



## Gladys Katherine Gassaway

October 22, 1919 - January 17, 2015

Gladys Kathryn (Schuler) Gassaway, 95 of Centralia, formerly of Mound City and Carbondale, passed away Saturday, January 17, 2015 at Centralia Manor. She was born October 22, 1919 in Mound City, daughter of Edward Stephen Schuler and Edith (Reno) Schuler. She married Frank M. Gassaway on July 4, 1938 and they later divorced. Gladys is survived by a daughter, Conchitta Grabowski and husband Lawrence of Centralia; four grandchildren: Dr. Stephen T. Grabowski and wife Sharon of Elk Grove Village, Joan Rockey and husband Chris of Oak Park, Dr. Lawra Vanderhoff and husband Michael of Grand Junction, CO, and Dr. Mary Grabowski-Schmitt and husband Nathan of Crystal Lake; nine great-grandchildren: Matthew, Alec, and Jillian Grabowski, Ellery, Hadley and Cooper Rockey, Eade and Hanna Vanderhoof, and Arya Schmitt. She was preceded in death by her parents, a daughter: Roxanne Handley and a son-in-law, James Handley. Gladys attended Lowell Grade School in Mound City and graduated in the class of 1937 from Mound City Community High School. She took one semester of credits from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She worked for many years at the Brown Shoe Company in Burkarts in Cairo, IL. In 1962 she moved to Carbondale to work on the Southern Illinois University campus as a Student Payroll Clerk eventually becoming the Chief Clerk of Student Payroll. Gladys loved the students that she helped along the way. She received the university's highest honor when she was named Employee of the Year. She spent 30 plus years serving the students at Payroll. She was an active member of her Lunch

Bunch on campus. Her last move was in 1994 to Centralia to be near her daughters and grandchildren. She was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Centralia. She enjoyed helping at St. Mary's School to add scores for the annual science fair, clipping coupons and supervising students in the computer lab. Her Monday night bible study class was a must. Gladys had a green thumb and her yard was always full of beautiful flowers. She was an excellent baker and candy maker. Anyone who ate her various candies always raved about them. She also knitted constantly. She was an avid bingo and pinochle player and played with a vengeance well into her nineties. Gladys was a devoted mother, a loving grandmother, and a friend of all. She will be missed by the many people she met along her life's journey. Mass of Christian Burial will be held Friday at 10:30 A.M. at the St. Mary's Church in Centralia with Father Dale Maxfield officiating. Visitation will be held Friday at the church from 9:30 A.M. until the time of service. Private interment will be held at St. Mary's Cemetery in Mounds, IL at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Mary's School or to the House of Hope and will be accepted at Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia, which is assisting the Gassaway family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com](http://www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

UR

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of grief. May your memories bring you comfort.*

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**Ute, Steven and Kevin Riley** - January 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sympathy. Met Gladys through SIU.*

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January 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ *Conchitta, Larry, and Family May God's love surround you during this difficult time. We remember fondly getting together for dinner and playing cards with you and Gladys. We remember, with a smile, her smiling and waving at us in church. Your mom played well the life's hand she was dealt. Gladys's was an amazing woman who raised amazing daughters. With love, prayers and fond memories,*

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**Leo and Ruth Barczewski** - January 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ *Dear Conchitta and Larry, So sorry to hear that your mother passed away. You will be in our thoughts and prayers. May your fond memories comfort you. Bob and Linda Rockey*

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**Robert & Linda Rockey** - January 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all! Gladys was such a wonderful lady! May God comfort you in this time of sorrow. Love you all!*

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**Sarah Tomlin** - January 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Gladys was one of a kind. She was strong, loving, Christian, a wonderful person. I loved her dearly. She was so good to me. I will never forget her and my love and prayers go to Conchitta, Larry and family. Florence. McCue

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January 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM