



## James H. Harris

April 12, 1935 - February 12, 2023

James Henry Harris, “Pop”, passed away on February 12, 2023, after a long battle with Parkinson’s Disease. Born April 12, 1935, Jimmy was 87 years old at the time of his death. He is survived and missed by his loving wife of 66 years, Patricia; his children, Robyn (Clay), Randy (Sandra), and Rebecca; his granddaughter (aka his third daughter) Julie, grandson Justin (Meghan), and granddaughters Allison (Ben) and Katy, and preceded in death by his grandson Christopher. “Pop” was also blessed with and survived by five great grandchildren, Gabriel, Samson, Rebecca (“Rue”), Kether, and Charles. Born into a large family with nine siblings, Pop had far too many nieces, nephews, and “greats” to name here. A true “Renaissance Man”, Jim was a poet, a painter, a writer, a photographer, a master gardener, an illustrator, and a builder of the most intricate birdhouses you’ve ever seen that were never actually intended for birds to inhabit. He was a firm believer that “anything worth doing, is worth doing right” and for something to be done right, you have to do

it yourself. He instilled this same belief in his children (for better or for worse). Jim attended Birmingham Southern College in 1953 to pursue an engineering degree but was unable to complete his degree at that time. He went to work at Pullman Standard Company at the age of 19 and worked there until the company shut down when he was 46 years old. Not one to sit around and wait for the next opportunity, he went to Bessemer Tech and earned an associate degree in metallurgy while at the same time teaching remedial math. For his next career, he worked at Celotex Roofing as the head technician in the Central Quality Control lab. After “retiring” from Celotex, he worked as a bailiff in the Columbiana courthouse, and a delivery driver for his daughter Rebecca’s marketing company. At the age of 60, Jim completed his BS degree at Birmingham Southern College. Jim was a Christian of great faith and knew where he was going at the end of his time on Earth. He is now perfectly healed, dancing with the angels and trading back slaps with his brothers. The family is beyond grateful for the caregivers that were with him during his final weeks and days, you laughed at his jokes and tolerated his moods with patience and grace. In remembrance of “Pop” and his battle with Parkinson’s Disease and his love for helping children in need, the family is requesting donations to the Michael J Fox Foundation for

Parkinson's Research or to Garrett's Place. If, however, flowers are preferred, the family requests plants that can be planted in Pop's memory, please contact LaCole's and Ann's Florist in Bessemer (205-428-9341).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **16**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

McCalla Memorial Funeral Home  
4780 Letson Farms Parkway  
P.O. Box 629  
McCalla, AL 35111  
(205) 477-4888  
info@mccallamemorialfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.mccallamemorialfuneralhome.com>

## Memorial Service

FEB **16**. 3:00 PM (CT)

McCalla Memorial Funeral Home  
4780 Letson Farms Parkway  
Mc Calla, AL 35111  
(205) 477-4888  
info@mccallamemorialfuneralhome.com

# Tribute Wall

AH

“ Do not stand by my grave, and weep. I am not there, I do not sleep - I am a thousand winds that blow, I am the diamond glints in snow, I am the sunlight on ripened grain, I am the gentle, autumn rain, When you awaken with morning`s hush, I am the swift upflying rush of quiet birds in circling flight. I am the soft stars that shine at night. Do not stand by my grave and cry - I am not there, I did not die. (By Clare Harner)

We are very sorry for your loss. Our heartfelt condolences. With love to Sandra&Randy and family! Our thoughts are with you! Your friends Geli&Jürgen from Germany.

Angelika Heselschwerdt - February 16, 2023 at 01:34 PM

JC

Jimmy was my brother-in-law and part of our family for 66 years. I visited with him and Patsy often as a child, baby sat their kids in early years and for the last few years helped Jimmy some with his gardening at the Oaks. I will miss him, his keen wit, the Harris sense of humor and his work ethic! He was one good man! Jane Cheeks

Jane Cheeks - February 16, 2023 at 04:50 PM

BC

Stared to first grade with Jimmy. He was great guy and a good friend. Visited him several times at the Oaks. Know his family well miss him very much

Beverly Culwell - February 17, 2023 at 11:41 AM

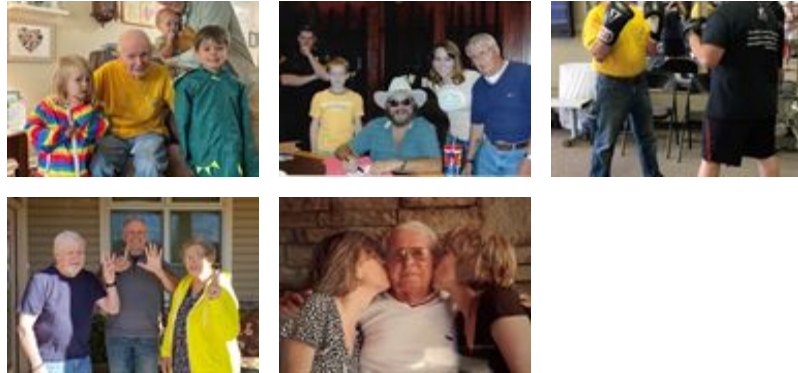
KG

Jim was one of my YMCA buddies at the Hoover Y. He was such a sweet soul, and a gifted writer and illustrator. He shared a few of his poems with some of us at the Y, And I cherish mine. I regret that I have kept in touch with him for the past few months. Praying God's peace and comfort for Pat and the family.

kay Gay - February 17, 2023 at 01:22 PM



“ 50 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



**McCalla Memorial Funeral Home - Traditions** - February 15, 2023 at 12:30 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of **James H. Harris**.



February 14, 2023 at 04:39 PM



“ *Buddy, JoANN and Sherry* purchased the *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet* for the family of **James H. Harris**.



**Buddy, JoANN and Sherry** - February 14, 2023 at 03:45 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of James H. Harris.



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February 14, 2023 at 01:48 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden* was purchased for the family of James H. Harris.



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February 14, 2023 at 01:30 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of James H. Harris.



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February 14, 2023 at 09:40 AM