Thomas Lavon Harris

February 28, 1963 - May 30, 2025

A memorial service and repast celebrating Thomas's life will be held on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2025, at 1:00 PM at WAGES & SONS FUNERAL HOME, located at 1031 LAWRENCEVILLE HWY, LAWRENCEVILLE, GA 30046.

In honor of Thomas's joyful spirit and love for life, the family kindly encourages guests to wear uplifting colors instead of traditional black. Green and white are especially welcome, as green was Thomas's favorite color.

Obituary for Thomas Lavon Harris

February 28, 1963 – May 30, 2025

Thomas Lavon Harris entered eternal rest at age 62 on May 30, 2025, after a life richly lived—full of laughter, resilience, and heartfelt connections. Born on February 28, 1963, Thomas embraced every moment with a vibrant spirit, joyful heart, and quick wit.

Thomas lived his life like it was golden. Known for his cool nature, big energy, effortless charm, and sharp humor, he left a lasting impression on everyone he met. To know Thomas was truly to love him.

Raised with care and devotion by his parents, Tommie Lee Harris and Mamie Eunice Moss, Thomas was later embraced by his stepmother, Susan Harris, who became a cherished second mother.

In 2009, at age 46, a new chapter unfolded when Thomas was reunited with his biological family, the Taylors. Welcomed with open arms by Charles and Alvirta Taylor, he embraced the relationship with gratitude and remained lovingly connected to his biological parents for the rest of his life.

Thomas spent his early years in Clarksville, Tennessee, attending Ringgold Elementary and New Providence Junior High. He later moved to Atlanta, Georgia, and graduated from Fulton High School—where his father, Master Sergeant (MSG) Tommie Lee Harris, also taught. He went on to attend North Georgia College. Thomas proudly played basketball in school—a passion that stayed with him well into adulthood, until those knees finally started talking back.

In 1985, at the age of 22, Thomas joined the United States Army and served as a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division, following in the footsteps of his daddy, MSG Harris. He served honorably until 1993, a testament to his courage and strong sense of duty.

After his military service, Thomas worked as a correctional officer, a security guard, and for over 15 years he embraced the open road as a cross-country truck driver—a perfect match for his adventurous spirit.

With a larger-than-life personality, Thomas brought light into every room. He was a true sports enthusiast—he loved watching and attending basketball, football, and baseball games, especially when it came to cheering on his Atlanta teams. He was famously loud during ball games, and his passionate

commentary could rival any announcer on TV.

On the court, he had a smooth game and a legendary 3-point shot that he never let anyone forget. He was also sharp at chess, quick with a pool cue, and held his own at the poker table. And of course, his fondness for the casino was no secret—it was one of his favorite places to chase a little fun and excitement.

He also had a soft spot for dogs—he always had one nearby, and his loyal companion Biscuit is already feeling the weight of his absence.

Thomas is survived by his beloved wife, Harriett Kelly, with whom he shared over a decade of love and companionship. Just days before his passing, they joyfully celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary. Their bond was one of deep affection and unwavering support. He is also survived by his stepmother, Susan Harris—both in Atlanta, GA—and his biological parents, Charles and Alvirta Taylor of Owensboro, KY.

He leaves behind five cherished children: Amber Long, Jasmine McFadden, Thomas Harris Jr., Tyler Harris, and Tatyana Harris. He was a proud grandfather to Autumn, Aston, and Ajani.

Thomas shared a close bond with his sister, Salina Harris; brother-in-law, Claude Claxton II; niece, Xavia; and nephew, Cavon—all in Atlanta, GA—with whom he lived for the last three years of his life. Thomas always spoke proudly of his brother, Tora Harris, and admired his achievements from afar. Tora resides in China with his wife, Shuying Gao, and their daughter, Sofia.

He also shared meaningful connections with his biological siblings—Charles Taylor Jr. of Virginia, Avery Taylor of Washington, DC, and Stanya Taylor of

Glenn Dale, MD—whom he met later in life during an emotional and fulfilling reunion that completed a part of his story.

Thomas joins in eternal rest his parents, Tommie Lee Harris and Mamie Eunice Moss, and his grandmothers—Grace Harris, Sarah Taylor, and Gladys Shauntee.

His memory lives on through a host of devoted aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who cared for him deeply.

Thomas's legacy is one of joy, connection, and genuine kindness—living fully in the moment and bringing laughter, authenticity, and unforgettable presence to everyone around him. He was a gifted storyteller who could light up any conversation, often showering others with flattering words and heartfelt praise. His humor, warmth, and way with words made people feel seen, valued, and truly special. Though he may be gone from our sight, his free spirit will forever echo in the hearts of all who had the joy of knowing him. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN **25**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Wages & Sons Funeral Homes and Crematories
1031 Lawrenceville Highway
Lawrenceville, GA 30046-4707