

# Edgar Carson Harrell

Born 1934 - Died 2023



After a far-ranging career in the foreign service, business, teaching and entrepreneurial development, Edgar C. Harrell, age 89, died in Washington, DC on October 31, 2023. He was born in Baltimore September 6, 1934, attended Dickinson College (BS 1955), and served three years in the Navy before venturing to Japan and India with Rohm and Haas. His experience in Asia of the late 1950s sparked his interest in development work, and in 1962 he began a PhD program in economics at Columbia University where he met his wife of 58 years, Paula, in Japanese language class. In 1965, they moved to Japan for two years before Ed joined the State Department serving briefly in Japan, then as USAID economist in Thailand, Mission Director in Jordan,

followed by a DC- based job establishing USAID's new Bureau of Private Enterprise. After retiring from State, Ed taught at Dickinson and Johns Hopkins, helped establish a new university in Harrisburg, Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, and served on a host of advisory boards from Penn State to the PACE/Shidler center at the University of Hawaii. He was a willing advisor to entrepreneurs of all ages, including not only early-stage startup hopefuls, but youngsters in Honolulu middle schools. Ed and his sons, Erik, Philip, and Matthew established a family venture capital fund, Harrell Capital Partners, in 2001. Ed is survived by his wife, sons, and dear daughters-in-law, Brooke Harrell and Liz Harrell, and grandchildren Andrew, Emilia, Tommy, Mattias, Carson, Libby, Anna, Emma, Julia and Tessa, the best legacy of all. Services will be private.