



Thomas "Tom" Harro

February 11, 1928 - October 19, 2021

Thomas S. "Tom" Harro, age 93, of Kankakee passed away Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at home. He was born the tenth of eleven siblings on February 11, 1928 in Harrisburg, PA, the son of John & Mary (Shoop) Harro. Tom married Barbara Leigh on Jun 27, 1950.

Tom was a retired teacher for Kankakee School District 111. He received his Bachelor's degree of Science from Wheaton College and his Master's degree from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, MI.

He was a veteran of the United States Army and served 16 months in the occupation of Japan after WWII.

Tom loved gatherings of family and friends and water skiing, boating and ice skating on the Kankakee and Iroquois Rivers with them.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara Harro of Kankakee; two daughters, Kathleen Harro Steffen (partner Steven Wirth) of Kankakee; and Peggy Leigh Harro, of CO; one son, Stephen Paul Harro (partner Darci Kurtak) of Idledale, CO; five grandchildren, Heather (Ray) Packingham of Arvada, CO, Matthew R. (Chrissy) Steffen of Kankakee, Michael R. Steffen (partner Matt Powers) of Lakewood, CO, Mark Harro of Denver, Co, and Jacquie Harro of Denver, CO; and five great-grandchildren, Otis and Adora Packingham; and Chase

Greyling, Brycen and Journey Steffen; and one brother, George Harro of MI. Tom is preceded in death by his parents; five brothers; and four sisters.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial visitation will be held from 2 p.m. until the time of the 4 p.m. Celebration of Life service on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at Schreffler Funeral Home in Kankakee.

The family is requiring anyone that would like to attend visitation or services for Tom wear a mask and be fully vaccinated or have a negative covid test within 72 hours of the service.

Memorial donations may be made to Salvation Army of Kankakee.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

NOV 9. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Celebration of Life Service

NOV 9. 4:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
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Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas "Tom" Harro*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *My parents were good friends with Tom and Barb. I have especially fond memories of vacationing with them, waterskiing and boating with them on the river. I am so sorry for your loss Barb.*
Nancy Hasbargen Dailey

Nancy Hasbargen Dailey - January 09, 2022 at 10:32 AM



“ *As noted by other tributes, Mr. Harro was an outstanding teacher who made a difference in the lives of his students. He sparked an interest in science that motivated many of us to pursue careers requiring scientific knowledge. I am blessed to have seen and spoken with him at our 50th high school reunion two years ago and to have been in the same science class as his daughter Kathy. We had fun while learning.*

Jean Henrikson Mills

Jean Mills - November 09, 2021 at 11:01 AM



“ *I have so many childhood memories of Mr. Harry. He was always my favorite teacher. He made science fun. Prayers to all his family. May he Rest In Peace.*



Linda Treece Cyrier - November 08, 2021 at 05:35 PM

BG

“ *Barb Geisler lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Harro*



Barb Geisler - November 07, 2021 at 04:55 PM

BG

“ *What a great neighbor Tom was. Between patching random holes on the lane and fixing our mailbox when the disposal truck backed over it, he was always looking out for others. It was awesome to see him still water skiing on the river in his 80's. We will miss seeing him pass our house, either in car or on bicycle, with a smile and friendly wave. Rest in Peace Tom and God bless Barb and your family.*

Barb and Joe Geisler - November 07, 2021 at 04:53 PM

DP

Wonderful neighbor! He loved living on the river and truly enjoyed water skiing. Also remember his love of symphonic music with his lovely wife, Barbara

Our condolences are with his entire family.

All our love

Dick and Sharon Panozzo

Dick and Sharon Panozzo - November 10, 2021 at 12:34 PM

EW

“ *Such good memories of our years teaching with Tom. We're sorry to be unable to attend the services due to restrictions but please know our condolences are with all of you.*

Elaine and Joe Wischnowsky

Elaine Wischnowsky - November 06, 2021 at 02:34 PM

AP

“ My prayers go out to Barbara and family. He was my teacher and friend along time ago. I have one memory that stands out. When in the 7th grade at the school on Court St. Mr Harro asked me to bring my dog to class. When I enter the school I was stopped by the principal and asked what I was doing. So I told him. The principal was going to expel me and Mr. Harro told him if he was expelling the dog he had to expel him also. The dog won. I wished that I had stayed more in contact with him through the years.

Art Prouty
Tucson, Az

Art Prouty - November 06, 2021 at 10:45 AM

JP

“ Tom and Barb were like my second set of parents, right next door for 30 years on the Iroquois River .
Tom , with his love of nature and science , taught me and my children many wonderful things. He was always kind, patient and best of all , full of fun. Prayers and love to you, Barb. Condolences and Sympathy to all of the family.

Jean Perry - November 04, 2021 at 09:58 PM



“ Jennifer Kistner lit a candle in memory of
Thomas "Tom" Harro



Jennifer Kistner - November 03, 2021 at 08:52 PM



Mr. Harro was one of my favorite teachers, even though I didn't like science! My sincere condolences to his family.

Jennifer Kistner - November 03, 2021 at 08:55 PM

JM

*“ Mr. Harro was a Fun & “Hands-on” Teacher! His daughter Peggy was also a friend & Classmate.
Tom & Barb became Design Clients of mine when they moved to their “River Home”! RIP Mr Harro 😇
My Thoughts & Prayers to his Family! 🙏*

Joyce Mayes-Jackson - November 03, 2021 at 05:58 PM

LC

“ Was a great teacher and man even when i throw up over my desk and the people in front of me

Laura barnhart cook - November 03, 2021 at 05:28 PM

JC

“ So sorry to hear of Mr. Harro's passing. He was my teacher at East JR. Loved his Biology Class. He also taught with my mother Katie Chapman. We were fortunate to have such awesome teachers. RIP Mr. Harro. Deepest Sympathy to his family.

Jeanne Chapman - November 03, 2021 at 12:05 PM

CW

“ My Condolences to the family. Mr. Harro was my teacher, he was a very good teacher. RIP Mr. Harro



Cheryl Wilson - November 03, 2021 at 10:49 AM

LK

“ *He was a great teacher! He made science fun. Rest in Heaven Mr. Harro. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.* ”



Llora O'Neil Kranich - November 03, 2021 at 10:37 AM

BS

“ *Bob Schneider lit a candle in memory of Thomas "Tom" Harro* ”



Bob Schneider - November 03, 2021 at 09:06 AM

TG

“ Thoughts and prayers to Tom’s family.

So blessed with love from his wife Barb and his children Kathleen, Peggy and Steve and grandchildren. Tom knew how to enjoy nature and was so athletic playing ice hockey with teens half his age at the boat docks. He taught me and many others to water ski and was an avid ping pong player. He was always very athletic and fit.

What I loved most about Tom was how he could lead you to think deeply with a few well chosen words. I always enjoyed our conversations and was blessed to have benefited from his wisdom for over 50 years.

Tom also had a keen sense of humor as evidenced one evening when our high school gang home from college were playing cards at the Harro kitchen table. We thought Barb and Tom had gone to bed. We were talking about being hungry when all of a sudden Tom threw a frozen cows upper respiratory parts on the table. That story has had many tellings and will have many more.

Memories of a good man who loved and was loved.

Terry Mullady Guymon - November 02, 2021 at 10:23 PM