

# Remembering Ed Herrold

*(EDITOR'S NOTE: Ed Herrold was secretary of the FOHBC from 2008 to 2010 when he became Membership Director. He held that position until resigning in 2011. His widow, Juanne, describes how Ed became a collector of antique bottles. She can be contacted at [jbbitters33@gmail.com](mailto:jbbitters33@gmail.com))*

During the 1970s, we were living in the Orlando, Florida area. Ed was a trust officer at a large downtown bank and I was an estate administrator for a prominent Winter Park law firm.

My favorite weekend hobby was attending auctions, while (as Ed put it), "the bum of the year stayed home to watch the game of the week!"

One Saturday evening, he decided to attend an auction with me. A Buffalo Lithia Springs water bottle came up. Ed impulsively bid on it and won it for \$18. He didn't know a thing about the bottles although it did appear to be "old." This was in the days before the Internet.

Luckily, one of my law firm's secretaries was Olive Smock. When I happened to mention Ed's purchase to her, she said that her husband, Art, was a bottle digger. She invited Ed and I to visit their home.

After we got there, Art took Ed under his wing and showed him various bottles that he had dug, books to read, and also invited us to attend the next Orlando bottle club show. Carl Sturm was the chairman for many years and he and his wife, Joy, became our close friends.

Historic bottles soon became Ed's passion. He researched every bottle he purchased, with bitters becoming his favorites. That's why his e-mail address included the words "Dr. Bitters."

We started going to every bottle show that we could, even after moving to Fort Myers in 1978 and to Sarasota in the fall of 1982.

Soon, Ed became so knowledgeable that other collectors were asking his opinions about various antique bottles, including bitters.

We met so many wonderful people at shows and many became good friends, sharing stories and knowledge.

We became life members of the FOHBC and Ed's love of antique bottles and their places in history lasted until his death of an aneurism on July 25, 1912.

P.S.: Ed kept that first bottle and it is still worth about



**Juanne and Ed Herrold are flanked by Ed's daughters, Melinda (left) and Melanie Garcia, in this 1995 photo. (Courtesy of Juanne Herrold)**

what he paid for it!

CARL STURM: I first met Ed when he was just getting into bottle collecting. I believed it was at a bottle show in Orlando, either 1975 or '76. He and Juanne were living and working in Orlando at the time.

My wife, Joy, and I traveled many miles with them and we became like family. We stayed with them for the Sarasota and St. Petersburg shows and they stayed with us for the Orlando and DeLand shows.

We carried keys to their home and they carried keys to ours. We had never had friends like them. After my wife died in 1992, the three of us traveled to shows as far away as Baltimore, Mansfield (Ohio) and several national federation shows.

Juanne has indeed lost a great husband and I have lost the best friend that I have ever had. And the Chicago Cubs have lost their greatest fan. I will surely miss the calls from Ed at 11:30 p.m., telling me, "CUBS WIN!" and then giving me the inning by inning, play by play details of the game.

He was a great asset to the bottle collecting hobby, a super collector and will be sorely missed by a great many friends.

WAYNE AND JUNE LOWRY: Ed was one of the most wonderful people you could ever meet. He treated us like family. There are no words to describe how much he meant to us (and Juanne). If you needed a friend, he was there and would do anything he could to help you. There is no one else like him.