



## Gerald Rossman

September 18, 1927 - December 7, 2020

Gerald "Jerry" R. Rossman, 93, of Toledo passed away Monday, December 7, 2020, at Hospice of NW Ohio in Toledo, Ohio.

Jerry was born on September 18, 1927 to Alma and Arthur Rossman in their home located in Toledo, Ohio. A 1946 graduate of Genoa High School, Jerry's first job after high school was with the Electric Auto-Lite Company (1946-1953) performing general factory work, inspection, and tool design. Included in two of those six years of employment (1951-1952), Jerry served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War. The following three- and one-half years were spent at Tillotson Carburetors as a Tool Designer. Jerry then worked at the Devilbiss Company in Toledo, Ohio (1957 - 1989), retiring after 32 years as a Manufacturing Engineer.

In 1949, Jerry was introduced to Phyllis Jean Burkett while roller-skating at the Coliseum on Summit Street in Toledo. They began to meet there two to three times a week. They were married on July 12, 1952 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Monroe, Michigan. Their honeymoon took them to Washington, D.C., Niagara Falls, the Skyline Drive in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, and to the Smokey Mountains of Tennessee.

A favorite pastime of Jerry's and Phyllis' was to travel and dance with the Johnny Knorr Orchestra. They were regular attendees of the dances held at Centennial Terrace in Sylvania, Ohio. Jerry and Phyllis also enjoyed traveling with their family. Annual vacations in the family station wagon took them from Florida to California. Highlights included anywhere out West, such as the

Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon National Park, Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Tetons and Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Other memorable trips included Hawaii, the World's Fair of 1967 in Montreal, Canada, touring the New England States and the Atlantic coast. After their children were raised, Jerry and Phyllis continued their joy of travelling with trips to the Canadian Rockies, six Caribbean cruises, and a family vacation to Disney World. In 2011, Jerry was invited to travel with the Society of Jesus on a trip to Spain and Italy, visiting the Roman Coliseum, the Vatican, Assisi, the Roman catacombs, Montserrat and more.

Retirement was complimented with seasonal part-time employment. During the school year, Jerry was the parking lot attendant at St. John's Jesuit High School, and the school's Sacristan (1995 - 2018). Jerry often said, "this is the perfect retiree job!" In the summer months, he performed pool maintenance at the Bernath Village Condominium swimming pool. When he was off the clock, time was spent with family sharing his love of NASCAR (a Jeff Gordon fan), attending his grandchildren's sporting events, camping, Frankenmuth MI, and frequent trips to McDonalds.

On September 25, 2012, Jerry travelled to Washington, D.C. with Honor Flight of Northwest Ohio. All three Rossman brothers, Jerry, Leonard and Kenneth, along with good friend, Ed Shabnow, travelled together. Jerry said, "What a thrill that was to be able to take such a trip!"

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 56 years, Phyllis J. (Burkett) Rossman, and grandson, Donald J. Rossman. Jerry is survived by his brothers, Leonard C. Rossman of Sylvania, and Kenneth E. (Patricia) Rossman of Eaton, Ohio, his three children, David A. (Diana) Rossman, Deborah J. Overton, and Brenda C. (Wayne) Welling, eight grandchildren, Brittany (Tim), Shannon (Brad), Melissa (Adam), Dustin (Fe), Meggin (Jen), Dane (Chey), Darcy and Sean, and fourteen great-grandchildren.

The family requests contributions are made to St. Patrick of Heatherdowns Parish, or St. John's Jesuit High School.

There will be a private family visitation at Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S.

Reynolds Rd. on Monday, December 28, from 5:30-7 p.m. with a Scripture service at 6 p.m. The funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 29 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Patrick of Heatherdowns Church, with burial at Resurrection Cemetery. Masks and social distancing is required. Please leave a condolence message for the family at [CoyleFuneralHome.com](http://CoyleFuneralHome.com).

# Previous Events

## Mass

DEC **29**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St Patrick Of Heatherdowns  
4201 Heatherdowns Blvd  
Toledo, OH

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ Prayers & condolences to Jerry’s family. I helped Jerry @ Bernath pools on occasion. One evening I saw him down @ the pool so I went down to see if there was a problem & he was chasing a momma duck & about 5 ducklings, who couldn’t get out of the water. Momma didn’t have a problem but the ducklings just couldn’t jump or fly high enough to get out of the pool. After almost 2 hours of building different ramps we finally got them out, but I’m sure not all survived due to the trauma.

Sometimes when working @ the pool together & he wanted to take a break he’d say “let’s sit on a bench like a couple of old guys & talk about the old days.”

Jerry was a true kind, loving gentleman.

---

**Marty Hauptman** - December 29, 2020 at 11:21 AM

MM

“ Please accept my condolences on Jerry's passing. He was my next door neighbor at Chardonnay until he moved to the apartments. I enjoyed getting to see him a couple of years ago at an event at either the Stranahan or Valentine theatre.

Mary Igoe Meyers  
Chardonnay Village

---

**Mary Igoe Meyers** - December 27, 2020 at 01:53 PM

JP

“ Ken, Leonard, and Family,

*My sympathy and prayers regarding Jerry.*

*Though years and miles separated us, nonetheless, he remained in my thoughts and prayers.*

*In fact, the last time I saw Jerry, he was a guard at St. John's--a long while ago.*

*I regret that I did not take the initiative to get to really know him.*

*I am certain, however, that he was a gift to many.*

*Although too many years have passed, I do know that Jerry was a lover of life, family, beauty, country, and God.*

*He will be missed.*

*In deepest sympathy,  
John and Pauline Darr*

---

**John R. Darr and Pauline** - December 27, 2020 at 12:45 PM

HC

“ *I worked with Jerry, many years, at DeVilbiss Company. He was a very kind individual and was well liked, by many of us, in the manufacturing Department. Once we retired, he was the one, that setup the Spring get-togethers, at Frishe's, on Secor, to enjoy breakfast together. He will be missed, by many of us.*

*My condolences to a his family and hope everyone will share many of the good times, that only Jerry, would have provided. May his Soul, move on, to a better place and leave you with many great memories.*

---

**Harry Chappell** - December 27, 2020 at 09:03 AM

LJ

“ Love: Vince, Meng, Melissa, Aaron, Andrew & Junia purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gerald Rossman.



---

**Love: Vince, Meng, Melissa, Aaron, Andrew & Junia -**  
December 18, 2020 at 11:48 AM

LC

“ I didn't know your father, grandpa, but I did hear many stories from meggin of how funny and loving he was, I am so very sorry for your loss! Sending you all hugs and prayers



---

**leigh cassell -** December 12, 2020 at 11:55 AM

BR

“ Jerry was a kind gentleman and well liked at Kings Pointe Senior Apartments where he delivered newspapers, packages and sometimes mail. Always kind and our Prince Charming!

---

**Brenda -** December 11, 2020 at 07:38 PM

SE

“ Brenda, Butch and family, So sorry for your loss. He was a very kind man. I will attend his mass through SPH website.

*Sharon Beier*

---

**Sharon E.Beier -** December 11, 2020 at 08:24 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gerald Rossman.*



---

December 10, 2020 at 07:53 PM