



A lasting memorial has been given to
Spirit of Hope Church
in memory of
Beverly L. (Yates) Levine

“An example of vitality in our church community”

September 21, 1921 - November 5, 2013



Beverly was born in Bloomfield, Iowa, where it was said she was born on the farmhouse kitchen table. From the very beginning she was stubborn, feisty, and a tomboy. In fact, the family loves to relate how she had to be rescued from herself twice as a little girl: the first time after running off in a fit and getting stuck inside of a henhouse (she had to be cut out!), and the second time after climbing onto a horse to make a point, only to be stuck when the horse stepped away from the fence. Beverly's brothers let her just stay on that horse for awhile to make a point themselves! Luckily, her stubborn streak transformed into feistiness. Beverly went on to raise a prize-winning bull as a member of the Future Farmers of America, to be an active member of the high school band as a clarinet player, and even to be named as Miss Farm Girl of Iowa in 1939. Her winning title was announced by a radio announcer named “Dutch Reagan,” who would later be known by the rest of the world as President Ronald Reagan. That was not Beverly's only brush with political fame. After attending business school in Ottumwa, Iowa, Beverly worked as a secretary at a bank where she was supervised by none other than Pat Nixon.

Beverly met her future husband, Jack, while he was assigned to a naval base right in the middle of Iowa. He was a member of the U.S. Navy Band and happened to be at a sledding party she attended. Their love of music brought them together, they married, and Beverly moved to her new life in Minnesota. They had two children, Linda and Kent. Her grandchildren enjoyed visiting “Gram,” since she was fun and the type of grandmother who would sit right down on the floor with the kids to play games and cards. She was proud to also be a Great-Gram and a Great-Great-Gram.

Jack and Beverly chose Spirit of Hope United Methodist Church to be their home church in 1965, when it was still known as Golden Valley Methodist Church. Jack was an itinerant church organist, and Beverly volunteered in the nursery for many years.

That wasn't to be her only volunteer work. Beverly was *never* still. She delivered all of the notices to the residents of Calvary where she lived. She walked a minimum of 1/2 mile per day right up until the last ten days of her life. And, as an avid reader, she was honored to have been a volunteer at the Golden Valley Library for 21 years. After her passing, Beverly's collection of 62 nutcrackers was beautifully displayed at the library over Christmas. She would have loved that.

Beverly loved her family, her church, her Bible study, Pastor Ed (although he'd hear from her if the sermon was longwinded!), Jerry, and his music program. When Jack passed away in 1988 his memorial service was filled with many of the memorable organ selections he was known for, including Widor's Tocatta. Jerry played it once again as the postlude at Beverly's memorial service twenty-six years later, a very fitting farewell from the church she so loved.



February 20, 2014