



Douglas Asa Harper

November 28, 1931 - July 24, 2022

Douglas Asa Harper was born in Haviglandville, Harrison County, Kentucky, on 28 Nov 1931, the only child of Joseph Tillman and Gladys Mildred Hall Harper. He attended school at Sunrise and Oddville, KY and graduated in May 1950. In June 1954 he graduated from the University of Kentucky Commerce College with a BS degree and a commission in the United States Air Force. In January 1955 he entered active duty with the Air Force and graduated as a pilot at Webb AFB, TX. He was trained to be an intercept director for the air defense of the United States and was involved in Air Defense for his whole career.

He had assignments in Washington, Labrador, Wisconsin, California, Okinawa, Colorado, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., Iceland, Florida and Mississippi. In Iceland he held his first command assignment as commander of a radar squadron which was still in the Air Defense Mission of the Air Force. He next took command of the Weapons Controller School at Tyndall AFB, Panama City, FL and later moved to Keesler AFB, Biloxi, MS, as Commander of a Training Group where he retired with the rank of Colonel with over 23 years of service. In his remote assignments he took up needlepoint and completed countless pieces of needlepoint with many from his own designs. Col Harper lived in Biloxi, MS after retirement from the Air Force for a total of 35 years. After Katrina's destruction he sold his home and moved back to Lexington in his native state of Kentucky.

His travels generally lead him to research facilities around the country to

further his knowledge of his ancestry. However he enjoyed cruises for the past few years, particularly on the Holland American Line. There have been 76 cruises and land tours. Visits have been to Costa Rica, Mexico, Manchu Picchu, Peru, Egypt, China/Tibet, Galapagos Islands, Australia, New Zealand, Norway, Finland, Iceland, Greece and Greek Isles, Turkey, Italy, Antarctica, Croatia, Puerto Rico, Tunisia, Alaska, Brazil, Argentina. His travels took him to all seven continents.

He was a Life Member of the Kentucky Genealogical Society; Kentucky Historical Society; Filson Historical Society; Sons of the American Revolution; University of Kentucky Alumni; Air Force Association; American Legion First Flight Society; Military Order of World Wars; Military Officers Association of America; National Order of Blue & Gray. Member: National Genealogical Soc.; Kentucky Colonels; Sons of Union Veterans Civil War; Continental Society Sons of Indian Wars; Friends of SAR Library; Sons of the Revolution; National Archives; Smithsonian Institute; St. Luke UMC; Kentucky Society SAR; First Families of Kentucky and a Charter Member: Gulf Coast Chapter NSSAR; Indiana Genealogical Society; Pendleton Co. Historical & Genealogical Society.; World War II Museum.

Colonel Harper died on 24 July 2022.

Colonel Harper will be buried in the Riverside Cemetery, Falmouth, KY beside his parents. At his request, all arrangements are private to be held at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Kentucky United Methodist Children's Home: 1115 Ashgrove Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356, <http://KyUMH.org/>

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

409 Ridgeway Avenue
Falmouth, KY

Tribute Wall

BD

“ We were so sorry to hear of the passing of Colonel Douglas Harper. Bill's family was very close to the Harper and Hall families through the years. Douglas graduated one year before Bill. Douglas served his country extremely well in his distinguished military career. Janice knew him at the Harrison County Museum where he would visit on his trips to Cynthiana regaling us with stories from his recent travels. Janice also knew him as her parents were friends of his in the Oddville Alumni Association. Obviously, service to his fellow man was in evidence throughout his life,

*Bill and Janice Doan
Wilmington, NC*

Bill Doan - August 01, 2022 at 10:36 PM

PC

“ So sorry to hear this. I met Doug at the Cummins Family Reunions. He and my husband, Ernie, had many conversations around genealogy of their families. Doug will definitely be missed. Pauline Chapman

Pauline Chapman - July 26, 2022 at 10:37 PM

JC

“ Col. Harper grew up with the Clifford family on Havilandsville Rd. My first husband Ernest went to school with Douglas as well as all the Clifford children. There are many good memories. Col Harper made the little community of Havilandsville and Sunrise very proud. Sympathy to all his family.

Joyce Clifford - July 26, 2022 at 07:03 PM

PJ

“ Colonel Harper, what a absolute gentleman and genealogy extraordinaire. You will be missed my friend.
Farewell to you
Pamela Spencer Jenkins

Pamela Spencer Jenkins - July 26, 2022 at 06:39 PM

CP

“ On behalf of the global membership of the Kentucky Genealogical Society, we mourn the loss of our dear member Colonel Harper. He was an exceptional family historian and we will miss him. We honor his contributions to the Kentucky genealogical community.

Christopher Padgett
President
Kentucky Genealogical Society
www.kygs.org

Christopher Padgett - July 26, 2022 at 02:55 PM

SC

“ On behalf of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, the Order offers its deepest condolences and is proud of a life well lived by Colonel Harper.

Sherry Crose, Executive Director
Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels

Sherry Crose - July 26, 2022 at 11:48 AM

DW

“ So sorry to hear of Doug’s passing. He was ageless, it seemed, and sort of one of those “he’ll always be with us” kind of things. Always looked forward to his dropping by over the years and the opportunity to chat with a Renaissance Man. My condolences to family and friends.

Don Wells - July 25, 2022 at 08:43 PM