



## Donald E. Harkness

September 25, 1929 - November 13, 2018

Donald E. Harkness, 89, of Monroeton, PA passed away Tuesday morning, November 13, 2018,

at the Bradford County Manor in West Burlington Township, PA. Donald was born September 25, 1929 in Columbia Township, Bradford County, PA the 8th of 9 Children to Floyd W. Harkness and Louise Pierce Harkness. He was a graduate of Canton High School with the class of 1947. On September 29, 1951 he married the former Shirley J. Franklin in Elmira, NY. Donald owned and operated Hark Hill Farms in Franklin Township for many years until his retirement in October of 1996. In early years Donald served as a milk tester for Rice's Dairy in Monroeton and for the Ulster DHIA. He was later employed by Sylvania Electric in Towanda. Donald was a member of the Alba Christian Church and the Pennsylvania Holstein Association.

Donald's family includes his wife of 67 years, Shirley J. Harkness, 6 daughters and sons-in-law, Lynn and Kenneth Yoder of Towanda and Riverview, FL, Deborah and Rich Howard of Homets Ferry, Mary and Richard Cummings of Sarasota, FL, Donna and Rick Cisco of Wellsboro, Beth and Greg Murphy of Rockledge, FL, Louise and Barry Summey of Lake Wiley, SC, 10 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, brother and sister-in-law, Arthur and Marie Harkness of East Canton, sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Lena and William Struppler of Roanoke, VA, brothers-in-law, William "Bill" Franklin of Phelps, NY, Jack Franklin of Clifton Springs, NY as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. In addition to his parents, Donald was predeceased by

a grandson, Garrick (JR) Johnston, siblings, Willard (Hilda) Harkness, Harry (Mary) Harkness, George (Eleanor) Harkness, Marion Harkness, Eleanor Layng (Jim) Moryan, Dorothy (Anthony) Possemato, and Marcia "Jane" Harkness.

The funeral service will be held Monday, November 19, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at the Alba Christian Church with Rev. Charlotte Morse and Rev. Thomas Blackall officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will be in Bradford County Memorial Park, Burlington Township, PA. Arrangements are under the direction of the Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home, Towanda, PA. Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting [www.bowenfuneralhomes.com](http://www.bowenfuneralhomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Bradford County Memorial Park

20452 Route 6  
Towanda, PA 18848

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

Alba Christian Church  
Alba, PA

## Service

NOV 19. 11:00 AM.

Alba Christian Church  
Alba, PA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Donald E. Harkness*

October 22, 2023 at 08:10 PM



“ *Donald E. Harkness*

October 08, 2023 at 10:34 PM



“ *Donald E. Harkness*

October 06, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ *Donald E. Harkness*

October 06, 2023 at 03:29 AM



“ *Donald E. Harkness*

October 05, 2023 at 02:02 PM



“ *Beth Murphy lit a candle in memory of Donald E. Harkness*



**Beth Murphy** - November 13, 2020 at 06:31 AM

## “ Dad

*I think there is a big misunderstanding about heaven, people think that is somewhere far away, when in fact it's just another dimension where we are free of time and space. Knowing this brings me great comfort and I to know that dad is here with us right now enjoying our company just like he always has. Jesus said he came to make our joy complete. and knowing that Dad is here with us does that. So if I seem to Peaceful or to joyful to you - know that this is my reason.*

*I spent the day Tuesday in deep morning feeling like a little four year old girl following her daddy around and telling him he's the strongest man in the world and that he can do anything. Dad just had a big smile on his face and shook his head and I would argue with him stomping my foot because I knew it to be true. I'm sure this comes from Deep in my memory so some version of this must have been so. And I was riding in the truck with him to go to the feed store or Grandma's house or the corner store and he would slap my knee and say did that hurt or didn't you mind that much.*

*I spent a great deal of my youth in the barn with Dad. he taught me how to clean the barn, feed the cows, Milk The Cows, deliver a baby calf, and so much more. He didn't do such a great job of teaching me how to spread manure - I got caught in the wrong direction Of the wind one day. a story that brought great joy to his life for many many years. but not so much to mine. But that doesn't matter. Those years in the barn with Dad would provide me with a foundation for college, a successful career, and an enduring marriage.*

*Dad always loved a joke. I will always remember my dad laughing. The best times were when he was telling a story and he would get laughing so hard he couldn't even finish it and we would end up laughing with him without even knowing the punchline to the story. Usually when he was telling a Bob Nearing story.*

*I will always be grateful for the Christmases that they came to Florida so that I did not have to spend Christmas all alone because Greg had to work. The most memorable one is when we lived in Cocoa Beach on a canal. I was getting cleaned up for the day and mom starts yelling Beth come out here or you are going to miss it. The canal was full of pelicans, seagulls, herons of all sorts, Kingfishers, and dolphins. It was like a Christmas miracle just for mom and dad.*

*You see mom and dad gave me the beautiful gift of love for nature. Growing up I always thought dad had some sort of special vision to see the things he did in nature. I have since learned that this gift is not in the eyes but in the attention you give to the present moment, looking expecting to see something. Monday morning after he passed and the sun came up we went out for our morning walk- I looked up and saw a pileated woodpecker flying right over us. Whenever things like this happen I can't wait to tell mom and dad because I know they will appreciate it. It is our mutual appreciation for God's awe and wonder.*

*Greg and I are so grateful for all the time we spent at the farm with mom and dad. Greg and I love every season of the year there and the quiet peaceful calm flow of life - heaven here on earth. And we loved the times mom and dad came to us in Florida because they opened our eyes to nature around us. One year mom wanted to see a bald eagle - it was March - so we bundled up and we went on an airboat ride on the St Johns river. And our mission was accomplished - we saw eagles and a lot more.*

*Dad fed his crows every day. Now when I hear the crows I know dad is near. Whoever dreamed that squawking crows would be music to my ears.*

*So while I miss feeling his bear hugs and hearing him say I love you I know he is with me as I notice the birds and the change in weather or see the sunrise. What a beautiful life!!!!*

---

**Beth Murphy** - November 13, 2020 at 06:27 AM

MB

“ *Mary and family,  
We are so very sorry for the loss. Our prayers are with all of you  
during this difficult time.*

*Sincerely,  
Peg and Tom Blanchard*

---

**Margaret K Blanchard** - November 26, 2018 at 06:32 AM

BW

“ *My. Condolences to Don's family. He was an E.Canton neighbor  
many years ago. When my husband George was a Manor resident,  
he was a loyal visitor. But most important, he was a faithful nearly  
daily visitor to his wife, Shirley. Rest in peace, Don.  
Bobbee Wilcox, Canton, PA*

---

**Bobbee Wilcox** - November 20, 2018 at 07:27 AM