



Wanda L. Howard

May 31, 1938 - July 27, 2020

Wanda L. Howard, 82, of rural Akron, Indiana went home at 8:59 pm, Monday, July 27, 2020 at her residence.

Wanda was born on May 31, 1938 in Hazelgreen, Missouri to the late Orla Ray and Anna (Levine) James. She married on June 17, 1962 in Crawfordsville, Indiana in the Nazarene Church to Dr. J. Arthur “Jerry” Howard, he survives.

She was a graduate of Alamo High School in 1955. She furthered her education at Greenville College in Greenville, Illinois with a Bachelor’s Degree in elementary education. Wanda then attained her Master’s Degree from Purdue University in 1974.

She was a school teacher for Crawfordsville (Montgomery County) and the Carroll County Schools for many years. Then in 1965 she and her husband moved to Leiters Ford where she taught for Culver Schools until she retired in 2001.

She was a member of the Akron United Methodist Church for over 50 years. Wanda was known as an accomplished musician playing the marimba in countless conventions, Youth for Christ Rallies, and churches across the US and Canada. She also played the vibraharp and piano.

Survivors and place of residence:

Husband - Dr. J. Arthur "Jerry" Howard - Akron, Ind.

Sons - Jonathan Arthur and wife Bethany Howard - Warsaw, Ind.

James Theodore Howard and husband Mitchell Ligotino - Raleigh, North Carolina

Grandchildren - Luke, David, and Tommy

Brother - Rev. Rob "Bob" and wife Jean James - Rensselaer, Ind.

Preceded in Death By:

Parents - Orla Ray and Anna James

Sister - Onalee James

The funeral service will take place at 10:30 am, Monday, August 3, 2020 at Hartzler Funeral Home 305 West Rochester Street Akron, Indiana with Pastor David Eaton and Rev. Dale Howard officiating. For the health of all in attendance masks will be required follow the state mandate.

Burial will take place following the service in the Athens (Mount Hope) Cemetery, Athens, Indiana.

Visitation hours will be from 2 pm to 4 pm, Sunday, August 2, 2020 at Hartzler Funeral Home, Akron, Indiana.

Donations can be made in her memory to the Akron United Methodist Church or to Kindred Hospice.

Cemetery Details

Athens - Hoover Cemetery

State Road 14
Athens, IN 46912

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 2. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Hartzler Funeral Home
305 West Rochester Street
P.O. Box 856
Akron, IN 46910
(574) 893-4423
info@hartzlerfuneralservices.com
<https://www.hartzlerfuneralservices.com>

Funeral Service

AUG 3. 10:30 AM (ET)

Hartzler Funeral Home
305 West Rochester Street
P.O. Box 856
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Tribute Wall



“ Hartzler Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Wanda L. Howard



Hartzler Funeral Services - July 29, 2020 at 02:52 PM

AH

Just beautiful

Angella Henson - July 29, 2020 at 10:04 PM

DK

Beautiful tribute to a lovely lady.

Danelle King - July 30, 2020 at 10:31 PM

KY

Wanda was my first grade teacher at Aubbee Elementary School. She instilled the love of reading in the classroom, which has stayed with me throughout my life and in my career of teaching as well. She was very creative in the classroom and would try new things to reach her students. I also had the privilege of teaching with Wanda at Culver Elementary School for many years before her retirement. Thank you Wanda for touching the lives of the many students that walked into your classroom each year! God Bless YOU!

Kelly Young

Kelly Young - August 02, 2020 at 11:43 AM

MF

“ Jerry, i just now found this. I send my love at this time of loss. I know heaven is rejoicing as she is welcomed there. We will see her soon. Mary Lou Finney

Mary L Finney - August 16, 2020 at 12:42 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wanda L. Howard.



August 01, 2020 at 12:19 PM

DL

“ Doug and Chris Levine, and Richard Levine purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Wanda L. Howard.



Doug and Chris Levine, and Richard Levine - July 31, 2020 at 03:46 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Wanda L. Howard.



July 31, 2020 at 07:33 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Wanda L. Howard.*



July 30, 2020 at 08:57 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Wanda L. Howard.*



July 30, 2020 at 05:23 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



Hartzler Funeral Services - July 30, 2020 at 09:26 AM

RE

“ Jerry and family,

We grieve along with you at the passing of Wanda--your wife/mother. Even though the years and miles have separated us, we treasure the fond memories we have of you and the encouragement and help you gave us during our years at the Wabash church. Your leadership, counsel and musical talents from week to week will always be remembered. We thank the Lord for you and your friendship. Our prayers are with you each day this week and will continue in the weeks ahead.

*Dick and Judi Ehresman
Salem, VA*

Richard Keith Ehresman - July 29, 2020 at 06:46 PM

SH

“ *She was my son's best teacher. He was very shy but she understood that and took care to not let him miss out on anything. This world was a better place with her presence and will be less without her.*

Scot Van Horn - July 29, 2020 at 05:46 PM



“ 144 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Hartzler Funeral Services - July 29, 2020 at 02:51 PM



“ *Wanda radiated peace and joy. It is a great pleasure to count her as a friend. I got to know her when she came with Jerry to our Woodstock class reunions. She quickly became part of our class, and we loved having her with us. She is a very special person!*
Judy Ebright Warner

Judy Ebright Warner - July 29, 2020 at 02:16 PM

JC

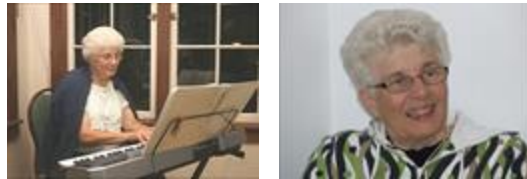
“ Wanda was the music at all of our Woodstock reunions. She guided us in singing all the old Woodstock songs, most notably "Shadows" our beautiful school song. She also accompanied anyone attempting to share a musical memory with the group, like when my sister Carole and I tried to replicate our version of "Sisters" that we did for our talent show at Woodstock 50 years before. She was an integral part of our class gatherings, was loved by all, and admired for her strength in fighting her long health battle. And Jerry, you have been a loving and strong care giver for so long. I send my deepest sympathy and most sincere hope that you can find some solace in knowing how we all loved Wanda, and in the many happy memories you must have. Love, Judy Carpenter



Judy Carpenter - July 29, 2020 at 01:27 PM

JC

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Judy Carpenter - July 29, 2020 at 01:15 PM



“ I will forever remember Wanda as such a warm and loving soul. She was patient and funny and very thoughtful. She was strong and humble. She embodied beauty and grace as she battled Cancer. I was very young when Pastor Jerry and Wanda were in Wabash but I have some of the most wonderful memories. I remember vividly Wanda teaching me the following song.

J.O.Y

*"Jesus and others and you,
What a wonderful way to
spell joy!*

*Jesus and others and you,
in the life of each girl and
each boy.*

*"J" is for Jesus, for He has
first place,*

*"O" is for others you meet
face to face,*

*"Y" is for you, in whatever
you do.*

*Put yourself third and spell
JOY. "*

*I know her departure on earth is sad, but what JOYous celebration
in heaven they are having!*

*Much Love,
Stephanie (Wiles) Rogers*

Stephanie Rogers - July 29, 2020 at 12:41 PM



“ *Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wanda L. Howard.*



July 29, 2020 at 12:12 PM



“ *What I will remember most about Wanda was her infectious sweet smile, her concern for others, her love for her sons, husband, grandchildren and brother and her love for the Lord. Heaven gained a beautiful angel. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!*



Sarah Rutschmann - July 28, 2020 at 11:07 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Wanda L. Howard.*



July 28, 2020 at 11:05 PM



“ *Love and sympathy from Mary Carol (Snead) Boserup*

MC Boserup - July 28, 2020 at 08:19 PM

RM

“ Wanda was my 1st grade teacher & Jerry the principle. They are so loved by everyone who knew them. Love and Prayers to you Jerry & family
Robin (Kirkland) Minix

Robin Minix - July 28, 2020 at 08:02 PM

DD

“ Dr. Kerry And Melanie Deardorff lit a candle in memory of Wanda L. Howard



Dr. Kerry and Melanie Deardorff - July 28, 2020 at 07:49 PM

ND

“ Nikki Davis lit a candle in memory of Wanda L. Howard



Nikki Davis - July 28, 2020 at 06:55 PM

SG

“ I am so sorry, but she fought a long battel, my sympathy and prayers to the family.
Shirley



Shirley Gray - July 28, 2020 at 04:46 PM