



Louis Hari

August 19, 1943 - June 5, 2020

Louis Hari, 76 of Swan Point, Maryland passed away at University of Maryland Charles Regional Medical Center in La Plata, Maryland on Friday, June 5, 2020 due to complications from cancer.

A native of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, Lou was a 1966 graduate of the Newark College of Engineering where he received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering. Following graduation, he joined the U.S. Air Force and was sent to Undergraduate Pilot Training at Webb Air Force Base, Big Spring, Texas, graduating with class 68A in July 1967.

Lou served as an active duty officer for 11 years flying transport aircraft to various assignments at McGuire, Langley, and Charleston Air Force Bases. Lou was one of the first pilots to fly the newly acquired C-5 aircraft while assigned to Charleston. While stationed in Charleston, Lou was awarded a Masters in Business Administration from Southern Illinois University in 1973.

His overseas assignment to Taiwan during the Vietnam war found him flying numerous missions into Vietnam. Most of these were potentially dangerous; however, on several occasions Lou had the distinct pleasure of flying Bob Hope, Ann Margaret, and Raquel Welch to the air shows Bob Hope put on for the troops of servicemen stationed in Vietnam. Not bad duty for the then 24-year-old pilot!

Upon leaving active duty, Lou accepted a civilian position as an Engineer working for the Department of the Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. In 1975, he was awarded a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson.

After a few years living in the Dayton, Ohio area, Lou joined the Air Force Reserve serving at Rickenbacker Air Force Base near Columbus, Ohio while continuing his civilian position at Wright-Patterson. In 1992, he was selected to serve as the Vice Wing Commander at the 459th Airlift Wing Reserve Unit at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland. Lou held that position until July 1996 when he retired from the Air Force Reserve as a Colonel with 30 years of service.

In 2000, Lou retired from Federal service and subsequently accepted employment with KBR Wyle in Lexington Park, Maryland where he was currently employed. As a contractor, Lou worked in various capacities with the Naval Air Systems Command at Patuxent River Naval Air Station. He served as the Senior Acquisition Program Manager for the PMA-231 E-2/C-2 Program Office. He managed the acquisition process for the purchase of U.S. Navy aircraft.

Lou is survived and cherished by his wife, Courtney Dempsey Hari with whom he traveled extensively enjoying cruises in the Baltic, Australia, Italy, Hawaii, Germany, and land tours in the British Isles and U.S. National Parks; his brother, Alan Hari of Rock Hill, South Carolina; his dear daughters, Catherine (Mike) MacDonald and Kimberly Osborne-Fry and her husband Chris Fry of Miamisburg, Ohio; and his loving grandchildren, Emily and Sarah MacDonald and Elizabeth and Ethan Osborne. Also left to cherish Lou's life and memory are his wife's sons, Michael Dempsey of La Plata, Maryland and Ryan (Stephanie) Dempsey and his children, Andrew and Meghan of Pasadena,

Maryland. Lou also enjoyed a special bond with seven-year-old Aubree Waugh of La Plata. She drew pictures for him, invited him to tea parties, and was infatuated with him.

As busy as he was, Lou was also a collector and restorer of antique radios and served for many years as a docent at the National Capital Radio and Television Museum in Bowie, Maryland. Those wishing to do so may make donations in his name to the museum in Bowie or to the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington, VA

Tribute Wall



“ *Louis Hari*

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ *Louis Hari*

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *I am proud to have served under him as Chief Standardation, Flight Engineers at Rickenbacker AFB. RIP, Sir!*

Bill ZZugelder - July 17, 2021 at 09:50 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Louis Hari.*



July 15, 2020 at 07:16 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Becky Kelley - June 22, 2020 at 03:11 PM

BK

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Becky Kelley - June 22, 2020 at 03:10 PM

BK

“ NAVAIR SYSCOM National Commander's Award for Program Management



Becky Kelley - June 22, 2020 at 03:10 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Louis Hari.



June 22, 2020 at 12:58 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Louis Hari.



June 21, 2020 at 04:29 PM

AM

“ *All of us at National Capital Radio & TV Museum purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Louis Hari.*



All of us at National Capital Radio & TV Museum - June 19, 2020 at 11:13 AM

FK

“ *From Lou's friends and coworkers at KBR purchased the With Distinction for the family of Louis Hari.*



From Lou's friends and coworkers at KBR - June 18, 2020 at 03:35 PM

BB

“ *It was such a shock to hear that Lou had died. I have known him for years because of his involvement in the Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club and also as a loyal docent at the National Capital Radio and Television Museum in Bowie. Lou was technically knowledgeable about antique radios and so well liked by all those in both organizations. Reliable, friendly, and fun to be with—that was Lou. We will all miss him acutely. Our hearts go out to his family.*
Brian Belanger
Rockville, MD

Brian Belanger - June 17, 2020 at 04:30 PM

LG

“ Working with Lou will always be one of the highlights of my time in PMA-231. He taught me so much about Acquisition and he always made me laugh every day. I will never forget our time together working on a major milestone decision or hearing about his latest travel plans. The office will never be the same without his quiet, smiling presence. He will be sorely missed. Lisa Grossman

Lisa Grossman - June 15, 2020 at 06:32 PM

FB

“ Have known Lou since 2009 in PMA 231 program office. Always had the highest respect for him and went to him for advice on acquisition issues. He was very professional, knowledgeable and responsive. Never remember ever seeing him at work without a tie. Will keep Lou and his family in our daily prayers. Fred Briggs

Fred Briggs - June 15, 2020 at 08:43 AM

EC

“ We first met Lou in 1966 at Webb AFB for pilot training class 68-A. We went different paths after that, but renewed our friendship when we started our biannual reunions. In fact, Lou and Courtney were our hosts in Washington, DC for our fall, 2019 reunion. It was a pleasure getting to know Lou again, and especially Courtney. RIP our friend, we will miss you. Ed Carter

Edward Carter - June 15, 2020 at 08:23 AM

LB

“ Lou was a member of our USAF pilot training class 68A in Big Spring, TX. He was a popular and well thought of young officer. The successes that he achieved in his later life were a surprise to no one. He organized our last class reunion in 2019 and he will be missed by his 68A friends. Larry Bowers

Larry Bowers - June 13, 2020 at 09:42 AM

BK

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Becky Kelley - June 12, 2020 at 12:28 PM

BK

Lou truly loved his job and his work especially with PMA-231.

Becky Kelley - June 12, 2020 at 12:55 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Louis Hari.



June 12, 2020 at 02:48 AM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Louis Hari.



June 11, 2020 at 08:13 PM

KE

“ I cut my teeth on NAVAIR acquisition with Lou after I retired out of the Navy. He was a walking encyclopedia on how all things acq REALLY got done in and outside the PM lifelines - I learned heaps! Lou would also educate me on life things like how the waffle cone was invented - pretty sure he goes back to when Baskin Robbins had only a dozen flavors!

Most of all Lou was about service and family. From driving Hercs to being one of my Wyle supes to being the only one at work on a Friday afternoon when I had to get access to a room to get a hi-pri short-fused tasker done - Lou served. Lou didn't know everything (particularly MS Office) nor did he pretend to - it was that humility along with his bulldog tenacity to get THE answer in service to others that always resonated with me.

Lou didn't tell me a lot about his personals, but BOY you'd see Lou en fuego when the topic came to talking about an upcoming cruise or world travels with his bride and family!

I'm a better person for having known Lou, and I can see him driving up to the pearly gates in a '57 T-bird - top down of course!

Go with God Lou and Bless the Hari family

kelly - June 10, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Louis Hari.



June 10, 2020 at 02:55 PM

BK

“ June 5th is a day I'll remember forever. That will always be the day that I lost a lifelong friend, and one of the greatest people I've ever met.

I'm still struggling to believe that Lou is gone. It was such an honor to work directly with him over the last two decades. Lou was so committed and passionate about his job, always ready to roll up his sleeves and do whatever was needed to get the job done. He always gave a 110% no matter what. Although he was known throughout our organization as an Acquisition expert, he was by far the most kind and humblest person you would ever meet.

No matter what I needed help with, Lou was always there. He was my right hand person, someone I could trust and rely on for anything. He never let me down. I will miss his witty banter, dry sense of humor, his guidance and his off the wall stories about life; but above all, I will miss his friendship the most. I will always cherish our memories and the time we spent together.

My heart is breaking for Courtney and Lou's family; he was truly one of a kind.

Lou - I am who I am today because I knew you. RIP my dear friend.

Becky Kelley - June 10, 2020 at 02:42 PM

JO

“ I was very fortunate to have known Lou Hari. And after all these years to learn all the Service and educational details he performed shows how humble he was. Very kind and generous man who was blessed with 2 Wonderful Daughters and 4 Amazing Grandchildren. Will always be remembered🙏💪❤️

Jeff Osborne - June 10, 2020 at 09:15 AM

GL

“ I have so much respect and admiration for Lou. He was very generous with his time and expertise. I went to him many times for help and guidance. There were no stupid questions with him. He is irreplaceable to us and me personally. I will miss him very much. Thanks for the opportunity to express my thoughts. Lou will always be remembered. He was just that kind of person. Thank you. Gail Lainhart

gail lainhart - June 10, 2020 at 08:56 AM

EC

“ Lou was an amazing man and was dedicated and passionate about his work. He was the first one in and the last one out of the office each day.

I only had the pleasure to work with Lou for a few months but in that time I learned about both his and his wife's love for Ford Thunderbirds and how much they enjoyed going on cruises.

Lou's sarcastic humor and workplace camaraderie brought smiles and laughter to everyone around him.

Fly high my friend, you will be truly missed.

Elizabeth Chandler - June 10, 2020 at 07:30 AM