



Phil Dean Harris

August 7, 1930 - February 6, 2022

Phil D. Harris, 91, died peacefully on February 6, 2022.

A red-headed stranger once implored mothers to not let their sons grow up to be cowboys. One can only imagine Phil Harris' mother wringing her time-weathered hands at the man her 8th child would become. He made his mama and daddy proud.

Born in Okmulgee, Oklahoma, Phil followed in his older brothers' footsteps after graduating from Okmulgee High School. He enlisted in the military, leaving Oklahoma behind but returning throughout the years to tell tall tales and make new memories with the ever-growing Harris clan.

While stationed at Pinecastle Air Force Base in Central Florida, he met and married Ann Johnson, the love of his life. For the next 20 years, they made their home where duty called, from England to Eglin, Minot, and Wichita Falls. Along the way, they raised three strong, fiercely independent women, much like Phil's sisters and mother.

After a final tour of duty in the South China Seas, Phil retired with the rank of Master Sergeant from the Air Force. He returned to Central Florida and began his second career as a banker with Sun Bank in Orlando. From the collections office in MasterCard services to an Executive Vice President in the Trust

Department, he retired after more than 20 years, just before the digital age transformed every facet of financial services... but not before having one of the first mobile phones and mobile computers.

Phil played golf as long as he could maintain a respectable handicap, read and re-read every Zane Grey book, fished only when the weather was perfect, maintained an impeccable yard, played cards (Phil could beat you at a round of gin, and yet you felt happy just to play), kept a watchful eye on his bluebird houses, and charmed every man, woman, child and dog he met.

Phil will be missed by his daughter Raenelle Harris Bailey, her husband, Travis Bailey, granddaughters Lorie Bonham and Jessica Bailey, grandsons Chris Justice and Daniel Hanna, six great-grandchildren, his sister Erbie, and many loving nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife Gloria Ann Harris and daughters Marcia Harris and Nila Harris.

His family is at peace knowing that he is with Ann up yonder, strolling hand in hand again.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests those who wish to express sympathy to consider donating to the Orange Audubon Society (www.orangeaudubonfl.org) in Phil Harris' name.

Tribute Wall

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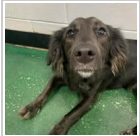
“ *Oh what wonderful memories you left us, Uncle Phil! I'm happy you're at peace and with your Ann, Marcia and Nila. All my love to Raenelle, Tab, Jes. Lori and Jereon.*

Kay Nicodemus - February 08, 2022 at 12:51 AM

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“ *Just wanted to share how Mr. Phil made an impression on my son, Corey. Several years ago, Mr. Phil was in Camden, Alabama helping Travis "Tab" Bailey work on an old family home. My son was amazed at all the work that he did working on the home.. He stated "Mr. Phil did more work that I did". He always thought that he was a "cool guy" and Corey uses one of Mr. Phil's phrases that he used then, "It's very uniform". I agree also, he was a cool guy and I know he will be missed. Teresa Bailey Helveston*

Teresa Helveston - February 07, 2022 at 06:33 PM



“ *Phil with Ann, his love.*



Jes Blume - February 07, 2022 at 01:29 PM