

Ritschard, Leona P.

MONTICELLO – Leona P. Ritschard, age 72, died Wednesday, May 9, 2007, at Monroe Clinic Hospital. surrounded by her family.

She was born July 9, 1934, in Monroe, the daughter of Chester and Pearl (Bowers) Foulker. She graduated from Monroe High School. She married Raland Ritschard on March 7, 1953, at the Browntown Peace Church. They were together for 56 years, where they farmed in Washington Township. Leona lived and raised her family, plus several other children at “The Farm.”

Leona was a member of Washington Reformation Church, where she served as Treasurer with Raland, was on the consistory, the guild, taught Sunday school for 40 years and coordinated and participated in Vacation Bible School. She was active in 4-H and the Green County Fair. She enjoyed her flowers, birds, watching baseball and basketball and baking. Her greatest passion was her family and she enjoyed going to Seattle, Wash, in January, to see her first great-granddaughter.

She is survived by her husband, Raland of Monticello; five children, Rickey [Paula] Ritschard, Ronnie (Kathy) Ritschard, Julie (Brad) Mau, all of Monticello, Jane (Tom) Jelle of Belleville and Amy (Devoin) Ruffin of Madison; eight grandchildren, Joshua (Kelly) Mau, Shane Larson, Alyssa and Krista Jelle, Cory, Ryan and Tyler Ritschard and Alaina Ruffin; a great-granddaughter, Addison Mau; two brothers, Jim Cassell of Rockford, Ill. and Bobby Cassell of Chicago, Ill.; two sisters, Carol Cassell of Belleville and Linda Boland of Stillwater, Okla.; and several nieces, nephews and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents. Funeral services will be held Tuesday, May 15, 2007, at 11 am. at WASHINGTON REFORMATION CHURCH, Monticello, with Pastor Mary Gafner officiating. Burial will be in Washington Reformation Church Cemetery.

Visitation will be Monday, May 14, 2007, from 4 pm. until 8 pm. at SHRINER-HAGER-GOHLKE FUNERAL HOME. Memorials may be given to Washington Reformation Church in Leona's name.