



## Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum

September 30, 2014

A.H. "Hank" Varnum, 76, of Lithia, Florida, entered into eternal rest on September 30, 2014. He was the co-founder and former President of Central Maintenance and Welding, and a successful Cattle Rancher. He served on the Hillsboro Bank Board of Directors, and as a Trustee on numerous Building Trades Boards. He was a 56 year member of Welcome Baptist Church in Lithia. He was a booster for the University of Florida as a Bull Gator, Pinecrest Little League as past President, Turkey Creek Trojans, Lakeland Christian School, and Durant High School. He supported the Strawberry Festival Steer Sales for over 40 years. He loved his family and church, and enjoyed activities with his grandchildren, singing in the choir, and cooking cane syrup. He is survived by his wife of 56 years Pat Varnum; son Conrad H. Varnum (Sherry), grandchildren, Zach, Charlotte, Emmylou, Henry, Isabel; son Scott M. Varnum (Katie), and grandchildren, Mitchell, Claybo, and Jessi Rae; brothers Garland Varnum, Jerry Varnum, John A. Varnum, Charles Varnum, and Warren Varnum; niece Jeana Sistrunk (Allen); great-nephews Kaleb, and Ethan, and great-niece Morgan; and many other family and friends. The family will receive friends on Friday, October 3 from 5-8:00 P.M at Plant City's First Baptist Church, 503 N. Palmer Street, Plant City, where a Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, October 4 at 10:00 A.M. Interment to follow at Welcome Cemetery, Lithia. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Welcome Baptist Church Building Fund, 11308 Welcome Church Street, Lithia 33547. Expressions of condolence at [www.HopewellFuneral.com](http://www.HopewellFuneral.com).



# Cemetery Details

## Welcome Cemetery

2437 Welcome Road  
Lithia, FL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 3. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Plant City's First Baptist Church  
503 North Palmer Street  
Plant City, FL 33563  
<http://www.fbcpc.com/>

## Celebration of Life

OCT 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Plant City's First Baptist Church  
503 North Palmer Street  
Plant City, FL 33563  
<http://www.fbcpc.com/>

# Tribute Wall

KW

“ Our condolences and heartfelt prayers go out to Mrs Pat, Conrad, Scott. and all the Varnum family. Hank will be greatly missed by all. Karl Joe and Keith Wilson families.

Karl Wilson - October 06, 2014 at 06:58 PM

BP

“ Such a loss of a wonderful man. My heart goes out to all the family. Your sorrow is great, may you find comfort in knowing the goodness he represented and in the memories of your time with him, and knowing how he is being welcomed in Heaven.

Barbara Bryant Pierce - October 06, 2014 at 04:34 PM

EH

“ Mr Hank Varnum,  
  
I have always had respect and admiration for you and your family  
  
Rest in peace, my friend.  
  
Eugene Horner..

Eugene Horner - October 04, 2014 at 02:33 PM

TR

“ Tony & Lori Rumore lit a candle in memory of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum



Tony & Lori Rumore - October 03, 2014 at 06:08 PM

TR

“ Tony & Lori Rumore lit a candle in memory of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum



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**Tony & Lori Rumore** - October 03, 2014 at 06:08 PM

TS

“ Our thoughts and prayers go with the entire Varnum family. Hank was a true southern gentleman and will be missed by all who knew him.

*Tom @Beth Sistrunk*

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**Tom Sistrunk** - October 03, 2014 at 05:56 PM

RT

“ Richard, Regina & Tyler lit a candle in memory of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum



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**Richard, Regina & Tyler** - October 03, 2014 at 04:18 PM

RR

*My thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time*

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**Richard, Regina** - October 03, 2014 at 04:20 PM

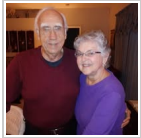


“ *Amazing Arboricola was purchased for the family of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum.*



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October 03, 2014 at 03:19 PM



“ *Sincere sympathies to the Hank Varnum family from the Hobson Brown family.*

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**Eldon Brown** - October 03, 2014 at 02:48 PM



“ *Wyman and Linda Donaldson purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum.*



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**Wyman and Linda Donaldson** - October 03, 2014 at 11:28 AM



“ *Bob and Daysi Ponsler purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum.*



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**Bob and Daysi Ponsler** - October 03, 2014 at 11:08 AM

SW

“ I grew up knowing the Varnums and Conrads. Both families were always a fixture in the community. Hank will be missed by family and friends. Jeana, I know this has to be especially hard for you as it's like losing a parent all over again. My prayers are with the families and may God comfort each and every one of you.



Sandra Shirley Waldron - October 03, 2014 at 10:29 AM

PP

“ There are many, many broken hearts as we say good-bye to one of our finest. Thank you Hank for all you have done for our community. We are all better people for having known you. We will just say 'so long' for now, we'll catch up to you soon and we will all get together for a Pilot reunion. We love you and we'll miss you. Prayers to your beautiful family.



*RIP Mighty Pilot!*

Pinecrest Pilots - October 03, 2014 at 09:42 AM

MR

“ Thinking of you all at this difficult time. You are in my prayers.

Millie Lunsford Rushlow - October 03, 2014 at 09:37 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum.



October 03, 2014 at 07:57 AM

TR

“ *The Varnum family is in our thoughts and prayers. Hank will be truly missed he was a great man.*

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**Tony and Lori Rumore** - October 03, 2014 at 07:42 AM

BT

“ *Hank was a big man, with a big smile, a big heart and a fine sense of humor. I worked at TECO and Hank led the way with great work and a very honest way of getting things done.  
My sympathy to all his family and my prayers are with all of you.  
God Bless*

*Bob Tomczak*

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**bob tomczak** - October 03, 2014 at 05:50 AM

JJ

“ *Our sincere condolences and prayers are with the Varnum family for your loss. May God give you the comfort that only He can give.....*

*Jim & Bo Jones*

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**Jim Jones** - October 03, 2014 at 04:40 AM

RZ

“ *So sorry to here of Hanks passing,always enjoyed seeing you'll. Remember when you'll stopped for lunch in Adel with me. How time flys. You'll are in my prayers. Ray Zglinicki*

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**Ray Zglinicki** - October 03, 2014 at 04:15 AM

LB

“ I thought the world of Hank. He was a fine man and a good friend. He was one of the finest people I have ever known. He did a lot of good for a lot of people. i'm sure he will be missed. May God welcome him to eternal peace. My prayers go out to Pat, Conrad and Scott during this difficult time.

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**Leo Brosche** - October 02, 2014 at 10:48 PM

SL

“ We were all so sad when we heard of the sudden passing of Hank. He was a man of character and southern charm. Always a smile and a hug for many! Remembering his support and encouragement when Rick resigned from Central after 13 years to work in our business full time. Central provided needed employment while Rick completed his degree at Florida Southern in the evening after serving in the US Army. We have remembered fondly many times when Hank and Rick played on the softball team of Central's in the outfield and they were both trying to catch a fly ball and ran into each other with Rick crashing into Hank's elbow!! Had to have stitches but they both laughed and laughed! We also remember the kindness and have never forgotten that Hank and Pat came to our Small business and purchased furniture from us.....I think they probably knew we needed business, in those early years especially. We will never forget their love and kindness in that action as we knew that they could have chosen many places and came and supported us! Praying often for all of you and know how it hurts but also know that Hank is celebrating in heaven with our Lord!

*Much Love, Rick, Susan-Lynn, Johnathan, Sarah and Joshua Lewis and Mrs. John E, DeHart (Betty Jean),*

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**Susan Lynn Lewis** - October 02, 2014 at 10:03 PM



“ *Blooming Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum.*



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October 02, 2014 at 09:37 PM



“ *What a wonderful man Mr. Hank was to the community and church family at Welcome Baptist Church. God has gained a true Angel. Pat, Conrad & Scott thoughts and prayers are with you and your families during this time. Love you all.*

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**kristi** - October 02, 2014 at 07:43 PM



“ *I always enjoyed talking to Mr Hank when he came to our mill , he was more than the average customer, always had encouraging words to say, he will be missed. Heaven has gained a shining star. Praying for his family. Jerry Hersey*

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**Jerry Hersey** - October 02, 2014 at 06:01 PM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to the family. Praying for you at this time. Mark and Dawn McGee*

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**Mark and Dawn McGee** - October 02, 2014 at 04:48 PM

BG

“ We consider it an honor and a blessing to have known Hank Varnum. He touched our lives in so many wonderful ways. The way he lived his life showed us the importance of family, faith, and integrity.

*How can we describe Hank Varnum.....trustworthy, a true friend, a Godly man, a gentleman, a man of great character, noble and strong.*

*Pat, Conrad, Scott.....We are praying that our Lord will wrap His loving arms around you and your family and you will find comfort and peace. Treasure all the wonderful memories.*

*With Love, Bill & Terri Golden*

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**Bill & Terri Golden** - October 02, 2014 at 04:43 PM

TH

“ Pat, Conrad, Scott, so very sad for your loss. As many have said, he was a special man and a good man. I had the greatest respect for him and while we have lost him, I know my dad is happy to see his old friend with many years to catch up on.

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**Tim Hunter** - October 02, 2014 at 03:15 PM

GV

“ Blessings and love to Pat, Conrad, Scott, and the rest of the family. Hank was the kind of man that sets an example for the rest of us to follow. His legacy is one of love and blessings through devotion and obedience to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is now receiving his final, eternal reward in heaven, where I know he heard those sweet words, "Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."

*Love and condolences to all the family and friends.*

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**Gary Varnum** - October 02, 2014 at 01:47 PM

TW

“ Tom & Konny Withers purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum.



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**Tom & Konny Withers** - October 02, 2014 at 01:15 PM

EV

“ Pat, Conrad and Scott,

*Glenda and I offer our deepest sympathies. After Hank's retirement, I missed our frequent contact through the Ironworker's Funds, but never forgot the lessons learned from him. His intelligence was only semi-masked by that southern drawl, He could hear the most complicated problem discussed, sift through the noise and subtly offer a solution that was both legally correct and fair to everyone. I will treasure our last coincidental meeting at the Columbia. Not surprisingly, it was in celebration of a family birthday. Please know that if there is anything we can do, please call on us.  
Glenda and Eric Venable*

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**Eric Venable** - October 02, 2014 at 12:22 PM

PC

“ Aunt Pat,

*I am so very very sad and have a sense of emptiness over the loss of Uncle Hank. My heart hurts for you as you grieve the loss of your sweetheart of 56 years. Uncle Hank was such a precious, gentle giant who always make everyone feel he was genuinely glad to see them.*

*Uncle Hank accomplished so much over his lifetime but I have no doubt he was most proud of you, Conrad and Scott, their sweet wives and his grandchildren. They and we a like will have numerous memories to enjoy. But none will replace his gentle spirit and kind eyes.*

*Aunt Pat,*

*I am so very sorry. Know you are loved by JimBo,myself, Andrew, Thomas, Stephen and Elizabeth. You are and will continue to be in my prayers -- all of our prayers.*

*Priscilla*

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**Priscilla Conrad** - October 02, 2014 at 12:03 PM

NR

“ *Our loss is Heaven's gain! Praying for you all during this difficult time. Thank God there is a reunion on the other side and this separation is only temporary. It has been many years and I don't know if you remember me but I am Uncle Aaron Townsend's daughter. I have many a fond memory of your daddy and "all the Varnum Boys" My love to you all immediate and extended family. Know there was a celebration in heaven upon his arrival! God bless you and keep you during this difficult time. Much love  
Nancy Townsend Rogers, Lake City FL*

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**Nancy Rogers** - October 02, 2014 at 11:58 AM

TF

“ Our condolences to the Varnum family. Sending prayers of comfort.  
Sincerely Said,  
Rich, Jan, and Danny Bowers

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**the Bowers Family** - October 02, 2014 at 11:24 AM

LT

“ Hank was a role model for many of us...a man of unassailable honesty and integrity, and one to whom the reputation of his company was of paramount importance...of greater importance than profitability. I was privileged to work with him for more than 25 years, and will always value the relationship. He lived his life in a way that was truly an inspiration.

Lee Thurner, IMC retired  
Corinth, Mississippi

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**Lee Thurner** - October 02, 2014 at 11:10 AM

PV

“ Going to Pinecrest will surely be different now. Not hearing that deep voice saying "hey Patricia, how are you" and then feeling that laugh when he hugged me, yep, it sure is going to be different. But what a joy in knowing he is with his family that made that journey before him. Like the song says, "Heavens sounding sweeter all the time". Prayers and love for Pat and their family, and for the rest of our Varnum, Beach, and Dixon family. It was privilege to say Hank was my cousin.

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**Patricia Varnum** - October 02, 2014 at 11:00 AM

JZ

“ Pat, Conrad, Scott and family. Sorry to hear about Hank and know he will be missed. I remember when Jim Conrad took me over as a young boy around 14 years old and I first met your family. That was almost 50 years ago. He was an impressive person and showed it by the way he lived and conducted his everyday life. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.

Joey and Martha Zglinicki  
West Union, SC

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Joey Zglinicki - October 02, 2014 at 10:28 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum.



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October 02, 2014 at 09:37 AM

DF

“ Dick And Dottie Pinegar and family purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum.



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Dick And Dottie Pinegar and family - October 02, 2014 at 09:35 AM

SH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the whole Varnum family at this time of loss. It was a pleasure to know Mr.Hank Varnum. He helped me more than once in my career



Steve and Rebecca Hemby - October 02, 2014 at 09:27 AM

RG

“ Our deepest sympathy to each of his precious family members and dear friends. My Hank was a remarkable man who truly made a difference for the folks he encounter in this journey of life. May he rest in peace. Prayers for you all. Ron and Vonda Gainey.

Ron and Vonda Gainey - October 02, 2014 at 09:23 AM

DO

“ So sorry for to hear of Hanks passing. He was a very good and caring soul. We all need to lean closer to God in this very difficult time to help lead us through the loss of Hank. He will be missed by the many, many people that he touched and helped along the way.

Dave Robbins

Dave obbins - October 02, 2014 at 09:02 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. A.H. "Hank" Varnum.



October 02, 2014 at 08:39 AM

NF

“ *Hank was a true gentleman and a wonderful person. Glenn and I feel blessed to have known him.*

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**norma jean fagen** - October 02, 2014 at 08:15 AM

SL

“ *Our sincere condolences and prayers for peace at this very difficult time. When I think of Mr. Hank, I see a big, warm, beautiful smile. We will continue to keep the family lifted in prayer. Sandy Liess and family.*

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**Sandra Liess** - October 02, 2014 at 08:04 AM

MG

“ *Sending much love and prayers to all the family and friends..!*

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**Margaret and Alan Gwynn** - October 02, 2014 at 06:57 AM

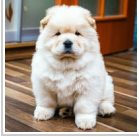
RH

“ *Henderson had a presence about him like none other, he was that type of person that when he spoke others listened, he had wisdom, and respect. He helped others in need that most no nothing about, he was very kind to our family. He was a good friend a good neighbor and he was very kind and generous to my family. Years ago when we purchased our land I went to Henderson for advice he was very helpful and I will always be grateful to him for helping me. Our church has lost a friend and there will be a void that will be difficult to fill. We are saddened by your loss but we have comfort in knowing he is in a better place today and for eternity. Pat you and your family are special to Sheryl and I and we love you.*

*Ron and Sheryl Hummel*

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**Ron Hummel** - October 02, 2014 at 04:50 AM



“ *Much love and prayers are for Mrs. Pat and all the Varnums.*

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**Rhonda Guthrie Leverett** - October 02, 2014 at 04:14 AM

PH

“ *We go way back to when Hank and Barney worked together at the mines. Our children were little and we saw more of them then, than later in life. Then we became friendly competitors. Hank and Barney worked together on many different committees and the steel erectors association. Our hearts are heavy with the loss of this special man. Sending prayers of comfort for the family. Love Pat and Barney Hall*

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**Pat and Barney Hall** - October 01, 2014 at 11:30 PM

BE

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with Ms Pat and the whole Varnum family. Love Paul & Beth English*

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**Beth English** - October 01, 2014 at 09:47 PM

AS

“ *When we were little, it seemed many Sundays we would gather at Grandma's house to play in her yard.. The Varnums, the Beaches and the Dixons. We girls were way outnumbered by the boys, but we held our own. The years have flown by and we still love being together. Our gatherings won't be quite the same now, but I can imagine what the gathering in Heaven is like when they hear that wonderful deep laugh and that deep voice singing before our Lord. Loving you always.*

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**Annie Faye Varnum Shiflet** - October 01, 2014 at 08:53 PM