

**News-Sentinel, The (Fort Wayne, IN) - Thursday, May 18, 2000**

Edward J. Bowers

Decatur - 1915-2000

Edward J. Bowers, 84, of rural Decatur, a member of the Knights of Columbus, died Wednesday, May 17, 2000, at home.

The New Haven native retired in 1973 from General Electric Co. after 15 years of service, was an area farmer, had formerly served as a rural postal carrier, and was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church where he was a former choir member and a 20-year member of the Order of St. Francis, serving as president in 1980.

Surviving are his wife, Georgianna C.; daughters Edna M. Nieport of Dayton, Ohio, Donna J. Smith of Goshen, Janet M. Bentz and Jean M. Braun, both of Decatur, and Ann L. Andrews of Monroe; stepdaughters Mary A. Christmas of Corpus Christi, Texas, Jeanne M. Bharucha of Richardson, Texas, and Elizabeth A. Dunifon of Lake Worth, Fla.; sons Raymond E. of Mishawaka, Charles H. of Monroe, James G. of Decatur and David A. of Tipton; stepsons Julian W. Converset of Springfield, Ohio, Father John M. Converset of South Africa and Claude F. and Thomas J. Converset, both of Fort Wayne; sisters Mary Trabel of Monroeville and Hilda Schnelker and Loretta Sorg, both of New Haven; brothers Bernard of New Haven and Francis of Fort Wayne; 24 grandchildren; 13 stepgrandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and four step great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Mildred L., and a son, Russell. Prayer services at 8:15 a.m. Saturday at Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home, Decatur, precede Mass of Christian Burial at 9 a.m. Saturday at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church, Decatur. Calling is also from 1 to 9 p.m. Friday with a 4:30 p.m. rosary service at the funeral home. Burial will be at St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery, Decatur.

Memorials are to Masses or Family Hospice of Northeast Indiana.

Information provided by Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home, Decatur, 1-219-724-9164.

**Contributed by Jane Edson**