

Services for Moton Health Director Set

7-4-78

Services for Eugene H. Harris, renowned black leader in Tulsa and executive director of Moton Health Center, are scheduled for 11 a.m. Friday at the First Baptist Church, North Tulsa, 1414 N. Greenwood Ave.

Harris, 56, of 3681 N. New Haven Ave., had been the first black member of the Tulsa School Board.

He died Monday at Hillcrest Medical Center where he had been hospitalized since the beginning of June for cancer treatment.

Gov. David Boren proclaimed April 7, 1978, as Eugene H. Harris

Day in Oklahoma in tribute to one of Tulsa's major forces in health care.

Harris had helped to provide and maintain a health care delivery system in north Tulsa since 1962.

LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS, politicians, well-wishing friends and neighbors honored him April 7 at the North Regional Library.

In 1962, Harris was named administrator of Moton Memorial Hospital. The hospital closed in 1967 because of financial difficulties.

The hospital was renovated with federal funds and reopened in 1968 as Moton Health Center. Harris again became administrator and worked in that capacity until 1972 when he was named clinic director.

This year, Harris was named executive director of the north Tulsa comprehensive health project.

"Harris had a vision of using the facility to serve the community. It was a great day for Tulsa — probably one of the greatest — when Moton Health Center was established," then Mayor Robert LaFortune said in paying tribute to Harris in April.

"IT WAS LARGELY DUE TO (Harris') dreams and his work that made it possible," LaFortune added.

A Tulsa resident since 1949, Harris served on the Tulsa Board of Education from 1969-77 and was instrumental in the desegregation of Carver Junior High and Washington High Schools.

He was honored in 1972 by the Coalition for Quality Education, a group formed after the closing of Carver Junior High School.

Earlier in that same year, the Tulsa School Board voted to accept a plan drawn up by Harris to reopen Carver.

Dr. Bruce Howell, University of Tulsa administrator and former school superintendent, had noted Harris' efforts on desegregation in the early 1960s "stood out more" than any others.

Harris became the first business manager of the Tulsa Economic Opportunity Task Force in 1967. He also was a former president of the Tulsa Urban League.

A native of Durant, Miss., Harris was an accountant. He attended elementary and secondary schools in Waterloo, Iowa.

HARRIS STUDIED BY CORRESPONDENCE with the Citizens Preparation Institute, Newark, N.J., for a year. He then attended Prairie View State College for engineering training for a year and studied business

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GENE H. HARRIS

Moton Health Center Director Dead at 56

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administration two years at Waterloo Business College.

During World War II, Harris served with the Army in the European and Asian theaters. He was discharged with the rank of sergeant major.

Harris served as treasurer of the North Tulsa Savings & Loan Association and secretary of the Prince Hall Masons of Oklahoma. He was a trustee and treasurer of First Baptist Church of North Tulsa.

Harris also was a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the YMCA's Hutcherson branch.

Surviving are his wife, Marynett, of the home; one son, Eugene H. Harris Jr., Iowa City, Iowa; and one daughter, Deanna Harris, Bronx, N.Y.

Burial will be in Waterloo, Iowa, by Jack's Memory Chapel.

Drowning Victim

T-T 7-2-78

Moton executive, E.H. Harris, dies

Eugene H. Harris, executive director of Moton Health Center and the first black member of the Tulsa School Board, died today at Hillcrest Medical Center, a hospital official said.

Cause of death was not given. However, he had been hospitalized for several weeks.

Harris, 56, 3681 N. New Haven Ave., had been the prime mover of the health care delivery system in north Tulsa since 1962 when he became administrator of Moton Memorial Hospital.

In 1967, the hospital was closed because of financial difficulties.

Former Mayor Robert J. LaFortune recently said it "was largely due to (Harris') dreams" that Moton Health Center became a reality.

The remarks were made April 7 of this year, a day which was proclaimed Eugene H. Harris Day in Oklahoma by Gov. David Boren.

The Moton facility was remodeled with federal funds and reopened early in 1968 as Moton Health Center. Harris was named administra-



Eugene Harris

tor and served in that capacity until 1972, when he became clinic director. He was named executive director in 1978.

Harris, an accountant, served on the school board from 1969 to 1977. He was a former president of the Tulsa Urban League and once was business manager of the Tulsa Economic Opportunity Task Force.

Funeral arrangements are pending at Jack's Memory Chapel.

enne and Denver avenues will reopen to vehicles

Sunday Opening Scheduled

Tulsa History Going on Display

Two exhibits on Tulsa history, including rare views of black Tulsa, are scheduled to open to the public at 1 p.m. Sunday at the Tulsa County Historical Society Museum on the Gilcrease Museum grounds at 25th West Avenue and Newton Street.

"The Greenwood Era" exhibit traces the history of black Tulsans in general and the old Greenwood business district in particular with historic photographs.

Once heralded as "The Negro Wall Street of America," the black business district at Greenwood Avenue and Archer Street has fallen on hard times since integration.

The second exhibit, "From Tallasai to Tulsa," traces Creek Indian history in the area. The city grew from a Creek settlement founded after the tribe moved here from Alabama and Georgia in the 1820s, Annabelle Mon-

nett, museum curator, pointed out.

"We want to have permanent exhibit on the three cultures of Tulsa, the Indian, and black and white," Mrs. Monnett added.

Free refreshments will be served and the movie "Tulsa" will be shown after the opening.

Hotpoint

**REFRIGERATOR
SALE**



Several
Brands
On Display
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EASY TERMS &
INSTANT CREDIT

**CHANEY
APPLIANCES**
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HEADQUARTERS
5009 E. Admiral Pl.
835-8428

Easter Egg Roll 'Real' This Year

WASHINGTON (AP) — With Jimmy Carter, youngsters will get real eggs, not the plastic imitations used on the White House lawn during the past two Easter egg rolls.

About four dozen eggs will be provided by the Georgia Egg Commission for the Easter Monday contest on April 11, industry officials said Wednesday.

Children under 8 years of age participate in the event by pushing eggs along a prescribed course on the lawn with spoons. Last year 8,814 children and adults showed up for the egg roll, a decline from 10,230 in 1975. Officials blamed 93-degree heat for the smaller turnout.

