

In Memory of Franco Harris



The Heinz family and members of the board and staff of The Heinz Endowments are deeply saddened by the news of Franco's passing, and our hearts go out to his family. Like so many in this town whose strength and spirit he embodied, we have lost a friend and an inspiration. Franco is rightly known as a football legend, but he was also a civic hero who worked diligently and selflessly to lift up our youth and improve our community through his many acts of quiet service, including as board chair of the Pittsburgh Promise.

Around our board table at the Endowments, where he served for 19 years, he was always a kind but forceful voice for the less fortunate and for those struggling to find their way. We will be forever grateful for his generosity of spirit and for the many ways in which he made our work and our community better. We will miss him dearly, but we are so grateful to have known him.

André Heinz
Board Chairman
The Heinz Endowments

[Franco Harris obituary](#)

[Steelers Hall of Fame running back Franco Harris dies at 72](#)

['Much more than just a football player': Franco Harris remembered fondly by fans, Pittsburgh icons and more](#)