



Milt Harper Jr. Papers (C4817)

Collection Number: C4817

Collection Title: Milt Harper Jr. Papers

Dates: 1964-1973, 1988, 2016

Creator: Harper, Milt, Jr., 1944-2016

Abstract: The papers of a local Columbia, Mo. prosecuting attorney, circuit judge, and talent booker. The records include photographs, contracts, publications, financial documents, and miscellaneous materials. Also includes one folder of funeral service materials.

Collection Size: 0.6 cubic foot, 5 oversize items
(17 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research but may be stored offsite. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Milt Harper Jr. Papers* (C4817); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The records were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Deanna Harper on June 30, 2025 (Accession No. CA6764).

Alternate Forms Available: A copy of the *Show-Me Blowout!* zine is available online at: <https://digital.shsmo.org/digital/collection/p17228coll40/id/2522/rec/1>.

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Collection can be found in the following collections:

[*Michael Cochran Papers*](#), (CA6803)

[*Columbia \(Mo.\) Concerts and Events Collection*](#), (C4728)

[*George W. Parker Papers*](#), (C4788)

Processed by: Autumn Cuddy, September 18, 2026

Historical Note:

Milton E. Harper, Jr., was born on January 8, 1944, in Hannibal, Missouri. His parents were Milton E. Harper, Sr., and Blanche Dean Perkins. Harper graduated from Hannibal High School in 1961 and attended the University of Missouri, from which he earned a bachelor's degree in 1967 and a law degree in 1970. He was a member of the University's ROTC program and served in the U.S. Army and the Army Reserve.

Harper's law career began with admittance to the Missouri Bar, U.S. District Court for the Western District in 1970 and continued to the U.S. Supreme Court in 2004. In Boone County, Harper was a practicing attorney for 40 years, working as a prosecutor (1972-1978) and an associate circuit judge (1978-1982). In 1983, he founded his own law firm – later Harper, Evans, Hilbrenner & Netemeyer – where he practiced in personal injury law, criminal defense law, and divorce law.

While attending the University of Missouri Law School, Harper started a musical act booking agency to help offset educational costs. His business, Central Booking Agency, handled the contracts and booking of dozens of mid-Missouri bands, primarily those in Columbia, Moberly, and the surrounding cities, for a small commission. Most notably, Harper negotiated a contract for Ike and Tina Turner to perform at the University of Missouri in 1965. Central Booking Agency ceased the bulk of its business around 1968, at the insistence of Law School administrators.

Harper married Deanna Ward on April 30, 1978, and had two children: Joseph and Sara. He passed on July 19, 2016, in Columbia.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following 3 series:

Central Booking Agency

Personal Papers
Oversize Materials

Scope and Content Note:

Central Booking Agency

This series contains materials related to Harper's talent booking agency, which he operated during his years attending the University of Missouri law school, including correspondence, promotional material, band flyers and photographs, financial records, and miscellaneous business papers, 1964-1972. Also included is a retrospective zine created by Deke Dickerson which covers a number of Columbia teenage rock bands from the 1960s and includes information found in other records within this collection, 1988.

Personal Papers

This series contains ephemeral items from Harper's funeral service in 2016.

Oversize

The oversize series includes promotional posters from the 1960s.

Container List:

Central Booking Agency

- | | |
|-------|--|
| f. 1 | Band Promotional Photos, 1965-1968 |
| f. 2 | Booking Schedules, 1966-1968 |
| f. 3 | Business Cards, 1960s |
| f. 4 | Commissions, 1965-1969 |
| f. 5 | Contracts, November 1964-June 1966 |
| f. 6 | Contracts, 1965-1966, 1970, 1972 |
| f. 7 | Correspondence, Allen Bell, America's Best Attractions, 1965-1966 |
| f. 8 | Correspondence, Jim Mills, General American Productions, 1965-1966 |
| f. 9 | Correspondence, Mike Webb, Central Booking Agency, 1965 |
| f. 10 | Fairyland Productions, 1967-1969 |
| f. 11 | Goldilocks & the Three Bears, 1964-1968, 2012 |
| f. 12 | Ledger, 1964-1969 |
| f. 13 | Mailing Lists, 1965-1967 |
| f. 14 | Promotional Flyers, 1965-1973 |
| f. 15 | Rosters, c. 1966 |
| f. 16 | Zine, <i>Show-Me Blowout!</i> , no. 2, 1988 |

Personal Papers

f. 17 Funeral materials, 2016

Oversize Materials

item 1 Promotional poster, The Palace Guard, 1960s
 item 2-3 Promotional poster, The Astronauts, 1960s
 item 4 Promotional poster, Derby Revue starring Tommy and the Derbies, The Derbettes, and Lee Vester Haynes, 1960s
 item 5 Promotional poster, Freddie Tieken, 1960s

Index:

Index Terms	Folder	Image
The 2 Plus 2 Club (St. Louis, Mo.)	3, 14	
Aesop and the Fables (band)	1	Yes
Aesop and the Fables (band)	1-3, 14, 16	
The Apollos (band)	2, 3	
The Apparitions (band)	16	
The Beau Micks (band)	2, 3, 14	
The Clann (band)	2, 14, 16	
The Classmen [Klassmen] (band)	2, 3, 14	
The Coachmen (band)	2, 3, 14, 16	
Cristie's Critters (band)	1	Yes
Cristie's Critters (band)	1, 3, 16	
The Dalton Gang (band)	2, 3, 14	
Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts (band)	1	Yes
Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts (band)	1, 3	
Eric the Red & the Vikings (band)	16	
The Fabulous Bossmen (band)	5, 14, 16	
Fairyland Productions	10, 16	
The Federal Duck (band)	3, 14	
Freddie Tieken and the Rockers (band)	1	Yes
Freddie Tieken and the Rockers (band)	1, 2, 14	
The Gaylords (band)	3, 14	
General American Records (Columbia, Mo.)	16	
Goldilocks and the Three Bears (band)	11	Yes
Goldilocks and the Three Bears (band)	3, 5, 11, 16	
Harper, Milt, Jr., 1944-2016	1-17	
Horlick, Maynard	16	
Ian and Sylvia (band)	1	Yes

Index Terms	Folder	Image
The Jaguars (band)	3, 5, 16	
The Krazy Kats (band)	5, 16	
Leopold, Glenn	16	
The Morning Dew (band)	16	
The Nomadds (band)	3, 5	
The Norsemen (band)	2, 3, 16	
The Ovaitt Brothers (band)	2, 14	
Plato and the Philosophers (band)	2, 16	
Rebel Rousers (band)	2, 3, 16	
Rennau, Lou	11	Yes
Rennau, Lou	3, 5, 11, 16	
The Righteous Brothers (band)	1	Yes
Robbins, Vernie	1	Yes
The Romans (band)	16	
Ronnie and the Daytonas (band)	16	
The Sound Farm (band)	14	
The St-Johns (band)	1	Yes
The St-Johns (band)	1, 2, 14, 16	
The Standells (band)	16	
Tieken, Freddie	1	Yes
Turner, Ike	6, 14	
Turner, Tina	6, 14	
The Vandals (band)	16	