Retired Tulsa County Commissioner Lewis Harris Remembered for His Dedicated 28-Years of Service

Tulsa County Commissioner Lewis Harris passed away April 5, 2020. For 28 years (1970-1998) he served as County Commissioner for District 1. The U.S. Navy and Air Force veteran was a dedicated servant for his constituents during his tenure, in which he focused on ensuring county roads stayed in great condition and on ways to improve the livelihoods of all Tulsa County citizens.

Through his work, little league ballparks were built, the bond issue for the construction of the new County Jail was passed, and the Driller’s Stadium at the Tulsa Fairgrounds was built. He even threw the first pitch of the first game. Additionally, Harris’ model for managing the accounting and distribution of funds for Tulsa County became the model for other counties state-wide.

Tom Rains, former Tulsa County Engineer remembers Harris’ direct style of communication. “You never had to wonder where he stood on an issue, as he would tell you directly,” said Rains. “He also was a stickler for correct punctuation and spelling in correspondence. You learned real quickly to proof any letters or memos to him, as he would use a red marker to correct your mistakes when he responded. I still have that habit today.”

“Lew Harris was an example of great leadership in Tulsa County and someone that I try to emulate in my work,” current District 1 County Commissioner Stan Sallee said. “He was a legend working for 28 years as a County Commissioner and it’s no wonder he got so many crucial things done that have helped elevate the County to where we are today. We really couldn’t ever thank him or his family enough for his contributions to Tulsa County.”

Harris’ family requests memorial contributions be made to the John 3:16 Mission, P.O. Box 1477, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74103.

Full obituary: [www.moweryfs.com/obituaries/Lewis-Harris-2/](http://www.moweryfs.com/obituaries/Lewis-Harris-2/)

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