



# Gary Lawrence Harris

DEC 30, 1948 - APR 15, 2025



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# Gary Lawrence Harris

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## Eulogy for Gary Lawrence Harris

Gary Lawrence Harris was born December 30, 1948, in Mount Vernon, Ohio, to Dorothy (Morehouse) and Clarence Harris. He passed away suddenly on April 15th, 2025, at 5:42 p.m.—a date that holds deep meaning for our family, as it is also the birthday of his father. There’s something poetic in that, as though in his final moment, he chose to reunite with the man who first showed him the way.

He is survived by his brother Gene Harris(Kathy)and his sister Carol Hart(Gordon), to whom he was especially close and preceded in death by his younger brother,Robert W. Harris(Sharon). He was a father to two daughters—his oldest, Alicia Ann Liggins (Harris), and his youngest, Vanessa Lin Fonseca (Harris). He was also a grandfather to Alexander Harris Walker and Marissa Valentine, and a great-grandfather to Sebastian Fonseca and Isaiah Ohlinger.

Dad especially cherished his time with Alexander. When he was younger, they spent countless days fishing, taking beach rides along Daytona, hitting the golf course, and dancing—especially to one of his favorites, “The Wobble.” Those were more than just activities—they were love in motion, memories in the making.

If you knew Gary, you knew he loved three things deeply: music, sports, and people. He was a lifelong fan of basketball and golf—always keeping up with games, stats, and swings. But nothing lit him up quite like music. It was more than just a passion—it was his soul’s language. For over 16 years, he was a proud member of the Daytona Bopper Dance Club, spinning records and spinning on the floor, DJ’ing for his beloved dance community with a playlist full of old-school grooves, heartbeats, and memories.

Dad loved his music, his sports, his Invicta watches, Creed cologne, a clean car, and a good pair of shoes to dance in. That was my Pops.



## Obituary

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My love for music definitely comes from him. We shared so many moments listening to the blues at B.B. King's, enjoying the sounds and grabbing lunch together by the ocean. Those days were simple, soulful, and full of laughter—just like him.

In his later years, Dad found joy in the unexpected—driving as an Uber driver, not just for the ride, but for the stories. He'd share music with his passengers and soak up theirs in return. His car was like a moving jukebox and a confessional booth, and he thrived in that rhythm.

In one of his last conversations, during his hospital stay, he gave his granddaughter Marissa and her husband a beautiful piece of advice: "Go to the beach. Enjoy life. And always keep dancing." That was my dad—a man who believed in living fully, loving loudly, and dancing through it all.

We will miss his voice, his laugh, his playlists, and his wisdom.

So today, we don't say goodbye. We say thank you, Dad. Thank you for the music, the memories, and the love.

Heritage Funeral and Cremation Service of Bunnell, FL assisted the family with arrangements.  
[www.HeritageFlagler.com](http://www.HeritageFlagler.com)



## Tribute Wall

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**Gene And Kathy Harris** posted:

Prayers sent to Alicia, Vanessa and their respective families from Gary's brother Gene and wife Kathy. May he rest in peace.

May 10 at 5:45 PM



**Lyn C Faulkner** posted:

I met Gary through the Daytona Beach Boppers, a swing dance club. From other long time members that knew him for years, I understand that he loved to dance and women loved to dance with him. They told me he did DJ frequently at our dances over the years and members enjoyed his music. Although I didn't know Gary for a long time, he always was kind and thoughtful. He'll be missed by our club. Lyn Faulkner

April 27 at 6:52 AM



**Alicia Liggins** posted:

Dear Dad, I miss our conversations we had about life. You always stayed genuine. I remember so many adventures we went on. We drove from Florida to Ohio, we went camping, we went fishing, you let me drive the golf cart and play pool. You always made the best T-bone steak. We had so much fun. I want you to know, we got together to share our memories about you. And thank you for all your wisdom you shared. I love you Dad. Vanessa

April 26 at 9:22 AM



**Alicia Liggins** April 26 at 9:24 AM

I posted this for my sister Vanessa Fonseca (Harris) thanks so much for spending time with me and Marissa. Dad would be so proud of us to that! It was awesome, just sharing cool stories about pops. Love you sister



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**Roberta** posted:

I knew Gary through Daytona Beach Boppers. He was always such a nice man and had a ready smile. Gary loved to dance, and was fun to dance with- his lead was easy and smooth. I will remember him best for that. My sincere condolences go out to all of his family and close friends. He will surely be missed. RIP, my friend!

April 23 at 8:53 AM



**Gene And Kathy Harris** May 4 at 7:06 AM

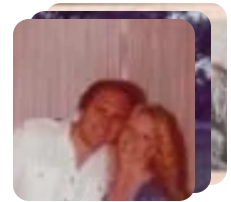
From Kathy and Gene Harris—our thoughts and prayers are with you at this trying time Alicia and family. Love to you all.



**Mike Harris** shared 3 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

My deepest sympathy to everyone. Uncle Gary was always kind to me, and I can remember him buying me a new pair of shoes when we visited him in Florida in 1988. He will be missed.

April 22 at 6:40 AM



**Carol Hart** posted:

Miss you, brother and thank you for taking care of mom and dad when you did. I know it was a lot. I had fun with you when we went out to dance a couple times in Mount Vernon. I'm glad you got to move back to Florida where you love to live and enjoy the weather. The last text from you said love you and I said love you too and that was it. Will miss our talks.

April 22 at 1:38 PM



**Marissa Valentine** posted:

Grandpa, I'm so grateful for the recent time I spent with you. I will never forget your reaction to seeing me just show up for you unexpectedly. You literally lite up! Thank you for always showing up during the holidays and getting to know my son. Thank you for coming to my wedding. I am already missing you and your stories, the only peace I have is your no longer in pain and your dancing with great grandpa I just know it. I love you forever - your granddaughter Marissa.

April 22 at 8:06 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Alicia Liggins** shared 21 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

One week ago I lost you pops, but you will forever be with me filled with music & memories! Today you'll be with me at our favorite beach in New Symrna 💙 I LOVE YOU POPS!! ❤️ 🎵 🏠 🌍

April 22 at 6:40 AM





# Media

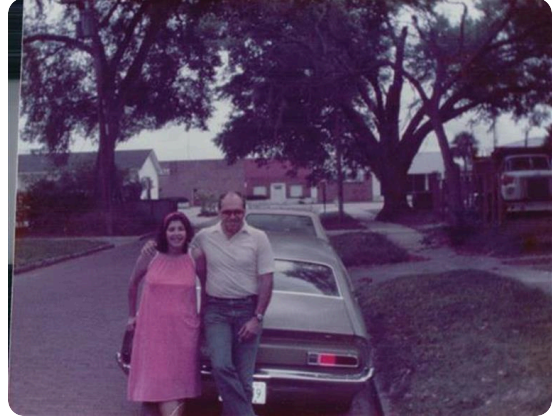
**Gary Lawrence Harris**

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Mike Harris shared 3 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 22 at 3:36 PM





# Media

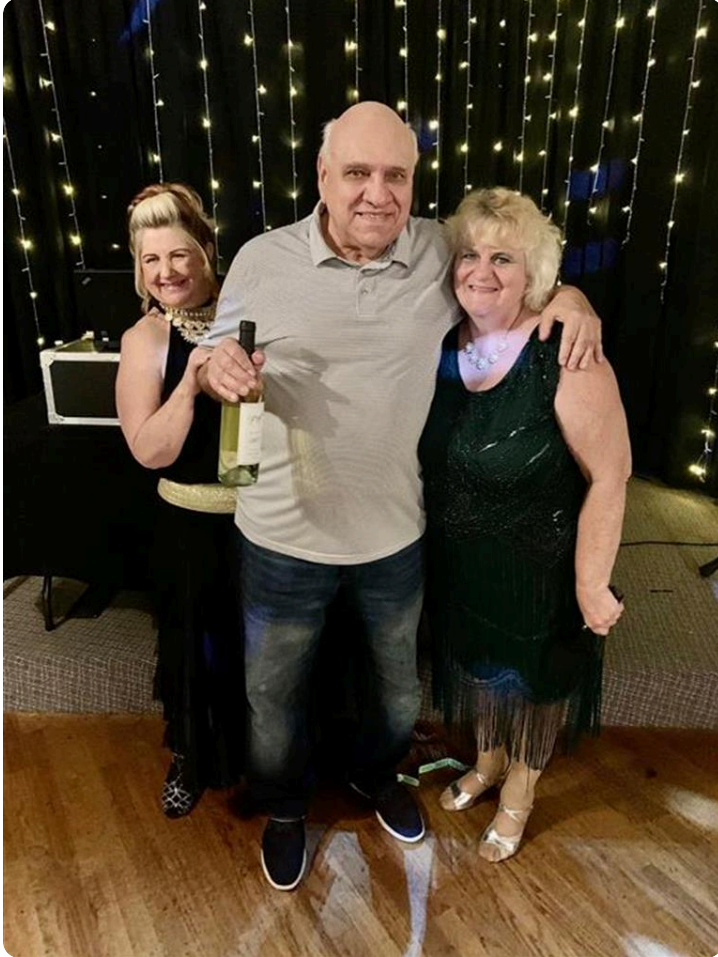
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Alicia Liggins shared 21 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 22 at 6:40 AM



**Cheri** April 22 at 8:33 AM

I will never forget you Gary



# Media

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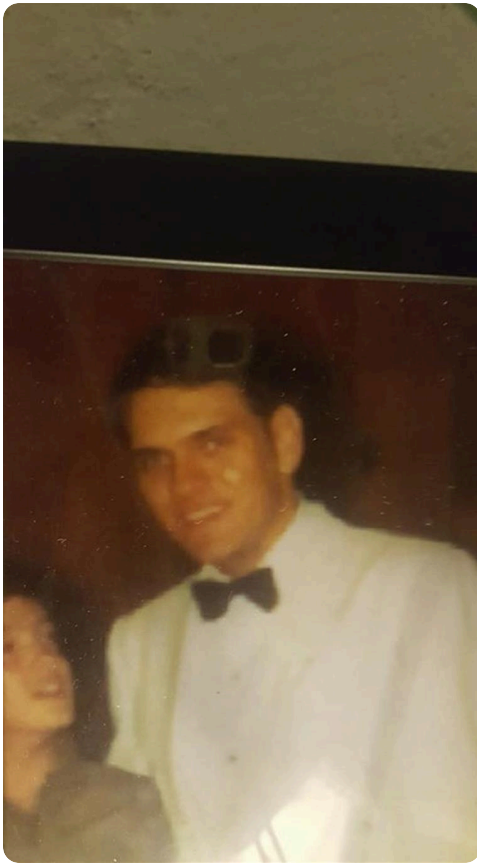




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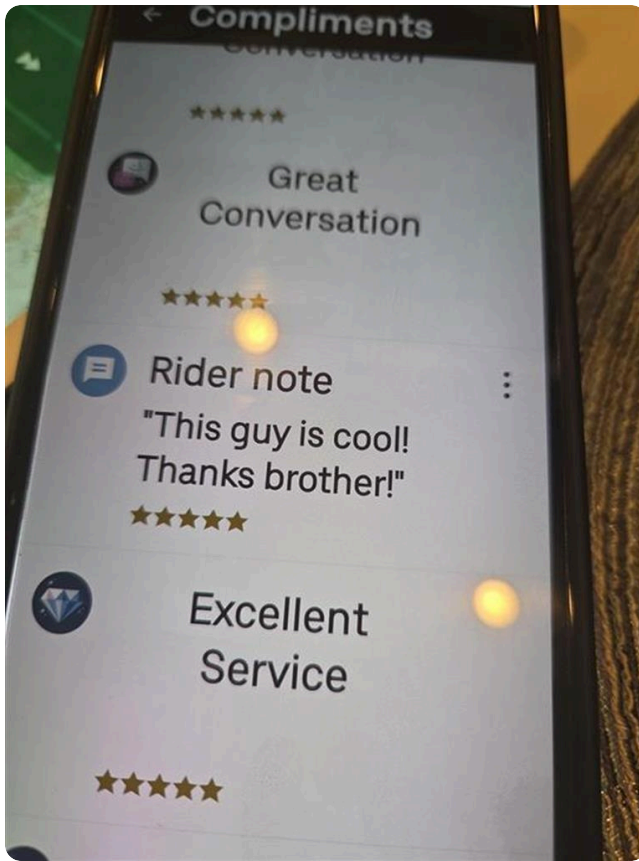




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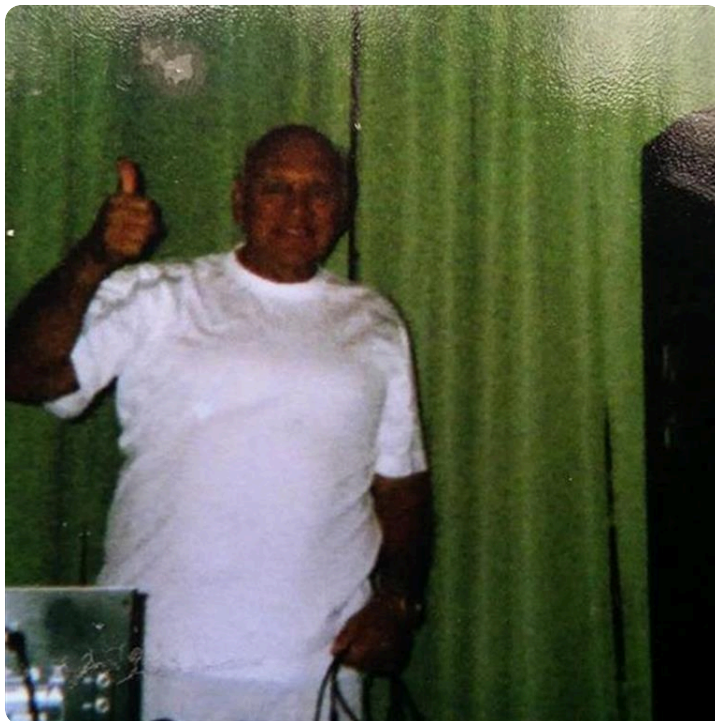
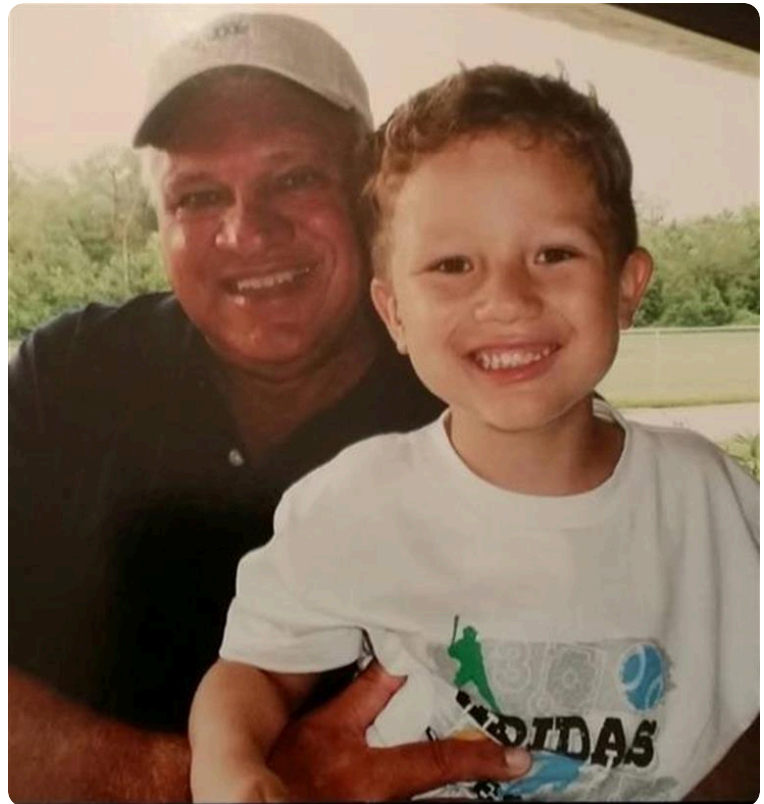




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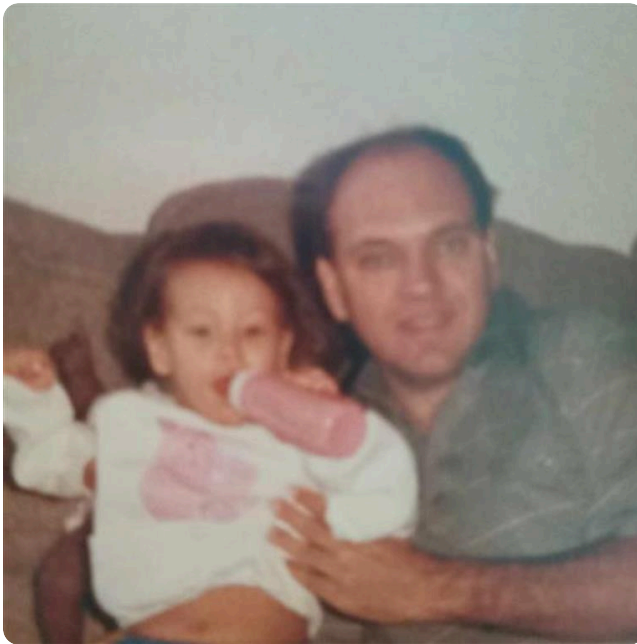




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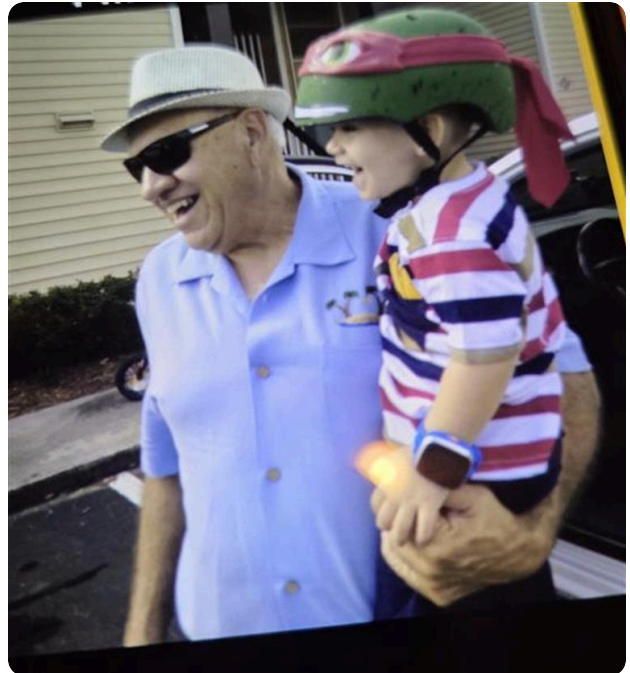




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# **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Gary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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