



## Major General (Retired) and Judge J. Ronald Bowman

July 2, 1930 - April 21, 2017

Major General (Retired) and Judge J. Ronald Bowman passed away on Friday, April 21, 2017 at Hospice of Northwest Ohio, Toledo.

He was a soldier, a Judge, a lawyer, a combat veteran, a loving husband, father, grandfather, a community volunteer and servant and sportsman.

He was born in Bucyrus, OH on July 2, 1930, the son of Lawrence F. and Mary Margaret (Gistle) Bowman. He served his nation and state in 42 years of military service, enlisting at 18 years of age and retiring at age 60, including combat service in an infantry rifle company in Korea, for which he was decorated five times, including the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, three Army Commendation Medals with Metal Pendants and three battle stars and the Combat Infantry's Badge. General Bowman is one of very few individuals who have been selected for and has lead or commanded every type of US Army unit from Sergeant to Major General- a squad, a section, a platoon, a company, a battalion, a group, a brigade and a troop command. He also had the distinction of having served in every single US Army rank category-he has served as an ROTC Cadet, a Private, an NCO, a Warrant Officer, a company Grade Officer, a Field Grade Officer and as a General Officer of-the-line.

Judge Bowman was a resident of Lucas County and the City of Toledo for over 70 years where he has been a licensed attorney for the last 55 years. He served as a Judge of the Lucas County Common Pleas Court and prior to that he was first elected Judge of the Housing Court of the Toledo Municipal Court.

He was the past President of the Toledo Bar Association, past President of the Toledo Junior Bar Association, past President of the Toledo Law Association (County Law Library), Fellow of the Ohio State Bar Association Foundation and of the Toledo Bar Association Foundation. He was also the first President of the Lucas County Democratic Lawyers Bar Association.

He was a founder and senior partner in the former Toledo law firm Bowman, Abel, Raitz and Cox and was an owner/developer of the five-story Toledo Legal Building on the Downtown Courthouse Square.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Joan and sister, Barbara Ann Goggans. He is survived by three loving and wonderful children, Cynthia B. (Sonny) Oyler of Louisville, KY, James R. "Jamie" Bowman Jr. and Brenda D. (Ed) Ridl of Dunwoody, GA; and brother, Thomas L. (Eleanor) Bowman. He also was blessed by 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Friends may visit at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd., on Monday, April 24th from 5-8 p.m. and Tuesday, April 25th from 2-8 p.m. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, April 26th at 1:00 pm.in the mortuary. Interment Toledo Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Northwest Ohio, the University of Toledo College of Law or the donor's choice. Please view and sign our online "guest registry" at [CoyleFuneralHome.com](http://CoyleFuneralHome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Toledo Memorial Park

6382 Monroe St  
Sylvania, OH 43560

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR **24**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral and Cremation Services  
1770 S. Reynolds Road  
Toledo, OH 43614  
(419) 865-1295  
<https://www.coylefuneralhome.com>

## Visitation

APR **25**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral and Cremation Services  
1770 S. Reynolds Road  
Toledo, OH 43614  
(419) 865-1295  
<https://www.coylefuneralhome.com>

## Service

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APR **26**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral and Cremation Services

1770 S. Reynolds Road

Toledo, OH 43614

(419) 865-1295

<https://www.coylefuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall

TT

“ *Cindy, Jamie, and Brenda*  
*Our deepest condolences. Praying for you*  
*and your families.*  
*From the families of Tim Rynn and Tina*  
*(Rynn) Tregaskis*



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**Tina Tregaskis** - April 30, 2017 at 05:08 AM

RL

“ *I had the privilege of trying several big high profile cases with Judge*  
*Bowman. Justice was always his goal. Loved his stories. Hope he is*  
*playing golf with Judge Skow in heaven. Very sorry to hear he is*  
*gone.*

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**Russ Leffler** - April 27, 2017 at 06:35 PM

SK

“ *To Tom and Eleanor -- Sincere thoughts are with you in your grief --*  
*so many years - Shirley Kern*

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**Shirley Kern** - April 26, 2017 at 03:13 PM



“ *Richard Zink lit a candle in memory of Major*  
*General (Retired) and Judge J. Ronald*  
*Bowman*



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**Richard Zink** - April 24, 2017 at 05:35 PM



*My deepest deepest sympathies to the family (Cindy, Jamie, and Brenda) of Mr. Bowman. It is so sad. To lose both your parents in such a short time. I would love to go to the Funeral, but I was told not to complicate things. I am praying for you all. I would love to tell you about this " Vision" I received from Paula , my Fiance', 5 mins. after she died from Cancer. I was outside her room in the Hospice. Well, I was crying my eyes out, and I HEARD her call my name ! She said " Rick, Rick" , I looked up to the right, and there she was ! Like from the shoulders up kind of thing. She was just BEAMING with JOY ! She was soooo Happy. Smiling like I have never seen ! Very beautiful, looking younger than I knew her. Kind of like Jesus's age. She was just Radiant ! She was surrounded by this hard to describe white light. She said, " There Is A Light , There Is A Light", twice. I was in a daze and just repeated it. I said there is a light. She nodded her head yes. She just smiled hugely, so incredibly beautifully at me for a while, then looked off towards the Light. She had such a look of LONGING on her face. A look of LOVE, of HAPPINESS. I knew I shouldn't but I had to look, too. There was nothing, and when I looked back, she was gone. That's it. So there really is a Light!*

Richard Zink - April 24, 2017 at 05:53 PM

HM

“ *My parents and I send condolences to you and your family, Cindy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and yours during this very difficult time.*

*Sincerely,  
The Moore Family, KY*

Heather Moore - April 24, 2017 at 11:42 AM

EB

“ *My deepest condolences to the family of Ron Bowman. My late husband and I were good friends. My thoughts are with the family. May he rest in peace.*

*Sincerely, Ethel Bondy*

Ethel Bondy - April 24, 2017 at 10:18 AM

PP

“ Cindy, James and Brenda,

*So very sorry for the losses of both your Mother and Father in such a short time. Dee and I have been close friends for over 50 years, and Paul for seventy-some years since freshmen in high school. They are missed and will be in our memories forever. Praying for your peace and comfort at this difficult time.*

*Paul and Delores Phillips*



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**Paul Phillips** - April 24, 2017 at 09:44 AM

AS

“ I served under "Captain" Bowman in the Ohio National Guard 148th and remember him as a great man and a dedicated soldier. Many fond memories. He will be missed. Al Sprenger

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**al sprenger** - April 24, 2017 at 09:20 AM

 Linda Meek

“ Sorry to hear of your loss. Praying for comfort and peace for your family at this difficult time. Ed and Linda Steele

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**Linda Meek** - April 23, 2017 at 03:27 PM

DC

“ A wonderful man he will be missed greatly. Please accept our sincere condolences.



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**David Westmark & Lynda Coffey** - April 23, 2017 at 08:59 AM

LJ

“ Love, Jimmy purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Major General (Retired) and Judge J. Ronald Bowman.



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**Love, Jimmy** - April 22, 2017 at 10:00 PM

WF

“ With love to you and your family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Major General (Retired) and Judge J. Ronald Bowman.



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**With love to you and your family** - April 22, 2017 at 09:50 PM