



## Jo'Del Marilyn (Both) Hower

January 12, 1938 - May 22, 2016

Jo'Del Marilyn (Both) Hower

Jo'Del Marilyn (Both) Hower, 78 years young and surrounded by her family and their love, went peacefully with God in the early morning hours of 22 May 2016. After suffering years of the ravages of Alzheimer's, Jo'Del is rejoicing in lost memories and is free of pain.

Jo'Del was born in Lackawanna, New York to Medford and Thelma (née Parsons) Both on January 12, 1938. Jo'Del spent most of her youth in Fremont, Ohio where she attended Stamm Elementary School and graduated from Fremont Ross High School in ~1956. During high school, Jo'Del was extremely active in school clubs and activities, and particularly loved marching band. At Fremont Ross, Jo met the young man who became her husband. It was during these years that she developed her life-long love of Lake Erie and beaches anywhere. It is rumored that (though forbidden by her mother) Jo'Del would occasionally join a party at Gem Beach. Following high school and perhaps influenced by Fred's move to Columbus to attend The Ohio State University, Jo'Del enrolled in and completed the X-Ray Technician program through White Cross Hospital in Columbus.

Jo was always very active with her children and their activities, which included the five years she spent as a Girl Scout troop leader and the thousands of miles driving the kids to sports, music, and civic events. We enjoyed those rides as an opportunity to get some rare time alone with her.

Jo'Del also contributed to and enjoyed local associations and activities,

including garden clubs (where her arrangements won ribbons for design & creativity), Worthington JCs, and the Worthington Arts Council. Truly an avid learner, her reading topics were diverse and deep. She was deeply aware of current events and kept the dinner table conversation as enlightening as possible ☐.

Jo created a happy home and everyone who visited was touched by her hospitality and lack of pretense. She was a generous hostess and a great cook, and she made room for everyone at the table. An extension of that hospitality was how she welcomed an exchange student into the house the minute a bedroom was available.

When she and Fred decided to start the Fred Hower Company, Jo'Del automatically became an underpaid General Manager, Chief Operating Officer, Treasurer, and nursery gal. She was truly the tireless woman! The company operated successfully for more than thirty years. She went on to help Fred write columns and contribute to books.

Jo'Del created personal happiness and accomplishment through writing her "Garden of the Week" article for the Columbus Dispatch. Through design or default, Jo'Del loved gardens and the beauty of all things natural.

Jo'Del is survived by her husband Fred, whom she married on June 21, 1958, daughters Tamara (James-deceased November 2012) Williams of Winterville, NC and Tara Hower of Columbus OH, sons Michael (Martha) of Oceanside CA and Matthew (Olivia) of Worthington and their children Hannah and Noah, brother Lloyd (Betty) of Plano TX. She is also dearly loved by her extended family in eastern North Carolina.

Memorial services, officiated by Wesley Russel, will be conducted on Thursday 26 May at the RUTHERFORD-CORBIN FUNERAL HOME, 515 High Street, Worthington OH. Friends may call from 5-7 p.m., followed by the Memorial service at 7 p.m.

Jo'Del's family would like to thank many people who helped Jo in the last few years, specifically: Mount Carmel Hospice, the Palliative Care unit at St Anne's Hospital and the staff of Pete's Place.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Central Ohio Chapter : [http://www.alz.org/centralohio/in\\_my\\_community\\_donate.asp](http://www.alz.org/centralohio/in_my_community_donate.asp) or the Shriner's Hospital for Children: <http://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/en/donate> . Donations can be made online or via envelopes available at the Memorial Service.

# Cemetery Details

## Flint Cemetery

8187 Flint Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43235  
(614) 885-5033

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 26.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home  
515 High Street  
Worthington, OH 43085  
(614) 885-4006  
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

## Memorial Service

**MAY 26.** 7:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home  
515 High Street  
Worthington, OH 43085  
(614) 885-4006  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *It's hard to believe it's been eight years. I miss you every day, but I know and feel you with me at all times. Love you mom.*

May 22, 2024 at 02:38 AM



“ *Jo'Del Marilyn (Both) Hower*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Dear Fred and family, Our very sincere sympathy to all of you in the loss of Jo'Del. This picture reminds us of her wonderful smile, and we saw it often at church and school activities. Our friendship with your family goes back mostly to the 70's when our children, Greg and Gayle, were growing up in Worthington and both our families were members of Worthington Presbyterian Church. Our very best to the Hower Family, Colleen and Mack Parkhill*

**Colleen Parkhill** - June 02, 2016 at 02:42 PM



“ *Dear Fred and Family,  
On behalf of the Class of 1955 please accept our expression of sympathy on the loss of Jo'Del. She will be remembered as a kind, and dear person.  
Thinking of you at this sad time.*

*Kaci Middleton Peer  
Secretary, Class of 1955  
Ross High School*

**Kaci Peer** - May 28, 2016 at 11:04 AM

JE

“ Jo'Del lived across the street from me on Union Place, all the way from grade school thru high school. We were in band and Horizon Club together. I was a bridesmaid when she and Fred were married. Her mom and my mom were good friends. When we both lived in Columbus and had little babies (her Tamara and my Chris) we sometimes got together as both of our husbands were students at Ohio State. Over the years we saw each other only at class reunions. Five years ago at our 55th she was unable to attend due to failing health. I remember writing to her and saying that she really didn't miss much and she replied, thanking me for making her feel better about not being there. She will be missed by many, including this old classmate and former Union Place neighbor. God speed, Jo'Del, your days of suffering are over and the best is now to come.  
June

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**June Erb-Wott** - May 27, 2016 at 08:13 PM

TW

*Thank you for writing! I know your name well because Mom spoke of you and the times you shared. I can remember the house in Union Place- the exterior and also the kitchen, back porch and going up the steep stairs. Best to you, Tamara*

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**Tamara Hower Williams** - May 30, 2016 at 11:55 PM

JR

“ Fred,  
*We are saddened by your loss. Jo'Del was a special person, as are you and we've enjoyed your friendship over the years We know that you must be relieved that her suffering has ended, but we share your grief over her loss. We'll remember her as she appears in the picture on this page and we'll miss her.*

*Love, Jan & Ken*

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**Jan & Ken Reisch** - May 26, 2016 at 02:56 PM

TW

“ Fred and Family,

*I just learned of Jo'Del's passing and extend my deepest sympathy and heartfelt prayers. I hope your memories and the joy she brought to you will comfort you in this difficult time...know that she is now at peace.*

*Sincerely Tom Wood*

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**Thomas Wood** - May 26, 2016 at 01:47 PM

DA

“ Dick and Toni Ansley purchased the Secret Garden Basket for the family of Jo'Del Marilyn (Both) Hower.



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**Dick and Toni Ansley** - May 25, 2016 at 05:17 PM

LM

“ Dear Fred and Family,

*May each of you be feeling the presence and love of God that Jo'Del is now living within .Please know that much love and many prayers are with you as we continue to wait for the Big Reunion.I cherish many fond memories of our time together on Meadoway Park. So sorry I'll not be able to be with you tomorrow. Hugs, Liz Melick*

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**Liz Melick** - May 25, 2016 at 03:22 PM

TW

*We appreciate your kind words and all the warmth you share with us.  
Fondly, Tamara*

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**Tamara Hower Williams** - May 30, 2016 at 11:57 PM

AL

“ Our sympathies to Fred and to all of Jo's family. She was a kind, wonderful lady.

*Jerry and Anita Lide*

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**Anita Lide** - May 25, 2016 at 12:49 PM

CA

“ Grateful to have had a second mother! Sending lots of love to my other family! Cathe

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**Cathe** - May 25, 2016 at 12:42 PM

TW

*Cathe, she sure loved you a lot and was very protective of you. And when our mothers got together...it was on! They were so good for each other. Love, Tam*

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**Tamara Hower Williams** - May 26, 2016 at 02:23 AM

BH

“ Our Sympathies to the Family of Jo Del our, Classmate and Friend from the Ross High School , Class of 1956 Fremont, Oh.

*Barbara Stokes Held*

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**Barbara Held** - May 25, 2016 at 12:35 PM

TS

“ Will keep you in our prayers.  
*Tom Shearer(Class of 56) and Nancy Shearer*

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**Tom And Nancy Shearer** - May 25, 2016 at 08:48 AM

LP

“ Linda & Jerry / Sue & Peg purchased the Spring Has Sprung Mixed Basket for the family of Jo'Del Marilyn (Both) Hower.



Linda & Jerry / Sue & Peg - May 25, 2016 at 07:46 AM

DC

“ Don/Anne Hensel, Courtney, Catherine and Caileen purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Jo'Del Marilyn (Both) Hower.



Don/Anne Hensel, Courtney, Catherine and Caileen - May 25, 2016 at 01:13 AM

MI

“ Mom - thank you for all the love and selfless support throughout your years as our MOM. We miss you, but we are so glad that your turmoil is over and you are at peace. Love-your children.

mike - May 24, 2016 at 09:38 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Jo'Del Marilyn (Both) Hower.



May 24, 2016 at 05:52 PM