



James William "Bill" Harris

January 1, 1927 - January 23, 2020

James William (Bill) Harris, longtime Ann Arbor resident and former Ford Motor Company public relations manager, died peacefully at home on January 23, 2020. A Memorial Service will be held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division, Ann Arbor on February 1, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. Mr. Harris is survived by his wife of 64 years, Mary Carolee; three daughters: Elizabeth Harris of Ann Arbor, Margaret Johnson-Muse (Dave) of Dearborn, and Ann Mueller (Gary) of Canton; grandchildren: Michael Harris Johnson, James McCall Johnson, and Rachael Amanda (Nicholas) Hendzell; and one great-grandchild, Henry David Hendzell. Mr. Harris was born Jan. 1, 1927 in Greensboro, NC, the son of Ben and Pauline (Palmer) Harris. Four brothers pre-deceased him and numerous nieces and nephews survive him. He married Mary Carolee Kurtz on December 17, 1955. After service in the U.S. Navy during World War II and graduating from Illinois Wesleyan University, Mr. Harris was a reporter for the Daily Pantagraph in Bloomington, IL. He then served as State Legislative reporter for the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, joining Ford Motor Company in 1963 as a speechwriter. He was subsequently manager of the Corporate News Department and Stockholder Relations, retiring in 1987. Mr. Harris was a loving father and grandfather. He cherished his family and his friends. He was a member of the Detroit Press Club and the Public Relations Society of America. A lifelong Episcopalian, Mr. Harris was a member of St. Andrew's Church, Ann Arbor, and St. James Church, Pentwater, MI. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Breakfast at

St. Andrews. To share a memory, please use the share a memory tab on this web page.

Previous Events

Gathering of Family and Friends

FEB 1. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
306 N. Division
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Memorial Service

FEB 1. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
306 N. Division
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Tribute Wall



“ *James William "Bill" Harris*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers as you suffer this loss together. God Bless you all and know Heaven just gained another Angel.*

Bruce Higgins - January 30, 2020 at 12:19 PM



“ *To my Great Grandpa, I love you so much.
Love, Henry*



Rachael Hendzell - January 29, 2020 at 01:09 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Rachael Hendzell - January 29, 2020 at 01:08 PM

RH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rachael Hendzell - January 29, 2020 at 01:07 PM

RH

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Rachael Hendzell - January 29, 2020 at 01:06 PM

RH

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Rachael Hendzell - January 29, 2020 at 01:05 PM

RH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Rachael Hendzell - January 29, 2020 at 01:04 PM