



## Howard S. Dybedock

December 24, 1940 - September 25, 2011

Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, Dec. 24, 1940, after having survived the attack on Pearl Harbor, Howard S. Dybedock and his mother fled to the mainland, while his father fought throughout World War II on aircraft carriers in the U.S. Navy. After the war, the family settled in Bettendorf, Iowa, where he attended the Bettendorf school system and University of Iowa. He was a broadcast engineer, licensed by the Federal Communications Commission.

Howard spent his career in radio and television broadcasting in Rock Island and Joliet, Ill., and Iowa City, Ottumwa and Fairfield, Iowa, before moving to Kankakee in 1974 to construct and manage WBYG, a high-power FM radio station that was subsequently sold to Milner Broadcasting in 1984. He then established and was the president of Midwest Tower Leasing Inc., and a broadcasting consulting firm, Dybedock and Associates Inc.

He was an avid general aviation pilot and owned and flew many antique and aerobatic aircraft. He was also a ham radio operator, first licensed in 1954 at the age of 13, and held the highest class FCC license with the AK9F. He particularly enjoyed Morse code operation and was an active participant in ham radio contesting. He was a member of the Kankakee Area Radio Society, the National Association of Broadcasters, the Experimental Aircraft Association, the Aircraft Owners and Pilot's Association and a 25-year member and past president of the Kankakee Lion's Club.

His passions included playing trombone with the New Horizons Band and the NHB Brass Quintet, sailing and hunting with his sons.

As a member of St. John United Church of Christ in Kankakee, Howard served as a deacon, an elder and president of the congregation. He also found great joy in singing in the church choir.

He is survived by his wife, Susan, of Kankakee; his children, Rhonda (Rob) Crink, of Noblesville, Ind., Dr. Lawrence (Traci) Dybedock, of Nixa, Mo., twin sons, Steven (Robin) Dybedock, of Chicago, and Scott (Audrey) Dybedock, of Brownsburg, Ind. Also surviving are stepsons, Dr. Erich (Tricia) Hertz, of Albany, N.Y., Carl Hertz (Dr. Heather Eisele), of Chicago, and Douglas (Kris) Marsh, of Bradenton, Fla.; seven grandchildren, nieces and nephews; and sister, Deanna Fuller, of Luverne, Minn. He was previously married to Charlene Dybedock, of Kankakee, who is his business partner in Midwest Tower Leasing Inc; and Sandra Dybedock, of Nixa, MO.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Lucy Rank Dybedock.

Howard died Sunday (Sept. 25, 2011) at Provena St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee.

Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, west Kankakee. A funeral service will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday at St. John United Church of Christ in Kankakee. The Rev. Barbara Lohrbach will officiate.

Cremation rites will be accorded by Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Crematory, west Kankakee. If desired, memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley, the Kankakee Lion's Club or St. John United Church of Christ in Kankakee.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley - [www.hkvcares.org/](http://www.hkvcares.org/)  
or to Kankakee Lions Club

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **30**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home  
1480 W. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

## Funeral Service

OCT **1**. 4:00 PM (CT)

St. John United Church Of Christ  
1045 W. River  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-3336  
<http://www.stjohnucc-kan-il.org/>

# Tribute Wall

JB

“ We remember Howard when he visited Havana in 2004 together with his friend Ken boarding a catamaran.  
His sons kept me updated when he got a heart surgery through a beeper, never forget that.  
RIP Mr. Howard Dybedock

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**Jorge Borroto** - September 01, 2024 at 10:40 PM



“ One of the shared interests we had was flying. When Sue and Howard came up to visit in Alaska, we took a scenic flight of the area through the mountains and glaciers. When Howard found out that is what we were going to do (it was a surprise), he lit up like a kid at Christmas! He sat in front with the pilot (who was a flight instructor) and was able to fly the plane for most of our tour. At the end he had the opportunity to do some touch-and-go's at a nearby small airport. I was not too excited about it at the time as I REALLY needed to use the restroom and just wanted to get back on the ground and take care of business! He didn't help matters any with a fairly rough landing on the first go around! I about lost it! =) The second one was a bit better, and the third was smooth as silk. I did razz him quite a bit for the rusty first attempt, but even considering the circumstances, it was an experience that makes me smile/laugh every time I think about it.

Howard was one of the few people who supported me when i said I was interested in flying. He even paid for my first flying lesson! I never made it past that (not for lack of desire), but my obsession with aircraft is what has kept me going through 7 years in the Air Force. He was also a huge supporter of my career in the Air Force and the opportunities that it provided. Every time I got to go somewhere new around the world, he wanted to hear about it and see the pictures. I made him laugh non-stop for about 15 minutes after telling him of my experience in a sea plane in Fiji that was trying to outrun a storm before we ran out of gas!

This poem is one that I was introduced to many years ago, but is what immediately popped in my head the day that Howard died...as he "put out (his) hand, and touched the face of God."

*High Flight - John Gillespie Magee, Jr*

*Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth  
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;  
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth*

*of sun-split clouds, — and done a hundred things  
You have not dreamed of — wheeled and soared and swung  
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,  
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung  
My eager craft through footless halls of air....*

*Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue  
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace.  
Where never lark, or even eagle flew —  
And, while with silent lifting mind I have trod  
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,  
- Put out my hand, and touched the face of God*

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**Chelle Campbell** - November 10, 2011 at 03:11 PM

KB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Kenneth A Buser** - October 08, 2011 at 10:20 PM

KB

“ *Howard was my Best Friend, A Business Partner, A Mentor...*

*Judie and I always looked forward to an evening Dinner with Him and Sue.*

*Howard went thru more medical challenges than most can Imagine, and he did it with a smile to the outside world.*

*No Longer will I be able to call him and ask technical questions or just enjoy conversation.*

*He was always a wealth of information for many besides myself.*

*We will all miss Howard, But his memory's will last forever.*

*Ken and Judie Buser*

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**Kenneth A. Buser** - October 07, 2011 at 12:29 PM

BK

“Most of all, we will miss Howard’s great sense of humor. I could always tell when Don was talking to Howard on the phone because of Don’s laughter. Howard’s quirky wit is evident in these Email responses I received from him.

*In response to an Email I sent about my cat catching his first mouse, Howard wrote:*

*“Oh God!! Poor mouse! I was just getting ready to sit down and eat and you ruined my meal!!!! We’re having braised cat with wild rice.....yummmmm!”*

*In response to a movie I sent showing a pair of adorable otters holding hands while floating on their backs at a zoo, Howard wrote:*

*“I think otters are really good, too. Roasted for about 2 and a half hours at 300 degrees. A little bit of oregano helps diminish the fishy taste.  
And their fur makes great mittens.”*

*With all of Howard’s disparaging remarks about animals, he could not hide his inner goodness from our cat Louie. Louie would always run from the room when we had company. One day, about 2 years ago, Don and Howard were operating a CW ham radio contest. Imagine my surprise when I walked past the hamshack door just in time to see Louie jumping up onto Howard’s lap, in spite of the fact that Howard had frequently offered to take Louie for a vacation to southern Indiana and tie him out for Coyote bait. They say animals are a good judge of character.*

*Howard, dear friend, you will be missed.  
Billie Kerouac*

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**Billie Kerouac** - October 04, 2011 at 02:10 PM

KB

*Howard was my Best Friend, A Business Partner, A Mentor...  
Judie and I always looked forward to dinner with him and Sue...  
Howard went thru more medical challenges than most can imagine,  
and He did it with a smile to the outside world.  
No longer will I be able to call him and ask technical questions.  
He was always a wealth of information for many besides myself.*

*We will all miss Howard, But his memory's will last forever.*

*Ken and Judie Buser*

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**Kenneth A. Buser** - October 07, 2011 at 11:52 AM



“ Steve Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.

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**Charlene Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 11:09 AM



“ Scott Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.

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**Charlene Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 11:08 AM



“ Lawrece Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.

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**Charlene Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 11:08 AM



“ Rhonda Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.

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**Charlene Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 11:08 AM



“ Sandra Wright Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.

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**Charlene Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 11:02 AM



“ *Kris was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:46 AM



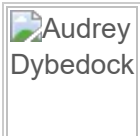
“ *Doug was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:46 AM



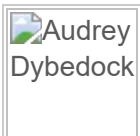
“ *Magnus Hertz was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:45 AM



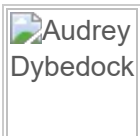
“ *Heather Hertz was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:45 AM



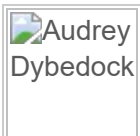
“ *Carl Hertz was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:44 AM



“ *Greta Hertz was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:44 AM



“ *Amelia Hertz was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:44 AM



“ *Tricia Hertz was added to the Family Tree.*

**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:43 AM



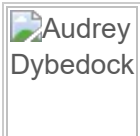
“ *Erich Hertz was added to the Family Tree.*

**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:43 AM



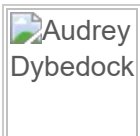
“ *Noel Hertz was added to the Family Tree.*

**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:43 AM



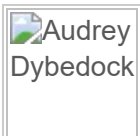
“ *Christian Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.*

**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:41 AM



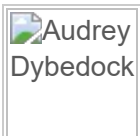
“ *Grace Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.*

**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:41 AM



“ *Audrey Sue Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.*

**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:40 AM



“ *Scott Bernard Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.*

**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:39 AM



“ *Robin Miller-dybedock was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:38 AM



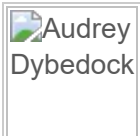
“ *Steven Clarence Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:38 AM



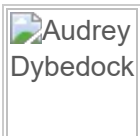
“ *Traci Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:37 AM



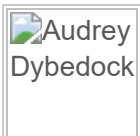
“ *Lawrence Lane Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:36 AM



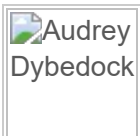
“ *Brian Dybedock-crink was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:35 AM



“ *Brittani Crink was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:35 AM



“ *Robert Crink was added to the Family Tree.*

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:35 AM



“ Rhonda Dybedock-crink was added to the Family Tree.

Audrey Dybedock - October 03, 2011 at 09:34 AM



“ Charlene Hertz-dybedock was added to the Family Tree.

Audrey Dybedock - October 03, 2011 at 09:31 AM



“ Sandra Wright-dybedock was added to the Family Tree.

Audrey Dybedock - October 03, 2011 at 09:29 AM



“ Larry Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.

Audrey Dybedock - October 03, 2011 at 09:28 AM



“ Rhonda Leah Dybedock-crink was added to the Family Tree.

Audrey Dybedock - October 03, 2011 at 09:27 AM



“ Susan Dybedock was added to the Family Tree.

Audrey Dybedock - October 03, 2011 at 09:27 AM



“ Howard was truly a remarkable man. His generosity, intelligence and quick witty will be missed. It was an honour to have known him.

Stuart and Sheri Clifford

S clifford - October 02, 2011 at 12:59 AM

SC

“ Howard was truly a remarkable man. His generosity, intelligence and quick wit will be missed. It was an honor to have known him.

*Stuart and Sheri Clifford*

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**S Clifford** - October 02, 2011 at 12:52 AM

DK

“ A business associate, a brother, an incomparable friend...In his journey through life, Howard was the warm light that lit the way for so many

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**Don Kerouac** - October 01, 2011 at 02:04 PM

MH

“ Howard was my husband's buddy throughout high school. In recent years we were able to share some wonderful times relaxing in Chicago, touring museums and trying ethnic restaurants. Howard was a great friend whose memory will be treasured. My sincere condolences go to Sue and his extended family.

*Mary Ann Hutchison  
Mount Carroll, IL*

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**Mary Ann Hutchison** - September 29, 2011 at 03:08 PM

BI

“ With deepest sympathy to the family, Rest in Peace.

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**Bill & Polly Dossett Evansville In.** - September 29, 2011 at 07:23 AM

GP

“ Howard holds a very special place in my heart. He was the first broadcaster to give this 24 year old San Diegan an opportunity to break into the business. He hired me from our phone conversations only because he said he had a "good feeling about this left coaster." And I of him. The two years spent at WBYG set the tone for my next 36 years in radio. I will always be indebted to him. He was a fair, honest and remarkably tolerant man. For family members who survive Howard please know that a little bit of him is channeled everyday when I open the microphone. My deepest condolences are with you all.

Greg Shelby  
aka Greg Panattoni  
aka Sonny West, KyXy, San Diego

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**Greg Panattoni** - September 28, 2011 at 08:15 PM

FA

“ I was lucky enough to be in Howard's life in Kankakee in the '70s. He hired me at WBYG and gave me room to grow. Our experience was mutually beneficial, and thanks to Howard, I was able to move on to greater things. I hope he found happiness and professional satisfaction, as well as a well-earned retirement.

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**Frank Absher** - September 28, 2011 at 04:34 PM

DB

“ Howard was a great friend. He never once tired of my many questions and was always encouraging. I will miss him.

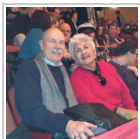
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**Dennis Baldrige** - September 28, 2011 at 03:08 PM

MS

“ *My deepest condolences on Howard's passing. He was instrumental in starting 91.1 FM in Kankakee, the station that is now WKCC, operated by Kankakee Community college. In our discussions, he was really pleased that Kankakee now has public radio. I am grateful to have been associated with such a fine broadcaster and individual.*

Mike Savage - September 28, 2011 at 02:55 PM



“ *Mary Quiroz Thomson lit a candle in memory of Howard S. Dybedock*



Mary Quiroz Thomson - September 28, 2011 at 12:35 PM

1S

“ *1shelley0 lit a candle in memory of Howard S. Dybedock*



1shelley0 - September 28, 2011 at 12:35 PM

1S

“ *My prayers are with the Dybedock family at this sad time.*

*Mary Thomson*



1shelley0 - September 28, 2011 at 12:35 PM

JL

“ I will always be grateful to Howard, who hired me as news director of WBYG in 1975, my first job out of college. He was friendly and supportive, with a sly sense of humor.

*I recall that he had chosen the call letters (pronounced "big") to indicate that his station wasn't Small. When reporting on school board meetings that he had attended in person, he used to insert a line of fake news, just to see if the other station in town would pick up on it. (They often did.)*

*Howard had a penchant for giving airborne thrill rides to his news directors. He took me up in his small plane one evening. We flew above Kankakee for a while, and when he noticed that I'd had about enough, he headed down for a landing.*

*However, he merely touched the runway and pulled back up. That didn't do much to improve my state of well being, which I think gave him great pleasure. Never a guy who did anything incompletely or without great enthusiasm, Howard buzzed the runway a second time.*

*Had there been more light inside the plane, he would have seen me turning three shades of green. On third approach he finally landed. I managed, only barely, to keep my lunch in my stomach.*

*Howard was one of those rare people you come across who creates an indelible lifelong impression. May his memory be a blessing to his family, his professional colleagues and his many friends.*

*-- Jonathan Lehrer*

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**Jonathan Lehrer** - September 28, 2011 at 11:59 AM

AP

“ We send our condolences and love to Howard's family. He was a wonderful kind man and business partner. Adam & Anna Pyne

Adam & Anna Pyne - September 28, 2011 at 11:42 AM

JM

“ Rest in Peace, my friend. You brought us together almost 30 years ago. How can we ever thank you enough for changing our lives forever. We love you and will truly miss you. Jim & Vicki Murphy

Jim & Vicki Murphy - September 28, 2011 at 10:05 AM

RF

“ It was a pleasure to have known you for the short time I did. I will always remember the story of your family name and it's history. Rest in peace Howard. Randy Fisher

Randy Fisher - September 28, 2011 at 08:38 AM

JA

“ Rest well my dear friend and all the best to your family. 73  
John Abdnour

John Abdnour - September 28, 2011 at 06:44 AM



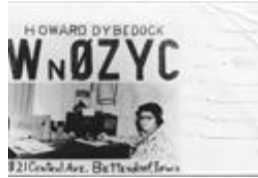
“ A fascinating man that I am proud to have called my friend.  
A respectable man with a heart of gold.  
You will be sorely missed.

Sue, you are in our hearts and prayers.  
Clay and Cindy Melhorn

Clay Melhorn - September 28, 2011 at 03:58 AM

CM

“ 5 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Clay Melhorn - September 28, 2011 at 02:13 AM



“ Sue,

*I was saddened to hear the news about Howard's passing on Sunday. When I spoke to him back in February he stressed to me how much he had lived a great life! I wanted to post a picture of him when he was so loving one of his favorite hobbies; aviation.*



*Howard & Jerry really enjoyed their day along with (I believe it was his son Stephen) flying in the B-24 Liberator Bomber. It was a cold, rainy day, but the guys were having the time of their lives!!!*

*Howard will be missed by many. His family & you are in our hearts & prayers!*

*Lori Rosalius*

LORI ROSALIUS - September 27, 2011 at 08:01 PM

SO

*Ted and I are very sad to hear this news. We remember Howard as a dedicated leader at St John. Our condolences to Sue, Charlene and his children.*

*Sandy Osman  
Peoria, IL*

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**Sandy Osman** - September 28, 2011 at 10:50 AM

CM

*“Howard was one of the most selfless people that I have ever known. He was always willing to help out... with anything. Whether it was physical or intellectual work, he gave it his all. There are very few people in the world that I respect and admire more than Howard. My heart goes out to Sue and the rest of his family.*



*He will be greatly missed!!*

*73,*

*K9IOC - Chip*

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**Chip Moore** - September 27, 2011 at 07:59 PM

GM

*“Dear Susan: Nancy and I are praying for you with the loss of Howard. Over the course of life, many acquaintances are made, but few can truly be called a "friend". Howard was that and more to both of us, and we will miss him mightily. Peace be with you.*

*Geary Morrill*

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**Geary Morrill** - September 27, 2011 at 07:53 PM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



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**LORI ROSALIUS** - September 27, 2011 at 07:46 PM



*What a fantastic photo of Howard! Thank you for sharing it!*  
-Audrey Dybedock

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**Audrey Dybedock** - October 03, 2011 at 09:24 AM

CF

“ *I am praying for you in the loss of Howard. I will miss his helpful advice and consultation. I was blessed to be able to call him friend over the last few years and deeply appreciate his contribution to Olivet and WONU through technical expertise and his knowledge of the industry. The radio community will miss him deeply, he has contributed to society and the kingdom of heaven in ways we can never realize while here on earth. Thank you for sharing him with us!* -Carl Fletcher

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**Carl Fletcher** - September 27, 2011 at 07:46 PM

CG

“ My prayers and deepest sympathy to Howard's family and friends.

*Howard was one of the most caring people I knew; not only was he amazingly knowledgeable about so many things, he was always open to new ideas and different ways to approach issues. He was so understanding, caring, and willing to listen and help no matter the circumstance.*

*I met Howard some 25 years through his friends with WBYG and his guidance was so helpful then as it has been over the years. He always had suggestions to help and so willing to console. Even with his own health concerns, Howard so graciously reached out to offer help to me and others when the situation was there. I've missed our visits over the last several months. May Howard rest in peace. My prayers are with Susan and the family.*

*-Carl Gerdovich*

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**Carl Gerdovich** - September 27, 2011 at 07:11 PM

GR

“ Dear SUSAN, HOWARD WAS A PERSON THAT WOULD LISTEN TO WHAT U HAD TO SAY, AND GIVE U ADVISE ON WHAT U TALK ABOUT, HE WAS A VERY UNDERSTANDING PERSON, AND A VERY CARING PERSON AND HAVE A LOT OF LOVE TO GIVE, I REMEMBER, HE LOVE THE WAY I MADE CHOCOLATE CHIPS COOKIES,I WILL MISS HIM, HE WILL ALWAYS BE MY HEARTIN . LOVE, JIM, GEORGIAKRYSTAL



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**GEORGIANA REHBERG** - September 27, 2011 at 06:22 PM

MM

“ *Dear Susan,*

*You may not remember me but Howard has been so helpful and wonderful to me and the whole staff at WGFA over the years. We feel so very sorry over his passing. Howard was always a man of enormous heart and integrity. He will be missed by all of us.*

*Sincerely, Maggie Martin*

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**Maggie Martin** - September 27, 2011 at 05:14 PM