



Vena Beatrice Holt Harris

October 1, 1927 - April 26, 2020

MOCKSVILLE - Mrs. Vena Beatrice Holt Harris, 92, formerly of 673 S. Salisbury Street, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, community and business leader of Mocksville, died Sunday, April 26, 2020.

She was born in Surry County to the late Emery Weldon and Drucilla Hurt Holt, October 1, 1927, the youngest of 8 children. She was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, James Roy Harris, plus five brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include a daughter, June Harris Johnson (Bill); a son, Joe C. Harris (Debby) of Mocksville; seven grandchildren, Ellyn Johnson Owens (Chris) of Winston-Salem, William Johnson (Scottie) of Bermuda Run, Wesley Johnson (Leila) of Lewisville, Tiffany Harris Lakey (Alan) and Meredith Harris Wagstaff (Neil) of Mocksville, Andrea Jo Harris of Mooresville, and Landon Harris (Hayley) of Chapel Hill; 12 great-grandchildren, Charlie Owens, Ben Owens, Anna Jane Owens, Claire Johnson, Chloe Johnson, Whitman Johnson, Caroline Lakey, Katherine Lakey, M.C. Lakey, Olivia Wagstaff, Harris Wagstaff, and Natalie Jo; two sisters-in-law, Mary Harris of Mocksville and Mildred Harris of Greensboro; plus numerous nieces and nephews.

After the death of her mother when she was 6 years old and the departure of her siblings at age 12, she assumed all household duties on the farm. This molded a philosophy of life that included hard work and devotion to family and faith.

A graduate of Draughn's Business School, Mrs. Harris began her career at the Bank of Elkin in 1945. A year after her marriage to Roy Harris in 1948, they launched a business venture, Davie Auto Parts, in Mocksville, where her skills became integral to its success. She remained active in the business until her retirement in 2003.

Family was her pride and joy as she instilled in them her high personal standards and Christian values. She stressed integrity and commitment, education and excellence, good manners and social graces, all tempered with kindness and generosity. Her love of facing challenges and embracing hard work were infectious to those around her. She and husband Roy knew the importance of traditions, many originating around the dinner table highlighting a menu with barbecued rabbit or freshly caught fish. Their log cabin hosted not only family events, but also special occasions with friends.

Mrs. Harris enjoyed spreading joy to others by sharing gifts from her kitchen, sending

cards expressing love and encouragement, visiting seniors, and directing weddings. She and husband, Roy, were proud of their community and worked diligently to continue its progress. In that spirit, she served as scout leader, member of the Mocksville Woman's Club, Davie County Hospital Auxiliary, and Order of the Eastern Star. She was a board member of the Advocacy Center of Davie County and Davie County Library Board of Trustees, serving as chair. She was most proud of the new library built during that time. She also served on the Mocksville Planning and Zoning Board for 28 years, 18 as chair. Mrs. Harris was an active member of First Baptist Church where she served many years as church treasurer, librarian, Sunday School teacher, CARE Team leader, and served on the Stewardship and Nominating Committees. She was voted FBC Senior of the Year in 2009. The Mocksville Town Board and Mayor Francis Slate honored Mrs. Harris with the first "Key to the City" in the year 2000. She was also awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine for outstanding service to her community in 2005. She accepted these accolades as she lived her life with humility and grace.

Both a private graveside service and a later celebration of life are planned with Dr. Van Lankford officiating.

The family appreciates her dedicated care-giving team of the past ten years, including Latoya Bohannon, Holly Campbell, Crystal Cockerham, Aiyanna Doulin, Darlene Easter, Libby Foster, Shirl Gadson, Sherrie Lowe, Nanette Naylor, Sandra Phelps, Carla Poplin, and the late Ruth Smith.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be considered to First Baptist Church Building Fund, 412 N. Main St., Mocksville, NC, 27028, or to Davie Community Foundation, PO Box 546, Mocksville, NC 27028, with Harris/Johnson Fund for Senior Citizens in the memo.

Cemetery

Rose Cemetery

Cemetery Street

Mocksville, NC, 27028

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Forbis & Dick Funeral Service - April 28 at 03:51 PM



“ What a beautiful tribute for such a lovely Lady

Judy Russell - April 30 at 08:07 AM



“ Such a beautiful video!

Sherry Horton - April 30 at 11:32 AM



“ June and Joe and family....your Mother was such a kind and loving person..

I recall so many Sunday School lessons from her...she was a wonderful lady

I am so glad I can say I was blessed to have known her in my growing years.....God is with you

...love and PRAYERS to you

Rita Cleary Tuttle - April 30 at 11:55 AM



“ June, so very sorry on the loss of your mom. Thinking of you and all your family.

Susan Nash - April 30 at 02:27 PM



“ I am so sorry. Mrs Harris was a mentor to me for me for many years. She was more like a grand than an employer, and she treated me like a granddaughter! I loved her so much.

Joe was close to her also! She will always have a very special place in my heart. There are many things in my home that she gave me and reminders of our time at DAP/DPW. A WONDERFUL classic lady!

angie Blankenship - April 30 at 02:45 PM



“ That video was absolutely beautiful! Thank you for sharing.

angie Blankenship - April 30 at 02:55 PM



“ This video is such a beautiful, loving tribute to a sweet lady. June, my prayers are with you and your precious family.

Phyllis Shore - April 30 at 05:48 PM



“ June, Charles and I were sorry to learn of the passing of your dear mother. We send our heart felt sympathy to you and your family.

Lorene Markland - May 02 at 10:12 PM



“ June and Joe, we were sorry to hear of your mother's passing. She was a wonderful lady who dedicated her life to her faith, family, and community. She made such a difference in the lives of so many, and the legacy continues through her children and grandchildren.

Prayers for you in the coming days and weeks. She is with God and her dear husband and friends in heaven. It must have been a glorious celebration!

Mary Sine - May 05 at 08:38 PM



“ Dear June, Bill, Joe, Debbie and Harris family, I appreciate the quiet dignity your mom lived her life with. What a sweet Southern lady and great mom she was. I know you will really miss her. With prayers for you, Debbie Bingham Pullen

Debbie Bingham Pullen - May 01 at 03:00 PM



“ Thoughts and Prayers



Cathy allen - April 30 at 10:03 PM



“ What a beautiful soul and she will be truly missed.

Debbie&ricky Triplett - April 30 at 08:34 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Mrs Vena's passing She was loved by so many and had such a love of life I remember our trips to the beach , she and Debbie were so much fun and always stopped for strawberries on each trip and of course tar babies restaurant for breakfast or lunch . I feel so privileged to have known and worked with her . Rest in piece sweet lady and know you will always be in my memory love Sue

sue prater - April 30 at 07:00 PM



“ To the Harris Family. I'm so deeply saddened for your loss. My heart goes out to you and your family. So many memories of being in her home with great grandchildren. I know Ms. Vena will truly be missed by all.

Doris Church - April 30 at 10:11 PM



“ Dear June and family, we were so sorry to learn of your mothers passing. What an amazing life she had with serving her God, her family, and friends as her priority. I know she loved her family deeply, was loved by many and will be missed. Thoughts and prayers... with love Carol and Craig

carol livengood - April 30 at 05:46 PM



“ This tribute is so beautiful!
Love and prayers
Connie & Conner Smith



Connie Smith - April 30 at 02:53 PM



“ Tom and I are sorry for your loss to all who knew and loved Mrs. Harris. We hope that all those memories will keep her close to your heart and bring you comfort in the days to come.



ann stayer - April 30 at 10:34 AM



“ Joe, I am sorry for your loss. I am praying for you and your family. Steve Gaither

Steve Gaither - April 29 at 09:03 PM



“ June-I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. What a legacy! You and the family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Shelia W. Stanley



Shelia W Stanley - April 29 at 04:11 PM



“ She was great person and a friend and let me work at Davie auto parts with my dad Charlie Brown to see what kind of work for them and I'm glad to had that change to understand how they run the business and it was a good learning experience for me and I want to say thank you Harris family for that work experience there with you and I will never forget it. Your mother vena was a sweet lady I'm going to miss her very much.

Felisa Robertson - April 29 at 09:57 AM



“ Mrs. Vena Harris was such a sweet lady, always had a smile on her face. Enjoyed the visits I had with her.

Hannah Blake - April 28 at 11:11 PM



“ What a great lady Mrs. Vena touch so many . She will be missed by all .

Donna Stockton - April 29 at 10:29 AM



“ Shayla Brady lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



shayla brady - April 28 at 09:46 PM

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“ Ms. Vena was an incredible God fearing matriarch that has been near & dear to our family for decades. We've enjoyed many amazing memories at church, the Harris home & cabin, Cherry Grove Beach cottage, restaurants, and the list goes on...

God was instrumental in bringing our families together; we never took advantage of each other or His goodness & mercy, only relished in the time He gave us.

June, Bill, Joe & Debby, we love you and your entire family. We pray God's blessings as you cherish the many wonderful memories of your mother/mother-in-law!

With much love,
The Charles Bullock family

Sheila Bullock Colosimo - April 28 at 08:06 PM



“ Susan Raynor lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



Susan Raynor - April 28 at 05:42 PM



“ 46 files added to the album LifeTributes



Forbis & Dick Funeral Service - April 28 at 03:49 PM



“ Belinda Garner lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



Belinda Garner - April 28 at 03:32 PM



“ Stephanie Miller lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



Stephanie Miller - April 28 at 03:26 PM



“ Donna Henderson lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



Donna Henderson - April 28 at 01:22 PM



“ She was an amazing woman who meant so much to everyone who knew her!

Donna Henderson - April 28 at 01:24 PM



“ Crystal Cockerham lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



crystal cockerham - April 28 at 01:07 PM



“ ANN C CLINE lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



ANN C CLINE - April 28 at 01:01 PM



“ Joe, Debby, June and all of the family, I am so sorry for your loss. Mrs. Vena was a wonderful, smart, kind woman that I admired greatly. I am thankful to have had the opportunity to work with her for 3 years. May God bless you with peace and good memories

Lynne Allen - April 28 at 11:33 AM



“ Betty Malpass lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



Betty Malpass - April 28 at 08:59 AM



“ June, Joe and family...so very sorry to hear about Vena. If there ever was a true Southern lady, it was Vena. She was also so gracious, kind and loving to Gayle, McKenzie and me.
Her legacy will live on in your families. Sincere condolences, Tommy and Gayle Cook

Tommy Cook - April 28 at 08:46 AM



“ June and Ellen, I'm so sorry to read of your mom/grandmother's death. My heart goes out to you and the entire family. However, I am delighted for your mom. She is free, whole and at peace. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.
Brenda Plemmons

Brenda Plemmons - April 27 at 11:58 PM



“ Donna Steelman lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



Donna Steelman - April 27 at 08:03 PM



“ Valerie Scott lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



Valerie Scott - April 27 at 07:53 PM



“ Anne Rollins lit a candle in memory of Vena Beatrice Holt Harris



Anne Rollins - April 27 at 07:23 PM



“ My whole childhood is 1 big memory of Vena living across the street from her I played in that big yard along with the other neighbors kids many times She always had a smile on her face a very sweet lady

Pamela Jones Ellington - April 27 at 07:16 PM



“ I remember Mrs. Vena always knowing how to manage or correct any problems we had in our book keeping, and being the sweetest lady in every situation personally and through business. She was always concerned if someone was doing well and had what they needed. I thought of her as the same as my own mother had meant to me. I loved her and Roy Harris and considered them family. It broke my heart when she got hurt and I felt lost when she didn't know me anymore. I know her and Roy will have good times again in heaven where they both are now. I send condolences and prayers for the family during this time of sorrow. My heart morns...



Keith Draughn - April 27 at 05:11 PM



“ A fine, fine lady. My sincere condolences to the entire family.

Monte Taylor - April 27 at 05:36 PM



“ June and Joe, So very sorry for your loss. Mrs Vena was the sweetest, kindest person I have ever known. Bruce was quite fond of her too. Prayers for comfort and peace to all.
Anne Rollins

Anne Rollins - April 27 at 07:26 PM



“ So sorry to the family for your loss! Mrs. Harris was a sweet lady and talented in so many ways! I had the pleasure of getting to know her wit and wisdom as we met at the hair salon each week for our appointments! It was a pleasure to know her and call her my friend!
Karen Anderson

karen Anderson - April 27 at 09:25 PM



“ June, I am so sorry for your loss. Your mother was such a special lady that was such an integral part of First Baptist Church. I will pray for you and your family during this time.

Aleta Zeiler - April 27 at 09:47 PM



“ Sandy always thought so much of Miss Vena. She was always so kind to him when he worked there. So sorry for your loss.

ANN C CLINE - April 28 at 07:59 AM



“ We were very sorry to hear about Mrs Harris. Our prayers are with all the family.

Charles and Kathy Mashburn - April 29 at 10:41 AM



“ Such a beautiful tribute to a woman who was so obviously loved and cherished. And I know she was proud of her gorgeous family.

Nancy Thurston - May 02 at 09:04 AM