



Harrison (Harry) C. Oakley

June 22, 1939 - December 29, 2018

Harrison (Harry) C. Oakley, age 79, of Bristol, VA died peacefully at his home on Saturday evening, December 29, 2018.

Harry is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barbara Kelly Oakley; their children, Kim Dishner and her husband, Craig of Winston Salem, NC; Clark Oakley and his wife, Leslie of Bristol, TN; Kelly McBride and her husband, Tal of Bristol, VA; grandchildren, Nicolas Dishner of Murray, UT; Ethan Dishner of Winston Salem, NC; Haley and Conner Oakley of Bristol, TN; Hank, Harrison and Eva Oakley of Bristol, VA; sister, Nancy O. Ratner of Roanoke, VA; brother, Sam Oakley and wife, Jennifer Scharr Oakley of Surry, VA; nieces and nephews, Joel and Lisa Ratner and son, Ben of Centreville, VA; Paul and Julie Ratner of Parker, CO and children, Samantha, Holly, Ethan and Drew; Dan and Nicole Ratner of Bristow, VA and daughters, Emma and Cecley; Karen and John Kennington of Orlando, FL and son, Chase; Sam and Kelly Oakley of Wilmington, NC and daughters, Kaia and Kora; and Brad and Catie Oakley of Wilmington, NC and children, Flynn and Alex.

He was preceded in death by his parents Edmund Harrison and Jeane Sutherland Oakley. After spending a number of years in the mortgage-loan and Real Estate business, Harry joined Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Southwest VA as their regional manager where he spent 25 years. He retired from Blue Cross to open his own health insurance agency and was later joined by his wife. After 15 years, the agency was purchased by Kerr-Boswell. Harry enjoyed his retirement years working with his son, Clark, former owner of Whicker Glass where Harry was able to meet and greet the glass customers on daily basis, often renewing old acquaintances. He was a member of Central Presbyterian Church.

Harry loved spending time with his children and grandchildren, especially at South Holston Lake. He was never more at home than when he could see and feel the beauty that our mountains and lakes provided.

The family would like to thank all the wonderful caregivers of Caris Home Health Hospice, Dr. James Schrenker and Dr. Andrew Brockmyre. Also they would like to thank Karen Bowman and Amanda Payne who helped with Harry's care which made it possible for him to stay home during his illness and be surrounded by his family.

The committal service will be conducted at 1:30 P.M., Saturday, January 12, 2019 at Central Presbyterian Church followed by a celebration of life service at 2:00 P.M.,

Saturday, January 12, 2019 with Rev. Frank and Ann Aichinger officiating. There will be a reception and visitation in the Central Hall at the church after the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that donations be sent to Central Presbyterian Church, 301 Euclid Ave., Bristol, VA 24201 or Healing Hands, 245 Midway Medical, Bristol, TN 37620

Condolences and memories may be left for the family at akardfuneralhome.com

Akard Funeral Home, (423) 989-4800 is serving the Oakley family.

Comments



“ Thank you so very much for posting the beautiful photo album of Harry's life and family. I was planning to share the celebration of his life with you all, but weather and a terrible head cold will keep me in New Jersey. I know you will tell wonderful stories and enjoy many memories of Harry. Aunt Jeane and Uncle Ed were so kind to my mom and dad when they were living in Johnson City during their college days and I remember many great times with my cousins Harry, Nancy and Sam. All my love.
Marion Jeane

Marion Murray - January 09, 2019 at 08:04 PM



“ I'm sorry to hear of the loss of Harry, he and I were classmates. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Phil Vinson

Phil Vinson - January 09, 2019 at 10:00 AM



“ Mrs. Barbara,
Sorry for your loss, however, this is Heavens gain! I've been out of town or I would have been there for you! Harry was so special to me. He was a mentor and a wonderful friend!
Blessings to you and your family!
Gary & Jan Dye

Gary Dye - January 08, 2019 at 11:29 AM



“ 51 files added to the album LifeTributes



Akard Funeral Home - January 08, 2019 at 11:27 AM



“ Barbara and children,
I am so terribly sorry for you loss. I will always remember what a wonderful kind man Harry was - one of a kind! Funny and smart.
I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers during these trying times and in the future.
Love
Gina Spence Brown

Gina Spence Brown - January 06, 2019 at 01:41 PM



“ Sorry very sorry for your loss. You and yours are in my thoughts and prayers.
Carter Miles

Carter - January 03, 2019 at 01:01 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Harry's passing. I met Harry at Whicker Glass and I liked him a lot. He and I had many conversations. I had a house fire and was redoing some items and I happened to mention that I had lost my cookbooks. The next time I went in he had a Forget-Me-Not cookbook for me. Very kind and lively man. The world needs more Harry's.

Lynda Marie Gressner - January 03, 2019 at 09:12 AM



“ So sorry to hear off Harry's passing. Went to high school with Harry and lovely wife Barbara. I remember him and his funny character well. All that knew him was very fond of him I don't think I saw him after high school but he is one of those fun loving people you never forget. Prayers for his family. Ann MReynolds

Ann Mumpower - January 02, 2019 at 07:13 PM



“ Barbara, Clark, Kim, & Kelly - So very sorry for your loss! He was one of the best, and one of my favorite people. His jolly, outgoing personality endeared him to everyone he met, and I am fortunate to have many fond memories of events our families shared through the years. I pray for your peace and understanding.

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Thomas E Adams - January 02, 2019 at 06:48 PM



“ Barbara and family So sorry to hear of Harry s passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time Love Pat McClure

patricia mcclure - January 02, 2019 at 06:47 PM