



## Earl Meldrum Harding Jr.

August 26, 1970 - August 24, 2017

Earl Meldrum Harding Jr., 46, passed away unexpectedly Thursday, August 24, 2017. He was born to Earl and LaRue Harding in Midvale, Utah on August 26, 1970. Earl spent his childhood developing a love of trains and the outdoors. He loved to fish every stream and river he could find. Some of his fondest childhood memories are the fishing and camping trips with his beloved grandmother “Wa.”

Earl graduated from Hillcrest High School and soon after served an LDS mission to the Calgary, Alberta mission. After returning home he completed a Journeyman Electrical apprenticeship through SLCC that led to 10 years of working in residential construction. In 2006, he met and married Sue Ann Howard. Together they built a life of love. Love for the outdoors, love of family and friends, and love for each other. Not many husbands adore their wives the way Earl adores Sue Ann. Earl preferred to spend his free time outdoors. If he wasn't fishing, hunting, or camping, he was planning his next adventure.

Earl was always the first to offer help, the first to open a door and was always on the look out for someone to serve.

He chose to continue his education in 2008 and completed an Associate's degree in Facilities Management, as well as a Bachelor's degree in Technology Management, both from UVU. In 2013, Earl started working at American Heritage School in American Fork where he spent every day serving others with Christlike kindness and a genuine love for those around him. He had an uncanny ability to remember names and all who associated with him felt how much he truly cared about them. He loved all of the Queens, Champs, and Princesses of the school.

Earl is preceded in death by his parents, Earl Harding Sr. and Wanda LaRue Harding, and a sister, Debra. He is survived by his devoted wife Sue Ann Harding, his four sisters, Toni, Karen, Tina, Sherry, and so many extended family members and friends who love him.

Funeral Services will be held Friday, September 1, 2017 at 11:00 at the LDS Church, 114

South 400 West, Orem, Utah. Viewings will be held Thursday, August 31st from 6:30 to 8:00 pm and prior to services on Friday from 10:00 to 10:45 am. Interment in East Lawn Memorial Hills, 4800 N 650 E St, Provo, UT.

Funeral Directors: Utah Valley Mortuary.

# Cemetery

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## East Lawn Memorial Hills

4800 North 650 East  
Provo, UT, 84604

# Events

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**AUG 31** **Viewing** 06:30PM - 08:00PM  
Orem LDS Church  
114 South 400 West, Orem, UT, US, 84058

**SEP 1** **Viewing** 10:00AM - 10:45AM  
Orem LDS Church  
114 South 400 West, Orem, UT, US, 84058

**SEP 1** **Funeral Service** 11:00AM - 12:00PM  
Orem LDS Church  
114 South 400 West, Orem, UT, US, 84058

# Comments

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“ I appreciate Earl since I knew him from 11th years old. I remember going to his house every Sunday knocking on his door inviting him to church. I remember him coming over to my house and playing basketball with my brothers and I. I continue to invite him to church when he reached the 11th grade he was baptized into the church of Jesus Christ of latter-day Saints. I remember him writing to me on my mission and asking me how he can receive his patriarchal blessing and how to prepare to go on a mission. My soul was delighted to hear that he was called to the Calgary Canada mission. I remember him coming to Utah State and visiting me I saw what he was doing and his goals that he set for himself and that he did accomplish. As I stood in the fun I remember him coming to Utah State and visiting me I saw what he was doing and his goals that he set for himself and that he did accomplish. As I stood at his viewing I felt his spirit and I felt like he was talking to me saying it is worth it never give up. As I stood at his coffin I knocked on his coughing like I knocked on his door many years ago and I said to him you have made it you have made it back home. I have seen Earl touched many peoples lives as I stood in the viewing. He was a great friend a great brother and the attorney DHS. He put forth his effort and he had the light of Christ of helping others. Your friend and eternal brother Michael Dawes

Michael Dawes - September 07, 2017 at 12:57 PM

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“ I have to say my little brother was pretty exceptional. I am very proud of the man he became. I kept hearing what a light he was for many and how Christ-Like he lived his life. Not until the funeral did I fully understand the impact he had made in people's lives. His death, still for reasons unknown, was a sadness in my heart until I understood that he had accomplished so much in his short life here that he was worthy enough to return home.

Love,  
Toni

Toni Millias - September 01, 2017 at 11:32 PM

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“ Earl was such a cheerful, diligent and thoughtful man. I appreciate his managing the set up for the Latter-day Learning Retreat at American Heritage School, where I also work. I will miss talking with him and enjoying his kind spirit. The Spirit World has gained a bright light. I pray for his wife to feel comforted at the loss of her dear companion. --Diann Jeppson

Diann Jeppson - September 01, 2017 at 02:20 PM

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“ Earl had the true "Aloha Spirit!" Whenever he saw me at AHS he would say "there's the lady with the beautiful flowers in her hair." We would talk about Hawaii where I am from and he hoped one day to visit there. His beaming and contagious smile and goodness and pure happiness will be missed by me and my Ohana!!! Earl, I know from where you are, Hawaii is in full view. Enjoy . . . Me Kealoha Pumehana (with warmest affections), The Clayton and Cheryl Chun Ohana

**cheryl chun** - September 01, 2017 at 08:49 AM

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“ Earl was always so kind and I don't remember him without a smile on his face! You will be remembered and put a good word in for us with the Big Guy ok?

-Marie Bright LPN Petersen Medical

**Marie Bright** - August 31, 2017 at 11:05 PM

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“ I found Earl to be a compassionate Man. He had the admiration of several of his co-workers and those that he served daily. His infectious personality drew many to him. I only worked with him a short time but, every time I went to see my wife or check on the kids, he was always busy with his tasks and always on the look out to greet or help someone. He truly lived as a Christ-like Servent of the Lord. He will be greatly missed by our family and will remain an example to us for years to come.

- Spence, Cynthia, Roman and Arista Bingham

**K Spence Bingham** - August 31, 2017 at 06:58 PM

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“ Girl was my brother he was my only brother when he was small he was so cute in his cowboy boots and diaper when he got two teenagers and played ball with his friends and him my husband went hunting with him and Sue we're so happy when he married you those two is always happy together they took care of our mom before she passed him I wrote him a letter months ago saying I don't get to see much that I love you so much I'm glad I did me and my husband will always love and miss him

**Tina hardy** - August 31, 2017 at 12:49 PM



“ Sorry for my words being a little messed up.

**Tina hardy** - August 31, 2017 at 12:54 PM

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“ Mr. Earl was awesome - he gave us high five's everyday. Benjamin Logan 4th grade

He was friendly to everyone and he always helped EVERYONE! I will miss him -  
Jeffrey Logan - 6th grade

Mr. Smiley was always nice to me and my brothers. I liked him and he always called  
me Princess Logan - Karley Logan - 1st grade

We love you, Earl.

Wayne and Karen Logan

**Karen Logan** - August 31, 2017 at 10:08 AM



“ He taught me it never hurts to be kind. He knew what it meant to have Christlike love. -Alex  
Hill (from a letter he sent from his mission)

Earl always asked how my family was and he remembered what I would say as he would  
ask follow up questions the next time I saw him. He always had a smile. We appreciated  
everything he did for us and the school. We love you, Earl.

Jay and Laurel Hill

**laurel Hill** - August 31, 2017 at 10:17 AM

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“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Sue Ann and your family at this time. We were so  
heartbroken to hear of his passing. Earl held the door open for us as we left the  
school the day before he passed away. Earl was always so kind and friendly to our  
family. He always had a smile to share and a kind word. He radiated light and  
happiness to all who came in contact with him. He knew our children's names and  
made them feel so welcome at school. He was a great man who shared the light of  
Jesus Christ with all he came in contact with. We will miss seeing Earl at school. He  
was a great man who blessed many lives through his love and service.

Sarah Pletsch and family

**Sarah Pletsch** - August 30, 2017 at 10:56 PM

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“ Me and my family did several years of custodial work at AHS, and Earl's kindness  
never ceased to amaze us. I didn't always have the best attitude about doing late  
night custodial work, but I couldn't help but feel better whenever I ran into Earl. He  
always made a point to get to know me and to share his contagious laugh and smile.  
It was incredible how much love and happiness you could feel even after just saying  
hi to Earl in the hallway. The world needs more men like Earl! What a blessing to

know that we will all get to see him again.

**Ryan Griffith** - August 30, 2017 at 08:41 PM

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“ He always took time to get to know the students. I will always remember Earl as one of the smiliest, friendliest, happiest people I knew.

**Ian Boggess** - August 30, 2017 at 07:22 PM

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“ Earl worked with my father at AHS. My daughter goes to their office EVERY morning to see Grandpa and "Mr. Earl." Grandpa would usually walk Ashley to class but on the mornings that my dad was not there for any reason, Mr. Earl would walk Ashley to class and it meant so much to her.  
He always made everyone he came in contact with feel so special. Our family was devastated by the news and will miss the ray of light he brought to your day.

**Danny** - August 30, 2017 at 05:22 PM



“ I will miss him forever! Still keep waiting to see his welcoming smile each morning as he tries to beat me to my classroom door to open it for me, or open it for after I have forgotten my keys. I will always miss hearing him talking to my "Miss Gentry" and watching her light up feeling like she was his most favorite... just as every child felt.

**Amy Fallon** - August 30, 2017 at 09:49 PM

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“ I have a daughter at AHS who struggles with anxiety. Earl would encourage her and me on the difficult days. I attended school with her for about 4 months earlier this year. Earl would count down the last weeks of school for me and tell me I was almost there and was a great mom. When he saw me the first week of school leaving without my daughter in tow, he gave me double crossed fingers for a great year. That is the last memory I will have of Earl.

**Teresa** - August 30, 2017 at 03:11 PM

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“ When I heard the news of Earls passing I said to my husband "we got to talk to him yesterday, we are so lucky" and we truly are. Earl was a light, he was kind to everyone he met and he remembered everyone and made you feel so special. I worked with him in the lunch room while I was pregnant with my last baby, he was so kind, always encouraging me and always wanted updates on how things were going. When my son was born he always stopped and said hello to us, always commented on how big he was getting. Earl was one of a kind and truly had a Christlike attitude

and presence about him. He will be deeply missed and the halls at AHS will be a little less bright without him. My deepest condolences to his wife and family, I am so sorry for your loss but grateful to know you are not separated and will be together again.

**Amanda Ellsworth** - August 30, 2017 at 01:19 PM

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“Earl was an amazing addition to American Heritage School. He was the one that singled a co-worker out and saw their needs and really took care of them and he brightened a child's day with his attention and kindness. He was a living example of Christ like love and touched all of our lives for good.

**susan ostler** - August 30, 2017 at 12:09 PM

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“I just have no words for Earl's kindness to my family. My sons adored him and we are heartbroken and have cried alot. He was a light for us at AHS. When my youngest son would enter he would yell, "Christian!" and they would high five or hug and they would chat it up. It just does me in knowing that won't be happening anymore. My oldest son worked with Earl for a summer and they were close friends. We were just talking with Earl the other day when Earl asked about him and said, "You tell him to come and see me before he goes on that mission. We will talk about it." I know he would have given him great words of wisdom. What he did give him and all of us was an example of Christlike love in a crazy, hard world. We will all try and carry that on. God bless your family and comfort you at this difficult time. Please know we loved Earl so much and he was an influence on all he knew.

**Melonie Cannon Uhl** - August 30, 2017 at 11:19 AM

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“Just as the article says, Earl was so kind and the first to help anyone and everyone. He was a ray of sunshine always. He will be missed!

**Elizabeth Henderson** - August 30, 2017 at 11:18 AM

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“He always made me smile when I dropped my son off and picked him up at American Herritage. I'll miss his smile and positive spirit.

Scott Larson

**Scott Larson** - August 30, 2017 at 11:13 AM

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“ V Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Earl Meldrum Harding Jr.



V Johnson - August 30, 2017 at 10:47 AM

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“ We will miss Earl so much! There was never a day that he did not meet my daughter, Ashleigh at school and do all he could to start her day off right with a smile and a "Hello Miss Ashleigh." When she was having health problems and had to wear special glasses that looked like sun glasses, he helped her put a positive twist on a difficult situation by saying "Good morning movie star" It changed her whole attitude from one of shame and concern over being bullied, to one of fun. Whenever she was down on herself he would invariably see her and immediately buoy her up and turn her day around. We will always remember him with love and gratitude for his remarkable life!

- Vachelle & Ashleigh Johnson -

V Johnson - August 30, 2017 at 10:46 AM

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“ Four weeks ago, the last face I saw as I pulled out of Orem from our summer trip was Earl. He was smiling and had his arm around Sue Ann. I cannot think of one memory when he was not smiling at us. He was the favorite of all children in his presence, and always interested in anything new in our lives or our children's lives. He was thoughtful in gift giving, making sure that Truitt had the perfect fabric for his baby quilt as the only boy in our house. He was always up for a good visit and made me feel like I had known him as long as I had known Sue. I am grateful to have known and loved him because it is impossible to know him and not love him. We will always remember him. Ronda and Shane Loveridge

Ronda Loveridge - August 29, 2017 at 10:53 PM

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“ I always looked forward to Earl's visits to EWS. He lit up the room when he walked in with that wsm, friendly smile. Sometimes he shared funny stories. Sometimes he shared his love for Sue Ann and the gospel. My heart is heavy at our loss of such a sweet spirit. I'm so grateful to know life is eternal and his separation from Sue Ann is temporary. Donna Biberston

