



James T. Harrison Jr.

May 25, 1945 - December 11, 2017

James Thad Harrison, Jr. passed away on Monday, December 11, 2017 at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Betty; his children, Courtney Harrison of San Francisco, and J.T. Harrison and Lacey Harrison of Thomasville, and two adorable grandchildren, Jay and Charlotte Harrison.

A resident of Tallahassee for 43 years, Jim was an Assistant Professor at FSU College of Business for 5 years, a 1991 Honors graduate of FSU College of Law, a CPCU, CLU, ChFC, CIC, and a teacher and consultant throughout the insurance industry. Over his career, he spoke to audiences in 50 states, Puerto Rico, Panama, and Great Britain.

Jim served on the Florida Department of Insurance Test Development Committee, as chairman of Curriculum and Test Development for PIA, and chairman of PIA's National Educational Committee. In recent years, he was President of The Florida Insurance School Continuing Education, Inc. which provides education classes for licensed insurance agents throughout Florida and other states.

A memorial service will be at 2:00 pm, Sunday, December 17, 2017, at Bevis Funeral Home, 200 John Knox Road, Tallahassee, FL 32303. The family will

receive friends at the funeral home from 1:15 pm until the funeral hour. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested Memorial donations be made to A Bag for Hope % Big Bend Homeless Coalition, 325 John Knox Rd, Bldg. B, Tallahassee, FL 32303 or Big Bend Hospice, 1723 Mahan Center Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32308. Jim would also like to see you at a FSU baseball game this season.

Kelly Barber of Bevis Funeral Home in Tallahassee (850/385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the Harrison family with their arrangements.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory
200 John Knox Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-2193

Visitation

DEC 17. 1:15 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Bevis Funeral Home & Crematory
200 John Knox Rd
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 385-2193

Tribute Wall


LD

“ I've know James (Jim) my entire adult life. I went to my first CIC 35 years ago and he was always so very helpful. He was a great guy and a wonderful mentor and he will be truly missed by all of us.

So sad but he always had a twinkle in his eyes and a smile on his face.

Sincerely,
Linda Rae deGinder
The Johnsons Insurance Agency
Marathon Florida

Linda deGinder - January 29, 2018 at 03:29 PM

 Wendy
Glasgow
Sanderson

“ My husband and I attended many CIC and Rubles with him and he always made us laugh. He was such a loved and well respected mentor to us and we will miss him dearly.

Wendy Glasgow Sanderson - January 26, 2018 at 02:23 PM

JJ

“ Had the pleasure of knowing Jim .Started in 1983 as a new CIC student and we bonded . Always be thankful if him getting me to learn the details of insurance in spite of myself . He taught with wit and humor My professional career would not have turned out as well if not for Jim . He was never too busy to help out or go over something that was not understood
He worked tirelessly for any amstudent that tried . He will be dearly missed in life but will live in many hearts . Thank you Jim for your endless patience , kindness and humor .
Jim Sharp CIC,AAI,ARM,CITRMS.CRIS,MLIS

JimSharp - December 18, 2017 at 05:24 PM

 Kay
Bishop

“ *Jim was an amazing man. He took me under his wing when I started the CIC program many years ago as I am sure he did many others. He was my friend! He was also the smartest man I know and his beautiful wife Betty is just as sweet as she can be. My heart hurts for the family. My prayers are with you, I pray you can find peace in this great loss.*

Lots of Love,
Kay Bishop



Kay Bishop - December 18, 2017 at 02:54 PM

SA

“ *Many have talked about Jim's many accomplishments as an insurance professional. I echo all of those sentiments. My fondest memories of Jim was his kindness to a young insurance agent who caught the teaching and training bug. His encouragement, no-nonsense approach, and his unwavering commitment to the highest level of professionalism from me and others.*

He epitomized what it means to be a lifelong learner. The last time I saw him while speaking at a program, he was peppering me with questions about some technology thing I had recently written about.

His kindness was displayed quite a few years ago when teaching at a program in Tampa. He asked if I would be interested in going with him to a Billy Joel / Elton John concert. Of course, I was and he absolutely refused to take any money for the tickets.

I am pleased to call Jim a mentor and a friend. I, along with many others, will truly miss him.

Steve Anderson - December 16, 2017 at 08:50 AM

KB

“ *A gentlemen, a professional, a great family man, super dad, and all around great guy. Thanks Jim for all you offered to all of us. God speed to you and your family. Thanks for everything*
Kevin and Cindy Brady

kevin brady - December 16, 2017 at 07:02 AM

DC

“ *The insurance agent's insurance authority; a molder of those who wanted more from the insurance business; a kind and gentle family man; knowledgeable in many diverse areas of statistics and information; a devoted fan and supporter of the college baseball World Series; a loyal friend to so many, both inside and outside the insurance industry; patient and kind, but insistent upon proper decorum in the classroom; a strong moral compass; beloved and already missed by so many; so very proud of his family; an adventurer and explorer of the unknown: Jim was all of this, and much more. His passing leaves a void which just cannot ever be filled. Prayers for his family and many friends.*

Dick Clarke

Dick Clarke - December 15, 2017 at 08:32 PM

MM

“ *An Icon of our industry, a dear friend and colleague. Thanks for the long friendship. You will be greatly. Happy trails. Mike and Ginger Mansel*

Mike and Ginger Mansel - December 15, 2017 at 05:01 PM



“ Scott and I met Jim and Richard at Rosenblatt Stadium during a College World Series game and had been friends since then. He was a kind gentleman that cared deeply about his family and others. His love of sports and encouragement for our Huskers always came at the right time and was appreciated greatly. We are blessed that God sent him to us, our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

Patti Smith - December 15, 2017 at 01:32 PM

VS

“ I was able to get to know Jim while I was Education Director at IIANC. He was a true professional and a great CIC instructor. He was also a genuinely good person who loved to talk about college baseball. He will be greatly missed by many.

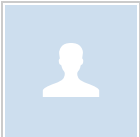
Vince Sorgi - December 15, 2017 at 01:10 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James T. Harrison Jr..



December 15, 2017 at 01:05 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James T. Harrison Jr..



December 15, 2017 at 12:22 PM

BN

“ *Jim Harrison, CIC pioneer, educational consultant, instructor, and mentor*

I have known and worked with Jim for over 40 years. He was a huge inspiration for me in my early CIC years, and was a mentor and helper for me on claims right up to a few months ago. He was brilliant, wanted the CIC program to be "by the book" and helped countless CIC instructors to understand and teach our complex insurance coverages correctly. He is a resource that our industry will miss greatly.

I like to think that he is now smiling up in that "great insurance class in the sky", making sure everything is done right, and is eternally happy.

Bernie & Eileen Neff

Bernie Neff - December 15, 2017 at 11:35 AM

MS

“ *I was an agent in Maryland when I met Jim in my first CIC course in 1987. I thought he was a terrific teacher then and I do to this day. Jim presented in the next Institute I attended and remembered my name. We have been friends ever since.*

Jim worked hard to recruit me as an instructor over the years, and I finally gave in because he could be irresistible. He was the Ed Consultant at the first institute I presented at in Orlando. I have been blessed to have a few great mentors in my life, and Jim tops the list. He will be missed but never forgotten.

Michael Sapourn

Michael Sapourn - December 15, 2017 at 10:48 AM

CF

“ *Linda and I send our deepest regrets and sympathy. Jim was more than a business associate. He's impact will be remembered for years to come as the consement professional to our industry. Be proud of his accomplishments and contributions to countless numbers. May God's comfort be forever with you.*

Cleve and Linda Folger - December 15, 2017 at 10:33 AM

JH

“ Marion and I were deeply moved upon hearing about the parting of Jim and we extend our deep sympathy in this, your time of sorrow. We know that at a time like this mere words are empty and shallow.

No man is eternal and we must all face the last barrier. Jim has left behind him a fine heritage in loving family and loyal friends. You will miss him, but you will never be entirely without him, for his spirit is incorporated in you and every person who knew him, and certainly within me!

Jim helped thousands of us in the insurance business to be more qualified with his ability to make the difficult issues understandable.

As a fellow Texan, I can truthfully say that my friend Jim has a heart as big as Texas.

Ever year at baseball time I think about Jim and his love of the College World Series and how he looked forward to his baseball trips.

Yes, he loved his family, friends and life!

We hope there is some small degree of consolation in the thought that death is but a narrow starlit strip between the companionship of yesterday and the happy reunion of tomorrow. So, in this inadequate writing, we tell you that we are sorry for your loss, but we believe that Jim has wrapped the loving arms of God around him and lain down to pleasant dreams.

My God bless you and your family.

Marion & Jerry Hargrove

Jerry Hargrove - December 15, 2017 at 10:13 AM

JM

“ Betty,

Nancy and I share your grief in the loss of Jim. He was a true friend. He will be greatly missed, not only by us, but so many others as well. Our prayers are with you.
Jerry and Nancy Milton

Jerry Milton - December 15, 2017 at 10:05 AM

TT

“ Terry & Kymberley Tadlock purchased the *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet* for the family of James T. Harrison Jr..



Terry & Kymberley Tadlock - December 15, 2017 at 10:02 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of James T. Harrison Jr..



December 15, 2017 at 08:38 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of James T. Harrison Jr..



December 15, 2017 at 08:32 AM

DW

“ To JT and the Harrision Family.

May your hearts soon be filled with wonderful memories of joyful times together as you celebrate a life well lived.

I am sure that his legacy will continue at FSU as you all will continue to share the outstanding view from the seats as well as the passion he has and shared for years!

With Great Sympathy,

*David Weiske
Chicago, IL*

Dave Weiske - December 14, 2017 at 11:48 PM

KA

“ *When I moved back to Tallahassee in 2004 with no money and no prospect of a successful future in insurance, Jim called. I had never taught nor dreamed of teaching anything, and he convinced me to try it. Thankful is too weak of a word to describe how my wife and I feel towards this man. We'll miss him terribly.*

Kevin and Elizabeth Amrhein

Kevin and Elizabeth Amrhein - December 14, 2017 at 07:55 PM

AB

“ *Thank you Jim, for helping me become a CIC! Early on, you taught the CIC classes I was taking here in PA. You impacted so many people, myself included. God Speed and Rest in Heaven.*

Allan Boyd

Allan Boyd - December 14, 2017 at 04:45 PM

JW

“ My first class with Jim was in 1979. It's amazing how someone can impact your life over such a great span of time. Jim was a great instructor, a challenging exam writer, and a fabulous mentor. His mark on this industry will continue to be recognized for years to come. I'm blessed to have known him on so many levels and I will continue to be influenced by him. Rest in peace, Jim. Your family is in my prayers!

Jay Williams

Jay Williams - December 14, 2017 at 02:32 PM

JB

“ When I met Jim for the first time in 1977 at Kentucky's first CIC Institute at the Merton Center on the campus of Bellarmine College I had no idea how Jim would impact my life over the next 40 years. He's been my teacher, mentor, classmate, colleague and friend. God's blessings on the family during this time of bereavement.

John C. Bratton, Ph.D.

John Bratton - December 14, 2017 at 01:51 PM

BS

“ A wonderful man. I am a better person just for knowing him. We will miss Mr. Jim.

Brenda Steinbach and Chloe.

Brenda Steinbach - December 14, 2017 at 11:32 AM

AB

“ A dear friend who we have known for many years. His memory will be with us as long as we live.

Andy and Rab Beverly - December 14, 2017 at 10:14 AM

TC

“ Jim was a true gentleman and a delightful guy to be around. I always enjoyed having some time to spend with him when he came to Myrtle Beach to teach. He will surely be missed. May God comfort his family at this most difficult time.

Tommy and Bonnie Cook

Tommy Cook - December 14, 2017 at 10:04 AM

MH

“ In addition to being an excellent instructor, Jim was one of the best faculty mentors. He was always committed to bringing others into the faculty arena and developing them into faculty stars.

Mary Husk - December 13, 2017 at 05:31 PM

BB

“ Jim was a wonderful mentor and friend. My prayers for the family. He will be missed by so many. I am thankful for the insight that he shared and the knowledge he bestowed on so many of us. Rest in peace, Jim.

Betty Buffington - December 13, 2017 at 02:40 PM



“ I vividly remember the first time I met Jim. It was my very first PIA National sub-committee meeting. I was terrified!! As the years went by, our paths would frequently cross and it was always a delight to be in Jim's company. I always learned from him. He was a tremendous positive influence on our industry, and a wonderful mentor to me personally. He will be missed. My heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Kitty (Hollada) Ambers

Kitty Ambers - December 13, 2017 at 01:07 PM

RL

“ Richard H Phillips, PhD Swanson-Phillips LLC purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James T. Harrison Jr..



Richard H Phillips, PhD Swanson-Phillips LLC - December 13, 2017 at 12:29 PM

RH

“ Thank you Jim for all the years of advice, mentoring and friendship. You are a giant among men and will be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing and working with you. God bless to your family.
Rita and Larry Hollada

Rita Hollada - December 13, 2017 at 11:01 AM

DD

“ Jim was generous with his knowledge and inspired his students all over the country. Rest In Peace.

Duane DiPirro

Duane DiPirro - December 12, 2017 at 08:11 PM

IM

“ One of the finest and brightest men that I have ever known. I am blessed to have known and worked with him
Irene Morrill

Irene Morrill - December 12, 2017 at 05:19 PM

JK

“ Jim was an inspiration to generations of insurance professionals. His unique style taught us not only what he thought but challenged us to think for ourselves, to search for answers where others hadn't thought of looking. His impact will be felt for generations to come.

John Kitson - December 12, 2017 at 05:16 PM

DH

“ Jim taught us all about insurance coverages. Starting out at the Langford Hotel in Winter Park, the CIC was born in Florida. Little did we know that Jim would lead us agents for the next 40 years. Thank you Jim for all the good times and memories.

David and Teresa Hamrick

david hamrick - December 12, 2017 at 01:19 PM