SOUTHPORT, N.Y. — Alonzo Lavalley, a longtime resident of Southport, passed away peacefully in the comfort of his home on Sunday morning, April 30, 2006, at the age of 86.
Born on May 3, 1919, Alonzo was the son of Warren and Ida Lavalley. He served in the United States Army Air Force during World War II and the Korean conflict; his plane was shot down twice over France.
Alonzo graduated from Simmons Institute of Mortuary Science in Syracuse and was a New York state licensed funeral director and embalmer. Well known within the profession, Alonzo gave great care to the families he served and is remembered for his kindness and compassion to others. He was a professional baseball pitcher, a member of the American Legion in Champlain, a past president of the Eagles Club and a communicant of St. Mary's Church.
His happiest times were shared with his loving family who survive and cherish his memory: his loving wife and companion of 68 years, Ina Lavalley; their children, Laura and Angelo Fusco of Pine City, Ltc. USA Ret. Gloria Besley of Pine City and Ella Rock of Fayetteville, N.C.; five grandchildren; NYS Trooper Sgt. Christopher Rock, Major Jason (Donna) Rock 10th A Special Forces Group currently serving in Iraq, Billy Besley, Angela (John) Beavers, Tony (Gigi) Fusco; five great-grandchildren, Kaileigh Rock, Colin Rock, Eric Beavers, Kevin Beavers and Nicholas Fusco; brothers Chester Lavalley and James Lavalley; several nieces and nephews, including special nephews Joe (Mary) Lavalley and Bobby (Delores) Gload and many family friends.
Alonzo was predeceased by his sister and brother-in-law, Eva and Theodore "Teddy" Gload; his brother, Morris Lavalley and his son-in-law, Philip M. Rock.
Family and friends will be received at Caywood's Funeral Home and Gardens, 1126 Broadway, Southport from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday.
A Wednesday morning prayer service will be held at Caywood's at 9 a.m. followed by a Mass of Christian burial at 10 a.m. at St. Mary's Church on Franklin Street in Elmira.
Graveside services will follow in St. Peter and Paul's Cemetery, where full military honors will be accorded Mr. Lavalley. Memorial donations may be directed to the Arnot-Ogden Medical Center Dialysis Center, 602 Ivy St., Elmira, N.Y. 14905 in his memory.