



Russell R. Berman

February 16, 1924 - July 2, 2011

Russell R. "Russ" Berman of Holland, passed away Saturday July 2, 2011 in Hospice of Northwest Ohio. A native of Edgewood, Alabama he came to Toledo as a child. He served in the U.S. Army in Europe during WWII as a machine gunner in the 76th Infantry. After the war he spent several months studying at an American university in Biarritz France and Vienna Austria. Russ earned bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Toledo. He also attended the Stonier Graduate School of Banking, graduating in 1961.

In 1950 he began working for the Federal Reserve in Cleveland. In 1953 he joined the auditing department at Ohio Citizens. In 1955 he became a credit analyst and in 1959 he was promoted to commercial loan officer. Russ moved up to Vice President in 1960 and became Executive Vice President and head of all lending departments in 1967. He became a Director in 1971 and during 1972 headed all operations, branch and real estate activities of the bank. In 1973 he was elected President and Chief Administration Officer of Ohio Citizens Trust Company and remained that until his retirement.

He loved to golf and was a member of Inverness Country Club and Toledo Country Club. At one time he was a board member of Sports Arena Inc. and a trustee of the Health Care Fund, a real estate investment trust. He was on the board of Health Care REIT, St. Vincent's Hospital and was regional chairman of the United Way.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Bertha Southard and father, William Berman; first wife, Joyce as well as 6 sisters and 2 brothers. He is survived by his wife, Carol; sons, Christopher (Linda) and Todd (Cinda) Berman; grandchildren, Spencer and Caitlin; step-children, Jennifer (Tom) Gilmore, Julie Jordan and Christopher (Charlotte) Jordan and step-grandchildren, Mallory, Stephanie and Maggie Gilmore.

Family and friends may visit at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd., on Friday from 10 a.m. until the time of the funeral service at 12 p.m. Interment will be private.

Memorials may take the form of contributions to Hospice of Northwest Ohio or to a charity of the donor's choice. The family would like to thank Dr. Basil Akpunonu, Dr. Roland Skeel, Dr. Gopinagh R. Upamaka and the doctors and wonderful staff at Hospice of Northwest Ohio for their exceptional and loving care.

Tribute Wall



“ *May you feel God's comforting presence during this time of sorrow. You are in my thoughts and prayers. It was a privilege to help care for Russell while he was at the hospice center.##imported-begin##Odette Rolon##imported-end##*

July 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sorry for your loss, your father made this community better.##imported-begin##Stan Diroff##imported-end##*

July 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Carol,*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Hopefully we can reach out to you the next time we visit Joan's family in Toledo,

Bill and Joan McNamara

18214 Champions Dr.

*Arlington, WA##imported-begin##Bill and Joan McNamara mcnamara
rainc@msn.com##imported-end##*

July 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ We have so many fond memories of Uncle Russ and his kindness towards us during our childhood. He was like a big brother and especially supportive in our interest in golf.

Our heartfelt thoughts and sympathy goes out to you Carol and your family.

Our prays are with you in your time of grief.

May your wonderful memories of Russell bring you comfort and strength.##imported-begin##George##imported-end##

July 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM