



Carol Lee Bowers

December 8, 1945 - July 7, 2021

Carol Bowers has gone to a better place -- and we do not mean Vegas to play Roulette. She was surrounded by family and friends throughout her final days, sharing stories, laughs, and even a song or two.

The ultimate survivor, having stared down multiple cancers, quadruple bypass, diabetes, 3 obnoxious brothers, and a steady diet of Theatre popcorn, she finally decided it was time to let the "battle be His" -- and in that, she found her peace.

She often said, "All I ever wanted to be was a good wife and mother." Well, the following people can confirm she was the best at both: Survived by her husband, Larry Bowers (who she repeatedly said she would live with in a cardboard box, but grateful she didn't have to); daughter, Lori (Bob) Malfara; son, Robert (Nicole) Bowers; and 4 grandkids: Nichole and Andrea Malfara and Ava and Nicholas Bowers; brothers Jack (Monica), Herb, Gene (DeeDee) Rhoades and her sister Kathy Graven.

Her interests were varied, and ranged from Ceramics and Travel to Bunko and Boggle. But, by far, her favorite "past-time" was just being with the love of her life and "visiting" with her "kids" - who were always greeted by a jovial, "Hello my honey!" No matter the weight of the circumstance, her initial response to "How you doin'?" was always a kind and gentle, "Fine." And, you know,

because of that attitude (and the strength it expressed so simply yet eloquently), somehow WE were all "fine," too! We can all admit that Moms are real-life superheroes - and THAT was her super-power: Her ability to convince you that everything was going to be just "fine."

Hers could have easily been a story of struggle ... bad luck ... even tragedy. But because of whatever mixture of faith, hope, love, family, humor, and maybe even a dash of blissful ignorance she had, hers instead was a story of JOY. Whether you knew her as Carol, Carol Lee, Aunt Carol, Leak, Sis, Ma, Gram, Grammy, or Honey, you knew JOY. With a dimple-dashed smile that could light any darkness, she showed us that JOY -- and it is for that JOY that those who had the privilege of knowing her will forever be grateful.

... and that "hum" of her JOY will forever ring in our ears.

She was preceded in death by her parents Glen and Ruth Rhoades, her sister Mary McGovern, and Babe, Cuddles, and Honey Bun Inky Bowers.

Friends may visit at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Road on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 from 3-8 p.m. A Funeral Mass will begin at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 5856 Heatherdowns Blvd., Toledo, OH 43614 at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 14. Committal services will follow in Highland Memory Gardens.

Those wishing to make a memorial contribution in Carols name are asked to consider either St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, St. Ursula Academy or to the American Cancer Society.

Please view and sign Carol's online guest registry at www.coylefuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Highland Memory Gardens

8308 S River Rd
Waterville, Oh 43566

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 13. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral Home
1770 S. Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH 43614

Mass

JUL 14. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Joan Of Arc
5856 Heatherdowns Blvd
Toledo, OH

Tribute Wall

LM

“ Thank you, everyone, for posting such kind words and beautiful memories about my mom. She was such a special woman. My heart aches but we are grateful for every moment we were able to spend with her. Mom’s radiant smile and love will live on in our hearts. ❤️❤️

Lori Malfara - July 23, 2021 at 10:48 PM

JM

“ Larry-(Bill Pepper) So sorry to hear of your wife Carol's passing, worked with you for a long time and know how hard this must be for you. Though I never met your wife you always spoke of her so highly, I know she must have been very special!. If you ever want to talk I'd love to hear from you. Jim Murray

jim murray - July 13, 2021 at 03:11 PM



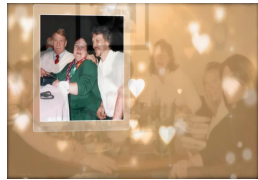
“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Carol Lee Bowers.



July 13, 2021 at 08:53 AM

CV

“ 1 file added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



COYLE FUNERAL HOME VIDEOS - July 11, 2021 at 10:07 PM

VP

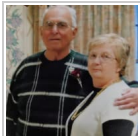
Absolutely beautiful...

Victoria Pendleton - July 12, 2021 at 09:03 AM

BW

If only the world had her enormous love of people and life, what a wonderful place this world would be. Each person who knew her has lost a shining star and beam of sunshine. Carol had the soul of an angel. What a loss to all that loved her. May she rest in heavenly peace!

Bevie (Bubbie) Wiese - July 12, 2021 at 09:12 AM



“ So many good memories to crowd out the sadness of her loss.
Prayers to all the family . Dee and Ralph Fifer

Ralph-Dee Fifer - July 11, 2021 at 07:23 PM

CV

“ 1 file added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



COYLE FUNERAL HOME VIDEOS - July 11, 2021 at 04:23 PM

JG

“ Sincere condolences to Carol's great family and many friends.

Janie and John Grady - July 10, 2021 at 09:53 AM

DP

“ I only knew Carol from being the receptionist at Shear Dimensions , but she was the way a person should be in greeting someone at a business. She was always smiling, always kind, you actually felt like you were her best friend. I missed seeing her when she retired but her memory will live on for a very long time, Rest in Peace carol.
Deb Parsons

Debra Parsons - July 10, 2021 at 08:16 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Carol Lee Bowers.



July 09, 2021 at 07:57 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Carol Lee Bowers.



July 09, 2021 at 02:06 PM

DH

“ I have fond memories from my childhood, when our families were neighbors in Scottsdale, AZ, of Carol's infectious smile and joyful laugh. A wonderful person, and a good friend to My mother. My deepest condolences to all.

- David Hlavinka

David Hlavinka - July 09, 2021 at 11:53 AM

JB

“ We were lucky recipients of Carol's joy for 60 years! The love she shared with us was truly more precious than any man's treasure! We cherish her memory and hold her in our hearts always!

Jim & Sharon Brewer

Jim & Sharon Brewer - July 09, 2021 at 10:29 AM

LC

“ Love Barry and Lee Ann Chute purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Carol Lee Bowers.



Love Barry and Lee Ann Chute - July 08, 2021 at 05:54 PM

CD

“ What a great tribute. It's must've been difficult to compress Carol in a few short paragraphs. For a such a small woman, she sure lived large! We know she is proud of each and every one of you. You loved her well.

Chris and Donna - July 08, 2021 at 04:07 PM

FW

For all that was said of Carol's life in her OB, was exactly as we saw in her too. The few times that we were able to see her and talk, starting in the 60's, she was always a jovial lady, in good or difficult times. Our condolences to entire family.

Frank and Deb Wiese - July 11, 2021 at 10:08 AM