



Rev. Howard Harvey Hershberger

September 8, 1933 - January 14, 2017

The Rev. Howard Harvey Hershberger passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 14, 2017, at Otterbein St. Marys Senior Lifestyle Community. He was born on September 8, 1933, in Dayton, Ohio, as the eldest son of Clyde and Aurelia (Seybold) Hershberger of West Milton, Ohio, who preceded him in death. He is survived by his beloved wife of 59 years, Janice Deeter Hershberger, daughter Jane (Brad) Briggs, brothers Paul (Patty) Hershberger and Mark (Rita) Hershberger, and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

He received his BS in history education from Manchester College, Manchester, Indiana, in 1955 and graduated from The United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, with a master of divinity degree in 1958. He was ordained as a minister in the United Church of Christ (UCC) in 1958. For over forty years Howard faithfully served the following congregations: Genntown UCC, Polk Grove UCC, Troy First UCC, First Congregational Christian Church in Greenville, Pleasant Hill UCC, Trinity Home in Beavercreek, St. Paul's UCC Rockford, St. John's UCC Holgate, and Spencerville UCC.

Throughout his ministry, Howard loved working with people of all ages. His welcoming spirit and hopeful nature connected him to people, no matter what the circumstance. Known for being down-to-earth and approachable, he was loved by young and old alike, a confidant to many, and will be missed by all. While serving his congregations, he paid special attention to the youth of the church, always remarking that they are our future. His hobbies included cheering on sports teams, including The Ohio State University Buckeyes, telling jokes and stories, collecting Studebaker model cars, and sharing his love of singing.

A Celebration of Life for The Reverend Howard Hershberger will take place Thursday, January 19, 2017, at 11 a.m. at St. Paul's United Church of Christ located at 101 Perry Street, Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895, The Reverend Becky Sunday, Senior Pastor, presiding. Family will receive friends from 10 a.m. to the time of the service with a luncheon following. The committal ceremony will then be held at the Wheelock Cemetery, St. Rt. 571, Nashville, Ohio.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2017, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Otterbein

St. Marys Senior Lifestyle Community Meditation Room, 11230 OH-364, St. Marys, Ohio 45885 and also 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Bayliff & Eley Funeral Home, 1102 Lincoln Avenue (State Route 501), Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Grand Lake Hospice, 1122 E. Spring Street, St. Marys, Ohio 45885 or St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 101 Perry Street, Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895.

Cemetery Details

Wheelock Cemtery

St Rt 571
Nashville, OH

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 18. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Otterbein St. Marys Senior Lifestyle Community Meditation Room
11230 OH-364
St. marys, OH 45885

Visitation

JAN 18. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory
1102 Lincoln Hwy
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
(419) 738-7676
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com/>

Service

JAN 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul United Church of Christ
108 West Mechanic Street
Wapakoneta, OH 45895

Tribute Wall

MR

“ *Janice:*
Brenda and I Extend to you our deepest thoughts and prayers. Due to prior plans we will not be able to attend the visitation and Memorial service.

Marvin Rettig - January 18, 2017 at 07:37 AM

C#

“ *Capitol City Sams #38 purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rev. Howard Harvey Hershberger.*



Capitol City Sams #38 - January 17, 2017 at 09:31 AM

SB

“ *Janice:*
I have such fond memories of working with Howard as a colleague and a friend. His joy for living and the work of the gospel was always inspiring. Howard helped to mentor me into ministry when I was at Spencerville and he at Rockford. We formed a good bond at that time. Then when he was called to Spencerville we had that in common as well. Blessing on you. Howard now joins a number of my mentors who are with me in spirit.

Rev. Samuel Buehrer

Samuel Buehrer - January 17, 2017 at 09:30 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Howard Harvey Hershberger.*



January 16, 2017 at 01:32 PM

DH

“ Dale Heiser lit a candle in memory of Rev. Howard Harvey Hershberger



Dale Heiser - January 16, 2017 at 12:40 PM

CS

“ On behalf of the congregation of Pleasant Hill United Church of Christ, we thank him for his ministry, and extend our condolences for this loss.

Rev. Craig Showalter, pastor

Craig Showalter - January 16, 2017 at 10:34 AM

LT

“ Sending our love, prayers, sympathy and condolences during this sad time. It was always a joy to talk with Howard. We were blessed to know him as former youth pastor and co-worker at Kerr's Office Supply.

Les and Sharon (Brentlinger) Trittschuh
West Milton, Oh

Les Trittschuh - January 16, 2017 at 10:01 AM



His ministry has been transferred, by God, to the Glories of Heaven. RIP, my fellow Servant of God.

Rev. Dr. Allan Colgan and Carol Jones

Allan Colgan - January 16, 2017 at 04:12 PM

PD

Uncle Howard was always ready with a smile and joke. When Rush was first learning to read, I bought him a book of jokes so he'd be ready with a good one to share with Uncle Howard.

Q: Did you hear the joke about the roof? A: Never mind, it's over your head!

With love, Chris, Pegi & Rush Deeter

Pegi Deeter - January 17, 2017 at 03:32 PM