



Millard "Mel" Harris

JUL 4, 1930 - SEP 15, 2016



Scan to Visit

Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



Millard "Mel" Harris

JUL 4, 1930 - SEP 15, 2016

Millard “Mel” Harris, age 86, passed away on September 15, 2016. Mel was born and raised in Brewton, Alabama and attended broadcasting school in Tennessee. He returned home and worked in broadcasting for several years, then joined the U.S. Army and was stationed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

Mel relocated to DeRidder, LA to work for West Brother’s Department Store. He then joined the staff of the First Baptist Church in DeRidder, LA and established the church’s first television ministry.

Mel continued his broadcasting career, including time spent at KJAE FM located in Leesville, LA. While there, he handled gospel programming and hosted the well-known program entitled the “Swap Shop”. He also promoted many gospel concerts during this time. He retired from KJAE in 2014.

At one time, Mel taught televised Sunday School classes for the First Baptist Church in Leesville, LA, where he was a member for many years. He served on the Vernon Parish School Board for 11 years and volunteered his time and energy to numerous community charities.

Mel was preceded in death by his mother and father, Stella Thompson Harris and George Harris. He is survived by his sons, Johnny Harris of Brewton, Alabama and Rick Harris of Norwich, England. He is likewise survived by his daughters Patsy Lato of Spring, Texas, as well as Pam Harris of Leesville, LA and Kaylee Evans, also of Leesville, LA. Mel leaves behind 11 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and 4 great great grandchildren. He also has one Brother, Roy Harris and his wife Barbara, from Brewton, Alabama. Two sisters, Viola Harris from Keystone Heights, Florida and Betty Hoffman and her husband Rodger also from Key Stone Heights, Florida.

Visitation will be held at Labby Memorial in Leesville, LA on Wednesday, September 21st 2016, from 5:00 to 9:00 PM.



Obituary

Millard "Mel" Harris

JUL 4, 1930 - SEP 15, 2016

Services will be held at First Baptist Church in Leesville, LA on Thursday September 22, 2016 at 2:00 PM.



Tribute Wall

Millard "Mel" Harris

JUL 4, 1930 - SEP 15, 2016



Anonymous posted:

Hard to believe it's been 8 years. The world is in bad shape and could use a few more Mel Harris's right now. Miss you my friend!

September 13 at 7:00 PM



Carole Magaha Barnes posted:

Someone told me about Mel Harris obituary today and I often wondered what happened to him. He lived a nice "chunk of his life" in the small town of Jay, Florida (piney woods panhandle) where I grew up. He was the local photographer and newspaper man then. He was so nice to teenage me. He also lined the senior class of 1960 Jay High School (donned in rented caps and gowns) up on the auditorium steps and took our formal picture. When he got back to develop it he discovered he had forgotten to load the film. We had to do it again. When I married at 19 and had a baby girl he called me when I came home from Calif. for a visit and posed us for a front page picture in an issue of the town paper. My better half had his eyes shut. So my memories of Mr. Harris are a bit whimsical but he was a dear man and I'm glad to read that he lived a full life to the very end. The world needs more of his good kind nature in the world.

November 20 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

May fond memories and loving words comfort your family at this difficult time. (Isaiah 57:15)

September 22 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

So sorry for the loss of your loved one. Please know that God hears the cries of those in grief and lovingly cares for them. Psalms 4:1, Jeremiah 29:11-13.

September 20 at 7:00 PM



Ranelle Birmingham posted:

Mr. Mel was a fantastic friend who truly lived an unselfish life devoted to the Lord and serving others. He will be and is missed but I know he is celebrating eternity in heaven and still sharing that big smile to all he greets.

September 20 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Millard "Mel" Harris

JUL 4, 1930 - SEP 15, 2016

TW

Tammy Williams posted:

Sending my condolences,loved to hear him on the swap shop

September 18 at 7:00 PM

AB

Allen Bradley posted:

What a wonderful man! Mel was kind, thoughtful and supportive of those he knew. He was a dedicated public servant. I shall miss him.

September 17 at 7:00 PM

BS

Bertha Spears posted:

Hosting the Angel choir in Heaven. Gone home to be with Jesus. Heartfelt sympathy to family and friends. A great loss. Forever loved and missed . Mr. Mel has gained his great rewards.

September 17 at 7:00 PM

JM

Jackie Mcrae posted:

Morris and I send our thoughts and prayers to the entire family. God be with you.Morris and Jackie McRae

September 17 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Can't believe Mr Mel is Gone he will be missed . Used to listen to him every morning on the swap shop . That's the one thing I missed when I left there after I lost my husband almost two yrs ago he would always turn the radio on in the mornings to hear Mel may you rest in peace .

September 16 at 7:00 PM

WS

Wade & Brenda Stanley posted:

We are so sorry to hear of Mels passing. Our prayers are for the family.

September 16 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Millard "Mel" Harris

JUL 4, 1930 - SEP 15, 2016

RD

Raymond & Nadine Dees posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with ya'll during this time of loss. May God's grace comfort you throughout the coming days.

September 16 at 7:00 PM

PQ

Pat Quirk posted:

Always enjoyed hearing Mel on the swap shop and running into him around town. His upbeat personality always made the day better. He will be missed. My deepest condolences to his family

September 16 at 7:00 PM

BD

Billy Dixon posted:

This gentleman always had a warm smile and a kind word for everyone. He will be missed by so many people. Rest in peace, my friend.

September 15 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Hard to believe you are gone uncle. Memory eternal.

September 15 at 7:00 PM

CD

Chris & Warren Dixon posted:

Prayers from Ohio

September 15 at 7:00 PM

JW

James L Walters posted:

A sad goodbye to "MR VERNON PARISH". Mel's smile and happy greeting will be missed!

September 15 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Millard "Mel" Harris

JUL 4, 1930 - SEP 15, 2016

RM

Ricky M posted:

Mel you will be missed. I always new I was home when I heard you voice.

September 15 at 7:00 PM



Anonymous posted:

Deepest sympathy. Mel always had a smile and was a gentleman. Edwin L. Cabra, Baton Rouge, La.

September 15 at 7:00 PM

BH

Brenda Holmes posted:

So sad to hear of Mr. Mel's passing. From the time we arrived here many years ago I listened to him on the Swap Shop and saw him out in the area at community events. I had the pleasure of attending the same church as he did and got to hear him do many narrations. His voice was just a big part of our town. People may not have known his face but they knew that voice. Rest in peace Mel. Your work here is done. We will miss you!.

September 15 at 7:00 PM

MZ

Millie Zane posted:

So sorry to hear of Mr. Mel's passing. He always had a wonderful smile and a positive outlook on life. No matter the situation he was in personally, he always made you feel good when you talked to him. My deepest condolences to his family.

September 15 at 7:00 PM

BS

Bertha Spears posted:

Heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends Mel was a great man. Thought a lot of him. He will be dearly missed and always loved and never forgotten. I always looked forward to Swap Shop to hear Brother Mel. A great friend . May God comfort and strengthen the family and friends in their time of loss. Loved and missed.

September 15 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

Millard "Mel" Harris

JUL 4, 1930 - SEP 15, 2016

MP

Modie Phillips posted:

You will be missed Mel. So enjoyed hearing you on the radio for so many years.

September 15 at 7:00 PM

JW

Julie Wineland posted:

The voice of Vernon Parish. He will be missed. Prayers to family and friends.

September 15 at 7:00 PM

CB

Cody Black posted:

You're truly missed Mel. You were the voice of Vernon parish for many decades and I'm proud to call you my friend.

September 15 at 7:00 PM

SL

Stacy Lee posted:

I will keep his family in prayer so sorry for your loss. I always loved listening to Mr. Mel on the radio he will be missed.

September 15 at 7:00 PM

SJ

Suzy Johnson posted:

You will be missed...RIP.

September 15 at 7:00 PM

DM

Dana Mcpherson posted:

Rest in peace

September 15 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Millard by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



Scan to Visit