



## Mrs. Beverly Ellen Schoonmaker Alfeld of Crystal Lake

December 28, 1946 - November 13, 2025

Beverly Ellen Schoonmaker Alfeld, age 78, of Crystal Lake, Illinois passed away on November 13, 2025. Bev was the daughter of the late Donald and Doris Schoonmaker. She grew up in Accord, NY, where her parents owned Valley Gardens, Inc.

She was a graduate of Rondout Valley High School. She earned her Bachelor of Art Degree at SUNY Cortland, then her Master of Art in Design and Master of Fine Art in Textiles from Northern Illinois University. Bev taught high school art and college textiles. After leaving the teaching field, she continued to advocate for special education children as an Academic Performance Specialist for 30 years.

Bev founded her Jamlady business, which manufactured specialty jams, preserves, and relishes. She participated in several Chicagoland farmers markets selling her products. She went on to develop Jamlady.com, and author two award-winning cookbooks, "Jamlady Cookbook" and "Pickles to Relish." She also was contributing editor for "Fruit Gardener" magazine, a journal of California Rare Fruit Growers (CRFG).

As an avid world traveler, Bev visited over 50 countries searching for unusual fruits. She was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution. Bev was staunchly pro-life and housed many unwed mothers to encourage adoption

rather than abortion. She also founded and managed the Donald L. Schoonmaker Scholarship Fund (DLSSF) after her father's death.

Bev was predeceased by her son, R.J. Alfeld. She is survived by her daughter, Kim Sterba; son, Tim Alfeld; niece, Tami Bogausch; nephew, Jason Schoonmaker; and many cousins.

Visitation will be held on Friday, November 21, 2025 from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at George J. Moylan Funeral Home, 2053 NY-32, Rosendale, NY 12472. Family and friends will meet on Saturday, November 22, 2025 at Christ the King Episcopal Church, 3021 NY-213, Stone Ridge, NY 12484 for a funeral mass at 1:00 P.M.. Interment to follow at Marbletown Cemetery in Kingston, NY by her son and parents.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to DLSSF at 698 Exmoor Terrace, Crystal Lake, IL 60014.

The family has created this Life Tributes page to make it easy to share your memories, photos, and videos. For those of you that would have attended services and would like to express your condolences please click on the "Share A Memory" link above and you can leave a message. If you wish to send a Sympathy Card, please feel free to send it to Morizzo Funeral Home, 2550 Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois, 60169 c/o the Family; we will gladly forward it on to the family.

For further information please contact the Morizzo Funeral Directors at 847.752.6444. Arrangements entrusted to Morizzo Funeral Home, Cremation Services and Cemetery Memorials, at 2550 West Hassell Road, (Northeast corner at Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169. Morizzo Memorials and Monuments (<https://www.morizzofuneralhome.com/monuments-and-headstones/memorials-monuments-and-headstones>)



# Cemetery Details

## **Morizzo Family Funeral Home, Cremation Services and Cemetery Memorials**

2550 Hassell Road

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Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

[ross@morizzofuneralhome.com](mailto:ross@morizzofuneralhome.com)

<http://MorizzoFuneralHome.com>

# Tribute Wall

BJ

“ I'm very sorry to hear of Beverly's passing. We were members of a large online email group thus never personally met or spoke with her, but interacted extensively about issues of the day America's facing.

*Very intelligent, kind, personable, clear thinking--cogent, salient, circumspect, and classy lady. Will definitely miss her as she added considerably to all discussions as a voice of reasoned experience.*

*My condolences and prayers go out to the family.  
Terrific lovely human being.*

*Bill Josephson*

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**Bill Josephson** - November 16, 2025 at 09:41 AM