



## Willard Donald Harper

August 3, 1951 - May 8, 2021

Willard Donald "Don" Harper (69) of Cape Girardeau, passed away on May 8, 2021, at his residence. He was the loving husband of Ruth Ann (Busch) Harper for forty-four years. Son of the late Willard Wilson Harper and Mary Juanita (Elder) Harper, Don was born in Paducah, Kentucky on August 3, 1951, and later moved to Cape Girardeau.

In addition to Ruth, Don is survived by his sons Bobby (Bonnie) Harper, Roy (Shawn) Harper, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, and his daughter Candida Harper of Raeford, North Carolina; Grandchildren Ashlea Sullivan, Jonathan (Kelly) Sullivan, Kristen (Jacob) Hand, Robert (Kylie) Wright; Great-Grandchildren Dakota Godwin, Mikaylee Taylor, Logan Hand, Addison Wright, Nora Sullivan, Mya Hand, Owen Sullivan, Grace Wright; and his beloved dog "Floyd". Aside from his parents, he was predeceased by his siblings Shirley Buckman, Ardith Harper Dunlap, Raymond, and Larry Buckman, Billy Harper, and his granddaughter Kelly Wright.

Don retired as Vice President from Tipton Linen Service after 30 years with the company.

Don was also an active member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #3775 and the Cape Girardeau Elks #639. Don will be remembered for his love and enthusiasm for antique clocks. He collected and repaired several hundred

during his lifetime. He also enjoyed fishing, barbecues, and being the life of the party. Don lived a full and exciting life, and he leaves behind many friends and family that will miss him dearly.

Visitation will be 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau and also 9:00 am to 11:00 am Thursday, May 13, 2021.

Funeral Service will be at 11:00 am Thursday, May 13, 2021 at Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel in Cape Girardeau with the Rev. Donny Ford officiating.

Burial will be at Salem Cemetery in Cape Girardeau.

Memorial contributions may be given to American Diabetes Association, 2451 Crystal Drive, Suite 900, Arlington, VA, 22202.

Online condolences may be made at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com).

Ford and Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Salem Cemetery - Cape Girardeau

Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 12. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Visitation

MAY 13. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Ford and Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn  
1001 N Mt Auburn Road  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

## Funeral Service

MAY 13. 11:00 AM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Tribute Wall

DW

“ One thing for sure, you always knew you were welcome at DON and Ruth 's, to live, to laugh, and and of course to share in their wonderful cooking, so many good times we shared. It saddens me to hear the news about DON's passing. I would like to send my deepest sympathy to Ruth, Bobby, Roy and the entire family you're in my thoughts and my prayers God bless !!

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**Don Way** - May 13, 2021 at 11:00 PM

TG

“ I had so many fun times at Don and Ruths. Harper made the best GUMBO and Ruthie made the best BROCCOLI Caserole. Don was amazing!! He will be missed so much. My prayers go out to Ruthie and the family.

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**Tammy Gammon** - May 13, 2021 at 07:48 AM

LJ

“ Both of us thought a lot of your dad no matter where we would see him would take time to say hi are ask how we are doing he even came to our house to fix a broken clock.we are so lucky to have known your dad and the Harper family thoughts and prayers Les and DONNA Conway.

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**Lester Conway Jr.** - May 12, 2021 at 04:43 PM

MB

“ Ruthie and family, we are so sorry for your loss, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Mike and Faye*

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**Michael Bergstrom** - May 12, 2021 at 07:14 AM

GR

“ *Glenda Rush purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum for the family of Willard Donald Harper.*



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**Glenda Rush** - May 11, 2021 at 06:05 PM

BJ

“ *Brenda , Richard, Rick, Travis, Ashley, Bri Justin purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Willard Donald Harper.*



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**Brenda , Richard, Rick, Travis, Ashley, Bri Justin** - May 11, 2021 at 11:51 AM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Willard Donald Harper.*



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May 11, 2021 at 09:49 AM



“ *Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Willard Donald Harper.*



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May 11, 2021 at 09:21 AM

BA

“ *My best friend during our teenage years. Reconnected later in life so glad we did. Had many adventures together! Took the news of his passing really hard. Condolences to his family.*

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**Barry W Allen** - May 11, 2021 at 09:15 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Willard Donald Harper.*



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May 10, 2021 at 08:48 PM