

Harold Dean Hires

East Alton | Wednesday, July 21 2010

Harold Dean Hires, 87, passed away at 4:35 a.m. Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at Alton Memorial Hospital.

He was born June 7, 1923 in Merrit, Ill., a son of Harry and Ida Ellen (Campbell) Hires.

He married Verna D. Ull Jan. 2, 1943 in St. Charles, Mo. She preceded him in death on Feb. 14, 2005.

He graduated from Winchester, Ill. High School in 1942, worked at Olin Corp until entering the service in World War II. He served in the Army Air Force in Africa and Italy. He worked for Shell Oil in Roxana for 39 years and 9 months, retiring Feb. 1, 1987 as Complex Supervisor. He enjoyed fishing, traveling and camping via motor home, and he visited every state except Hawaii and Alaska. He joined the First United Methodist Church of East Alton in 1949. He loved his church and participated in every capacity.

Survivors include one sister, Thelma Eileen Hires of Winchester; one niece and her husband, Dorothy and Frank Ridder of Godfrey; and a dear friend, Ruth Volz of East Alton.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Charles Everett Hires and Donald Lee Hires.

Visitation will be 4-7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 22 at Paynic Home for Funerals in Rosewood Heights, and will continue Friday, July 23 at the First United Methodist Church, 3rd and Kent Streets in East Alton from 9 a.m. until services begin at 10 a.m. Reverend Dan Powers will officiate.

Burial will be at Rose Lawn Memory Gardens in Bethalto, with military honors by the ritual team of Alton VFW Post 1308.

Memorials may be given to the church.