



Reece Harris

March 17, 1930 - January 6, 2017

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. Isaiah 40:30, 31

Reece Harris, age 86, of Jonesborough, passed away Friday, January 6, 2017 at his residence following a brief illness. A native of Flag Pond, Tennessee, he was a son of the late Clay and Jennie Rebecca Phillips Harris. Mr. Harris was Pastor of Sinking Creek Baptist Church for 51 years and led hundreds of revivals. Sinking Creek Baptist Church was the first and only church that Mr. Harris pastored after leaving seminary. He worked for the Washington County School System for a total of 25 years, where he worked as a guidance counselor at Davy Crockett and Daniel Boone. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by four brothers; Wade, Ralph, J.C., and Kenneth; six sisters, Thelma, Kate, Gladys, Lula May, Geneva, and Glenna. Survivors include, wife, Paulette Harris, Jonesborough; three sons and daughters-in-law, Mark Harris and wife Carol, Paul Harris, and Phil Harris and wife Cindy, all of Johnson City; seven grandchildren, Kalyn Harris, Bailey Harris, Olivia Harris, Isaac Reece Harris, Anna Harris, Kennah Harris, and Sadie Reece Harris; one brother, Eugene Harris; three sisters, Mildred Higgins, Lois Dean Higgins, and Jo Ann Cole. Several nieces and nephews also survive. The funeral service for Mr. Harris will be conducted at 5:00 P.M. Monday, January 9, 2016 in the East Chapel of Appalachian Funeral Home with Rev. Gary Edwards officiating. The family will receive friends following the funeral service in the East Parlor of the funeral home. The graveside service and interment will be conducted at 2:00 P.M. Tuesday at Higgins Chapel Cemetery, Flag Pond, TN with Rev. Jack Roddy officiating. Active pallbearers will be Greg Green, Keith Barnett, Eddie Fields, Tony Young, Will Horton, Mark Pierce, Mike Higgins, and Bill Haynes. Honorary pallbearers will be Eric Higgins, Heath Higgins, Mike Higgins, and Robert Thomas. Those who wish to attend the graveside service are asked to meet at the gravel lot at the end of the Flag Pond exit at 1:55 P.M. To those who desire, memorial contributions may be made to Sinking Creek Baptist Church, Youth Group, 2313 Elizabethton Highway, Johnson City, TN 37601. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.appfh.net. Appalachian Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 800 E. Watauga Ave., Johnson City, is proudly serving the Harris family. (423)

928-6111. Order Flowers Service Details Monday, January 9th, 2017 5:00pm, Appalachian
Funeral Home- East Chapel Interment Details Higgins Chapel Cemetery

Comments



“ I attended Sinking Creek Baptist Church from birth and became a member. Sinking Creek was my church home for 27 years and the friendships made there have lasted a lifetime. Reece came to my home to explain the plan of salvation to me. He lead me to Christ. Some of my fondest memories were from the days of youth group and the years following. My condolences go out to the family. Each of you have lead exemplary lives and have shown Christ's love to me at different times in my life. My thoughts and prayers are with each of you.

Eloise Riddle - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ I too have fond memories of Sinking Creek and Reese. I know he will be missed by many, but he has gone Home! My thoughts and prayers are with all of the Harris family.

Teri Crumley - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ To Paul, Phil & family, we are so sorry to hear the passing of your Dad. Mr. Harris was the best ever @ school, he always had time to talk with you about anything. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Lisa & Alan Crowder - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Mr.Harris was a good man. Remember him as my guidance counselor at David Crockett High School always smiling, a good soul. RIP.

Jeanie DeVore - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ To the family, our time with all of you during our time in Tennessee was such a blessing, we made lots of memories that will forever be in our hearts. Pastor Reece blessed us with being a true Man of God. Please know that we would love to be there if it were possible, we will be in prayer for all of you for peace and comfort during this time. We all find peace in knowing he is out of pain and walking with Jesus with that beautiful smile on his face. We miss you all, love a??i?? each one of you.. The Cassidy's Larry, Cheryl, Dakota & Madison.

The Cassidy's - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ I can remember when Reece came to Sinking Creek, the old church. He took a vacation to marry Miss Paulette. I hadn't even started school yet. Reece was a good man, a man of God. Our church grew under his pastorship and God's guidance. Not many churches keep their pastor for 50 years, I think that speaks for Reece itself, probably still be there had not his health decline. He baptized me and several of my cousins, years later he married my daughter. I have so many wonderful memories of Reece and Sinking Creek Church. Miss Paulette I will remember you and your family in my prayers. He is free from the burdens of this world and walking those streets of gold in glory land that he taught us about as children. He has now seen the face of his Lord and is blessed.

Kathy HINNANT Thompson - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ A candle was lit by Appalachian Funeral Home & Cremation Service lit a memorial candle

on January 7, 2017 2:23 PM

Appalachian Funeral Home & Cremation Service lit a memorial candle - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ 1 Pet 5:2 - 4: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind. Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fades not away. ...well done faithful servant!

Steve Graham - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ So very sorry Phill. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

Robert Brown - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ We are saddened to learn of the passing of our friend Reece Harris. Our association with Reece goes back to our college days. We have rejoiced in how much he loved to preach and how great a preacher of the Word he was. It was a privilege to serve as a fellow pastor with him in the Watauga Baptist Association and later to be Director of Missions there when he served as pastor at Sinking Creek Baptist Church. In so many ways, he was a model for his fellow pastors. And his humor is unforgettable. We have often prayed for him as he faced his health issues and have been so impressed by the way he handled them. Our prayers and love go out to Paulette and their sons and families. "He being dead yet speaketh" (Heb. 11:4c).

Ray and Bonnie Sorrells - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Recce Harris was my pastor at Sinking Creek when I was a teenager. I am so sad to hear his passing, but he was always ready to meet Jesus. My prayers go out to Phil Harris & the rest of the family. I knew Phil Harris & his family cause Jean Smith use to work together. My prayers & thought be with you all, Recese was a wonderful friend & pastor. God bless u all

Tiffani smith Holcomb - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ To the Harris family Your dad was always super nice to me and I extend my condolences to all the family. God bless.

Tracy Francis - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Reece will be greatly missed here on earth, but now he has his wings and will be waiting to meet us again, in Heaven. When I joined the church he said Jo, you're going to love it here! And this was so true. My prayers are with his family and loved ones.

Jo Robinson - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Reece came to Sinking Creek when I was a little girl. Mom and Dad (Glenn and Vergie Hampton) had Reece to our house for meals before he married Paulette. We all loved Reece and Paulette! Reece had a real influence on my life as he did on thousands of people! God has called one of His greatest servants home to receive the reward he has worked for all these years! "Well done thou good and faithful servant." Prayers for sweet Paulette and th family!

Eileen Hendrix - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ We are very sorry for your loss of great-great uncle Reece. He was a wonderful person. He will be missed greatly .One thing for sure, everyone that knew him doesn't have to wonder where he is. He is in the place he has told so many people about, You all are in our thoughts. Love Pat, Ken Cole

Pat & Ken Cole - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Pastor Harris was the first person that I met when I started at David Crockett High School In January of 1981. He was my guidance counselor. And later, when Paul and I became roommates in college, he and Paulette were "forced" to adopt me... almost! I'll never forget his smiling face and how funny he was! He had a great sense of humor! I am sad but know that we will seem him again someday. They are partying in heaven right now! Welcome home, good and faithful servant! Love to all the Harris family! Chuck & Laura Fleming

Chuck Fleming - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Our Prayers and thoughts are with the whole Harris Family at this time. Sending our deepest heartfelt condolences.

Rebecca Hetrick & Family - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“Reece Harris...What an amazing, Godly servant!! He always had such an unbelievable, positive spirit! He was always an encouragement to others!He has left a beautiful legacy to follow. He truly has heard, "Well Done, faithful servant!" To his family, we want you to know that we are praying that God will fill your hearts with His peace and His presence! You are loved! Scott & Kathy Thompson

Scott & Kathy Thompson - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“My prayers go out to Paulette and the boys and the rest of the family. I have great memories of Reece,Paulette and the boys from the years I went to Sinking Creek. I told my Husband last night about Reece. He said that Reece was one of those people you think would live forever. Reece married us almost 34 years ago. My time at sinking Creek was wonderful and when I came home for a visit I always tried to attend his services. Pauleete, Mark,Paul, and Phillip just remember He is with his true Father and he is with the other members of his family that went ahead of him and that he is with you always. God Bless and keep all of you at this time and years to come.

Patricia (Patsy) Oxendine Lee - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“GOD BLESS THE MEMORY OF REECE HARRIS...This good and godly man I've known many years. He was an inspiration and meant much to so many. He is a credit to the ministry and encouraged me. Reece was a student of God's Word. He took his call seriously. I remember him saying he wanted to preach until he died, as long as he was physically able. He could say as in the words of Dr. R. G. Lee, "I'm married to preaching, till death do us part." Our prayers and thoughts are with all the Harris Family at this time. Sending our deepest sympathy.

Kenneth and Carol Kyker - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ When I first came to Sinking Creek Baptist Church I was broken and hurting. And the first person to greet me was Pastor Reese Harris with his sweet little handshake. He asked my name and the names of my two sons Samuel and Elijah. From that day and every Sunday after and anytime for that matter that we saw Pastor Harris, he always remembered my name and my sons names. At a time when I felt worthless and unseen, Pastor Harris showed me God's love and I felt like I mattered. He was a wonderful man of God and I'm happy to have known him the short time that I did. All my love and prayers to the family.

Sarah McKinney - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ I was so very blessed and honored to have known Pastor Reece. I was even more so honored to have stood in that place of honor (the pulpit at Sinking Creek) as the Intentional Interim for two years. I enjoyed my encounters with Reece at the Monday Pastor's Conference, he always had a joke that would make all the pastors, who are usually tired on Mondays, feel better, lifting us up. Pastor Reece has left a legacy that will endure for generations to come. It is comforting to know that he is now in the presence of the one who he proclaimed for so many years. Thank you Pastor Reece, see you in heaven.

Keith Weatherly - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ A candle was lit by Karen L. Calhoun lit a memorial candle
on January 9, 2017 1:05 PM

In memory of Reece Harris, sending peaceful thoughts and deepest sympathy to Paul Harris and other family members in this time of need.

Karen L. Calhoun lit a memorial candle - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Paulette and family. You don't know me, but I knew Reece. He was my mother's first cousin. You know there is a lot of Harris's and I'm just another cousin that loved him very much. My mother had Alzheimer's and my father had dementia. We kept them home as long as we could. (Flag Pond, just below your property and Reece grew up. My mother had colon cancer and required surgery. I called him. We were very scared for her to be put to sleep because she had so many health problems. She had told me before she got so bad that she wanted Reece to hold her funeral, the. Daddy said the same. He came and sat with us during her surgery and she lived 5 more years. Daddy didn't. Reece did such an excellent job helping us to say goodbye. I could only attend my mom's via Skype because I had just had surgery when she died and I live in FL and could not travell. Sorry this is so long, I just wanted the family to know how much we loved him and he helped so much. I know he is with God now and I am so happy for that. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. Love you all.

Margery Chandler Lawrence - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ My deepest condolences to the Harris family. I met Mr. Harris when he served as the guidance counselor to this shy, awkward teen at David Crockett High School. He always showed such gentleness and compassion. What a shining example of Christ! Dear family even though you're hurting now remember though he's absent from the body, he's present with the Lord. With sympathy, Jeff & Ceilya Campbell

Jeff & Ceilya (Carver) Campbell - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Dear Paulette, Mark, Paul and Phillip, I was so sorry to hear of your tremendous loss. I loved Reece dearly, and will never forget the significant impact he had on my life. He baptized me at age 7, and the many years I spent at Sinking Creek shaped me into who I am today. I am so grateful for those years I had his teaching and example. I have such fond memories of all of you, and my prayers and deepest sympathy are being sent to you. It is so comforting to know that Reece is no longer suffering and is enjoying the company of our Savior! May our Lord continue to bring peace and comfort to you and your entire family. With love, Anna Marie Ramsey (Norman) Walnut Creek, CA

Anna Marie (Ramsey) Norman - August 23, 2019 at 12:19 PM