



Martha Anne (Helber) Garbers

December 20, 1935 - December 27, 2020

Martha Anne Garbers (Helber), age 85, passed away December 27, 2020 at Ebeid Hospice after losing her battle with severe pancreatitis. Martha was born December 20, 1935 in Toledo to Samuel George Helber and Frances Ida Helber. She graduated from Waite High School in 1954. She met the love of her life, Diedrich "Dick" Garbers, in July 1955 shortly after he arrived from Schneverdingen, Germany when Martha's brother, Bob, introduced the two. They married on May 4, 1956 at East Christian Church and shared over 60 wonderful years together and raised 5 children. They additionally hosted two exchange students, Akemi Matsushita from Toyko and Cordula Florian from Berlin.

Martha received her LPN and then earned her RN from Owens Tech. She worked 23 years at Toledo Hospital on the Neurology unit before retiring in 1996. She was a Girl Scout Leader for her daughters and was very active in the CoEd Class at Hampton Park Christian Church, where she was a member for 65 years.

Because of her pride in her German heritage, Martha was an active member of GBU for over 60 years, the Toledo Swiss, and member of the Bavarian Sports Club (BSC) for over 50 years. She served as auditor for GBU District 510, Ticket Committee Co-Chairman for the GAF fest, and GAF Clubhouse Manager for 10 years with her beloved Diedrich. She relished going to many

Gaufests and watching her kids (including 4 grandkids) dance with the Bavarian Sports Club D' Holzacker Buam Schuhplattler Gruppe. For many years, she even sewed the dirndls for the Schuhplattler Gruppe. In her later life, she helped cook meals at the GAF Jugendwoche Youth Day Camp for over 15 yrs.

In her free time, Martha was known for her German cooking, baking, needlepoint, cross stitch, crochet, knitting and sewing skills. Martha also cherished travelling around the world with her husband, especially journeying to Germany to visit family and sailing in over 25 cruises. She enjoyed bowling in her youth and mall walking later in life. She loved watching Indy car and NASCAR racing. After suffering a stroke in 2017 which resulted in aphasia, Martha benefited from spending time with her DaZy Aphasia Support Group friends at UT.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Diedrich "Dick", her parents, Nan and Pop, her brother Robert Helber, sister Georgia Helber, and great-granddaughter Cassie Mae. Left to cherish her memory are her brother Jim (Tina) Valentine, her children Linda (Jim) Rice, Diane (John) Miller, Cheryl (John) Peters, Diedrich (Diane) Garbers Jr, and Susan (Chris) Heidenescher; grandchildren Jimmy (Amber) Rice, Kelly Rice (Bodie), Daniel (Lori) Staifer, Derek (Christina) Staifer, Desiree Staifer (Mike) Treadway, Justin (Jade) Peters, Chad Peters (Emily) , Joe Heidenescher (Emerson), Alan Heidenescher (Brittney), and Tori Skorich, great-grandchildren Will and Evan Staifer, Ian and Norah Staifer and Sophia Treadway, and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 3-7 p.m. on Friday, January 8 at Ansberg-West Funeral Home, 3000 Sylvania Ave. Visitation at 10 a.m. with funeral services beginning in the funeral home at 11 a.m. on Saturday, January 9. Interment will follow in Ottawa Hills Cemetery. The family suggests donations be made

to the GAF Summer Camp, Bavarian Sports Club or Hampton Park Christian Church.

The family wishes to extend a special thank you to the Ohioans Home Healthcare, the Staff at Ebeid Hospice and Mary Keyes for the special care each gave to Martha during these difficult times.

Prost to a great mom and Oma. Du bleibst immer in unseren Herzen!

Cemetery Details

Ottawa Hills Memorial Park

4210 Central Ave
Toledo, OH 43606

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Visitation

JAN 9. 10:00 AM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Celebration of Life

JAN 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home
3000 W. Sylvania Ave
Toledo, OH 43613

Tribute Wall

JR

“ To the Entire Garbers Family,

The Renz's and Gast's would like to express our deepest sympathies. Martha will be missed. She was such a wonderful member and dedicated volunteer at the GAF. Your mom along with Dick Sr. have left great memories with our family and Martha will be missed. Great memories during great years at Mardi Gra and with the dance group will long remain with our family in fond memory. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Sincerely,

Caroline, Jack D. Renz Family and Jay and Laurie Gast Family.

Jack Renz - January 06, 2021 at 08:23 PM

DG

“ Ma, I remember when my mother passed and you came to me and said," you can call me Ma now and I will be there just like she was." Thank you for being my friend, I will miss our talks on the phone. Hug Father and Cass for me, I know she is loved in heaven. You will always be in my heart. Thank you for Diedrich, he is a man you should always be proud of, his love is eternal.

Diane Marie Garbers - January 04, 2021 at 01:40 PM

GL

“ Our mast sincere sympathy. Greg & Anna Lovalenti.

Gregory Lovalenti - January 04, 2021 at 01:37 PM

DG

“ you were a wonderful mother to me you even spoiled me rotten sorry i wasn't there much for you at the end but now you are with dad an cassie mae i will never stop thinking about you all i love you all i'll see you all again one day when it is my time to go your memories are all in my heart love you an thank you so much

Diedrich Garbers - January 03, 2021 at 10:13 AM

NM

“ Nancy Moscrop lit a candle in memory of Martha Anne (Helber) Garbers



Nancy Moscrop - December 31, 2020 at 07:16 AM

NM

Martha was my dear friend since we were 13. We met at Camp Christian. We met up again when she & Dick came to Hampton Park Church.

Nancy Moscrop - December 31, 2020 at 07:19 AM

AH

So very sorry to hear of Martha's passing! God Bless!

Ann Hetzel - December 31, 2020 at 06:58 PM

MF

I am so sorry to hear of your loss, please accept my sincere condolences.

Mary J. Finch

Mary J. Finch - January 04, 2021 at 01:26 PM

PP

“ Pam Pruitt lit a candle in memory of Martha Anne (Helber) Garbers



Pam Pruitt - December 30, 2020 at 02:07 PM

PP

In memory of my wonderful Aunt Martha. We love and miss you dearly.

Pam Pruitt - December 30, 2020 at 02:09 PM

EF

I met Martha on our first day of freshman high school. She was one of my dearest friends and I will miss her. Rest in peace my dear friend. you will be remembered.

Edith Mary (jeffery) Fazio

Edith Fazio - January 04, 2021 at 02:30 PM

MD

Dear Diane & Susan and your loving family...I met your dear Mom at Jugendwoche at the GAF (Youth camp). She was a great 'Boss' in the kitchen where we worked together. Such a kind lady and I am so very happy our path have crossed in life.

God gave us a gift of memory, which will help us over the sadness of your Mom's passing. Blessing to all of you....Peace from Marita

Marita Deitering - January 08, 2021 at 08:35 PM

JV

Sis,

You will be missed, dearly.

Jim

Jim Valentine - January 12, 2021 at 02:50 PM