

**Joseph Gotvald, 94**  
**Foley, MN**  
**April 11, 1921 - Feb. 14, 2016**



Joseph Gotvald peacefully passed away at his home on Feb. 14, 2016. Memorial Mass will be 10:30 a.m. Wed., Feb. 17, at St. John's Catholic Church, Foley. The Rev. Virgil Helmin will officiate. Burial will be in the Parish Cemetery.

Service with Dignity provided by the Foley Funeral Home.

Joseph Lewis Gotvald was born April 11, 1921, in rural Morrison County to Andy and Helen (Durkos) Gotvald. He grew up on a dairy farm in Hillman. During the war, he worked at Boeing Aircraft, Seattle, Wash., building B-17 and B-22 bombers. He married Florence Lewandowski on Sept. 17, 1945, at St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Gilman. He returned to Minnesota to

dairy farm and worked as a foreman at Crestliner Boatworks for 20 years, first working on aluminum fishing boards, then fiberglass boats. Joe enjoyed fishing, deer hunting, the stock market, politics and watching baseball. He was a member of St. John's Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife, Florence of Foley; children: Gerard (Katrina) Gotvald of Huntsville, Ala., Charlene (Mark) Thelen of Monticello, Duane (Jill) Gotvald of Gurley, Ala., Mark (Christie) Gotvald of Pleasant Hill, Calif., and Renell (Gary) Gochman of Huntington Beach, Calif.; 15 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers: John and George, sisters: Helen and Anna, daughter-in-law, Marie Lahr Gotvald.