



William Mims Harper

October 26, 1925 - September 5, 2018

Darlington, South Carolina

William Mims (Bill) Harper, 92, husband of the late, Marian McFadden Harper of Darlington died on Wednesday, September 5, 2018.

Graveside funeral services will be held on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at 10 AM at Grove Hill Cemetery, directed by Kistler Hardee Funeral Home of Darlington. The family will receive friends from 4 until 6 PM on Friday, September 7, 2018 at Kistler Hardee Funeral Home and other times at the home.

Born October 26, 1925, the son of the late Walter Ernest Harper and Lillian Erhline Mims Harper. His brother, Walter Ernest Harper, Jr. preceded him in death. He attended St. Johns Elementary School and St. John's High School. In high school he lettered in football, basketball and tennis. He joined the varsity tennis team when he was in the seventh grade. He teamed with Leo Mims to win the SC High School League State Championship Doubles in 1943. He also received the A.G. Kolloch Award for football.

After his eighteenth birthday, he enlisted in the Army Air Corp and served from December 1943 until honorably discharged in April of 1946.

In September 1946 he attended Presbyterian College at Clinton, SC, on a four year scholarship for tennis and basketball. While at PC, he lettered in basketball '48 and in tennis '47, '48, '49 & '50. He won the SC Collegiate Tennis Championship Doubles with Bob Spurrier in '48 & '49, and in '50 with Fred Jacobs. In '50 he also won the singles title. While at PC, he was a

member of the Student Christian Association, Alpha Lamda Tau (now Sigma Nu) Fraternity, Blue Key National Honor Fraternity, Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges, the Block P Club, The Student Faculty Advisory Board, the Gold P Award, the Founder's Medal (Ideal Student), and academically, the Dean's List. He was also President of the Student Body in his senior year.

Upon graduation, he taught at St. John's High School from 1950 to 1957 where he taught 9th grade and 11th grade English. He was also assistant coach for basketball and tennis.

In December 1950 he married Marian McFadden in a double wedding ceremony with her twin sister, Mary and Ray Clanton. Marian presented him with two wonderful daughters, Holly and Mary Margaret (Mze).

In June of 1957, he joined the Sales Department at Sonoco Products Company in Hartsville, SC. He trained as a Billing Clerk, Order Clerk, before becoming as Assistant Division Sales Manager, Hartsville Sales Manager, and International Division Marketing Manager. He retired in 1991 after 34 years of service.

He has been very active at Trinity United Methodist Church since joining in 1955. He served as Chairperson of all of the various committees, taught Sunday school in the Youth Division and Adult Division, sang in the Chancel Choir since 1953, and a member of the Building Committee, and member of the Board of Stewards.

Surviving are his daughters, Mze Harper Wilkins (Dick) of Chapin, SC, and Holly Harper Foley (Steve) of Charlotte, NC; his grandchildren, Mary Margaret Wilkins Shirley (Nils) of Anderson, SC, Kathleen Wilkins Miller (Mac) of Lakeland, FL and John Foley of Raleigh, NC; his great grandchildren, Jackson Shirley and Thomas Miller; his sister-in-law, Mary McFadden Clanton; and his nephews, Rick Clanton (Lynn) and Robby Clanton (Mary Beth).

Memorials may be made to Trinity United Methodist Church, PO Box 16, Darlington, SC 29540.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book www.kistlerhardee

funeralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ TO FAMILY: HEART-FELT SYMPATHY OVER YOUR GREAT LOSS. HE WAS INDEED A FINE, FRIENDLY PERSON AND WILL BE MISSED BY FAMILY AND A LEDGION OF FRIENDS. HE WAS A GREAT TENNIS PLAYER AND I SAW MANY OF HIS MATCHES AS WE WERE GRADUATES OF DARLINGTON ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL. HAVE KNOWN HIM EVER SINCE 3rd GRADE AND HE HAS ADDED MANY ACCOLADES SINCE THEN. IT IS COMFORTING TO KNOW THAT HE IS IN A LOVELY HOME AWAY FROM HOME. WITH TENDER THOUGHTS,

*BERNICE BOSWELL (BEE) HUBBARD
7110 MARCHING DUCK DRIVE, CHARLOTTE, NC 28210 9-17-18*

Bee Hubbard - September 18, 2018 at 12:07 PM

RH

“ I just read of the passing of my friend Bill Harper. What a wonderful friend Bill was! Bill was an humble and gracious person. Bill and I knew each other from our Sonoco days and enjoyed talking Apple Computer in the EARLY years. You never forget a friend like Bill Harper.

-- Rodger Hatchell

Rodger Hatchell - September 17, 2018 at 09:13 PM

EB

“ *My sincere condolences to the Bill Harper family. I came to know Bill in the golden years of his life and I must say he was one of the finest and humble men I have ever known. He was polite, quiet, reserved, thoughtful with, for lack of a better description, an easygoing but very competitive spirit underlying his calm demeanor and strong character. The more I got to know him, the more I treasured the experience. He was the polar opposite of braggadocio and self-aggrandizement. I had to pull it out of him all his accomplishments and life experiences. I can tell Bill's heirs matter of factly, I am a better man from having known Bill Harper and you are better men and women.*

Eddie Blackmon - September 07, 2018 at 10:01 AM

ED

“ *To: Family & Friends of Mr. Bill Harper*

We are sorry for your loss. May GOD grant you grace. The Harper & Clinton families were very respected & loved by the E B Davis family & many, many others.
ed davis

ed davis - September 06, 2018 at 08:37 PM

FB

“ *My sympathy to the family. Bill was one of my Sunday School teachers when I lived in Darlington. He and Marion were also very good friends. Many years ago I used to enjoy watching him play tennis at the country club.*

Fred Bischoff - September 06, 2018 at 11:17 AM

SI

“ Susan Iseman sent a virtual gift in memory of William Mims Harper



Susan Iseman - September 06, 2018 at 08:04 AM

SI

Praying for the family.

Susan Iseman - September 06, 2018 at 08:04 AM

DS

“ Debbie & Danny Singletary sent a virtual gift in memory of William Mims Harper



Debbie & Danny Singletary - September 06, 2018 at 01:13 AM

OL

“ Holly and Mze,
You and your family are in my prayers. Your dad and mom are loved and respected by everyone who knew them. I pray that you will find comfort through God's grace, support of family and friends, and your many fond memories. I greatly admired your dad, both through service to the church and my many defeats on the tennis court. 🟡 I had many special moments with your dad and Mr. Cain (Dad called him Prof) that I still cherish.

Oby Lyles - September 05, 2018 at 09:34 PM

YM

“ *Many, many fond memories of Mr. Harper and his family. Decades of singing in the choir with my dad! He lived a long, good, Christian life. RIP Mr. Harper. Thinking of Holly and Mze and sending prayers of comfort.*

Yana Kistler Mathis - September 05, 2018 at 07:22 PM