



## Frank Joseph Baroka Sr.

December 17, 1942 - April 7, 2021

Frank Joseph Baroka Jr.

Age 78, of Park Falls, died peacefully with his daughter at his side on Wednesday April 7, 2021 at Park Manor Rivers Edge. He was born on December 17, 1942 in Milwaukee, the son of Frank Sr. and Alice (Cerar) Baroka. His early life and schooling were in Milwaukee. He moved to Fifield in 1950 and was a member of the last graduating class of the Fifield School. Frank worked at St. Croix in Park Falls for six years where he met his wife Janice Martin. The couple married on May 17, 1969. He then worked for the Flambeau Paper Mill for 34 years, retiring in 2000. After retirement he ran the Wausau Music Store in Park Falls for eight years. Frank played in multiple Polka bands, starting at the age of 12: Pete Farkas Orchestra, Jolly Vagabonds, Frankie Baroka and the Happy Polka Boys, the Jeff Walker Band, and the Spotlight Polka Band. He played with multiple famous musicians, including: Frankie Yankovic, Walter Ostanik, and Myron Foran of the Lawrence Welk Show, and frequented the Big Joe Polka Show. He was invited to the International Polka Fest for over 20 years. Frank enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, making the Northwoods Polka Show for his Saturday morning radio show, and playing in his Polka Band. His motto was: "Polka is happy music for happy people".

He is survived by:

His daughter Charity (Tim) Schloer of Butternut

(3)grandchildren: Jordan, Jacob, and Johanna Schloer

(2)brothers:

James (Jean) Baroka of Fifield

Ronald (Margaret) Baroka of Woodruff

his special friend Sandy Jarosinski

and many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife of 48 years, Janice, and his brother and sister-in-law Dewy and Gail Andrews.

A visitation will be held at Birch Street Funeral Service in Park Falls on Sunday April 11, 2021 from 4:00pm until 8:00pm.

A private funeral service will be held at Peace Lutheran Church.

Burial will follow at Forest Home Cemetery in Fifield.

Birch Street Funeral Service is assisting the family.

[www.birchstreetfuneralservice.com](http://www.birchstreetfuneralservice.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Forest Home Cemetery

Old 70 Road and Krucky Road  
Fifield, WI 54524

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 11. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Birch Street Funeral Service  
350 Birch Street  
Park Falls, WI 54552  
(715) 762-3287  
[birchstreetfuneralservice@outlook.com](mailto:birchstreetfuneralservice@outlook.com)  
<https://www.birchstreetfuneralservice.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Frank Joseph Baroka Sr.*

October 05, 2023 at 02:07 PM



“ *Brett Larson lit a candle in memory of Frank Joseph Baroka Sr.*



**Brett Larson** - April 12, 2021 at 08:43 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Frank Joseph Baroka Sr..*



April 11, 2021 at 09:37 PM



“ *Sorry for your loss. I remember delivering steel to him at the mill in Parkfalls. We would always talk about polka music and drums. Very nice guy.* 🙏🙏🙏

**JIM EWERT** - April 11, 2021 at 03:48 PM

DA

“ Sorry to hear of Frankie's death. We always enjoyed his enthusiasm he showed towards polka music on his Saturday morning show and whenever we would hear him play at dances. Fellow polka dancers  
- Dick Kortbein and Audrey Larson

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**Dick and Audrey** - April 11, 2021 at 10:55 AM

TT

“ Our thoughts and prayers to Frank's family. My son & I were members of the II Edition Band and I have great memories of playing alongside Frank & Jeff at the park. He always came down for a good laugh when we'd be recording at Rhapsody Records. My greatest memory is over 19yrs ago - I was pregnant with our son & due soon, so I did not travel with our band up to Butternut for their band gig. My sister called me & Frank sang “cab driver” to me over the phone - he changed the words to “drive me over to Tanya's house.” That still brings a huge smile to my face. RIP my friend as you join Heavens band. In deepest sympathy - Phil, Tanya (Lettau) & Tyler Tautges

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**Tanya Lettau Tautges** - April 11, 2021 at 10:36 AM

RY

“ Sad to hear of Frank's passing. Frank was a friend for many years and also played drums a few times in my band. A great polka promoter and we in the music business owe a lot to the energy and time Frank put into something he really loved. His memory will live on every time we hear a polka.  
Richie & Gabe Yurkovich.

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**Richie Yurkovich** - April 10, 2021 at 10:22 AM

SK

“ Thanks for the memories, Frankie. You made so many people happy with your music. Now you will be everyone's polka angel. One of our favorite pictures taken at The Pines Beer Garden in Mercer where we played together for many years. We will not be able to attend Sunday as we have a prior commitment, but our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Scott and Pam Koehn



Scott and Pam Koehn - April 09, 2021 at 07:30 PM

GB

“ Sad to see this. I knew Frank since he married Janice. I have vague memories of that wedding so long ago. Heard him play at many wedding danc s, too. Appreciated his patronage of the Park Falls Gastropub, as well as the music he performed there. He was a legend and will be missed.

Gail Boushon - April 09, 2021 at 07:06 PM

TK

“ The Kneppers purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Frank Joseph Baroka Sr..



The Kneppers - April 09, 2021 at 11:21 AM

PA

“ I remember going to the Bobcat and Frankie would play and people would dance. What fun our family had there. He loved music then. Looks like he continued to enjoy it all his life. Prayers for his family.



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**Phyllis Schultz Anderson** - April 08, 2021 at 05:57 PM