



David Lawrence Harris

December 4, 1953 - January 9, 2026

David Lawrence Harris of Henderson, Maryland, passed away peacefully on Friday, January 9th, 2026. He was 72 years old.

David was born in Dover, Delaware, to the late Lawrence Milton Harris and Joyce Ann Cole Harris. He grew up on the family farm in Henderson, Maryland, where he helped his father milk cows and assisted with various other aspects of the farming operation. As a young man, he was also employed by Saulsbury Brothers in Ridgely, Maryland.

David graduated from North Caroline High School in 1971 and attended Delaware Technical and Community College in Georgetown, Delaware. After college, he was employed by a surveying company, Mccann Surveyors, assisting in surveying property in Sussex County, Delaware.

Realizing farming was his passion, David returned to Henderson, Maryland, and purchased a farm. David knew that diversification was the key to success in the farming field, building four chicken houses on that farm. He raised many flocks of chickens, tilled his own farm, and rented other farms locally to grow tobacco, com, and soybeans. David also owned and operated Harris Custom Mowing where he mowed tax ditches in Maryland and Delaware mowing thousands of miles of ditches in his lifetime. He even designed and fabricated a custom wiper bar, a specialized tractor-mounted tool, for ditch bank maintenance. David partnered with Horn Point Laboratory through the University of Maryland Extension for many projects. He allowed them access to the farm's soil and water for various testing and research. David's farm was

a "Best Management Practices Test Farm".

David enjoyed taking care of honey bees and harvesting honey with as many as 15 hives at one time. He was an avid Nascar fan, watching many races at "The Monster Mile." He enjoyed swimming with his grandchildren for many summers at the family pool and spent his extra time hunting, fishing, camping, making cherry wine and beer, and riding four wheelers with friends.

He was a member of the Maryland Farm Bureau and served on the Board of Directors for the Caroline County Soil Conservation District for 30 years.

David married the love of his life, Rose, in 1982 and remained married for 43 years. David and Rose raised three fine children of which he was very proud: Gina Zook (Wayne Bolt), Christopher Harris (Mary) and Jennifer Petroski (Neil). He was lucky enough to spend time with four wonderful grandchildren: Ryan, Doran, Lyla, and Tyler.

David is survived by his immediate family mentioned above; brother, Randy Harris (Nancy); sister, Gayle Gage (John); mother-in-law, Bernice Rogers; brother-in-law, Gordon Rogers; sister-in-law, Tammy Pickett (Jack); and many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to give a special thanks to Tonya and Nicole, from Compass Hospice, for the care David received over the last few weeks. Friends may visit the family from 10:00-11:00 on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at Fleegle and Helfenbein Funeral Home, 106 W. Sunset Avenue, Greensboro, Maryland. Services will be held from 11:00-12:00. Please join us for a gathering at Goldsboro Fire Hall immediately following the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to: Compass Regional Hospice, 160 Coursevall Drive, Centreville, MD 21617 or Caroline County Conservation District, 9194 Legion Road, Suite 3, Denton, MD 21629

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Fleegle & Helfenbein Funeral Home
106 W. Sunset Ave.
Greensboro, MD 21639

Celebration of Life

JAN 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fleegle & Helfenbein Funeral Home
106 W. Sunset Ave.
Greensboro, MD 21639

In Lieu of flowers contributions can be sent to Compass Regional Hospice or to the Caroline County Soil Conservation

Tribute Wall



“ *Fleegle and Helfenbein Funeral Home, PA created a Webcast in memory of David Lawrence Harris*



Fleegle and Helfenbein Funeral Home - January 19 at 10:02 AM

RI

“ *I had no idea that David was gone. I am shocked. I would love to express my condolences and send love to the family.*

Ricky Ivens - May 02 at 03:10 PM

SC

“ *Speedy, Michelle, Little Speedy & Connor planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Lawrence Harris.*

Speedy, Michelle, Little Speedy & Connor - January 19 at 04:51 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of David Lawrence Harris.*



January 19 at 04:51 PM

ND

“ Nancy, Randy, Jake and Dean planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Lawrence Harris.

Nancy, Randy, Jake and Dean - January 19 at 11:44 AM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of David Lawrence Harris.



January 19 at 11:44 AM

PT

“ David was a classmate of mine, through middle and high school. He was such a nice guy, with a kind smile and personality. So sorry for your loss 🙏.

Patricia Taylor - January 15 at 08:14 AM

LK

“ Louise K. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of David Lawrence Harris.



Louise K. - January 14 at 01:54 PM

JB

“ Dear Rose and all your family.
We are so sorry for your loss and we are
praying for you. May God be with you. (A
special "Hi!" to Jennifer.)
Love,
Jim and Pam Bilbrough



Jim and Pam Bilbrough - January 13 at 06:47 PM

DC

“ Denise Carroll lit a candle in memory of David
Lawrence Harris



Denise Carroll - January 13 at 06:46 PM

CR

“ Charlene Rampmeyer lit a candle in memory
of David Lawrence Harris



Charlene Rampmeyer - January 13 at 07:29 AM

CR

“ I was so sorry to hear of the passing of David. We were
classmates.He was the nicest person. Always smiling. I'm so glad I
ran into him. Sending prayers to you and your family. RIP

Charlene Rampmeyer - January 13 at 07:28 AM

TJ

“ *The Carters - Mike, Mandi and Jonathan purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of David Lawrence Harris.*



The Carters - Mike, Mandi and Jonathan - January 12 at 11:32 PM

KB

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Sending condolences and prayers to the family. Hold on to the memories.*
Kimberly and Hope Brown

Kim Brown - January 12 at 10:35 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of David Lawrence Harris.*



January 12 at 06:09 PM

JS

“ *Rose, Chris, Jen, Gina and family, please accept our condolences David was an awesome guy. Lifting prayers of comfort and peace to all.*



Jeff & Linda Scott - January 12 at 05:32 PM

FH

“ So very sorry for your loss love prayers and love



Faye Harris - January 11 at 05:35 PM

DT

“ David was a great guy, a good farmer, and a classmate. My condolences to his family. Rest In Peace, Dave.



Dan Towers - January 11 at 12:14 PM