



## Leonard M. "Cotton" Earnest

August 9, 2006

Leonard M. "Cotton" Earnest, age 92, of Versailles, passed away Wednesday morning, August 9, 2006, at the Good Shepherd Care Center in Versailles. He was born August 23, 1913, at Proctor, Missouri, the son of Henry C. and Josephine Bybee Earnest.

He was united in marriage on September 13, 1937, with Madalyn Munkres, who preceded him in death on October 2, 1983.

Cotton was a member of the Versailles United Methodist Church. He served as Morgan County Treasurer for 40 years, owned Kavanaugh Abstract from 1956 to 1981, and served on the Board of Directors for the Good Shepherd Nursing Home District. He was an avid hunter and loved gardening.

He is survived by three sons, L.M. "Sonny" Earnest Jr., Robert Earnest, and Mike Earnest, all of Versailles; two daughters Jo Ann Barnes of Versailles, and Jean Hagerman of Fortuna; fifteen grandchildren; twenty-five great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; one sister, Irene Spears of Sedalia; and many other relatives and friends. In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by four brothers, and one sister.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m., Friday, August 11, 2006, at the Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home in Versailles. The family will receive friends Thursday, August 10, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the funeral home. Interment

will be in the Versailles Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions are suggested to the Versailles United Methodist Church. To send sympathy e-mails to the family visit [www.kidwellgarber.com](http://www.kidwellgarber.com). Arrangements are under the direction of the Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home of Versailles.