

BUNKER HILL - Bercie Leona (Wood) Martin, 76, was granted her most fervent desire as she returned to the presence of the Lord at about 4 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 1, 2001. She entered this world on March 6, 1925, the daughter of James E.S. and Arnie (Cooksey) Wood in Clinton County, Ky. Both of her parents preceded her in death.

While still a young lady, she met and fell in love with a handsome soldier from South Paris, Maine, Eugene D. Martin who survives in Miami, Ind., where he and Bercie lived for the past 34 years. They were wed on Jan. 22, 1944, in Evansville, while he was still serving in the Army. Together, they had seven children. Betty Jean died as an infant, and two sons, Eddie and David, died as teenagers after extended illnesses. In caring for these two sons for many years, she taught some valuable life lessons to the rest of the family and friends.

The surviving children include these extended families, daughter, Leona and Frank Mims of Walton, with children, Amy and Joe Lyon, with Amanda and Caleb and Andy and Elizabeth Mims; son, Randy and Rita Martin of Kokomo, with children, Rachel and Rebekah; son, John and Cyndy Martin, Kokomo, with children Tyrel, Christy and Hannah; daughter, Sherry and Bob Kreag, West Lafayette, with children Amber Woolley, with son, Jacy Lopez, and Logan Kreag. These children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren brought

her great joy.

Her family also includes siblings, sister Emma Seward, Royal Center, sister, Euthie and John Murmaugh, Center, Ind., and brother, James Waldo and Wanda Wood, Center. She continued to tell stories of her youth until shortly before her death. Bercie was a woman who enjoyed simple things and one who didn't place a great deal of stock in "putting on airs." She enjoyed her church, her friends, her family and a mild afternoon with a nice breeze in the porch swing. We could all learn something from her life.

She will be placed to rest in Crown Point Cemetery in Kokomo following services at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Allen Funeral Home, Bunker Hill. Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. Monday at the funeral home. Memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home to the American Diabetes Association and/or American Heart Association.

**Burial Tuesday, December 4, 2001
Book 8 Page 145½
Lot 161 Section 21
Wilbert vault**