



## Tom Harrison

September 13, 1953 - June 3, 2026

Tom Harrison was a very dedicated, loving son, brother, godfather, teacher, coach, director, and sports enthusiast. He passed away on June 3, 2026.

He was preceded in death by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Harrison and his sister Frances A. Harrison of Bluefield, West Virginia.

Tom is survived by his sister, Julia Marie Harrison and brother Bob Harrison of Bluefield, West Virginia. He is also survived by goddaughter Jane Smith Postek. He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bluefield, West Virginia.

Tom graduated from Bluefield High School, Class of 1971. He was very proud of the fact that he was named sophomore of the year and was an officer of his senior class. He excelled in many sports throughout his upbringing, leading him to a football scholarship to attend Bluefield State College where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Secondary Education and Physical Education. He received his Master's Degree in Educational Administration and Supervision from Radford University.

Tom's teaching career was at Richlands High School where he taught government and history. While there he was the football offensive line coach and assistant basketball coach. Tom then began a career at Bluefield State

University as the Director of Career Services until his retirement. His goal was to help students achieve an excellence in education and to help put them on a quality career path.

Tom loved just about all sports and some called him a sports aficionado. His favorite teams were the WV Mountaineers and Las Vegas Raiders and he treasured swapping sport stories with his friends. He was an avid golfer that came from being taught by his Dad. For over twenty years he looked forward to annual spring golf trips with many lifelong golfing friends especially Jim Smith, Tom Chaffins, and Tom Rohrer. Tom won the Club Championship at Richwood Golf Club in 2008. In his career at Bluefield State he loved to attend and help in many sporting activities with his friend and co-worker Kenny Mandeville.

Later in life, Tom began walking laps at Mercer Mall and developed many friendships with workers at the stores, most especially the Kay Jewelers Girls. Tom had a contagious smile, was a man with an immense sense of humor and wisdom, had a love of life and of family and friends, and was a blessing to those whose path he crossed.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bluefield, West Virginia on Saturday, June 13 at 11:00am with Rev. Joseph Mandokkara Augustine, J.C.L. as Celebrant. Visitation will begin at 10:00am at the church prior to the start of the Mass. Cemetery Rites will follow at a later date.

In lieu of floral arrangements, please consider a donation to Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Bluefield in honor of the life of Thomas Harrison. Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do so by visiting [www.mercerfuneralhome.com](http://www.mercerfuneralhome.com). Mercer Funeral Home and Crematory is serving the family of Thomas "Tom" Harrison.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
1003 Wyoming Street  
Bluefield, WV 24701

## Memorial Mass

JUN 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
1003 Wyoming Street  
Bluefield, WV 24701

# Tribute Wall

KS

“ I work at JCP & several of us would chat with Tom as he came out to walk the mall. Sometimes he would start his walk at our entrance & set his timer I started saying ready, set, go if I was near the entrance. He laughed the first time then if he saw me waited until I said read, set, go before he started his walk. He will be missed. So sorry to the family for their loss.

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**Kathy Sarver** - June 13 at 09:26 AM

JL

“ So sorry to hear of Tom. Going to miss seeing him at the mall walking and passing him going up the hill.

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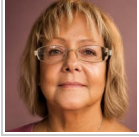
**Jon Looney** - June 12 at 03:12 PM

CK

“ I worked with Tom for many years at Bluefield State. He was always funny and sweet. I liked messing with his neat stacks of displays that were perfectly lined up. He always knew it was me who would turn a magazine upside down. He loved it. We were both huge college basketball fans and he gave me an autograph basketball by Kenny Smith (A UNC Great). I will treasure it always not because of the autograph but because Tom thought enough of me to give it to me. I will remember him fondly during my favorite years at Bluefield State. I'm now one of the veterans there and I hope that I make young employees feel as welcome as he always did me. He was a gem!

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**Carolyn Kirby** - June 11 at 03:02 PM



“ I'm so sorry for your loss.  
Feleesha Moran 🌸



Feleesha Moran - June 11 at 09:35 AM

CE

“ So sorry for your loss. He was such a great person. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Chris Bruckner Elswick - June 11 at 08:38 AM

PC

“ Bob so sorry to hear that Tom passed away. Prayers for you and Julia.

Pat Cassidy - June 10 at 09:23 PM

AJ

“ Dear Julia and Bob ~I was shocked when I saw the obit write up today. Please accept my deepest condolences on your loss of Tom. My thoughts and prayers are with you in the coming days and weeks...Alva Cassidy Jones

Alva Jones - June 10 at 08:45 PM

FC

“ Although I didn't know Tom as an adult, I remember him as a good friend starting at Whitethorn Elementary, Fairview, and BHS. He was always friendly and kind to me and all of our classmates. My condolences to his family.



Frank Carter - June 10 at 05:26 PM

TJ

*“ I considered Tom a great friend of mine. I am a better man today because of his friendship to me. We shared a lot of life with each other and played a lot of golf. He taught me how to play and I will never forget all the memories we made. I hurt knowing my friend is not here anymore but I know he’s in a better place. I will miss you buddy.*

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**Thomas Jessee** - June 10 at 04:39 PM

JU

*Tom, he considered you a great friend as well. Thank you for all your kind words. I heard him brag with great pride to many people about what a tremendous coaching career you have had and your beautiful family. Thank you for sharing your wonderful memories! It means the world to me. Julia*

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**Julia** - June 10 at 06:09 PM

LB

*“ I’m shocked and saddened to hear about Tom’s passing. He was always so friendly with his warm “Hello” and big smile when I’d see him at the post office. The Harrison Family is a giving and great family of whom the city has been blessed to have here. God’s peace and strength to you, Julia and Bob!*

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**Lindsey Grubb Barilla** - June 10 at 04:24 PM

AB

*“ Dear Julia and Bob, please accept my deep condolences on the passing of your wonderful brother Tom. He will always be remembered!*

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**Anita Blaydes** - June 10 at 03:23 PM

PZ

*Dear Julia and Bob, we are so sorry to hear of the passing of your brother. Our deepest, heartfelt condolences. May God comfort you and your family at this time.*

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**Patricia Zande** - June 10 at 05:05 PM

JU

“ 1 file added to the album *Tom Harrison*



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**Julia** - June 10 at 02:00 PM