



Thomas W. Lantinen

January 3, 1926 - February 23, 2026

Thomas W. Lantinen, 100, passed peacefully on Monday, February 23, 2026 with family by his side. He was born at home January 3, 1926, in Homestead, WI, to the late Matt and Hilda Lantinen.

Tom went to Roach School his first eight grades. He graduated from Florence High School and attended NYA Antigo Radio where he learned to solder. He also worked at the veneer mill in Goodman where he used his father's lessons on using a crosscut saw. He enlisted in the Merchant Marines and Coast Guard Reserve. He spent his 18th birthday on the North Atlantic. In 1944 he was honorably discharged to take over his father's farm. Tom built a large registered Holstein dairy herd resulting in some prized animals being sold overseas. He was honored as one of Wisconsin's top crop progressive growers to which he proclaimed his "five daughters were his top best crop." He served on the FHA committee, president of the Florence County Taxpayers Association, Past Master of Hiram D. Fisher #222 Masonic Lodge, and member of Beja Shrine and Homestead Baptist Church.

He is survived by his children, Vivian (Backchul) Shin of Chicago, IL, Mary (David) Wells of Merrimac, WI, Sheryl (Tim) DeHart of Appleton, WI, Donna Jahnke of Abrams, WI, and Bette (Gary) Wilz of Appleton, WI; his grandchildren, Miiri (Glenn) Kotche, Jaimii (Mark) Moroni, Donn (Nina) Shin, Sherry (Lloyd) Latty, Kirsten (Kevin) Veach, Erika DeHart (Doug Lindow), Jeff

(Jessica) Jahnke, Shaun Jahnke (Jennifer Whittemore), Russ (Danette) Wilz, Aaron (Kayshia) Wilz and Elizabeth (Jared) Hart; 21 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Along with his parents, he is predeceased by his beloved wife, Florence, of 74 years; 3 brothers, Toivo, Gust, and Arnold Lantinen; 6 sisters, Helen McMahan, Aileen Carlson, Sylvia Prussat, Alma Lund, Lillian Borgman and Alice Strom; and son-in-law, Lyle Jahnke.

A memorial service for Thomas and Florence Lantinen will be held at Homestead Baptist Church, 2670 County Rd. N Florence, WI 54121. Visitation will be held on May 2, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Seth Voeltner officiating the memorial service at 11:00 a.m. Burial will be in the Homestead-Aurora Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers donations to Salvation Army, Shriners Children's Hospital or the Homestead Baptist Church.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Prairie Home Assisted Living and Heartland Hospice for their loving care.

Cemetery Details

Homestead-Aurora Cemetery

1372 Osterberg Parkway
Niagara, WI 54151

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 2. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Homestead Baptist Church
2670 Co. Hwy. N
Homestead, WI 54151

Memorial Service

MAY 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

Homestead Baptist Church
2670 Co. Hwy. N
Homestead, WI 54151

Tribute Wall

HC

“ Winter and Tom! They were such best buddies!! ❤️ love you Tom! You were the light of my night coming in to take care of you! You were and always be my buddy!



Haley Crosby - March 04 at 03:50 PM

SK

“ Tom was one of my residents for the past year and he truly made my nights go fast. He had such a kind heart and the brightest smile even at 5 am. My kids met tom and they all loved him too. I miss him every morning! Im so glad he can be with flo again 🥰

Savanah K - March 04 at 03:17 PM

SH

“ Our family felt so fortunate having Patti Declark regularly checking on our father when he was living at home. She was so thoughtful and made him feel special without compromising his independence. Thank you, Patti.

Sheryl De Hart - February 25 at 11:37 AM