



Gary Keith Harris

August 8, 1957 - November 30, 2020

Gary Keith Harris, 63, died peacefully on Monday, November 30, 2020 at his home in Saint Augustine, Florida. He was born on August 8, 1957 in Newburgh, New York to Parkill Harris and Susie Clara Steppe.

Gary spent his earlier childhood in Orlando, Florida with his sister Leslie Renee Harris being raised by their beloved grandmother, Fennie Bryant Harris. In 1965, they all moved to Newburgh, New York where he lived with his father's family including sisters, Leslie, and Lela E. Harris. He later lived with his mother Susie and brother Eric Steppe. He attended high school at Newburgh Free Academy, and then joined the Army in 1975 where he served at Fort Riley, Kansas as a Combat Engineer and worked in construction.

After leaving the army in 1978, Gary briefly attended Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York where he studied Business. He later moved to Albany, New York where he worked for Teresian House Center for the Elderly as a Painter. Several years later he was employed by the Salvation Army managing their Youth Program in Newburgh. He was accepted into the Plumber and Steamfitter Apprenticeship Program in 1997 and graduated as a Journeyman Plumber & Pipefitter in June 2002, working for Local Union #373 in Mountainside, New York. Gary retired from working December 2018.

Gary married the love of his life, Selma Yvonne Oakley on August 21, 1999,

and was happily married for 21 plus years until his death. Gary enjoyed, playing chess and online games, cruising the Caribbean islands, visiting casinos, and mostly spending time at home with his wife dancing and listening to music, watching movies, wildlife programs, documentaries, football, and boxing. Gary will be remembered fondly by his family and friends, especially his wonderful smile and those amazing bear hugs.

Gary had faith in God and joins his parents, Parkill and Susie; brother, Eric; nephew, Eric Steppe, Jr. and father-in-law, Samuel E. Oakley in Heaven. He is survived by his wife, Selma of Saint Augustine, Florida; his sisters Leslie Harris and Lela Harris of Bowie, Maryland; his nieces, Erica Green and Maya and Nicole Allicock; nephew, Aaron Steppe; uncle, Solomon Harris; aunts, Minnie Lewis, Ella Mae Harris and Clara Harris; mother-in-law, Cynthia E. Oakley; sister and brother-in-law Sheldon and Theresa Graham, and a host of cousins, family and friends.

A memorial service will be held at St. Johns Family Funeral Home 385 SR 207 St. Augustine, FL 32084 at 1:00 on Saturday, December 12, 2020. The family will be greeting friends and relatives prior to the service at 12:30.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Haven organization (<http://beyourhaven.org/donate>). Their healthcare workers provided compassionate care and support to Gary and Selma during the last couple of months of Gary's life.

In keeping with the CDC Coronavirus guidelines every attendee must wear a mask and the number of attendees may be restricted. We ask that if you are at high risk, feeling ill, or traveling from an area with a high level of infection, please do not attend the service. Those unable to attend can view the service live streamed at <https://iframe.dacast.com/b/156599/c/iframe.dacast.com/b/156599/c/549019> .

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

DEC 12. 1:00 PM (ET)

ST JOHNS FAMILY FUNERAL HOME
385 State Rd 207
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gary Keith Harris*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - December 14, 2020 at 01:54 PM



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gary Keith Harris*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - December 07, 2020 at 04:53 PM



Beautiful tribute video. Wes and Nicole send our prayers and condolences. Xoxo

Nicole - December 08, 2020 at 09:14 PM



Thank you Nicole.

Selma Harris - December 10, 2020 at 07:16 PM

SA

Very nice tribute. My thoughts and prayers are with all the family

Sadie Aragon - December 11, 2020 at 09:46 AM


Selma
Harris

Thank you Sadie. So grateful for your wonderful daughters. 💕

Selma Harris - December 12, 2020 at 09:51 AM

MS


Selma, Leslie, Lela and alto all Keith's family and friends, our prayers and thoughts are with you all. Love the Sharpe family.

Michelle Sharpe - December 12, 2020 at 12:56 PM

LG

With you in spirit and love Selma and family!

Lola Gayle - December 12, 2020 at 02:11 PM


Selma
Harris


Thank you Michelle and Lola Gayle. 💕

Selma Harris - December 12, 2020 at 08:28 PM

AM

“ Beautiful Service family. I'm sure he's smiling down on everyone. Condolences again to the family. Love Angela

Angela McIntyre - December 12, 2020 at 02:00 PM


Selma
Harris

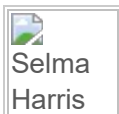


Selma Harris - December 12, 2020 at 08:27 PM

AM

“ Keith has always shown myself and my husband so much love and respect. While going through a tough time in our marriage, Keith was always encouraging and demanded that we work things out. I will always remember that beautiful smile. And remember him as a die hard sports fan and a committed and loyal husband to my dear friend, Selma. I'll miss him for sure. My heart hurts just thinking about the loss. He will be missed but I know he's in a much better place. Blessings to the family. I love you all so deeply.

Angela McIntyre - December 12, 2020 at 01:13 PM



Selma Harris - December 12, 2020 at 08:29 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Gary Keith Harris.



December 11, 2020 at 02:43 PM



“ Missing you my Dearheart! 🥺❤️🥺❤️



Selma Harris - December 11, 2020 at 07:57 AM

SB

“ Dear Selma,

Our sincere condolences for your loss. We will keep you & all of the other family members in our prayers. We were blessed to have gotten to know your husband, Gary.

He always made us (Alicia M & I) laugh whenever we would visit you both.

He had a fantastic smile.

Condolences from Burnett-Funchess Family.

Sophia Burnett-Funchess

Sophia Burnett-Funchess - December 10, 2020 at 07:08 PM

 Selma Harris



Selma Harris - December 10, 2020 at 08:09 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gary Keith Harris.



December 09, 2020 at 06:15 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Gary Keith Harris.



December 08, 2020 at 09:39 PM

VI

“ It was comforting to play our last game of WWF before your going home. Thank you 🙏 for loving my cousin. RIP until we all meet again.
Love, Yoli

Vivian - December 08, 2020 at 07:49 PM

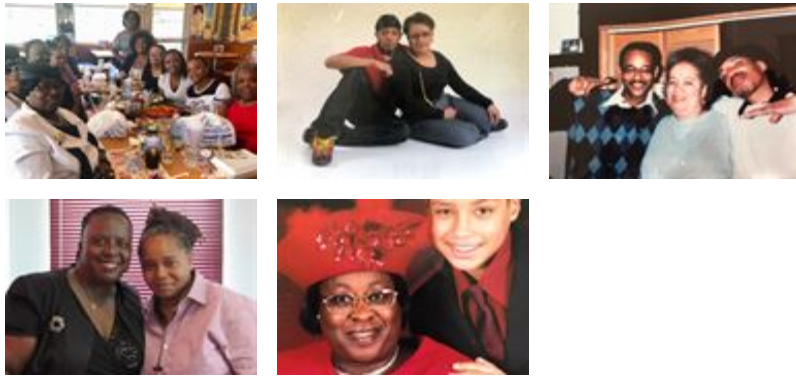
 Selma Harris



Selma Harris - December 08, 2020 at 09:07 PM



“ 5 files added to the album Life Tributes



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - December 08, 2020 at 08:41 AM



“ A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Gary Keith Harris.



December 07, 2020 at 10:28 PM

AM

“ *Mr. Harris and I at Selma’s retirement party. He is so handsome! He will be forever in our hearts.* ”



Amy - December 07, 2020 at 09:04 PM



Selma Harris - December 07, 2020 at 09:16 PM



May you rest in Heavenly peace Keith and we will love and support your beautiful wife Selma. We will miss that smile 🙏❤️

Vickie Iregbulem - December 08, 2020 at 04:58 AM

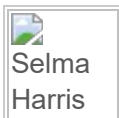


Selma Harris - December 12, 2020 at 08:31 PM

RC

“ *My Words with Friends Buddy will be SORELY MISSED. RIP IN PEACE MY FRIEND.* ”

Ron Cole - December 07, 2020 at 07:53 PM



Selma Harris - December 07, 2020 at 09:16 PM

DC

My sincere condolences to the entire family. May the memories of the love you shared with Gary bring you comfort during this most difficult time. Praying God's grace and mercy be with you all. SIP Until paradise. 🙏❤️🙏

Delores Canizares-James - December 11, 2020 at 01:15 AM

 Selma Harris



Selma Harris - December 11, 2020 at 07:42 AM



“ 52 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - December 07, 2020 at 04:52 PM