



## Jack R. Harris

April 11, 1937 - March 24, 2021

Jack R. Harris was born in Connersville, Indiana on April 11, 1937. He was blessed with his wonderful parents Jack and Tillie Harris. He passed from this life on March 24, 2021 at Bryan East Hospital in Lincoln at the age of 83 years, 11 months, and 13 days.

Jack attended elementary through high school in Detroit, Michigan. Jack joined the Air Force in 1954. On June 7th, 1958 Jack married (Loris) Kay McQuistian and to this union 5 sons were born; Jeff, Doug, Dave, Steve and Mike. Jack and Kay lived in many states including Nebraska, Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, and Alabama before settling and raising their family in York County and then moving to Fairmont, Nebraska.

Proudly serving his Country, Jack served 10 years in the United States Air Force and 15 years in the Army National Guard rising to the rank of First Sergeant. Jack worked in various fields throughout his life including construction, warehouse, sales, typewriter repairman and many others. His sons recount that their father modeled a work ethic that they continue to emulate through their lives. Jack was a man who valued promptness, neatness, honesty, and a true respect of others in any work environment as well as life in general.

As anyone who knew Jack can relate, he truly enjoyed landscaping and yard

work as evidenced by his perfectly maintained properties in Fairmont. In his younger years, Jack enjoyed fishing, horseback riding, baseball, hockey and, from all accounts, his accordion playing days in a band. The most recent passion for Jack is the American Freedom Defenders Veterans Memorial in Fairmont. This project was the brainstorm of Jack and Kay and his determination has made this dream and vision of his come to life.

Jack truly was a person of very high values and held high expectations of himself and others. He was the ultimate protector of those he loved and cared about. Jack would “tell it like it is” but yet, one knew he’d always have your back. If Jack loved you, you knew it. He was a stern but loving man. He was ‘bullheaded’, yet loyal; short tempered, but giving and caring. Jack was never afraid to speak his mind, but always with the best of intentions for a positive result. Jack respected a person who was accountable to their word. Those who knew Jack well understood that under his seemingly hard exterior was a kind, loyal, and loving heart.

Preceding Jack in death were his parents, Jack and Tillie Harris.

Those who remain to remember him are his loving wife of 62 years, Kay, for whom his world revolved around; his sons and wives Jeff and Kathy of Firth, NE; Doug and Melinda of Quitman, GA; Dave and Carrie of Topeka, KS; Steve and Barb of York, NE and Mike and Kim of New Ulm, MN. Grandsons include Darrick, Tyler, Jake, Thad, Devin, Todd, Troy, Travis, Connor, Cameron, Andrew and Cory and Granddaughters Amy and Ashley; as well as 12 great-grandchildren with 2 more “on the way” and one brother, Jerry Harris as well as many nieces and nephews.

Jack led an honorable life comprised of love of family and friends, service, work, and fierce loyalty to those whose paths he crossed. Jack will be missed greatly by his family, friends and a community of people who loved and respected him.

A Memorial Service for Jack was held on Monday, March 29, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the American Freedom Defenders Veteran's Memorial Park in Fairmont on the corner of 9th and HWY 6, which he helped establish. Pastor Seungli You officiated the Memorial Service. The recorded selections "You Raise Me Up," "Amazing Grace," and "My Way" were played during the Memorial Service.

Honorary Pallbearers for the service included Jack's Grandchildren.

A Graveside Service with Military Honors was held at the Fairmont Cemetery following the Memorial Service. Military Honors were performed by the Fairmont American Legion Lt. Earl Forbes Post 21 and the Offutt Honor Guard.

Memorials in lieu of flowers are suggested to the American Freedom Defenders Memorial, PO Box 174, Fairmont, Nebraska 68354.

# Cemetery Details

## **Fairmont Public Cemetery**

Fairmont, NE

# Tribute Wall

JC

“ *Condolences to the Harris Family. I'm saddened to learn of Jacks passing. He was a great mentor and role model to me and many young men and women. May you Rest In Peace Soldier. Till Valhalla!*

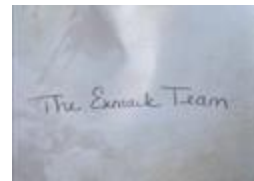
*Joel Carmichael  
North Carolina*

---

**Joel Carmichael** - May 19, 2021 at 09:45 PM



“ *14 files added to the album Jack Harris*



---

**Farmer & Son Funeral Home** - March 29, 2021 at 12:58 PM

SH

“ *Kay, I was so saddened to hear of Jack's passing. I will always remember helping him with your landscaping projects. And that sly smile that he would give me when I told him his hair looked nice. My thoughts are with you and your family.*

*Deepest sympathies,  
Stephanie Hitz*

---

**Stephanie Hitz** - March 28, 2021 at 09:50 PM

LH

“ Leon and Janis Holloway purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Jack R. Harris.



Leon and Janis Holloway - March 27, 2021 at 05:02 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Jack R. Harris.



March 27, 2021 at 02:07 PM



“ America the Beautiful was purchased for the family of Jack R. Harris.



March 26, 2021 at 09:03 PM

ML

“ Proud to call Jack our friend. The work is done, Jack. Rest In Peace.  
Roger, Mary, Bridget and Malcolm

Mary Lundberg - March 26, 2021 at 06:17 PM

CL

“ I have many fond memories of my friend Jack, spending many years with him as my First Sergeant in the National Guard, and our Daily Coffee Breaks, either at the Armory or Jacks Office. pit , many summer camps together.. We always had a great time even though the situations were not the most pleasant during our Guard Training. Our best time is when we went to Camp Ripley, MN for our two week training. We decided to take our accordions along with us. Many nights in the barracks we'd fire them up to serenade the rest of the troops. I'd start a polka I knew and by the second or third measure Jack had joined in - same key - same tempo - and we'd play while out fellow soldiers would clap along. Jack was much better than I was as I was just learning to play and he had many years experience on me. We'd always finish the entertainment with a song Jac knew and solo on and we'd follow it up with a glass of Walkers Deluxe, knowing we had done a good job by looking around the room to see the many smiles on the faces of our fellow soldiers. I think our boys, Jack's sons - Jeff, Doug, Dave and Steve, might have been embarrassed, but that didn't bother Jack or me, as the next night we'd be playing again. Jack said we were better than the USO!!!

---

**CW2 Charles Lux** - March 26, 2021 at 03:50 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jack R. Harris.



---

March 25, 2021 at 09:28 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jack R. Harris.* ”



---

March 25, 2021 at 07:19 PM