



Virgil Norris Buie

November 19, 1928 - February 13, 2025

Funeral services for Virgil Norris Buie, 96, of Tyler, Texas, will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, February 20, 2025, at Stewart Family Funeral Home at 7525 Old Jacksonville Highway in Tyler, with Pastor Ed Wandling officiating. A visitation will be held one hour prior. A private burial will follow at Cathedral In The Pines in Tyler.

Norris passed away peacefully February 13, 2025, at The Hospice of East Texas, due to complications associated with an eight-year battle with Parkinson's. He was born November 19, 1928, in the Bascom community near Tyler to Jason Alpheus Buie and Ella Mae Lewis Buie. Norris married Nelda Jo Mallory on April 3, 1958, and they shared 61 wonderful years together. Norris was preceded in death by his wife, his parents, brother and sister-in-law, Rudy and Juanice Buie, of Midland, sisters-in-law Melvina Buie and Kathy Mallory, of Tyler, and brother-in-law, Troy Harris, of Houston.

Norris was a faithful member of Pleasant Retreat Methodist Church in Tyler, where he taught Sunday School and was a beloved member of the congregation. He was active in the Sharon Shrine Motor Corp for three decades and The Gideons International and supported many charities. Norris had a successful career at King Chevrolet in downtown Tyler, starting out in the paint shop in 1950 before taking over as body shop manager in 1959 until his retirement in 1994. There wasn't anything he couldn't fix, as his brothers

and sons could attest.

He received a golf cart as a retirement gift, and quickly turned his attention to the golf course where he played three times a week at Oak Hurst/Peach Tree in Bullard, Texas, swinging a club and draining putts well into his 90s. When Norris was diagnosed with Parkinson's, he was told by his doctor that he could outrun the disease with his active lifestyle, and that's exactly what he did by playing golf. He enjoyed his independence and after Nelda passed away in 2019, Norris continued living at home by himself and was able to celebrate his 96th birthday at home with family.

Norris attended Tyler schools, threw a paper route on his bicycle with his brother, Herbert, worked in the Houston Ship Channel one summer at age 15, and later raced cars and motorcycles quite successfully. A great storyteller, Norris remarked that when he first started racing he could make more money at the track on weekends than he could in a week working in the paint shop and the motorcycle shop.

He enjoyed watching westerns and sports, especially golf and, of course, the Dallas Cowboys, and he read his Bible every morning. He loved his family and friends and showed what a devoted Papaw he would be, when near the age of 77, a granddaughter was born. Marissa lit up his world, and him, hers. He became her dedicated subject for videos, pictures, dance recitals, fun, and so much joy and laughter. Another joy for Norris and his family was the lake house at Lake Tyler where they spent many a weekend over the years.

Norris is survived by sons Jeff, Joe and his wife Camille, and granddaughter Marissa Buie, brother Herbert Buie, of Tyler, sister LaVonne Harris of Houston, brothers-in-law Gary and Leroy (and wife Shirley) Mallory, all of Tyler, granddaughter Malori (and husband Dan) Hunter and their children, of Dallas, and grandson Cody (and wife Maggie) Wofford and their children, of

Tyler. Norris also leaves behind many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A special thank you to all the nurses and staff at Christus Trinity Mother Frances and their rehabilitation hospital; Meadow Lake Skilled Nursing, and The Hospice of East Texas. To Alma Sanchez, a special caregiver to Norris, you are loved and appreciated.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Pleasant Retreat Methodist Church, 417 County Road 1143, Tyler, TX, 75704; or The Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler, TX, 75701.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **20**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Service

FEB **20**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Virgil Norris Buie



Stewart Family Funeral Home - February 19, 2025 at 10:03 AM



“ Norris was a good friend. He was a real treasure to spend time with on the golf course. His character always shined through and we all new that he was a true believer in the Lord.
He was an asset to have on your team. Even with Parkinson in his latter days, his putting was better than most.
Most of all, He was very loved. ❤️

Len Teague
Philippians 1:3

Len Teague - January 18 at 09:29 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of his passing. We saw him at DQ a year ago. My husband loved Norris. He was a great golf partner and friend. My husband eitelhahn died feb 17 so I knew they are rejoicing together seeing Jesus face to face. Joyce

joyce hahn - March 06, 2025 at 08:57 AM

LT

Joyce,
Your husband Eitel was a man of high character.
He was great to be around on the golf course. He was an excellent
player and an even better teammate. He was very loved. ❤️

Len Teague - January 18 at 09:32 AM

DG

“ Norris was such a kind and sweet man. I will always treasure the
friendship that we shared. My prayers and condolences go to his
sweet family.

Debbie Gruetzner

Debbie Gruetzner - February 22, 2025 at 04:53 PM

SS

“ Stuart and Sue Ann Stagner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in
honor of Virgil Norris Buie.

Stuart and Sue Ann Stagner - February 20, 2025 at 09:29 AM

SS

“ Stuart and Sue Ann Stagner purchased the Senti
ments of Serenity Spray for the family of Virgil
Norris Buie.



Stuart and Sue Ann Stagner - February 20, 2025 at 09:29 AM

JL

“ Jennifer Lowry & Megan Lowry purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Virgil Norris Buie.



Jennifer Lowry & Megan Lowry - February 19, 2025 at 07:20 PM

CF

“ Chemas Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Virgil Norris Buie.



Chemas Family - February 19, 2025 at 06:34 PM

JJ

“ Norris was both a neighbor and a friend of mine. I pray for his family during this difficult time. He was all ways glad to see you and greeted you with a warm handshake.

Jeff Jones - February 19, 2025 at 03:49 PM



“ 68 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - February 19, 2025 at 09:46 AM

DC

“ Norris, my uncle, was a loving, funny, hardworking, kind, and devoted family man. Although we will miss him tremendously, we are comforted by the fact that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. There was joy in heaven when Norris arrived! Wonderful memories of him are a true blessing for me and all our family.
Love never dies.

Donna Buie Cox

Donna Buie Cox - February 18, 2025 at 01:15 PM

ML

“ Mr. Buie was a great man who will be dearly missed. My love, prayers, and condolences go out to Jeff, Joe, Camille, Marissa, and the entire family.

Todd Lestage

M. Lestage - February 18, 2025 at 10:57 AM

RC

“ Rose Heights Sr Adult class purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Virgil Norris Buie.



Rose Heights Sr Adult class - February 17, 2025 at 11:49 PM

EF

“ Eddie, Donna, Brent, Neal, Jim & family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Virgil Norris Buie.



Eddie, Donna, Brent, Neal, Jim & family - February 17, 2025 at 11:46 PM

KT

“ Prayers and condolences to the family and friends I have known him for over 30 years so sorry for your loss. Kenny Taylor

Kenny Taylor - February 17, 2025 at 08:52 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Virgil Norris Buie.



February 17, 2025 at 06:17 PM