



SSG (Ret) Cathy Marie Bower

June 13, 1956 - December 20, 2020

SSG (Ret) Cathy Marie Bower, 64, of Waynesville, MO, passed away peacefully at her home after a two year cancer journey, on December 20, 2020. Cathy served in the United States Army for 20 years.

Cathy was born on June 13, 1956 in Syracuse, NY to Margaret Southard. She joined the United States Army in 1972. Cathy served her country both home and abroad for 22 years. She served at several duty stations here in the United States, and did tours overseas in both Korea and Germany. She was an active soldier in the Women's Army Corps and the Military Police Corps. She had a passion for being an MP and Corrections NCO. Cathy attained the rank of Staff Sergeant before retiring in 1994 with the 701st MP Battalion out of Fort McClellan, Alabama. After retirement, Cathy worked for the United Postal Service. Not long after, she took a Department of Defense job in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. She worked at the Maneuver Support Center, where she was the United States Army Military Police School Quality Assurance Evaluator Chief. She served in this position for 20 years, before retiring in 2019. She lived to serve her country and her fellow troops.

Cathy was fiercely independent, but was devoted to her family, friends, and country. She never missed a celebration or birthday party, especially those of her grandchildren. She loved to spend time with those around her. Fishing was one of her favorite things to do, and her son Kevin took her often. Of

course, she always out fished him. She also looked forward to having meals and conversations with her friends. Her close friends Bob and Martha were always willing to go to Cracker Barrel with her. Cathy and her sister Terrie often traveled together, taking trips to different places. They visited New York; Nashville, TN; and Yellowstone National Park, where they went white water rafting. She always cared for others before herself, and she took pride in that.

Mrs. Bower is survived by one child: Kevin Bower (Sybil) of Waynesville, MO; four grandchildren: Kaylynn, Brooklyn, Abigail, and RayLee; two brothers: Paul Southard of Tian Mue Shan, China, and William Southard (Jeanna) of Boyce, LA; three sisters: Bonnie Laylon (John) of Springfield, TN, Gale Fredenburg (Rick) of Lowville, NY, and Terrie Southard of Brentwood, TN; nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Mrs. Bower is preceded in death by: Her loving husband and soul mate, John Bower; one brother, Mark Southard; and her mother, Margaret Southard.

Memorial Contribution may be made in memory of Cathy Bower in order to assist with her burial next to her loving late husband John Bower, in Virginia. These contributions may be left at Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert
202 Historic 66 W.
Waynesville, MO 65583
(573) 774-6111
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

Celebration of Life Service

JAN 2. 2:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert
202 Historic 66 W.
Waynesville, MO 65583
(573) 774-6111
memorialchapels@embarqmail.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of SSG (Ret) Cathy Marie Bower*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - January 20, 2021 at 01:03 PM



“ *SSG (Ret) Cathy Marie Bower*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Monica J Primus - October 30, 2021 at 10:34 PM

1Y

“ Cathy was both feared and respected (greatly) in the MP training community in her role as a Quality Assurance Chief. When she came to your state to inspect your schoolhouse, you knew you had better have your program together or she'd catch it, and she always did. But her goal was ALWAYS to take care of the Soldiers being trained because there was a high probability they'd be using their newly-acquired skills in combat. Never to be typical "black-hat" inspector. I worked with her from 2007-2014 and I had the highest respect for her. My wife and I got along very well with her when we'd travel together for work.

I've built her a memorial profile over on [www.togetherweserved.com](https://army.togetherweserved.com/army/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=Profile&type=Person&ID=558152), here: <https://army.togetherweserved.com/army/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApp?cmd=Profile&type=Person&ID=558152>

If anyone who served with her, or were her family, can fill in the gaps in her service record, awards, etc., I'd be appreciative. I can be reached at Joe.Yorski@togetherweserved.com. RIP, Cathy.
-1SG(R) Joseph and Mary Yorski

1SG(R) Joe Yorski - May 03, 2021 at 03:11 PM

BD

“ Cathy. I didn't know until just now that you had left us. I enjoyed working with you and always enjoyed talking with you. You are missed.

Bob Davis - February 02, 2021 at 12:50 AM

GS

“ We were just getting to know each other and enjoyed our conversations about being female veterans. I hope you're back in the arms of your husband John Bower Sr. I'm sad for all you had to go through with your illness. May you rest in heavenly peace. Sending condolences to your family.

Gail Williams Swetman - January 23, 2021 at 02:41 AM

WO

“ I had the privilege to work with Cathy for about 20 years at the MP School. She will be missed.

William Oberholtzer, Dixon, MO

william oberholtzer - January 02, 2021 at 11:15 PM

RM

“ Servant of God well done, rest in paradise Mrs. Bower.

Ronald and Felecia Jordan , St Robert MO - January 02, 2021 at 12:27 PM



“ Will miss you so much, you were such a good friend to me . I love you Martha Wilhelm

Martha Wilhelm - January 01, 2021 at 06:15 PM

JS

“ You will be missed greatly Aunt Cathy! I know I will see you one day in Heaven, cause you have a place their for all the good you did here on Earth and your loving heart! I will cherish the memories of you forever in my heart! Go Rest High On That Mountain!



Jennifer Shelfo - January 01, 2021 at 01:13 PM

JS

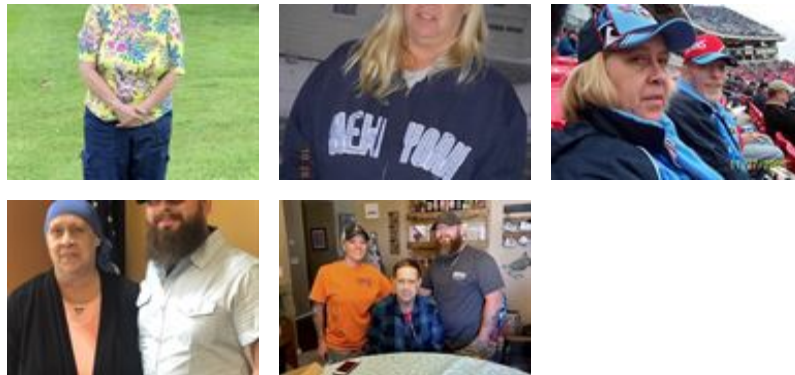
“ My loving sister-in-law Cathy Bower, you will be forever missed and I cherish my memories with you! RIP up in heaven! Will forever hold you in my heart.



Jeanna Southard - January 01, 2021 at 01:02 PM



“ 125 files added to the album LifeTributes



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - December 31, 2020 at 06:01 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Tribute Wall



William Southard - December 31, 2020 at 03:27 PM

BI

“ Dear sister Cathy, you may not be with us today, but your footsteps can never be erased. You will always be in our hearts and are truly loved and missed. Rest In Peace up in heaven



Bill - December 31, 2020 at 01:27 PM

MS

“ Marge Scott sent a virtual gift in memory of SSG (Ret) Cathy Marie Bower



Marge Scott - December 30, 2020 at 11:31 AM

AE

RIP My Sister In Arms... (Slow) Salute

Anglia Emmendorfer - December 31, 2020 at 01:50 AM

PG

“ Pulaski County Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of SSG (Ret) Cathy Marie Bower



Pulaski County Camp Gideons - December 30, 2020 at 09:33 AM

CS

“ *CSM(Ret)Harold&Brigitte lit a candle in memory of SSG (Ret) Cathy Marie Bower*



CSM(Ret)Harold&Brigitte - December 30, 2020 at 09:32 AM



“ *Such a professional when she was active duty and in her second career working for USAMPS and MSCOE. Sincere condolences to Kevin & Sybil 4 daughters, and TN & NY family, co-workers, and many friends.*

Margaret Quinn - December 29, 2020 at 05:53 PM

LT

“ *Sorry to hear this news...Cathy gave a lot through her service over the years. Prayers.*

Lenny Tharp - December 29, 2020 at 02:35 PM

SC

“ *I had the privilege to work with Cathy and go to college with John as we searched for something to do after retirement. They were great people and together once again. God Bless you Cathy and tell John hello.*

Steven combs - December 29, 2020 at 02:03 PM

PC

“ Pamela Cox sent a virtual gift in memory of
SSG (Ret) Cathy Marie Bower



Pamela Cox - December 29, 2020 at 01:08 PM

LC

“ I had the privilege of working for Mrs. Cathy from 2011-2015. She was devoted to making sure Military Police Soldiers were properly educated with the best curriculum, instructors, and facilities available. She cared about others and always took time to mentor a wayward LTC like me when I needed it. Godspeed and God Bless Mrs. Cathy, I'll see you on the high ground.

LTC (R) Craig Chandler - December 29, 2020 at 12:19 PM

MW

“ Maxie Watson lit a candle in memory of SSG
(Ret) Cathy Marie Bower



Maxie Watson - December 29, 2020 at 11:27 AM