



JAMES LEWIS HARRELL, JR.

AUG 3, 1958 - MAR 31, 2015



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JAMES LEWIS HARRELL, JR.

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In loving memory of LCDR James L. Harrell, Jr USN Retired:
Lieutenant Commander Harrell lovingly known as “Jim/James/Jimmy/Hollywood” age 56 of Homestead Florida, and long time resident of many ports of call was welcomed home by God on Tuesday, March 31, 2015. As a child, he began his Christian walk, in Alabama, where he grew up “in church.” James was an avid believer that in order to properly serve God, a believer must seek a personal and closer relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ by learning him through His Holy Word, and various teachings through the Bible.

James received his formal education from Walter E. Stebbins High School in Dayton Ohio, where he was known as a phenomenal athlete, and outstanding scholar. He was an all area football star, and held the school high jump record. Prior to enlisting in the Navy in November 1981, James attended Wright State University in Fairborn Ohio, where he majored in communications and hosted his own popular radio show “We Jam Productions.”

During his service in the Navy, he had many duty assignments and overseas deployments to include the Persian Gulf, and Central America drug operations. Following his Central America deployment he transferred to Seal Team Six, Naval Air Base (NAB) Little Creek, VA, where he earned his Free-Fall Parachute qualification and was promoted to ET1. His next tour was Naval Special Warfare Development Group where he advanced to Chief Petty Officer in 1991, and was selected for the 1995 Limited Duty Officer Program. His next assignment was to Special Boat Unit 20, (NAB) Little Creek as the Electronics Maintenance Officer. His tenure led to significant advancements in the small boat community and was instrumental in the source selection and fielding of assault crafts. Prior to his retirement James had several assignments to include Naval Station Annapolis MD, Naval Telecommunications Area Master Station, Naples Italy, and United States



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Southern Command, Miami FL. His awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal (two awards), The Navy Commendation Medal

(with one Silver Star), the Joint Service Achievement Medal (two awards), the Navy Achievement Medal (two awards), the Good Conduct Medal (three awards), and various campaign medals and service awards.

James was joined in holy matrimony to the former Claudette (Henry) of St. John's Antigua in 2003. Claudette remained a faithful and devoted wife during their marriage, and traveled with him throughout his service as he proudly served our country. Words can not express the tremendous strength, grace and conviction that she provided James during his life journey and illness. He is preceded in death by his father James Lewis Harrell Sr., mother Marcella (Butler) Harrell. He leaves to cherish his memory son Alphons Harrell, and his wife Janet Rose (Sellers). Three grand children Caitlyn Rose, Carlin James, and Codylyn (CoCo).

He is also survived by eight siblings, Yvonne, Yvette, Yolanda, Yvator (Hobert), Yonda (Maurilio), Darryl, Yelinda, Yador (Brenda), step-sister Kia (Harrell) Wallace, a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, other family members and friends.

James was a trend setter, and was known to have his own signature fashion style, with a love of fine hats, and a strong sense of self pride. In fact, he was known to have a pride in his stride that even his clothes could not hide. It was this pride, and quiet dignity that won him many life long friends during his service to the country and life travels.

However, one of the greatest gifts that James left us with was the knowledge of knowing that it is not your rank, your title, your influence, or even your position that authenticates or legitimizes you, but more importantly it is your willingness to give of oneself.

An unconditional willingness to love everybody, serve everybody, support everybody, encourage everybody, and most importantly forgive everybody.

Although James had to travel through a thunderous tempest on his final journey, the family takes peace in knowing that as a sea bearing officer, in his final days, the Lord served as his pilot and provided him with comfort, fair winds and safe harbor. He is



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now docked securely forever in the house of the Lord, and is awaiting our joyous reunion with him in Heaven.

(Excerpts taken from the Mariners 23rd Psalm)



Events

JAMES LEWIS HARRELL, JR.

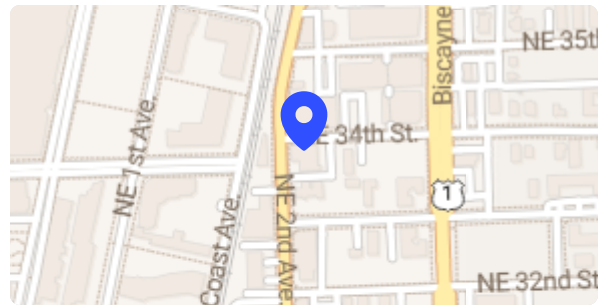
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Cemetery Details



Van Orsdel Crematory

3333 NE 2nd Avenue, Miami FL 33137





Tribute Wall

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AH

Ahellowilldo4u posted:

I met LCDR Harrell when I reported to Naples, Italy in June 2008 as one of the civilians supporting the command. I got to work with him in the N6 shop and came to know him as a friend as well as one of the coolest cats around. It was only after I left Naples to begin a new assignment in Alabama that I came to know that he was fighting for his life. I am just sorry that I was not able to stop by and visit with him before his departure but happy that we became FB friends and communicated.

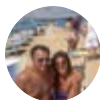
April 27 at 1:16 AM



Vincenzo Iannotta sent a virtual gift in honor of JAMES.

Your laugh will reverberate in our thoughts forever. miss you.

April 17 at 10:23 AM



Rosanna Sagliano posted:

Hello Claudette, we learned the sad news of the loss of James. We are very sorry and you're close at this difficult time. We have some wonderful memories and will always remain in our hearts. Fausto and Rosanna Campanile. Marcianise, 04/17/2015

April 17 at 8:20 AM

AH

Alison Horsford posted:

THERE WAS NEVER A DULL MOMENT IN JAMES' PRESENCE HIS SMILE AND HUMOUR ARE OUR TREASURE MEMORIES. THANKS CLAUDETTE FOR BRINGING JAMES INTO OUR FAMILY TO YOU CLAUDETTE YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS YOU ARE A WONDERFUL PERSON WE ARE PRAYING FOR YOU AND WE KNOW GOD WILL SEE YOU THROUGH LET US KEEP HIS LIGHT SHINING WITH FOND MEMORIES. LOVE Aunt Christie, Alison Ian and Auriel

April 13 at 9:22 AM



Tribute Wall

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FS

Frederick Smith posted:

Frederick Smith, Virginia Beach- I am so sorry for your loss. I met Jim at NSWDG back in 1993 and he was an inspiration to us all. Jim would always be the first in and last out at work he had so much energy, he would want to pack it all in a 12 hour day. He will be missed here on earth but i know Jim is standing watch over us all in heaven. May peace be with you and your family Claudette in this time of sorrow.Fair winds my brother, may you rest in peace. I will miss you!

April 13 at 8:23 AM

LW

Larry R Wood posted:

Larry R Wood and Family, Naples, Italy. I had the good fortune to know James through his loving, devoted and all giving wife, Claudette who worked with me at Navy Federal. He was a breath of fresh air, always positive, upbeat and charged. I am certain that he will never leave his loved ones too far behind; he will be there ever present watching over them and ensuring that they are safe and secure. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all as you deal with the loss of a wonderful man, husband, father, brother and friend of many!

April 10 at 11:51 AM

BL

Bridget Lund posted:

I am so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I met Jim in Naples, Italy in 2006. He worked with my husband, Jeff, at NCTS. My most distinct memory of Jim is of how absolutely proud he was of Colette and how much in love they were. Sending big virtual hugs to Colette. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family throughout this very difficult time.

April 9 at 10:09 PM

RW

Rhonda Wilson posted:

James was One of the best men my husband and I met while traveling with the Navy! My husband chose him to speak at his retirement ceremony and he did such a wonderful job and made the occasion extra special for us. We had the pleasure of being friends with him and his lovely wife. What a beautiful couple they were and how blessed we are to call them friends . May James rest in peace in God's home ! Prayers for the family . Rhonda and Calvin Wilson

April 8 at 6:46 AM



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Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the HARRELL, family.

April 6 at 5:52 AM



Anonymous sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the HARRELL, family.

April 6 at 5:10 AM



KA

Kelly Jamison-Avery posted:

I am sorry for your lost. Yonda, I know this is a hard time for you and your family to loose a loved one especially a sibling. Be encourage and stay strong. Remember all of the good things about your brother. He resting with God. Love you, Kelly Jamison-Avery of Bowling Green, Ohio

April 6 at 4:23 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the HARRELL, family.

April 6 at 4:19 AM





Tribute Wall

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Jacqueline Williams posted:

I had the pleasure of meeting James through Claudette, my dear friend. We stayed with them briefly a few years ago and James was genuinely warm and welcoming. When we wanted to go shopping, he mapped out our route, ensured that we got there and gave us really good advice on avoiding hiccups. Although he was not always at his strongest, he insisted on spending time with us everyday when we would talk about our faith in the Lord Jesus. His love for his dear wife was also something that impressed me greatly - he was so thoughtful and appreciative of her. It is a memory I will always cherish. My love & condolences to Claudette and all the Harrell family

April 6 at 4:07 AM



John Hackfield December 7 at 8:41 AM

My name is John Keith Hackfield and I just found out that Jim passed away back in 2015. I was stationed with him when we worked in the Special Forces a long time ago. I considered him my best friend because he always helped me cope with things and we would go out together often. We went to jump school together. He helped me when I went thru a very hard time in my life. The last time I saw him was back in 1995. I had quit drinking and later that year I became a committed follower of Jesus Christ. Jim was a special man. Everyone loved him and so did I. I was devastated when I was trying to look him up and saw this. Love to his son Alphonse. He would not remember me but I hope he has had a great life. God Bless all the Harrell family. Jesus loves yall.



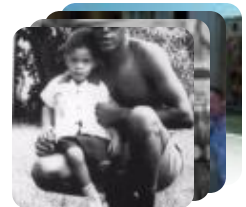
Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the HARRELL, family.



April 6 at 4:04 AM



Yelinda Harrell shared an album called **Various Travel & Family Photos.**



April 2 at 7:35 AM



Johnny Williams And Family sent a Beautiful in Blue to the HARRELL, family.



April 5 at 6:28 PM



Tribute Wall

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Cheri Hooker sent a Lavender Reflections Spray to the HARRELL, family.

April 5 at 5:02 PM



Cheri Hooker sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the HARRELL, family.

April 5 at 4:50 PM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the HARRELL, family.

April 5 at 12:43 PM



Anonymous sent an Enduring Grace to the HARRELL, family.

April 5 at 12:26 PM



Karin sent a virtual gift in honor of JAMES.

April 5 at 9:00 AM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the HARRELL, family.

April 5 at 8:25 AM





Tribute Wall

JAMES LEWIS HARRELL, JR.

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Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the HARRELL, family.

April 5 at 6:00 AM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the HARRELL, family.

April 5 at 5:20 AM



Jackie Edwards-Sweeney lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 4 at 1:01 PM



Jackie Edwards-Sweeney posted:

You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

April 4 at 1:01 PM



Darryl Harrell posted:

James was an excellent, loving older brother. He was all that I ever wanted to be. He was always encouraging, there for you when you needed him, and willing to go the extra mile for you when needed. I'm a better person today because of his mentoring, and I owe part of my success in life to him as he always challenged me to do my best. I will remember him most for the love he showed me, not only as a brother but as a friend. Love you and see you in the other side my brother. Darryl (DJ) Harrell

April 4 at 12:35 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the HARRELL, family.

April 4 at 11:50 AM





Tribute Wall

JAMES LEWIS HARRELL, JR.

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Duane, Cheryl & Family sent a Pink Tribute Spray to the HARRELL, family.

April 4 at 10:28 AM



Anonymous sent an Exotic Grace to the HARRELL, family.

April 4 at 10:03 AM



Kenneth Coleman sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the HARRELL, family.

April 4 at 6:38 AM



Jacque Williams lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 3 at 8:39 PM



Kiyomi lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

Kia, We are with you during these trying times!Kiyomi MooreMontgomery, AL

April 3 at 7:52 PM



Sheila Mcghee lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 3 at 5:03 PM





Tribute Wall

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DB

Darryl Bass lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 3 at 4:36 PM



GF

Georgina Fuller lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

Claudette, May the love of The Almighty comfort you, give you strength, guide you, wipe your tears, hold you give you and your family that peace that surpasses all understanding. Lean on Him and praise Him for the wonderful son, (CDR) that was loaned to you and countless others. Praise Him for the wonderful life he lived and for all the lives he touched. Stone and I will continue to lift your family up in prayer.

April 3 at 4:30 PM



MD

Marcia Dixon lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 3 at 3:24 PM



ML

Mike Love lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 3 at 3:24 PM



DA

Damita Rucker-Ash posted:

Praying for comfort and strength for the family during this most difficult time.Damita Rucker-Ash and Family

April 3 at 2:29 PM

DA

Damita Rucker-Ash lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 3 at 2:26 PM





Tribute Wall

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Dante Royals lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 3 at 1:00 PM



Anonymous sent a Sweet Tranquility Basket to the HARRELL, family.

April 3 at 9:33 AM



Patrice M. Royals lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 3 at 9:30 AM



Patty Purvis posted:

James was an amazing man, a true delight. He touched many people and always brought a smile to everyone's face just at the sound of his voice. Above all earthly things, the greatest gift that James gave to our family was his son, Alphons Andre Harrell. From the moment Alphons came into my daughter's life, I knew he was a man who had been led into adulthood by someone who taught him to love, cherish family, be gallant and respectful. He had been taught to love God, love his wife and children, and to be a steward of all things God gave him. Thank you, James from the bottom of my heart. You are in the place now where you feel no more pain, no sorrow, no tears! Praise God. My love, prayers, and support go out to the entire Harrell family. Patty Purvis

April 3 at 8:43 AM



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CH

Cheri Hooker lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

In memory of an amazing Son, Brother, Husband, Father and Friend. You have left so many footprints around the world as you touched so many hearts and lives. You will truly be missed. Thank you for taking the time to comfort me during the loss of my father, brother, uncle and father-in-law. Through everything you always were there to provide comfort and to heal a broken heart and spirit. You and Claudette have been our rock since we first met and our families are forever. Thank you for including us in yours! Claudette will always have us there whenever she needs us, or doesn't need us! Smile! Hugs and Kisses, Love you always and forever!



April 3 at 8:18 AM

CH

Cheri Hooker shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Our CECOM Miami Field Office Team- On the day of this photo Jim, despite not feeling the greatest, made sure that he could make it to SOUTHCOM so we could get the team photo taken. That just shows the determination and strength that God provided him to complete this task. This is the only team photo we ever took! We will miss Jim tremendously. Love you



April 3 at 8:08 AM

BL

Bridget Lund April 9 at 10:01 PM

I'm so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I met Jim in Naples, Italy in 2006 -- he worked with my husband, Jeff, at NCTS. My most distinct memory of Jim is of how absolutely proud he was of Colette and how in love they were. I'm really sorry the two of you didn't have more time to enjoy retirement together. Big virtual hugs go out to Colette. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

JB

Joe Bitto posted:

Mrs. Harrell, From the first time I met Jim when he reported for duty at SOUTHCOM, I was very impressed with professionalism, but more importantly his enthusiasm for the job. Every mission he was given he completed with adroit skill and beyond expectations. When he retired I was delighted that he decided to take a civilian position and continue to be on the SOUTHCOM team. Jim was that unique person, that when you met him or worked with him you came away richer for the positive feeling he left with you. He made an outstanding contribution to the SOUTHCOM J6 team. He made a difference both professionally and personally to us all. I will always remember his assurance, he gave me when we had a challenge "don't worry boss, we got this" He was an inspiration to me, a great shipmate and a friend. Sincerely, Joe Bitto

April 3 at 7:43 AM



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Rick Kidder shared an album called **New Album Name.**

April 3 at 2:50 AM



Rick Kidder shared an album called **New Album Name.**

April 3 at 2:48 AM



Aaron T. Jones posted:

I met Jim when we both worked for COL Higgins in the USSOUTHCOM J63. His sense of humor made me laugh almost daily and his dedication to duty, family, and the Navy inspired me. I remember talking to him regularly about his plans once he retired from the Navy and was happy to learn he was going to remain a member of the J6 family as a Government Civilian. He was an exceptional leader, friend to all, and loving husband and father. Rest in peace battle buddy. V/r, Aaron T. Jones

April 3 at 1:02 AM

MJ **Martin Jarvis** April 3 at 3:13 PM
R.I.P. Jimmy.

ME **Marie Engles** April 3 at 9:47 AM
Yelinda & Family, I'm so sorry for your loss. Please accept my deepest condolences. The loss of a loved one is never easy. Please know that I am praying for you and your family. Asking God for Perfect Peace. God Bless Marie Engles



Flor Gonzalez lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

April 2 at 1:54 PM





Tribute Wall

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JO

Jeni Oleinik posted:

I only met Jim once & it was totally memorable for me. All I could think was this man is so loving & kind. The second he was in front of you, you couldn't help but notice how happy he was. His smile could light up a room! You would talk to him & instantly feel like he had been your friend forever. He was also so compassionate. He found out about someone going through a difficult time & his heart went out to them. It seemed like no matter what he was going through he still felt blessed. If I can be half the person Jim was I'll be happy. My heart is heavy knowing the world has lost such an amazing soul. Not only was Jim so wonderful but Claudette is also equally amazing. She too makes you feel completely loved. I'm so sorry for your loss Claudette. My thoughts & prayers are with you during this time. As well as with the rest of the family. I wish I lived closer so I could celebrate Jim's life with you all! Know that he will be on my mind April 6th & that in my heart I'm missing him. Love, Jeni Oleinik

April 2 at 12:12 PM

DT

David Talon posted:

I never once left a meeting at work or get together with Harrell (my way of distinguishing him from just Jim), without feeling that the Lord does create special people who with their presence make the world around them special, regardless of their station in life.. James Lewis Harrell Jr. was one of those people. DT

April 2 at 11:08 AM

LP

Larry Pettaway posted:

I only knew Jim for a short time, however, he was an inspiration to me with his smile and humble demeanor. May he rest in peace in the Bosom of the Father. The Pettaway Family

April 2 at 9:16 AM

JC

Juanita Cox lit a candle in honor of JAMES.

Claudette and Family, There are not enough words to express the love and joy Jim brought to each and every one of us; he was a man of honor and integrity. My husband and I will always treasure his words of wisdom and his ability to make you smile when everything seems to be falling apart. You and your family will always be in our hearts and prayers. Love Always Juanita & Willie Cox



April 2 at 9:01 AM



Tribute Wall

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Rafael M Gonzalez lit a candle in honor of JAMES.



April 2 at 7:35 AM



Media

JAMES LEWIS HARRELL, JR.

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Yelinda Harrell shared 6 photos to the **Various Travel & Family Photos** album.

April 5 at 7:22 PM

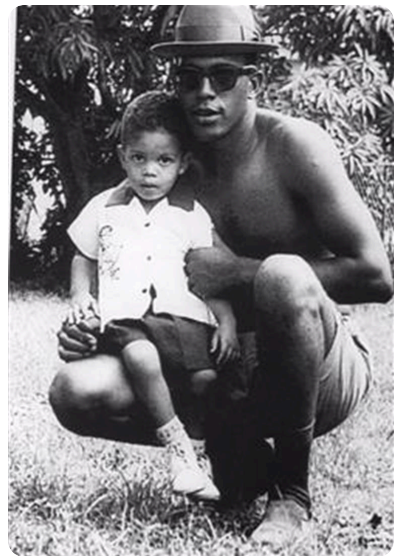




Media

JAMES LEWIS HARRELL, JR.

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Media

JAMES LEWIS HARRELL, JR.

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Cheri Hooker shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 3 at 8:08 AM



BL **Bridget Lund** April 9 at 10:01 PM

I'm so sorry to hear of Jim's passing. I met Jim in Naples, Italy in 2006 -- he worked with my husband, Jeff, at NCTS. My most distinct memory of Jim is of how absolutely proud he was of Colette and how in love they were. I'm really sorry the two of you didn't have more time to enjoy retirement together. Big virtual hugs go out to Colette. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.



Media

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Rick Kidder shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album.

April 3 at 2:50 AM



Thank you for your many years of service.



Media

JAMES LEWIS HARRELL, JR.

AUG 3, 1958 - MAR 31, 2015



Rick Kidder shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album.

April 3 at 2:48 AM



Thank you for your service to our country



Memories only last if you share them

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



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