



A Service of Celebration for the Life of
Deacon Silas David Harris, Jr.



Casket Bearers

Relatives and Friends

Flower Bearers

Relatives and Friends

With Our Heartfelt Thanks

We through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope, (Romans 15) God has given us our church family, neighbors and dear friends, to help us as we go forward. **God's Word has been manifested through** your many expressions of sympathy and support; **we praise God from whom all blessings flow.** Thank you for honoring the memory of our beloved "Brother" and for remembering us during his illness and passing. In our risen Lord, **we have peace that passes all understanding.**

Brother

A Gift Given

February 24, 1951

A Gift Returned

February 9, 2023



The Family

Professional Services Entrusted to "Those Who Care"

Rutledge & Bigham Mortuary, Inc.,

603 South Center Street, Statesville, NC 28677 - (704) 873-3611

Visit "Deacon Harris" online tribute at

www.rutledgeandbigham.com

Saturday, February 18, 2023

First Greater Living Missionary Baptist Church

Statesville, North Carolina

Pastor Emeritus Dr. John D. McDonald, Sr., *Officiating*

Pastor John D. McDonald, Jr., *Eulogist*



A Lifetime of Love

Brother  Lavidia



Generations OF LOVE



Memories



STUDENT AND FACULTY STORIES...

My heart hurts! Mr. Harris was one of THE BEST. He had such a bright smile and always made you feel so smart even on some of your dumbest days! And that yard stick, well what can you say...He definitely left some wonderful memories in my heart. Thank you, Mr. Harris for being a part of my life! Rest in peace sweet man, your work is done on earth.

He used to sit behind me when I was taking one of his tests and start drawing on my arm and I said "what are you doing, Mr. Harris?" He said, "oh just tracing the dots, dear" (I have freckles). Another time he was standing in the middle of the hall during class change and he stopped me and said "you can dress to get warm, but you can't dress to get cold" Mr. Harris was THE BEST teacher I have ever had!!! So many more memories! He's missed and prayers for the family.

Every class with him was entertaining and that is why he was loved by so many. I remember him erasing words from the board because he mistakenly thought it was misspelled. He blamed it on dyslexia. Whenever he needed to concentrate, he would stare off into the distance and wave his finger around in the air above his shoulder as if making computations. I'm certain every one of his students has similar anecdotes about Mr. Harris. He was one of the greats! My heart hurts for his family.

Silas Harris was a wonderful teacher and a good friend to all of us who knew him. It was my privilege to serve on the faculty of West Iredell when he was there. I send my love and condolences to his family.

He was a wonderful man and teacher. I didn't like history classes until I had his. A great, compelling storyteller with a way to bring you into the moment to make the lessons very satisfying. Writing with his right hand while simultaneously erasing with his left. What a brilliant man. I will always cherish my memories of him.

Sad for his passing, I wanted to be in his class, he brought things so I could learn, full of spirit, remember him telling an older student for 10 dollars that he could break a yardstick over his head and not hurt him, student agreed after he showed his 10 dollars, then Mr. Harris takes yardstick over, stood close to him, lifts yardstick, snaps it over his head, takes his money, then tells him to do his homework, he was a class act, great dude.

Some of my best memories of high school was in the classroom of Mr. Harris....wishing my boys had experienced just one day in his classroom....his was kind, fun and all over the place some days...unforgettable! Prayers for the family! Fly high Mr. Harris!

Mr. Harris was the smartest man I have ever had the pleasure of meeting and he is the reason why I decided not to quit high school in 10th grade. He told me that I was brilliant and if I applied myself, I can achieve anything. I loved him not only as a teacher but as an amazing friend. I will never forget Mr. Harris and he, in my book, will go down as the greatest teacher that West Iredell ever employed.

Not only did I learn from him as a high school student, he allowed me to come back and observe and spend time as a college student prior to my student teaching and learn from him as a prospective teacher!!! I have tried to inspire my students the way he inspired me.

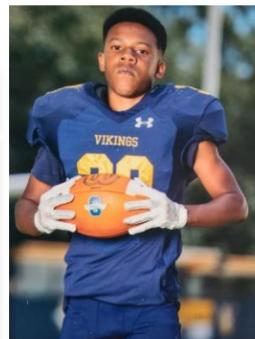
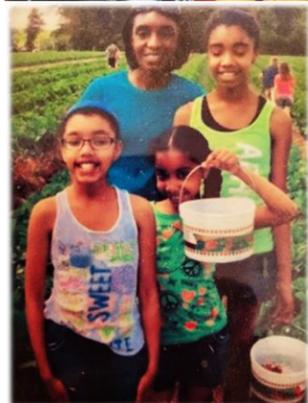
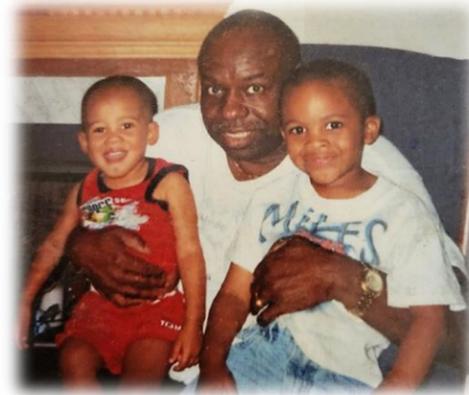
Amazing man and teacher. I had no interest in history until I had him for a teacher then I couldn't get enough. He will truly be missed. We lost a great teacher.

He will always be one of my favs!!! When he would write like that on the board, we would say Mr. Harris...he said, "man you know what it's supposed to say!" Lol. Such a great guy!

SILAS TRIVIA

1. What two things did Silas not like that started with a "C"?
2. True or False: Silas was a diehard Atlanta Braves fan.
3. Translate this: .nuf si yrotsih gnihcaeT

Answers: 1. Cotton and Cats 2. False, he was a Pittsburg Pirates fan 3. Teaching history is fun.



Sweet Memories



The Family Tribute

*A smile for all, a heart of gold;
one of the finest this world could hold
Never selfish, always kind;
these are the memories he leaves behind...*

Mr. Silas Harris, Jr., was born in Iredell County on February 24, 1951, to the late Silas Daniel Harris, and Rose Estger Lackey Harris. He entered into eternal life on Thursday, February 9, 2023 at Gordon Hospice House, Statesville, N.C.

He graduated from Statesville High School in 1969, where he was a member of the Statesville Grenadier Band and was awarded the John Philip Sousa Award. He attended Winston Salem State University, where he graduated in 1973. Silas was a baseball coach at West Iredell High School and was a teacher for Iredell-Statesville Schools for 30 years! He served on the Jaycees Club, the Dogwood Committee, and the Kiwanis Club and he was a member of Mt. Carmel #37 Lodge. Silas was a volunteer at the Iredell County Fair, and he judged pageants for years. He was a member of First Greater Living Missionary Baptist Church, where he served as a Deacon, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School Teacher, Usher, and member of the Male Chorus. He loved God, the Church, his Family, and the community.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, William Perry Lackey, and two brothers-in-law, Carl Brown, Robert "Bobby" Griffin, and an aunt, HESSIE LACKEY.

Silas leaves to cherish the memories of his life, his wife, LAVIDA DOBY HARRIS, of the home; two sons, Kenneth Lee (Felina) Harris, of Troutman, and Stacey (Crystal) Harris, of Statesville; one brother, Reggie Rice, of Atlanta, Georgia; three sisters, Sandra Hopkins, Debra Bellamy, both of Statesville, and Denise Rice, of Charlotte; three sisters-in-law, Flora Griffin, Elaine Heaggans, and Georgellen Brown, all of Statesville; five brothers-in-law, Richard (Shirley) Johnson, of Clemmons; Jesse (Lisa) Brown, of Taylorsville, Sammy (Deneva) Brown, Waldorf, Maryland, Johnny (Mary) Brown, of Charlotte, and David Brown, of Statesville, one aunt, Cynthia Anderson of Oxford; five grandchildren, Tayshon Harris, of Statesville, Andrew Harris, and Ethan Harris, both of Troutman, and Jaida Brown, of Monroe, and Miles Bellamy of Greensboro; a host of cousins, other relatives and friends.

*In tears we saw you sinking, and watched you fade away
Our hearts were almost broken, because we wanted you to stay
But when we saw you sleeping, so peacefully and free from pain
How could we wish you back with us, to suffer that again.
It breaks our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone
For part of us went with you, the day God called you home.
Lovingly submitted,
The Family*

The Service of Celebration for the Life of Deacon Silas David Harris, Jr.

Saturday, February 18, 2023
First Greater Living Missionary Baptist Church
Statesville, North Carolina
Pastor Emeritus Dr. John D. McDonald, Sr., *Officiating*
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The Family Visitation

1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.

The Processional
Friends are welcome to visit with family

The Order of Service

2:00 p.m.

The Opening Selection: "God Is My Everything" The Praise Team
The Scripture Reading:
Old Testament: *Psalm 23* Pastor Gerry W. Clarke, Sr., Refuge Church of Christ, Troutman, NC
New Testament: *II Corinthians 5:1-8* Pastor James Shade,
St. James First Baptist Church, Mooresville, NC
The Prayer of Comfort Pastor Emeritus Dr. John D. McDonald, Sr.
The Selection: "He's Done Enough" The Praise Team
The Remarks (*limit two minutes please*)
♥ Mt. Carmel Lodge #37
♥ Kiwanis
♥ Deacon Ronald Clark
♥ Class of 1969 Representative
♥ Debra Bellamy
The Selection: "God Said He Would Be With Me" The Praise Team
The Acknowledgements and Church Resolution First Lady Felisha McDonald
The Commemorative Presentation Funeral Director
The Selection: "You Kept Me" Praise Team
The Eulogy Reverend John D. McDonald, Jr., *Pastor*
The Committal Service
The Recessional

*The Gathering of the Christian Community
Iredell Memorial Park
The Gathering of the Christian Community
The Placing of the Casket
The Final Departure*