

# Luretta Stiritz

**Alton | Thursday, July 16 2009**

Thursday July 16th, Luretta Stiritz of Godfrey, passed away peacefully at home. For 90 years, Luretta lived and loved the life she shared with her husband, family and friends. She was born August 31, 1918 in Donnellson, Illinois, the daughter to LeRoy and Della Howard Brown. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by 3 brothers, John, Charles and James Brown and one sister Lucille Moler.

In 1938 she married the love of her life Louis Edward "Bud" Stiritz in Jerseryville. Living in Alton and Godfrey, they raised 5 daughters, Judith Anne Mueller of Wasilla Alaska, Carolyn Jane Ford of Godfrey, Nancy Jill Rexford of Warsaw Missouri and Jerre Lynn Honke of Alton. Daughter Janet Sue McIver of Jerseryville preceded them in death in 1990. In addition to her surviving daughters she leaves behind son-in-laws, Tom Honke and Gene Rexford. Grandma Lu will be sadly missed by her beloved 13 Grandchildren, 17 Great Grandchildren and 4 Great, Great Grandchildren.



After Buddy's retirement as Vice President of Miller's Mutual, he and Luretta became world travelers, enjoying many wonderful trips together. Living in Arcadia, Missouri for 10 years, family and friends shared many happy occasions at their cabin on the St. Francis River. After Buddy's death in 1991, Luretta returned to Alton to be near her family and to pursue the many activities she loved.

Luretta loved swimming and staying fit. Beginning in her late 70's, Luretta competed and won over one hundred gold medals in both the State and National Senior Olympics. In addition to swimming, she held a life long love of music. She played organ and piano for her family's pleasure as well as for many at the YMCA and Senior Citizens Center. She was a founding member of the New Horizon's Band which gave her immense joy. She loved the New Horizon's Band and its' members who became her dear friends. As a

final wish, in lieu of flowers, Loretta requested that memorials in her memory be made in support of the New Horizon's Band of Godfrey, Illinois.

Visitation will be at the Elias, Kallal & Schaaf Funeral Home in Godfrey Monday July 20, 2009 from 4 pm to 8 pm, where funeral services will be held at 10 am on Tuesday July 21, 2009.

Burial will follow at Valhalla Memorial Park Cemetery in Godfrey, Illinois.

Memorial may be made to New Horizon's Band in Godfrey, Illinois.

Online condolences and guest book may be found at [www.eliaskallalandschaaf.com](http://www.eliaskallalandschaaf.com)

---