

2013 Hall of Fame Inductee

William C. Harris, Jr.

Class of 1983

William C. Harris, Jr. began his tenure in the funeral profession at age 12 while a student at Brittany Woods Middle school, after attending Daniel Boone and University Forest Elementary Schools.

After graduating from University City High School in 1983, Harris became the youngest licensed funeral director in Missouri. He earned an associate degree in applied science in funeral service education from St. Louis Community College - Forest Park and received a British Institute of Embalming certificate in London.

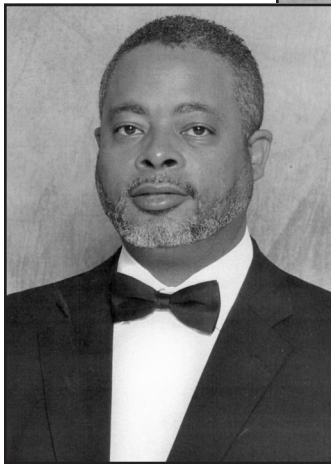
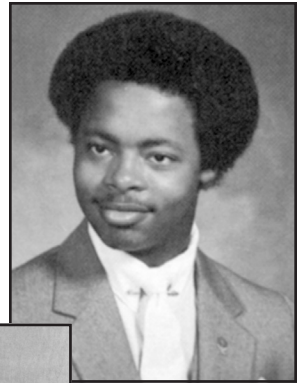
After graduation, Harris focused his career towards becoming an independent contract funeral director and a community leader.

He is the only African-American funeral director in the metro-St. Louis area who is a Certified Funeral Service Practitioner. In 2006, he purchased Stygar Funeral Home and is president of William C. Harris Funeral Directors and Cremation Service in St. Louis.

As a community leader, Harris has served as secretary of the Missouri State Funeral Directors Association and planned two state conventions. He is a board member of the National Funeral Directors and Morticians Association and was appointed District VII governor and State of Affairs chairman. In 2013, he was elected president of the Missouri State Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association.

In 2010, St. Louis Radio Station HOT 104.1 FM named him among "Who's Who in Black St. Louis." He is a Shriner, belonging to Medina Temple 39; member of 100 Black Men, the H McGee Alexander Lodge 85, and the AIDA Star Chapter 1 of the Eastern Star.

Harris's wife Garnet and four of his six children help with the family business.



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