



## Gary Presley King

February 15, 1949 - October 23, 2025

It was the day after Valentine Day, February 15, 1949. Solon "Pete" and Sarah Frances Thigpen King had married in 1941, which was a little later than most of their contemporaries. That being said, they welcomed new life into their family with the birth of their son and only child Gary Presley King. Gary was born into a family that had a deep connection to the rural areas of western Coweta County Georgia. His dad's daytime job was at Jones' Motor Company in Newnan and his mother was a teacher at Western School. The King homeplace was in the Welcome Community where Pete loved working the land and his wife's family, the Thigpens, had planted roots on the corner of Welcome Road and what came to be known as Thigpen Road. Gary would live his entire life on those quiet acres.

Gary attended Western School which was just down the road from their homeplace. It was during those years that he was smitten by the lovebug by a curly haired young lady who would become his wife. Barbara Rooks was a child of the Arncos Community that had been populated by families who had given up life on the farm for the convenience of a regular paycheck from the textile mills that had sprung up in the early 20th century. She and Gary married while still in their teens, unlike either of their parents. For the next 50 + years they were almost inseparable. Gary found a good job with the City of Newnan in the Sanitation Department. He became a fixture in his huge truck as he rode all over town with a window rolled down so that he could wave at anybody he saw as he went by their home or business. Gary had a penchant

for big trucks that he maneuvered as if they were toys. His real motor love was his tractor. A couple of hours on that tractor was therapy as the powerful hum and smell of the diesel engine would melt away the stress of a busy workday. Gary had a garden every year. Sometimes it was vegetables and sometimes it would be a sea of sunflowers. His last garden was the end all crop of corn. Gary lived large and so did his crops.

Gary had his priorities in his life. Work had its place, but his faith in his Creator was the defining point of his life. He absolutely believed that if he was faithful to God, God would always supply the strength and grace for whatever life put before him. In appreciation for that infinite grace and strength he would serve as a deacon in his beloved Providence Baptist Church. He would draw more and more on that belief as the last years of his life would be defined by continuing health problems. As God provided his spiritual life's strength, his 55 plus years of marriage to Barbara would provide the physical strength and support required to live his best possible life. It would be a rare event to see one of them without the other one. They found their greatest comfort in being each other's best friend and confidant. That would be true until the very last moment of Gary's life on the evening of October 23rd. His life's story would come full circle in the comfort of the Thigpen ancestral family home and in the care of his beloved wife, Barbara. Nothing would be more fitting for both of them.

Gary is survived by his wife Barbara Rooks King. He was a very proud father to Jennifer King Brown and Chad King and his wife Lena. He was a proud "Pop" to his grandchildren Madison Hinesley (Kent Wester), Michael Campbell, Logan Campbell, Addison King, and Brandon King.

The life of Gary King will be recalled and stories will be shared during a time of visitation to be held on Tuesday, October 28th between 3:00 and 5:00 PM at McKoon funeral Home at 38 Jackson Street. A memorial service will follow at 5:00 PM with Dr. Ken Norton and Reverend Chris Smith officiating. In lieu of flowers, honor the life of this good man by a memorial gift to his beloved Providence Baptist Church.

Wash off your work boots in the puddle left by the blessed rain one final time. You always believed that the good Lord would provide, and He always had somehow. Take off your gloves and put them down. No more sweat and worry for you now. Your labor is done, your home now is heaven; no more will you have to wait. Your legacy lives on. Your love for the land has been proven. Your love for the woman who walked beside you all these years is a treasured memory. You take your rest, now. We'll put the tractor in the barn and be sure to lock the gate. All is well.

Online condolences may be expressed at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com). McKoon Funeral Home and Crematory 38 Jackson Street 770-253-4580.

# Cemetery Details

## McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
care@mckoon.com  
<http://www.mckoon.com>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **28**. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263

## Funeral Service

OCT **28**. 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263

# Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Webcast in memory of Gary Presley King*



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**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - October 28, 2025 at 09:00 AM



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Gary Presley King*



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**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - October 26, 2025 at 03:58 PM

DK

“ *Dear Sista Barbara and Family,  
So sorry for your loss. Gary will be missed!  
Deepest Sympathies, Debbie*

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**Debbie Kavadas** - November 01, 2025 at 11:52 AM

CT

“ Gary was always a favorite of mine and I loved seeing him at Lee-King Pharmacy. He used to bring me sunflowers. Barbara and family, I will hold you close to my heart.

Carol Tamplin - October 28, 2025 at 04:49 PM

WF

“ Williams Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Gary Presley King.



Williams Family - October 27, 2025 at 06:32 PM

WF

“ Williams Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Presley King.

Williams Family - October 27, 2025 at 06:32 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Gary Presley King.



October 27, 2025 at 05:47 PM

DC

“ Duncan Automotive (Mike and crew) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Presley King.

Duncan Automotive (Mike and crew) - October 27, 2025 at 05:47 PM

FF

“ Gary was a great fellow. Our prayers are with all of you during this difficult time of loss. Frank and Melody Farmer

FRANK FARMER - October 27, 2025 at 11:10 AM

KA

“ Kim Adams lit a candle in memory of Gary Presley King



Kim Adams - October 27, 2025 at 11:07 AM

CS

“ Barbara and family, I am so sorry to hear of Gary's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Charlene Grizzard Storey

Charlene Storey - October 27, 2025 at 09:07 AM

WT

“ Wilson And Jane Treadwell lit a candle in memory of Gary Presley King



Wilson and Jane Treadwell - October 26, 2025 at 09:17 PM

BT

“ *Mr. Gary worked at the city with my late father-in-law Charles Cooper. Cooper thought a lot of the whole King family. We are so sorry for your loss.*



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**Belinda Thompson** - October 26, 2025 at 07:51 PM

RA

“ *Randy A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Presley King.*

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**Randy A.** - October 26, 2025 at 06:10 PM

MY

“ *Our prayers to Barbara and Family. So sorry to hear of Gary's passing. He was a good man and a friend. Always enjoyed the talks we had. May God wrap his loving arms around you in the days ahead. Retired Sheriff Mike and Bev Yeager*

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**Mike&Bev Yeager** - October 26, 2025 at 03:08 PM

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“ *My parents would bring us to visit the King family. My siblings and I would always have a good time at their house. The parents would sit outside and watch all of us kids play. I will forever cherish those memories.*

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**Tracie S Arnold (Blount)** - October 25, 2025 at 11:20 PM

BC

“ *It is true that Gary was a good farmer, especially with his corn. I have enjoyed it for several years and always enjoyed going over to get it and visiting the Kings. My heart goes out to Barbara and her family in this loss. The wonderful memories they have will help them as well as knowing where Gary is "farming" now. Love and prayers to you.*

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**Brenda Clark** - October 25, 2025 at 10:24 PM

WF

“ *Our condolences and prayers to the family* 🙏



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**Willie and Sharon Sutton and family** - October 25, 2025 at 08:15 PM

BG

“ *Beverly Garner lit a candle in memory of Gary Presley King*



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**Beverly Garner** - October 25, 2025 at 07:00 PM

JH

“ So sorry to hear that Mr Gary passed away. I had the good fortune to meet him, Miss Barbara, Chad and Jennifer many years ago at the Basement Beauty Salon of my mother, Edna. His mother Miss Sallie Fanny King was sometimes brought and picked up from her weekly hair appointment by Mr Gary or Miss Barbara. They would always sit down and be sociable. I am certain of one thing their family was close and loving . I am certain that he will be missed by all who were fortunate enough to meet the big o'l country boy that was Mr Gary King. My sincerest condolences to you all

Jima Pettite Hosmer - October 25, 2025 at 05:45 PM

LH

“ I'm so sorry to hear of your families loss, I had the pleasure of working with Mr. King when I worked for Newnan Police Department. I later came to discover we were neighbors as well. Praying for your family during this difficult time.



Lt. Jamie Hixson - October 25, 2025 at 04:32 PM

HD

Praying for the family. Worked with Mrs. Barbara at Atkinson.

Hazel Dominick - October 25, 2025 at 05:51 PM

CA

“ Cathy Houston Adams lit a candle in memory of Gary Presley King



Cathy Houston Adams - October 25, 2025 at 03:02 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Gary Presley King.*



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October 25, 2025 at 10:28 AM



“ *Ricky and Alicia McLain planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Presley King.*

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**Ricky and Alicia McLain** - October 25, 2025 at 10:28 AM