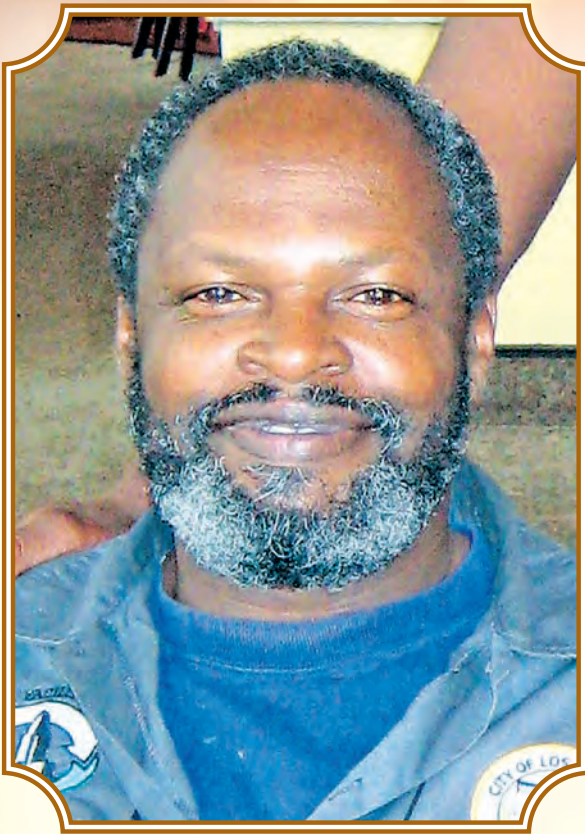


TRIBUTE



Barry Harper

Barry Harper

Member of original City Recycling Program passes away.

Barry Harper, an original member of the City Facilities Recycling Program, died the week of March 13. He was 58.

The City Facilities Recycling Crew began in 1991. He was an integral part of the continued success of the program and always encouraged City employees to recycle.

Additionally, Barry worked as part of the General Services custodial staff from 1989 to 1996.

Barry was a dedicated City employee for more than 22 years and will be especially missed by the entire CFRP staff and the employees of the City buildings he serviced. He is survived by his mother, Amy Whitis; his daughter, Takiesha Harper; grandson, Daonn; and his siblings Josie, Norman, Richard, and Cleveland. He lost his youngest sister Katherine in 2007.

Special thanks to Marivic Sabillo for providing information for this article.



From left: Richard Whiteman, John Crowder (now also deceased), Alfonso Lopez, Phil Vega and the late Barry Harper.



From left: the late Barry Harper, Anthony Hill and Phil Vega.

Here are some tributes from coworkers and others who knew him:

"Barry was a great person. He was a hard worker and he did an excellent job of recycling throughout the City. Barry was a 'Starman,' interested in other realms far beyond even what the Hubble telescope could see, so it was always fascinating to talk to him. I will miss Barry, and I know his recycling sites will miss him, too."

**- Karen Higgins,
Programs Manager,
Solid Resources Citywide
Recycling Division**

"I remember Barry as a kind and caring person. He was a quiet and private kind of guy. But when he would open up to someone, he would comment on how he tried to guide his grandson with advice on life and how much he cared for his family. He was also a well-educated, self-taught man when it came to matters of ancient civilizations, religions and the Bible. He was an avid believer in the idea that there was life in the universe besides us, and we would have many discussions on the subject. Some people would think of him as a little bit strange, but that's what made him special. He was a special person, and a part of our recycling family. He was one of the original recyclers that started the program. He helped take an idea and make it an award-winning program. You will be missed, Space Man."

**- Phillip Vega,
City Facilities Recycling Crew Member**

"It is with our deepest sorrow that we reflect on the passing of Barry; our entire Sanitation family will miss him."

**- Enrique C. Zaldivar,
Director, Public Works/Sanitation**

"The Bureau of Sanitation family is deeply saddened by the passing of Barry. Barry was an exemplary employee who worked tirelessly on improving recycling collection in the City. We will miss him tremendously and we extend our deepest sympathies to his mother, Amy, and daughter, Takiesha, and the entire Harper family during their time of grief."

**- Alexander E. Helou,
Assistant Director, Sanitation**

"The staff at Robertson Branch remembers Barry with great fondness. He always greeted us with a friendly smile and he was happy to see us -- each and every time. Barry performed his job so well, he came regularly to relieve us of so many boxes, paper and plastics, where would we have been without his consistent help? We send

his family our deepest condolences, and we would want them to know that we loved seeing him as well and we shall miss him and his happy booming voice very much."

**- Carol Duan and staff from the
Robertson Branch Library**

"Barry was a great person and a hardworking, reliable, honest employee. He always had a smile when I saw him. He was family to the City Facilities Recycling Program, and the Bureau, and will be missed by all of us in his extended family as well. My deepest sympathies to his mother and daughter."

**- Karen Coca, Division Manager,
Solid Resources Citywide Recycling
Division, Sanitation**

"He was our person, and he was always very helpful and brought a smile. He would often bring us treats and staff would bring him treats. He took care of us. We will miss his positive outlook on life."

**- Carole Kealoha,
Mar Vista Branch Library**

"I will always remember Barry having a smile on his face when he would walk into the office, no matter how difficult the day was. He always worked hard to get people to recycle properly in such a friendly way. He will definitely be missed."

**- Marivic Sabillo,
City Facilities Recycling Crew
Coordinator, Solid Resources
Citywide Recycling Division**



The City Facilities Recycling Crew, back row from left: Gerald Harris, Terrance Martin, Phil Vega, the late Barry Harper, Romance Harper, Charles Chapman, Rick Muñoz and Angel Rubio. Middle row: Damon Jackson, Erika Cabrera, Elmer Smith, Eduardo Gonzales, Jack Conway, Carlos Sanchez, Alejandro Orea and Alfonso Lopez. Front: Marivic Sabillo, Karen Higgins and Karen Coca.

The City Employees Club of Los Angeles
Paying tribute to those who gave their lives in service.