

Charles William Eugene Simmons

East Alton | Friday, February 12 2010

Charles William Eugene Simmons, 86, died at 3:15 p.m. Friday, February 12, 2010 at his residence.

He was born November 17, 1923 in Carryville, Arkansas the son of William and Nellie (Smith) Simmons.

Charles had three older brothers, three older sisters, three younger brothers, one younger sister and a twin sister. He served in the US Army during WWII. After the war he worked at Laclede Steel in Alton and was also a self-employed home builder.



He married the former Vonda McGee on February 6, 1946 in St. Louis and she survives.

Also surviving are four daughters and two sons; Lavon Rea of St. Louis, William Simmons and his wife Carolyn of Bethalto, Sandra Neal of Wood River, Sherry Simmons, M.D. of Springfield, IL, Valerie Payne and her husband Rev. Gary Payne of Roxana and John Simmons and his wife Jayne of Godfrey. Also surviving are 18 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren, two brothers; Bill Simmons and his wife Lettie and David Simmons and his wife Shirley all of Glen Allen, MO, two sisters; his twin, Charlene Sitzes of Marble Hill, MO and Ruth Dowd and her husband James "Jim" Dowd of Glen Allen, MO. He was preceded in death by four brothers; Richard, Lucas, Louie and Luther, and three sisters; Lena Atchison, Mahala James and Orangie Todd.

Charles attended Cornerstone Church in Bethalto where visitation will be from 4:00-8:00 pm on Monday.

Funeral services will be at Cornerstone Church at 11:00 am on Tuesday with Pastor Phil Schneider officiating.

Visitation will also be from noon until funeral service at 1:00 pm on Wednesday at the Heritage Apostolic Church in Glen Allen, Mo. with Pastor Ivan Dowd officiating.

Burial with full military honors will be next to his parents in the McGee Chapel Cemetery in Glen Allen, Mo.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society. Gent Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements and additional information and online guestbook may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com.