



Beverly Ann Schlatter

June 5, 1927 - March 23, 2020

Beverly Ann Heilman Schlatter, 92, passed away on March 23, 2020 in Columbus. Bev, as she was known, was born on June 5, 1927 and grew up in Liberty Center, Ohio. She was preceded in death by her mother, Naoma Lovejoy, father, Harve Heilman, brother, William, son-in-law, Jeffrey Kitzi (the husband of her daughter Ellis) and beloved husband, Max Ellis Schlatter. Bev graduated from Bowling Green State University where, following in her mother's footsteps, she majored in elementary education. She went on to teach for several years in the Elyria school system. She was introduced to Max Schlatter by Mary Jo Werner Bickhart, a sorority sister, during a visit to the Werner home in Wapakoneta, and the couple was married in 1952. Arriving in Wapakoneta as a young bride, Bev became involved in the life of the community through the First United Methodist Church and its Junior Choir, of which she was director for many years, the Junior Service League, Women's Club and the PTA. She sang in a musical group with Jane Shaw, Mary Alice Wintzer and Lois Stroh and they enjoyed performing Broadway tunes and barbershop melodies for various civic groups in the community. During this time, she and Max had three children, Ellis Ann, Robert and Katherine. It was clear that being a wife, mother and homemaker suited her and was the most important role in her life. When her children were grown, Bev returned to teaching as a substitute elementary teacher in the Wapakoneta school system, becoming acquainted with several generations of Wapakonetans in the process. Following Max's death in 1986, Bev remained

in their long-time home at 818 West Auglaize Street, where her greatest joy was hosting picnics on her patio and visits from her grandchildren. She was always guided by her enthusiasm for life, and, besides her family and friends, both older and younger, especially loved cardinals, hearts, Christmas, sewing, the color teal, music, Americana, grapevine wreaths and geese. She was truly an exceptional human being.

Bev had recently sold her home in Wapakoneta and was living in Columbus in order to be closer to her kids, Rob and Kate, and their families. She lived independently for several years in an apartment on Northwest Boulevard until last September 11, when she suffered a fall. Thereafter she resided at an assisted living facility, Mayfair Village, where she lived at the time of her death. She is survived by her children, Ellis Ann Burrows, Robert Lovejoy Schlatter and wife Kimberlee, Katherine Ann Schlatter Norvell and husband Robert, as well as four darling grandchildren, Max Ellis and William Tate Norvell and Lydia Ann and Julianna Lovejoy Schlatter. Bev had many friends in the Wapakoneta community and will be missed by all. A memorial service for Bev will be held in Wapakoneta on a date to be announced.

Tribute Wall

MG

“ Rob and family,
A quick story about your mom. Shortly after you and I graduated in 1975, I started working for the Copeland Corporation here in Wapak. Fast forward to 1993. The decision was made to close the facility. This was when plant closings and displaced workers was a rare occurrence. I took the opportunity to write a "letter to the editor" of the WDN and talked about the years gone by, co-worker friendships and experiences and the challenges ahead. Your mom read the letter and called me to say how much she liked the letter and assured me that things would work out. They did, of course. How wise a woman! :)
Have thought about that call many times over the years and now much it meant to both my wife and I. Our sympathies are with you and the entire family.

Michael and Beverly Gibson

Michael and Beverly Gibson - April 03, 2020 at 04:19 PM

DG

“ I have many wonderful memories of being in Mrs. Schlatter's Junior Choir at FUMC in Wapakoneta. From getting to take rehearsal calendars home to decorate to penny candy awards and end of year picnics. I still have a lot of the music we sang in my head to this day. I appreciate all of the encouragement and advice she gave. My sympathies to her family.

Denise Smith Green - March 25, 2020 at 10:04 PM

EB

Denise: The Junior Choir meant so much to Mom, and she would have loved to hear your words about what the experience meant to you. Thank you so much for sharing your memories. Ellis

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 26, 2020 at 05:55 PM

CK

Beverly was such a loving, caring, nurturing lady. My daughter was in the choir at FUMC and experiencing some bullying. Bev took her under her wing and a talk with cookies to help her through it. Will never forget her loving care. She was a kind hearted soul and loved her Lord. ❤️🙏

Catherine Kightlinger - March 27, 2020 at 11:58 AM

EB

Thanks for sharing this memory. Ellis

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 29, 2020 at 11:02 AM

MR

“ I have so many fond memories with Bev. We both loved walking for exercise and would drive to Indian Lake or Lake St. Mary’s to walk the trails there. Then have breakfast afterwards! I enjoyed many parades from her front yard after a cookout on the patio. Five of my children were in her Junior Choir at First Church. Our daughters, Kathrine & Melanie have been friends since Kindergarten. I worked with Bev at many Election Suppers. My life has been enriched by being friends with Bev!

Miriam Reese - March 25, 2020 at 09:09 PM

EB

Thank you Miriam. I'll be sure Kate knows you wrote such a touching tribute. You meant a lot to Bev, too. Ellis

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 26, 2020 at 05:56 PM

KS

Miriam, thank you so much! You were such a big part of my life. Thanks for your kind words about my mom. She thought the world of you!

Kate Schlatter - March 27, 2020 at 05:28 AM

LR

“ I grew up with Kate and I have so many fond and happy memories of times with Bev. What a tremendous intellect and love for everyone around her! As the director of the Methodist children’s choir, she helped me discover my love of music. Her care for her family and home established standards that stayed with me as I raised my own children. The intellect and humor that Bev used with us as we gathered at the house have stayed with me over the years. My memories of growing up in Wapak will always include those happy times at 818 W Auglaize!

Lee Ann Roush - March 25, 2020 at 08:40 PM

KS

Lee Ann, what a beautiful message! You make me and would make my mom so happy with your thoughtful words. Yes, you and I shared so many happy times. I’m so happy to hear you have such fond memories of my mom, the choir and our home. Thank you, Lee Ann. Hoping you and yours are doing well!

Kate Schlatter - March 27, 2020 at 05:24 AM

EB

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Ellis Ann Burrows - March 25, 2020 at 07:32 PM

EB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ellis Ann Burrows - March 25, 2020 at 07:26 PM

DH

“ *Bev has been a special friend to me and my family starting when we moved to Wapakoneta as the pastoral family for First United Methodist Church. We shared many meals together on her patio which became her signature gathering. Bev knew how to bring you into her life in a warm and friendly way thru those patio picnics. We have maintained our friendship thru the yrs and miles apart. I will miss her. Lovingly, Eileen*

A memory which comes to mind as I remember Bev is that I could count on her invitation to pray with the Jr. Choir before going into the sanctuary for worship. She was a great encourager personally and also for my ministry Rev. David

David Heistand - March 25, 2020 at 01:57 PM

EB

*Thanks to you both for your kind words. You meant the world to Mom.
Ellis*

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 25, 2020 at 02:40 PM

JO

“ I taught a 7th grade confirmation class at UMC in the early 1990's and Bev helped me. Her guidance was a blessing! I was also a Junior Choir member and her love for music was infectious. My blessings to the family during this time of loss as they remember their mother and grandmother with love.

Jamie Bailey Oliver - March 25, 2020 at 09:02 AM

EB

Jamie, thanks so much for sharing your wonderful memories of Mom. I didn't realize, and it's nice to know. Ellis

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 25, 2020 at 02:42 PM

DE

“ Ellis Ann, Rob, and Katherine,
We are so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. She was always such a joy to be around. We never go to the Election Supper at First United Methodist without thinking of her dipping out her special sauce for cranberry jello=:) She served her church and community so well. Heaven is a much brighter place now that your mom is there. She was a blessing to everyone who knew her. You are in our thoughts and prayers as you celebrate the life of this extraordinary woman. Sending heartfelt sympathy,
Jim and Diane Elshire
Wapakoneta, OH

Diane M Elshire - March 24, 2020 at 10:06 PM

MA

Your mother and grandmother will be missed. She brought a ray of hope and love with her always. I am glad she touched my life with her love for life
Mary Andrews
Wapakoneta, OH

Mary Andrews - March 24, 2020 at 10:52 PM

LM

Dear Ellis, I will be thinking of you during this time of loss. I remember your Mom from when I was at your home. May God surround you with His comfort. Blessings of God to you and your siblings. Lois Weissinger McGarvey

Lois Weissinger McGarvey - March 25, 2020 at 08:37 AM

JB

She added music and joy to everything she did and we all benefitted from it. My best memories include girl scout leader, junior choir director and mother to three great kids. My prayers to all of you for your loss. Celebrate her life and continue spreading her joy.

Jo Bailey - March 25, 2020 at 09:19 AM

GW

*Ellis, Rob and Katherine,
Your Mom and mine were good friends for ever. I will always think of your mother as the Junior Choir Director and how much fun we had. She managed to maintain "order" with her use of a gentle touch. Your Dad, Max and my Dad were also good friends as you know. What good memories!
Please accept our most sincere thoughts and sympathies.
Gus and Debbie Wintzer*

Gus and Debbie Wintzer - March 25, 2020 at 11:50 AM

EB

*Thanks to you both for your thoughts. It's true that our parents were good friends for a very long time. Now they're all up there together.
Ellis*

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 25, 2020 at 02:48 PM

EB

Jim and Diane, Thanks for the memories. Glad you have such happy memories of her! Ellis

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 25, 2020 at 06:35 PM

EB

*Mary: I'm happy Mom meant so much to you. Thanks for sharing that.
Ellis*

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 25, 2020 at 06:36 PM

EB

Lois: Thanks for your kind words. Ellis

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 25, 2020 at 06:38 PM

EB

Jo: I'm happy you have such good memories of Mom's presence in the world. Ellis

Ellis Ann Burrows - March 25, 2020 at 06:39 PM