

LeeFern Russell

Alton | Thursday, January 14 2010

LeeFern Russell, 88, died at 8:52 p.m. on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at Alton Memorial Hospital. She was born April 1, 1921 in East St. Louis IL, to John T. and Lennie Lee (Beaver) Perotka.

On April 19, 1945 in Alton she married Seldon J. Russell and he preceded her in death on December 12, 1992. She was in the 3rd graduating class of Alton Memorial Hospital Nursing School. She was an ER and Surgical nurse at Alton Memorial Hospital. In 1967, she accepted the Director of Nursing position at the newly established Eunice C. Smith Extended Care Facility and retired in 1985. She continued to be a "medical advisor" to family and friends; her compassion for animals was ever-present. She will be missed dearly by all who loved her. She was a member of 1st United Methodist Church of Godfrey and Zonta International.

She is survived by two daughters; Susan G. Leo-Russell and her husband Mark of Albuquerque, N.M and Cynthia and her husband Tim McElyea of Alton, two brothers; Tom "C T" Perotka of Godfrey and Zack Perotka of Caseyville, two sisters; Dorcas Jahn of Mulberry Grove and Joyce Stough of Webster City, Iowa and one granddaughter; Amy McElyea of Alton. She is preceded in death by one brother Wayne Perotka.

Visitation will be Tuesday, January 19, 2010 from 4:00-8:00 p.m. at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. Funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday with Reverend Dennis Price to officiate. Burial will be at Valhalla Memorial Park in Godfrey. Memorials may be made to 5 A's or Franklin Masonic Lodge. Online guest book and additional information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com.