



Gerald "Gerry" Norris

February 16, 1950 - October 22, 2024

Gerald "Gerry" Norris passed away on October 22, 2024 at the age of 74 in Gainesville, FL. He passed in the company of his family after battling cancer for the past few months. He was born on February 16th, 1950 in White Plains NY, the son of Lt. Col. James F. Norris and Rita Fitzgerald Norris. Gerry leaves behind a legacy of dedication to his family and community.

Gerry became a central figure in Tallahassee beginning in 1968 when he joined the Florida State University varsity swim team. After four years at FSU, he worked for the Parks and Recreation Department, serving the city for over 30 years in various roles - Aquatics Director, District Commissioner of Florida Little Major League Baseball, and Athletic Superintendent. While juggling his day job and family, Gerry worked to be an integral part of creating what is now the Area Tallahassee Aquatics Club, truly laying the foundation for the swimming world of Tallahassee. Many young swimmers and athletes have had the opportunity to be coached and mentored by Gerry over the past 50 years. His love for the water was not just a part of his career, but also his passion as he kept swimming throughout his life.

He is lovingly remembered by his wife, Karen. He is survived by his sister Gail Maginnis (Norris) in Charleston SC, and his three children, Katherine Norris Roth (husband Jon), Karla Norris, and Christopher Norris (wife Arianna). He has five grandsons, Jonathon Roth Jr., Calvin Roth, Owen Roth, Miles Roth,

and River Norris. His grandsons will cherish the memories of Christmas Eve story time and beach vacations spent at St. George Island.

A memorial service to honor Gerry's life and contributions will be held on Monday, October 28, 2024. It will be held at 4pm at the Bevis Funeral Home, located at 200 John Knox Road, Tallahassee FL 32303.

Dayne Parker of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the Norris family with their arrangements.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **28**. 4:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory
200 John Knox Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-2193

Tribute Wall



“ *Bevis Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Gerald "Gerry" Norris*



Bevis Funeral Home - October 28, 2024 at 05:37 PM



“ *While in Tallahassee during the years of 1985 through 2000, I was privileged and blessed to have met Gerry. I was able to have spent many a noon "lunch bunch" swim workouts with Gerry and a number of other wonderful local swimmers. There was always a spirit of friendship and camaraderie mixed in with some fun competition. And Gerry was always part of that. These were definitely good times to be remembered by all. We all will miss Gerry!*

*We pray for peace and comfort for his family and friends.
Vic and Shirley Daniels*

Vic and Shirley Daniels - October 28, 2024 at 03:44 PM



“ *Like many of us on the North Miami Senior High School swim team, it was obvious Gerry was primarily drawn to the camaraderie. When I looked up that word to spellcheck, I noticed the broad definition is "mutual trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together." Gerry personified that definition. He'll be missed by many...*

Bruce Frank - October 28, 2024 at 01:51 PM

CB

“ Met Jerry at the house as he dated my sister Sandy a bit and out on the water skiing scene. A very friendly guy who it sounds like touched many lives.

RIP

Chip Bradley

chip bradley - October 28, 2024 at 11:16 AM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



October 28, 2024 at 09:54 AM

MH

“ Mark H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.

Mark H. - October 27, 2024 at 07:52 PM

MH

“ Mark H. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



Mark H. - October 27, 2024 at 07:52 PM

VD

“ Vic and Shirley Daniels purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



Vic and Shirley Daniels - October 27, 2024 at 05:41 PM

RH

“ Gerry was my high school swimming team mate a year ahead of me. Even at that young age he showed a kindness and generosity of spirit that is unusual at any age. He showed tremendous forbearance to my stupid antics many times. He will be greatly missed.

Ric Hallquist - October 27, 2024 at 01:44 PM

MS

“ Sad to hear that Gerry has died.
Reality is so REAL
Wonderful guy
Mike Silberman

Michael SILBERMAN - October 27, 2024 at 11:31 AM

DC

“ I just got the news. With tears in my eyes...my heartfelt condolences to Gerry's family, friends. and the countless kids (now adults) whose lives Gerry enriched through his love and leadership. It was an honor to be Gerry's teammate at North Miami High. This GIANT of a guy was a mensch from the ger go. He endured constant ribbing from some of our immature teammates and gave back more than he received. An extraordinary swimmer, but even more so, an extraordinary human being. I hope to see you, El Gordon, at our next reunion, not many years away. With love, Don Cohen

Don Cohen - October 27, 2024 at 08:37 AM

CM

“ I met Gerry in 1970 as a freshman swimmer at FSU. As hypercompetitive as we were, Gerry took me under his wing and showed me the ropes and made me feel like a part of the team. He wasn't our best swimmer, but he was the glue that kept us together during some particularly rough times. He was always the kind and thoughtful man, interested in how he could help others. I'm grateful that I was in his orbit, and I never forgot his kindness or silly jokes at just the right time. Peace be with you and your family, old friend. You were a good one and I'll be missing you. Chuck Mitchell

Chuck Mitchell - October 27, 2024 at 07:53 AM

BR

“ *The first time I ever got on a plane was with Gerry as we left Miami and headed to Tallahassee to start college. We went up a few days early to get the lay of the land. We stayed in motel several miles out of town. Little did we know, coming from Miami, that Tallahassee would be so small and rural in those days. We ended up spending the better part of three days in a hotel room getting the farm reports and learning about the different types of hybrid corn. It was the start of the rest of our lives and great memories to this day. He was a kind gentle man who will be greatly missed. I will always have fond memories of the time we were able to spend together. Wishing the family peace. Bill Robinson*

Bill Robinson - October 26, 2024 at 07:40 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.*



October 26, 2024 at 07:30 PM

TF

“ *The Weichelt-Dean Family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.*



The Weichelt-Dean Family - October 26, 2024 at 06:35 PM

GM

“ Gail and Maureen purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



Gail and Maureen - October 26, 2024 at 02:41 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.

October 26, 2024 at 11:50 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



October 26, 2024 at 11:50 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.

October 26, 2024 at 10:33 AM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



October 26, 2024 at 10:33 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.

October 25, 2024 at 04:39 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



October 25, 2024 at 04:39 PM



“ Chris, Mara, Rachel & Ryan Rumana purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



Chris, Mara, Rachel & Ryan Rumana - October 25, 2024 at 02:53 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



October 25, 2024 at 10:19 AM



“ *Such a wonderful man. My daughter made the swim team at age 6 and swam for so many years. I worked at the parks and rec under Gerry for several years. Such a loving and caring soul*

Kim Sullivan - October 25, 2024 at 07:54 AM



“ *Randall, Karen & Brandon Chason purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.*



Randall, Karen & Brandon Chason - October 25, 2024 at 06:46 AM



“ *With love, The Jacobs Family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.*



With love, The Jacobs Family - October 25, 2024 at 12:18 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.*



October 24, 2024 at 11:21 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.

October 24, 2024 at 10:01 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.

October 24, 2024 at 09:12 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



October 24, 2024 at 09:12 PM



“ The Stevens Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



The Stevens Family - October 24, 2024 at 09:06 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.

October 24, 2024 at 08:59 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Gerald "Gerry" Norris.



October 24, 2024 at 08:59 PM