



## Randell Alan Newman

February 8, 1953 - November 30, 2019

66, owner of the Compass Rose Taxi Company of Southport, and a former longtime driver for Yellow Cab and Indy Airline Taxi, died unexpectedly Saturday, November 30, 2019. Mr. Newman was a lifelong resident of Indianapolis. He played football at Manual High School, graduating in 1972, and played minor league baseball for a short time before taking a job as an insurance salesman in the Indianapolis office of a national chain.

Mr. Newman later worked in construction before finding his “calling” in life. His childhood and lifelong friend, John Montgomery, called it “the perfect job for him, driving a taxi cab, he got to meet people, and he just had this natural gift of gab. Mr. Newman could talk to anybody about anything. Make anybody laugh. He knew all kinds of things. And he was an incredible storyteller.”

Mr. Newman played a public role in the 1980’s, advocating for a break up of a monopoly long held by Indianapolis taxi operators, which had prevented drivers from obtaining taxi medallions to operate as independents. He and others finally prevailed in their battle with the city’s taxi authority, and in 1993 Mr. Newman opened his own independent taxi operation, Compass Rose. He named the company after his extensive personal collection of compass devices.

Mr. Newman was a part of a group of about a dozen close school friends from the south side of Indianapolis and Manual High School, who had gathered yearly without fail since 1972, always on the Friday after Thanksgiving, for an annual poker game and reunion. This past Friday would have marked their

48th consecutive year.

Mr. Newman is survived by his wife of 37 years, Cindy Newman; daughter, Sheena (Thomas) Winn of Indianapolis; son, Chris Newman of Richmond; and his mother, Lila Newman; five grandchildren, Cody C., Ryan C. and Sean C. Newman, and Isabella "Izzy" and Charlie "Char Char" Winn; sister, Laura Reading; and brothers, Ralph A. "Andy" Newman, Jr. (Pam), John Newman (Christa) and Tom Newman, all of Indianapolis. His father, Ralph A. Newman, Sr., preceded him in death.

A visitation will be held Saturday, December 7, 2019 from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at Shirley Brothers Thompson Road Chapel, 3333 E. Thompson Rd. Memorial contributions may be made to Wheeler Mission Ministries, 245 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis, IN 46204. [www.shirleybrothers.com](http://www.shirleybrothers.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 7. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Thompson Road Chapel

3333 E. Thompson Road

Indianapolis, IN 46227

(317) 783-3315

[info@shirleybrothers.com](mailto:info@shirleybrothers.com)

<https://www.shirleybrothers.com>

# Tribute Wall

JF

“ Randy was the best cabbie one could ever ask for, you could always rely on him to pick you with a big smile on his face and a greeting. He was one those rare people that once you met him you'd never forget. My condolences to his family, from a long time customer. Jim F.

James Fiedler - December 06, 2019 at 08:28 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Randell Alan Newman.



December 06, 2019 at 10:41 AM

Sherry  
Locastro

“ My heartfelt sympathies to Randy's family. We were FB friends for many years and I am saddened by his passing. I enjoyed his keen sense of humor and he will be missed. Rest in Paradise Randy.



Sherry Locastro - December 05, 2019 at 11:23 PM

MS

“ Randy was my “Taxi Guy” for 20+ years. Such a great loss. To many people, but more importantly, his family. A dedicated family man, I knew his family pretty well through him, but only met his youngest granddaughter once on a ride. Such a delight. I felt like I knew them all. And he knew mine. When you sit in the back seat (then front seat these last few months since he retired but kept me as a customer/friend) for all these years you know each other. I’m so sorry to you all for your loss and sorry I can’t be there this weekend. I reached out to Randy for a ride for tomorrow with no response. It’s clear why. Rest In Peace my very dear friend. From me and “Stan The Man” as you called him. Much love to all the Newman family.

Michele Steinmetz - December 05, 2019 at 07:53 PM

VB

“ God bless you, Randy. Prayers to the family and many friends of Randy. Vicki Buzash

Victoria (Vicki) Buzash - December 04, 2019 at 10:00 AM

ST

“ Sharee Thompson lit a candle in memory of Randell Alan Newman



Sharee Thompson - December 04, 2019 at 07:13 AM

ST

Randy, you will be missed by so many. I will always cherish the good times, laughs, and all the stories, jokes and just your presence. You were always the life of the party. All of us will definitely miss you. RIP Randy.

Sincere condolences to the Family. 🙏🥲

Sharee Thompson - December 04, 2019 at 07:18 AM



“ *A great friend always keep me smiling. God bless. Randy*

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**george adkins** - December 03, 2019 at 09:58 PM