



Alvida "Al" Browne

January 6, 1922 - February 22, 2025

The Mass of Christian Burial celebrating the life of Alvida M. Browne, of Wadena, will be held at 11:00 AM on Friday, February 28, at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Wadena. Visitation will be held on Thursday at St. Ann's Parish Hall from 5:30 until 8:00 PM. Parish Prayers at 5:30 and rosary at 6:30. Visitation will continue on Friday at 9:30 AM until the time of Mass.

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You are invited to watch the service via live-stream by going to Schuller Family Funeral Homes' FaceBook Page or YouTube Page

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Alvida, more commonly known as Vida or Al, age 103, passed away on February 22, 2025, at her home in Wadena, with compassionate care by Vivie Hospice. For the past 3 years she was under the loving care of Audrey Davis, assisted by Sue, Licia, Val, and Tasha.

Alvida Marie Berg was born the youngest of six children to Andrew and Marie (Shay) Berg on January 6, 1922, in Wanamingo, MN, a small Scandinavian community. Only Norwegian was spoken. At around age 10, she often played house in the backyard shed of Syverson's farm and pretended and believed John Wayne was her boyfriend.

Alvida graduated from Zumbrota High school where she was active in cheerleading and band. She was crowned homecoming queen her senior

year. In September of 1943, she enlisted in the Navy WAVES and served as a 1st Class Petty Officer until 1946, when she received an honorable discharge in Washington DC. During her service she played in the Drum and Bugle Corp and marched in President F.D. Roosevelt's Funeral Parade. Alvida talked about her first plane ride with Secretary of War, Robert P. Patterson, his wife and child. It was during a storm and she had to hold her arms up so her head wouldn't hit the ceiling. Upon completion of her military service, she lived in Minneapolis and attended a medical technology college and received an associate degree and worked as a lab technician in a medical clinic. At that time, she met the love of her life, John "Jack" Browne of Wadena. They were married April 22, 1950, in Minneapolis.

Jack and Alvida made their home in Wadena, where they raised their five children. Alvida was a busy homemaker, mother, and advocate for her husband and children. She gave time to be a Girl Scout leader for 11 years, a Pink Lady at Tri-County Hospital, and lector at their church in Rio Verde, AZ, where she and Jack spent many happy winters.

Her family will remember her as a selfless being, always putting her family first. They can testify to her three tasty and healthy meals per day. Her homes were spotless and beautifully decorated with her flair for art, fashion, and color. Her neighbor once said, "I can't believe she sweeps her garage almost daily." Vida packed up the station wagon both summer and winter for fun-filled family weekends at their cabin on Big Sand Lake or skiing at Val Chatel. She was an avid golfer and skier. She enjoyed baking, entertaining, shopping, and a good hand at Bridge and often played double solitaire for hours with Jack and her family. In 1999, Jack and Alvida established the Browne Family Foundation which continues to greatly benefit the Wadena area. Each year she played an important roll dispersing funds to various organizations and community projects.

Forever remembering Alvida will be her children: Christopher "Kip" of Wadena, Barbara Kosovich of Billings, MT, Sarah (Mike) Montgomery of Thousand Oaks, CA, and Jeffrey (Kathy) of Wadena; along with 12 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

She was preceeded in death by her husband, Jack, of 59 years; daughter, Rebecca (Becky) Miller; her parents Andrew and Marie Berg; grandson, Kevin Kosovich; granddaughter, Annie Montgomery Clausen; son-in-law, Ken Kosovich; siblings: Rueben, Oswald, Clifford, Milton, and her sister, Christine who lived to be 105 years of age; and parents-in-law, William and Frances Browne.

Serving as pallbearers will be Ryan Browne, Andrew Browne, Tanner Budke, Wiley Miller, Brit Miller, Erik Winegarden, and Mike Montgomery.

Military honors will be provided by the US Navy Honor Guard and the Elmer Goche Post 3922, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Wadena, MN.

Memorials in Alvida's name may be directed to the Browne Family Foundation.

C/O Wadena State Bank, PO Box 191, Wadena, MN 56482

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

Franklin Dr. & 6th St SW
Wadena, MN 56482

Previous Events

Prayers

FEB 27. 5:30 PM (CT)

St. Ann's Parish Hall
514 2nd St. SE
Wadena, MN 56482

Visitation

FEB 27. 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

St. Ann's Parish Hall
514 2nd St. SE
Wadena, MN 56482

Rosary

FEB 27. 6:30 PM (CT)

St. Ann's Parish Hall
514 2nd St. SE
Wadena, MN 56482

Visitation

FEB **28**. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st St. SE
Wadena, MN

Mass

FEB **28**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st St. SE
Wadena, MN

Tribute Wall

MS

“ I remember the many times I stayed with the Browne cousins. One time I was so impressed by Aunt Vida making mini apple pies to put in her kids lunches.... I loved getting notes from her the last few years. A beautiful soul to the end. Rest in Peace . Love to all you cousins!

Mary Steele - March 31, 2025 at 06:25 PM

PP

“ I believe she was my mother's best friend for many years. I remember them frequently having a morning coffee together in our kitchen. It was always a treat to see her.

Patricia Parker - March 03, 2025 at 10:29 AM

GF

“ Lovely lady and full of so many different activities that she enjoyed. Huge commitment to community and family. Brought so much joy to many.



Gail Farwell - February 26, 2025 at 01:56 PM

BK

“ *Vida was such a lovely lady to have known and loved. A kind neighbor to our kids at White Tail Run while they were growing up on the golf course. She and Jack always had treats for them and enthusiastically supported all their numerous fundraisers. Always so generous and genuinely interested in what they were doing ! Vida and I exchanged Christmas cards every year after we moved and I loved seeing her beautiful handmade cards and signature handwriting.*

She will always carry a very special place in our hearts. Our love and deepest sympathy to the entire Browne family. What a beautiful life and legacy. Dan, Beth, Haley, Grant, and Cohen Kellogg

Beth Kellogg - February 26, 2025 at 01:18 PM

KD

“ *Thank you Vida for all the love and generosity you shared with your community. What a beautiful life you lived! We will all cherish the memories you have given us.*

Katie Dykhoff - February 26, 2025 at 01:06 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Alvida "Al" Browne.*



February 26, 2025 at 01:06 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Alvida "Al" Browne.*

February 26, 2025 at 01:06 PM

HA

“ *She always had time to visit with you and was such a happy, friendly, kind person. She will be missed by all who knew her.*



Helen Allee - February 26, 2025 at 11:02 AM

MF

“ *Mark & Renee Frethem lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



Mark & Renee Frethem - February 26, 2025 at 10:22 AM

WL

“ *Wadena Library lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



Wadena Library - February 26, 2025 at 10:21 AM

LB

“ *Lucille A Belch lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



Lucille A Belch - February 26, 2025 at 09:59 AM

RJ

“ Robin Hedstrom Jensen lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Robin Hedstrom Jensen - February 26, 2025 at 07:55 AM

DA

“ An amazing lady! May all those cherished memories bring inspiration & comfort 🙏



Di Schiller Anderson - February 25, 2025 at 10:38 PM

GA

“ The Browne family have been friends of the Don and Violet Anderson family over 60 years. RIP



Greg Anderson - February 25, 2025 at 09:34 PM

DG

“ Donna Grendahl lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Donna Grendahl - February 25, 2025 at 07:10 PM

NP

“ Nancy Peterson lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Nancy Peterson - February 25, 2025 at 04:31 PM

IB

“ Prayers for the family.



Irene Baron - February 25, 2025 at 04:00 PM

SE

“ Susan Parker Emme lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Susan Parker Emme - February 25, 2025 at 03:04 PM

TS

“ Tom & DeAnna Snyder lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Tom & DeAnna Snyder - February 25, 2025 at 02:16 PM

RU

“ I grew up a couple of blocks away from the Browne Family. My memory of Ms. Browne is one of kindness and caring. When we were outside playing ball at the vacant lot down street she would always offer us a snack and lemonade as we walked by their house on the way home.

When I was maybe 5 years old, I remember taking a spill on my bike down the street, she must have seen me fall. She came out, picked me up, cleaned up and bandaged my scraped knee, and made it all better with a couple of cookies. I will always remember that kindness.

Robert Uselman - February 25, 2025 at 12:33 PM

BL

“ Our deepest sympathy to each of the Browne families. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Her memories will live in your hearts forever. May God wrap his loving arms around each of you and give you comfort and peace! Sending hugs and love!❤️

Brenda and Charlie Lee - February 25, 2025 at 11:57 AM

RA

“ When our daughter Alex was born Alvida rode her bike over to our house with cookies for us! She was so happy for us to have a new baby girl. She had felt so bad when our Desi died. She hoped Alex would make things better! She was right! She and my mom had a mutual admiration for each other and they were both dedicated to their families! She sent my mom a handmade 100th birthday card! I got a Christmas card from her just this last year! It was hand written! You knew where you stood with her! Alvida and the women of that generation were really something! Thanks for all your contributions to Wadena and your unique way you lived your life! Cheers to you and hugs to your family! Tell Becky hello!💜

Rita Askew - February 25, 2025 at 11:42 AM

LF

“ Love, The Millers and The Fords purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Alvida "Al" Browne.



Love, The Millers and The Fords - February 25, 2025 at 10:47 AM

DF

“ We are sorry for your loss of Vida . She was a beautiful lady inside and out. We know she will be greatly missed. We are thinking about all of you at this sad time. She was lucky to have such a beautiful family and long full life. I'm sure she has found a great place to shop in Heaven. Bless you all. Dave and Wynn Ford

Dave and Wynn Ford - February 25, 2025 at 08:37 AM

GD

“ May Alvida's family and friends be comforted by the outpouring of love surrounding them all. Sending strength today and peace in the days ahead.



George Julie Deiss - February 25, 2025 at 07:28 AM

MO

“ Michael Ortmann lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Michael Ortmann - February 24, 2025 at 09:48 PM

JS

“ Joe & Michelle Silvers lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Joe & Michelle Silvers - February 24, 2025 at 08:04 PM

MH

“ Marladene Heinen lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Marladene Heinen - February 24, 2025 at 06:44 PM

KT

“ Karen Treangen lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Karen Treangen - February 24, 2025 at 05:56 PM

RJ

“ Thanks to Alvida and her husband, we were able to build St. Ann's Parish Hall. Their donation of \$300,000 started the fund raising!

Rose Johnson - February 24, 2025 at 05:18 PM

BB

“ *Lifting the families in prayer!!*



Barbara J Brown - February 24, 2025 at 04:23 PM

BT

“ *Grand Ma Brown, may you rest in peace.*



Ben & Regina Tellers - February 24, 2025 at 02:41 PM

MT

“ *What a classy lady!! My condolences to the Browne family 🙏❤️. Remember golfing with Jack and Vida at Rio Verde. On a cruise or I would be there at the funeral!! Hugs❤️*



Missy Tabery - February 24, 2025 at 02:14 PM

PM

“ *Penny McManigle lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



Penny McManigle - February 24, 2025 at 01:28 PM

RH

“ Rick and Don Hoffmann lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Rick and Don Hoffmann - February 24, 2025 at 11:36 AM

RH

“ Rick Fisher/Don Hoffmann lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Rick Fisher/Don Hoffmann - February 24, 2025 at 11:36 AM

SB

“ She was a sweetheart! I had the pleasure of keeping the convertibles clean! She was so kind to us! Blessed be her memory!

Steve and Linda Babcock - February 24, 2025 at 11:33 AM

EL

“ Peace be with your family as you mourn the loss of your matriarch.



Elaine and Paul Lorentz - February 24, 2025 at 11:15 AM

DR

“ *David & Barb Rousslang lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



David & Barb Rousslang - February 24, 2025 at 10:38 AM

SS

“ *I had the pleasure of playing BINGO with Alvida at the Senior Center here in Wadena. She was beautiful in kind and spirit. Always gracious. We will miss her always.*



Sally Siegler - February 24, 2025 at 10:02 AM

GK

“ *Gene & Sandy Kapphahn lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



Gene & Sandy Kapphahn - February 24, 2025 at 09:44 AM

TH

“ *Tammie J. Hamlin lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



Tammie J. Hamlin - February 24, 2025 at 09:05 AM

AD

“ Audrey Davis sent a virtual gift in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Audrey Davis - February 24, 2025 at 08:24 AM

JK

“ Janis konze lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Janis konze - February 24, 2025 at 06:45 AM

MM

“ Alvida and I had lots of laughs together when she was living by the Golf course . It was so much fun to take her a carnal roll or some peaches. She was so much fun to visit with. Latter on I had to go to her home in Wadena.
May God Bless her and give her peace and now, She can be Jack.
She is one person that I will all ways miss.

Marjorie Mohs-Harrison - February 23, 2025 at 10:56 PM

MM

“ Marjorie Mohs-Harrison lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne



Marjorie Mohs-Harrison - February 23, 2025 at 10:46 PM

MF

“ *marie fraune sent a virtual gift in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



marie fraune - February 23, 2025 at 09:30 PM

MS

“ *Mike and Lea Snyder lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



Mike and Lea Snyder - February 23, 2025 at 08:47 PM

JJ

“ *Jon and Patty Johnson lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



Jon and Patty Johnson - February 23, 2025 at 08:33 PM

JE

“ *Judy Erdahl lit a candle in memory of Alvida "Al" Browne*



Judy Erdahl - February 23, 2025 at 06:54 PM