



Russel Edwin Shaffer

July 23, 1945 - December 25, 2023

“To a brighter light, to a promised land, you can feel the power of the master’s hand.” (Bob Seger)

Russel “Russ” Edwin Shaffer of Toledo, Ohio passed away shortly after midnight on Christmas Day at Hospice of Northwest Ohio after a year-long battle with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML).

Russ was born in Lake Forest, Illinois on July 23, 1945, where his father Dr. Russel Shaffer was a dentist with the Navy. Russ attended Blessed Sacrament Elementary School, Central Catholic High School, and was a proud graduate of Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin where he met his wife Carol in 1963. Shortly after graduating from Marquette, the couple married in Pennsylvania and set up roots in Toledo raising their three daughters in the same house on Bowen Road in which he grew up. After graduating from the University of Toledo’s Law School, Russ worked as a practicing attorney in Toledo until the time of his death.

Russ was preceded in death by his father, Russel E. Shaffer DDS; his mother, Patricia Shaffer Greenen; and his brother, Charles Shaffer. He is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Carol DeMatteis Shaffer; daughters, Laura Shaffer Restivo (James), Lisa Shaffer Mullen (Patrick), and Elizabeth Shaffer Puffenbarger (Jason); sister and brother-in-law, Barb Shaffer Nichols and Neal Nichols; granddaughters, Marissa Restivo (Milad Karim), Mary Kathryn

Mullen, Miranda Restivo, Megan Mullen, Mia Restivo, Maria Restivo, Madeline Mullen, Leah Puffenbarger, and Anna Puffenbarger; nephew, Ross Nichols; niece, Lauren Nichols Olsen (Neil).

Having been diagnosed with AML in December 2022, Russ fought a courageous battle determined not to let this disease get him down. Russ was happiest when spending time with his family. He especially enjoyed his time in Sarasota, where he owned a home for the past four years. He was an enthusiastic Bob Seger, Green Bay Packers and Marquette Warriors fan. Christmas Eve was his favorite holiday and it will not be the same without him. While those who loved him will miss him dearly, they are comforted by the many years of memories he created with them.

In keeping with Russ', request the family will hold a private internment memorial service at a later date.

Tribute Wall

RE

“ Dearest Carol and family, Russell loved others as much as we loved him. May fond memories bring you comfort. Rebecca and Marvin Eckhart



Rebecca and Marvin Eckhart - January 13, 2024 at 03:58 PM

AT

“ From friends at Worthington Kilbourne H.S., we send our sincerest condolences to the Shaffer family. We are grateful to have Lisa (Mullen) in our school community and we hope the family can find comfort in their warmest memories.
Sincerely,
WKHS

Aric Thomas - January 04, 2024 at 10:18 AM

LM

Thank you, Aric ❤️

Lisa Mullen - January 05, 2024 at 06:14 PM

MK

“ Dear Carol , Russell was a dear man I'm so sorry. Bowen Rd. I remember when you had your little girls. Those were fun years
Mary Louise Kuron

mary Louise Kuron - January 01, 2024 at 09:52 AM

CF

“ Carol, we are so sorry to hear that Russ has passed. We have so many fond and happy memories of Russ. We will keep you and your girls in our thoughts and prayers.

Terry and Carol Frass

Carol Frass - December 31, 2023 at 03:26 PM

BM

“ Carol,
So sorry to hear about Russ' passing. He was such a wonderful and kind man. I'm so glad I got to know him through you. Prayers and thoughts for you and your family.

Bernie and Kim McCualsky

Bernadette McCualsky - December 31, 2023 at 01:33 PM

IB

“ Carol,
So sorry to hear about Russ' passing. We will keep you and your family in our prayers.

Irene & Alan Buckenmeyer

Irene & Alan Buckenmeyer - December 31, 2023 at 12:41 PM

MK

“ Thoughts and prayers to you, Carol and all the girls. I hope you find peace and comfort and surrounded with lots of love!

Monica Kehr - December 31, 2023 at 12:19 PM

MG

“ Condolences to the family - may he rest in peace

Michael Goulding - December 31, 2023 at 11:10 AM

AR

“ Carol-So sorry to hear about Russ's passing. Prayers of support for you, the girls, and family.
Fondly,
Amy Rosemond

Amy Rosemond - December 31, 2023 at 11:02 AM

AW

“ Oh, Carol, we are so sorry for the loss of your dear Russel. Your girls will surround you with so many family memories. Prayers for comfort and peace.

Andy and Peggy Walko - December 31, 2023 at 08:45 AM

MK

“ Carol and family, I am sorry to hear of Russ' death and extend my sympathy, thoughts and prayers to all of you. I am Jack Kennedy's sister and well remember the many times Russ was at our house with Jack. I am sure they are now having a grand reunion in heaven. May you all be blessed with the many wonderful memories you have of Russ.

Mary Sue Kennedy - December 27, 2023 at 07:24 PM

JM

Fondest memories of our days at Central Catholic. Russ was a leader among a class of leaders. An engaging smile, a kind heart, a genuine humor, a solid friend. Russ was always one of us. Would that he might put in a good word for us in his new home. Prayers.

Joe McCarty - January 02, 2024 at 07:33 PM

JG

Carol - We were so sorry to hear about Russ. We enjoyed our monthly get togethers, before covid, when we did most of our visiting with you both. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Joanne & Carl Gottwald

Joanne B Gottwald - January 03, 2024 at 10:54 AM

AS

Carol, so many fond memories of working with Russel. I'm so sorry for your loss. Great guy!

Andrea Stengel - January 04, 2024 at 06:55 PM