



Herb "Big Dawg" Pawlitsch

JUN 1, 1948 - JUL 26, 2025



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Herb "Big Dawg" Pawlitsch

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Herb "Big Dawg" Pawlitsch June 1, 1948 – July 26, 2025

Herb "Big Dawg" Pawlitsch passed away peacefully on July 26, 2025, surrounded by friends and family. Born in Linz, Austria on June 1, 1948, Herb was the son of the late Josef and Mary Pawlitsch.

Herb is survived by his brother, Joseph (Denise) Pawlitsch; nieces, Jennifer and Jessica; and a wide circle of cherished friends. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 36 years, Kathy, and his beloved pets: Spanky, Darla, Rascal, Skeeter, Misty, and Rio.

A proud graduate of St. Edward High School, Herb played football with passion and pride. He continued his football career at Defiance College, where his large stature earned him the nickname "Big Dawg." Herb dedicated 30 years of service to Sherwin-Williams as Director of Facilities before retiring.

Herb was known for his big heart, quick wit, and love for both people and dogs. He was the life of every party, especially backyard BBQs with family, neighbors, and friends. A loyal Browns fan, he wore his team spirit proudly—even through the tough seasons. He enjoyed golfing, traveling, and spending time at his vacation home in Lakewood Ranch, Florida with Kathy.

A longtime member of Elks Lodge 1350, Herb served as treasurer for 14 years. He found joy in music, good company, and caring for his pets. His humor, warmth, and generosity left a lasting impression on everyone who knew him.

A visitation will be held on August 1, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, followed by a service at 2:00 PM at Sunset Chapel, 6245 Columbia Road, North Olmsted 44070.





Events

Herb "Big Dawg" Pawlitsch

JUN 1, 1948 - JUL 26, 2025

Visitation

 **Friday**, August 1, 2025


 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET

 **Sunset Chapel**
6245 Columbia Road, North Olmsted OH 44070



Service

 **Friday**, August 1, 2025

 2:00 PM ET

 **Sunset Chapel**
6245 Columbia Road, North Olmsted OH 44070





Tribute Wall

Herb "Big Dawg" Pawlitsch

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The Rhiew Family sent an Arrive in Style to the Pawlitsch family.

August 1 at 8:30 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Pawlitsch family.

August 1 at 8:00 AM



Debra H. planted a grove of 5 Memorial Trees in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

July 30 at 9:11 PM



Craig K. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

July 30 at 9:06 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

July 30 at 2:19 PM



Anonymous sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Pawlitsch family.

July 30 at 2:19 PM





Tribute Wall

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Bob A. planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

July 30 at 10:52 AM



Rae S. planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

July 29 at 6:49 PM



Maria, Massimo, Domenic, Antonio & Daria sent an Ocean Breeze Spray to the Pawlitsch family.

July 29 at 6:44 PM



Luisa, A. planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

July 29 at 6:32 PM



Linda D. planted a grove of 3 Memorial Trees in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

July 29 at 1:39 PM



Anonymous planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

July 29 at 11:59 AM





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Cassie Cooper posted:

My fondest memory was visiting Uncle Herb and my Aunt Kathy at their home in Ohio! I remember late nights spent lounging under the stars as the dogs ran and played, while many jokes were shared! I remember him and my aunts' infectious laughs barreling through the night air!

July 29 at 11:56 AM



Anonymous sent a Treasured Lilies Spray to the Pawlitsch family.



July 29 at 11:24 AM



Sw - Btc Facility Staff sent a Serene Reflections Bouquet to the Pawlitsch family.



July 29 at 9:41 AM



Mike Spenceley lit a candle in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

I was saddened to learn of Herb's passing as he was a good friend and teammate from our Defiance College days. Herbie was an excellent player and integral part of our 1966 undefeated football team and #1 ranked defense. While hard nosed on the playing field, Herb was gentle as a lamb off the field. He was fun loving, always with a smile and a great outlook on life. Herb will be missed by many of his friends, family and teammates. Rest in Peace "Big Dawg".



July 28 at 1:09 PM



Your Friends At Rent A Daughter sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Pawlitsch family.



July 28 at 12:24 PM



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CS

Christine Soxie posted:

I loved sitting and talking with you Herb. Your insight and most importantly your sense of humor. You never took yourself or your importance to so many people seriously even though you were very important to so many people. You will never be forgotten. ☐

July 27 at 9:19 PM

KL

Keisha Lumpkin lit a candle in honor of Herb "Big Dawg".

Even in his last days Mr.Herb was a pleasure to work with. He was always pleasant and respectful that speaks volumes to the man he was in his prime. My deepest condolences to his family& friends.Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." — Matthew 5:4



July 27 at 11:17 AM

DG

David Ganor posted:

Herb was a great guy. He was an organizer, if there was a good time to be had Herb would make sure it would happen. I met Herb on the football field in 1964, I was a freshman and was told to lead calisthenics for the freshman football team. I had no idea what to do.Herb came bounding over from the varsity team stood next to me, he was twice the size of me. He proceeded to help me lead the team, then vanished back to the varsity.RIP Herb.

July 27 at 9:11 AM



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TO

Terry Offenberger posted:

It is with great sadness that family of Herbert Pawlitsch , mourns his passing ; we are a small family, but we all share a great loss. Our family history begins in Linz, Austria after the war when Herbie's dad (Josef) and my dad (Anton Offenberger) found their way to Linz, Austria as the war ended. They worked as cooks for the US army emissary. My uncle and dad -with their wives Maria Pawlitsch and Magadelina Offenberger, shared one apartment in Linz and eventually gave birth to four children, Theresa Offenberger, Herbert Pawlitsch, Gertrude Offenberger and Joseph Pawlitsch. Herbie and I would talk about those early memories,-- his dad dressed as Chris Kringle giving us small treats at Christmas, trips to Danube river etc. I also recall standing on the pier as Herbie's family was leaving for the US. We also left shortly and were greeted by Herbie's family as we arrived in Ohio. Those early days were hard, and we had little but as children we didn't seem to notice how poor we were. Herbie's dad worked in a number of restaurants and eventually he became part owner and chef of Old Austria restaurant in Rocky River. Of course, all of us worked the restaurant at various times and managed to create havoc—mainly my sister Gerty and Herb I might say!Over time marriages and new baby births--- Herbie and Kathy married, Joe (brother) married Denise and had 2 great daughters, Jennifer and Jessica. My sister married and had 2 amazing sons, Billy and Brian. Over time more marriages, Jessica (Chris), Jennifer (Dan), Brian (Gretchen), and Billy (Adriana) We had great parties, often at Herbie and Kathy's home in Westlake. His home was the perfect place for parties, but it was Herbie that was the center of it all.! I can still hear his bellowing voice laughing as the party went into the late evening. Even after Kathy's death he loved having family over. He had the perfect home to have parties but what he really loved was sharing a great time with his family and friends. His home was the perfect place for parties, but it was Herbie that was the center of the celebration. In many ways he was bigger than life. Most important to him was family and I want everyone to remember that he loved us all and we loved him. I have such great sadness that he never got the time to meet the children of Jessica and Jennifer (Oliver Leary, Henry Wolters) and watch them grow into adulthood. We may have no control over how the most important and significant members of one's family are remembered in the obits, but we will always remember the ones we love!

July 26 at 10:04 PM

CL

Chris Leary July 27 at 3:37 PM

Theresa, This is such a beautiful tribute to Uncle Herb. It is so well written and perfectly captures his warmth and sense of humor. Some of my favorite memories are of listening to Herb and Gerty share stories at Christmas about their time at Old Austria - always full of laughter and joy. We will miss him so much. Chris Leary



Tribute Wall

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Bob Catanza shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

We will miss Herb coming into the barbershop with that big smile and always with kind words and fun banter, and yes talked about the Browns! How we could fix the the problems they have that they couldn't see. He will be missed!, but never forgotten. Thanks for all you have have done Her!From Catanza 's



July 27 at 6:13 AM



George & Ali Gerges sent a Heavenly Grace Spray to the Pawlitsch family.

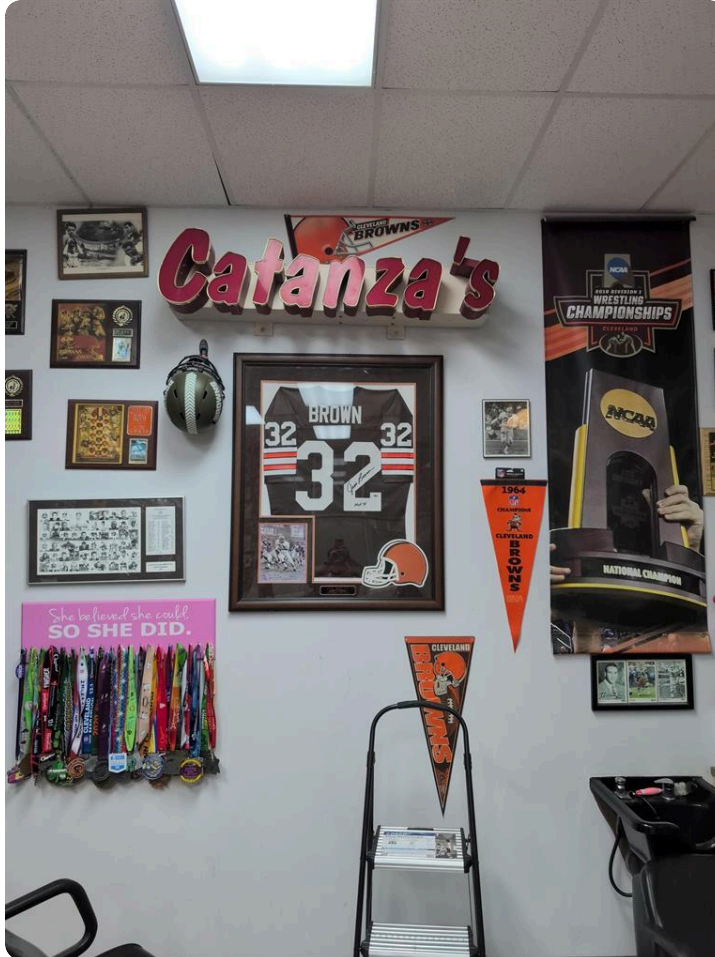


July 26 at 10:04 PM



Bob Catanza shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

July 27 at 6:13 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Herb "Big Dawg" by
contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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