



## William "Bill" Adams

June 10, 1938 - March 12, 2025

The memorial service celebrating the life of William "Bill" Adams of Wadena will be held at 11:00a.m. on Saturday, March 22, at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wadena with Pastor Nate Loer presiding.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 4:00 until 7:00p.m. at the Johnson-Schuller Chapel in Wadena. Visitation will resume at the church on Saturday from 9:30a.m. until the time of the service. Burial accompanied by bagpipes will be in Wadena Cemetery, Wadena, MN.

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You may view the livestream by going to:

[www.youtube.com/@ILCWadena](https://www.youtube.com/@ILCWadena) or <https://www.facebook.com/immanuelwadena>

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Having faced a challenging struggle with cancer, Bill, 86, passed away at his home in Wadena, MN, on March 12, 2025. Tender care was provided by his family, Kim and Jim Maas, and Vivie Hospice.

William "Bill" Frederick Adams was born to Lloyd and Reeva (Wiltse) Adams on June 10, 1938, in Moorhead, MN. After graduating from high school, he continued his education at Moorhead State College to attain a degree in education. Sixteen years later he received a master's degree from NDSU.

Bill married Sylvia "Sally" Karen Westrum on March 21, 1959, at Bethesda

Lutheran Church in Moorhead. They made their home in Wadena where he taught Business English, typing, and photography at Wadena High School, eventually becoming the assistant principal. He also refereed football and volleyball and served 50 years as a State High School League Official. With golf as his #1 hobby, Bill proudly made not just one hole-in-one, but five! He fulfilled his lifetime dream of playing "The Old Course at St Andrews" in Scotland and the Augusta National where The Masters is played yearly in Georgia.

Community minded, Bill had served in the ND National Guard, and was a member of the Elks Lodge, Lions Club, Whitetail Run Golf Course (manager 37 yrs), and the Immanuel Lutheran Church choir. Over the years, he and Sally sang for numerous weddings and funerals.

Preceding Bill in death were his parents Lloyd and Reeva; and parents-in-law, Lloyd and Gladys Westrum.

Surviving Bill are his loving wife, Sally; son Todd (Sherry) Adams of Augusta, GA, and Tracy (Peter) Kooman of Independence, MN; grandchildren, Allie Adams and Wesley Adams; step-grandchildren Brian Kooman, Jeanine (Anton) Miakotin and Kristin (Kolten) Tea; brother Terry Adams of Long Lake; along with a host of friends and his beloved cat Aero.

Honorary urn bearers will be Lowell Roisum, Tony Platz, Luther Nervig, Lane Waldahl, Gordy Macklem, Steve Brown and Tim Seaton.

Serving as urn bearer will be Allie Adams and Wesley Adams.

Memorials in Bill's name may be directed to Immanuel Lutheran Church, 403 2nd Street SE, Wadena, MN 56482.



# Cemetery Details

## Wadena Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family & Friends

MAR 21. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

## Gathering of Family & Friends

MAR 22. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church - Wadena  
403 2nd St. SE  
Wadena, MN 56482

## Memorial Service

MAR 22. 11:00 AM (CT)

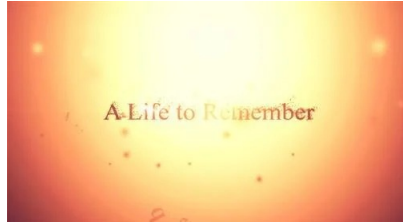
Immanuel Lutheran Church - Wadena  
403 2nd St. SE  
Wadena, MN 56482



# Tribute Wall



“ Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - March 19, 2025 at 12:14 PM

MS

“ My sympathy to the Adams family. Mr. Adams will always be fondly remembered in my memories of Wadena Senior High School and from the wrestling matches.

Mary Schwartz-Lunzer - March 31, 2025 at 03:19 PM

AP

“ Bill Adams was a very nice teacher and coach....loved his golf games.



Arleen Paulson - March 23, 2025 at 05:10 PM

SS

“ Sarah Nervig Steil lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Sarah Nervig Steil - March 22, 2025 at 01:10 PM

BC

“ Barbara Quincer Coulter lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Barbara Quincer Coulter - March 21, 2025 at 10:10 PM

LL

“ I got to know generous and caring Bill through his many roles in the community. I had the opportunity to work with him as a softball umpire for MSHSL many years. He also helped me organize many scramble golf tournaments for the Ladies' Gary Maki Open. I enjoyed him as an administrator as I taught in WDC and represented the school as Community Liason for a few years. His connections and knowledge of the community demonstrated his commitment to all. Even though we lost touch over the years, I still value his and Sally's mentorship. Rest in Peace, my old friend! Lisa Lange

Lisa Lange - March 21, 2025 at 12:26 PM

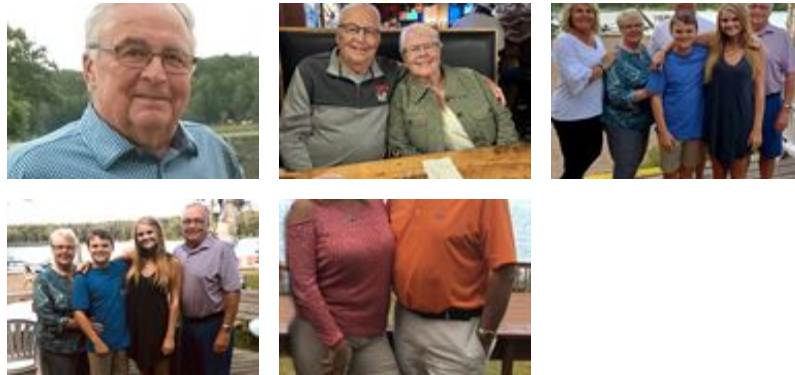
JR

“ Julayne R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Adams.

Julayne R. - March 19, 2025 at 08:48 PM



“ 50 files added to the album Life Tributes



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - March 19, 2025 at 12:11 PM

HA

“ So sorry to hear about Bill. I had many good visits with him at The Uptown when he came in for "coach's" meetings or on his way to golf. He was a great guy and friend.



Helen Allee - March 19, 2025 at 11:40 AM

TS

“ Tim Schwartz lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Tim Schwartz - March 18, 2025 at 08:19 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Adams.*



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March 18, 2025 at 12:36 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William "Bill" Adams.

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March 18, 2025 at 12:36 PM



“ *Jason and Lori Mayer lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Jason and Lori Mayer** - March 17, 2025 at 08:29 PM



“ *Kim (Denny) Carlson lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Kim (Denny) Carlson** - March 17, 2025 at 10:10 AM

DA

“ *DaveSchumacher lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



DaveSchumacher - March 16, 2025 at 08:42 PM

DA

“ *Dave lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



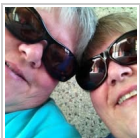
Dave - March 16, 2025 at 08:40 PM

GW

“ *Glen Donna Wood lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



Glen Donna Wood - March 16, 2025 at 12:51 PM



“ *Rocky Reese lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



Rocky Reese - March 15, 2025 at 10:29 PM

CU

“ *My sincere condolences to you all*



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**Cindy Umland** - March 15, 2025 at 10:28 PM

TC

“ *I have fond memories of Bill as a teacher, golfing with Lowell, my dad and I on Teacher workshop weekends, then playing pool, cross country skiing, and also the Ottertail Lake vacation. I always enjoyed our visits.*

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**tom conzemius** - March 15, 2025 at 09:37 PM

VC

“ *One of my favorite teachers! My condolences to all of the Adams family and loved ones during this difficult time.*



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**Vicki (Theisen) Chesney** - March 15, 2025 at 07:31 PM

DM

“ *Both Bill and Sally sang at my dad's funeral...and they were wonderful friends to our entire family. Sending my eternal thanks to the Adams' Family.*  
*Debby Merickel*

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**Debby Merickel** - March 15, 2025 at 06:35 PM

SB

“ *Bill was my 9th grade English and typing teacher. He was a great guy and an excellent teacher. Whenever you saw him he would make time to visit. He was a guy you looked up too! I will miss his smiling face! RIP my friend!!!* ”

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**Steve and Linda Babcock** - March 15, 2025 at 03:37 PM

CU

“ *Cindy Umland lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams* ”



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**Cindy Umland** - March 14, 2025 at 10:19 PM

EN

“ *Eric, Rhonda, Amara, & Blake Neuerburg lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams* ”



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**Eric, Rhonda, Amara, & Blake Neuerburg** - March 14, 2025 at 10:07 PM

CU

“ *Chad Uselman lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams* ”



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**Chad Uselman** - March 14, 2025 at 09:15 PM



“ It was so nice to see him at the library!!! He was an excellent teacher!! I learned how to type and I loved those 90 minutes classes!!!

Katherine Rohr - March 14, 2025 at 03:03 PM

MM

“ Marjorie Mohs-Harrison lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Marjorie Mohs-Harrison - March 14, 2025 at 01:55 PM

YF

“ Your Tonka Bay family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of William "Bill" Adams.



Your Tonka Bay family - March 14, 2025 at 11:45 AM

NB

“ Nance Brandborg lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Nance Brandborg - March 14, 2025 at 11:25 AM

BS

“ *Bill Sartell lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Bill Sartell** - March 14, 2025 at 09:46 AM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Adams.*



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March 14, 2025 at 09:34 AM

KD

“ *Kathie Davis lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Kathie Davis** - March 14, 2025 at 09:23 AM

AS

“ *Alan Schumacher lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Alan Schumacher** - March 14, 2025 at 09:00 AM

GK

“ Greg Krier lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Greg Krier - March 14, 2025 at 08:44 AM

MC

“ Marcy Collins lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Marcy Collins - March 14, 2025 at 07:59 AM

ML

“ Mary Lynk lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Mary Lynk - March 14, 2025 at 12:04 AM

MM

“ Dear Family, I credit Bill for opening the world of literature to me by teaching me to analyze and appreciate the words before me. Please accept my condolences and know my thoughts and prayers are with you.

Mike Mueller - March 13, 2025 at 10:54 PM

KQ

“ *Kim Quincer lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Kim Quincer** - March 13, 2025 at 10:29 PM

KM

“ *Karen Munson lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Karen Munson** - March 13, 2025 at 09:52 PM

AD

“ *Audrey Davis sent a virtual gift in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Audrey Davis** - March 13, 2025 at 09:49 PM

GK

“ *Greg Krier lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Greg Krier** - March 13, 2025 at 09:42 PM

KP

“ *Krista (Lien) Potter lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Krista (Lien) Potter** - March 13, 2025 at 08:21 PM

DC

“ *I had Bill for a teacher in Jr high and also in Sr high. He was one of the best teachers. Thoughts and prayers to the family. Diane Pitcher Crabb*



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**Diane Crabb** - March 13, 2025 at 05:18 PM

RT

“ *ROXANNE TABERY lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**ROXANNE TABERY** - March 13, 2025 at 04:32 PM

DA

“ *Di Schiller Anderson lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Di Schiller Anderson** - March 13, 2025 at 04:09 PM

DA

“ *Bill was a great teacher and an all around great individual. Rest in peace!* ”

Debbie Anderson - March 13, 2025 at 03:47 PM

RJ

“ *Robin Hedstrom Jensen lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams* ”



Robin Hedstrom Jensen - March 13, 2025 at 03:45 PM

DS

“ *Sally, Tracy and Todd. Bill was so good to the Wadena community and the WDC school system. I remember his countless hours doing PA for track events, his umpiring, and of course his singing. I will always treasure my memories of Bill. RIP you good and faithful servant.* ”

Dan Skogen - March 13, 2025 at 03:42 PM

TF

“ *The Don Quincer Family lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams* ”



The Don Quincer Family - March 13, 2025 at 03:41 PM

RK

“ *Rich & Mavis Kendall lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



Rich & Mavis Kendall - March 13, 2025 at 02:18 PM

PM

“ *Penny McManigle*



Prnny McManigle - March 13, 2025 at 02:05 PM



“ *Anita Beringer lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



Anita Beringer - March 13, 2025 at 01:37 PM

JH

“ *Jay and Debra Hutson lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



Jay and Debra Hutson - March 13, 2025 at 01:18 PM

D(

“ *Bill was a great teacher and all around good individual*

*Always had a smile on his face and spent time talking whenever he saw u*

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**Deb Dague (Peters)** - March 13, 2025 at 12:59 PM

RB

“ *Ray and Dorothy Beyer lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Ray and Dorothy Beyer** - March 13, 2025 at 11:36 AM

MF

“ *Mark & Renee Frethem lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Mark & Renee Frethem** - March 13, 2025 at 11:10 AM

WL

“ *Wadena Library lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Wadena Library** - March 13, 2025 at 11:09 AM

TH

“ *Tammie Kwitter Hamlin lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



Tammie Kwitter Hamlin - March 13, 2025 at 10:41 AM

NP

“ *Nancy Peterson lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



Nancy Peterson - March 13, 2025 at 09:57 AM

MW

“ *Myron and Karen Winkelman lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



Myron and Karen Winkelman - March 13, 2025 at 09:57 AM

BH

“ *Bob & Donna Haman lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



Bob & Donna Haman - March 13, 2025 at 09:53 AM

IE

“ Irene Eiswald lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



irene eiswald - March 13, 2025 at 09:52 AM

DA

“ Deb Andrews lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Deb Andrews - March 13, 2025 at 09:51 AM

JG

“ Judy & Ken Gilb lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Judy & Ken Gilb - March 13, 2025 at 09:50 AM

DG

“ Donna Grendahl lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Donna Grendahl - March 13, 2025 at 09:42 AM

LB

“ Lucille Belch lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Lucille Belch - March 13, 2025 at 09:40 AM

JS

“ Good friend ever since he was my teacher in 1963. Rest in Peace my friend and may God be with you. We will meet again.

Jim & Tracey Stoneman - March 13, 2025 at 08:14 AM

JJ

“ So many wonderful memories from a 55 year relationship with Bill. From teacher, to coach, to playing golf, shared meals, singing in choir, road trips to the hunting shack. A loving husband, father and grandpa. Gracious and kind. Thank you, Bill.



Jon and Patty Johnson - March 13, 2025 at 06:35 AM

DK

“ Dan Kern lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



Dan Kern - March 13, 2025 at 05:58 AM

DG

“ Donna Grendahl lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



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**Donna Grendahl** - March 13, 2025 at 12:52 AM

JT

“ Joan Peltoniemi Tait lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



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**Joan Peltoniemi Tait** - March 12, 2025 at 10:53 PM

MS

“ Mike and Lea Snyder lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



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**Mike and Lea Snyder** - March 12, 2025 at 09:24 PM

LM

“ Bill was one of my favorite teachers. My sympathies to his family.

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**Lois Miller** - March 12, 2025 at 09:21 PM

JE

“ *Jane Erckenbrack lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Jane Erckenbrack** - March 12, 2025 at 09:15 PM

VA

“ *Vickie Andrie lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**Vickie Andrie** - March 12, 2025 at 08:44 PM

JE

“ *Sending hugs & prayers to Sally, Tracy, Todd and families.*



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**Judy Erdahl** - March 12, 2025 at 08:24 PM

ML

“ I am so sorry Adams family for your loss. I just heard about Bill's passing.  
I remember him as a teacher I looked up to. One who I enjoyed having my name called by as he was the long time public address announcer at WHS football games.  
A wonderful church going man.  
My thoughts are with all of you.  
The Larson family.

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**Mark Larson** - March 12, 2025 at 07:33 PM

MS

“ Marvin & Kim Stokes lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



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**Marvin & Kim Stokes** - March 12, 2025 at 05:53 PM

DM

“ Dale & Liz Miller lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams



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**Dale & Liz Miller** - March 12, 2025 at 05:09 PM

T#

“ *The Members of Wadena Elks Lodge #2386  
lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Adams*



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**The Members of Wadena Elks Lodge #2386** - March 12, 2025 at 04:49 PM

KP

“ *Karen Priebe lit a candle in memory of  
William "Bill" Adams*



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**Karen Priebe** - March 12, 2025 at 03:50 PM