



## Beverly Savaloja

December 20, 1933 - November 17, 2023

The funeral service celebrating the life of Beverly “Bev” Savaloja of Wadena will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 29, at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Wadena, with Pastor Jim Stoneman presiding. Visitation will be Tuesday, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Johnson–Schuller Chapel in Wadena and at the church on Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the service.

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Schuller Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services is inviting you view the Beverly Savaloja Funeral Service by Searching Schuller Family Funeral Homes Facebook

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Bev, age 89, passed away on November 17, 2023, at the Lakewood Health System Care Center in Staples, MN. The staff at Lakewood along with Lakewood Health System Hospice provided loving care throughout Bev’s stay.

Beverly Lorraine Wohlert was born to Arthur and Elizabeth (Kresien) Wohlert on December 20, 1933, in Wadena, MN. She attended Wadena High School where she participated in choir and played bassoon, cymbals and was a drum majorette in the marching band. During her senior year of high school, she traveled with the Girl Scouts to Washington D.C.

When Bev was young, her family loved going to dances and listening to

music. Bev learned to play piano and the organ which she played at the Evangelical and Reform church. From a young age and throughout her life, her family was her life.

Bev married the love of her life and best friend, Raymond C. Savaloja on June 26, 1954, at the Evangelical and Reform Church in Wadena. Bev traveled with Ray while he served in the Navy and they were stationed in San Diego and Long Beach, CA, before returning home and making their home in Wadena, where they raised their three sons.

In her "first" career Bev worked for 26 years at Northwestern Bell as a telephone operator, many of those years as Chief Operator, and was a part of the Telephone Pioneers Club. Bev would often go into work on holidays, such as Christmas Eve, to allow others to spend time with their families.

Bev's "second" career was with the financial department at Wadena County Social Services. She finally retired (at the urging of her loving family!) at the young age of 76, after working 29 years at Wadena County.

Bev was an active member of her community. She and Ray were active members at the First Congregational United Church of Christ where she faithfully served in many capacities, including as auditor/bookkeeper, Sunday school teacher, serving on many committees, worked many Christmas Bazaars, rummage sales, and sang in the choir. Bev genuinely loved her church family. She was also involved with the VFW Auxiliary, Elks and Does Lodge, Girl Scouts, Royal Neighbors, American Cancer Society and served as an election judge for many years. Bev was also very involved in her class reunion committee and loved to see old friends and classmates.

Bev's laugh was unmistakable and could be picked out, even across a crowded room! She and Ray loved to travel, whether to see family or just

spend time with each other. They also enjoyed trips to the casino with their friends.

Bev possessed great perseverance! In later years, she lived with vision challenges, and survived breast and bladder cancer. Bev's outlook on life was always positive. She would help anyone that needed help, even at her own expense. Her love for her family and people in general was a great inspiration.

Preceding Bev in death were her husband, Ray (2018); parents, Arthur and Elizabeth "Toots" Wohlert; brother, LaVern Wohlert; six brothers-in-law and two sisters-in-law.

Forever remembering Bev will be her sons, Mike Savaloja of Boise, ID, Steve Savaloja of Verndale, and Dan (Maggie) Savaloja of Blaine; 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Delores Wohlert, Patricia Savaloja and Shirley Savaloja; along with a host of other relatives, friends and neighbors.

Serving as casket bearers will be grandchildren: Bryan Savaloja, Rachel Savaloja, Trevor Savaloja, Tyler Savaloja, Wesley Savaloja, Mason Savaloja and Jesse Savaloja.

Burial will be in Wadena Cemetery in Wadena, MN.

A special thank you to Susan Horstmann and the entire staff at Lakewood for their love, kindness and care for Bev.

# Cemetery Details

## Wadena Cemetery

Franklin Drive & 5th St. SW  
Wadena, MN 56482

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 28. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Johnson-Schuller Chapel  
205 4th Street Southwest  
Wadena, MN 56482  
(218) 631-3632

## Visitation

NOV 29. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Colfax Ave. & 1st St. SW  
Wadena, MN 56482

## Service

NOV 29. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

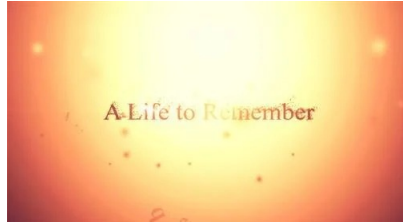
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Colfax Ave. & 1st St. SW  
Wadena, MN 56482



# Tribute Wall



“ Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Beverly Savaloja



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - November 27, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ Sue Mcdonald lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja



Sue Halliwill Mcdonald - November 29, 2023 at 12:50 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Beverly Savaloja.



November 29, 2023 at 07:56 AM



“ Minnesota Trucking Association planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Beverly Savaloja.

Minnesota Trucking Association - November 29, 2023 at 07:56 AM



“ So sorry to hear about your mom's passing Steve, Mike and Dan & families and all her loved ones. .Prayers of comfort with you all . Punk ( Jim ) & Jackie McManigle



Jackie McManigle - November 28, 2023 at 12:25 PM



“ Mike, Steve, Dan and Families, Heartfelt sympathy, prayers and love.

Aunt Shirley and Linda.



linda nelson - November 27, 2023 at 08:39 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Beverly Savaloja.



November 27, 2023 at 07:48 PM

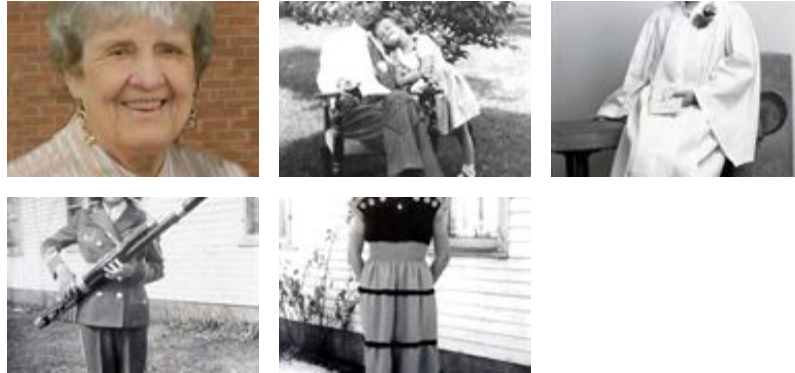


“ Mark & Gloria Hughes planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Beverly Savaloja.

Mark E. - November 27, 2023 at 04:46 PM



“ 48 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - November 27, 2023 at 03:12 PM

CH

“ *Christie Hennagir lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



Christie (Crabb) Hennagir - November 26, 2023 at 07:56 PM

TO

“ *Aunt Bev was my favorite aunt and I'm sure I share this sentiment with many cousins. Her laugh was infectious and I will remember that for the rest of my life. Many fond memories of summers spent in Wadena and Sebeka. Thank you for taking care of me while my parents went to New York. Sorry that I was a little bit of a rebellious teen.*

*May you rest in peace now. Love and prayers for Mike, Steve, Dan and your families.*

Terrie Osgood - November 26, 2023 at 02:37 PM

RP

“ Great woman who worked with my mother at NWB as an operator. Great family of boys, who all look just like her. My condolences to Mike, Steve and Dan and their families.

Robert Peters - November 25, 2023 at 06:01 PM

PP

“ Paula Peterson lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja



Paula Peterson - November 24, 2023 at 09:02 PM

PR

“ Mike, Steve and Dan. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.



Peggy and Dale Rosier - November 23, 2023 at 07:41 PM

GU

“ Bev was a life time friend of Gordy and Eleanor Utermarck. She was a bridesmaid in our wedding in 1954. Eleanor was later a bridesmaid in Bev's wedding! That has always been a special memory for us. ~Gordy Utermarck

Gordy Utermarck - November 22, 2023 at 08:55 AM

JS

“ *Jill Stevens-Becker lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



Jill Stevens-Becker - November 21, 2023 at 07:19 PM

PJ

“ *Pam Jenson lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



Pam Jenson - November 21, 2023 at 04:33 PM

AS

“ *Amy Scott lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



Amy Scott - November 21, 2023 at 01:03 PM

ML

“ *Our sincere condolences to Bev's family.*



Mary & Terry Lynk - November 20, 2023 at 09:56 PM

TF

“ *Tim & Debbie Schmitz & family lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



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**Tim & Debbie Schmitz & family** - November 20, 2023 at 04:12 PM

RJ

“ *The Savaloja family was our neighbor on second street for 20 years. Our kids were the same age and played together all those first years. I did connect with Bev after Ray died and that was good. My sympathy to Mike, Steve and Dan. Your Mom is at peace now and with your Dad, her love since high school.*

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**Rose Johnson** - November 20, 2023 at 10:57 AM

SM

“ *Susan McDonald lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



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**Susan Halliwill McDonald** - November 19, 2023 at 10:33 PM

SS

“ *Len and I rode the casino bus with Bev and Ray. Such a great loving couple. Have not seen her in a while. Miss all the good times. Life changes too quickly. Life is so fragile and we must all do the best we can for each other.*



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**Sally Siegler** - November 19, 2023 at 10:04 PM

KM

“ *Karen Munson lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



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**Karen Munson** - November 19, 2023 at 06:54 PM

JE

“ *Jane Erckenbrack lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



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**Jane Erckenbrack** - November 19, 2023 at 05:21 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Beverly Savaloja.*



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November 19, 2023 at 04:52 PM

BH

“ *Brian and Joy Hughes planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Beverly Savaloja.*

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**Brian and Joy Hughes** - November 19, 2023 at 04:52 PM

NR

“ *Nancy & Alan Reed lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



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**Nancy and Alan Reed** - November 19, 2023 at 01:55 PM

KM

*I've known Bev for many years. She's been a good friend, good memories to remember. My heartfelt sympathy to her whole family.*

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**Karen Munson** - November 19, 2023 at 06:56 PM

JJ

“ *Jon Johnson lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



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**Jon Johnson** - November 18, 2023 at 09:35 PM

LS

“ *Linda Schallock lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja*



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**Linda (Schmitz) Schallock** - November 18, 2023 at 05:28 PM

MS

“ Mike & Lea Snyder lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja



Mike and Lea Snyder - November 18, 2023 at 04:06 PM

JB

“ I shared an office with Beverly, for several years at Social Services. What fun times we had. Prayers and Sympathy to her family Judy Broker

Judy Broker - November 18, 2023 at 03:27 PM

CG

“ Cary Diana Goeden lit a candle in memory of Beverly Savaloja



Cary & Diana Goeden - November 18, 2023 at 01:19 PM

ST

“ Sympathy & prayers to all of Bev's family. Amazing lady! She is now together with her Ray. Love & blessings to all. ❤️



Sue Theisen - November 18, 2023 at 11:37 AM