



Grady O'Neal Cook

DEC 14, 1931 - APR 16, 2026



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Grady O'Neal Cook

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Grady O'Neal Cook Jr., 94, of Locust, North Carolina, passed away peacefully at his home on April 16, 2026, surrounded by the love of his family.

Grady was born December 14, 1931, in Mecklenburg County and was the beloved son of the late Grady O'Neal Cook Sr. and Lucy Joyner Cook. He was also preceded in death by his loving wives, Sarah Starnes Cook and Dollie Barbee Hatley Cook, his son David O'Neal Cook, his brothers Dixon and Don Cook and his sister Jean Cook Partee.

He retired with 22 years of service from Southern Railroad. He was known for his dependability and hard work. After retirement, he found a deep joy in the land - tending to his garden, raising cattle and goats, and doing the honest, good work that defined his character. He was a generous provider, a faithful friend, and a man genuinely loved by everyone who crossed his path.

Grady was a devoted member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church and anchored his life in the truth of scripture. His favorite passage, Philippians Chapter 4, was not merely words he admired, it was a standard he lived by each and every day. Those who knew him recognized in him the peace, the gentleness, and the gratitude that those verses describe.

His family remembers him simply as the greatest - a good and godly man who loved the Lord, loved his family, and never wavered in either. He had a warm appreciation for music of all kinds and loved playing cards, specifically spades, with his family. He was a lifelong Duke Blue Devils fan and loved watching college basketball.

Grady is survived by two children, Wayne Benson Cook (Barbara) and Cynthia Ann Cook (Darrell), both of Locust; five grandchildren, Danielle Cook, Michelle Simmons (Bryan), Jesse Yandle (Sarah), Savannah Harpe (Chase), and Cody Yandle (Olivia); ten great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; his dear and special friend, Edna Tucker; and his lifelong childhood friend, Joe Taylor.



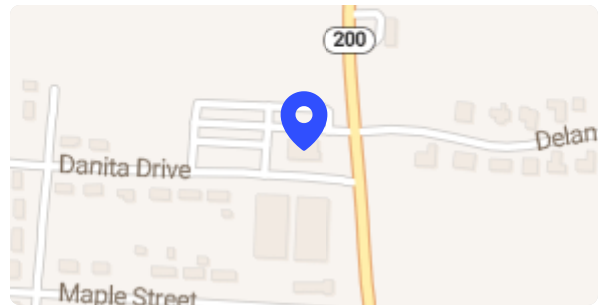
Events

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Visitation

- Friday, April 24, 2026**
- 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET
- Stanly Funeral & Cremation Care - Locust**
501 N. Central Ave., Locust NC 28097



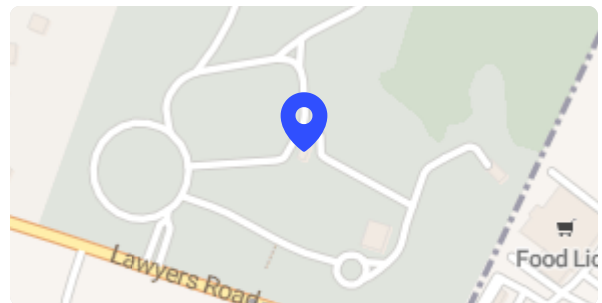
Funeral Service

- Saturday, April 25, 2026**
- 12:00 PM ET
- Pleasant Grove Baptist Church**
17236 Frog Pond Rd, Oakboro NC 28129-9533



Burial

- Saturday, April 25, 2026**
- 3:00 PM ET
- Sunset Memory Gardens**
8901 Lawyers Rd., Mint Hill NC 28227





Tribute Wall

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Sharon Tucker posted:

I didn't know Grady's 1st wife, but I knew Dollie when she was at Stanly Manor. I would also run into him occasionally at other places. I told him what an amazing Husband and Caregiver he was. I'm sure he's in Heaven and having a wonderful time. My prayers are with his family.

April 20 at 6:10 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Grady by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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