

A Celebration of Life  
For  
**Jay Rite Harris**  
November 28, 1934– December 26, 2021



January 12, 2022

**First United Methodist Church McKinney**

315 N. Church St. | McKinney, TX 75069 | 972-562-8556

SharingTheHeart.org

*Sharing the heart of Christ from the heart of McKinney*



# CELEBRATION OF LIFE

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PRELUDE

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

\*SEATING OF THE FAMILY

\*GREETING AND INVOCATION

\*HYMN

“Eternal Father, Strong To Save”  
(The Hymn of the United States Navy)

Melita

ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE, WHOSE ARM HATH BOUND THE RESTLESS WAVE, WHO BIDST THE MIGHTY OCEAN DEEP ITS OWN APPOINTED LIMITS KEEP; OH, HEAR US WHEN WE CRY TO THEE, FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA!

O CHRIST! WHOSE VOICE THE WATERS HEARD, AND HUSHED THEIR RAGING AT THY WORD, WHO WALKEDST ON THE FOAMING DEEP, AND CALM AMIDST ITS RAGE DIDST SLEEP; OH, HEAR US WHEN WE CRY TO THEE, FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA!

O HOLY SPIRIT! WHO DIDST BROOD UPON THE CHAOS DARK AND RUDE, AND BID ITS ANGRY TUMULT CEASE, AND GIVE, FOR WILD CONFUSION, PEACE; OH, HEAR US WHEN WE CRY TO THEE, FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA!

O TRINITY OF LOVE AND POWER! OUR BRETHREN SHIELD IN DANGER'S HOUR; FROM ROCK AND TEMPEST, FIRE AND FOE, PROTECT THEM WHERESOEVER THEY GO; THUS EVERMORE SHALL RISE TO THEE GLAD HYMNS OF PRAISE FROM LAND AND SEA.

• AN AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

WE BELIEVE IN A LOVING GOD FROM WHOM WE COME AND TO WHOM WE RETURN.

WE BELIEVE IN CHRIST WHO REDEEMS AND RECEIVED US AS A COVENANT FAMILY.

WE BELIEVE IN GOD'S HOLY SPIRIT WHO IS NEAR TO US AND SUSTAINS US.

WE BELIEVE IN THE FAMILY OF FAITH WHERE WE ARE SUPPORTED AND LOVED.

WE BELIEVE THAT FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE ABIDE, AND THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.

Solo

“Hymn of Promise”

WITNESS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

John 14: 1-6, 25-28

Romans 8: 28, 31, 35-38

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*\*You are invited to stand as you are comfortable.*

WITNESS OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

SOLO

“JESUS LOVES ME”

WITNESS OF THE GOSPEL

\*HYMN 378

“AMAZING GRACE”

USA MELODY

\*BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL AND POSTLUDE

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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You are invited to a Reception for the Harris Family immediately following the Service.  
Please proceed to Dyer Hall as guided by today's ushers.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY  
Dr. Don F Renshaw, Pastor  
Dr. Ed Volfe, Pastor  
Mr. John Emory Bush, Organist  
Nathan Schafer, Soloist

## Obituary

Jay Rite Harris, 87, of McKinney, Texas, passed away on December 26, 2021, from complications of Parkinson's. He was born on November 28, 1934, in Monticello, Arkansas, to Travis and Bertie Harris. He graduated in 1953 from Eudora High School, earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from University of Central Arkansas and served three years of active duty in the U.S. Navy aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Lake Champlain CVS-39. He retired from Naval Reserve in 1972 as Lieutenant.

In 1960, he was employed by The Travelers Insurance Company in Lubbock, Texas, where he met and married Charlotte Sneed on July 20, 1962. The couple lived in Houston, Texas, Phoenix, Arizona, Peoria, Illinois and St. Louis, Missouri while with the Travelers. During that time, they added a daughter and two sons to their family.

In 1975, Jay resigned as a Travelers Commercial & Casualty Property Manager and moved the family to Sweetwater, Texas, where he was co-owner and operator of The Thompson Insurance Agency. While in Sweetwater, he was active in the community serving on the Chamber of Commerce board, as chairman of the Rolling Plains Hospital Board, Vice President of the Sweetwater Rotary Club, Chairman of the Administrative Board of First United Methodist Church and on the Advisory Board of the United Methodist Northwest Conference.

In 1982, he joined his brother in the Max Harris & Co. Insurance Agency in Midland, Texas. He retired from the insurance business in 2005 and turned his videography hobby into Lone Star Video Productions. He also worked as a legal videographer through Permian Court Reporters.

In Midland, he was a member of First United Methodist Church and Partners Sunday School Class. He served on the Administrative Board and as chairman of the Finance Committee. He also served as chairman of the Insurance Advisory Board of the United Methodist Northwest Conference and was active in the Midland High Band Boosters Club, serving as treasurer.

In 2008, he again retired and he and Charlotte moved to McKinney where he has been a member of First United Methodist Church and the Canafax Sunday School Class. He has served at FUMC as usher and on the security team.

Jay is survived by his wife of 59 years, Charlotte, and his children, Blake Morgan (Rick) of La Jolla, CA, Paul Harris (Luci) of Austin, Texas and Jim Harris (Jackie) of Plano, Texas, three grandchildren, Taylor Morgan of Dallas, Texas, Thomas Morgan of San Diego, California and Hunter Paulsen of Plano, Texas, sister-in-law, Fern Harris of Midland, Texas, nieces Travis Michael (Terry) of Pagosa Springs, Colorado and Vicki Harris of Cameron, Texas and numerous great and great-great nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Max Harris.

Jay enjoyed videography, fishing and watching football. He enjoyed music and participating with his children in their high school band endeavors. He was so very proud of each of his children and grandchildren.

A graveside inurnment will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery, 2000 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas, Texas 75211.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to First United Methodist Church, McKinney, Texas or a favorite charity.

## Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.”