



Franklin Delano Harris

November 27, 1933 - May 5, 2020

Franklin Delano Harris, 86, of Laurie, Mo., passed away from complications of lung cancer on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, with his son by his side. He was born on November 27, 1933, in Milan, Mo., the son of Hazel and Everett Harris.

He graduated from Milan High School in 1951. He held a degree in agriculture from the University of Missouri-Columbia, a master's degree in public health from the University of Nebraska, where, except for submitting a dissertation, he also completed a Ph.D. program in public health. He served in the U.S. Army 2nd Armored Division in West Germany from 1956 – 1958.

In 1958, he married Phyllis Kay Badger of Browning, Mo., and they celebrated 61 years of marriage last August before her unexpected death in November. He is survived by a son John (Cari); and by three grandchildren, Ashley and Brandon Rinne and Claire Harris. He was also preceded in death by his daughter Cynthia Rinne.

For 27 years, Kay and Franklin called Lincoln, Neb., home, where Franklin was Bureau Director of the Nebraska Department of Health. They raised their children in Lincoln and hosted many friends and relatives when Mizzou played Nebraska. He was a member of Elks Lodge #80 and later Lodge #2705 in Laurie, holding leadership positions in both. He was a 50-year member of the Masonic Lodge.

In 1995, Kay and Franklin retired to the Lake of the Ozarks near Laurie, Mo. There they were excellent hosts to family and friends who stopped by often. Franklin was a life-long Democrat, and he was a keen and curious observer of social and political changes during his long life. He loved boating and especially enjoyed Elks outings in his pontoon boat on a 90-mile trip to Warsaw, Mo.

He loved entertaining the larger Harris family for annual gatherings dubbed The Big H. He was happiest when family gathered on the patio and children were running around the dock and, jumping into the lake and going on jet ski rides. He was looking forward to the 2020 Big H gathering in July.

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, July 17, 2020. Visitation will begin at 10:30 a.m. and services at 11:00 a.m. at the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel. Memorial contributions may be directed to Westside Senior Activity Center, 1501 Hwy O Road, Laurie, MO 65037 (attn. Julie). For everyone's safety, we will practice social distancing and masks will be worn. There will be masks available if you forget yours at home.

Arrangements are under the direction and care of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel.

Cemetery Details

Garber Memorial Estates

417 Silvey Rd.
Laurie, MO 65038
(573) 374-7688

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 17. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home - Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel
417 Silvey Rd.
Laurie, MO 65038
(573) 374-7688

Celebration of Life

JUL 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

HM

“ I am sorry to have learned today of Frank's passing. My deepest sympathy is hereby extended to his family. I worked with Frank many years ago at the Nebraska State Department of Health. He and I were Bureau Directors, he over public health education and I over professional licensure. We spent much time working together to establish and implement health policies, including state and federal statutes and regulations. Frank deeply cared about the health and wellbeing of Nebraskans and the people with whom he worked.



*Helen Meeks
Lincoln, NE*

Helen Meeks - May 11, 2020 at 07:39 PM

MW

“ I'm delighted to say that Frank was my first boss and a great boss. He respected my abilities and never lowered himself to being a micro-manager - a skill many managers never learn. Frank laughed often and my wife and I have many memories of parties he and Kay hosted. Our thoughts are of his family and I'm sure they know Frank and Kay were loved by all who knew them.

Mike and Sandi Wight

Mike and Sandi Wight - May 11, 2020 at 09:23 AM

DC

“ I had the honor to work for Frank as my Bureau Director at Nebraska Department of Public Health for eight years. He was a fair, kind, honest administrator who was approachable and truly cared about his employees. I so much appreciated Frank's knowledge and practical approach to solving issues. He was one of those special administrators who made you feel valued and created a work environment where it was enjoyable to come to work everyday. Thank you Frank, you were one of the best. I will light a fire and have a drink in your honor tonight. May the force be with you.....

Dean Cole - May 10, 2020 at 03:48 PM



“ I love you papa . I'm gonna miss you. Hope you and Grammy and mom and dad are all having a good time again!! Hope to see you guys again some day. RIP love you yall

Brandon Rh - May 07, 2020 at 05:18 PM

TC

“ Frank and Kay were our best friends in Lincoln. My husband and Frank worked together for 30 years at the State Health Department. So many wonderful memories of many, many good times we shared together. Sincere sympathy to John and family.

Teresa Dills Custer - May 07, 2020 at 02:00 PM