



James Thomas Harrison

January 27, 1930 - December 31, 2021

James T. Harrison passed away quietly in his sleep on Friday, Dec. 31, 2021, at his home in Ashburn, Virginia. He was 91. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Kimberly and Barton Greer, of Brambleton, Virginia; three grandsons: USAF Lt. Cameron Greer, Virginia Commonwealth University senior Garrett Greer, and 10-year-old Bryce Greer; a cousin, Karen Kay Brown of Richmond, Virginia, and a host of extended family and friends. He was married for 56 years to Sylvia Porter Harrison, who preceded him in death in January 2018.

Born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, on Jan. 27, 1930, to Thomas and Kizzy Harrison, James was a veteran of the United States Army and served as a sergeant during the Korean War. After being honorably discharged, he earned his undergraduate degree in Physics from Virginia State University. He began a career in teaching at Crestwood High School in Chesapeake from 1958 to 1966. James left the school system for the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, where he worked as a metallurgist for a short time; however, his love of teaching would return him to the classroom little more than a year later. He would teach math at Norview High School in Norfolk for 27 years until his retirement in 1994. Following the death of his beloved wife, Sylvia, James relocated to Northern Virginia in 2018 to be near his daughter and her family.

The service will observe all social distancing guidelines with mask-wearing

mandatory. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the National Kidney Foundation in James' name.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd
Chesapeake, VA

Previous Events

Graveside

JAN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Greenlawn Memorial Gardens
3920 Airline Blvd
Chesapeake, VA

Tribute Wall

DS

“ I am sorry to hear about the passing of your loved one, Mr. James T. Harrison. He taught me Physics, during the 1960s, at Crestwood High School, in Norfolk County (now Chesapeake), Virginia. He was a great Physics teacher. May God continue to bless and strengthen the entire family, during this time of loss. (Dr. Archie W. Earl, Sr., Former Old Dominion University Program for Afloat College Education Mathematics Professor, 1978-1980)



Dr. Archie W. Earl, Sr. - January 18, 2022 at 05:50 PM

PC

“ Such a thoughtful, caring neighbor. So helpful. Surely missed. Pat Clifton

Patricia Clifton - January 18, 2022 at 01:28 AM

RM

“ Kim and family, your mom and dad are a treasure in my "old" heart. I keep very fond memories of our great family relationship and the close friendship i had with your dad.at Norview H.S.. God has joined friends Sylvia, June, and James in his kingdom. They are whole again with God.
Love,
Richard McLane

Richard McLane - January 16, 2022 at 10:43 AM

VH

“ *Kimberely, I knew both of your parents during their courting days, and I remember when you were born!..My prayer for you is that you feel God's presence and peace and may He superintend all the details as you celebrate your Dad's amazing life.*

Blessings Mrs. Dorothy Harrison.

Venika Harrison - January 15, 2022 at 06:04 PM



“ *91 years and 11 months. Paratrooper at 17 years old. Army sergeant. War veteran. Degreed in Physics. Educator for nearly 40 years. A husband, a father and a mentor to many. "Papa" to my sons. "Dad" to my wife, Kim. A walking history book whose strong and well-informed opinions shone a light into the dark places. A Life well-lived whose light will be missed...- Bart Greer*

Bart Greer - January 14, 2022 at 12:32 AM