



Maynard H. Harris

August 2, 1929 - December 31, 2015

ADRIAN—Maynard Harold Harris, age 86, of Raisin Township, Lenawee County, Michigan, passed away Thursday, December 31, 2015, at the Evangelical Home in Saline. He was born on August 2, 1929, in Detroit, Michigan, to Harold and Emma (Kenkel) Harris.

Maynard attended Thomas M. Cooley High School in Detroit, Michigan and graduated in June, 1947. He served on active duty in the United States Air Force during the Cold War from 1948 to 1949 and in the U.S.A.F. Reserves from 1949 to 1955.

Maynard attended Michigan State Normal College—now Eastern Michigan University—in Ypsilanti, Michigan, from 1949 to 1953 where he graduated with a B.S. Degree in Elementary Education. He was a member of Kappa Phi Alpha fraternity. In 1959, Maynard graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a M.A. Degree in Elementary Administration and Supervision. He taught elementary education in all subjects in the Farmington, Michigan public school system from 1954 to 1966, including one of the first special education classes started in Michigan from 1959 to 1960. Maynard then taught at Greenfield Village Schools—Henry Ford's private school system in Dearborn, Michigan from 1966 to 1969. From 1969 to 1990, he taught elementary education in the Riverview, Michigan public school system until his retirement in 1990.

Maynard married Yvonne E. (Sue) Smith on August 20, 1966 at Greenfield-Peace Lutheran Church in Detroit, Michigan, officiated by Rev. Paul Foust. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sue, after nearly 43 years of marriage, in 2009. He is survived by three children, Christine, David (Molly) and Stephen Harris. Also four grandchildren, Haley Frederick, Grace, Sarah and Rachel Harris; a sister, Lynn Riemer of Ludington, MI, and four of her children; Dr. Randy Riemer, Dr. Andy Riemer, Wendy Williams and Julie Lenzo.

Maynard served as Board of Christian Education member at Greenfield-Peace Lutheran Church in Detroit, Michigan from 1965 to 1971 and at Hope Lutheran Church in Adrian, MI., as Director of Christian Education from 1975 to 1977. He also served as an Elder at Hope Lutheran Church in the 1980's.

Maynard served as President of the Eastern Michigan University Huron Restoration Alumni Chapter—one of the largest alumni chapters on campus from 2001 to 2015.

Maynard was also a life member of the Yankee Air Force Museum at Willow Run, MI. that preserves, restores and flies WW II warbirds for today's generation to admire and learn about America's great past history and heritage. He was also a member of the Amvets Post #1957 in Adrian, MI from 1996 to 2015.

Maynard had been a salesman, painter, private tutor and a security guard. His hobbies included travel, photography, airplanes and stamp collecting.

As a Historian and Educator, Maynard enjoyed giving audio-visual presentations on WW II heroes and events that produced our country's Greatest Generation in American history. He believed that if we do not remember our country's past history and accomplishments, then we really have no future as a nation. We stand on the shoulders of past generations. If

we do not know where we have been as a country, we really can not know where we are going as a nation. Those who do not remember our country's great past are doomed to repeat our past mistakes again in the future.

Maynard believed strongly in his Christian faith as expressed in John 3:16 —“For God so loved the world (you), that he gave His only begotten Son (Jesus), that whoever (you) believes in Him (Jesus) should not perish, but have everlasting Life (in Heaven)”. His hope was always in making others happy and friendly. “A merry heart doeth good like medicine”, the Bible tells us.

As a father and educator, Maynard always tried to impress on his children and students that the personal 3Rs of Responsibility, Reliability and Respect are privileges and not burdens in life's journey. Maynard will always be remembered as a caring husband, father, grandfather, and educator. His ready smile and friendly handshake will always be his trademark in life, as well as his Christian faith.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at Wagley Funeral Home on West Maumee Street in Adrian, MI. Services will be at Hope Lutheran Church on West US 223 in Adrian, MI. on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 at 11 a.m. with Pastor Paul Herter officiating. Burial will be at Lenawee Hills Memorial Park. A military Honor Guard of Amvets Post # 1957, VFW Annis Fint Post #1584, and American Legion Post 97 will conduct military honors.

Contributions may be made in lieu of flowers to Children's Hospital of Michigan, 3901 Beaubien Street, Detroit, MI 48200 and / or to Lenawee Medical Care Facility, 200 Sand Creek Hwy., Adrian, Michigan, 49221. Online condolences and memories are welcomed at

www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com.

“God Bless America”

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hope Lutheran Church
5625 WUS 223
Adrian, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Maynard H. Harris*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Stephen Harris - January 28, 2016 at 11:06 PM



“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Gerald Morawski - January 06, 2016 at 09:11 AM



Oh did he absolutely LOVE his time with you gentlemen!! Thanks for putting that smile on his face during these outings!

Chrissy Harris - January 06, 2016 at 08:14 PM



Great picture of the ol group. He looked forward to meeting on these get togethers

Stephen Harris - January 09, 2016 at 03:09 PM

SH

Yes, he did! He absolutely looked forward to meeting with his ol work friends. Made his day in every way.

Stephen Harris - January 10, 2016 at 12:49 PM

RF

*dear Harris Family,
My name is Rose Freeman and I just received the notice of your father's death and the personal note he must have written earlier. Thank you for sharing that with me. Your Dad and my husband Bert were "trainers" on the Cooley championship football team. They were very proud of that. During my Husband's illness with alzheimers your Dad would make a trip often to see him. Sorry for you loss and I'm sure you all will miss very much.
Sincerely Rose Freeman*

Rose Freeman - January 11, 2016 at 01:34 PM

BW

May Maynard's family and friends be surrounded by the many special memories he left for you to cherish. I worked for Riverview Schools during much of the same time period as Maynard. He was a gentle, kind man and a devoted educator. It was a privilege to have worked with him. Many Blessings.

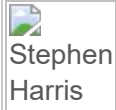
*Becky (Rogers) Wynn
Riverview Schools
Speech Pathologist
1970 - 1989*

Becky (Rogers) Wynn - January 12, 2016 at 10:52 AM

JK

Maynard was a favorite cousin of mine. He sometimes would come to Delaware/Columbus and watch some of my baseball games. He would tell me what I needed to work on. So much easily accessible information is what I remember about him, military stories, family recordings and photos, and all of the times I listened to Maynard and my dad "DISCUSS" the educational system in our country. All in fun. We will miss his laugh and quick wit. john kilbury.

john kilbury - January 19, 2016 at 04:19 PM



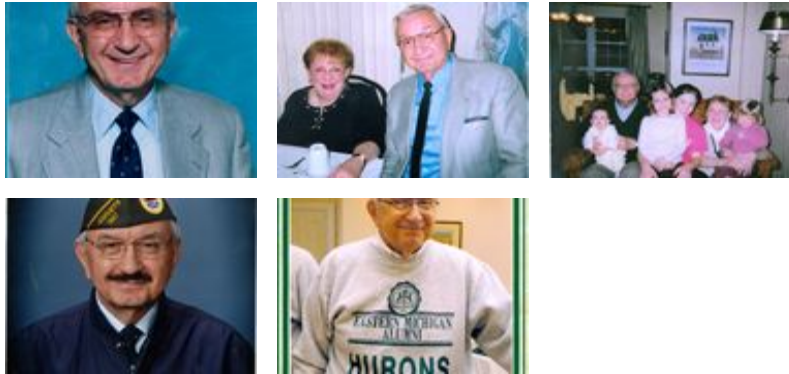
Stephen Harris

Thank you all for the correspondence. I've learned even more since his passing his many people's lives he's touched. He enjoyed his friends & was proud of his teaching career. We didn't know that Dad sent out personal letters until after the funeral. It brought a smile to our faces because Dad very much enjoyed writing those personal letters. We are all saddened by the void left w/o his presence but I've come to realize now that he's truly home now & lived a complete & full life.

Stephen Harris - January 23, 2016 at 06:55 PM



“ 37 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wagley Funeral Home - January 04, 2016 at 04:39 PM

VM

So sorry to hear of Maynard's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Valerie Mclemore - January 04, 2016 at 07:06 PM

WJ

Maynard will be missed by all who knew him as an excellent educator and dear friend. Walt Jablonski

Walt Jablonski - January 05, 2016 at 03:03 PM

GM

I had the privilege of working with Maynard at Longacre School in Farmington, MI from 1964-66. He was an exemplary teacher who was respected by students, staff, parents and administrators. He was famous for hand written correspondence which is rare in this age of electronics. We will keep the Harris Family in our thoughts and prayers.
Jerry Morawski Empire, MI

Gerald Morawski - January 06, 2016 at 09:05 AM

LD

It's such a shock to hear of Maynard's passing. He was a great fan of the Irish Rovers, and a few years ago we attended a concert with Maynard. True to Maynards personality he led us backstage after the concert and we "crashed" the afterparty. He didn't know anyone but you would never know it. We will never forget him.
Larry & Rose Dulin

Larry Dulin - January 12, 2016 at 11:27 AM

CW

Mr. Harris was my 4th grade teacher at the Town Hall in Greenfield Village (1966-1967). Before enrolling at Greenfield Village School, I had been in Germany for an extended period. Mr. Harris was so kind to me, even attempting to speak in German at times. Many, many, years later, there was a Greenfield Village Reunion, and I was able to reconnect with him. We had good conversations, and he was still so kind and encouraging. We corresponded with birthday and Christmas greetings ever since. This Christmas I did not receive a card and I wondered. Then yesterday, I smiled to see an envelope addressed in his unmistakable teacher's clear handwriting. I was saddened once I opened it to find his obituary. And it brought tears to my eyes to read his short personal note. So thoughtful! I am thankful to have known Maynard Harris. He was a special teacher and a good man.

To the Harris family, I am sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you. May he rest in peace.

Cynthia Wilhelm - January 12, 2016 at 07:20 PM

BH

Mr. Harris was my fourth grade teacher at Longacre, and brought a television into the classroom so we could all watch the JFK inauguration. Robert Frost spoke, most gentlemen wore top hats and afterwards we went into the gym for square dancing. Our weekly classroom discussions on democracy functioned well under his tutelage. He sent me a postcard before the school year began to welcome me to his class. Books and more books about this man could be written by countless people, and since 1960 I've thanked God for letting me be in Mr. Harris's fourth grade class.

Bob Hermann - August 24, 2023 at 10:18 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Maynard H. Harris.*



January 04, 2016 at 11:15 AM