



## Earl A. Courtright

December 8, 1928 - September 21, 2016

Earl ‘Corky’ Courtright, age 87, of Toledo, passed away peacefully with his daughter at this bedside, on September 21, 2016. He was born to Warren and Pearl Courtright in Newton, New Jersey, on December 8, 1928. Corky graduated from Newton High School where he participated at the varsity level, for 4 years in wrestling and 2 years in football. In 1949, he was recruited by Joe Scalzo Sr. to wrestle at the University of Toledo. During 1951, he was drafted by the U.S. Army where he served honorably and wrestled for them through 1953. He continued to wrestle throughout 1962. Overall record was 437 matches-383 wins - 38 losses – 16 draws. In 1952, he was one match shy of making the U.S. Olympic team.

Corky married the love of his life Dorothy ‘Dottie’ Spillis on December 8, 1962. They were married just shy of 50 years, until her unexpected passing in 2012. Corky worked at Jeep until his retirement in 1999. He was a member of Amvets Post 63, for many years. He also was a wrestling official at the World Championships and World Cup floor chairman, until 1991. Some of Corky's favorite pastimes were playing softball, dartball and coaching his daughter's softball teams. His true passion was to spend time with his wife and daughter and eventually his beloved grandchildren. Corky was known for spoiling them all rotten with whatever their hearts desired. He made countless, everlasting friendships with those he met throughout his life, and was always the center of attention. He had a certain swagger about him up until the end of his life. It was a standing joke that wherever Corky went someone always knew him. After his wife's passing he went to live at Parkcliffe Community of Toledo. Corky's family would like to thank, from the bottom of their hearts, all the wonderful ladies that took care of him for these past 4 &#189; years of his life.

Left to cherish his memory is his daughter, Jody (Dave) Gardner, beloved grandchildren, Grant and Grace as well as his cat, Jake. Also surviving are his sisters-in-law, brother-in-law and many nieces and nephews. Corky was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy and brothers, Sherwood and Wesley.

Friends are invited to gather on Sunday from 1-4 p.m., at the Ansberg-West Funeral

Home, 3000 Sylvania Avenue, (between Secor and Douglas Roads), where a “Sharing of Memories” and a brief prayer service will be held at 4 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Northwest Ohio, Toledo Humane Society or the Alzheimer’s Association.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.ansberg-west.com](http://www.ansberg-west.com)

# Comments

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“ Jody-  
I just wanted to offer my condolences on the loss of your Dad. We were neighbors on Beaufort for many years and he was such a great guy & I could always see how much he adored you & your Mom. God's peace to you & your family. regards, Mike Tippett (2610 Beaufort..2 doors down)

**Mike Tippett** - September 26, 2016 at 03:09 PM

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September 26, 2016 at 03:04 PM

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“ Jody, You and your Family have our deepest condolences.

**Mindy and Jim Koralewski** - September 24, 2016 at 09:27 PM

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“ Sincerest sympathies to Corky's family & friends. My husband and I both worked with/near him at Jeep, back in the day. A very nice, polite man. He came to our door one day to visit, on the day of the greatest loss we've ever experienced...my son's passing . It's said Angels surround us and appear at the most needed time in our lives....hold the memories close of what a unique person Corky was.

**Tom & Jo An MATNEY** - September 23, 2016 at 09:12 PM

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“ Jody, so sorry to hear of your loss. My heart goes out to you.  
I'll never forget your dad playing kickball in the street with all of us Beaufort St. kids. That was the best. We all actually talked about that last month at my mom's funeral and it brought a smile to our faces.

**Michael Nowak** - September 23, 2016 at 11:13 AM

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“ Jody,  
  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

**Adler Family** - September 23, 2016 at 06:35 AM



“ The best way I can describe Corky is Santa Claus. He looked like Santa Claus and embodied all the wonderful qualities of Santa Claus that everyone loves. He was jolly and lively and generous and he was the love of my mother's life. I am a big fan of Santa Claus and I am a big fan of Corky. I loved him for everything he did for his family and for how he accepted me into his life. I love hearing all the wonderful stories about him. He left behind so many good memories. I feel privileged to have shared some of those. My love and condolences to all those who knew this real life Santa Claus.

**JoAnne Carson** - September 23, 2016 at 12:25 AM

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“ Jody, Dave, Grant and Grace I'm very sorry for your loss. I didn't know your dad well Jody but I know from everyone else and stories that he was a wonderful man and father. I love you like a sister and am sending you a big hug and all my sympathy.

**Sarah Dutra** - September 22, 2016 at 03:55 PM