



Thomas H. "Tom" Harris

December 11, 1928 - January 6, 2022

Thomas H. "Tom" Harris, age 93 of Cadillac passed away on January 6th, 2022, at Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital following a brief illness. Tom was born at home December 11th, 1928, in Ferndale, Michigan to Thomas Edward and Mildred May (Fournier) Harris.

As a young man he enjoyed sports, especially football, where he made multiple tackles and received Honorable Mentions at the Defensive Guard Position. He graduated from Lincoln High School (Ferndale) in 1947. It was when Tom attended Central Michigan University that he discovered the wonder of the natural sciences. He transferred to Michigan State College (University) and in 1951 earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Botany with a Minor in Forestry. Before pursuing his career, he joined the U.S. Army, graduating Officer's Training School in 1952.

He served overseas during the Korean Conflict rising to the rank of Lieutenant. He was stationed in La Rochelle, France and as a Sanitary Engineer in the Medical Corps, overseeing 23 different Army installations. Tom returned home in 1954, where not long after he met the greatest love and inspiration in his life, Marguerite Wedin during a blind date.

Three months later on October 1, 1954 they married. Soon after, they moved to Corvallis, Oregon where Tom enrolled in Oregon State University pursuing

Master's in Forestry and Wood Technology. Following the birth of their first child (Christopher), the family moved to Cadillac in 1957 and in 1958 saw the birth of their daughter (Jennifer.) Tom worked for Wedin Corporation serving as President and General Manager until 1978 when Tom and, Marguerite opened a business of their own; Rempco Inc.

They operated it successfully until it was sold in 2010 and the two permanently retired. Tom was also very active in the community serving on the Building Authority during the construction of the Wexford/Missaukee County Library, Cadillac City Hall, and Fire Station. He was on the boards of Lakeview Manor (Samaritas), Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, Cadillac Chamber of Commerce, Cadillac Industrial Fund, Cadillac Area Community Foundation, Cadillac Area Land Conservancy, Trinity and St. John's Lutheran Churches. He was also the Cadillac Representative to the Private Industrial Council of Northwest Michigan as well as a lifetime member of the Cadillac Rotary Club. He found Cadillac a prime location to indulge in his outdoor hobbies such as fishing, hunting, photography, forestry and travel.

Tom is survived by his son, Christopher; daughter Jennifer; grandson, Brenton as well as nephews Jon and Eric (Kirst), Paul and David (Morey), not to mention numerous great-nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his wife of over 63 years, Marguerite, and his two sisters Marion (Kirst) and Marjorie (Morey).

A memorial service will be held 11:00 AM, Saturday, May 14, 2022 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Manton with Pastor Ruth Overdier officiating. Friends may meet the family Friday from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services in Cadillac. His final resting place will be Maple Hill Cemetery in Cadillac.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to The Cadillac

Community Foundation, Cadillac Area Land Conservancy, Cadillac Rotary Charities or Trinity Lutheran Church of Manton. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 13. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services
205 East Cass Street
Cadillac, MI 49601

Memorial Service

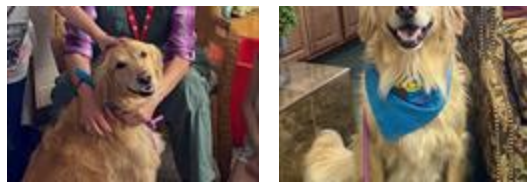
MAY 14. 11:00 AM.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Tribute Wall

JG

“ My Therapy Dog Kiaya & I always loved visiting Tom at Curry House. Tom was her very special friend. Kiaya & Tom always shared very enthusiastic big smiles, hugs and joy. I wish I had a picture of them together, but Kiaya was so happy she wouldn't sit still! We loved listening to his stories & will always have such fond memories of him. Sending you peace. Much love, Julie & Kiaya Gentry, Alliance of Therapy Dogs



Julie Gentry - May 29, 2022 at 11:56 AM

RT

That was very nice of you to do that.

Richard Brown I am a relative of Tom - September 22, 2022 at 07:31 PM

RT

From Richard Brown

Richard Brown I am a relative of Tom - September 22, 2022 at 07:32 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Thomas H. "Tom" Harris.



May 12, 2022 at 09:39 AM

JF

“ *Sorry for your loss, Jen.*

Jayne (Elenbaas) Foster - January 16, 2022 at 05:30 PM

DW

“ *Such a wonderful and smart man. He loved his family deeply and there was no better cheerleader. He was a joy to know. Delores Sell Wurst*

Delores Wurst - January 13, 2022 at 12:09 AM

EK

“ *Tom shared his knowledge of history and the natural world with the skill of a gifted storyteller. Thank you Uncle Tom for so many fine memories. I will always miss you and Aunt Marguerite. Eric Kirst*

Eric kirst - January 12, 2022 at 04:41 PM

BS

“ *15 files added to the album Memories Album*



Brenton Thomas Sell - January 12, 2022 at 03:23 PM

BS

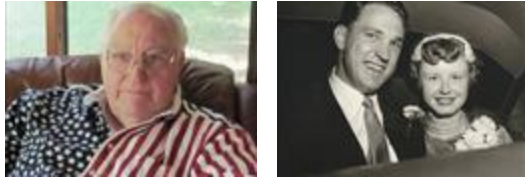
“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Brenton Thomas Sell - January 12, 2022 at 03:21 PM

BS

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Brenton Thomas Sell - January 12, 2022 at 01:49 PM

LD

“ Jennifer, Chris and Brenton, My sympathies on the loss of your Dad and Grandfather. He was very kind and friendly to me when I worked with Jennifer and first moved to Cadillac. Fond memories of him helping us cut a Christmas tree. Linda

Linda (Router) Dishman - January 12, 2022 at 12:01 PM

BC

“ Tom was a wonderful man. I loved the brief moments we had to talk which often included animals, trees, nature and stories of his past. He was a great story teller and fun to tap into his enthusiastic knowledge of nature. Tom generously allowed us to enjoy walks around on his property. I will fondly think of him during my walks and take with me his love of nature. Beverly "The Girls".

Beverly Chesebro - January 12, 2022 at 12:00 PM