



# Mary Ashford

**Jerseyville | Tuesday, September 16 2014**

Mary I. Ashford, age 86, of Jerseyville, IL, formerly of Granite City, IL, passed away on Tuesday, September 16, 2014 in Jerseyville, IL. Mary was born on November 3, 1927 in Jonesboro, AR, a daughter to the late Howard and Ruth (Simmons) Priest.

Mary had retired from Melbourne Manufacturing in St. Louis, MO as a folder after thirty years of dedicated service. She was a member of Faith Baptist Church in Granite City, IL. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family and friends. Mary will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her.



In addition to her parents, Mary was preceded in death by her two husbands, Lawrence Fletcher and Paul Ashford; infant daughter, Gloria Jean Fletcher; three brothers, Leon Priest, Riley Priest and one brother in infancy, James Priest; and two sisters, Juanita Bryant and Helen Pate

Mary is survived by her three loving daughters, Connie Carney of Jerseyville, IL, Vickie (Charles) Graeser of Jerseyville, IL and Crystal (Larry) Willis of St. Louis, MO; one brother, James (JoAnn) Priest of Cash, AR; dear grandmother to nine grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren; extended family and many friends.

Visitation will be held from 5-8 p.m. on Sunday, September 21, 2014 at Irwin Chapel, 3960 Maryville Road, Granite City, IL.

In celebration of her life, funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, September 22, 2014 at Irwin Chapel, Granite City, IL with Pastor Mark King officiating. Interment will be in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. St. Louis, MO.

Memorial donations may be given to Blessing Hospice in Carrollton, IL and will be accepted at the funeral chapel.