



Joe Louis Harris

September 19, 1953 - May 12, 2026

Joe Louis Harris of Cape Girardeau, Missouri passed away on Tuesday May 12th, 2026 at St. Francis Hospital with family by his side.

Joe was born September 19th, 1953 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. The son of Ollie and Martha Purl-Harris.

Joe was a loving family man, respected businessman, and proud United States Navy veteran. He was well known throughout the community for owning several local businesses and for the kindness he showed to everyone he met. Joe had a heart of gold and was truly a father figure to many people throughout his life. He never met a stranger and always made sure to keep in touch with family and friends near and far. His loving spirit, warm smile, and gentle soul will forever be remembered by all who knew him.

Joe dedicated many years of service to Procter & Gamble before retiring. In his free time, he enjoyed spending time with family, sharing stories, and supporting those around him. He leaves behind a legacy of love, strength, wisdom, and generosity that will continue through the many lives he touched. Survivors include his loving spouse, Chris Pender; his children, one son Joey; two daughters Ullanda (Terrance "Bo") and Mylia of Cape Girardeau; three sisters, Carol Harris, Terrie and Denise (Diane) Purl all of Cape Girardeau; 13 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; along with a host of extended family members and friends who loved him dearly.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ollie and Martha Purl-Harris, one

brother Darcus Purl, along with loved ones who welcomed him home in Heaven.

Visitation will be 11:00 am to 12:00 pm Saturday, May 16, 2026 at Ford & Sons Sprigg St. Chapel in Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will follow at 12:00 pm Saturday at the funeral home.

Burial will be at Fairmount Cemetery in Cape Girardeau, with full military honors.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Fairmount Cemetery

835 Caruthers
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Upcoming Events

Visitation

MAY 16. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Sprigg St. Chapel
118 S. Sprigg St.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

Funeral Service

MAY 16. 12:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Sprigg St. Chapel
118 S. Sprigg St.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703