

LAWRENCE ESSLINGER

March 25, 1925 - Sept. 15, 2005

Lawrence O. Esslinger, 80, 3569 N. 00 EW, surrounded in his home by his loving family, was called to his heavenly home to Jesus and he answered at 11:45 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, 2005. He was born March 25, 1925, in Huntsville, Ala., a son of William O. and Agnes J. (Fuller) Esslinger.

Lawrence was a Navy veteran of World War II. He served aboard the U.S.S. Tripoli, participating in several South Sea island invasions.

He was a member for 33 years of the Laborers International Union, Local 1352, retiring in August 1988. During that time he served for eight years as the union's business agent. He was a foreman for J.I. Barnes General Contracting for 22 years.

He was a member of Elizabeth Street Separate Baptist Church, now known as the Stars of Light Chapel, and the American Legion Post 6. He was an avid fisherman, who especially enjoyed his fishing trips to Alabama with his son.

He was formerly married to Hassie M. Esslinger, the mother of his children, who survives in Kokomo. Other survivors include three sons, Michael A. and wife Nancy J. Esslinger, Burlington, Frank E. Esslinger, Scottsboro, Ala., Mark G. Esslinger, Kokomo; two daughters, Cynthia L. Webster and Ellen D. Esslinger, both of Kokomo; 10 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; three brothers, Robert and wife Lois Esslinger, Cecil and wife Carolyn Esslinger, all of Scottsboro, Ala., Floyd "Gene" and wife Connie Esslinger, Frankfort; five sisters, Frances and husband Clyde Brunner, Gas City, Helen and husband Robert Trobeenter, Kalispell, Mont., Elizabeth and husband James Keenum, Kokomo, Lucille and husband Glenn Sheckles, Lorene "Kathy" and husband James Porter, all of Frankfort; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one granddaughter, Misty Dawn Esslinger; a brother, Andrew "A.D." Esslinger; and a sister, Patricia Esslinger.

Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Tuesday at Shirley & Stout Funeral Home-Lincoln Road Chapel, 1315 W. Lincoln Road, with Pastor Doyle J. Buckner officiating. Burial will follow in Sunset Memory Garden Cemetery with military honors provided by the U.S. Navy and the Kokomo VFW Military Rites Team. Friends may call at the funeral home from 3 to 8 p.m. Monday.

Source: Kokomo Tribune

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