



## Barbara May Sowers

May 25, 1926 - January 31, 2017

Barbara May Sowers passed away peacefully Tuesday, January 31, 2017, in the comfort of her home, surrounded by family.

Barb was born May 25, 1926, in Toledo, Ohio, to Arthur and Georgia Burnard. She attended DeVilbiss High School where she met the love of her life, Eugene Sowers. Barb graduated in January 1944, and then married her high school sweet heart, Eugene Sowers, on April 7, 1944.

Barb had a deep love for reading and was devoted to instilling her love of literature to young children. She founded the Elmhurst Elementary School library in November 21, 1967. She volunteered 5 days a week as a librarian for 30 years until she retired in 2000. She was also a member of the Frog Ladies at Flower Hospital. Barb met with the Frog Ladies weekly to sew and stuff frog pillows for sick children. After retiring from the library and the frog ladies she became a full time knitter. She loved to knit hats, scarves and her favorite, "warsh" clothes. Barb also enjoyed traveling with her husband, Gene and friends. Her favorite trips were to Germany, England, Korea, Hong Kong, Japan and her favorite place Hawaii.

Over the years Barb enjoyed many hobbies. She loved to shop and dress her family to the 9's. Barb had a fantastic eye for fashion and putting an outfit together for any occasion. She had an extensive collection of Hadley ware,

milk glass, frogs, and her favorite snow village. Barb and Gene were part of the Lamplight Dance Club for many years. But her greatest love was for her husband Gene, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Barb was preceded in death by her husband, Gene; parents, Arthur and Georgia Burnard; brother, Donald Burnard and son-in-law, Eric Pflieger. She is survived by her 4 children, Eugene R. (Sudye), Sharyn Trumm (Bruce) , Debbie Judkins, Holly Stanton (Terry); 8 grandchildren, Matt (Janelle), Mark, Mike (Tracy), Amanda Judkins, Abigail Judkins (Jason Ulinski), Jacque Smith, Nick Pflieger (Tim), Chip Pflieger (Jenny) and 7 great-grandchildren, Sierra, Vance, Will, Morgan, Hunter, Lexus and Jessica.

Friends are invited to visit on Friday, February 3rd, from 4-8p.m., at the Ansberg-West Funeral Home, 3000 Sylvania Avenue, (between Secor and Douglas Roads). Funeral services will be held Saturday, February 4th, at 11a.m., from the funeral home. Interment will follow at Toledo Memorial Park. The family wishes to thank Dr. Huttner and Hospice of N.W. Ohio for all of their kindness and help.

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

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ I'm a Flower Hospital Frog Lady, and remember her fondly. So sorry that no Frog Ladies were able to attend at the visitation, but they're getting on in years as well. Take comfort that Barbara was a valued member of our sewing team, both at the hospital at first, and then when she worked at home to help us. The tears of many, many children were dried by clutching a stuffed frog that Barbara helped make. We miss her, and my thoughts are with your family.

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**Sheila Painter** - February 07, 2017 at 02:05 PM

CA

“ Hello Sharyn and Buzz. We are very sorry for your loss. Barbara must be as beautiful on the inside as on the outside because she has you Sharyn as a most loving and caring daughter. What a gift you both have given your mother/mother-in-law with your love and care. Our love to you both, always.

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**Charlette (Gallagher) and John Allred** - February 06, 2017 at 11:04 AM

MW

“ I want to tell you that your mom was one of the loveliest ladies I know. Your family has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. Our parents were such good friends and had so much in common, from working at Dana, living in the same neighborhood and having a bunch of kids! I send you all my deepest sympathy for your loss. I will never forget your wonderful mom.  
Sincerely, Marcia Ward

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**Marcia (Mazziotti) Ward** - February 02, 2017 at 05:29 PM

MM

“ My thoughts are with you at this time. Barbara, Gene and all the kids were a constant presence in our life growing up in Toledo. She was my mother's best friend and I will ever be grateful for her kindness to us when my mother suddenly passed. Barbara was a superior individual.

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**Marilyn Mazziotti** - February 02, 2017 at 04:14 PM

MW

“ So sorry for the loss of your mother. When I was little, and we all lived on Elsie Ave., she treated me as one of her own. Al and I were the lucky ones to have contact with her for many years. Now she is with your dad and also my parents. Maria

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**Maria (Mazziotti) Wopshall** - February 02, 2017 at 02:15 PM