Stone - December 27, 2025 at 01:50 PM

CH

“ *I was fortunate to have Mr. Steadman as my boss my first 11 years of teaching. He was the best!*

Chuck Hardy - December 26, 2025 at 05:28 PM