



# LaVerne Smith

**Alton | Friday, April 10 2015**

LaVerne G. Smith, 87, died at 3:50 a.m. Friday, April 10, 2015 at Eunice C. Smith Nursing Home in Alton. Born September 11, 1927 in Glen Carbon, IL, she was the daughter of Arthur and Elsie (Oettel) Gelzinnis. LaVerne graduated as valedictorian from Alton High School and was a graduate of Shurtleff College. Mrs. Smith was a member of the Upper Alton Baptist Church and taught school at Milton School in Alton. She loved to travel and spend time with her grandkids and sit on her porch in Chautauqua. She was a member and past president of Alton Community Service League. On August 7, 1949 she married Joseph C. Smith in Alton. He preceded her in death on June 8, 2011.

Surviving is a daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and Robert Eckhard of Alton, three grandchildren, Ryan Aulabaugh (Lora) of Alton, Kyle Aulabaugh (Jessica) of Alton, and Josh Aulabaugh of Alton, and a great granddaughter, Chloe Aulabaugh.

Along with her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a brother, Gene Gelzinnis and a sister, Leola Wilson.

Visitation will be from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at Gent Funeral home in Alton. Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at the Upper Alton Baptist Church. Reverend Brad Donoho will officiate. Burial will be private at Upper Alton Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Upper Alton Baptist Church or the White Cross Auxiliary.

Online guestbook and information may be found at [www.gentfuneralhome.com](http://www.gentfuneralhome.com)