



# Harris Shellito

JAN 30, 1944 - NOV 14, 2019



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FUNERAL HOME  
SACRED PARK CEMETERY  
*A Life Celebration Home*

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## **Harris Shellito**

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**H**arris Keith Shellito, 75, Weslaco, Texas, passed away on Thursday, November 14, 2019. Harris was born January 30, 1944, to Harold and Myrtle (Ellis) Shellito in Fargo, ND. He was one of 6 children. Harris grew up on a farm and learned what it meant to work hard. He lost his father at a young age and became quite attached to uncles and aunts. He attended Moorhead High school where he became involved with sports. He excelled at everything he did. He quickly turned to Wrestling as his passion and he eagerly coached that sport. Harris graduated from Moorhead State University and later received his Master's degree in Education. He taught Physical Ed. and Health at Thomas Edison Elementary School in Moorhead, MN during his 32-year career. He loved working with children and enjoyed his profession.

He joined the Marine Corps in 1964 and received numerous medals and awards for excellence in his performance. He was awarded Honor Man of his Platoon. He was very proud of his Marine tour in the Viet Nam war. Harris married Candace Allen; the mother of his children. The most important thing in his life was when he received Christ as his Savior in October 2000. He had a great love for the Lord and that acceptance was very obvious in how he lived his life. During his teaching career, he met Patricia Shellito (Merten) and they married on December 16, 2000. Harris will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife of nineteen years; Patricia (Patti) of Texas, his children; Andrew Shellito, Sarah Shellito, her daughter; Lydia Shellito; all of Minnesota, his caring stepchildren and grandchildren; Amy Bray, her children Miles and Ethan Bray, of Missouri; Christopher (Stacey) Decker of Minnesota; his siblings, Larry(Evonne) Shellito, Sherry (Bruce) Akins, Bruce (Joyce) Shellito, Kathleen Shellito and Candace Alan, all of Minnesota, and Kathleen Arnold, of Arkansas. He was preceded in death by his father, Harold, his mother, Myrtle, brother James Shellito, and brother-in-law, Ronald Arnold. Harris was loved by so many, especially his wife, Patti, who was his Care Giver for 8 years. His wife would like to send heartfelt thanks to those who prayed for us



## Obituary

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while on this journey, the friends and family who visited, and the kindness and support from the staff at Alfredo Gonzales State Veterans Home in McAllen, TX.

A graveside service will take place on May 8th, 2020, 3:00 pm at Minnesota State Veteran's Cemetery in Little Falls, Minnesota. A fellowship gathering will follow the service.



## Tribute Wall

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**Neil Wiger** posted:

Mr. Shellito was my fourth and fifth grade phy. ed instructor... From fall of 1985 'til the spring of 1987. At Thomas Edison Elementary School in Moorhead, MN. I will always remember him as a kind hearted man. He often told us kids about how great it was to see the Statue of Liberty whilst coming home from military service. A great teacher and a kind soul he was.

June 26 at 9:44 PM



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**John Christopherson** posted:

I was talking to my wrestler son today about my wrestling coach and how much of an inspiration he was in my life. I thought, well let's find him on google. I was very saddened to find his obituary. I met him when I was in the fourth grade and he coached a bunch of fourth fifth and sixth graders. I went to geargetown and they busses us into Moorhead for wrestling practice. I went through some tough social times and left wrestling through my jr high years, but I in my high school Junior year, a friend suggested that I get back into it. I did. That was in 81. I went in with little confidence and some fear. The first day he came in, I recognized him as my grade school coach. I always thought he was amazing and although I was never a star wrestler, he improved my confidence to the point where I felt I could make it through Marine Corps boot camp. I did that too. Even though my high school wrestling career was only two seasons, I hold him at the very top of my most influential teachers along with assistant coach Paul Marquardt. Rest In Peace Mr. Shellito, and Semper Fi!

December 20 at 7:49 AM



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**Sarah Shellito** posted:

Hi Mike. This is Sarah Harris's daughter. Thank you for sharing the memories....I was just a little girl when dad was a wrestling coach and I'm not sure I would have remembered "Koshi guruma" but by you writing that it has all come back to me. Thank you again for the kind words. We are all glad that he is now in a better place.

November 22 at 7:53 PM

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**Sarah Shellito** posted:

Thank you so much for the kind words Pat. Dad was a great mentor to me as well and he touched so many lives by his humanitarianism and love for everyone. Thanks for mentioning the old Fiat..my dad had a great sense of humor didn't he?!

November 22 at 7:31 PM



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My deepest condolences go out to the entire Shellito family. As a former Spud at MHS, I knew Harris as both a skilled wrestler and as a great coach. He was a tough guy with a big heart, who instilled mental toughness and the idea of perfecting technique - right there on the mat with you. A true student of the sport, Harris blessed us with a number of different judo throws that he taught, to give us more options to defeat the opponent. He was truly an inspiration and will be missed by many. May God bless the family and give you true peace - the same peace that Harris has at this time. Koshi guruma, Harris, Koshi guruma!!

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Sad loss for the Spud wrestling community. He was a great coach and mentor. Many of us are who we are today because of him. I learned a lot about life from working out in that wrestling room with Coach Shellito. Thanks for the memories, might have to see if I can locate an old Fiat and have a beer.

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## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Harris by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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