



## Howard J. Catt

December 13, 1924 - June 29, 2023

Howard J. Catt,

98, of Indianapolis, was gifted 35,992 days to be devoted to God, dedicated to duty, love his family and be loyal to friends. Howard passed away peacefully June 29, 2023. He was born December 13, 1924 in Spiceland, IN, to the late Howard V. and Lucille Elizabeth (Stickler) Catt. He married Beverly Jean Mercer July 6, 1947, and she preceded him in death February 15, 1993. Howard then married Janet Dragoo Maas June 15, 1994 and she preceded him in death December 4, 2020.

Howard was a teacher and athletic director for Arsenal Technical High School for 36 years. He was a former member of University Heights United Methodist Church and a current member of Trinity Lutheran Church. During his lifetime, Howard was recognized with many awards for his dedication and service. Visitation will be Thursday, July 6, 2023 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Friday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at 11:00 a.m. at Shirley Brothers Thompson Road Chapel, 3333 East Thompson Road.

Howard is survived by his children, Nancy (Rick) Wright, Deb (Jay) Danner, Brenda (Ralph) Reiff, Brian (Donna) Catt, Barbara Smith and Robert (Barbie) Maas; sister, Mary Jane (Larry) Estelle; many wonderful grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.



# Cemetery Details

## Circle Grove Cemetery

Spiceland, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 6. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Thompson Road Chapel  
3333 E. Thompson Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46227  
(317) 783-3315  
info@shirleybrothers.com  
<https://www.shirleybrothers.com>

## Visitation

JUL 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Thompson Road Chapel  
3333 E. Thompson Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46227  
(317) 783-3315  
info@shirleybrothers.com  
<https://www.shirleybrothers.com>

## Funeral Service

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JUL 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Shirley Brothers Thompson Road Chapel  
3333 E. Thompson Road  
Indianapolis, IN 46227  
(317) 783-3315  
[info@shirleybrothers.com](mailto:info@shirleybrothers.com)  
<https://www.shirleybrothers.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *My family is very sorry for your loss. He was a good friend of my dad Don Challis. Dad passed in the mid 1990's. We just heard the news so missed the service. God bless his soul.*

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**Alyson Challis Gurganus** - July 12, 2023 at 05:29 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Howard J. Catt.*



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July 06, 2023 at 02:59 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Howard J. Catt.*

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July 06, 2023 at 02:59 PM



“ *A peerless man who helped create a peerless family and peerless legacy.*

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**David Marshall** - July 05, 2023 at 05:11 PM

AH

“ Sending our condolences to Howard’s family. Howard had a great influence in Indianapolis high school athletics as a supporter of athletes, coaches and officials. I fondly remember he always had smile, a handshake and a piece of Juicy Fruit gum to share and make you feel seen and known. He and Jean were good friends to my parents and they enjoyed time together at athletic events and conferences. I know you will miss him very much.  
Jeff and Anita Compton Hubley

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**Anita Hubley** - July 03, 2023 at 04:51 PM

VM

“ My sincere sympathy to your family. What a great guy, always a pleasure to work with and to know as a friend. We were connected as Athletic Directors and members of the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. As a Henry County native he served many youth, and was a true representative of sportsmanship. Sincerely Vance Meier

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**VANCE MEIER** - July 02, 2023 at 04:06 PM

JE

“ Mr. Catt and my father were friends. My dad was one of the Vice Principals at Broad Ripple when Mr. Catt was the AD for the district. Mr. Catt allowed me to interview him during the IHSAA Regional Championship at Hinkle Fieldhouse during 1992 or 1993. I remember him as a class act and a great man. My condolences to the Catt family and to Mr. Catt’s many friends.

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**Jon Easter** - July 02, 2023 at 02:56 PM

PD

“ Howard Catt, Sincere Condolences to the family. Such a gentleman & positive role model for all. He was an outstanding Athletic Director and icon in the Athletic Director profession. He was respected by all. When I would call and say my name; He would always reply "My Pleasure" as I am sure he did with many others. Always made me smile. And oh yes the chewing gum sent with athletic contracts back when they were mailed. I will remember Howard always with love & respect. A life well lived, a career well spent. Warmest Regards,  
Pris Dillow, Ben Davis HS Retired Athletic Director

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**Priscilla Dillow** - June 30, 2023 at 08:58 PM

DO

“ Dear Catt Family,  
Please accept my sincere condolences on Howard's passing. Please also accept the most sincere congratulations on being related to a man whose life was very well lived! As a former coach and athletic director, I had the pleasure of knowing Howard as we visited many City Basketball tourney games and City AD meetings hosted by Howard at Tech HS. Howard was the jewel of IPS Athletics for many many years! Attending IHSAA tourney games at Hinkle, we're most often hosted by this one and only! I also loved the quartet of young JROTC men playing the National Anthem on their trumpets! That could be one of his trademarks...along with birthday cards sent many years post retirement and Wrigley chewing gum enclosed in any and all correspondence!  
As a young coach and AD, I was very appreciative of Howard's friendship, guidance and ability to make others feel included and welcome! You're one of the best ever Howard...thank you and Godspeed!

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**Douglas Opel** - June 30, 2023 at 07:59 PM