

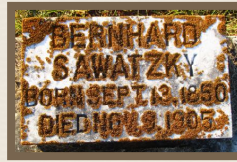
U.S., Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Church Records, 1781-1969 for Bernhard Sawatzki from St. John's Church in Shakopee.

Stone masonry was considered a skilled trade, higher in ranking than a wheelwright or carpenter for example. Many craftsmen were self-taught and some developed their skills and later became architects and civil engineers. Bernhard Sawatzki Kawatsky worked in Shakopee for fifteen years, probably at part of the Schroeder' Brickyard. He worked continuously, never knowing a day's sickness, according to the **Shakopee Tribune** article in 1905.

In March 1905, a small spot appeared upon his cheek to which he paid sight attention. But dangerous symptoms developed rapidly, and Bernhard Sawatzki Kawatsky consulted medical specialists who pronounced it a cancerous growth. There was no hope of recovery for the sufferer.

The ravages of his disease which attacked him compelled his to cessation from his labor. During the last few months of his life, Bernhard Sawatzki Kawatsky suffered intensely. For the past three weeks he has not been able to receive nourishment in any form.

On Tuesday, November 7, 1905, at age 55, Bernhard Sawatzki Kawatsky succumbed to the inevitable, and though the death struggle was severe,



his consciousness remained until near the end. He still recognized the different members of his family gathering around his bedside.

Five of his children survived him, and Bernhard Sawatzki Kawatsky's father, three sisters, and three grandchildren were left in Germany, as well as brother, Charles Sawatsky of Shakopee, and Mrs. Rudolph Kawatsky Quashnefski of St. Paul.

The funeral took place on November 10, 1905 from St. John's German Evangelical Lutheran church with Reverend Carl Ganschow officiating. The interment was at Valley Cemetery in Shakopee.

Bernhard Sawatzki Kawatsky's wife, Pauline Buttler Kawatsky, decided to return to her native land to make her home with her daughters in Germany. She died there in February of 1909, according to the **Scott County Argus** on March 19, 1909.



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Bernhard Sawatzki Sawatsky

1850-1905



Bernhard Sawatzki was a stone mason, and when he moved to Shakopee in 1890, he worked as a stone mason, probably at Schroeder's Brickyard. Stone masons worked on bricks, including Nil Nelson (on right,) who worked on the Minnesota State Capitol rotunda on April 4, 1904.

Bernhard Sawatzki Kawatsky, a native of Germany, was born on September 13, 1850 in West Prussia. He was baptized that day, according to documentation at Laseczno, or in German, Groß Herzogswalde. It is a village in the administrative district of Gmina Iława, within Iława County, Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship, in northern Poland. The village has a population of 382, according to <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laseczno>.

On September 28, 1877, Bernhard married Pauline Buttler according to the *Hesse, Hesse-Kassel, Hess Darmstadt, Hess-Marburg, Hess-Reinfels, Rhineland, and Waldeck, Germany, Lutheran Baptisms, Marriages, and Burials, 1661-1957*. The marriage happened on September 28, 1876 in Sommerau, Poland.



Sommerau, now known as Ząbrowo, south-east of the regional capital Gdańsk in Poland. It is close to the Czech and German borders. Prior to 1945 it was in Germany. Sommerau was founded in 1383. Until 1772 Sommerau was located in what was known as Royal Prussia (also known as Polish Prussia) in the Kingdom of Poland. The First Partition of Poland in 1772 resulted in the creation of a new province in 1773, called West Prussia, in which Sommerau was located.

Sommerau was situated in the district (Kreis) of Marienburg until the end of World War I, when it came under the jurisdiction of the German province of East Prussia. The village came under the control of Nazi Germany during World War II until February 1945, when it was occupied by Soviet forces and returned to Poland. In 2012 Sommerau was a village in the administrative district of Gmina



Stare Pole, within Malbork County, Pomeranian Voivodeship.

Bernhard Sawatzki Kawatsky and his wife, Pauline Buttler Sawatzki Kawatsky lived in West Prussia, where they had seven children. In 1890, Bernhard and Pauline moved to American, along with three of their children. Two other children died in Germany, and one married daughter stayed in Germany.

The family moved directly to Shakopee, according to the *Shakopee Tribune* on November 10, 1905. Minnesota, U.S., Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905 for Bernard Sawatzka and wife, Pauline, lived in Shakopee in 1905.

For fifteen years, the family lived in Shakopee, where Bernhard Sawatzki Kawatsky worked as a stone mason.

