



## Edward Bertha

September 6, 1929 - June 7, 2020

The world has lost another great man, my dad, Ed "Bert" Bertha, Sr., age 90, of Plum Boro. He was born in 1929 to the son of Hungarian immigrants (Michael and Elizabeth), and raised in Penn Hills during the depression. His father, a blacksmith by trade, was a jack of all trades and he learned well from him. The depression motto 'use it up, wear it out, make do or do without' certainly was true during his childhood. He had great responsibility at a very young age. It wasn't uncommon for him to walk the railroad tracks looking for coal to heat the house or rise early before school to feed the chickens. Times were sure different. These experiences, however, shaped who he was as a man.

When the Korean War broke out he was willing to serve and willing to sacrifice. He served in the Army Air Corp at the beginning of the Korean War, giving almost 5 years of service and earning 4 bronze stars and a purple heart. The war changed him and he carried a heavy load for the remainder of his years. He was a proud man who never spoke of his wartime experiences, but one could see in his eyes what was sacrificed. He was an honorable man and a true patriot.

He returned home to study Mechanical Engineering at the University of Pittsburgh, met the love of his life Dee (married 63 years), and had 3 children: Edward Bertha Jr, Dale and me...Tammy Kedzierski (husband Dave). His family grew to include 5 grandchildren: Michael (wife Sarah and gr grandchildren Adalynn and Brooklynn), Charlotte (gr grandchild Channing), Bristol, Amanda and Jacob. It was so heartwarming to see his tenderness and love for his family. During his life many family members passed before him; his wife Delores, son Dale, parents Michael and Elizabeth, brothers Art and Bob. His sister in law Virginia was a source of friendship and provided immeasurable support throughout his final years.

He enjoyed his work at Gulf Research and retired from Pittsburgh Corning. After retirement, he heard his new calling and joined the Korean War Veterans of Western PA-GEN Matthew B. Ridgway chapter, serving in the military honor guard. He then was asked to start the honor guard at his local American Legion Post 980 in Plum. He felt so strongly that every veteran deserved full military honors and committed himself to this cause, performing well over 3,000 military burials.

Ed was a part of the "whatever it takes" generation. He had a life full of giving whatever it

took; enduring the depression, fighting evil during the war, shouldering his war experiences, supporting and raising his family and serving his country and fellow man. He quietly passed Sunday, June 7th. A military burial at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies is scheduled with a family memorial following.

Day is gone, gone the sun, from the lake, from the hill, from the sky. All is well. Safely rest. God is nigh.—'Taps'. Professional services trusted to D'ALESSANDRO FUNERAL HOME and CREMATORY LTD., Lawrenceville. [www.dalessandroltd.com](http://www.dalessandroltd.com).

# Cemetery

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**National Cemetery of the Alleghenies**

1158 Morgan Road

Bridgeville, PA, 15017

# Comments

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“ Ed was one of the first people I met when I started at PCC in 1977. Always with a smile and eager to help. He helped turn the place into a great company.

**Edward Wieszczyński** - June 18 at 10:13 AM



“ Thank you for your kind words.

Tammy (Ed's daughter)

**Tammy** - June 21 at 06:24 PM

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“ Tammy and family,

My heartfelt condolences on the passing of your father. I have so many fond memories of Ed, and all of them he is smiling or laughing. The perfect way to remember someone my family and I always loved to be around.

Randy

**Randy Rively** - June 17 at 07:40 AM

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“ I worked with Ed at Pittsburgh Corning. I was a "rookie" and he helped me tremendously through the learning stages of selling Foamglas insulation. Without Ed tutoring me, with his profound patience, I never would have been as successful. I really enjoyed seeing Ed and Dee at all the Pittsburgh Corning at all the Christmas Parties. He was a great man, he told me many stories of the Korean War, and of his youth. My condolences to the Bertha Family during this difficult time. HE WAS AND WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBER AS A GREAT MAN, FATHER AND CONFIDANT.

Tom Galligan, Plympton, MA

**Tom Galligan** - June 16 at 06:46 AM



“ Thank you for your kind words and for sharing your memories. He selflessly helped many people throughout his life and it warms my heart to hear his impact on you.

Tammy (Ed's daughter)

**Tammy** - June 21 at 06:23 PM

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“ Dear Tammy & Ed & Families,  
We have such wonderful memories of your Dad and his endearing smile. May these give you all solace at this time. Our deepest sympathy along with our prayers to you all at this time.  
Love Dave & Sandy Dawson



**Sandy Dawson** - June 13 at 09:51 AM



“ Thank you for sharing this picture Sandy. Brings back fond memories.  
**Tammy** - June 21 at 06:25 PM