



## Ruth O. Hutchins

January 22, 1911 - April 24, 2019

Ruth Onnalee (Brooks) Presswood Hutchins of Columbus, OH, passed away, Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at age 108. A missionary with the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Indonesia (formerly Netherlands East Indies) from 1940-1946 with her first husband, Rev. W.E. Presswood. They were interned in separate camps by the Japanese during WWII for over three and a half years. Ruth at Kampili and Ernie at ParePare on the island of Sulawesi. They both survived the concentration camps only to have Ernie die February 1, 1946 possibly from pneumonia after two trips to the interior of Borneo to see how the Dyak believers had made it through the war. During their first trip to the interior after the war, their long canoe upset in the rapids—Ruth barely escaping death from drowning by a porter pulling her by her hair, which came out, and another porter grabbing her arm while balancing on the canoe and holding a pig in the other arm. They made it back to Tarakan, their home base, at that time, but Ruth became very sick with Dengue fever. Ernie went back to the Boloengan District the second time without Ruth, to meet with the indigenous leaders that were to gather at a time and place arranged during the first trip. He returned to Tarakan the day he said he would, but in a coffin. The Dutch government gave him a 21 gun salute at his funeral which Ruth was too weak to attend. After Rev. Presswood's death, Ruth returned to the States where she later married James S. Hutchins, a widow with three teenage children on December 31, 1947. Her life centered around family, church and its activities. She authored two books No Sacrifice Too Great in

1993 and Growing Up With Eight Brothers in 2006. Preceded in death by her second husband, March 3, 1978 and her brothers Mahlon, Byron (Winnie deceased), Harold (JL deceased), Avery (Louise deceased), Robert (Zilcie deceased), Gerald (Jean), and Dean (Delores deceased) Brooks; and stepchildren, Doris (Stanley deceased) Gaska, Helen (Lee deceased) Heisler and Charles (Jane) Hutchins. Ruth is survived by her daughter Martha Jean and husband Lar-ry who she lived with for 40 years in Columbus, OH allowing her to see her two grandchildren Stephanie (Mike) Kuiken and James (Bethany) Moore grow to adulthood and marry their spouses. She was blessed by 12 grandchildren, many great-grandchildren and great, great grandchildren. One brother survives her: Keith (Jane deceased) Brooks, who lives in Middleport, NY; and many nieces and nephews. Family will receive friends at First Alliance Church at 3750 West Henderson at Sawmill Road on Friday, April 26th from 5-8 p.m. A memorial service will be held at First Alliance at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 27th Interment will be at Mt. Albion Cemetery, Albion, NY. Thank you Kindred Hospice for your help. To read the complete obituary and leave a condolence for the family, please visit [www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com](http://www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com). In lieu of flowers, contributions can be sent to First Alliance Church.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Albion Cemetery

Albion, NY

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

APR **26**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

First Alliance Church  
3750 Henderson Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43220

## Funeral Service

APR **27**. 10:30 AM (ET)

First Alliance Church  
3750 Henderson Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43220

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth O. Hutchins*

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January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM