



## Mona J. Gottschalk

December 3, 1933 - December 26, 2016

On December 26, 2016, our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother went to her waiting Savior's arms from Covenant Medical Center-Cooper, following a short illness. Her family hopes He wasn't late to her arrival because she hated it when anyone was late. Our mother's life was ruled by three things: her church, her tireless work ethic and her family.

Her church: She loved Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Pastor Krueger, and never turned them down. She loved her Altar duty, helping with funeral luncheons, and visiting hospitalized members of the congregation.

Her work ethic: Last year was the first that she did not mow her own lawn and remove her own snow. No one could do it quite the way she wanted it done. She worked for Drs. Don, Jim, and Andrea Mertz for over 40 years, whom she considered family. She took only four sick days in that time, making it hard to match her loyalty to her employers. When she picked blue berries, Drs. Mertz got to have them before we did. When we were growing up, trying to take a day off of school or work was met with disdain for even thinking of shirking our responsibilities. But we still had to try. When we asked her to call the school or our employer to notify them of our sickness, the next sentence out of our mother's mouth would include the word, "tough" and she would loudly spell it for you and never spell it the same way twice, which of course made it even more fun to try.

Her family: Until a few years ago, she would have our families over and make a huge chicken dinner with all the goodies. No one could make her baked beans, German potato salad or sweet potatoes like she could. She loved her family and was there for us in good times and bad. She never judged, ever! She was not perfect, as none of us are. But she was a great example of a life well lived. She is now where she wanted to be – with our dad, and all the others that went before her, Willard, Wayne, Joyce, George, Lorraine and Lois.

She had just celebrated her 83rd birthday. Mona was born on December 3, 1933, in Saginaw, to the late George and Lorraine (Newman) Schwalm. She was married to John A. Gottschalk on January 16, 1954. After 56 years of marriage, John predeceased her on September 14, 2010.

Surviving are one son, one daughter and their spouses, John C. (Connie J.) Gottschalk, and Kathryn (Paul) Mason; five grandchildren, Chris (Jourdan), Matt (Jamie), Anna (Don), Johnny, and Kayla (Dwayne); one great-granddaughter, Trystyn; a special nephew that was more like her brother, Willard (Shirley) Schwalm; her nieces Carol (Richard) Mallory, and Ellen, all of whom included Mona in their lives; and her special friends, Bonnie, Harold, Elsie and Verna.

Memorial service will take place 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 31, 2016, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 600 Court St. The Rev. James F. Krueger will officiate. Private burial will follow at a later date in Holy Cross Lutheran Cemetery. Friends are welcome to visit with the family at the church on Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Holy Cross Lutheran Church or the Humane Society of Saginaw County. Memories and sympathies of Mona may be shared with the family on her memorial website at

WakemanFuneralHome.com

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **31**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
600 Court St.  
Saginaw, MI 48602

## Memorial Service

DEC **31**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
600 Court St.  
Saginaw, MI 48602

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mona J. Gottschalk*

September 13, 2022 at 05:01 PM



“ *Mona J. Gottschalk*

September 13, 2022 at 02:27 PM



“ *Mona was a gift! Thank you for allowing her to be apart of our lives. She gave so much to our family. The silly stories of our work day will never be forgotten. The patients that she cared for will be lost with out her.*

**katie mertz** - December 31, 2016 at 07:24 AM



“ *The children of Mona's late brother Wayne E. Schwalm send our sincere condolences. We are so very sorry for your loss. God Bless You Aunt Mona.. You are now with all the family who went before you....*

*Pamela Schwalm-Eneix  
Gregory Schwawlm  
Jeffrey Schwalm*

*and their families...*



**PAMELA SCHWALM-ENEIX** - December 30, 2016 at 05:43 PM

JJ

“ I am very sorry for your great loss. She sounded like a selfless and wonderful woman. John, my prayers go out for you and your family

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**Janice Bailey(customer of John)** - December 30, 2016 at 11:53 AM

TH

“ John so sorry for the loss of your mother. My sympathy to you and your family.

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**Toni Hubbard** - December 30, 2016 at 09:39 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mona J. Gottschalk.



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December 29, 2016 at 11:03 AM

RL

“ Great Christian woman and devoted wife and mother. It was grand to visit at the Gottschalk home and share the Gospel and Holy Communion. Praying all blessings upon the family as they grieve their wonderful mother.

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**Rev. Tim Loewe** - December 28, 2016 at 02:14 PM

JG

“ Also under the topic of her love of God & Church, Mona loved to sing alto in the Parish Choir! We were grateful for her ministry in music. Frequently, we stopped by so her Boston Terrier "Abby" could play with our Shih Tzu-Maltese "Poochini." They entertained while we had our enjoyable conversations. She brought joy to everyone! As we sing in the Hymn FOR ALL THE SAINTS: "we feebly struggle, she (with Christ), in glory shines!"  
May she rest in God's eternal light.

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**James Gladstone** - December 28, 2016 at 01:44 PM

CM

“ Keith and I would run in to Mona over the years at Holy Cross's saurkraut dinners. It was always nice having a visit with her. Hugs and prayers to all the family. Keith & Cheryl Marx.

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**cheryl marx** - December 28, 2016 at 12:43 PM

PS

“ So very sorry for the loss of Mona, Was her neighbor on Trenton for forty some years , would always stop and chat when I would walk my first grandson in the stroller and let him play with her little dog Abbey.I remember the day I told her I was putting my house up for sale after my husband passed we both were crying and hugging. Stopped back to visit a few time to see her and chat.Wish I had stopped by lately.Rest in peace Mona you were a lovely lady and friend.and such a good neighbor always there to listen in my sad days after my husband passed.Heaven has gained another Angel.

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**Patricia Sizick** - December 28, 2016 at 12:35 PM