



John "Mark" Harker

December 3, 1963 - April 19, 2025

John "Mark" Harker, age 61, of Mentor, passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 19, 2025, at Cleveland Clinic Hillcrest Hospital, surrounded by his family who loved him dearly. Born December 3, 1963, in Newport News, Virginia, Mark lived a life defined by love, generosity, and a passion for learning and sharing his gifts with others.

Mark graduated as valedictorian for both Southern Local High School and University of Mount Union. He served as an Information Technology Manager, Support Services, at Avery Dennison, where he was not only respected for his expertise but admired for his heart. He was recognized as Volunteer of the Year for his outstanding mentorship and coaching with Mentor Schools and Lakeland Community College, where he inspired young minds to embrace science and technology.

To know Mark was to know kindness, wisdom, and unwavering devotion. He was the most wonderful husband, a fantastic father, and the very best "Boppa." His greatest joy came from spending time with his family, especially his granddaughters, who lit up his world. Mark's brilliance was matched by his creativity and curiosity. He was a problem solver at heart and found joy in games having a treasured collection of more than 800 board games. Whether diving into strategy or science fiction, from Star Trek to Star Wars, Marvel to DC, Mark brought imagination and wonder to everything he loved.

He felt music deeply, planned every detail with thoughtfulness, and gave gifts not just wrapped in paper but in meaning. Above all, Mark lived his life putting others first, always making time to lift up those around him with quiet strength, humor, and love.

Mark is survived by his devoted wife of 38 years, Amy S. (Mobley) Harker; his loving daughters, Alyssa J. (Corey) Rodriguez and Emily C. (Alec) White; and his cherished granddaughters, Keira and McKenna. He also leaves behind many nieces and nephews whom he loved dearly and who will carry his memory forward.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Linda Harker; his sister, Kim DeRuyter; and grandparents, Leet and Mae Raffle.

Family and friends will be received from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060. A memorial service to celebrate Mark's life will follow at 5:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests contributions be made to the American Cancer Society, 10501 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44106. <http://donate.cancer.org/>

Offer condolences at www.brunners.com

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 4. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center
8466 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3401
ajs@brunners.com
<https://www.brunners.com/>

Memorial Service

MAY 4. 5:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center
8466 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3401
ajs@brunners.com
<https://www.brunners.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Our deepest condolences to Amy and family. You are in our prayers.*

Larry and Barb Tarka

Larry Tarka - May 04, 2025 at 08:08 PM



Thank you Larry!

Amy Harker - May 05, 2025 at 10:12 AM



Amy and family, I too was a co-worker of Mark's although it's been many years since we worked together. I had hoped to make it to the services but unfortunately could not. Mark was wonderful to work with on a project we did years ago called Teammate! It was an order entry project that was very well received at the time and Mark had all the great ideas for it. I'm so sorry for your loss and wanted you to know how much we will miss him at Avery.

Elaine Sulzbach - May 05, 2025 at 02:58 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of John "Mark" Harker.*



May 02, 2025 at 03:32 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John "Mark" Harker.*

May 02, 2025 at 03:32 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of John "Mark" Harker.*



May 01, 2025 at 11:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John "Mark" Harker.

May 01, 2025 at 11:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of John "Mark" Harker.*



May 01, 2025 at 02:11 PM



“ *So sorry to hear about your loss. He was a strong person and always positive back to the very first surgery. Mark was a wonderful and kind person. Mark always found a way to solve issues at Avery Dennison, and the positivity, curious and creative nature will truly be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you during the very difficult time.*

Rachel Blajeski

Rachel Blajeski - April 30, 2025 at 02:32 PM

AH

Appreciate your memories of his kindness and how helpful he was...

Amy Harker - May 02, 2025 at 03:27 PM

TT

“ *The KNL Team purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of John "Mark" Harker.*



The KNL Team - April 30, 2025 at 11:22 AM

LN

“ *Saddened by this news. Worked with Mark at Avery for some years. Lots of great memories. Will never forget our time and how Mark treated me and others. RIP.*

Len Van Niel - April 29, 2025 at 11:39 PM

AH

Appreciate the shared memory...

Amy Harker - May 05, 2025 at 10:13 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of John "Mark" Harker.*



April 28, 2025 at 02:14 PM

MA

“ My deepest sympathies for the loss of Mark, such sad and sudden news. Mark was a beautiful human being and a very loyal, dedicated and warm colleague. I wish the family and all of his loved ones love and strength in these very difficult times.
Marcolien de Haan



Marcolien - April 28, 2025 at 09:42 AM

AH

Thank you for your kind words

Amy Harker - April 29, 2025 at 07:54 PM

DS

“ I was shocked to read the message about Mark passing. A very dedicated and friendly colleague is gone. He was very meticulous in what he was doing and never got tired to answer the repetitive question from me (non-IT brain). Wishing his family and friends strength and reliance in this difficult time. I am sure you all have great memories that you will cherish. Sending my condolences from Germany
Maria Raudner

David Schleht - April 28, 2025 at 06:13 AM

AH

Thank you!

Amy Harker - April 29, 2025 at 07:54 PM

TC

“ Mark will be deeply missed by all of us in the Asia Pacific Avery Dennison team. Thank you for everything, Mark. Rest in peace.

TRACY CHIN - April 27, 2025 at 10:25 PM

AH

He will be missed!

Amy Harker - April 29, 2025 at 07:55 PM

JH

“ *I am so sorry to hear of this unexpected loss. Mark always support Chines EDI work. His passing is also our loss. I will miss him.*

Joan Hu - April 27, 2025 at 09:29 PM

MC

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Thinking of you Amy, and sending you and your dear family many prayers during this very sad time in your lives. Be assured of our prayers for your dear husband as well. Maryann Cassidy (Retired), Perry Elementary School*

Maryann Cassidy - April 25, 2025 at 07:32 PM

AH

Thank you Mary Ann!

Amy Harker - April 26, 2025 at 11:13 AM

JB

“ *Our deepest condolences to Mark’s family and friends. He was a valued colleague and much appreciated teammate with a high expertise and a witty sense of humor. Mark will be missed but fondly remembered. A special thought to his two granddaughters that he never failed to mention and were bringing him so much joy.*

From all of us in the EU EDI team

Johanna Blanchard - April 25, 2025 at 04:01 AM

AH

Appreciate this memory! Thank you for your kind words.

Amy Harker - April 26, 2025 at 11:14 AM

HC

“ *The Fastener Family of Avery Dennison, along with all colleagues who collaborated with you on our EDI projects throughout the years, wishes to express that you will be missed but forever remembered in lives touched.*

Please accept our sincerest condolences to all loved ones.

Holly St Cyr - April 24, 2025 at 08:43 AM

AH

Thank you for sharing this!

Amy Harker - April 24, 2025 at 09:29 PM

AD

“ *I had the honor of working with Mark for the past three years, and in that time, he became so much more than just a boss to me. He was a mentor, a true leader and in many ways, a father-like figure.*

He led with wisdom, compassion, and quiet strength — always there to support and guide us, no matter the situation. His presence brought out the best in those around him, and he had a remarkable way of making people feel heard, respected, and encouraged.

Please accept my deepest condolences. I hope you find some comfort in knowing how profoundly he impacted those of us who had the privilege of working with him. He will be truly missed and fondly remembered. - Avery Dennison APAC Team

Adilah - April 23, 2025 at 09:06 PM

AH

Reading this lifted my heart

Amy Harker - April 24, 2025 at 09:30 PM

EN

“ Our deepest condolences. Mark will be greatly missed, for his hard work, tenacity and always a helping hand for us. Rest In Peace, Mark, you will never be forgotten, and thank you for everything. From all of us in Asia Pacific Avery Dennison team.

Emmanuel Nugroho - April 23, 2025 at 05:36 PM

AH

He was an amazing human being. Thank you for sharing.

Amy Harker - April 24, 2025 at 09:31 PM

OS

“ Our deepest sympathy. We are sorry for your loss. All Of Your Friends At Avery Dennison Customer Service planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John "Mark" Harker.

Our deepest sympathy. We are sorry for your loss. All Of Your Friends At Avery Dennison Customer Service - April 23, 2025 at 01:12 PM

JH

“ I began working with Mark at Avery Dennison almost 4 years ago and I cannot begin to describe how wonderful of a person Mark was to work with. He was a true mentor and friend. I enjoyed our daily meetings which often led to discussions on sports, music, the weather and life. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to get to know him and he will be immensely missed.

Jackie Hendershot - April 23, 2025 at 11:23 AM

AH

Thank you for sharing what he meant to you!

Amy Harker - April 24, 2025 at 09:32 PM

YF

“ Your CFS FAMILY<3 purchased the *Divine Peace Bouquet* for the family of John "Mark" Harker.



Your CFS FAMILY<3 - April 22, 2025 at 11:58 PM

YF

“ Your CFS FAMILY<3 planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John "Mark" Harker.

Your CFS FAMILY<3 - April 22, 2025 at 11:58 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet* was purchased for the family of John "Mark" Harker.



April 22, 2025 at 08:44 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of John "Mark" Harker.

April 22, 2025 at 08:44 PM

PA

“ *Mark always inspired me to study harder and do better in school. I wanted so much to get grades as good as what he always got.*

Pat - April 22, 2025 at 07:03 PM

LB

“ *Love the Burton's purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of John "Mark" Harker.*



Love the Burton's - April 22, 2025 at 04:47 PM

LB

“ *Love the Burton's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of John "Mark" Harker.*

Love the Burton's - April 22, 2025 at 04:47 PM

KM

“ *Mark was in the Southern Local marching band. Watching him on the football field his body wrapped with drums and playing the heck of them was an awesome sight to see. Absolutely Amazing!! I will never forget it. Kelly Shagnot McElhane*

Kelly Shagnot McElhane - April 22, 2025 at 03:45 PM

AM

Thank you for that memory. I am writing a book about Mark for his grandchildren called Rembering Boppa... I'll include this memory for sure.

Amy - April 22, 2025 at 04:16 PM

Z(

Rest in Peace my dear friend Mark!!!

I will miss you but never forget you!!! The wonderful memories you left us with will stay with us forever. For 20+ years working in Avery Denison I had an honor and privilege to work with you until I officially left Avery in 2019-2020. Most importantly, the friendship we built during those years and continued after Avery I will always keep close and dear to my heart. Everybody in my family knows about Mark and have great respect for you, my friend. While working in Avery you were always there to help, guide, encourage, praise, respect, not only me but everybody that worked with you.

Dear Amy!!! I am so sorry for your loss. Words can't express how painful it is this loss of a very dear friend!!! Mark was an amazing human being that loved his family so much!!! When he talked about you, his lovely wife, your two beautiful daughters, your precious granddaughters, you could tell and feel that his heart was not only full of love but admiration and proud of his biggest success in his life, his family. Our hearts, thoughts and prayers are with you and your beautiful family!!! With all our love,

Deni and family

Zdenka (dDolenac - May 04, 2025 at 02:32 PM