Lear Smith Carroll, 104, passed away on Tuesday, July 30, 2019 in Jacksonville. Lear was born on May 31, 1915 in Bryceville to Dave Smith and Ardellia Barber Smith. Lear taught her family the meaning of strength and perseverance. She was born to a pioneer existence and survived every imaginable hardship through World Wars, depression, cultural change and disease. She was the last of eight children and she brought eight more Carrolls into the world that today leaves more than 100 grand-descendants to live on in her legacy. Lear was an example and inspiration for her family and her legacy will always be fondly remembered. She is loved as strongly as she ruled the home cooked family dinners she shared.

Lear is preceded in death by her parents Dave and Ardellia; her husband of 55 years, Ollie R. Carroll; her infant daughter Lorraine; and two sons Hubert R. and Edwin R. Carroll.

She is survived by her youngest Dennis R. Carroll; her companion and caretaker these last 20 years, as well as (in order) Ervin J. (Anne) Carroll, Albert C. Carroll, Helen R. (Dan) Wirtz and Floyd R. (Sandy) Carroll; 23 grandchildren; and two more generations of great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Lear’s life and legacy was held Saturday, August 3 at Hardage-Giddens Edgewood Chapel. The family received friends prior to the service. Burial followed in Verdie Cemetery in Bryceville.

Hardage-Giddens, Edgewood Chapel, Jacksonville, served the family.