



## Vernon James Basilius

June 19, 1932 - March 20, 2020

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Vernon J. Basilius. He passed away March 20, 2020 at Aspen Grove, surrounded by his family at the age of 87. He was born June 19, 1932 to Otto and Marie Basilius in Toledo. Vern was a graduate of Macomber High School, Class of 1950. He honorably served his country in the Navy during the Korean Conflict and recently was a proud participant on an Honor Flight to Washington D.C. Vern joined his father working at Basilius Tool Co. and operated the business with his family until his retirement. Vern's father, Otto also passed along a profound love of music to his son at an early age. They played together in a band called Edelweiss. Vern was a gifted entertainer, playing the banjo and guitar as well singing and yodeling. He performed in a German band called the Tiroler's as well as with his Irish friend John Connolly. He also enjoyed helping Jack, Jeff and Hans with the German American Hour, Sunday morning radio show. Vern was proud of his heritage and worked tirelessly to build the G.A.F Society, he relished the time he spent at Oak Shade Grove and at the German American Festival. He and his son, Chris were active in Indian Guides together and will be "pal's forever" He enjoyed going to movies at the Jesse James Drive In, traveling to Sanibel Island and Disney World and listening to Glen Campbell. An avid golfer, he was "lucky" enough to have a hole in one. He will be remembered as a dedicated husband and father, who was hardworking, honest and a true gentleman, who will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Vern is survived by his daughter, Kimberly (Dewey Ayers) Czerniak; son, Christopher (Terry) Basilius; grandsons, Chad, Jacob and Jordan Czerniak and Jason, Josh and Jacob Opaczewski and special friend, Amy Pullen. He was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce; brother, Donald W. Basilius and sister, Carol Keiser.

Special thanks to Aspen Grove and ProMedica Hospice for the exceptional care given to Vern.

Due to the Covid-19 gathering restrictions, services will be private, however a livestream for viewing the service is available at online by clicking here <https://vimeo.com/399927211>, starting at 11:45am. A celebration of Vern's life will be held at a later date. He will be interred in Ottawa Hills Memorial Park. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

# Cemetery Details

## **Ottawa Hills Memorial Park**

4210 Central Ave  
Toledo, OH 43606

# Tribute Wall

GK

“ I am sorry to hear of Verns passing. He is family by marriage and was always such a delight to be with. He and Amy were such a fun couple and so nice to see around the holidays. He certainly will be missed



Gordyne Kaslly

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**Gordyne Kaslly** - March 25, 2020 at 02:57 PM

LG

“ Kim & Chris,  
Upon hearing of your dads passing, many great memories came back. Running through the yards & hearing our dads yell back & forth to us. I'm terribly sorry for your loss and pray that you'll find peace in good memories. Lynette Proudfoot Gergich

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**Lynette Proudfoot Gergich** - March 25, 2020 at 01:16 PM

MP

“ Dear Family of Vern and closest Friend Amy....so sad to hear of Vern's passing.

When he walked at Swan Creek Metro Park a while back his name was "Bürgermeister"...along with his happy friends.  
I loved to dance to his wonderful played music for many years.  
Thank You God that our path in live have crossed.  
Peace to you and your Family...from Marita

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**Marita Deitering Perkins** - March 25, 2020 at 12:32 PM

CB

“ We are Turner's and got to see Vern often. Will miss him dearly. Our condolences to family. We all lost a great asset to the German society .  
*Marianne Marciniak & Cliff Bernhard*



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**Cliff Bernhard** - March 25, 2020 at 12:26 PM

CP

“ Chad Piriczky lit a candle in memory of  
*Vernon James Basilius*



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**Chad Piriczky** - March 25, 2020 at 12:01 PM

KS

“ Kathy & Terry Starkey lit a candle in memory  
*of Vernon James Basilius*



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**kathy & Terry Starkey** - March 24, 2020 at 12:24 PM

WS

“ *Were so Sorry to hear of Uncle Vern's passing. His infectious Smile and Dynamic Personality Always lit up the room when he entered. The family stories were always very entertaining. Decades ago going to the G.A.F. was always high lite watching Uncle Vern play on stage in the Tiroles. He was a true Entertainer. A Special thank you goes out to Amy for the Comfort and Compassion and friendship in their relationship. R.I.P. Uncle Vern. You will be missed but never Forgotten. Bill & Sharon Dittman Sr.*

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**William & Sharon Dittman Sr.** - March 24, 2020 at 03:28 AM