



Verlon Dean Simmons

June 9, 1922 - May 6, 2012

Verlon "Dean" Simmons, 89 of Centralia, passed away Sunday, May 6, 2012 at Centralia Fireside House in Centralia. Mr. Simmons was born June 9, 1922 in Centralia, son of Oma Alvin Simmons & Cuba Sarah (Knight) Simmons. He married Norma (Dueker) Simmons on May 2, 1943 in Centralia and she survives in Centralia. He is also survived by a son: Mark Simmons and wife Martha of Mt. Vernon; two daughters: Candice Kindred of Centralia and Karin Manning of Springfield; 5 grandchildren: Shelia Pickens and husband Brad of Paxton, Jeff Simmons of Mt. Vernon, Caitlin Darling and husband Mike of Springfield, Ben Manning of Chicago and Miriam Kindred of St. Charles, MO; and 4 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, 3 brothers: Harlan Simmons, Guy Simmons and Howard Simmons, a sister: Gladys Simmons. Mr. Simmons enjoyed gardening and woodworking. He served in the US Army during WWII in Germany. He worked 40 years for the Illinois Central Railroad as a Carman and retired on June 1, 1982. He was a faithful member of Zion United Church of Christ in Central City. Most of all he loved spending time with his family. Graveside Services will be held Tuesday, May 8, 2012 at 1:00 P.M. at the Hillcrest Lakeside Chapel in Centralia with Pastor Phil Chapman officiating. Burial will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Park. Memorials may be made to the Zion United Church of Christ Building Fund and will be received at Hillcrest Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Centralia, which is assisting the Simmons Family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.hillcrest1921.com