



## Gene Austin Norris Sr.

December 13, 1931 - August 20, 2023

Conway...

Rev. Gene Norris, age 91, passed away on Sunday, August 20, 2023, surrounded by his family.

Born December 13, 1931, in Conway, he was the son of the late Mack and Vera Carter Norris. Rev. Norris was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church. He was an avid fan and a graduate of Clemson University and Duke Divinity School.

Rev. Norris was a retired South Carolina United Methodist Minister. He enjoyed tennis, reading, and playing bridge. Rev. Norris was very charitable and was very active in social justice issues.

Surviving are his wife of 62 years, Carolyn Fowler Norris; three children, Gene Austin Norris, Jr. (Michelle), Gina Norris Fennell (Peter), and Maria Norris Davis (Ray); five grandchildren, Grace Fennell, Caleb Fennell, Jake Davis, Hope Norris, Stella Davis; two sisters, Patsy Norris Buck and Marlyn Norris Myers; and his sister-in-law, Hilda Suggs.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 PM Thursday, August 24, 2023, at Trinity United Methodist Church with Rev. Bill McCown, Rev. Ken Nelson, and Rev.

Smoke Kanipe officiating. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Cemetery.

The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service in the church fellowship hall.

Memorial donations may be made in Rev. Norris' memory to Epworth Children's Home, 2900 Millwood Ave, Columbia, SC 29205 or Trinity United Methodist Church, Building Fund, 198 Long Avenue, Conway, South Carolina 29526.

Please sign the online guestbook at [www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com](http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Hillcrest Cemetery

1000 Hwy 544  
Conway, SC 29526  
(843) 347-4909  
<https://www.hillcrestcemetery.com/>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 24.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
198 Long Avenue  
Conway, SC 29526

## Funeral Service

**AUG 24.** 2:00 PM (ET)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
198 Long Avenue  
Conway, SC 29526

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gene Austin Norris Sr..*



---

August 25, 2023 at 01:19 PM



“ *Mr. Gene was such a sweet man. He never met a stranger. He loved to carry on a conversation with anyone he met. But you always knew where you stood with him. I went to church with him at Trinity for many years. When the Methodist Conference was coming up, he asked me to type his speech that he was going to give. He never missed a conference. He served God with everything he had. He lived his life as a Christian man. He will be missed by so many. RIP Mr. Gene. Job well done.*

---

**De Lis Polatty Browne** - August 23, 2023 at 11:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gene Austin Norris Sr..*



---

August 23, 2023 at 06:16 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gene Austin Norris Sr..*



---

August 23, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gene Austin Norris Sr..*



---

August 23, 2023 at 08:48 AM



“ *Got to know him in the late 1950's when he taught and coached at Green Sea high. He was a tough task master but a great guy.*  
*Jim Gilreath*

---

**Jim Gilreath** - August 22, 2023 at 09:38 PM



“ *He was the nicest guy. Knowing some of his family here in horry county, they all thought a lot of him. Thoughts and condolences to the family. John watson.*

---

**john watson** - August 22, 2023 at 02:58 PM

LS

“ *Lyn Snyder lit a candle in memory of Gene Austin Norris Sr.*



---

**Lyn Snyder** - August 22, 2023 at 12:03 PM

SR

“ *What a wonderful long life well lived. May God grant Peace and Comfort to Reverend Gene's family and friends.*



*Sylvia Richardson*

---

**Sylvia Richardson** - August 22, 2023 at 11:12 AM

LM

“ *Memories are the legacy of love. When the Lord calls a loved one home, He leaves a gift of memories in exchange to sustain you through this difficult time. Please know you are all in my prayers.*

---

**Lisa Militello** - August 22, 2023 at 10:43 AM

LH

“ Gene was my cousin but I didn't know him until he came to Loris to pastor First Methodist. His mother and my grandmother were sisters. Even though he had limitations due to his sight he did not let it deter him at all. He was always a champion for the little man. He could always make you think deeply about the scripture in many ways. I remember he would make a controversial statement about a scripture in Sunday school just to get a discussion going. He was definitely a great Pastor and a true Christian. You always knew where he stood. Carolyn and family God Bless you all.  
Lewis Hardee

---

**Lewis Hardee** - August 22, 2023 at 10:08 AM

DM

“ You will be missed "sweet Gene", Brenda & Don Murphy



---

**Don & Brenda Murphy** - August 22, 2023 at 09:01 AM

JT

“ It was always a pleasure to see Mr. Gene walk into the Fellowship Hall at Maple Church on Wednesday nights for supper and Bible Study. He loved all discussions on Scripture and there was always someone's arm he would grab to be given a ride home. He also loved being a part of the Adult Bible Study during Vacation Bible School at Maple. No matter what we were discussing, he always brought depth and heart to the table. He loved just fellowshiping with people. He was a soul that not only loved to serve, he loved to guide and had a special heart for young people. His skill in tennis amazed me and gives witness that when you find a passion, you will always have vision for your direction. The only 2 things Mr. Gene never knew, was a stranger, and defeat. To be with the saints....his race is run.

---

**Julia Taylor** - August 22, 2023 at 08:45 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gene Austin Norris Sr..



---

August 21, 2023 at 10:55 PM

AR

“ Mr. Gene introduced many kids to the game of tennis and used the court in his backyard to bring people together. I was one of the many who had the honor of learning tennis and have since gone on to coach it. Many people go through their life wondering, "Did I make a difference?" I can say with the utmost confidence that Mr. Gene did. We will miss him on earth, but rejoice, knowing that he is in the presence of God, joining in worship with the saints and angels.

---

**Andrew Reeves** - August 21, 2023 at 10:38 PM

PP

“ One of the most honest man I ever known and met. Great husband and father and grandfather. All the above not surpassing his many years of pastoring the flock of various churches. Heaven rejoices and Earth Mourns.

---

**Peter Prim** - August 21, 2023 at 10:12 PM