



## Claude "Fred" Steele

September 25, 1937 - February 1, 2016

Claude Fred Steele, age 78, of Pounding Mill, VA, departed this life to the next on Monday, February 1, 2016 after a massive stroke on January 27th. He was surrounded at his passing by his family, whom he loved dearly.

Fred was born September 25, 1937 in Tannersville, Virginia and was the son of the late Claude R. Steele and Mattie Gladys Hilt Steele. He was raised in Pounding Mill, Virginia. As a young man, he attended technical school and served in the army while in Germany and in the U.S. He retired from Norfolk Southern Railroad after working 42 years as a dispatcher with an injury free record. He was a long-term member of Midway Church of Christ in Bluefield, West Virginia. Fred was someone who could do just about anything and was rarely stumped by something he wasn't able to solve. He was blessed with intelligence, good health, and mobility until the day of his stroke.

Fred enjoyed traveling with his family, spending time on his farm where he retired to cattle farming. He also enjoyed gardening, bee keeping, genealogy, and various other interest and hobbies. He especially enjoyed the visits from his three grandsons as they all enjoyed experiences on the farm together.

He was blessed to live a long, eventful life and spend the last eighteen years after his retirement doing what he loved to do – spending his days on the farm he was raised on.

He is survived by:

His Wife, Helen Horn Steele

Two Daughters:

Shelby Steele Johnson and husband, David of Summerfield, NC

Nancy K. Steele of Greensboro, NC

Three Grandchildren: Jonah Steele Johnson, Eli Steele Johnson, Aaron David Johnson

One Brother, Kenneth Steele of Greenville, SC

A funeral service for Claude Fred Steele will be conducted at 2:00 pm on Friday, February 5, 2016 at Hurst-Scott Funeral Chapel in Richlands, Virginia with Rev. Dan Webb officiating. Interment will follow at Greenhills Memory Gardens at Claypool Hill, VA. Pallbearers will be: David Johnson, Jonah Johnson, Eli Johnson, Aaron Johnson, Mike Boyd, Shawn Boyd, and Darren Hess. The family will receive friends from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Thursday, February 4, 2016 at the funeral home.

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia is in charge of arrangements and those wishing to express sympathy online may do so at [www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com](http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Greenhills Memory Gardens

11800 Gov G.C. Peery Hwy  
Cedar Bluff, VA 24609

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 4. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home  
1401 2nd Street  
Richlands, VA 24641  
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

## Service

FEB 5. 2:00 PM (ET)

Hurst-Scott Funeral Home  
1401 2nd Street  
Richlands, VA 24641  
<http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Claude "Fred" Steele

January 14, 2023 at 04:24 PM



“ Claude "Fred" Steele

January 14, 2023 at 02:26 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



**Rick Brown** - March 01, 2021 at 08:34 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



**RICHARD A BROWN JR** - March 01, 2021 at 08:29 PM

AR

“ Aaron Russell lit a candle in memory of Claude "Fred" Steele



Aaron Russell - February 17, 2016 at 05:09 PM

KV

“ Kay Vencill lit a candle in memory of Claude "Fred" Steele



Kay Vencill - February 06, 2016 at 11:34 PM

KV

“ Helen , I am so sorry for your loss .I just found out Saturday night or I would have tried to come to the visitation .I will be praying for you and your family .Love and prayers .....Kay Helton Vencill

Kay Vencill - February 06, 2016 at 11:24 PM

JS

“ We will miss our conversations with Fred at V&V Restraurant in August with all of our relatives. A very gentle man who we fell in love with. 🇺🇸🇺🇸

jim steele - February 04, 2016 at 06:27 PM

BW

“ Fred was such a special person! Always enjoyed talking with him about the area we both grew up in and sharing stories of "the Cove" . Will miss him. Such a good man! May God be with his family.



---

**Bill & Jenny Webb** - February 04, 2016 at 11:00 AM

RL

“ I WILL MISS THE VISITS FROM FRED AND THE OLD FARM TRUCK ..FRED WAS A GREAT CUSTOMER WHO ALWAYS HAD A POSITIVE ATTITUDE ABOUT EVERYTHING AS LONG AS IT DIDN'T COST TO MUCH.. ROGERS MUFFLER CENTER SENDS PRAYERS TO THE FAMILY

---

**RD PORKY LESTER** - February 04, 2016 at 10:07 AM

DJ

“ Helen and family,

*Our deepest sympathy and prayers for you and your family at this difficult time. Will miss seeing Mr. Fred's smiling face at church. He was a special person.*

*Delores Linkous Jones and Hamilton Jones*

---

**Delores Jones** - February 04, 2016 at 08:08 AM

DG

“ Donna, Bruce, Heather, And Matthew Gilme lit a candle in memory of Claude "Fred" Steele



---

**Donna, Bruce, Heather, and Matthew Gilme** - February 04, 2016 at 07:04 AM

DG

“ Donna, Bruce, Heather, And Matthew Gilm lit a candle in memory of Claude "Fred" Steele



---

**Donna, Bruce, Heather, and Matthew Gilm** - February 04, 2016 at 06:59 AM

LO

“ So sorry to hear of Fred's passing. I didn't know him as well as his brother, Kenneth, but I have often heard my Mom and Dad (Bill and Shirley Vencill) often speak of the whole Steele family and also Kenneth stayed with our family in Pa. for a while. I never heard anything but good things about the Steele family and I know Fred will be missed greatly by everyone.  
Sincerely,  
Linda Vencill Olivar  
Shirley Gillespie Vencill

---

**Linda Olivar** - February 04, 2016 at 12:28 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Claude "Fred" Steele.*



---

February 03, 2016 at 08:18 PM



“ *Mrs. Steele, Shelby and Nancy,*

*My prayers, thoughts, love, and hugs are with you.*

*Jenifer Conerly  
Bristol Regional Medical Center*

---

**jenifer conerly** - February 03, 2016 at 01:10 PM



*Thank you so much for all your help and support. We miss him terribly, but are so glad he did not suffer long. We will always remember you and your kindness.*

*Nancy*

---

**Nancy Steele** - February 03, 2016 at 06:11 PM



“ *George & Sharon Bishop (Trodezza) and Dana & Carol Trodezza purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Claude "Fred" Steele.*



---

**George & Sharon Bishop (Trodezza) and Dana & Carol Trodezza** - February 03, 2016 at 09:50 AM

WF

“ Wayne & Sharon Wooten, Ken Jr. & Violy Steele (& Families) purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Claude "Fred" Steele.



Wayne & Sharon Wooten, Ken Jr. & Violy Steele (& Families)  
- February 03, 2016 at 08:59 AM

JH

“ Mary Sue and I remember Freddie as a very well known member of the Midway/Paintlick community. We pray for his entire family to find comfort in knowing that Fred is now resting in Heaven, waiting for us to one day join him. Cherish the memories of his love and the life he enjoyed.

Jerry & Mary Sue Jackson Hawkins - February 03, 2016 at 07:18 AM

KS

“ Kenneth Steele purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Claude "Fred" Steele.



Kenneth Steele - February 03, 2016 at 07:05 AM

RA

“ Ruby Asbury lit a candle in memory of Claude "Fred" Steele



Ruby Asbury - February 03, 2016 at 06:44 AM

TP

“ *Travis and Judy Hilt Pike purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Claude "Fred" Steele.*



---

**Travis and Judy Hilt Pike** - February 03, 2016 at 01:05 AM

PH

“ *prayers for you and your family.*



---

**pat horton** - February 02, 2016 at 10:32 PM

HC

“ *Helen and family,  
Words cannot express the sorrow we feel at Freddie's' passing, Our thoughts and Prayers are with you and may God Bless and comfort you. Jerry and I are so thankful we were able to renew our acquaintance with you all at the Steele/Witt reunions. the children of the late Carson and May Ferrell Vencill Ralph, Marie, Helen and Jerry*

---

**Helen Vencill Custalow** - February 02, 2016 at 08:36 PM

ML

“ *Mary Lyda purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Claude "Fred" Steele.*



---

**Mary Lyda** - February 02, 2016 at 07:58 PM

LY

“ *May God Bless you all through this difficult time in your lives. Just to let you know that I'm thinking about you and praying for all of you.*  
*Lisa York*

---

**Lisa York** - February 02, 2016 at 03:16 PM

DB

*Helen, We will miss Fred, especially our farm trip week. He was such a witty and happy person. Our lives have been enriched by knowing you and Fred. We plan to be at the funeral, Our deepest sympathy, Wes and Delores Blankenship, Tazewell*

---

**Delores Blankenship** - February 03, 2016 at 10:35 PM