



# Leland Johnson

**Dorsey | Tuesday, January 31 2012**

Leland “Bud” Johnson, 84, passed away at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at University Nursing and Rehab in Edwardsville, surrounded by his family.

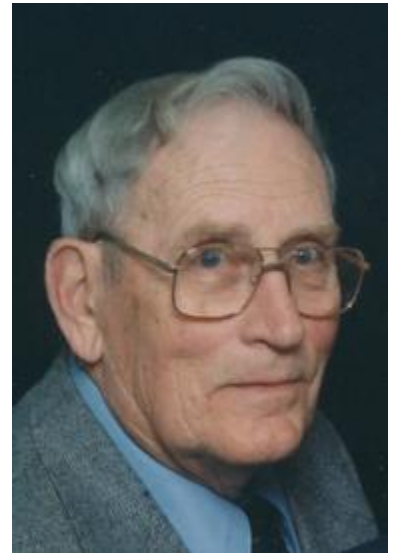
He was born on August 18, 1927 in Gillespie, IL, the son of John T. and Matilda “Tillie” (Bertels) Johnson.

He married Marie Johnson on January 19, 1952 at Emmaus Lutheran Church in Dorsey. She survives.

He attended Gillespie Schools and retired from Olin Winchester Corporation of East Alton in 1988.

Bud served his country in the Naval Reserves from 1947 to 1951. He then served in U.S. Army in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Signal Corp, during the Korean Conflict from 1951 to 1953, and enlisted his service in Army Reserves to 1960. He was a member of Emmaus Lutheran Church in Dorsey. He also was a lifetime member of the NRA, president of the Westerner Club, Commander of the Dorsey American Legion and charter member and a volunteer fireman with the Dorsey fire department.

He enjoyed hunting, sports, including upland pheasant in the Midwest, and waterfowl in coastal Louisiana. Other interests included fishing and boating as well as participating in conservation activities to protect and preserve all forms of wildlife and habitat. He and his family traveled extensively in his motor home, visiting many of the National Parks. While he was at home he worked relentlessly to build and establish Meridan Gardens, a family owned business specializing in hybrid daylilies and iris.



In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, Deborah L and Edward C. Gray of Dorsey; a son, Kurt L. Johnson of Baton Rouge, LA; two step grandchildren and their spouses, Carly and Mark Reader and Blake and Tiffany Gray; four great grandchildren, Katilyn Gray, Camron Gray, Abigail Gray and Annabelle Gray; a sister, Helen Johnson of Alton and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Richard Johnson.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 pm on Friday, February 3, 2012 at Elias, Kallal & Schaaf Funeral Home in Bethalto.

Visitation will continue from 10 am until services at 11 am Saturday, February 4, 2012 at Emmaus Lutheran Church in Dorsey with Pastor David Stratmann officiating.

Burial will follow at Emmaus Lutheran Cemetery in Dorsey.

Memorials may be made to Emmaus Lutheran Church.

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