



Vernon "Nonnie" Criss

July 2, 1945 - June 8, 2026

Vernon "Nonnie" Criss, 80, of New Castle, passed away on Monday, June 8, 2026, at Community Hospital North in Indianapolis.

He was born on July 2, 1945, in New Castle, Indiana, a son of the late William Robert "Bob" and Bertha (Dempsey) Criss.

Nonnie was a graduate of Walter P. Chrysler High School and proudly served his country in the U.S. Army. On August 23, 1968, he married Pamela Kay Lewis in Muncie, and together they shared nearly 58 years of marriage.

A lifelong hard worker, Nonnie retired from Chrysler Corporation in New Castle after more than 30 years of dedicated service. He was also a member of UAW Local 371 in New Castle.

Nonnie had a deep love for antique furniture. He truly lived and breathed antiques, whether he was buying, selling, refinishing, or simply enjoying the hunt for a special piece. Through the years, he had booths at Webb's Antique Mall in Richmond and was a familiar face at the Springfield Antique Center in Ohio.

He also enjoyed football and was a devoted Cleveland Browns fan.

Those who knew Nonnie will remember a man who never knew a stranger. He had a generous heart and was always willing to put others before himself. He would give the shirt off his back to help someone in need. While he could be a no-nonsense kind of man, he also had a wonderful sense of humor and a gift for telling stories.

More than anything, Nonnie loved his family. As one of six siblings, family was always an important part of his life, and he was a great husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Those left to cherish Nonnie's memory include his wife, Pam Criss; his daughter, Shatawn Hennings of Mesa, AZ; his son, Shannon Criss (David Ott) of Indianapolis; two grandchildren, Brennen Hennings and Haileigh Hennings, both of Mesa, AZ; a great-grandson, Maxwell Hannah; his twin sister, Yvonne (Corwin) Henderson of Cincinnati, OH; his brother, William "Bill" Criss of New Castle; sisters, Marilyn Bassett of New Castle and Maribeth Essig of Indianapolis; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Nonnie was preceded in death by a brother, Roderick "Butch" Criss.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2026, at Sproles Family Funeral Home. Burial will follow at South Mound Cemetery West Lawn Addition.

Friends may call at the funeral home from 11:00 a.m. until the time of the service.

You may offer the family a personal condolence at www.sprolesfamilycares.com.

The Sproles family and staff are honored to serve the family of Vernon
"Nonnie" Criss.

Cemetery Details

South Mound Cemetery West Lawn Addition

950 South Memorial Dr.
New Castle, IN 47362

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 15. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Sproles Family Funeral Home
2400 S Memorial Dr.
New Castle, IN 47362

Funeral

JUN 15. 1:00 PM (ET)

Sproles Family Funeral Home
2400 S Memorial Dr.
New Castle, IN 47362

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.*



June 15 at 08:25 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.*



June 14 at 05:30 PM



“ *I have many good memories of Nonnie stopping by to talk with my mom Ruth Braga about antiques he was always "in search of" like mom, RIP , she so enjoyed your visits!*

Susan - June 14 at 05:19 PM



“ *Susan Voydanoff purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.*



Susan Voydanoff - June 14 at 12:39 PM

KM

“ *Kari and Jerry Sheward, Roen and Marley purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.*



Kari and Jerry Sheward, Roen and Marley - June 13 at 05:33 PM

KH

“ *Kyle Hope purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.*



Kyle Hope - June 13 at 02:05 PM

CM

“ *Truly sorry for your families tremendous loss. Sending prayers for family and friends.*

Carol McLemore and Christia



Carol McLemore - June 12 at 11:33 PM

KJ

“ *We are sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*
Kathy Clark Jackson

Kathy Jackson - June 12 at 02:38 PM

JM

“ There are no words for this unimaginable loss. My heartfelt condolences to the Criss Family.

June Clark McClinton

June Clark McClinton - June 12 at 02:25 PM

GD

“ Galen, Sara, Rod, & Diane purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.



Galen, Sara, Rod, & Diane - June 12 at 11:50 AM

GD

“ Galen, Sara, Rod, & Diane purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.



Galen, Sara, Rod, & Diane - June 12 at 11:45 AM

BW

“ I fondly remember Mr. Criss and the rest of the Criss family when I would come up from 6th Street to see Shannon. He was always very friendly to me. My deepest condolences.

Bryce D. Word

Bryce D. Word - June 12 at 11:11 AM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.



June 12 at 09:53 AM



“ We are devastated to hear about the passing of Nonnie. Frank worked with him at Chrysler and has been friends with him over 50 years. We've always enjoyed playing cards with him over the years. He was a great guy and will be missed. 💔. Frank & Jill Ryan

Jill Ryan - June 12 at 12:19 AM



“ I just saw that Nonnie Criss passed away. I don't hear things until it has been a long time. I grew up with Nonnie and all the family. I loved him like a family member. He always treated me very nice. To the Family I pray the Lord be with you and give you peace. I am truly a sorry and wish i.had know it sooner. If I can do any thing please let me know. Bevery

Beverly Williams - June 12 at 12:01 AM



“ Prayers from Connie Sampley Thinking of you Pam

Connie sampley - June 11 at 04:56 PM

CM

“ Christine Helbert and Paula McDowell purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.



Christine Helbert and Paula McDowell - June 11 at 04:40 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.



June 11 at 03:57 PM

CH

“ Cynthia H. purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.



Cynthia H. - June 11 at 02:54 PM

BP

“ Bill Pendergraft lit a candle in memory of Vernon Criss



Bill Pendergraft - June 11 at 02:42 PM

SM

“ My heart goes out to the entire Criss family! Lost a great Buddy, we traded antiques, stories, friendship, he will be very missed at my shop! I will miss calling me “Mr. Big” and”HAVE YOU HEARD THE LATEST”

There will never be another like him!

Steve Manor - June 11 at 01:32 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.



June 11 at 01:15 PM

TL

“ He will definitely be missed. He never missed a chance to stop and talk when our paths crossed somewhere. Rest easy Trashman.

T Laird - June 11 at 12:45 PM

SW

“ So sorry for your loss



Sherrie Watson - June 11 at 12:34 PM

JM

“ *Jammie L Mukes. purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Vernon "Nonnie" Criss.*



Jammie L Mukes. - June 11 at 06:20 AM