



## Josephine "Jo" Emahiser

April 19, 1936 - July 29, 2025

Josephine "Jo" Emahiser, 89, of Napoleon, Ohio passed away peacefully on July 29, 2025 at CHP Hospice, Defiance, Ohio, with her beloved family by her side. She was born on April 19, 1936, to the late and Stanley and Sophie (Czernielewski) Szczepanski. On February 20, 1954, she married the late Charles Gordon Emahiser.

She worked at Walmart in Napoleon, Ohio, and was a member of Colton United Methodist Church, where she was the custodian for many years.

Jo was a lover not a fighter, a strong follower of Christ and loved her family unconditionally. She was an avid card player with family and friends, sneaky on her moves so a watchful eye was needed. Her world revolved around those around her, always putting everyone else before herself. Most of her later years were spent caring for Gordie and cherishing the life that they built together, attending as many functions as they could to support their kids, grandkids, and great grandkids. She'll be remembered for her love of robins, cardinals, and gnomes, crocheting and knitting, the sunshine state, and her Polish cooking.

Jo is survived by her children, Deb (Bill) Spiess, Sebring, Florida, Julie (Tim) Bowen, Liberty Center, Ohio, Teresa (David) Jones, Napoleon, Ohio, Kay (Todd) Maassel, Defiance, Ohio, and Greg (Toni) Emahiser, Liberty Center,

Ohio. Her grandchildren, Stephanie (Carl) Pippin, Jamie (Kent) Snyder, Brad (Chelsea) Howe, David Bowen, Zach (Meagan) Bowen, Joe and Maddie (Connor) Jones, Lynnsey (Jared) and Logan (Zane) Maassel, Sarah (Nate) Emahiser, Haley (Cameron) Harris, Alexa (Jordan) Polsdorfer. Jo also had 16 great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband, Jo was preceded in death by daughter Linda, and sisters Stella, Frannie, Irene, and brother Stanley "Harry".

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, on Friday, August 1, 2025, from 1 PM until 3 PM. Interment will be private. In memory of Jo donations can be made to CHP Hospice, Defiance or to the Colton United Methodist Church of Colton, Ohio. Online condolences and messages may be shared with the family at [rodenbergergray.com](http://rodenbergergray.com)

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG 1. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon  
1010 Westmoreland Avenue  
Napoleon, OH 43545

# Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Video*



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**Rodenberger Funeral Home** - August 22, 2025 at 09:43 AM

CV

“ So sorry to just hear of Aunt Jo's passing. She was always encouraging, positive, and had a smile on her face. Aunt Jo loved Uncle Gordie as well as her family and championed them in their life adventures.

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**Cindy Vines** - August 03, 2025 at 07:48 PM

DK

“ David and Andrea Kessler purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Josephine "Jo" Emahiser.



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**David and Andrea Kessler** - August 01, 2025 at 05:18 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Josephine "Jo" Emahiser.



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July 31, 2025 at 01:46 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Josephine "Jo" Emahiser.*



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July 31, 2025 at 10:42 AM



“ *Was sorry to hear of Jo's passing, worked with her at Walmart, always enjoyed working with her. She was a good person, regret not keeping in touch. May you rest in peace Jo!*

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**Pauline Giesige** - July 30, 2025 at 07:36 PM



“ *Jeff & Sheryl Rathge & Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Josephine "Jo" Emahiser.*



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**Jeff & Sheryl Rathge & Family** - July 30, 2025 at 12:05 PM