



Mr. John "Johnny" Winifred Harrell Sr.

June 5, 1937 - October 3, 2024

John (Johnny) Harrell died on October 3rd, 2024, in Tallahassee, FL. He was 87 years old. He was born June 5th, 1937, in Cairo, GA, to his parents, Ralph W. Harrell and Eloise Mills Harrell.

Johnny's father was shot down and killed in England during WW2. He was raised by his mother and his grandmother, Mattie Sasser Mills, along with his sisters, Anne and Patricia. He was raised in Cairo, GA, and graduated from Cairo High School. He married Martha Wiggins; they had 4 children together; John, Jr., Glenda, Wanda, and Charlie. After they divorced, he married Veronica Bell, and they had 1 child, Patricia. At the time of his death, they had been married for 35 years. Johnny worked most of his life in the automotive body shops around Cairo, GA, and Thomasville, GA, before moving to Tallahassee in 1962 when he started working for Bob Drake Dodge. While at Bob Drake Dodge, he began driving their wrecker for them. When he left Dodge, he went to work at Walker Body Shop in 1972. That's when he bought his first wrecker. He was in such high demand as a wrecker driver he stopped working for the body shop and started his own business, "Johnny's Wrecker Service," in 1984. Johnny had over 60 years of experience driving wreckers when he retired at the age of 82. He would tow for free when people couldn't afford it. He worked for Vanlandingham Auto, Thomasville Ford, Flowers Bakery, McRae Body Shop, Bob Drake Dodge, and Walker Body Shop. He was a member of Tallahassee Loyal Order of Moose for 33 years.

He was predeceased by his parents; his sister, Anne Bowden; his sons, John W. Harrell, Jr. and Charlie Harrell.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Veronica Harrell; his daughters, Glenda Spears (Ricky), Wanda Kinsey, and Patricia Humphrey (Zachary); his nine grandchildren, Chris Harrell, Richard Spears, Alicia Aiken, Ashley Temes, Austin Kinsey, Timothy Humphrey, Jericho Humphrey, Johnni Ann Humphrey, and Jorah Humphrey; his 7 great grandchildren; his sister, Patricia Cox (Jake); his nephews, Angelo Cox (Gina) and Michael Cox.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Big Bend Hospice.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 7. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Abbey Funeral Home
4037 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 562-1518
abbeyfh@comcast.net

Graveside Service

OCT 8. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Tallahassee Memory Gardens
4037 North Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32303
(850) 562-1518
<https://www.abbeyfh.com/>

Tribute Wall

HT

“ *Deepest sympathy for the family. Johnny was a good man he will be missed. Treasure your memories keep them close to your heart.*
Herbie & Dee Trice



Herbie Trice - October 08, 2024 at 11:52 AM

LG

“ *Lake Jackson Towing, Lester & Gloria purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. John "Johnny" Winifred Harrell Sr..*



Lake Jackson Towing, Lester & Gloria - October 07, 2024 at 10:56 AM

LG

“ *Lake Jackson Towing, Lester & Gloria planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John "Johnny" Winifred Harrell Sr..*

Lake Jackson Towing, Lester & Gloria - October 07, 2024 at 10:56 AM



“ 86 files added to the album Life Tributes



Abbey Funeral Home and Tallahassee Memory Gardens - October 07, 2024 at 08:25 AM



“ Dan & Jo Joyner purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Mr. John "Johnny" Winifred Harrell Sr..



Dan & Jo Joyner - October 05, 2024 at 05:22 PM



“ Dan & Jo Joyner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. John "Johnny" Winifred Harrell Sr..

Dan & Jo Joyner - October 05, 2024 at 05:22 PM



“ What can I say he was the best tow truck owner in Tallahassee would do any thing for people /such a wonderful person?? God Bless family!!

JOANNE SADBERRY STOKES - October 05, 2024 at 03:27 PM

JS

“ Johnny Harrell was the best business man in Tallahassee Fl he would never turn anybody down for service he was one of the best tow truck that ever landed in Tallahassee, Fla. God bless Veronic and all the FAMILY1

JOANNE SADBERRY - October 05, 2024 at 03:05 PM

MG

“ Sending hugs and prayers. Johnny was one of a kind. Always ready to help others in any way. We will miss him.

Margie Glisson - October 04, 2024 at 05:52 PM