



Mr. Chapman Leigh Harrison

October 2, 1925 - May 10, 2015

Chapman Leigh Harrison, of Donnybrook Farm, New Kent, died peacefully on May 10, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Margie Pierce Harrison; daughter, Kendall Harrison Hatley and her husband Robert; two grandchildren, Kristine Harrison Hatley and Robert Carter Harrison Hatley and his wife Christina; and two great grandchildren, Hunter Leigh Harrison Hatley and Hudson Pierce Hatley.

Mr. Harrison, a lifetime resident of New Kent, graduated in 1948 from Virginia Tech after having served in the United States Navy during WWII. At Virginia Tech he was a member of the Cadet Corp, the German Club, and Omicron Delta Kappa, a leadership honor society.

After graduation, he began working at the family Chevrolet dealership, Taylor & Harrison, Inc., where he became owner and operator. There, his successful career spanned fifty years in sales and service to the community.

He was a lifetime member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church where he served as vestryman and president of the Restoration Association.

He was a member of the New Kent Ruritan Club, New Kent Horse Breeders' Association, and New Kent Historical Society. He volunteered with many community programs and was a member of various boards and civic organizations.

He was a true Virginia gentleman whose sense of humor and gift of storytelling would captivate any crowd. He will be greatly missed by all who were blessed to know and love him. The family will receive visitors at St.

Peter's Parish House, New Kent, on May 14 from 4-7 pm. Funeral services will be at St. Peter's on May 15 at 2pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to St. Peter's Restoration Association, 8701 Old Church Road, New Kent, VA, 23124.

Cemetery Details

St. Peter's Parish Church Cemetery

8400 St. Peter's Lane
New Kent, VA 23124

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 14. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

St. Peter's Parish Church
8400 St. Peter's Lane
New Kent, VA 23124

Service

MAY 15. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Peter's Parish Church
8400 St. Peter's Lane
New Kent, VA 23124

Tribute Wall

KR

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Chap in the fall of 2011 when he visited me at Iden for about an hour and gave me a guided tour of his boyhood home. He pointed out the bedroom in which he had been born, noted the use of each room and the location of furniture, as well as the low stairway ceiling on which he had bumped his head. He shared a lot of memories about the old place, such as how he hated raking all of those leaves and building a log cabin in the woods and I wish I had written it all down,.

He could see that we were doing a lot of restoration work and he said, "Well I'm glad it was you who got it!". Nice Tribute.

Just recently I found an old drawstring duffle bag with the name, Harrison, C.L. number 2109. perhaps going back to his Navy days.

My sincere condolences to his friends and family. I wish I had had to opportunity to know him a little better.

Kent La Rue. Iden

Kent La Rue - May 24, 2015 at 08:53 AM

MA

He was a true gentleman my mother's first cousin and my grandmother was born at Iden as well Chap always made you smile loved to joke and a wonderful man

Margaret Leigh Angel - August 25, 2015 at 04:46 AM

MG

“ I was so sorry to hear about the passing of Chap. I started out with GMAC and in all of the years I spent in the automotive industry, I never met a more genuine person/dealer than Chap. He was truly a southern gentleman. I remember fondly the trips we took to Blacksburg at the end of the season, as it was too cold for Margie. My condolences go to Margie and the whole family.

Mark Greer

Mark Greer - May 21, 2015 at 11:33 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Chapman Leigh Harrison.



May 14, 2015 at 08:39 AM

WT

“ My sincere condolences to the family. I remember Chap well and he surely was a true Virginia Gentleman. My father was Wallace Twigg Sr. the Chevrolet Dealer in Mathews. I attended many Chevrolet meetings with Chap, Tom Whitmore, and my Dad. What great memories. v/r Wallace Twigg Jr.

Wallace Twigg - May 13, 2015 at 08:40 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mr. Chapman Leigh Harrison.*



May 13, 2015 at 03:32 PM



“ *In your lifetime a few people came along who really touch you, Chap Harrison was one of those people. His positive attitude, smile, story telling and wonderful laugh will be missed but his memory will live on. My Taylor and Harrison yardstick will hang in my kitchen forever. God Bless you all.*

Frances Davidson - May 13, 2015 at 05:52 AM



“ *I was honored to have known such a kind hearted gentleman. His Irish blessings he prayed over the meals we shared when he visited Savannah were a blessing for all who heard him pray. My grandson Hunter Hatley learned from his great granddaddy Chap those very same blessings and says them at our shared meals. He was a man who made you feel like you had known him your entire life. Loved his story telling of the many adventures he shared with us. He will be missed. Prayers of peace for the family. Frances S Johns ~*

Frances S Johns - May 12, 2015 at 09:42 PM

DM

“ One of the last times that we talked to Chap, he said that he told the doctors that he wanted a heart valve from a thoroughbred when they performed his open heart surgery. Chapman, our dear dear friend, that request was unnecessary because you were born with the heart of a thoroughbred. When Dick and Barbara Moore moved to New Kent to teach in January, 1972, fresh out of college and totally wet behind the ears, we were blessed to have been "adopted" by Chap and Margie, Bud and Jayne, and Cloyd and Jeanne. We could not have dreamed of having better foster parents. They taught us the meaning of true friendship, true kindness, true generosity, and true hospitality. If you are truly fortunate, you will have the opportunity to meet, to know, and to be influenced by someone as remarkable as Chapman Harrison, and we were that fortunate. We were blessed to have known such a wonderful human being, and for that we will be forever grateful.

Dick and Barbara Moore

Dick and Barbara Moore - May 12, 2015 at 09:00 PM

EE

“ What can I say about Chap Harrison? He was a wonderful friend, neighbor, and a true Southern gentleman. Our families go way way back. My father-in-law, Charlie Evelyn, and Chap were very close since both of them had business' in the "Forge"!!! I heard many stories that Chap would tell on Mr. Evelyn - he was a excellent story teller!!! When I first moved to New Kent - Chap and Margie were one of the first families along with Bud and Jayne Thomas that welcomed me to Talleyville. They have truly been a blessing in my life. Chap will be missed so much - but I feel like I am so fortunate to have known this gentle giant and I loved him so much. He really was like a second dad to me - and I have many memories that will stay forever in my heart. Rest in peace now Chap - until we meet again.

Emily Clay

Emily Clay Evelyn - May 12, 2015 at 08:31 PM

BS

“ To Margie, Kendall , Robert, Kristine and Carter my sincere condolences. Chap Harrison was one of the friendliest and most sincere human beings I have ever met. You have some great memories.

Bettianne Sweeney - May 12, 2015 at 04:44 PM

NS

“ Sorry for your loss. We were very fond of Chap. Nancy & Biggie Stapor

Nancy & Biggie Stapor - May 12, 2015 at 12:35 PM

JH

“ Ben and I always liked a visit with Chap. We visited with him when he was visiting Anna and Boogie, who loved him like family. I know all of you have wonderful memories of Chap. Bless all of you. Ben and Judy Higgs

judy Higgs - May 12, 2015 at 12:34 PM

KS

“ My husband and I adored Chap and Margie. We used to attend the Thoroughbred races and saw them weekly during the heyday of Colonial Downs. Chapman was indeed the essential Virginia Gentleman. I cannot imagine a more charming, sweet soul than Chap. The world will be a poorer place for his loss. Our deepest sympathy to Margie, Kendall and Robert and their children. He was so loved by so many people. What a pleasure to share some of the life of this extraordinary gentleman. With love, Katherine and Al Smith

Katherine & Al Smith - May 12, 2015 at 09:29 AM

IC

“ My deepest sympathy to Mr. Harrison's Family. Whenever I saw him in the county he always had a smile and spoke to you. May the good memories you have carry you through he dark times and his sense of humor keep your heart lifted always. Irene Crump



Irene Crump - May 12, 2015 at 08:35 AM

YB

My deepest sympathy to the Harrison family. I basically knew Chap most of my life. My dad, Neal Whitehead worked at Taylor Harrison for 40 years. Chap was a great gentleman and will surely be missed. Dad went on to glory last week so I'm sure he and Chap are up there telling old Taylor & Harrison stories. May your faith sustain you during the trying times,

Yvonne Whitehead Bradby - May 13, 2015 at 10:26 PM

SB

Chap was the kindest person that I have ever met. He exemplified the meaning of a true southern gentlemen. I will always remember him coming to the office; laughing and joking with Mr. Evelyn at C H Evelyn Piling Co. Chap had a contagious laugh and a love for life that always brought a smile to those he came in contact with. It was honor to have known such a wonderful man and he will be truly missed.

Susan Baldwin

susan baldwin - May 15, 2015 at 11:23 AM

SH

Our father, Jim Hurt, thought the world of Chap Harrison. No doubt they met while they were both at Tech, but it was obvious from Dad's behavior that Chap was a friend to cherish for his warmth, integrity and many fine qualities for many years afterwards. We are sure that Dad has been pleased to welcome another Hokie to his corner of heaven. With sympathy, Susan Hurt, Jim (Jamie) Hurt, and Lucy Hurt Wallace

Susan Hurt - May 16, 2015 at 02:53 PM