



# Rose Balke

## Alton | Friday, March 2 2012

Rose A. Balke, age 87, died at 12:31 pm, March 2, 2012 at her residence.

She was born on December 14, 1924 in Carrollton, IL, the daughter of Herman and Marie (Braun) Grueter.

She married Burdette A. Balke on June 4, 1947 in Carrollton, IL. He preceded her in death on May 4, 2010.

She was a telephone operator and draftsman at Illinois Bell Telephone and AT&T and was a member of the Illinois Bell Pioneer Club.

She was formerly a member of St. Matthews Catholic Church in Alton, IL then transferring to St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Godfrey, IL and was a member of the Altar Society, and served as a Eucharistic Minister at Alton Memorial Hospital. Rose was also a member of the Daughter's of Isabella.

She was a former member of Lockhaven Country Club and enjoyed golf.

She is survived by one daughter and her spouse; Fran and Jim Burke of Springfield, IL; two sons; Bret Balke of Forsyth, IL and Brian and his spouse Alison Balke of Alton, IL; four grandchildren; Megan Burke, Michael Burke, Jordan Balke, and Tyler Balke; sisters, Agnes Kuhline of Shelton, WA, Betty Thaler of House Springs, MO, Sister Margaret Grueter of Jackson, MS, brothers, Ray Grueter of Bella Vista, Arkansas and Richard Grueter of Carlyle, IL, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two sisters, Evelyn Pitman and Pauline Hardwick; brother, Ed "Bud" Grueter.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 pm, Wednesday March 7, 2012 at the Elias, Kallal & Schaaf Funeral Home in Godfrey IL.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted at 10 am, Thursday March 8, 2012, at St. Ambrose Catholic Church in Godfrey, IL with Bishop Victor Balke celebrant.

Burial will be at St. Francis Cemetery in Jerseyville, IL

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to St. Ambrose Education Endowment, or Masses.

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