



Wayne F. Harris

OCT 12, 1950 - NOV 29, 2018



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



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Sixty-eight years.

In terms of life, it doesn't seem long. But that depends on perspective.

Wayne Frederick Harris, who passed away Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018, lived 68 years.

Wayne was born and grew up in Syracuse, N.Y., and attended Henninger High School. He married young and spent nearly 50 years with his wife. He had two children. He loved his family fiercely and worked hard to ensure they had good lives. Speaking of work, you name it, he did it. He drove an ice cream delivery truck. He was a salesman of many things – liquor, construction equipment, cleaning supplies. He settled into a role with the New York State Department of Transportation and retired as a pavement marking supervisor after more than 20 years of service. He took immense pride in his work, no matter the task.

He loved to fish and bought an old wooden boat from a friend. He refurbished it, got it seaworthy and spent countless hours on Oneida Lake and other Central New York waterways with friends and family. He brought home fresh fish for dinner sometimes.

He fixed cars – so many cars – using his knowledge, Chilton manuals, colorful language and sometimes even scraps of sheet metal. He had a brilliant mind that was a perfect mix of intelligence and common sense.

People called him Big Wayne. He was indeed large – in stature and personality. He stood over 6 feet tall, was boisterous, gregarious and had a quick wit.

He was a pain – in fact, his self-moniker was “Wayne the Pain.” He was stubborn and tough until the end. He was respected and loved, and he will be missed beyond words.

Wayne is survived by his wife, Barbara (Moore); a daughter, Kymberli; a son, Doug (Emily); a grandson, Connor; a sister, Deborah Petitto; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his father, Robert Harris; his mother, Marjorie



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Harris (Jones); his brother, Robert Harris Jr.; and Jackson, a Jack Russell terrier who liked to share meals with him and steal his socks.

Services are private. His family thanks everyone for their love, support and prayers during this time.

“May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back.” – Irish proverb



Tribute Wall

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WC

Wendy Callin posted:

Debby..this is your cousin wendy harris callin..Henry's daughter reaching out to you I'm so sorry for your loss s...I think of you all from time to time remembering the fun we had at your house.

October 29 at 5:01 PM

LC

Linda Florence Callahan posted:

Dear Emily, Doug and, Family:This is to offer my condolences. I was so very sorry to hear about your loss.Linda Florence Callahan

December 8 at 8:29 AM

KC

Kristy Clifford posted:

Our deepest condolences to your whole family.- Michael Nicoletti & Kristy Nicoletti-Clifford

December 5 at 9:55 AM

MS

Mark Sabatino posted:

My most sincere condolences to the Wayne Harris family. I have many fond memories going back to our high school days with Wayne and his friend Dick Sukalowski. Sorry to hear of this loss. RIP old friendMark Sabatino

December 3 at 1:30 PM



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Walt Kuryla posted:

Barb, lym, Doug, we would like to offer you our sincere condolences. Wayne was a good man. Even though it's been a long time since we seen him there are still some good memories to share. Like when the 2 of us coached an Eastwood T-Ball team. Try telling a bunch of 7-8 yr old boys and girls (yeah we had 2 girls on the team) to keep your eye on the ball when batting and if the ball was hit to you, which base to throw it to. Another time we ran into Wayne at a St. John the Baptist parish event (field days?) We all decided to go to Coleman's for a few drinks. When we got there an Irish band was playing and Wayne with those 2 eyebrows looking like he was scowling at you grabbed a chair and moved it up to within 5 feet of the band sat down and stared. I watched as band members looked at each other as if to say " Are we going to have some trouble here." When the band finished their set Wayne stood and gave them a standing ovation and joined us at the bar. Rest in peace Wayne. Cousin Walt and Linda

December 1 at 6:31 PM



Doug Harris December 3 at 7:07 AM

This is a great story. Thank you for sharing.



Kathy Young December 2 at 3:36 PM

Will miss you Wayne. Rest in peace. Condolences and prayers for Barbara, Kym and Doug and his family.



Michelle & Fabian lit a candle in honor of Wayne.

Barb, Kym and Doug: We are so very sorry for your loss. What a beautiful tribute this obituary is. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this horrible time. May he rest in peace.



December 1 at 9:37 AM



Caroline Fadian posted:

Wayne was such a big part of my life. I have so many funny Wayne stories, he was larger than life when we were growing up and even now. The Karate pants, the mustache, the silly rhymes (beans, beans, the magical fruit...) he was a great man and I loved him! Love you guys! ❤️

December 1 at 5:49 AM



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JF

John Fadian posted:

I remember spending the night at your house and he would come upstairs and play video games with us. He always spoke and joked around with us like little adults. I remember his joke books that were in the bathroom beside the toilet. I remember riding out to video king in his Trans Am when I would stay over. And then stopping for ice cream on the way back. Sometimes I felt like I spend more time at your house than I did at my own house growing up. My childhood wouldn't have been the same without him. And you Doug.

November 30 at 5:08 PM

MA

Mark December 1 at 2:30 AM

An awesome tribute to a great man. God bless bless you Wayne. You lived life well. Godspeed on the next phase of your journey. You'll be missed and never forgotten.

DH

Doug Harris November 30 at 6:12 PM

Beautiful words, man. My childhood wouldn't have been the same without your dad, too. Love you, brother.



Memories only last if you share them

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



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