

Soldani, Haroldo Moreira (1930–2007)

THE BRAZILIAN WHITE CENTER – UNASP

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Haroldo Soldani

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Haroldo Moreira Soldani, pastor, canvasser and missionary, was born September 2, 1930, in Belo Horizonte city, Minas Gerais state, Brazil. The son of Gioconda Moreira Soldani (1903-1967) and Jovelino Moreira (d. 1944), his siblings were Alda Martinelli, Áurea Ferreira, Nilza Santos, Harley Soldani, Ada Soldani, Arlete Soldani Gondin, and Maria Dias Nascimento.¹

Born to an Adventist family, Soldani's mother was one of the first members of the Central Adventist Church of Belo Horizonte.² Soldani started working while still young to help with the family expenses, as his father was a tailor and his mother a seamstress. When he was 14 years old, his father died, and Soldani assumed major responsibility for the provision of the family. After working at different jobs at the City Market, he became an

Adventist canvasser³ and later made an intensive theological course at the Brazil Adventist College (now referred to as Centro Universitário Adventista de São Paulo, or UNASP-SP).⁴

In 1956, at an Adventist Youth Congress held in the city of Petropolis, Rio de Janeiro state, Soldani met Silvina Pereira (Soldani), whom he married on December 17, 1959.⁵ The couple had five children, Suely, Haroldo Sergio, Silmar, Schubert and Silvana.⁶ Along with her husband, Silvina contributed to the Adventist work by working in the children's departments.⁷

Soldani's ministry as an official worker of the Seventh-day Adventist Church began in 1958, when he accepted the call to be an auxiliary Bible instructor at the Minas Gerais Mission, helping pastors Chaij and Jeremias. He served in this area until 1961,⁸ when he began to work as evangelist missionary in the city of Ubá, serving there from 1961 to 1964.⁹ From 1964 to 1967 he worked an evangelist in the city of Presidente Soares.¹⁰ During this period he held a series of evangelistic meetings in the cities of Manhuaçu,¹¹ Patos de Minas, and Conselheiro Lafaiete.¹²

In 1967 Soldani accepted a call to serve as a pastor and evangelist in the district of Montes Claros, Minas Gerais, at the Central Adventist Church from 1967 to 1968.¹³ In 1969, he was ordained to the pastoral ministry and was elected to work at the Upper San Francisco Mission, established in the previous year. There he was director of the Personal Ministry, Sabbath School, Public Relations and Radio-TV for two years.¹⁴

From 1972 to 1973 he returned to pastor the Central Adventist Church of Montes.¹⁵ Also in this period he contributed to the construction of the Brasilia de Minas, São Francisco, and Mirabela Adventist churches.¹⁶

In 1974 Soldani accepted the call of the Minas Mission to pastor the district of Lavras, where he stayed until 1975.¹⁷ He pastored the district of Juiz de Fora in 1977, and Duque de Caxias from 1978 to 1980.¹⁸

In the Rio de Janeiro Conference, Soldani pastored the Méier Adventist Church, in Rio de Janeiro city, from 1981 to 1982.¹⁹ He pastored the Vila Isabel district from 1983 to 1986, where he contributed to the construction of the Tijuca Church. He pastored the Ilha do Governador church from 1986 to 1990, where he helped to build the Bonsucesso district Church.²⁰

1990 marked a new period in his ministry. He served as chaplain of the São Lucas and Pio XII Hospitals, and at the Indiana asylum, which belonged to the Golden Cross Organization, coordinated by Adventist member Milton Soldani Afonso.²¹ In 1991 he coordinated a missionary initiative at an auditorium given by the São Lucas Hospital, which helped establish the Copacabana Adventist Church.²²

In 1997 he retired from the East Brazil Union Mission.²³ From that moment on he lived at Tijuca district, Rio de Janeiro city, where he died on September 16, 2007, due to cancer.²⁴ Haroldo Moreira Soldani gave a relevant contribution to the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, serving in the ministry for more than forty years. As a canvasser and evangelist, he spread the church's publications largely in the state of Minas Gerais. As a pastor, he founded many churches in the southeast Brazilian territory, and held many evangelistic meetings.

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NOTES

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