



Fredrick Harker

January 26, 1926 - July 3, 2015

Fredrick Melvin Harker (89) passed from this world on July 3, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Lola Grace Bowman Harker, his brother Thomas Harker, and his sister, Elizabeth (Betty) Oberlin. His children, Ann Broyles (Dave), Beverly Van Pelt, Dan Harker, Jeffrey Harker (Nancy), and Mark Harker, 10 grandchildren: Ari Harker, Maryann Shinkle, Sarah Harker Pritchard, Kenneth Harker, Leslie Harker Kotzas, Heidi Harker, Colletta Harker Freeman, Esther Van Pelt, Dylan Harker Nelson, and Kaitlyn Broyles; and 7 great-grandchildren: Erica and Dominick Shinkle, Cameron Allen, Keldan and Areya Harker, Bram Pritchard, and Ada Kotzas. Fred was preceded in death by his father and mother Merle and Esther Harker, formerly of West Unity, Ohio, his son-in-law, Rex Van Pelt, and his daughter-in-law Kim Harker.

A member of the U.S. Army since 1946, Fred retired in 1973 with the rank of Major. He and his family lived and traveled in many places around the world and the U.S. He was a Korean and Vietnam War Veteran who, as one of the early helicopter pilots, trained many helicopter pilots for the U.S. Army at Forts Wolters and Rucker. Fred served two tours in Vietnam himself as a Medevac Helicopter Pilot (Hughes UH1—"The Huey").

He was an avid church member and a deacon emeritus of the Fairborn First Baptist Church. He participated for many years with the Buckeye Baptist Builders and served on various mission trips. He enjoyed all forms of aviation, fishing, sports, leatherwork and bright-colored socks. He spent many a summer driving a bus for Vacation Bible School. Fred was well known for his irrepressible sense of humor, faithful generosity to his family and church, and his love for Jesus Christ. PawPaw will be dearly missed!

A Funeral Service will be held in First Baptist Church of Fairborn: 1167 Highview Drive, Fairborn, OH 45324, on Thursday, July 9, 2015. With burial to follow the service in Enon Cemetery with military honors to be performed by the U.S. Army Honor Guard. A visitation will be held 1-2 in the church prior to the service

Cemetery

Enon Cemetery

6013 Dayton Springfield Rd
Springfield, OH, 45502

Events

JUL **Visitation** 01:00PM - 02:00PM

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First Baptist Church of Fairborn
1167 Highview Dr, Fairborn, OH, US, 45324

JUL **Funeral Service** 02:00PM

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First Baptist Church of Fairborn
1167 Highview Dr, Fairborn, OH, US, 45324

Comments



“ Fred and Lola were always great family for us. Back in the 70’s they took several opportunities to watch our children. Fred named them the little “Monsters”. We had gone on a vacation with friends and the Monsters broke into the master bedroom and doused the entire room and themselves with makeup powder (what fun!!). In the 80’s and 90’s Fred would stop at our house to visit on their travels south. We had an above ground pool that we tied a slippery tube to the side. Both Fred and Lola were like little kids jumping and sliding over the tube into the pool. Great times and fellowship were had by all. In the 2000’s there were several visits to our lake house where we enjoyed great fellowship and Fred’s bantering humor. We enjoyed boat rides, fishing and just the sheer enjoyment of his company. Fred liked the lake so much he volunteered to house-sit when we took an extended vacation. Upon return he was really relaxed and had thoroughly enjoyed his vacation as much as we did ours. Most importantly Fred was a man of God and a servant of Jesus Christ so we know we will join him on the golden streets of heaven one day. Fred will certainly be missed by all that knew him.

Our condolences to Lola and the entire Harker Family

Douglas and Marsha Depew

Douglas Depew - July 08, 2015 at 12:56 PM



“ My condolences for your loss. Please continue to draw strength and comfort from the One who generously supplies it. "Through prayer and supplication let your petition be made known to God"....and he will give you peace. (Philippians 4:6)

christie c - July 08, 2015 at 06:46 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Fredrick Harker.



July 07, 2015 at 06:59 PM