



## Steven E. Fanning

August 20, 1944 - February 4, 2018

Mr. Steven Erle Fanning, Senior, ("Steve"), 73, of Grantville, Georgia passed away on Sunday February 4, 2018, at White Plains Hospital in White Plains, New York. He was born August 20, 1944 in Bryan, Texas to the late Erle Wilford and Elizabeth Carroll Fanning. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Karen Elizabeth Fanning and grandparents Robert and Bessie Carroll and Earnest W. and Zula M. Fanning.

Steve grew up in East Point, Georgia and was a 1962 graduate of the Georgia Military Academy in College Park, Georgia, now known as Woodward Academy. In 1966, he graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in Economics. where he was an Vice-President for his second senior year of the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity and the UGA U.S. Army ROTC Program. After college, he fulfilled his ROTC commitment and joined the U.S. Army, where he was stationed in Germany and later throughout Southeast Asia for several years. He earned the Ranger Tab, the Parachutist Badge/ "jump wings", and his Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge while attaining the rank of Captain in the U.S. Army. He volunteered to go to Vietnam where he operated in the Military Intelligence and later the Special Forces branches. While serving with the 5th Special Forces throughout Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam, Steve was awarded the Bronze Star with "V" Device (for valor) for "distinguishing himself by acts of heroism during land warfare that involved conflict with an armed enemy;" and was honored with the Air Medal for "single acts of heroism while participating in aerial flight."

After his military service, Steve entered the University of Georgia School of Law, where he earned a Juris Doctorate degree of Law. He was a member of Moot Court and the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity. Upon graduation in 1973, he moved to Newnan and began his Practice of Law, where he was a member of the Newnan-Coweta Bar Association, the Coweta Circuit Bar Association, and was licensed to practice in multiple federal courts. Steve was a member the Coweta Beekeepers Association, the Coweta Cattlemen's Association, the President of the Coweta County Republican Party, and was President for numerous years of the Woodward Academy Parents Club. He was an Eagle Scout, a member of the Order of the Arrow, earned the BSA Wood Badge status and spent many years in various leadership roles with the Boy Scouts of America. Steve was also honored by being elected to The Top 100 Georgia Super Lawyers List.

Steve was almost in-separable with his loving wife Diane, who was always by his side and who over forty-five years of marriage they together built their dream home, went on numerous adventures around the world and somehow found time to enjoy gardening, antiquing and attending numerous charity events and balls. He was a true renaissance man, who while a member of the Phoenix Debutante Society of Atlanta and thoroughly loving twirling his debutante daughters around on the dance floor, he also enjoyed driving his tractor and tending to his horses, cattle and later his bees on his farm. He loved his family dearly, most especially his Grandsons, who while in their company was the eternal "big kid" as it was always uncertain about who was getting whom into more trouble. He and his grandkids were always playing ball, visiting train museums, going on trips to Italy, sneaking out to go get ice cream, and running to catch a funny newly-released animated film at the local theater. He just marveled in their wonderfulness. Steve lived life to the fullest with a humorous take on everything and if ever there was someone who lived every day to the fullest, it was him.

His many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends were an integral part of his life. Steve, especially enjoyed the Saturday morning breakfast meetings with

his close buddies from the Coweta Combat Veteran Group, as well as, all of the jokes and great times had with numerous members of the Newnan and Coweta County Court system(s), and all of the members of the Newnan and Coweta County Law Enforcement Community. He grew up in the Episcopal Church in East Point, Georgia and later joined the First United Methodist Church of Newnan.

The funeral will be held on Saturday February 17, 2018 at 11am at the First United Methodist Church of Newnan located at 33 Greenville Street, Newnan, Georgia. The Reverend Charles Robinson and Doctor Gene Tyre will be officiating. Visitation is Friday evening February 16, 2018 between 6pm and 8pm at McKoon Funeral Home, located at 38 Jackson Street, Newnan, Georgia.

Steve was an avid lover of nature but due to his illness has been unable to enjoy God's beauty for several years; thus, flowers are very much appreciated. Condolences can be expressed online at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com).

Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Diane Caldwell Fanning of Grantville; son, Steven Erle Fanning Jr. of Atlanta; daughters, Merideth Elizabeth Fanning Gilmor and husband Mark Gilmor of Wilton, Connecticut and Ansley Caldwell Fanning Thoma and husband Kevin Thoma of Providence, Rhode Island; grandsons Colin Steven Gilmor of Wilton, Connecticut and Caldwell Hennion Thoma of Providence, Rhode Island. He is also survived by many loving cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Pallbearers include: Allen Daniels of Dalton Georgia, Quentin Daniels of Littlerock Arkansas, Walter Haugen of Newnan, Georgia; Dennis Johnson of Bowmen, Georgia, James Panepento of Grantville, Georgia and Bob Yeager of Newnan Georgia.

Honorary Pallbearers are members of Newnan Coweta Bar Association and members of the Coweta Combat Veterans Group.

McKoon Funeral Home and Crematory (770) 253-4580

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **16**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263  
(770) 253-4580  
care@mckoon.com

## Service

FEB **17**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Newnan First United Methodist Church  
33 Greenville Street  
Newnan, GA 30263

# Tribute Wall

JS

“ Steve helped me in court when I couldn't afford to pay him. After that he came into the restaurant I was working at called the corporate office to tell the what a wonderful job I had done. He was a great man and I'm grateful to have known him.

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**Jordan Scott** - July 31, 2019 at 01:07 PM



Thank you Jordan yes this was the man my father was. Very kind and respectful thank you for sharing.

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**Ansley Fanning Thoma** - September 08, 2019 at 10:05 PM

KS

“ Very sorry to have belatedly heard of Mr. Fanning's passing. I hold good memories of he and his family from around 35 years ago. Among them I recall falling from my bicycle while riding in the neighborhood, and he pushed me on my bicycle up one of the steep hills. It may not seem like much, but it has remained in my mind, not least because of his manner -- encouraging, caring, non-complaining, comforting, yet left me with my own boyish dignity despite being injured and crying. Good man.

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**Kyle Shaw** - March 18, 2019 at 09:16 AM

HG

“ I have just learned of Steve’s passing. We grew up together on same street in Cascade Heights. Also, from time to time when I visited my parents in Peachtree city I would visit he office to catch up with Steve. After both my parents, who were close friend with his parents, passed and I moveed to Texas I was out of contact. May he Rest In Peace !

*Herb Galloway*

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**Herbert Galloway** - September 11, 2018 at 12:53 PM



*Herb. Thank you. Our Texas legacy lives on with Mer I, SMU alumni and I as a Texas Tech alumni. He was always proud of our accomplishments. He spanned far beyond Cascade Heights and far beyond all of us could imagine. Thank you for reaching out.*

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**Ansley Fanning Thoma** - September 08, 2019 at 10:09 PM

MV

“ *Fanning Family,*  
*I've just learned of the loss of Steven. I met him during his years at GMA when he dated an old friend of mine. Afterwards, he and I began dating and we were friends for quite some time. Your son who attended Woodward was in my daughter's home room where I was room mother and I saw a great deal of Steve in him, not only in looks, but in personality Needless to say, I'm so very sad to hear of your loss. God bless you and your family. Regret I didn't know. Take care.*

*Warmest Regards,*  
*MaryJean Childress - Voegtlin.*

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**MaryJean Childress Voegtlin** - February 22, 2018 at 01:08 AM



*Thank you for the sweet memory. He was Loveland an amazing husband, father and friend to all.*

**Ansley Fanning Thoma** - May 21, 2018 at 11:52 PM

DM

“ *Dundee Maples lit a candle in memory of Steven E. Fanning*



**Dundee Maples** - February 16, 2018 at 09:42 AM



*Dundee... you're video was uplifting and priceless. He was a man of expressions and thoughts. Thank you for giving even if he was in transition.*

**Ansley Fanning Thoma** - May 21, 2018 at 11:54 PM

MA

“ *I am sorry for your loss. Steve always spoke to me when he seen me at the courthouse and I considered him a friend, He will be missed. May God Bless your family in this time of loss.*

**Michael W. Aldredge** - February 15, 2018 at 11:40 AM



*Yes an amazing man of character and reverence. He was proud to know you and alas I can see you Are a better man for knowing him. Thank you for your kind words.*

**Ansley Fanning Thoma** - May 21, 2018 at 11:55 PM



“ *Diane and Family*

*I'm so sorry for your loss. Steve was not just a friend of mine at the Coweta Combat Veterans Group. He was a true Patriot of our great state and country. He will be missed and remembered for his many accomplishments; not just military and Viet Nam, but his dedication to friends, family and loved ones. It is rare to have someone, so talented to have an impact on one's life as Steve had on mine. I will never forget his help and kindness that he exhibited towards me. We, as a people, have lost a great friend, patriot and person. God has gained that gift.*

*May God bless Diane and Family.....Thomas McKoon*

Thomas McKoon - February 14, 2018 at 05:04 PM



“ *Diane, I used to wait on you and Steve at Waffle House quite often. I was just talking about how much I would love to see all of you the other week. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the rest of the family during this difficult time.*

Barbara Gibson - February 14, 2018 at 12:18 AM



*Thank you. The Waffle House was home away from home. thank you for creating this amazing place for Mom and Dad. He loved true people and I already admired you because I know he did. Thank you.*

Ansley Fanning Thoma - September 08, 2019 at 10:12 PM

WT

“ *Wilson And Jane Treadwell lit a candle in memory of Steven E. Fanning*



Wilson and Jane Treadwell - February 13, 2018 at 09:20 PM

MY

“ *Diane and Family my prayers for you during this difficult time. Steve was my friend and a friend to law enforcement. He will be missed around the courthouse. May God give you peace and comfort in the days ahead. Sheriff Mike Yeager Family and Staff*

Mike Yeager - February 13, 2018 at 08:40 PM



*Thank you Mike. You're name has been a staple in our house throughout the years. Many times with a joke dad has said during court season....Thank you for kind words.*

Ansley Fanning Thoma - September 08, 2019 at 10:15 PM



*And you're laughing reaction as well as the staff.*

Ansley Fanning Thoma - September 08, 2019 at 10:15 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Steven E. Fanning.*



February 13, 2018 at 02:37 PM

FI

“ Fred and Janet Irwin purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Steven E. Fanning.



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**Fred and Janet Irwin** - February 13, 2018 at 01:40 PM