



Walter J Backes

April 14, 1930 - February 22, 2024

A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 29, 2024, at St. Boniface Church, Cold Spring, MN for Walter J. Backes, age 93, who went to walk with our Lord February 22nd. Lunch will follow, as will a burial with military honors in the parish cemetery.

The visitation will begin at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, February 29, 2024 in the church narthex.

Walter (Wally) was born on the family's farm north of Cold Spring, MN on April 14th, 1930, to Medardus and Bertha (Philippi) Backes.

After graduating high school Wally proceeded with an education in agriculture at St. John's University and spent his summer months as a lumberjack in the northern woods. In 1953 he enlisted in the Army Airborne. Upon his return home in 1955 he purchased the family farm north of Cold Spring and developed a dairy farm while putting into practice soil conservation and preservation principles that are now used by most farmers today.

On October 18th, 1958, Wally married Mary Louise Vogel and with his hands on the land and hers on the household, they raised six children on their family farm to love and respect God and others.

Wally always had a song in his heart as he walked and worked through life and became involved in many community organizations and agencies.

Cold Spring Area Maennerchor (61 yrs)

St. Boniface Choir

Wakefield Township Board and Planning Commission (55 yrs)

Cold Spring Coop Board of Directors

NVA Board of Directors and former president

Cold Spring Sportsmens Club

Cold Spring Legion – Last Man's Club

Foresters

ASCS Soil and Water Conservation Board

The Brüderhood

Wally is survived by his wife of 65 years Mary and children Bryan (Debbie), Robert (Cathy), Bruce (Clare), Tony, Teresa; 10 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren; sister Jean (John) Becker, sister-in-laws Roberta Prose, Bernadine Backes, Marcy Backes, Jane Palmersheim; brother-in-laws Ed Cotter, Louis Vogel.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Vienna, grandson Derrek; brothers, sisters and in-laws, Daniel (Vivian), Willard, Allen, Timothy, John, Vera Scherer (Alcuin) and Mary Cotter.

Wally's family would like to thank the St. Cloud Veterans Administration for the wonderful care and support.

Memorials preferred.

Cemetery Details

St. Boniface Parish Cemetery

Cold Spring, MN 56320

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **29**. 1:30 PM - 3:45 PM (CT)

St. Boniface Catholic Church
501 Main Street
Cold Spring, MN 56320

Service

FEB **29**. 4:00 PM (CT)

St. Boniface Catholic Church
501 Main Street
Cold Spring, MN 56320

Tribute Wall



“ *My first memory of Wally and Mary was when my parents took me to a Catholic Knights picnic and we had so much fun playing games and winning prizes. Wally was a funny man and Mary was the perfect compliment. I'll never forget that day. My condolences to Mary and family.*

Mary Brown - February 28, 2024 at 07:41 PM



“ *Healing Tears - Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Walter J Backes.*



February 28, 2024 at 03:44 PM



“ *Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Walter J Backes.*



February 28, 2024 at 12:02 PM

EF

“ *Mary & Family*



Please accept our sincerest condolences on the passing of Wally. What a wonderful life!, For almost 94 years He left an indelible Inprint of humor laughs and love To his family, friends and in-laws. His care taking of the family farm was instrumental of its continuance with Backes ownership and devotion to excellence in management and hands-on cultivation Throughout the years. I contributions to the Wakefield county commission where much appreciated. As a founding member of the elite And locally famous Mannechor Men's singing group were instrumental in the establishment of excellence which today's distinguished members enjoy and continue to project in their outstanding Presentations in the upper Midwest. A job and life well done and Vaya Con Dios This collection of in-laws, nephews, nieces bid a sad farewell thank you for the memories...Ed Cotter & Family- Charleston,, SC.

Ed Cotter & Family - February 27, 2024 at 09:44 PM

BK

“ *PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS. REST IN PEACE.*

BERNIE KAREN KOLTES - February 25, 2024 at 05:07 PM

JF

“ *Our Deepest Sympathy to the Backes Family on Wally's passing. My Dad Clarence served on the ASCS Committee with Wally, and Mom and Dad became good friends with Mary and Wally. He was always interesting to talk to, knowledgeable on things and always had a healthy appetite! We wish him, and the Family, God's peace!*

Jeff & Marlene Bertram Family - February 25, 2024 at 02:28 PM