



## Mark E. Harris

September 6, 1951 - August 25, 2020

Mark Harris, 68, of Livonia, Michigan, passed away unexpectedly on August 25, 2020, in his home.

He was born to parents William and Virginia (Springer) Harris on September 6, 1951, in Wayne, Michigan. After graduating from Garden City West in 1969, Mark served his country from 1970-72, including time in Vietnam. Soon after returning, he began working for the Kmart Corporation. For the next 30 years, Mark managed several retail stores in Southeast Michigan and Northern Ohio, leading and entertaining his employees at various Jupiters, Kresges, Makros, Pace Warehouses, Sam's Clubs, Kmarts, and a Home Depot before taking a well-earned retirement in 2013.

A tremendous leader with a generous heart, Mark not only made the people around him feel better, he made them better people because he was invested in them. A proud and loving father and grandfather, he frequently traveled around the country to visit his two sons and their children. As the oldest of seven children, he considered his brothers and sisters to be his best friends, spending countless hours hosting them at his home, checking in with them on the phone, and vacationing with them in Europe or in Panama City, Florida. A devoted member of NorthRidge Church, Mark's faith and innate goodness led him to teach Bible study classes and counsel fellow parishioners through their own difficulties. He found personal relationships and shared history very important, and one of his personal highlights was organizing a yearly reunion for alumni of the Garden City High Schools. In his final years, he reconnected with a high school girlfriend, Cheryl Rogers Morris, and they married in May of 2019. They brought renewed spirit into each other's lives, and above all they spent much of their time making each other laugh.

As a husband, father, grandfather, son, sibling, cousin, counselor, boss, friend, golf partner, and all-around joyful presence, Mark will be missed by many. In the words of Elvis Presley: Mark, thank you. Thank you very much.

Mark is survived by his wife, Cheryl; his children, Cory (Cristan) and Christopher (Leticia), and their mother, Mila; his grandchildren Griffin, Sophia, and Christopher; his step-grandchildren Christina, Kaitlyn, Bradley; his mother, Virginia (Duane); his siblings Gordon (Luana), Scott (Peggy), Ellen (Steven), Karen (Michael), Gale, and Wanda (David); his stepmother, Shirley; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his

father, William.

A viewing will take place on Saturday, August 29th from 3pm-9pm at Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home, 46401 Ann Arbor Road West (between Sheldon and Beck) in Plymouth. To share a memory, please use the share a memory tab on this webpage.

# Events

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**AUG**   **Visitation**                      03:00PM - 09:00PM

**29**

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Vermeulen-Sajewski Funeral Home Plymouth

46401 Ann Arbor Road West, Plymouth, MI, US, 48170

# Comments

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“ Mark was my District manager when I was at Kmart in Woodhaven. He was a true gentleman and great leader. He always backed up his managers. Sorry to hear of his passing.

Jim Gersch.

**James Gersch** - September 13, 2020 at 08:19 PM

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“ Mark and I became lifelong friends in February 1976 when we worked at the Kresge #577 in River Rouge, Michigan. We both Managed Jupiter stores, Kresge Stores and Kmart stores. I had the honor of promoting Mark to Kmart District Manager when I was his Regional Vice President - he was a great DM and I was very proud of him. He treated people like they were friends - I never heard him say an unkind word to anyone. We played softball together at Softball City in Detroit. The amazing thing is Mark and I would always reconnect at Christmas time - 43 years never missed a call or text. Mark is very special to me - I will miss him always and forever. RIP my Dear Friend

**Rodney M. Brumley, Sr** - September 13, 2020 at 09:02 AM

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“ We are so very sorry to hear about about Mark's passing. We served together on the Guest Services Greeting Team at NorthRidge Church for a number of years. Always enjoyed hearing about his Florida vacations, and appreciated his Faithfulness, energetic spirit and willingness to serve. Our sincere condolences go out to his Family and those close to him.

Frank & Nadine Ploskonka

**Frank Ploskonka** - August 31, 2020 at 12:40 PM

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Mark,

Hearing about your passing was tough. I'm going to miss seeing you at BSF and greeting guests at NorthRidge. Your smile was always a welcoming sight for many. I'm grateful for your leadership at BSF and being my group leader a few years ago. Thank you for always encouraging your group and helping us to learn more about our Lord and Savior, Jesus. It brings me joy to know I'll see you again. Rest easy my friend and enjoy being in the presence of our Lord.

Lou Mastrofrancesco

Lou Mastrofrancesco - August 30, 2020 at 09:21 PM

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I first met Mark when he arrived his first morning of duty at the Kmart store on Seven Mile Rd and Farmington Rd in Livonia back in 1997. I'd worked overnight on a store expansion project, and that portion of the store was as new to me, as it was to him. After going through several management changes, Mark helped bring back happiness to many store employees, as well as, more importantly, the shoppers. He was very supportive and did a lot to make sure everybody was pleased with their jobs and their shopping experience. He overworked himself a lot physically, too, and wouldn't stop until the job was done. Despite no longer being with us, he really enjoyed everything he did, and was always very friendly. My deepest sympathy to the entire family of Mark Harris. RIP, Mark; You will be dearly remembered, and greatly missed!

Bob Zager

Former Kmart Colleague

Bob Zager - August 29, 2020 at 08:26 PM

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Mark Harris; Friend and neighbor for 22 years, was always pleasant. Mark was a man of faith who applied Christian values daily to his life. Welcoming was another attribute of Mark, as his home was filled over the years with his immediate and distant family. Mark's mother should have only Pride for her son, as his life was filled with vast travels and accomplishments. Cheryl, Mark's love and wife was his joy and soulmate reunited. May God look over Mark's Wife, son's, mother, sister's and brother's along with their spouses and families. I will surly miss Mark my friend and neighbor.

Tim Olszewski

Friend

Timothy Olszewski - August 29, 2020 at 10:48 AM

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“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mark E. Harris.



August 29, 2020 at 10:03 AM

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“ Cory and Chris and families, Virginia, Shirley and all the Harris Family. My deepest sympathy and heartfelt sorrow is with you all. I have such wonderful memories of years spent with Mark. Although we parted, we loved seeing each other over the years. Know he is in a better place now. His memories will be forever in our hearts. Rest with the Angels now my Zorro. Thanx for the memories.



**Carol Cauchi** - August 28, 2020 at 09:19 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mark E. Harris.



August 28, 2020 at 09:15 PM

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“ I only knew of Mark as seeing his smiling face as he greeted people on the 2nd floor of Northridge Church. I usually sat in "his section" so saw him most Sundays. May God welcome him home!

Brian Bell

Brian Bell - August 28, 2020 at 11:25 AM

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“ Thorne Family Chapman family Wright Family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Mark E. Harris.



Thorne Family Chapman family Wright Family - August 28, 2020 at 08:51 AM

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“ Mike Wimberly lit a candle in memory of Mark E. Harris



Mike Wimberly - August 28, 2020 at 08:21 AM

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“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mark E. Harris.



August 27, 2020 at 10:03 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mark E. Harris.



August 27, 2020 at 09:54 PM

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“ Mark was a great friend and we will miss him. He may be gone but he will never be forgotten.

He lives on in our hearts and minds.

RIP Mark.

Jim & July Freeman

**Jim Freeman** - August 27, 2020 at 07:54 PM



“ Mark, I know that you are enjoying eternal life next to our Heavenly Father, we will miss you and you will be forever in our hearts.

July Freeman

**July** - August 27, 2020 at 10:01 PM



“ Mark I always enjoyed seeing your smile, you stood out in the crowd with your personality, our class of 1969, are truly going to miss you. Jo Ann Baize

**Jo Baize** - August 28, 2020 at 03:49 AM

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“ Tina and Brian Hess and Jim and Linda Jensen purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mark E. Harris.



**Tina and Brian Hess and Jim and Linda Jensen** - August 27, 2020 at 04:48 PM

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“ Mark, you will be missed by so many. I will miss our laughter on the golf course and the occasional time with your brothers. Good times will not be the same. Deepest sympathy to Cheryl and the rest of the family. Ron and Kathy Morrow.

**Ron Morrow** - August 27, 2020 at 11:43 AM

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“ Mark was a very good man that seen goodness in everyone he meet. He loved making his family laugh as they all enjoyed laughing with one another. I will always remember that great quality in him and his family .Family and his children were so very important in his life As well his church. Elvis Presley impact peoples lives and Mark Harris loved to emulate him Therefore Bringing much joy entertainment too many peoples life. So many great qualities so many lives affected by you and your kindness Mark Harris.. now you are there with your savior Singing his praises You will be dearly missed...

**Anita and Jack Brown** - August 27, 2020 at 09:06 AM

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“ Mark  
You were truly not only a Brother in-law but a Big Brother to me. You inspired me to be a better person. You always shined a bright light on bad situations . Never met a stranger. Shared your Love for Jesus with anyone who would listen. A true Best Friend to your brothers and sisters. We played many rounds of Golf with your Brothers and the Blair boys. It was always fun especially when Gordon would say HIT IT AS FAR AS YOU CAN, and you would crack up every-time. And you and I still had a playoff with Jim and Bob Blair to break the tie we had last year, We will play that one in Heaven. I have so many Memories and theirs not enough space to share them Here. I loved you Dearly, You were one of Gods perfect Examples of How God Intended us to Treat others. Your resting in Heaven maybe even in the Band with Elvis who Knows. You will be missed by all of us. But for sure we will be together Again

With Much Love Mike Wimberly

**Mike Wimberly** - August 27, 2020 at 09:02 AM

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“ Mark you will be truly missed by everyone that knew you. Thank you for 62 years of great memories. Jim & Phyllis Blair

**James R. Blair** - August 26, 2020 at 06:15 PM



“ Mark, you will be missed by so many. Your caring and friendships with so many will never be forgotten. You have touched so many lives and your legacy will go on and on. Rest in peace my friend

**Jerry Harmon** - August 26, 2020 at 07:39 PM



“ Mark I had the pleasure to call you my friend for over 60 years. I will miss you everyday. We sure had some good times going to Florida to golf with Jim Gordy and Scott. Golfing will never be the same. Rest in peace Bob & Janet Blair

**Bob Blair** - August 27, 2020 at 10:33 AM