



Philip Marion Harris

DEC 20, 1940 - JAN 21, 2012



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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Philip M. Harris, 71, unexpectedly caught the last train out on January 21, 2012 at Decatur Memorial Hospital.

The memorial service will be held Thursday, January, 26th at Graceland/Fairlawn at 2:00 p.m., with Rev. Bill Keagle officiating. Visitation will be 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, prior to the memorial service. Cremation was accorded per Philip's request. Memorials: Heart Association, Diabetes Association, the American Cancer Society, and Grace United Methodist Church.

Philip was born December 20, 1940 at Decatur Memorial Hospital, son of Goldie B. Wiggins and Raymond W. Harris.

After graduating from MacArthur High School in 1959, Phil served 3 years in the U.S. Army, stationed in Germany. Phil retired as a Locomotive Engineer from Norfolk Western/Southern Railroad after 37 years.

Phil married Gail 'Penny' Wince, his high school sweetheart, on April 7th, 1963 at Grace United Methodist Church. He enjoyed model railroading, auctions, antiquing, yard sales, reading, maintaining his yard, and caring for his home and family. He thoroughly enjoyed the high school and army reunions he attended.

He was a member of Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, Wabash Hospital Association, Stephen Decatur Lodge AFM, Local 979, Association of 3rd Armored Division Veterans, American Legion, and Grace United Methodist Church. He also served as election judge and was a lifelong fan of the Green Bay Packers.

He is survived by wife, Penny of Decatur; sons Mark of Aurora IL; Jeff and his fiancée Tracy of Austin, TX; brothers John J. and Ralph A. of Indianapolis, IN; Raymond of Atlanta, GA; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, James; and sister, Mary Alice.

Phil was a devoted husband and father, always willing to help friends and



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neighbors. He touched and was touched by many hearts during his lifetime. He will be sadly missed.

The family wishes to thank Doctor Edwards-Talley; M. Kola; K. Patel; J. Canham; M. Velasco; and nurses, Lynette and Kelly for their continuing care.

Rest in Peace, My Love, until we meet again.

The family of Philip M. Harris is being served by the Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Please view the online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.



Tribute Wall

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TB

Tom Bosch posted:

Penny, Mark and Jeff- I was shocked and saddened to hear of Phil's passing. I have fond memories of the little chats I had with Phil during the first half of my life (even after moving, our families were just across the street); now another twenty years later, I'm amazed at how fast time goes by. Even though I only worked at Norfolk Southern for one summer, Phil referred to me as "Old Timer" every time we met; he had a knack for putting someone at ease right away. Growing up, for me, Phil was more than a good neighbor, he was like my second dad. One of my earliest childhood memories was meeting Santa Claus; I still remember being so utterly amazed. It wasn't until many years later that I learned who our neighborhood Santa really was. My life has been much richer for having known you all. Please know that Phil will be missed and that you all are in my thoughts and in my heart. Peace and Grace be with you always.

January 29 at 5:14 PM

KK

Karla & Stuart Jacobs & Kids posted:

Penny, We are so sorry for the loss you are feeling...Phil will be missed by MANY including us. The boys were so shocked and sad when we told them...they thought so much of Phil, as we all did. You two are so special to us...we love ya! Love & prayers, Karla, Stuart, Dalton, Kolton, Noel, & Holly

January 29 at 11:07 AM

AB

Anne E. Bosch posted:

Penny, Mark and Jeff, I have many memories and pictures that put a smile on my face when I think of Phil. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you now and always.

January 27 at 7:52 PM

LW

Linda Wilhelm posted:

Sending prayers and condolences to Penny and family! I remember Phil coming into Glidden Paint store so long ago to make purchases and visit. He was quite the recruiter for Norfolk and Southern and wanted me to send my sons there for applications. Many years later, after Phil had retired, one of them did come on board! God bless you Phil rest in peace

January 26 at 6:06 PM



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LW

Linda Wilhelm posted:

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January 26 at 6:06 PM

BB

Bob And Diane Bosch posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Harris Family today as they say goodbye to Phil. We have known Phil and Penny for over forty years and were neighbors for 26 years. We could not have picked better neighbors and have happy memories of time spent together. Although I never took a train ride with Phil I enjoyed all the stories when he and several other railroaders got together. We shared his love of the Packers. While living in Green Bay we waited in line for three hours to buy him a piece of the turf from Lanbeau Field only to have them sell out as we reached the stadium gates. We cherished our friendship and will greatly miss him.

January 26 at 1:06 PM

LK

Larry And Diana Klaus posted:

So sorry to learn of Phil's passing. He is a great man, and a railroad friend.

January 26 at 10:49 AM

NR

Nerina & Luis Rivas posted:

Words cannot even begin to express our sorrow, you are in our prayers.

January 25 at 4:20 PM

CK

Chuck And Tosh Kimball posted:

To the Harris family we are very sorry for your loss. Peace be with you Chuck and Tosh

January 24 at 4:47 PM



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LG

Linda Gorski posted:

I never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Harris, but I have the pleasure of knowing his son Mark, and through Mark you can tell what an amazing father he had. My deepest sympathy to the Harris Family.

January 24 at 2:59 PM

BL

Billie Lecrone posted:

Penny, Mark, Jeff, and family, You are in my heart and my prayers. I will miss Phil's great smile and sense of humor! He is a great guy, and he beautifully touched many lives! It makes me happy to know that I will see him again someday!

January 24 at 2:21 PM

JS

Jim And Brenda Lecrone Seaberg posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Phil was a great guy, always a lot of fun to be around. He will be sorely missed by all.

January 24 at 2:08 PM

DA

Darcy posted:

Prayers to you Penny, Mark and Jeff. Uncle Phil will be sadly missed by us all! Love Darcy and Chuck

January 24 at 12:42 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Philip by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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