

Merle L. Drake, 90, of Decatur, Indiana died on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at Lutheran Hospital. Merle was born on August 18, 1921 in Peebles, Ohio to the late Willie G. and Lillie (Tolle) Shelton. On August 23, 1939 she married Clyde E. Drake. He preceded her in death on January 9, 2009.

She was a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Decatur. Merle retired as an Auditor for the State of Indiana. She was also members of the Delta Tau Sorority at Large, Moose Lodge Auxiliary, the Elks Lodge Auxiliary, Red Hats Society, Past treasurer of T.O.P.S. and treasurer of the Root Township Homemakers.

Survivors are two daughters Carolyn (Ronald) Bittner of Marion, Iowa and Joanna (Joseph) Stanley of Decatur; a brother Willard Shelton of Las Vegas, NV; two grandchildren Eric (Sarah) Bittner of Texas and Melissa (James) Novitch of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; four great grandchildren Elianna and Arabella Novitch and William and Edward Bittner. Merle is preceded in death by four brothers James, George, Gerald and Glen; a sister Ruth Lee and a great grandson Charles Bittner.

Visitation will be from 11-3 p.m. on Sunday, December 4, 2011 at Haggard-Sefton and Hirschy Funeral Home. The funeral service will be on Monday, Dec. 5th at 10:00 a.m. also at the funeral home. Pastor Phil Phiifer and Pastor Robert Becker will be officiating and burial will be in Decatur Cemetery.

Memorials are to Worship for Shut-ins.

Haggard-Sefton Funeral Home online obit (accessed 12-1-11)