



## Arlette I. Harris

November 9, 1939 - June 4, 2016

Arlette Ileen Harris died peacefully on Saturday, June 4, 2016, surrounded by her husband, children and grandchildren, at the Bowman Hospice Center of Rush Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago, Illinois. Born on Nov. 9, 1939 to Tollak and Stella Tollefson, and raised in Bonilla, South Dakota, she was the youngest of six daughters (LuVerne, Theone, Doris, Ruth, Jeaniene--who is the only surviving sister--and Arlette). She married Jack G. Harris and they spent a wonderful 56 years together. The family lived in several towns in Michigan (Litchfield, Charlevoix and Holly) where Jack served as a pastor. Their retirement years were spent in several places: at their house on Houghton Lake, MI, and at their homes in Ormond-by-the-Sea, FL and Chicago, IL.

Arlette is the truly beloved mother of three children and their spouses: Sonia and Jeff Semenchuk (Chicago, IL), Dr. Paul and Allison Harris (Chicago, IL) and Dr. Eric and Amber Harris (Edmonds, WA). She is also the best grandmother to 10 grandchildren: Andre and Katia Semenchuk; Olivia, Jack and Julia Harris; Max, Gabe, Mason, Brook Lynn and Margret Harris. Professionally, Arlette was a gifted elementary school teacher for over 38 years who spent countless after-school and weekend hours helping her students succeed. Each of her students left her classroom reading at or above grade level. She was a deeply faithful woman who was a very active partner to Jack in many ministries in the churches where they truly served as a team, touching many lives with the love of Christ. She started and directed both a

lay witness ministry as well as a children's camp at her beloved Lake Louise Baptist Camp in northern Michigan. She was well known for hosting countless meals in her home for members of the church family and community. She was a tireless giver, organizing housing for Cambodian refugees in the 1970s, visiting patients in hospitals with words of encouragement and love, and participating in numerous acts of service to others. Arlette had many interests and passions. She loved visual and musical arts (especially Broadway musicals), and she was an accomplished oil painter. Some of her favorite activities included camping, fishing, walking the beach and visiting museums and zoos with her grandchildren. She lived life with joy. Visitation will be on Monday, June 13th from 4 to 9 PM at the Dryer Funeral Home in Holly, Michigan. The funeral service will be held on Tuesday, June 14th, at 10 AM at the First Baptist Church of Holly with a luncheon immediately following the service. There will be a graveside service in Bonilla, South Dakota on Friday, June 17th, where Arlette will be buried next to her loving parents and sisters. Details of the time of the graveside service can be obtained from the Welter Funeral Home in Huron, South Dakota. In lieu of flowers, expressions to celebrate Arlette's life may be made in her memory to the First Baptist Church of Holly, Michigan for the children's ministries. [www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com](http://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **13.** 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Dryer Funeral Home  
101 First St  
Holly, MI 48442  
(248) 634-8291

## Service

JUN **14.** 10:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Holly  
Holly, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dryer Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Arlette I. Harris*



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**Dryer Funeral Home, Inc.** - June 13, 2016 at 12:10 PM

CA

“ *Mrs. Harris was my 3rd grade teacher. I am now 36, and I fondly remember her bringing us to her house to visit her new puppies and learn about them. She was a wonderful teacher.*

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**Carrie** - July 13, 2016 at 03:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Arlette I. Harris.*



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June 13, 2016 at 01:00 PM

DW

“ *Doug and Cathy Whitford Family and Eve Weber purchased the Delicious Delights Basket for the family of Arlette I. Harris.*

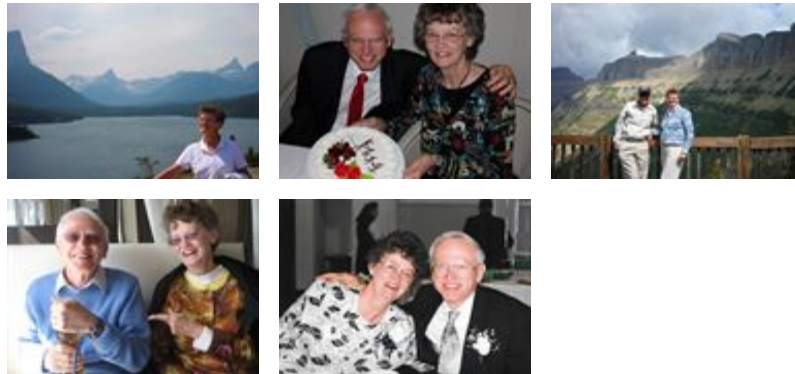


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**Doug and Cathy Whitford Family and Eve Weber** - June 13, 2016 at 12:16 PM



“ *24 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Dryer Funeral Home, Inc.** - June 13, 2016 at 11:56 AM

PF

“ *Arlette and Jack Harris have been part of our family ever since I was a young boy, and they would give the shirts off their back for anyone, I love Arlette and Jack so much, thank you for teaching me who Jesus really was and that's what really matters. You will be greatly missed by me, but say hello to dad and mom for me that will meet you in Heaven Phillip Frick*

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**Phillip Frick** - June 13, 2016 at 11:20 AM

PF

“ Phillip Frick lit a candle in memory of Arlette I. Harris



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Phillip Frick - June 13, 2016 at 11:16 AM

PW

“ Jack and your wonderful family, Joe and I are Wishing you peace to bring you comfort. Courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts. Praying for you and your family at this difficult time.

Here at Houghton Lake Arlette was our friendly card player and many fun board games. We all have wonderful memories of her beautiful smile. Always had a kind word about everyone. She will truly be missed in our small neighborhood.

With all our love,  
Joe & Pattie Wieber

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Pattie Wieber - June 09, 2016 at 09:21 PM

JP

“ Dear Pastor Jack & Family,  
Mrs. Harris was a wonderful teacher to our son Todd. He loved her dearly. I helped in her class and enjoyed her company and selfless spirit. She will be missed, but we all know that she is in the loving arms of our precious Lord. May God give your strength.  
Don & Janet Prescott



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Janet Prescott - June 08, 2016 at 11:43 AM

WF

“ Pastor Jack and family, Randy & I wish to express our Heartfelt sadness at this time. May you find peace knowing she is resting with her Lord. the Fishbacks.

Wendy Fishback - June 07, 2016 at 06:31 PM

TL

“ Pastor Jack and family, Mrs. Harris was a lovely and kind lady. My great Aunt Esther Lake adored her. God Bless you all at this time. Timothy Lake

Timothy Lake - June 07, 2016 at 11:48 AM



“ Spring Has Sprung Mixed Basket was purchased for the family of Arlette I. Harris.



June 06, 2016 at 06:29 PM

JU

“ Dear Jack and Family,  
Lenore and I wish to express our sympathy and wish the very best of the grace of God and his blessings for you upon the loss of Arlette. We do fervently desire that the many resources you have built up over many years of serving the Lord will give you strength and peace at this time.  
Blessings,  
Jim and Lenore Unger,  
Davison, MI

Jim Unger - June 06, 2016 at 04:03 PM

RL

“ We are praying for family, may God's peace be felt.

*Pastor Danny L. & Renee Langley  
and the Crosspointe Meadows Church Family*

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**R L** - June 06, 2016 at 03:23 PM

DM

“ Our prayers to Jack and the family! She was a wonderful lady and solid partner in ministry. She leaves a lasting legacy! - Blessings,  
Dave & Karen McMahon [Cadillac, MI]

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**Dave McMahon** - June 06, 2016 at 12:33 PM