

Joseph D. LaTurner, 71, 608 Short St., died at 11:45 a.m. Friday in Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, where he had been a patient since April. He had been in failing health the past several years.

Mr. LaTurner was a retired employee of All-American Homes. He formerly worked for Ashbaucher's Tin Shop for many years.

Mr. LaTurner was born in Bluffton on December 17, 1921 to Orville and Esther (Straw) LaTurner. He married Luella E. Hower on March 22, 1945. She preceded him in death on September 16, 1986.

Mr. LaTurner was a member of the Decatur Church of Christ; Adams Post 43, American Legion; V.F.W. Post 6236; Decatur Redmen's Lodge; Decatur Eagles Lodge; Decatur Moose Lodge 1311; and the Adams County Heart Club. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the European Theater.

Survivors include a son, George LaTurner, Decatur; five daughters, Mrs. Robert (Kathryn) Mathews, Decatur; Sharon LaTurner, Decatur; Mrs. Steve (Cheryl A.) Thompson, Bluffton, Mrs. Anthony (Carolyn) Corral, Decatur, Teresa LaTurner, Decatur; a stepmother, Mary Millington Pratt, Festus, Mo.; a sister, Mrs. James (Marie) Kitzmiller, New Haven; a brother, Gary Millington, Churubusco; 19 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a grandson.

Funeral services are 10 a.m. Monday at Zwick-Sefton & Jahn Funeral Home, Rev. Gary Johnson officiating. Burial will follow in Decatur Cemetery. Visiting hours are 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday. Military graveside rites will be performed by the American Legion and VFW. Memorials are to the Adams County EMS.