

**John Gruba Jr., 81**  
**Brainerd, MN**  
**Oct. 24, 1934 - May 22, 2016**



John Gruba Jr., age 81, of Brainerd, died Sunday, May 22, 2016, at Good Samaritan Society-Bethany in Brainerd.

Funeral services will be 12 p.m. Friday, May 27, 2016, at Foley Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Michael Wolfbauer will officiate. Burial will be in the SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Cemetery, Gilman.

Friends may call from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday at the Foley Funeral Home. Service with Dignity provided by the Foley Funeral Home.

John Gruba Jr. was born October 24, 1934, in Alberta Township, Benton Co. to John and Sally (O'Konek) Gruba Sr. He married Patricia Lepinski on October 17, 1953, at SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Gilman. He was employed at Honeywell in

Northeast Minneapolis. The couple moved back to Sauk Rapids and he worked as a foreman at Franklin Manufacturing while attending night school at St. Cloud Technical College. John worked for Paycheck Silo Co., and owned and operated Gruba Cabinets in Sauk Rapids for many years. He was self employed the rest of his life. In 1975 he sold the cabinet business and moved to Ely where the couple owned Silver Rapids Lodge. He enjoyed guests from around the world, and enjoyed the restaurant the most. In 1992 he sold the resort and the couple moved to Duelm where John started a pool table and gaming supply business, selling in 2006. The couple then retired to the Brainerd Lakes area. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus. John will be missed by his family and many friends.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia, Brainerd; sons; Rod (Sheila), Ely; Dave (Kathy), Ely and Jeff of Clear Lake, 5 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers; Gabriel 'Gib' and Terry.