



## Howard F. Briggs

December 1, 1956 - February 11, 2023

Howard F. Briggs, beloved husband, son, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on February 11, 2023, at the age of 66.

Howie graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1974. He then went on and dedicated over 40 years as a Glazier and was a proud member of Local 181 Glaziers. He was the Co-Commissioner of the NorthEast Ohio Baseball League and Assistant Area Director of NE Ohio Five Tool Youth Baseball, in addition to his roles as Commissioner of Fall Baseball.net and Tournament Director for Batter-Up events. Howie had a passion for volunteering and was a board member for the Littlest Heroes-Pediatric Cancer Foundation and was recently honored as its 2022 Man of the Year. Howie and Andrea spent many years traveling the world together and were always looking forward to their next adventure. He was an avid bowler and was very proud of his perfect game of 300. Above all, Howie cherished time spent with his loved ones and made memories that will last a lifetime. He was a kind and devoted family man who touched the lives of everyone he met.

Howie is survived by his loving wife and partner of 30 years, Andrea (nee Kacprzak), mother Margaret S. Briggs (nee Sprungle), children John Skolny, Melanie (Jason) Moodry, Greg (Tracie) Gerland, and Cheryl (Andy) Schumacher, custodial parent of his great grand-children Aliyah England and

Aiden England, grandchildren Brian Skolny, Joey Skolny, Kevin Skolny, Megan Skolny, Trey Moodry, Riley Moodry, Johnathon Gerland, Andrew Gerland, Ashley Briggs, Meghan Bayne, Matthew Bayne and Michael Schumacher, siblings Joyce Peak, Mary Jo Hanson (Gary Bice), Steve (Linda) Briggs, Mike (Laura) Briggs and David (Jeanne) Briggs. Howie also leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, dear friends, and his pets. He was preceded in death by his father Howard D. Briggs and grandson Rick Wohr.

Visitation will be on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, from 3pm to 8pm at Monreal Funeral Home, 35400 Curtis Blvd., Eastlake.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 10am at St. Mary of the Assumption, 8560 Mentor Ave., Mentor.

In lieu of flowers, donations in honor of Howie can be made in care of the family.

# Previous Events

## Funeral Mass

FEB **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary's - Mentor  
8560 Mentor Ave,  
Mentor, OH 44060

# Tribute Wall

YD

“ By far one of the nicest most genuine people that I have ever met when it came to youth sports. I only knew Howie for a couple of years but I’ll never forget my interactions with him especially when he made a point to greet our team last fall when I knew he wasn’t doing well. He was so positive and gracious and he will not be forgotten.

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**Yasser Daoudi** - February 24, 2023 at 09:31 PM

KK

“ Howie was always a great supporter of the things we try to do at St. Clare Field. Losing him is a real blow to youth baseball in NE Ohio. Thank you Howie for all your kind words and support over the years.

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**Kurt Kuster** - February 18, 2023 at 12:02 PM

LL

“ So so sorry to hear of Howie's passing. Our friendship started way back in high school and junior bowling at both Justin Lanes and Palisades and Palisades IV. Unfortunately, we lost touch for a while when I moved away, however it was always easy to find Howie. Just check out youth baseball! Always ready to help out when something needed to get done...you could always count on Howie. His love and passion for youth baseball will always be remembered. And I am really lucky to remember him as a friend.

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**Lee Loy** - February 15, 2023 at 03:40 PM

SM

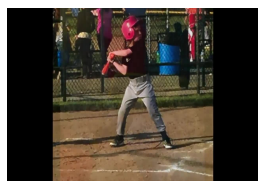
*“ I am so sorry to hear of Howie’s passing. His passion for and dedication to youth baseball was greatly appreciated. His kindness was felt by countless people and his positivity was inspiring. Howie was one-of-a-kind and will be truly missed.*

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**Stacey Marlow** - February 15, 2023 at 01:40 PM



*“ 1 file added to the album Memory Video*



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**Monreal Srnick Funerals & Cremations** - February 15, 2023 at 12:47 PM

RB

*“ Howie, you were a legend. You will be missed so much. You were such a generous human and we love you! Rest in peace my friend!  
<3*

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**Rae Bodonyi** - February 15, 2023 at 11:11 AM

GB

*“ Howie, You will be missed. You made such a difference in the lives you touched. We all need to follow your example of giving to others.*

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**Gary Bice** - February 15, 2023 at 07:16 AM

“ *The Littlest Heroes is a nonprofit organization providing financial and emotional support to families who have a child living with cancer*

*The people who make the biggest difference in this world are those who step up to the plate when their number is called – those who take their skill sets, giftings, and passion and use it for service.*

*Howie Briggs stepped up to the plate when The Littlest Heroes needed him, and his decision has made a lasting impact for those who have benefitted from his tireless efforts.*

*Since 1977, Howie has been a cornerstone of the baseball community in Northeast Ohio. His love of the game and care for children led him to step to the plate as a coach, and his recognizable leadership skills eventually led him to the role of the commissioner in Euclid and, ultimately, a coordinator of countless tournaments around our region. Universally respected, Howie’s work has impacted thousands of children.*

*As The Littlest Heroes was beginning to grow, we saw an opportunity to launch a baseball tournament – one that would provide a great outlet for participation and generate revenue so that we could expand our services.*

*Once again, Howie stepped up to the plate.*

*In 2008, Howie launched The Littlest Heroes Baseball Tournament as his wife Andrea was finishing her battle with cancer. He saw his giftings and experience intersect with a whole new way to give back. His already immense impact on America’s pastime grew even more.*

*Over the 14 years of the tournament’s existence, more than \$300,000 has been raised for The Littlest Heroes – generating resources to help children and their families in need.*

*Howie's service is not simply tied to the tournament. The same year he launched the tournament, he went "all in" to serve this organization. Howie joined the board in 2008, and he now serves as its Chairman.*

*As the Board Chairman, Howie rolls up his sleeves, from connecting with kids on the baseball field to serving families in their homes. Without Howie, it is difficult to imagine the Adopt-A-Family program seeing its current level of success. He personally drives from Toledo to Pittsburgh and everywhere in between so that he can deliver gifts to hundreds of families of our Littlest Heroes, impacting over 400 individuals each year. He rolls up his sleeves, connects with those we serve, and makes an impact on whole families.*

*The Littlest Heroes has impacted thousands of children and their families, and we are so proud of the organization that we have built. As believers in people, we have seen this play out in the leadership and service of Howie Briggs.*

*Because Howie stepped up to the plate, The Littlest Heroes is thriving because of his leadership, service, and personal commitment, and we are proud to honor him today.*

*Jon Kozesky | Executive Director  
Amber Toth | Program Manager*



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**Steven J Briggs** - February 14, 2023 at 09:02 AM

SB

“ Lightning Baseball  
@SCLightning2015  
Replying to  
@oplbaseball  
Howie was a great man who ran wonderful tournaments for a  
cause. He will be missed.

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Steven J Briggs - February 14, 2023 at 08:37 AM

SB

“ Orange High School Baseball  
@Orange\_BSBL  
Replying to  
@oplbaseball  
and  
@OHADNewsHS  
Tremendous human being. He will be missed.

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Steven J Briggs - February 14, 2023 at 08:36 AM

SB

“ Renee Mealey  
@rmealey878  
.  
Feb 11  
Replying to  
@oplbaseball  
Wonderful man and leader for the youth baseball in Ohio. He cared  
so much for the kids and will be greatly missed.

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Steven J Briggs - February 14, 2023 at 08:35 AM

SB

“ Keith C. Packard  
@packardkc  
Replying to  
@oplbaseball  
Always a great guy to work with. He will be missed.

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Steven J Briggs - February 14, 2023 at 08:35 AM

SB

“ T3 Warhawks (Powe)  
@T3Warhawks\_12U  
.  
Feb 11  
Replying to  
@oplbaseball  
and  
@t3warhawksmk26  
Sad news. Love and prayers from the T3 Warhawks organization  
and our families. Howie will be missed.

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Steven J Briggs - February 14, 2023 at 08:34 AM

SB

“ Tim Shirer  
@TBBucsTim  
.  
Feb 12  
Replying to  
@oplbaseball  
and  
@shirer111  
The great thing about Howie is, he never cared how good a kid was  
or if the kid was a prospect. He cared about is if a kid wanted to play  
baseball and didn't have a team he would find one for him.

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Steven J Briggs - February 14, 2023 at 08:33 AM

SB

“ Coach John Scott  
@Jts7kick

Feb 11

Replying to

@oplbaseball

and

@DNACleveland

Tremendous man. Very sad news. Howie always did what was best for kids. He will be missed.

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Steven J Briggs - February 14, 2023 at 08:32 AM

SB

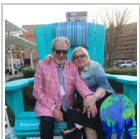
“ Ohioprospectsleague  
@oplbaseball

Feb 11

The Ohio Prospects League mourns the passing of Howie Briggs. He was an integral part of summer and fall baseball in Northeast Ohio. He did so much for youth baseball and ran fundraising events for Littlest Heroes. You will be missed.

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Steven J Briggs - February 14, 2023 at 08:29 AM



“ Will never forget how positive you were in spite of the storm you faced. Never will forget all the laughter and love 💕 you gave to all of us. I will not forget any of the promises made! Love you forever brother Howie! Love Mary Jo

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Mary JO Hanson - February 13, 2023 at 10:30 PM

FR

“ My Howie boy blessed to have you as a great friend!! I love your positivity on life you were the best!! You were one of a kind and so positive always in life!! Being with you was like a breath of fresh air !! I will miss you dearly...see you again❤️🙏 Love Frosty

Frosty - February 13, 2023 at 03:31 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Howard F. Briggs.



February 13, 2023 at 01:34 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Howard F. Briggs.



February 13, 2023 at 11:18 AM



“ Howie, you were one of the best men I have ever met. Always helping someone in need and you did with a smile and enthusiasm. You sir will forever be missed.  
Love you buddy  
Doug Hare

Doug Hare - February 13, 2023 at 10:23 AM