



David Patrick Wernert

March 17, 1947 - December 22, 2025

David Patrick Wernert, age 78, of Toledo, passed away on December 22, 2025 at Ebeid Center, following a brief illness, surrounded by his loving family.

Dave was born on March 17, 1947 to Rosemary and James Wernert.

He was a 1965 graduate of Central Catholic High School. Immediately following graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he served on the U.S.S. Canberra, making four round trips across the Pacific back and forth to Vietnam, earning the National Defense Service medal. Following his honorable discharge, Dave pursued his 29-year career with the Toledo Fire Department, including many proud years as a Life Squad Paramedic. He spent the last few years of his active duty serving in the "Fireman Freddy" educational program, where he was affectionately known as "Fireman Dave" throughout the Toledo elementary schools, working closely with the Toledo Safe Kids program. Following his retirement, Dave volunteered his time with the Toledo Police Department's Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) program, paying check-up visits to seniors in the community.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Rosie and Jim Wernert; loving brothers Skip and Steve Wernert; niece Nancy Wernert; and in-laws Rita and Bill Neeb.

Surviving Dave to cherish his memory are his wife, Kathy Wernert; his adored daughter Michelle (Maggie) Wernert; step-son Michael (Shawn) Headley; awesome grandchildren Lucas, Sasha, and Parker; brother Tony (Kay) Wernert; sisters-in-law Mary Kay and JoAn Wernert; many very special

nieces, nephews, and cousins (Wernerts, Hickeys, Wenzlers); and brothers-in-law Tom (Sue) Neeb and Mike (Vanessa) Neeb.

Dave loved golf, anything and everything "Notre Dame," and most especially every precious moment at the Wernert cabin "up north." He had a thespian side, having grown up in a theatrical family and being in many of his mother's adapted plays with Cathedral Players to Fireside Players. He and his brothers were founding members of Half-Ass Productions, where celebratory comical SNL-type skits were put on for family, neighbors, and friends in backyards, garages, basements, and halls across town. He had an amazing circle of friends with whom he enjoyed innumerable cabin trips, good times at Lake St. Clair, North Carolina mountain golf courses, Toronto, day trips, board games, many historically significant (!) and memorable St. Patrick's Day birthday celebrations, and an occasional vodka and tonic.

The family would love to have you join them for a visitation on Tuesday, January 6, 2026, from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd., where a Toledo Fire Department Last Alarm Service will be held at 6:00 p.m. A Funeral Mass will begin on Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. at Little Flower Catholic Church, 5522 Dorr St. Entombment will be at Resurrection Cemetery.

Those wishing to make a memorial contribution in Dave's name may want to consider the Toledo Firefighters Museum where he spent many wonderful hours in "Jed's Room" teaching fire safety to Toledo's youngsters.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 6. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Mass

JAN 7. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Little Flower Catholic Church
5562 Dorr St.
Toledo, OH 43615

Tribute Wall

LN

“ *Kathy, very sad to hear of Dave's passing. Many prayers to you and Dave. I wish you strength and blessings today. Dave always had that infectious smile and a great attitude in life.*
Sincerely, Larry & Stacey Nester

Larry Nester - January 06 at 12:46 PM

WH

“ *Kathy and family, Sue and I are very sorry to hear of Dave's passing. We, and I especially have many, many, fond memories of him and the entire Wernert clan while growing up. Little did we know that Dave and I would continue our relationship as adult coworkers at Toledo Fire even going through the drill tower together as new recruits. Dave was quite a character and will not soon be forgotten. Please know that you and all of family are in our thoughts during this difficult time.*
Bill and Sue Hickey

William Hickey - January 06 at 08:33 AM

EO

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Emilie Owens - January 05 at 12:46 PM

EO

“ Dear Kathy, Michelle, Tony, and the rest of the Wernert Family: We were so very sorry to hear of cousin Dave's sudden passing! Such a happy and good man. He embraced life with wonderful laughter and joy! And used his many talents to help others and share his joy. It sounds as though his suffering was short and he is surely at peace in the arms of his God. And, just think of the welcoming committee!! Aunt Rosie & Uncle Jim, Skip & Steve, Margaret & Dorothy, Aunt Fay & Uncle Walt, Grandma Lillian, Aunt Bernie, Josephine & Otto and six Wenzler cousins, and Father Bob Wilhelm, and hundreds of other who knew and loved him!! Sending tears & hugs, Emilie Wenzler Owens & Ralph

Emilie Owens - January 05 at 12:46 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of David Patrick Wernert.



January 05 at 10:28 AM

TF

“ The Owens/Wenzler family purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of David Patrick Wernert.



The Owens/Wenzler family - January 05 at 10:21 AM

JG

“ Shocked and saddened to receive this unexpected news. Spuds was always so joyful to see his buddies, and always ready with a funny story. He was an example of God's finest work. Sincere condolences to his family and many, many, MANY friends.

Janie and John Grady - January 04 at 09:43 AM

CA

“ Chris Anderson purchased the Simply Elegant Sp
athiphyllum for the family of David Patrick
Wernert.



Chris Anderson - January 03 at 12:29 PM

CA

“ Chris Anderson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Patrick Wernert.

Chris Anderson - January 03 at 12:29 PM

JS

“ Kathy and family...So sad to hear the news of Dave's passing. Great man. Funniest guy I knew. Looked up to him. Always enjoyed anytime I saw him over the years. A very loved man. Doesn't get any better than that. Rest in peace brother and see you in the next life.

John J. Szychowski - January 02 at 10:59 PM

PM

“ Phil, Jan & Matt planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Patrick Wernert.

Phil, Jan & Matt - January 02 at 08:31 AM

PM

“ Phil, Jan & Matt purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of David Patrick Wernert.



Phil, Jan & Matt - January 02 at 08:31 AM

LF

“ Love, Linda Good, Lisa Horn & families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of David Patrick Wernert.



Love, Linda Good, Lisa Horn & families - December 30, 2025 at 07:03 PM

AM

“ Dave was my hero. He was the best friend to my brother John throughout his whole life. There was nothing Dave wouldn't do for John, he was always there and they had a great time together; always with jokes, laughter, and great stories. I will be eternally grateful to Dave for what he did for our family into my eyes. Dave could do no wrong.

Anne Mahoney - December 30, 2025 at 06:58 PM

CA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



craig Ames - December 30, 2025 at 05:07 PM

CA

“ Hi daves family, this is Craig Ames i was in the 1974 toledo fire department recruitment class with dave, i have a original pictuue of part of that class with dave, my self and a few other f.f. 's, no buddy has this picture but me ,i would love to send it to u, i was sad to hear of dave's passing ,a great f.f. and person, he was so funny and his life from military service to all the charitable work on and for the zhe t.f.d. he did, god bless him.



ctaig Ames - December 30, 2025 at 05:03 PM

JD

“ David and I were partners for awhile on LS 1. There was never a day that you worked with David that you didn't know that at least some of it was going to be lighthearted. He carried that over to the Fireman Freddy program. David played hard and worked hard.I feel lucky to have known him and worked with him. He will be missed

Jim Dugan - December 27, 2025 at 10:55 PM

JF

“ Davey, You were my hero. I also had the honor of serving the community in the position of Fireman Freddie, aka Fireman Fergie. I can thank Davey for sending me down the education road. Both at the fire museum, but also with Safe Kids of Greater Toledo. You were the best. I couldn't have asked for a better teacher. I knew I'd never be as good as you, but you gave me a goal to aim for. Thank you, Davey. You will be missed, but never forgotten.

James Ferguson - December 27, 2025 at 03:17 PM

BB

“ Rest in peace Dave.
Unfortunately Sue and I did not have many years to enjoy your warmth, humour, and loving spirit. What time we did have will always be cherished and remembered. Jesus wrap your arms around Kathy during this sad.time.
Love Bill & Sue

Bill Babel - December 27, 2025 at 01:58 PM

CR

“ Dear Kathy,

Bernie and I are so very sorry to learn of your loss of Dave. He was a good soul! Loved by all who were honored to know him. Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs.
Love and prayers, Carlene and Bernie Ragle

Carlene Ragle - December 24, 2025 at 05:37 PM

GE

“ Kathy, thinking of you with heartfelt sympathy. I considered Dave a lifelong friend. From Rosary Cathedral, CCHS and onward, his friendship was a true gift. His kindness and humor touched everyone around him. May you find comfort in the love that surrounds you and, in the legacy, he leaves behind. Gary Earl

Gary Earl - December 24, 2025 at 12:20 PM

BS

*Kathy,
I'm so sorry for your loss.
Take solace in the words of Jesus when He said that He was going to prepare a place for us in His Father's House.
Dave is basking in the Glory of his Lord. Bill Steele*

Bill Steele - December 25, 2025 at 11:59 AM

MA

“ *Dave was a special guy. He was always upbeat and smiling. Kathy I am so sorry for your loss. I know firsthand how difficult it is. May he rest in peace. Mike Amstutz.*

Mike Amstutz - December 24, 2025 at 10:07 AM

MP

“ *Dear Kathy,
Joe and I are shocked and saddened to read of Dave's passing. It's hard to picture him as anything other than a smiling, hearty, and engaging classmate and friend. May he be at rest in the loving arms of Jesus, and may you and your family find comfort in your treasure-filled memories and dreams. God bless you through this difficult journey and beyond.
Mary and Joe Pierce*

Mary Pierce - December 24, 2025 at 09:23 AM

AJ

“ No words can express how heartbroken we are over Dave's passing. We have shared so many wonderful memories together that there are too many to count, but our annual Fall trips to the cabin rank at the top! So glad we made it there in October and had such a wonderful time, especially our afternoon on the deck playing Euchre in beautiful Fall weather. That memory will never fade. You are all in our thoughts and prayers, with much love!
Alyce and Jeff Juby

Alyce and Jeff Juby - December 23, 2025 at 05:38 PM

TF

Dave was one of the best FireFighter/ParaMedics I ever worked with. He was "One Of The Brotherhood" that merry band of fools who run into danger while others are fleeing. Rest Easy My Brother.

Tom Farley - December 24, 2025 at 09:15 PM

JT

So sorry to hear of Dave's passing my heart goes out to you Kathy and family. We have a lot of great memories and I hope all your wonderful memories will bring you peace. DAVE was a a funny and wonderful guy he truly will be missed!

John and Vicki Tabaka - January 04 at 08:08 AM