

Mr. Willie James Harris

February 25, 1932 - November 21, 2022

Mr. Willie James “Buddy” Harris, age 90, of Jonesborough, Tennessee, passed away on November 21, 2022.

Willie was born in Greensboro, Alabama February 25, 1932. He chose to leave school to join the Navy in 1950. Willie later went back to complete his GED. He served a total of 15 years in the Navy, allowing him to travel all over the globe.

Willie has worn many career hats in his 90 years of life. He has traveled for work, as well as working right here in Johnson City, TN. He was a jack of all trades; he was a construction worker, laid carpet around the Tri-Cities, did janitorial work, and you would frequently see him, even at 90 years old, weed-eating his own yard. Willie was always around to offer a helping hand to anyone who may need it. He believed in helping others and expecting nothing in return.

Willie worked many years with Ed Street Construction before retiring. Upon retiring, Willie returned to work at Creative Energy, where he dedicated many years, before retiring in 2022 after his health began to decline. Willie was known to love fishing, especially with some good friends or family. He was a cook in the Navy, and returned home to cook for his family and friends, which he was definitely loved for. In the last seven years, he was most happy

spending time with his great-grandson. Willie had a heart of gold. He was stubborn, but the love he gave was something you held onto. If you ever had the pleasure of meeting him, you know just how blessed you were.

Willie is preceded in death by his father, Herman Harris; mother, Sylvia King; sisters, Julia Mae Cousins, Catherine Foster, and Martha Lee Brownlee; brothers, Frank Harris, Albert Harris, Percy Harris, and Jesse Harris; son, James Charles Harris; and his daughter, Heather Nicole Harris.

Willie is survived by his sons, Marcus Harris, of Texas, Gregory Harris, of Florida, and Mark Alexander, of Johnson City, TN; daughter, Katherine (Thomas) Madison, of Johnson City, TN; grandson, Grant Madison, of Johnson City, TN; granddaughter, Gaybreala (Mardquies) Person, of Johnson City, TN; his namesake, affectionately known as "Little Man", his great-grandson Kristopher James Madison, of Johnson City, TN; special niece, Bertha Mae Swepson, of Johnson City, TN; special nephew, Lynn Stuart, of Nashville, TN; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins who loved their Uncle Buddy.

The family of Willie Harris wishes to thank Silver Angels for the care and services provided, Jonesborough Police Department for caring for Papaw and checking on him every night, and all of our family and friends who have reached out, come by, and sent prayers.

God bless you all. We ask that you continue to pray for us and our strength in God during these difficult times. Papaw, we love you. Rest Well.

Services for Mr. Willie James Harris will be conducted Monday, November 28, 2022 at 12:30 pm from Grace Temple. The family will receive friends from 11:30 am until the hour of service. Burial will follow at Mountain Home National Cemetery, Mountain Home, TN.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **28**. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Grace Temple Church
208 Garden Dr.
Johnson City, TN 37604

Celebration of Life

NOV **28**. 12:30 PM (ET)

Grace Temple Church
208 Garden Dr.
Johnson City, TN 37604

Interment

NOV **28**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Mountain Home National Cemetery
53 Memorial Ave
Mountain Home, TN 37684

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Willie James Harris*

January 29, 2023 at 10:28 PM



“ *Diana Teal lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Diana Teal - January 18, 2023 at 12:57 PM



“ *Louis Locke Jr lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Louis Locke jr - December 02, 2022 at 11:45 AM



“ *Greg,
I am saddened to hear of your father's passing. You and your family are in my thoughts as well as memories of the first time meeting Mr. Harris. He treated me with a kindness touching my heart for a lifetime.
From - Trisha Fields (widow of Michael Fields)*

Trisha Ramsey Fields - November 29, 2022 at 11:16 PM

TF

“ Greg,
I am saddened to hear of your father's passing. You and your family are in my thoughts as well as memories of the first time meeting Mr. Harris. He treated me with a kindness touching my heart for a lifetime.

Trisha (widow of Michael Fields) - November 29, 2022 at 11:14 PM

DK

“ Dr Marcella Kinard lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris



Dr Marcella Kinard - November 29, 2022 at 10:03 PM

DK

Mother Cousins always had her brother to check my car's tires before driving to SC to visit my mom. Always asked Dr Madison how he was doing.

Thank YOU, Mr Willie

Dr Marcella Kinard - November 29, 2022 at 10:07 PM

JK

“ James Knaff lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris



James Knaff - November 28, 2022 at 09:05 AM

JH

“ Joey And Diane Hardin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris



Joey and Diane Hardin - November 27, 2022 at 08:39 PM

DS

“ Miss and love you Unc!!!



Dr Stuart - November 27, 2022 at 05:21 PM

GW

“ *"Precious Memories, how they linger..." My husband and I were blessed beyond measure when we met 'Uncle Buddy' in 2004. He immediately embraced us as family. Over the years, keeping in touch by way of his niece Charlotte, sharing his wisdom, love and compassion for his family and mankind has been so nurturing. The common sense lessons of life will be cherished forever. Hold on to your memories and keep them close to your heart. Praying that God's loving arms will continue to sustain you now and in the days to come.*
Grover & Audrey K. Wilson
Durham, North Carolina



Grover & Audrey Wilson - November 27, 2022 at 10:17 AM

NP

“ *NANCY AKINS POSEY lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



NANCY AKINS POSEY - November 26, 2022 at 04:34 PM

AN

“ *Angelo Newman sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Angelo Newman - November 26, 2022 at 08:44 AM



“ *Paulette Robinson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Paulette Robinson - November 25, 2022 at 02:45 PM

MR

“ *Mary Rollins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Mary Rollins - November 25, 2022 at 01:35 AM

GF

“ Gary & Moricina Fain lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris



Gary & Moricina Fain - November 24, 2022 at 12:06 PM

MJ

“ Mary Ann James lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris



Mary Ann James - November 24, 2022 at 12:04 PM

MF

“ Marchelle Livingston Fields sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris



Marchelle Livingston Fields - November 24, 2022 at 10:37 AM

ML

“ Mary Latham sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris



Mary Latham - November 24, 2022 at 09:37 AM

ML

“ This is certainly a hard one but God knows best. I can hear Buddy calling my name.....Petey Pooh! He always called me that. I want hear that anymore because no one and I mean no one could call me by that name and make it sound like Willie J.Harris, my brother in law/ Uncle Buddy! Rest Well Buddy till we meet again!

Mary Latham - November 24, 2022 at 09:37 AM

RF

“ Renea Hall And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris




Renea Hall and Family - November 24, 2022 at 09:25 AM

AH

“ Alberta Harris lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris



Alberta Harris - November 24, 2022 at 07:47 AM

 Babby Barner

“ My condolences to the family



Babby Barner - November 24, 2022 at 04:38 AM

FL

“ *Frazier Lyons lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Frazier Lyons - November 23, 2022 at 11:58 PM

SS

“ *Sandra Sylvers sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Sandra Sylvers - November 23, 2022 at 09:49 PM

LP

“ *Lori Parks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Lori Parks - November 23, 2022 at 07:46 PM

VP

“ *Viola Patton sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Viola Patton - November 23, 2022 at 06:07 PM

VR

“ *Van Rollins sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Willie James Harris*



Van Rollins - November 23, 2022 at 05:27 PM