



Jean Louise Bigler

April 23, 1923 - December 9, 2017

Jean L. Bigler, 94, passed away on December 9, 2017. She was born on April 23, 1923 to John J. Ritz and Jean C. Ritz (Grieve) in Columbus, Ohio. Jean married Raymond Gregory Bigler on December 31, 1945 at Corpus Christi Church in Columbus. She worked at Lennox Furnace, and during World War II helped building airplanes for the war effort.

Together, they moved to Toledo in 1948 and in 1952 built their house that Jean lived in the rest of her life. She worked at OLPH as a school bus driver, and later as school secretary.

Jean and Ray raised eight children; Priscilla Jean (Debien), Raymond Gregory, Thomas Patrick (Suzanne), Robert Eugene, Therese Ann (Dennis Addis), Delbert Michael (Teresa), Edward Joseph, and John Francis. Jean and Ray had 16 grandchildren; Jim, Canute, Amanda (Peaches), Amanda, Julie, Michael, Meghan, Jeremy, Jennifer, Jonathan, Corey, Jason, Jarod, Courtney, Jack, Harry. They also had ten great-grandchildren and four more on the way. Jean enjoyed always being around the water. She loved boating, vacationing on lakes and anything outdoors - she even rode a jet ski at the age of 88. Jean loved to tell the story of taking her kids out on the boat one time by herself, running out of gas, and needing to be towed back in by a nice stranger. Her life revolved around her family, and with eight kids that was a lot of revolving! She truly loved being involved in their activities and with that came numerous stories of who got left behind at what ballgame or in the sandbox. She was devoted to her Catholic faith and a dedicated parishioner at

OLPH. Anyone there would tell you that if they needed something she was the one to see. In her 25 years as school secretary, she was happiest when she could help the students, and to this day is fondly remembered by many of them. The priests at OLPH were some of her best friends - Jean and Ray even co-owned a boat on a Lake Erie with Father Reichart and Father Shepherd. Her favorite leisure time activity was playing euchre and pinochle with friends and family, especially her good friend and next door neighbor Jackie Sutter (who also had 8 children!). Her very close niece Carol Williams was a wonderful comfort, and also a euchre partner. She is survived by her children, her grandchildren, her great-grandchildren, her sister Marjorie Ewing, who has been her best friend her entire life, her brother John Ritz, her sister-in-law Martha Ritz, and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Ray of 58 years, her daughter Priscilla, her grandson Jack Bigler, her brother Tom Ritz, and her 2 cocker spaniels Tuffy and Brandy. Friends may visit at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd. on Wednesday, December 13 from 4-8 p.m. with a Rosary Service at 7:30. The funeral Mass will be celebrated at OLPH Church on Thursday, December 14 at 10:30 a.m. Burial will be at St. Joseph Cemetery, Maumee, Ohio. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to the Ursuline Sisters or OLPH Church. Please leave a condolence message for the family at CoyleFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

St Joseph (Maumee)

104 West Broadway Street
Maumee, OH 43537

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 13. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Rosary

DEC 13. 7:30 PM (ET)

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

Funeral

DEC 14. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
2255 Central Grove
Toledo, OH 43614

Tribute Wall

CA

“ *May all your cherished memories of your love one ‘help you thru this difficult time. Please find comfort in the love and support of family, friends and the beautiful promise at Acts 25:15.*

carrie - December 20, 2017 at 10:31 AM

DH

“ *I Remember Mrs. "B" growing up in the 50s and 60s. She put up with a lot for Tom and I. Always an open house with a lot of love.*

Dave Heilman - December 14, 2017 at 08:18 PM

CT

“ *God's Blessing to a wonderful woman! Mrs. Bigler was such a blessing to so many students, parents, and parishioners of OLPH. Rest in peace and peace to your family.*

Carol Thornton

Carol Thornton - December 13, 2017 at 02:15 PM

CA

“ Nothing but wonderful memories of Mrs. Bigler. I always visited her in the school office my years at olph, 83-90. When my family left she would always tell my Grandma how much she missed me and my brothers.

I had connected with her on facebook a couple of years ago and it was nice to hear from her.

I will always remember her. To her family, I am so sorry. But she impacted a lot of lives for the better. She will always be remembered by everyone at OLPH.

Chad Arthur

Chad Arthur - December 13, 2017 at 11:04 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jean Louise Bigler.



December 13, 2017 at 06:55 AM

MR

“ Wonderful memories is Mrs. Bigler. Starting with my school days at OLPH where she was our bus driver. She always had a smile as we got on the bus no matter the weather or all of us children being loud on the bus. Our children also got to meet Mrs. Bigler as she was the school secretary at OLPH. It is true when ever you needed something or help Mrs. Bigler was always there to help. Your family is truly blessed to have had your mom as long as you did. Wishing her a Wonderful Christmas with your dad in Heaven as they celebrate the birth of Jesus.
Many Blessings to your family.

Peace
Brent and Maggie (Bosch)Reed

Maggie Reed - December 12, 2017 at 08:32 PM

PD

“ One of my fondest memories of attending OLPH was Mrs. Bigler. The smile and twinkle in her eyes always made me feel "ok". RIP; your job here on earth is done.

Patty Dabrowski (Donovan)

Patty Dabrowski - December 12, 2017 at 02:00 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Jean



Jennifer Addis Wren - December 12, 2017 at 01:19 PM

JM

“ *Threse Bigler was one of my best grade school friends. I recall spending many nights there. Always filled with activity and joy that household My deepest condolences to you all. How fortunate you were to have a full life with your mom.*

jan mowka - December 12, 2017 at 12:09 PM

JN

“ *Mrs. Bigler was a wonderful person. Always pleasant, always helpful. Whatever was going on, being in her presence was always calming and reassuring. The students loved her. Everyone did. My condolences to her friends and family.*
Jim Nawrocki

Jim Nawrocki - December 12, 2017 at 12:05 PM

MD

“ *When I was a student at OLPH, Mrs. Bigler was always a kind and gentle-hearted presence in what could sometimes be a scary place for a young person - the front office. Getting called to the office was reason for alarm, but Mrs. Bigler's smile and welcoming presence was always a comfort. Later, when I was older and visited OLPH as an adult, it was wonderful to see Mrs. Bigler at her post with the same gentle smile. It didn't seem possible that OLPH would be able to function without her at the helm. She was a lovely woman who I remember very fondly.*
Mary DeBauche

Mary DeBauche - December 12, 2017 at 09:29 AM

MO

“ Grandma was a beautiful person, her heart was always opened and full of love. She was the amazing grandmother of this kid that arrived to the United States eager to learn another culture and perfect her English. Grandma shared stories with me as well as meals and her love for OLPH. She was very proud that I started my academic career at Notre Dame. For a fervent and pious Catholic as she was, Notre Dame was the ideal place for me. She was right. She wanted to visit the Basilica and I am sorry that she never made it. Nevertheless, I am sure that now her soul is shining high next to Our Lady on the top of the golden dome.

You will be very much missed Grandma Jean, but your unconditional love will always be with us.

*With much love,
María Rosa, Julio, and Ximena*

María Rosa Olivera-Williams - December 11, 2017 at 11:35 PM

TW

“ Memories last forever and we have so many with both you and Chub. You have been a very big part of our family and will be remembered and miss!

Tim & Carol Williams - December 11, 2017 at 09:42 PM