



MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper

June 14, 1953 - November 10, 2013

MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper, son of the late Aaron and Sophie (Gillis) Harper, was born June 14, 1953 in Burbank, California. Due to his father being in the military, David grew up in many different places, but he eventually came back to the Waynesville area (which he considered home) in 1981.

At the age of 17, David entered the United States Army and served his country faithfully until his retirement after 20 years of service. He had attained the rank of Master Sergeant and earned several awards and commendations; some of which include: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal – 6th Award, National Defense Service Medal – 2nd Award, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon – 3rd Award, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon – 2nd Award, and Expert Qualification Badge M-16 Rifle.

On June 6, 1983, David was united in marriage to Ginny Lynn Smith in Waynesville, Missouri. They shared over 30 years of marriage together and five children: Davy, Danny, Doug, Terri and Renae.

David was a hardworking person. After retiring from the military, he worked as an over the road truck driver for 10 years and then did construction work for 12 years.

In his spare time, David loved being outdoors while fishing, camping and tending to his yard and garden. He enjoyed playing a friendly game of poker, watching westerns and building things. Most importantly, he loved spending time with his family, especially playing with the grandkids.

David passed away Sunday, November 10, 2013 in his home having attained the age of 60 years. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

David leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Ginny Harper of the home; five children: Davy and wife Janie of Sedalia, MO, Danny and wife Kim of Jefferson City, MO, Doug and wife Sabrina of Richland, MO, Terri and husband Michael of Hanover, MD and Renae and husband Ryan of Laquey, MO; three brothers: George and wife Deed of the state of Illinois, Richard and wife Pat of Waynesville and John and wife T.J. of Waynesville; two sisters: Florence and husband Bob Jackson of Waynesville and Kay and husband Bob Swift of Waynesville; sixteen grandchildren: Raegan, Kennedy, Zoe, Rowan, Meagan, Clint, Mackenzie, Garrett, Tyler, Clayton, Christopher, Nikki, Heather, Katie, Remington and Rylie; three great grandchildren: Chloe, Alyssa and Violet; several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Graveside with military honors was held at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 13, 2013 in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery – Fort Leonard Wood. Military honors were provided by the United States Army of Fort Leonard Wood. Arrangements were under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of David Harper and may be left at the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Fort Leonard Wood

25350 Hwy H
Waynesville, MO 65583

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 13. 3:00 PM (CT)

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Fort Leonard Wood
25350 Hwy H
Waynesville, MO 65583

Tribute Wall



“ *MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM

TE

“Dad its been a week since I received the worst call of my life. I still can't believe you are gone, it doesn't seem real. Everybody keeps saying the sadness and heart ache will get better over time, but I just can't believe that, it hurts so much. I know you are looking down on all of us now, with that little smile on your face because of how proud you are of all of us.

*As I ponder the love that I saw in his eyes,
A Godly love, given without compromise....
I recall many times that he stood by my side,
And prodded me on with great vigor and pride.*

*His voice ever confident, firm and yet fair,
Always speaking with patience, tenderness and care.
The power and might of his hands was so sure,
I knew there was nothing we couldn't endure.*

*It's true, a few others provided insight,
Yet, he laid the foundation that kept me upright.
He's the grandest of men to have lived on this earth,
Although he's not royal by stature or birth.*

*He's a man of great dignity, honor and strength.
His merits are noble, and of admirable length.
He's far greater than all other men that I know,
He's my Dad, he's my mentor, my friend and hero*

Your loving Daughter

Terri - November 17, 2013 at 04:41 PM

TP

“ 5 files added to the album Family



Terri Poole - November 16, 2013 at 05:56 PM

MC

“ Michael Chaffee lit a candle in memory of
MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper



Michael Chaffee - November 13, 2013 at 07:43 PM

NB

“ Nita Burke lit a candle in memory of MSG
(Ret) David Wayne Harper



Nita Burke - November 13, 2013 at 12:10 PM

LR

“ *Laura Rodelius lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper*



Laura Rodelius - November 12, 2013 at 04:16 PM

JS

“ *Jerri Shreve sent a virtual gift in memory of MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper*



Jerri Shreve - November 12, 2013 at 01:56 PM

DH

“ *To the Harper family,
Our hearts and prayers are with you.*

Tom, Debbie and Nathan Heintz

Debbie Heint - November 12, 2013 at 01:40 PM

NB

“ *Nicole Boucher lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper*



Nicole Boucher - November 12, 2013 at 12:58 PM

SC

“ *Sandra Chaffee lit a candle in memory of
MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper*



Sandra Chaffee - November 12, 2013 at 12:39 PM

MM

“ *Melissa Martin lit a candle in memory of MSG
(Ret) David Wayne Harper*



Melissa Martin - November 12, 2013 at 12:30 PM

Amanda
Woodson

“ *A great man he will be very missed!*

Amanda Woodson - November 12, 2013 at 11:17 AM



“ *Christy Crossland lit a candle in memory of
MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper*



Christy Crossland - November 12, 2013 at 11:03 AM

TS

“ I just met David and Ginny in 2009 and we instantly had a great friendship. I considered David a friend. Always a smile on his face when he was in the office, me knowing that he had to be in pain. He didn't complain and had a wonderful attitude. I will miss seeing him! My prayers are with the family during this difficult time.

Theresa Steward - November 12, 2013 at 10:40 AM

MS

“ IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF HIS SERVICE
TO OUR COUNTRY
MARLIN STEVENS



Marlin Stevens - November 12, 2013 at 10:29 AM

GO

“ My thoughts, prayers and deepest condolences are extended to the family of MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper. May his family find peace during this time of grief. Although I did not know him personally, he had to be a quite a man to have raised such wonderful daughter, Terri. She is a terrific person with a big heart and an exemplary employee. What a wonderful tesitment to his life.

Gina Owens - November 12, 2013 at 09:48 AM

KC

“ There will be no greater inspiration in my lifetime. I will miss you Uncle David. Thank you for showing me how to keep going no matter what.

Kenneth Crawford - November 12, 2013 at 08:40 AM

Aleida
McCord

“ Aleida McCord sent a virtual gift in memory of
MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper



Aleida McCord - November 12, 2013 at 07:49 AM

Aleida
McCord

“ Aleida McCord lit a candle in memory of MSG
(Ret) David Wayne Harper



Aleida McCord - November 12, 2013 at 07:47 AM

TE

“ To one of the hardest fighting men I know he literally went thru hell
and back and fought long and hard he loved his family more than
anything in this world loved sitting talking with him and listening to
him boast about his family. A great man taken to soon. My prayers
are with the family in this great time of loss may God give you all
peace and comfort during this most difficult time and when the days
of loneliness want to take over remember the good meomeries of him
makes the day a little better and I do know what I am talking about
for i LOST MY DAD 19 YEARS AGO AND MY HUSBAND 2 YEARS
AGO.

TONYA ELLZEY - November 11, 2013 at 04:34 PM

SJ

“ *SARA JONES sent a virtual gift in memory of
MSG (Ret) David Wayne Harper*



SARA JONES - November 11, 2013 at 01:44 PM