



## Harlan Knowlton Harris

January 15, 1949 - January 6, 2020

Harlan Knowlton Harris passed away Monday, January 6, 2020 in Libertyville, Illinois. Harlan attended high school at Holderness School in Plymouth, N.H., obtained a BA in Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania, and a Master of International Business at the University of South Carolina. Harlan served three years in the United States Army, spending most of his duty in the Panama Canal Zone. He settled in Libertyville, Illinois in 1997, when he took the position of Vice President of Planning and Financial Analysis for Allegiance HealthCare. Harlan had a long and successful career as a finance leader and business partner in diverse healthcare settings, including overseas manufacturing facilities, a regional sales and distribution center, corporate headquarters, and a physician provider service business. Most recently, until retirement two years ago, Harlan served as Chief Financial Officer of Beaver-Visitec International. Harlan enjoyed his interesting and diversified career which span 32 years. However, his true love was the game of golf. His global travels allowed him to play his game at some of the most interesting and challenging golf courses both nationally and internationally. His most exciting memory was two holes in one at Pine Meadow Country Club, in Libertyville. Harlan is survived by his brother Sumner Harris, sister in law Joyce Harris, three nieces, one nephew, and their children. A celebration of his life is planned for his friends and colleagues in Libertyville, and the family will celebrate his life this summer in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire. Arrangements by Burnett-Dane Funeral Home in Libertyville. For info: 847-362-3009 or share a

memory at [www.burnettdane.com](http://www.burnettdane.com).

# Tribute Wall

LC

“ I am very saddened to learn (very late) of Harlan's passing. I met Harlan in 1990 when I transferred to Chihuahua, Mexico as a Finance person working for Zenith Electronics. Though we initially worked in different plants, the Finance team was mostly made up of University of South Carolina MIBS grads and Thunderbird grads and we made a tight team, spending a lot of time together, particularly on Fridays, when our taco and beer lunches extended late into the afternoons, often ending just in time for us to get back to the plant, pick up our work bags and head home. Eventually both of us left Chihuahua, Harlan for Libertyville and me for various parts of the world. We always kept in touch, and I, too, was for years the lucky recipient of one of Harlan's amazingly intricate (and always Moose-y) hand-drawn Christmas letters; I cherish my collection of them. Harlan was a man of multiple talents and great depth. During our time together in Chihuahua we talked about books, religion (I learned about Unitarianism from him) history, Mexican culture (he had spent time in every region of the country!) and he helped me develop my business skills as well. He was never able to instill a true love of golf in me, though I did appreciate the caddys' delivering cold beer to us as we strolled to the next hole on the few rounds we played together. Harlan was known as the "intellectual" amongst us, probably due at least in part to his New Hampshire accent, but also due to his vast knowledge on so many subjects. He kept a New Yorker cartoon on his desk at work - the line was (something like) "I'm Harlan K. Harris and what are you going to do about it?" He had his own cartoon! In the New Yorker! When he learned that I had participated in a body-building competition while studying at South Carolina, he presented me with a New Yorker cartoon of a body builder standing in front of an HR desk responding to the question "Why is there a gap in your resume from 1987 to 1988?" The answer? I was working on my pecs. Harlan, you were one of the good ones, and you are missed.

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Lynn Chasson - March 14, 2024 at 05:43 AM

GW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Gary Wilson** - June 13, 2020 at 11:01 AM

GW

*I was a member of the 549th MP company, Fort Davis CZ when Harlan was also a fellow MP. Some of us are still in touch, but tragically we only discover the whereabouts of other former members when they pass away. Harlan was a good man and owned a 56 or 57 Chevy when down there. Reading his obituary he has lived a good life, but could have put a few more years under the hood.*

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**Gary Wilson** - June 13, 2020 at 11:05 AM

BH

*Harlan was a good buddy of mine during our time in the 549th MP Company in 1972 and 1973. I enjoyed his humor and wit. He always had a positive attitude and was fun to be with. And quite intelligent. He was near fluent in Spanish and was an avid reader and interested in many topics. He came to visit me in Florida a few years after we both finished our military service. May he Rest In Peace.*

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**bob herring** - June 14, 2020 at 03:34 PM

HZ

“ 1 file added to the album



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**Heather Zabadal** - January 15, 2020 at 01:55 PM

“ I am so devastated to hear about the passing of Harlan. He had such a vibrant personality and everyone that had the privilege of knowing him was extremely blessed.

Just before Christmas, I received Harlan's yearly Christmas card, which he designed himself. It was a drawing of him when he was in Taiwan mountain hiking on a scary bridge with a Christmas moose (I think it was a moose. Would a moose be in Taiwan?) trailing behind. That guy was such an amazing artist and now I have a collection of the Harlan Harris Christmas Card art which I will treasure forever.

When I think of Harlan, the words kindhearted, funny, smart and talented come to mind. He would always make me smile and laugh no matter what the situation was. I have some wonderful memories of him that I will always remember:

- We had nicknames for each other, he would call me Heather McDeather and I called him Harlan McDarlin'!
- I'm sure Harlan's golfing buds know way more about this than I do, but he absolutely loved golf and would let me know every time he would get a hole in one, which was more times than once!
- When I worked in the same department as Harlan years ago, every morning he would round up the crew to go on a coffee break.
- Harlan would always talk about his wooden boat. He must have really loved that boat which I believe he had stored in New Hampshire and I don't know if he ever took it out boating. I would really love to hear more about that boat!
- Harlan loved biking and one Summer we started in Wadsworth at Van Patton Woods and rode all the way to Vernon Hills or Northbrook to the 25 mile mark and we were pretty wiped out so we turned around and rode back to Harlan's house and thankfully he had two cars, so we dropped off the bikes and took his other car and went back to Van Patton Woods and I drove his beloved old jeep back to his house.
- So, I must admit that I am more of a Glamor, Vogue, People Magazine type of person and I would always joke around with Harlan that he only had "smart" magazines spread all over his leather ottoman, and that there was nothing I would want to read.

*He had this, I suppose you would call it a Northeastern New England accent and he would say, "So you don't like my smaaaart magazines?" If you knew Harlan, you would know how this sounds. I loved his remarkable accent!*

*As I read in one of the emails that was recently circulating, "I don't need to remind you what a special guy Harlan was, our loss here on earth is heavens gain." That statement says it all and Harlan will be so deeply missed.*

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**Heather Zabadal** - January 15, 2020 at 01:53 PM

MP

“*I was very saddened to learn of Harlan's passing. I had the pleasure of getting to know him while employed at RoundTable Healthcare Partners. He ALWAYS greeted me with a smile and funny comment. One of my fondest memories of him was his "magical" levitating act performed at a holiday party! Sending my sincere sympathy to his family and good friends. May he Rest In Peace.*

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**Marcia Parkinson** - January 15, 2020 at 10:20 AM