

Dr. Tom Bowlus



Dr. Thomas Bowlus was born May 11th, 1923 in Toledo to Harry and Bertha Bowlus of Pemberville, Ohio where he grew up. He was the youngest of 5 children. He passed away July 11, 2014.

He attended Bowling Green State University for two years prior to his military service in World War II, where he served in the South Pacific Theater in the 23rd (Americal) Infantry Division as a medic for combat engineers. On returning from the war, he completed his undergraduate degree at Eastern Michigan University and his medical degree at the University of Michigan.

He married his first wife Madeline Bichan in 1946, who died in 1958 leaving behind four children. He married Marilyn Leibius in 1969 and together they had three children.

Tom was a family physician for 50 years at the Family Medical Center at 2020 Starr Avenue in East Toledo and practiced at St. Charles and Riverside Hospitals. He was a kind and gentle doctor who truly enjoyed caring for his patients and he missed them when he retired.

He was a member and President of the Wood County Board of Health from 1967-1986.

He was the inspiration for and founder of the non-profit Otterbein-Portage Valley retirement Center near Pemberville, where he also had a medical office from 1981-2001. Here, he also served as president of the board in the early years. Otterbein-Portage Valley began in 1975 as a grassroots effort led by Dr. Tom and involved the support of many local individuals, organizations, and communities to bring it to fruition.

He was very active in the American Cancer Society, serving as President of the Lucas County Division and the Ohio division. He served as an elder for many years in the Pemberville Presbyterian Church, and in his last years played on the church dart ball team.

In the 1950s he joined the Toledo Submariners, a local scuba diving group, and went on numerous dives in exotic locations.

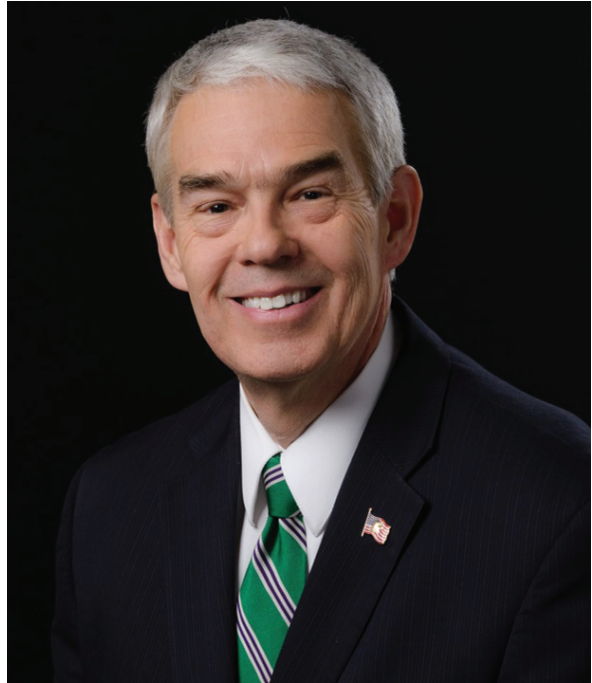
He was an avid Ohio State fan despite the fact that he graduated from the School Up North. He and Marilyn enjoyed traveling together and went to many foreign locales.

He always maintained a large garden and a flock of sheep at his beloved country home. He loved to grow and give away to his friends. Tom loved the game of bridge, always seeking to improve his game. In his last years, he organized and led a weekly bridge group at the Pemberville Senior Center. Above all, he treasured the time he spent with his family.

Children are: James (Betty) Bowlus of Lima, Jeanne (Steven) Thomas of Conway, MA, Thomas (Lynn) Bowlus of Pemberville, Jonathan (Carla) Bowlus of Upper Sandusky, David (Meredith) Bowlus of Ft. Leonard Wood, MO, Mark (Judy) Bowlus of Bowling Green, Susan Bowlus of Maui, Hawaii; 13 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

Dr. Tom Bowlus was nominated by Karina (Hahn) Claydon

Randy Gardner



Randy Gardner was an outstanding Eastwood student-athlete, and an honored public servant representing northwest Ohio as a leader in the Ohio Senate and House of Representatives.

Randy was born in Luckey in 1958 to Dallas and Velma Gardner. One of seven children, all of his two brothers and four sisters were also graduates of Eastwood High.

During his years as a student at Eastwood, Randy was Senior Class President, member of the National Honor Society, Eagle's Eye staff, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Student Council.

He had a stellar athletic career, earning 10 letters in golf, basketball and baseball, while being recognized with all-league honors eight times. For nearly 20 years,

Gardner held Eastwood career basketball records in assists and points. He became the Eagles' first 1,000-point scorer and the first to score more than 40 points in a game. He had a superb shooting percentage of more than 52%. He led Eastwood to three straight SLL golf championships and was league medalist twice. In his senior year, Randy helped the Eagles 1977 baseball team advance all the way to the regional finals finishing with a 21-2 record. He batted .438 and had a pitching record of 6-0.

Senator Gardner's legislative career spans more than 32 years, and he currently serves as Senate Majority Floor Leader. He has been elected to more leadership positions than any legislator in Ohio history. Gardner's remarkable record includes more than 10,200 consecutive roll call votes on bills, amendments and policy resolutions. Nicknamed "the Cal Ripken of the Ohio legislature", Senator Gardner has not missed one day of session since beginning his service in the General Assembly in 1985. No state legislator has served Wood County longer, yet he started out as the youngest legislator in Ohio his first term of office.

Today Senator Gardner represents Wood, Lucas, Erie, Fulton and Ottawa counties. He is chairman of the Finance Committee's Higher Education Subcommittee and chairman of the bipartisan Lake Erie Legislative Caucus.

Senator Gardner has taken his support and knowledge of Eastwood and similar schools to the Statehouse. Just last year,

Senator Gardner was the architect of the plan that changed and improved the governor's proposed state budget. Gardner's amendment protected Eastwood and other rural-based schools from reductions in state funding. Time and again he has shown his understanding of education and supported smaller rural and suburban school districts. Over the years, he has been known to work tirelessly across party lines to make things happen.

The people of Wood County have elected Gardner 13 times to the General Assembly, with the residents of the Eastwood District commonly supporting him with more than 80% of the vote.

Some of the dozens of honors that Senator Gardner have received:

- Ohio Pioneer in Education Award and Education Legislator of the Year.
- Martha Holden Jennings Scholar as a high school teacher in 1985
- Public Health Advocate Award
- "The Voice of Medicine Award" from the Ohio State Medical Association
- Watchdog of the Treasury Award
- Ohio Library Association's "Andrew Carnegie Award"
- Ohio Disability Council's Legislator of the Year
- Bowling Green State University "Accomplished Graduate Award"
- Wood County Honorary 4-H member and Ohio Chapter FFA Honorary Degree
- Ohio's Friend of Agriculture Award

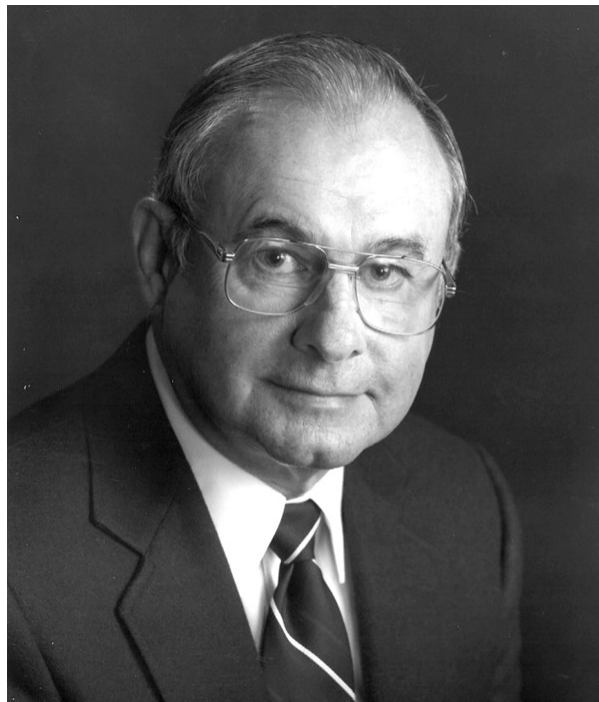
While a student at Bowling Green State University, Gardner served as a delegate for Ronald Reagan to the 1980

Republican National Convention – the youngest delegate in the nation. Randy received his Bachelor of Science degree and Master's degree in Political Science from BGSU. In addition to being a state legislator, Randy was a history and government teacher, newspaper reporter, real estate agent and served on the Wood County Board of Elections.

Randy is married to Sandy (Ford), another Eastwood graduate. They have three children – Brooks (Corporate and Strategic Planning Analyst at Owens-Illinois in Perrysburg); Christina (Registered Dietician for ProMedica Health in Toledo) and Austin (a graduate student in education at the University of Findlay and point guard for the nationally-ranked Oilers basketball team). Randy and Sandy are members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Bowling Green.

Randy Gardner was nominated by Janell Vickers.

Chuck Kurfess



Charles (Chuck) F. Kurfess 2018 Eagle Way Hall of Fame - General Eastwood / Community Contributor Charles Frederick (Chuck) Kurfess was born to John and Margaret (Zingg) Kurfess having a sister Nancy and two brothers, Jim and John. He has been a lifelong resident of Wood County.

Chuck graduated from Troy-Luckey School, being the Vice President of his 1947 Senior Class. Miss Rolfes, Eastwood Teacher of 50 years, was quoted that Charles Kurfess was her 'prize pupil'.

Chuck has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bowling Green State University in 1951. He served on the Student Court, as Chief Justice his senior year. He studied Public Administration at Wayne University (now Wayne State University) as a Voelker Fellow with the Research Council of Michigan, 1951-52.

Chuck served in the United States Army Counter Intelligence Corp. in the Far East during the Korean Conflict, 1952-54. Chuck graduated from the Ohio State University College of Law, 1957, Juris Doctor Degree. He was engaged in the general practice of law in Wood County, 1958-1991 (33 years).

Chuck was elected Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Wood County in 1990 serving twelve years. Even up to age 84, Chuck served as a visiting judge. He served on several committees of the Ohio State Bar Association, the Ohio Judicial Conference and the Supreme Court of Ohio. He was noted as being "at the forefront of judicial reform, criminal justice reform, civil rights and access to justice issues". He was an innovator with jury service and functions.

Chuck first was elected to the House of Representatives from Wood County in 1956 while a student in law school. He was selected by Statehouse newsmen as the "Outstanding Freshman Representative" while he was the youngest member of the General Assembly. He served 22 years (eleven consecutive terms) representing Wood, Henry and Sandusky counties from 1956 to 1978. He served six years as Speaker of the Ohio House, 1967-1972 and as Minority Leader, 1972-1973.

Chuck was elected as President of the Nation Legislative Conference, 1972-1973; and was founder of the National Conference of State Legislatures. In these capacities, Chuck was one of the national leaders strengthening the legislatures' role

within the state governments. He received the Legislative Citation from the Citizens Conference of State Legislatures in 1971.

In 1978, Chuck ran for Governor of Ohio but Gov. James A. Rhodes was elected his fourth term. Chuck was the first candidate in Ohio to choose a woman as his running mate. He was Delegate-at-large from Ohio to the Republican National Conventions in 1968, 1972 and 1976.

In 2012, Chuck was appointed and served on the Ohio Constitution Modernization Commission.

Chuck is a lifelong member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Stony Ridge. He served on Church Council, as its President, various committees, and taught Sunday School classes. Chuck was Chair of the Ohio Transition Team for the merger of the American Lutheran Church, Lutheran Church in America and Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches into the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), 1986-1987. He served as Vice President of the Northwest Ohio Synod, ELCA.

Chuck served on several community boards: Board of Trustees and Vice Chairman, Citizens' Council for Ohio Schools; Board of Directors, Mid-American National Bank and Trust Company and Mid-Am, Inc. bank holding company; Board of Trustees, Wood County Public Library; Otterbein-Portage Valley Nursing Home; Board of Trustees for Bowling Green Chamber of

Commerce; Board of Trustees and Vice Chairman, Family Services of Northwest Ohio; Board of Trustees of Ohio Historical Society; Chairman, Wood County Republican Party for two Terms (1980 – 1988); Lakeside Association.

Chuck is member of the American Legion, Farm Bureau, BGSU and OSU Alumni Associations.

Some of Chuck's honors:

- 2017 Thomas J. Moyer Award for Judicial Excellence – a current or former Ohio judge which displayed integrity, fairness, open-mindedness, knowledge of the law, professionalism, ethics, creativity, sound judgment, courage and decisiveness.
- 2017 recipient of the Archie M. Griffin Professional Achievement Award, OSU Alumni Assn.
- In 2010, recognized by Bowling Green State University as one of its 100 most prominent alumni as part of the BGSU's Centennial Year celebration.
- Distinguished Alumnus Award, Bowling Green State University, 1967
- 2009 Honorary Life Fellowship by the Ohio State Bar Foundation; Given annually to an Ohio attorney whose career has been exemplified by dedication to the goals and values sought to be furthered by the Foundation, a lifetime of service to the public, and integrity, honor, courtesy and professionalism.
- Appointee to Presidents' Nixon and Ford to the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relation, 1973-1977.
- Distinguished Achievement Award for distinguished contribution to Public Service by Wayne State University, 1988
- Bowling Green Jaycees "Outstanding Young Man of 1965"

Chuck is married to Helyn (Rudolph). They have three children –Todd, Ann and

Laura plus 5 grandchildren and six great grandchildren (one deceased) and one to be born in July. All his children graduated from Eastwood High School.

Chuck's Mother, Margaret was a school teacher -well respected and inspired her students. His Father, John was a farmer and a leader in Wood County schools. John was instrumental in school consolidations, helping put together the Eastwood district – recognizing that the larger student body would afford more academic opportunities. John served on the Wood County Board of Education for 16 years. He was also both Charter member of the Owens Technical College Board and the Penta County Vocational District. John had also served on the Troy-Luckey School Board.

Chuck is very proud of his siblings. His brother James (Jim) D. Kurfess was an internationally recognized authority in high-energy astrophysics research. John Kurfess was a Wood County farmer and currently in real estate. His sister, Dr. Nancy Johnson was an OB / GYN physician in Cleveland.

Helen Rolfes



Miss Helen Florentine Rolfes was born November 1, 1910 in the family farmhouse on Devil's Hole Road outside of Pemberville to Lewis Henry Rolfes and Katherine (Poggemeyer) Rolfes. She lived on this farm for most of her life and then in Luckey. Miss Rolfes passed May 24, 1991. The Rolfes Family immigrated to this country from Osnabruck, Germany in 1836. Her mother's family emigrated from the nearby area of Hoyel, Germany in 1892.

Helen had one brother, Milton and five sisters, Leona, Frances, Irene, Nelda and Kathryn. She started school at the Sweitz one room schoolhouse on the corner of Bradner Road and Devil's Hole Road. During the elementary school years she was accelerated one grade because of being an outstanding student. As there was

no high school near, the school board sent her to Woodville High School. She graduated from Woodville and was a member of the first graduating class in the new building, of which she was very proud. Her father, a teacher in the same one-room Sweitz School, felt that Helen should carry on the family tradition and was determined that Helen would be a teacher. Thus, he all but mortgaged the homestead to send her to UT during the depression.

In June, 1931 at age 21, Miss Rolfes graduated from the University of Toledo with a Bachelor of Education when the school had just relocated to the University Hall on Bancroft Street. She was one of the first to graduate from the (then) new West Bancroft Street Campus. She received her Master of Arts in 1932 a year later from the same university. Although jobs were scarce in the depression, Miss Rolfes found one. It paid \$1,000 a year. "I didn't mind the low salary," she said. "At least I had a job." [Toledo Blade "Teaching Reaches the Golden Years" by Don Wolfe]. At first, Miss Rolfes directed plays, was cheerleading adviser, taught girls' physical education, and had driven girls / boys athletic teams to 'away' games. She also sold tickets to many school, athletic events and school music events. She first taught English and Latin and was in charge of the Library. Later, she taught Mathematics including advanced classes and watched over study halls. She was a lifetime Eastwood Athletic Booster member.

Miss Rolfes was an active member of

Delta Kappa Gamma, on the Pemberville Library Board of Trustees from 1962– 1990 and the original planning committee to establish the Pemberville Public Library. She was a member of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the Ohio Council of teachers of Mathematics, the Greater Toledo Council of Teachers of Mathematics, the National Education Association and the Ohio and Eastwood Education Associations. Miss Rolfes was also a Martha Holden Jennings Scholar by attending all 8 Jennings Lecture Series at Bowling Green State University during the 1970-71 school years. Jennings Scholar is considered a prestigious title by Ohio teachers.

Helen volunteered thousands of hours over a 20 year period at the Lutheran Old Folks' Home and Orphanage in Oregon, Ohio. Helen was an active member of Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church on Bradner Road where she was baptized, confirmed and buried. This was one of the first Lutheran churches in the area. As well as her professional life, Helen's church activities were a large part of her life.

Helen's professional teaching career spanned 50 dedicated years in one school district Troy-Luckey, Pemberville and Eastwood High School, retiring in 1981. During these fifty years Helen totally devoted her life to all school affairs of the students and their families. At her retirement party at Eastwood High School, over 400 people attended. At that time a scholarship was

established in her honor at Eastwood High School. Also at this time, she received the Governor's Proclamation for being an Outstanding Teacher in the State of Ohio.

Miss Rolfes took special interest in her students after graduating high school. Many of her Eastwood students became teachers, math/science focused careers and administrators. Her pride and joy was to see children develop into leaders. She shared at her Retirement party that her prize pupil was Charles Kurfess. He was quoted that day which says it all!

"She has probably had a greater influence for good with more young people than anyone certainly in this part of the country, both because of her personality and teaching, and because of the number of years she has taught."

Miss Rolfes believed in discipline, manners, quietness, and respect for others. One never chewed gum in her classroom nor combed their hair. She loved to talk about other students' and her friends' accomplishments – praising others (even in the classroom to share role models to the students).

Janell (Brinker) Vickers' personal story: "I had Miss Rolfes for two classes during my high school years (graduated 1971) which one was Senior Math Seminar. There were 4 of us in the class. She scheduled a tour of the new Computer Science dept. at BGSU. What forward thinking she had for her students! That day was also Football homecoming which we had a practice walk-thru that afternoon. I did not go on

the tour. Miss Rolfes was not happy and looking back-rightfully so as her priority was education and the future of her students. I ended up graduating from BGSU with a double major in Math and Computer Science. I am sure that taking Computer Science was influenced by her direction. I still use these logic skills in my career today. I owe much to Miss Rolfes' teaching, discipline and her love for students/teaching."

Much of the above information came from Luckey Historical Society. http://luckeyhistoricalsociety.org/?page_id=448



Eastwood Alumni

Membership

Albright, Doug
Baker, Lance & Darla
Bish, Mary Jo
Bostdorff, Roger
Bowlus, Ted
Bowman, Lynne
Brinker, Jim
Brinker, Joyce
Bruning, Ann
Bruning, Bob
Buchman, Wayne
Clark, Greg
Claydon, Karina (Hahn)
Cousino, Marcia
Deal, Richard & Magorie
Dunmeyer, Linda
Eaken, Pat & Jeanette
Eulberg, Steve
Filiere, Bob
Gardner, Bryan
Gardner, Chris
Gardner, Gary
Gardner, Mike & Judy
Gardner, Randy
Gardner, Velma
Godfrey, Mike & Karen
Hansen, Roger & Teri
Helm, Dennis
Henline, Denny
Hoodlebrink, Kevin
Huss, Susan
Juergens, Curt & Barb
Juergens, Jim & Melinda
Kahlenberg, Betty
Kohlenberg, Jane
Korn, Karen
Loomis, Stacy
Luidhardt, Amy
Luther, Julie
Madaras, David
Madaras, Duff & Tekla
Madaras, Roberta

McCann, Kathy
Michel, Ann
Michelson, Ken
Migliori, Frank
Miller, Amy (Helm)
Moore, Gary
Moore, Hal
Meyers, Brian & Leslie
Opelt, James
Rolf, Jr., Paul & Linda
Rutherford, Eric
Rutherford, Jerry & Connie
Sandwich, Jerry A.
Seifert, Duane & Amy
Sheets, Dick & Nedra
Sheets, Todd
Smith, Linda (Nollenberger)
Vickers, Dave & Janell
White, Gary
Wilson, Robert

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

2014

Dallas Gardner Family
Dale Bruning Family
Doyce Filiere Family

2015

Ron Dunmyer
Richard Lowrie
Jane Kohlenberg
Adolph Madaras
Leroy Minnix
Kenneth Krukemyer
Jerry Sigler

2016

Mark Deerwester
Roland Huss
Fred Koester
Larry McCormic
Mike Van Camp
Gary White

2017

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Lloyd Dierker
Jodi Juergens Evans
Terry McKibben
Jerry Rutherford

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