



## John G. Zolman

April 30, 1934 - August 29, 2023

John “Jerry” Zolman sadly passed away on August 28th, 2023 at his home in Delaware, Ohio at the age of 89 – though he swore he was still only 26. Jerry attended The Ohio State University before spending a lifetime career at Akzo Nobel in Columbus, Ohio. He proudly served in the United States Air Force before being honorably discharged. As part of the “Greatest Generation”, Jerry learned early that humor could carry you through any situation. His pranks over the years included filling a bathtub with balloons on a business trip for his co-worker to find unexpectedly, stuffing an alligator statue with a “body” as a way of welcoming neighbors' home from vacation, and planting a flamingo in the yard of some friends just to take a picture and mail it to them anonymously so they wouldn't know from where it came. Somehow, people always knew to blame Jerry for these things – as it was just his nature. His humor was matched only by his love for his family. After 67 years of marriage, he never stopped making his wife laugh, even if some were the same jokes over and over again. As funny as he was, he was stubborn, he hated being the center of attention and he was a master of coming up with nonsensical catch phrases. Friends became family and he passed this sentiment on to his children, of whom he was very proud. He loved making magical memories with his grandchildren & great-grandchildren. Jerry was an avid golfer and he lived for weekends on the course or watching tournaments weekly. There was nothing better than experiencing a great Buckeyes victory – especially against that team up North! He loved working in the yard, washing the car, and

spoiling the family dogs we had over the years. Christmas was his favorite holiday and though it was only August, the sounds of the season brought him comfort in his final hours. In lieu of flowers, we invite you to make a donation to St. Jude's Research Hospital in his honor at <https://stjude.org> St. Jude Children's Research Hospital St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is leading the way the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases. [stjude.org](https://stjude.org). Per his final wishes, no funeral or memorial service will be held.

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# Tribute Wall

BW

“ When I think of my Uncle Jerry, I think fun. He was full of it! And full of joy, too. He always had a quip or funny play on words. I remember how he and my dad always hung out together at our family get togethers for my mom’s and Aunt Nita’s side of the family. I think they felt like they were 2 peas in a pod amongst some pretty crazy wild flowers. 😭 They stuck together for safety! 😭 I also remember the time he rescued me from drowning at their neighborhood pool after I’d gone down a slide and the water was deeper than expected. Of course, I was only about 1 foot away from the side of the pool and could have just reached over and climbed out, if only I had not panicked. From that day on, Uncle Jerry was a superhero! He was truly a one-of-a-kind and I missed seeing both him and Aunt Nita these past years that they lived out in Arizona. Had hoped to get to see him again after their move back to Columbus not that long ago, but that was just not meant to be. Now I’ll look forward to seeing him in Heaven, where I’m sure I’ll find him laughing. He’ll probably even have Jesus in stitches! As someone else here said, when I arrive there in Heaven with him, I suspect he’ll say, “I’m so glad you get to see me!”

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**Bonnie Weberling** - August 30, 2023 at 05:39 PM

DR

“ One of a kind! Even though our families weren’t actually related, he was always, Uncle Jerry. So many great memories with our parents & Jerry & Juanita visiting for weekends, Holidays & vacation trips. Blessed to have Jerry & family in our lives!  
David Reef

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**David Reed** - August 30, 2023 at 10:35 AM

LS

“ *When we visited and were leaving Jerry would say, I’m so glad you got to see me! This made me laugh every time 😊.*

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**Lynda Zolman Schutzenberger** - August 30, 2023 at 10:28 AM