



## Pamela Van Riper

October 27, 1972 - June 12, 2023

Pam Van Riper, age 50 and an adored mother of four, passed away peacefully at home with her family on June 12, 2023. Though she had been diagnosed with brain cancer more than three years earlier, she chose to continue to live, clearing each hurdle as it came and just getting on with her life, cherishing her family and friends. Her positivity and determination never wavered.

Pam was born October 27, 1972, in Toledo, Ohio, later graduating from Sylvania Northview High School and Ohio Wesleyan University, where she ran track and majored in politics and government. At OWU, she also met her future husband, Ned. They married in November 1998 in Sylvania. After Pam worked five fulfilling years in state government, their first son, Cole, was born, and she and Ned settled in Powell to raise their family. Jack, Reed and Eden soon came along and Pam's heart was full. In 2017, she returned to work with Olentangy Schools, as a specialized learning center assistant, furthering her impact on children. Everyone always loved Mrs. Van Riper, whether they were neighbors, friends or students.

More than anything, Pam loved being a mom, and her world revolved around her kids. She loved family adventures—field trips, bike rides, long walks in local parks, trips to the zoo, ski trips, beach vacations and so much more. She had a soft spot in her heart for animals, and adored her pets; Rosie went with her everywhere. And as everyone whose life she touched knows, Pam was

always genuine and caring. She loved to laugh, had a huge sweet tooth, and always had a smile at the ready.

Pam is survived by her beloved husband, Ned; children, Cole, Jack, Reed and Eden; parents, James and Kristin Jeffery; sister, Jill Biggs and her husband Bill; brother, Tom Jeffery and his wife Andrea; mother-in-law, Barbara Van Riper; brother-in-law, Philip Van Riper and his wife Danielle; and nephews and nieces, Mason, Tyler, Billy, Kenny, Brooke, Sloan, Scarlett and Julian.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, from 2-4pm and 6-8pm, at Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell, 450 W. Olentangy St., Powell, OH 43065.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 11am, at Powell United Methodist Church, 825 E. Olentangy St., Powell, OH 43065.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Pam's name to, Friends of Metro Parks:

<https://metroparksfriends.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/metroparksfriends/donation.jsp>

# Previous Events

## First Visitation

JUN **20**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell  
450 West Olentangy Street  
Powell, OH 43065  
(614) 792-1471  
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

## Second Visitation

JUN **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rutherford Funeral Home at Powell  
450 West Olentangy Street  
Powell, OH 43065  
(614) 792-1471  
info@rutherfordfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com/>

## Memorial Service

JUN **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Powell United Methodist Church  
825 East Olentangy Street  
Powell, OH 43065  
<http://www.powellumc.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rutherford Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Pamela Van Riper*



Rutherford Funeral Homes - June 19, 2023 at 03:54 PM

CW

*Pam was a wonderful light and a wonderful educator in OLSD! She loved and cared for the children just like her own. She will be dearly missed! Prayers for peace!*

Cayla Williamson - June 24, 2023 at 07:51 PM

LK

“ *It was a lovely service. Pam was a fun friend. I enjoyed sitting with her at the OHS hockey games.*

Lori Kipfer - June 21, 2023 at 12:47 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.*



June 20, 2023 at 12:03 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Pamela Van Riper.

June 19, 2023 at 06:56 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Pamela Van Riper.

June 19, 2023 at 06:32 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.



June 19, 2023 at 06:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Pamela Van Riper.

June 19, 2023 at 04:01 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.



June 19, 2023 at 04:01 PM

CW

“ Carrie Borchers & Dan Wilder purchased the You  
r Light Shines for the family of Pamela Van Riper.



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**Carrie Borchers & Dan Wilder** - June 19, 2023 at 02:44 PM

CB

“ Ned & family - Sending our heartfelt sympathy & condolences. I will  
always remember Pam's beautiful smile, her upbeat personality &  
true genuine kindness. And, I will always cherish sharing our Track  
& Field careers together at Ohio Wesleyan. So many great  
memories. She will forever be in our hearts. Keeping your family in  
our thoughts & prayers.

With love,  
Christine (CC) Culwell Butsch  
OWU '95

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**Christine Butsch** - June 19, 2023 at 01:33 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of  
Pamela Van Riper.



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June 19, 2023 at 01:14 PM



“ A [Memorial  
Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Pamela Van Riper.

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June 19, 2023 at 12:28 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.*



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June 19, 2023 at 12:28 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.*



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June 18, 2023 at 11:43 AM



“ *Pam was such a special soul. No matter how long time had passed between when I saw her, she always had warm embrace and smile for me. She was always genuinely happy and excited to see me, and I always lit up when I saw her. Simply one my favorite humans I've ever known. She will be missed. My heart and thoughts go out to Ned and the kids. She was so special. No doubts she's watching over all of you.*

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**mary Lorenz** - June 18, 2023 at 08:21 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.*



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June 17, 2023 at 11:16 AM

MD

“ Ned, I'm so terribly sorry for losing Pam. You guys were the BEST neighbors and I just loved when you set up camp in the front yard. You both had the marriage that just worked - respected each other and deeply committed. You are very fortunate to have had that and I pray that you and your children always remember her as she was - gracious. Hugs and prayers to you. Mary Donahue

Mary A. Donahue - June 16, 2023 at 10:26 PM

SE

“ I had so much fun teaching Sunday school with you at PUMC when the kids were little. Us trying to follow the lesson plan was always an adventure. You had such a warm smile and you would beam with pride when talking about your boys. You will be missed by so many. Rest in peace.

Shyra Eichhorn - June 16, 2023 at 09:08 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.



June 16, 2023 at 05:02 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.



June 16, 2023 at 02:46 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Pamela Van Riper.

June 16, 2023 at 02:45 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.



June 16, 2023 at 02:45 PM



“ I ran track with Pam at OWU - we were in the 400m relay together, I handed the baton off to her. She was always in good spirits, happy and smiling. She was so very nice too. I am thankful I had the opportunity to know her and run with her in college. She will be forever missed but never forgotten! My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time.

**Cath (Culwell) Ullman** - June 16, 2023 at 01:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Pamela Van Riper.

June 16, 2023 at 12:27 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.*



June 16, 2023 at 12:27 PM



“ *Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.*



June 16, 2023 at 11:29 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Pamela Van Riper.*



June 15, 2023 at 09:28 PM



“ *Love Marti Issing purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Pamela Van Riper.*



**Love Marti Issing** - June 14, 2023 at 02:24 PM