

Earle and Eleanor (Bald) Brittin



Earle E. Brittin was born December 16, 1912 at Wood River to Edward and Mayme (Boyle) Brittin and died December 7, 1995. Eleanor B. Brittin was born May 22, 1914 in Aurora to Franklin and Lena (Wilson) Bald and died March 20, 2003. Her family moved to Wood River in 1920. Both Earle and Eleanor graduated from Wood River high school in 1932. On May 28, 1935, Earle and Eleanor were married at the Presbyterian Church in Wood River. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 1995. Their family included three daughters, Rita Knuth Smith, Karen Frink, and Cindy Wilkinson and nine grandchildren.

Earle worked as an electrician and carpenter for many years and as a guard at the Army Ammunition Plant during World War II. He then operated the Wood River Locker for many years until his retirement in 1976. Eleanor taught school for three years in rural Hall County. She worked as a cook at the Wood River School and then assisted Earle at the locker until her retirement in 1976.

Both Earle and Eleanor participated in many activities and enjoyed their lives in the Wood River community. They both served in various capacities in the Presbyterian Church. Earle enjoyed working on various repair and maintenance activities around his beloved church. He was a founder in 1968 of the Overland Trails Oasis and was still an active board member at the time of his death. He served on the board of the Wood River Cemetery Association. He was a past member and officer of the Wood River Business Association and a 50-year member of the Masons. Eleanor served as president of the Wood River Women's Club, was a Girl Scout leader, 4-H leader, and guardian of Job's Daughters. Even after their girls were graduated (all 3 from Wood River), they still continued with their interest in activities at the local school.

Their family, including grandchildren and great grandchildren, brought them so much joy throughout the years. They both enjoyed gardening (Earle- vegetables, Eleanor - flowers) and were generous in sharing these talents (the fruits of their labor) with neighbors and friends. It seems their interests were much the same, as they also both enjoyed bird watching, card playing, remodeling work on their home, and traveling.

Although they traveled extensively throughout all 48 states, they would both say that there is no place as wonderful as small town Wood River!