



## Mark Miller Harrison

October 25, 1951 - August 27, 2020

Mark Miller Harrison, age 68, passed away at his home in Vienna, Virginia on August 27, 2020, surrounded by his family. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Karen Christensen Harrison, and by his sister Pamela Knudson (Homer) and his brother John Harrison (Mindy). He is also survived by his six children: Matthew Harrison (Wendy), Michelle Watabe (Nathan), Travis Harrison (Kathryn), Laura Palmer (Martin), Andrew Harrison (Amy) and Katy Kellis (Tyler), as well as 19 grandchildren (very soon to be 20) and many extended family members and friends.

Mark was born on October 25, 1951, in Arlington, Virginia to Harold and Evelyn Harrison. He is a graduate of Washington-Lee High School (Arlington, VA), Brigham Young University (Provo, UT) and the University of Virginia School of Law (Charlottesville, VA). He served missions for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as a young man in Austria and in retirement (with his wife) in Louisiana. His work for 36 years as an attorney for Exxon Mobil took him to Texas, Louisiana, Japan, Thailand and finally back to Virginia.

Travel, music, history, reading and good food were some of Mark's interests. However, he found his greatest joy with his family and in living, studying and teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. For most of the eight years he lived with cancer (multiple myeloma), he participated fully in these and other activities.

A viewing will be held on Tuesday, September 1, from 6-8 pm at the Harrison residence: 515 Lincoln St. NW, Vienna, VA 22180. A service will follow on Wednesday, September 2, at 10 am at Columbia Gardens Cemetery: 3411 Arlington Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201. With the ongoing pandemic, attendees are asked to wear masks for both events. Chairs will be set up for the outside service at the cemetery, but any attending who would like to bring their own chairs are encouraged to do so. The family plans to record and possibly stream the service for those who cannot attend. More details to follow.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Humanitarian Aid Fund of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints or the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

# Cemetery Details

## Columbia Gardens Cemetery

3411 Arlington Blvd.  
Arlington, VA 22201

# Previous Events

## Service

SEP 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

Columbia Gardens Cemetery  
3411 Arlington Blvd.  
Arlington, VA 22201

# Tribute Wall

PS

“ My brother, Mark, was born on my seventh birthday. He felt like a very special gift to me. Mark seemed to always be good at everything. He lived a very fine life. He had a happy marriage to Karen Christensen which he considered “The best decision I ever made.” They had six wonderful children: Matthew, Michelle, Travis, Laura, Andrew, Katie. He died August 27, 2020 at age 68 of Multiple Myeloma which he lived with for eight years. How we all loved him so much!

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**Pamela Harrison Knudson, Mark 's sister.** - August 04, 2025 at 07:41 PM

MH

“ My heartfelt condolences to Karen and their family. I pray for their peace and calm. My brief, three-year acquaintanceship with Mark many years ago (1967-1970) left me with an understanding of his kindness and respect for all those whom he met. Our family lived in Arlington VA during those years so long ago, where I had the chance to be of acquaintance with Mark and so many wonderful young friends. In the summer of 1970, our family moved back to Utah. It was a long, strange summer for me being away from so many good friends that I had made while living in Arlington. One hot, dry day that summer, a knock came to our door on Main Street there in Smithfield UT. When we went to the door, to our utter surprise, there was Mark Harrison with a large backpack on his back--he was hitch-hiking across the country and, to our delight, he found his way to our house to visit during his travels. We had a wonderful visit with him that day as he shared his many experiences "on the road." He had a great appetite I remember, and we cooked him a large steak (my dad raised Hereford steers) and served him potatoes and fresh garden tomatoes. After we ate, we helped him make a new sign to hold up for his next, desired destination, and we bid him farewell and waved as he walked out onto the street to make his way. I never saw Mark again, but, as you can see, the memory of our acquaintance with him, especially on that hot, Utah summer day, stays with me. I am sending my heartfelt prayers for comfort for Karen and their family. Love, Mary Jo Hansen

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Mary Jo Hansen - September 25, 2020 at 10:59 AM

MS

“ To Mark's family,  
I am saddened to learn of Mark's passing. We worked together at Exxon off and on for all the years. He is one of the nicest, most considerate and reliable people I have ever met. I pray that God will give you warm and happy memories of all the wonderful times you had together. Just knowing Mark has made my life better as I know it has yours. Thank you for sharing him.

Best Wishes,  
Michael F Smith

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Michael F Smith - September 04, 2020 at 05:22 PM

FC

“ Mark was a very good lawyer and a great man. I know God will cherish him because there are a lot of good men in heaven but very few lawyers. Rest in peace Mark

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Fred Carew - September 02, 2020 at 06:02 PM

TA

“ Mark Harrison, one of The Great Ones who was always (in my experiences) pleasant and even tempered. In 1968 our church youth group had a pretty good basket ball team and we had a lot of fun and success. Mark along with Mark Gibb, Mark Worthington, Craig Merrill, and Carter Grampp. I was a bench guy. We kept winning and ended up going to SLC for an "All Church tournament." There were either 32 or 64 teams, I forget. We played and were eliminated but it was a lot of fun. That was a big deal to go so far.

In 1970 a group of kids drove to Palmyra, New York for the Hill Cumorah Pageant. Steve Christensen drove a car with Karen Christensen, Janet Alexander, and Mark Harrison. I drove my VW with Patty Ferber and Mark Gibb. At times Mark would hang out of the window and throw Malted Milk balls at us as we drove down the Road. All seven of us slept in a little tent and we all pretty much behaved. Loads of fun. Now whenever I see malted milk balls I think of Mark and smile as I reminisce about those times.

We had quite a good group of kids in that ward. Many good memories from that time. I have especially been thinking of that group and how special it was as I heard the sad news of Marks illness and passing. What a great guy who has left a hole in many hearts.

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**Tom Alexander** - September 02, 2020 at 10:29 AM

AN

“ Aim, Jane, Suphaluk, Thoedtham, Ladda, Niramol purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mark Miller Harrison.



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**Aim, Jane, Suphaluk, Thoedtham, Ladda, Niramol** -  
September 01, 2020 at 11:21 PM

RT

“ To Mark's family:

*I am very sorry for your loss. I had the privilege of getting to know Mark in my short 2.5 years in Fairfax. Family was his number 1 priority and he loved to tell you what was going on their lives. He was also great role model. He will be deeply missed, but the world is a better place because of him. May he rest in peace.*

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**Rob Tracy** - September 01, 2020 at 03:03 PM

TB

“ In Memory of Mr. Mark Miller Harrison

To Karen,

*It is our great regret hearing that Mark has passed away. Please accept our condolences in your bereavement.*

*We worked with Mark as a good team for five years when he held office as the General Counsel of ExxonMobil in Thailand during which we received from him more than a good leader is supposed to give to his subordinates. We cherish the memory of those day working with him.*

*Mark was a morally good person with kind heart and generosity. We will always miss him.*

*With deepest sympathy.*

*Niramol, Aim-orn, Suphaluk, Pornpimol,  
Kalaya, and Thoedtham*

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**Thoedtham Biarabicharana** - September 01, 2020 at 11:31 AM

DG

“ To Mark’s family, I am deeply saddened to learn of Mark’s passing. We started working at Exxon Law within a year or two of each other and so our paths crossed many times over the decades, though I never had the pleasure of working directly with Mark. He was a man of integrity with his family foremost in his priorities. He will be deeply missed and my prayers are with you all.

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**Debbie Gentry** - September 01, 2020 at 11:27 AM

VD

“ It was a sad day on this earth when Bishop Harrison left us and passed back through the celestial veil. We will all miss him and his rock solid testimony of the a Lord Jesus Christ. He was a strong warrior in all things good and uplifting. I enjoyed very much working with him and with his wife Karen, in the Washington, DC Temple of The Church of JESUS CHRIST of Latter-day Saints and in all our Church Institute meetings. My love and sympathy to Karen and to Bishop Harrison’s wonderful family.  
Vicky DelHoyo

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**Vicky DelHoyo** - September 01, 2020 at 10:20 AM

BT

“ Dear Karen and Family, I am so sorry for your loss. I am from Singapore and I first got to know Mark when he was General Counsel in Thailand and then we continued working together when he returned to the US. He was a great colleague and a mentor to me and he was funny, approachable and most of all, truly someone I can reach out to and to call a friend. I am comforted to know, as you are too, that he is at rest and he had fought the hard fight and is now with God. Byron

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**Byron Te** - September 01, 2020 at 03:09 AM

BD

“ Dear Karen and Family,

*Valerie and I are deeply saddened to learn of Mark's passing and are so sorry for your family's loss. We are praying for comfort and strength for you and your family now and in the days ahead..*

*Mark was a wonderful friend and colleague to all of us at ExxonMobil--always warm, engaging, knowledgeable, professional, and funny. Over many lunches, he regaled us with funny stories about living and working abroad. His love of desserts (and almost anything sweet) was legendary around the office, along with his love of theater and musicals. Through it all, it was always clear that his love for his family was at the center of his universe. May his soul rest in peace.*

*Warmest regards, Ben Dinkins*

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**Ben Dinkins** - August 31, 2020 at 11:15 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mark Miller Harrison.



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August 31, 2020 at 10:17 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mark Miller Harrison.



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August 31, 2020 at 08:08 PM

GV

“ *Gabrielle Vorst lit a candle in memory of Mark Miller Harrison*



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**Gabrielle Vorst** - August 31, 2020 at 06:45 PM

MH

“ *Dear Karen: Please accept Kate's and my condolences on Mark's death. I knew that he had cancer but had hoped that it was in remission. You may recall that I worked with Mark in Houston and in Japan and Thailand and really enjoyed our friendship. Too bad that he died so soon after retirement and did not get to enjoy its full measure. I also worked with Mark's father at the Justice Department in the 1960's. Best regards, Malcolm Hawk*

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**Malcolm Hawk** - August 31, 2020 at 09:59 AM

SL

*I am very saddened by this news and wish Mark's family and friends my heartfelt condolences on his passing. I worked with Mark at ExxonMobil in Fairfax and interfaced with him on numerous occasions over the years He was a superb lawyer, always offering practical and sage counsel. More importantly he was a wonderful person with a great heart and sense of humor. The world truly needs more people like Mark and he will be sorely missed.*

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**Stephen Letai** - August 31, 2020 at 02:21 PM

GV

*Dear Karen and family. I am so sorry to hear this news and I will keep you and the family in my prayers during this difficult time. I, too, worked with Mark at ExxonMobil in Fairfax. He is the finest example of the legal profession. I learned so much from him. Despite this, I admired him most for being such a good man and father. May he Rest In Peace.*

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**Gabrielle Vorst** - August 31, 2020 at 06:43 PM

TC

*My deepest condolences to Mark's family. I had the honor of working closely with him when he was the lawyer for ExxonMobil's Contract Administration group. He was kind and generous with his advice, but what I remember most was his humor and deep love for his family. May you take comfort in knowing the impact he had on so many of his friends and colleagues at work.*

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**Therese Creel** - September 01, 2020 at 09:41 PM

DB

*Dear Karen and family, I am saddened by the news of Mark's passing but rejoice in a life well lived and the privilege of having known Mark and been touched by his kindness and great spirit. He was a great lawyer and an example to me as a colleague in the ExxonMobil Law Department. And he made me laugh and not take myself too seriously. I know he has touched many lives and been an example of a true disciple of Christ. I will miss him.*

*David Bertoch*

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**David J. Bertoch** - September 02, 2020 at 02:11 PM

JB

*I, too, am so sorry for your loss and extend my condolences. Mark was truly good man, a fine lawyer and advocate for the company and his clients, and a great colleague. We will miss him.*

*Jack Balagia*

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**Jack Balagia** - September 05, 2020 at 02:30 PM

MM

*Dear Laura*

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Healing thoughts for you and your family, for right now and for the days to come. Peace~*

*Michelle Milner  
ConferenceDirect*

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**Michelle Milner** - September 09, 2020 at 02:58 PM



*Hoffentlich haßt du endlich ein grün 16!*

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**Rainer Rohde** - September 14, 2020 at 08:53 AM