



## Joseph Lee Harris, III

June 8, 1950 - April 27, 2022

**A Time to be Born:** Joseph was born on Thursday, June 8, 1950 in Norfolk County, now known as Chesapeake, Virginia. He is the oldest son, but the third child born to the late Reverend Joseph L.A. Harris, Jr. and Pauline Cuffee-Harris. He was affectionately called "Tatoe" by relatives and "Joe" to his friends.

**A Time to Learn and Work:** Joseph attended the Chesapeake Public Schools. He graduated from Crestwood High School "Home of the Bombers", class of 1968. He was a member of the Spanish, Drafting, Student Council and Newspaper Clubs. His ambition was to be an Architect. He attended Norfolk State College, now known as Norfolk State University where he majored in Physics. Joseph was employed by Ford Motor Company for 40 years until he retired and the company relocated.

**A Time to Love:** On August 20, 1983 Joseph Lee Harris, III and Ada Angela Ricks were united in Holy Matrimony. From this union three children were born. This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. John 15:12 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Ephesian 6:1

**A Time for Church and Worship:** Joseph was converted and joined Bethel Church, now Greater Bethel African Episcopal Church in his youth under

Reverend F.M. Hicks. He accepted Jesus the Christ as his Lord and Savior, confessed with his mouth and believed in his heart that Jesus is the Son of God. Joseph served and held several positions. He was a member of the Men's Choir, #2 Adult Choir and Concert Choir. He would often sing "Brightly Beams", a favorite of many, with his soft Tenor voice. He was Man of the Year, Father of the Year 1990, Pro Tem of the Steward Board, Financial Committee, Bible Study Teacher, Sunday School Teacher and the Christian ED Director. Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15

Time to Serve: Joseph's service went beyond Greater Bethel, and his God given gifts were used at several churches and denominations. He was the Sunday School (Highlights) evening teacher on fifth Sundays at Providence AMEZ Church in Portsmouth, VA, Bible Study teacher for the Inspirational Choir and Vacation Bible Camp at Little Zion Baptist Church, Chesapeake, VA. Joseph served his fellowman; he would provide transportation to and from for people in need, prayed many prayers for those who requested and stood in the gap, prayed over the church grounds and empty pews even when there wasn't Church service. As we all know, Joseph had a passion for automobiles, especially antiques and had great auto mechanic skills. He used his knowledge and skills to be a blessing to his family and the community. 1 Peter 4:10-11 As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Time to Rest: On Wednesday, April 27, 2022, Joseph Lee Harris, III transitioned from earth to Glory surrounded by his beloved family.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd  
Chesapeake, VA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 5. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services  
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.  
Chesapeake, VA 23323  
(757) 487-3700  
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com  
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

## Service

MAY 6. 2:00 PM (ET)

J. T. Fisher Funeral Services Chapel  
1248 N. George Washington Hwy  
Chesapeake, VA

# Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Joseph Lee Harris, III



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - May 10, 2022 at 07:28 PM

BH

I just found out that Joseph Harris passed. He was an excellent Bible Teacher. I thank God for him!

Bridget Harris - March 15, 2023 at 08:49 PM



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Webcast in memory of Joseph Lee Harris, III

**CLICK HERE TO  
VIEW SERVICE**

J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - May 06, 2022 at 01:22 PM

SF

“ To the family of Joe Harris, We at Norfolk Assembly Plant, Thank you for sharing this wonderful, outstanding man with us. Joe was such a Blessing - Shawn Foreman

Shawn Foreman - May 08, 2022 at 08:00 PM

SB

“ *a phenomenal Neighbor & Friend  
thank You Joe,  
Babs & SCOTT BENSON*

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**Scott Benson** - May 06, 2022 at 03:55 PM

VP

“ *Sending my Condolences to the Entire Harris  
Family . Joseph was one of the sweetest guys  
you ever wanted to meet. He was my  
classmate and he never changed his whole  
life . Praying that God give you Strength to  
Walk Through This Journey.*



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**Vicky Porter** - May 05, 2022 at 10:34 PM



“ *31 files added to the album LifeTributes*



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - May 05, 2022 at 10:30 AM

LS

“My deepest sympathy goes out to the family, friends, colleagues and neighbors on the passing of the beloved 'Tata'. He is sorely missed.”



Lamont Simmons - May 04, 2022 at 05:02 PM

TJ

“The Popovichs, friends of Jared/Chassity purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Joseph Lee Harris, III.



The Popovichs, friends of Jared/Chassity - May 04, 2022 at 03:10 PM

RA

“Angie and family let God be your guide and comfort in this difficult time. Sorry that I did not get to meet you but Joe and I were Physic lab students at Norfolk State and we stayed in contact over the years. He was allsume. He joined me in Nashville for my wedding years ago. He was the best friend a guy could have. I know he was great with you all too. Cherish his memory as I know I will. God has a special place in heaven and we can all meet him there oneday .  
Ron Ampey and Family

Ron Ampey - May 04, 2022 at 12:54 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joseph Lee Harris, III.*



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May 04, 2022 at 12:33 PM



“ *My dear sister, Rev. Fenner and I wish heart sympathy and prayers for you and your Family . We cared a lot for Deacon Harris and we will certainly miss him.*

*“ I am He who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry.*

*Isaiah 46:4*

*Love you ,  
Rev. & Mrs. Fenner*

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**kathy fenner** - May 04, 2022 at 12:02 PM



“ *To Mrs Angela Harris and to Joe Harris and the entire family. You have our deepest condolences for the passing of your loved one, Mr. Joe Harris. May God bless and keep you. May he comfort you and give you peace during your time of grief.  
Deacon David and Rev. Joyce Nyhaug.*

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**Rev Joyce Nyhaug** - May 04, 2022 at 08:17 AM

IT

“ IRCC Staff, Jeff and Thurman purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Joseph Lee Harris, III.



IRCC Staff, Jeff and Thurman - May 03, 2022 at 11:43 AM

MC

“ Hi Angie, I have been thinking about you all and want to offer my heartfelt condolences...I pray that your beautiful family memories and the love you shared with Joe will always be a lasting treasure that will warm your heart. I love you Cousin! Melanie

Melanie Clemons - May 02, 2022 at 08:41 AM

DH

“ Uncle Tatum was one of the nicest persons I had ever met. He was always welcoming and greeted everyone with a smile and kind word. He was a great uncle to my children, Ezra, Micah, and Jada. He was also Micah's godfather. Uncle Tatum embraced my family and always supported my children in their endeavors. He will truly be missed.



Dr. LaTonya (Wyche) Harris - April 30, 2022 at 10:21 AM

JP

🌹🌹🌹 Hello Angela please accept my deepest condolences for the lost of your dear husband..Im praying for you and your family🙏🙏

Joyce Diane Foster Pettus - May 04, 2022 at 09:16 PM

PJ

*Angie, my deepest condolences and heart felt prayers go out to you and your family for your lost at this time." Jose' ", Joseph's nickname from Spanish class at Crestwood High was a great friend and he will be truly missed. 🙏🙏🙏*

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**Pastor Timothy Williams Jr.** - May 06, 2022 at 04:34 AM