



Harris A. Simpson

April 14, 1934 - October 18, 2025

Harris Simpson was born in Philomath, Georgia on April 14, 1934 to William Harris Simpson and Florence Arnold Simpson. His family moved to Monroe, Georgia and later to Athens, Georgia. Harris started college at UGA at the age of 16. After graduating with a business degree, he joined the Navy as a Supply Officer for four years before going back to college, to Georgia Tech, for an engineering degree. He worked for Watts and Browning before joining Cousins Properties. Later, he started a development company with Ben Sellman and they took over troubled subdivisions for lenders, including Main Street in Dekalb County and Summit Chase in Loganville. He was an avid outdoorsman and especially enjoyed the bobwhite quail. Later in life, he perfected the quail dog with Pepper and Jenny, his beloved bird dogs. He was married twice. His first marriage, to Suzanna Warren Bozarth, produced three children, Casey, Bo and James, who he loved. He and Sue had a horse farm (Quail Rise Farm) where they bred and raised Arabian horses. His second marriage, to Rita Sharp Lawhorn, led him into competitive bicycling and various travels in the U.S. and abroad. As a bicyclist, he was nationally ranked in his age group and he participated in many group programs. He was especially proud of the "Fools on Wheels", where he was on the support team for Jim Kennedy and friends in their record setting ride across America (six days, beating the next closest team by more than 17 hours). Harris had a third partner in life, Prin Gunn, who he was with for thirteen years. Prin suffered from many health challenges and Harris cared for her for many years and they

enjoyed many fine meals (He was an accomplished cook) and outings together, especially to see her grandson play football in Athens. Harris had many dear friends that enjoyed hunting and fishing and his photo albums are full of memories of their outings afield, always smiling, laughing and basking in God's great outdoors. In his later years, Harris was especially thankful for Alfred Sawyer, his Pastor at Christ Church Atlanta, as well as the dear church family there. He lived for many years at Cathedral Tower, where he made friends with everyone and enjoyed being close to the "Buckhead Boys" (his best friends). In his last years, he stayed at Chestnut Ridge Nursing and Rehabilitation Home, where his three children visited him weekly and made his time there very happy and comfortable. He is survived by his three children, Casey, Bo and James, as well as seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held at Flanigan Funeral Home in Buford Georgia on November 9th at 2 pm, visitation at pm.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 9. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM.

Chapel of Flanigan Funeral Home

Memorial Service

NOV 9. 2:00 PM (ET)

Flanigan Funeral Home
4400 South Lee Street
Buford, GA 30518

Tribute Wall

MD

“ Casey and family, I'm so very sorry for the loss of your dad. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you all

Michele Harris Dawson



Michele Harris Dawson - November 06, 2025 at 07:24 PM

“ Dear Bo, Casey, & James,

I'm sure I share the same sentiments as others about your Dad. He was such a warm and fine person. My father, Walton Smith, counted him as one of his best friends. I know they enjoyed many a Wednesday evening with other men at the Church of the Atonement's weekly Men's Dinners. They also used to enjoy the occasional guys weekend fishing trips.

I have fond memories of the horse farm and shooting baskets out front (my first Pine Needle Basket Ball Court) A bunch of folks would gather out there for picnics and we'd hike all over the place and goof around in the barn.

I recall your father and my Dad coming in from the cold and enjoying a snifter of warmed brandy in front of the fireplace. It struck me as a very adult thing.

Harris had such a warm, friendly, fun personality and it felt good to be drawn into conversation with him.

Many of those memories of your Dad come from an earlier time in my life. I remember, later, as a young college student meeting Rita with your Dad at the Moore's house. They had been biking and I got to peek in on that part of their life as your dad & Rita, excitedly, shared what they were up to.

Years later, I was in the sign industry, and your dad asked me to come to his office, maybe on Pharr Rd. It was great to see him and we discussed what it might take to remove a giant billboard from the roof of the building. He also told me about his breakup with Rita. It always struck me as a moment when I saw him as someone different than just my "Dad's friend". He was very "real" with people.

Again, years later, I enjoyed his and Prin's hospitality at their home for a post Peachtree Road Race brunch. I had been brought along

by my Dad and his second wife, Virginia. It was my first time meeting Prin and they obviously cared deeply for each other. Your dad was his usual warm and engaging self.

Yep, nothing but fond memories of your father.

It sounds like you were able to be close to him throughout his latter years. Maybe all his years. It's wonderful that he was able to know so many grandchildren!

All of those memories of your Father from our earlier lives had the three of you wrapped up in it as well. I remember you all, fondly. Well, almost. When my younger brother, Hugh, and James got together, they could be a little much! Not really :)

My prayers are with you, Casey, Bo, and James

*Sincerely and with much love,
Eddie Smith*

Eddie Smith - November 02, 2025 at 10:19 AM

HM

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss Bo and family. Prayers for peace and comfort. I have fond memories of your Dad's visits to the office. He was always a funny and very kind man. He will be greatly missed!*

Heather McBride - October 30, 2025 at 10:28 AM