

Bernadine C.

Bieker, 86

1978

Earling — Bernadine Caroline Bieker, daughter of Fred and Anna (Rudroff) Munchrath, was born on a farm in Shelby county near Earling, on Aug. 29, 1891. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Joseph's church in Earling. She attended St. Joseph's school in Earling and grew to adulthood on her parent's farm. On May 9, 1911, she married Otto F. Bieker in St. Joseph's church in Earling. Six children were born to this union. After their marriage, Mr and Mrs Bieker made their home in Earling where Otto worked for the Earling Telephone Co. for 47 years. After he retired, they made their home in Defiance. After Mr Bieker's death in Aug. of 1959, Bernadine continued to live in Defiance until becoming a resident of the Little Flower Haven in Earling in 1969. This has been her home since that time. She died at Myrtue Memorial hospital in Harlan, on Dec. 8, 1977, at age 86 years, three months and 7 days. Mrs Bieker had been a long time member of St. Joseph's church in Earling before joining St. Peter's church and the Altar Society in Defiance.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Louella; a grandson, Michael Leighton; two brothers, Henry A. and George Munchrath; and by two sisters, Catherine Zimmerman and Mary Graeve. Her survivors include three sons — Bernard of Rogers, Ark., Clement of Minneapolis, Minn., and Jerry of Defiance; two daughters, Genevieve (Mrs Paul Spanton) and Leone (Mrs Robert Leighton), both of Minneapolis, 27 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren, two sisters, Elizabeth (Mrs Pete Kohles) of Crfoton, Nebr. and Ann (Mrs Otto Graeve) of Earling; nieces and nephews and other relatives.

A Concelebrated Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph's church in Earling, on Saturday, Dec. 10, 1977 with Rev. Donald Bruck as celebrant and Rev. David Fenelon as concelebrant. Burial was in St. Joseph's cemetery with Brian Bieker, James Bieker, Jerry Klever, Gerald Bieker, Russell Bieker and Steve Leighton serving as pallbearers.