



Jim R. Harriff

November 19, 1948 - December 14, 2025

Jim Harriff of Manlius passed away on December 14th, after a determined 2½-year battle with cancer, maintaining a positive attitude and a love of life every moment of that journey.

The son of Rev. Robert and Jane Harriff of Rochester, New York, Jim graduated from Brighton High School and Roberts Wesleyan University, where he remained an active supporter and alumnus, and earned his Master of Divinity from Asbury Seminary in Kentucky. Before his professional career, Jim's experience with Cross Counter Ministries in Newark, New Jersey had a deeply profound effect on his life. Jim served as pastor for several churches, most recently the First Baptist Church of New Hartford, which hosted a celebration of his 30 years of ordained ministry this fall. He served as Treasurer for the American Baptist Churches of New York State for 14 years and shared his love of music as a member of The Barnstormers and The Master's Touch Chorale, singing at the White House on three occasions. Jim and his wife, Rev. Suzi Harriff, shared their music ministry at the Syracuse Nationals, coffeehouses, and many churches, especially treasuring their many years at Otter Lake Community Church. They traveled regularly to Rwanda, where they were privileged to partner with several ministry organizations.

For 45 years, Jim was also a Realtor specializing in residential and bank-owned properties with William-Alan Real Estate, then RE/MAX, where he was

inducted into the Hall of Fame, and later with Jim Harriff Realty. He served as a Director and President of the Greater Syracuse Association of Realtors and was recognized as GSAR Realtor of the Year. Jim also founded the Central New York chapter of the Council of Residential Specialists (CRS), serving as its first President and later being named CRS of the Year. Unwilling to fully retire, Jim continued to consult on church closures and property sales, and completed his drone pilot certification, providing photos to clients, churches, family, and friends. He was predeceased by his parents and youngest brother, Mark.

Remembering him with love are his wife Suzi, son Michael, beloved cat Murakoze, siblings Jack (Carole) Harriff, Martha (Dale) Mack, David (Gaila) Harriff, and numerous wonderful nieces, nephews, cousins, and other family members, along with many good friends, colleagues, and partners in ministry.

We are deeply grateful to the stellar team at Upstate Cancer Center, especially Dr. Rahul Seth, whose compassionate care was a true gift, and who all inspired Jim to donate his body to Upstate Medical University for research.

Family and friends are invited to join in sharing and remembrance on Friday, February 6th from 4-7 pm at B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home, 10 Genesee Street in Camillus, and to a Service of Celebration on Saturday, February 7th at 11 am at Mission Hope Community, 23 Genesee Street in Camillus. Jim's ashes will be distributed in places that he loved, including the Adirondacks and Cape Cod.

To continue Jim's legacy of ministry and service, we invite contributions to the Blessing Fund at Mission Hope Community, 23 Genesee St., Camillus, NY 13031. or online at <https://www.pledge.to/organizations/15-6007092/mission-hope-community>

Please share memories and sign his guestbook at www.BLBUSH.com

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 6. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home
10 W. Genesee Street
Camillus, NY 13031
(315) 672-3400
info@bushfuneralhome.com
<https://www.bushfuneralhome.com/>

Celebration of Life

FEB 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mission Hope Community
23 Main Street
Camillus, NY 13031
missionhopecommunity@gmail.com

Tribute Wall



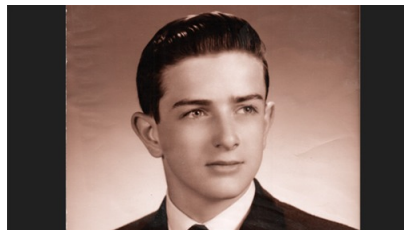
“ *Recorded Service at Church*



B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments - February 07 at 03:09 PM



“ *Video Tribute of Photos during calling hours.*



B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home / Monuments - February 06 at 06:45 PM

BB

“ **PLEASE NOTE:**

A link to watch the funeral service will be posted to this obituary on Sunday.

B.L. Bush - February 07 at 09:05 AM

JM

“ *Suzi and Family,*

I am sending you my deepest condolences. It was a privilege to know Jim as a colleague and friend. He shared his great love and heart for the ministry you both did in Rwanda. We will miss him at our Mohawk Oneida Association meetings. Praying God's comfort on all your family.

Rev. Jessica Merrill

Jessica Merrill - February 06 at 06:49 PM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Jim R. Harriff.*



February 05 at 02:27 PM

LA

“ *Love, Alanna planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim R. Harriff.*

Love, Alanna - February 05 at 02:27 PM

CP

“ *A Shared Simple Task: Saying Goodbye*

*We congregated to break our fast.
Diner's black coffee was the same;
Our low conversation was changed,
A table with one leg missing.
Our food was seasoned with salt-tears.
The ebbing sea pulled from the shore,
Leaving an emptiness peppered
With rocks where we stand on the sand.
We discovered ourselves asea.
Our bodies cold, our hearts colder.
The hush, hush, hushing of the sea
Gave scant comfort in your absence.
Hungry we turn to the full moon.
Save us a place at the table.*

Crystal Pierce

Crystal Pierce - February 04 at 09:56 AM

TR

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Tracey - February 03 at 03:55 PM

TR

My favorite picture of the 2 of you. And in such a joyful day. Sending you love, hugs and prayers. Xoxo

tracey - February 04 at 09:08 PM

GR

“ Greater Syracuse Association of REALTORS purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jim R. Harriff.



Greater Syracuse Association of REALTORS - February 03 at 10:50 AM

GR

“ Greater Syracuse Association of REALTORS planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim R. Harriff.

Greater Syracuse Association of REALTORS - February 03 at 10:50 AM

MY

“ Melek Y. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim R. Harriff.

Melek Y. - February 03 at 07:50 AM

KB

“ *Suzi and Family*
I'm sorry for the loss of Jim. I'll sure miss seeing him at the Otter Lake Community Church in the summer. But I have a nice memento, a drone photo of our camp which Jim took in 2024, mounted on a wall in the porch.

*Sincerely,
Keith Butters*

Keith Butters - January 30 at 10:24 AM

CC

“ CNY RISE CENTER planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jim R. Harriff.

CNY RISE CENTER - January 26 at 08:11 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Jim R. Harriff.



January 26 at 08:11 PM

HR

“ *Remembering Jim with much love. You are missed. Sending our deepest sympathy.*

Rev. Jim and Rev. Suzi

The photos taken in March 2025 at Mission Hope Community



Heather Richards - January 24 at 06:23 PM

PR

“ *I am saddened by Jim's passing. I was fortunate enough to get to know Jim as we worked together at RE/MAX. He was kind, generous, funny and knowledgeable but more importantly a friend. I will miss him*

Patrick Ruggeri - January 20 at 02:38 PM

LC

“ Suzi, I was so sorry to read about the passing of your husband this morning. I did not know him but you were such a comfort to me and our family during my sister's illness and at her services. I send you and your family deepest condolences. He must have been a wonderful man because you are a truly wonderful person. Linda Conner

Linda Conner - January 20 at 08:05 AM

GL

“ My deepest sympathy and love to Suzi, Michael and family as they grieve the death of their beloved, Jim. "Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord: Let light perpetual shine upon him. "

Gelene Lewis - January 19 at 10:40 AM

BW

“ Sadness to read of Jim's passing. I remember his joyful entry to my home every day to pick up Michael. May his memory be for a blessing.

Betty Wiese - January 18 at 10:54 AM

ML

“ Suite and Michael, OUR condolences on the passing of Jim from Mary Anne, John III and Erin Leo.

Mary A. Leo - January 18 at 10:27 AM

TC

“ Suzi, my deepest condolences at the passing of your husband. You and your family are in my prayers. Deacon Tom Cuskey

Thomas C Cuskey - January 16 at 08:44 AM

SH

Thank you...❤️

suzi harriff - January 18 at 12:28 PM

SH

Thank you, Tom...blessings to you.

Suzi Harriff - January 19 at 09:16 PM

BM

“ *Our sincere condolences Suzie for your loss. We have enjoyed you two over many years and his beautiful personality and smile. He'll be missed and you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

I hope you'll always still travel to Gods country to see us! 🙏🙏🙏❤️
Jim & Bridget& Jimmy Matteson

Bridget Matteson - January 14 at 04:48 PM

SH

Of course! You're a treasure to me!

suzi harriff - January 16 at 11:48 AM

SH

Of course! You're a treasure to me! ❤️

suzi harriff - January 16 at 11:49 AM

SH

Always! You're a treasure in the ADK!

Suzi Harriff - January 16 at 04:58 PM



So thankful for his Bible knowledge and teaching,,He performed the wedding ceremonies for Louise and Steve and Scott and Sue. We just viewed the tape of their wedding with their kids at Thanksgiving. He also co-performed for Peter and Sheri. Also being in our choir and enjoyed when you came to Canastota First Baptist to sing and play piano. May God Bless and comfort you.

Janice Lorey

Janice Lorey - January 18 at 07:32 PM