



Samuel Edgar Correll

January 16, 1943 - September 18, 2025

Samuel Edgar “Sam” Correll, 82, of Cleveland, passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at The Laurels of Salisbury.

Born January 16, 1943, in Rowan County, he was the son of the late Eubert Talton Correll and Sadie Sharpe Correll.

Sam was a lifelong farmer, a devoted steward of the land, and a pillar of his community. He began farming alongside his father and later partnered with his brother to form Correll Brothers Farm, milking Holsteins and producing tomatoes. Together, they continued a legacy rooted in hard work, innovation, and family tradition, a legacy that was proudly passed down to the next generation as Correll Farms, LLC.

Sam was deeply committed to conservation. The family farm was among the first in the region to adopt practices such as no-till, grass waterways, and other best management practices, preserving the soil and water. The dairy was known for its high milk production and forward-thinking feeding systems. From a venture, Sam and Eubert began as teenagers, tomato production grew into a major part of the farm.

Whether tending cattle or crops, Sam approached every task with quiet dedication and a tireless work ethic that defined his life.

In 1968, Sam married Gloria Perrell. Together they raised two sons and built a life centered on faith, family, and hard work. Sam’s hands bore the marks of seasons passed, planting, harvesting, mending fences, but he never hesitated to lend those same hands to a neighbor in need.

A devoted member of Unity Presbyterian Church, Sam served as both a deacon and an elder and also chaired the building committee. His service extended beyond the church to the broader agricultural and conservation communities. He served over 20 years as a Rowan Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor, was a board member of the NC Tomato Growers Association (receiving the Honorary Award for his dedication to the industry), served nationally on the Southeast United Dairy Industry Associates (SUDIA) board, was a member of the Rowan Holstein Club and a lifetime member of the West Rowan High School FFA Alumni. He worked closely with NC State University plant scientists on tomato variety development. One of his final acts of stewardship was placing the family farm into a permanent Conservation Easement, ensuring the land he loved will be protected from development forever.

Sam also played a key role in promoting his hometown of Woodleaf through the Annual Tomato Festival, where he was known for his infectious smile and gentle demeanor.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 56 years, Gloria Perrell Correll; his parents; his brothers Darwin Correll and Nelson Correll; his sisters-in-law Barbara Kepley Perrell, Sara Perrell Owen, Carol Perrell Hartley, and Ginny McGee Correll; and his brother-in-law William "Willie" Perrell.

Left to cherish his memory are his son, Bryan Correll; his son, David Correll; daughter-in-law, Cheryl McCoy Correll; and their children, Josie and Talton; his brother, Eubert Correll, all of Cleveland; and his brother-in-law, Larry Perrell (Mildred) of Woodleaf. Also surviving are nieces Kathi Perrell Albea (Derek), Karen Perrell Campbell (Ron Walker), Susan Owen Pugh (Craig), Sally Owen, Ann Hartley, Janice Hartley McHolland, Amy Correll Becker (Larry), Terry Correll Brazinski, Maryann Correll Woods, and Beth Correll; and nephews Roger Perrell, Dean Perrell (Marcia), Jody Perrell (Jennifer), and John Correll (Jennifer).

A memorial service will be held at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 5, 2025, at Unity Presbyterian Church, 885 Woodleaf Barber Road, Cleveland. The family will

receive friends from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. prior to the service.

The family extends heartfelt thanks to the staff of The Laurels of Salisbury and Trellis Hospice for their compassionate care and support.

Memorials may be made to the Unity Presbyterian Church Cemetery Fund, P.O. Box 28, Woodleaf, NC 27054, or to the organization of your choice.

Sam's legacy lives on in the land he tended, the family he cherished, and the lives he touched. He will be deeply missed.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Correll family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com or by mail to the family at 1475 Woodleaf Barber Road, Cleveland, NC 27013.

Cemetery Details

Unity Presbyterian Church

885 Woodleaf Barber Rd.
Woodleaf, NC

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 5. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Unity Presbyterian Church
885 Woodleaf Barber Rd.
Woodleaf, NC 27054

Memorial Service

OCT 5. 4:00 PM (ET)

Unity Presbyterian Church
885 Woodleaf Barber Rd.
Woodleaf, NC

Tribute Wall



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Samuel Edgar Correll.



September 30, 2025 at 08:53 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Samuel Edgar Correll.

September 30, 2025 at 08:53 AM



“ Southern States Statesville Ag purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Samuel Edgar Correll.



Southern States Statesville Ag - September 26, 2025 at 04:17 PM



“ North Carolina Tomato Growers Assoc. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Samuel Edgar Correll.



North Carolina Tomato Growers Assoc. - September 23, 2025 at 10:38 AM

KJ

“ Sam will be greatly missed by all of us at The Laurels. He was a great man his energy radiated to all of us. May you all find peace in knowing he loved you all very much, and he is now waking on streets of Gold. Sending love and prayers for all of you during this difficult time. May our Lord surround you all with love, strength, peace and comfort.

Love
Kristin Johnson

Kristin Johnson - September 22, 2025 at 05:41 PM

KD

“ Sam aka papa bear will be so missed. Even tho I only had the privilege of knowing him 7 months he was such a blessing. He was so funny and sweet. Love you Sam Rip and fly high My condolences to the family. Love always Kim Daniels

Kimberly Daniels - September 22, 2025 at 06:42 AM



Your love and care was a true blessing to all of us. Thank you ❤️

Cheryl Correll - September 22, 2025 at 08:49 AM