



Bernice Orine Stiewert

June 19, 1930 - September 28, 2012

Bernice Orine Eschberger Stiewert, 82, passed away Friday, September 28, 2012 in Houston, Texas. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings, Texas with burial following in the Paint Creek Cemetery in Paige, Texas. Visitation will be held on Wednesday, October 3, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. at the funeral home. Bernice was born June 19, 1930 in a log dog-trot cabin near Lincoln, Texas to Otto and Emma (Schmidt) Eschberger. She was baptized at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Paint Creek on August 31, 1930. Her sponsors were Walter and Amalia Knobloch and Herman J and Lina Eschberger. She began her education near Lincoln and when the family moved to the Paint Creek Community in November of 1938, she attended High Hill School. She was confirmed at St. John Lutheran Church in Paige on April 9, 1944 since Paint Creek shared a pastor with Paige. Finishing her education, she moved to Austin and got a seasonal job wrapping Christmas gifts, learning a skill which developed into a lifelong talent. She loved Christmas and created the most beautifully decorated presents. She met her true love, Matthew Stiewert, and they dated about a year before the US Army drafted and sent him to Korea. Upon coming back in March of 1953 they reunited and soon were married on July 18, 1953. After marrying, they moved to Houston where Matthew worked for Houston Power and Light. He died unexpectedly on June 15, 1968 in a car-train collision in Paige while visiting the area for Father's Day. Following his death, Bernice supported the family

working for the Cy-Fair School District, working in the cafeteria to have the same hours as her children, and to be at home with them after school. She took classes as needed and moved to the school office as secretary, working there for 26 years. She was a member of St. John Lutheran Church in Houston. She is survived by two children, Debbie and husband, Chris Fishbeck and Kenny and wife, Sean Stiewert; five grandchildren, Tiffany Fishbeck, Chelsea and husband Travis Schuelke, Ashley and husband Brian Steinocher and Matthew and Austin Stiewert; one great-grandchild, Braelynn Steinocher; three sisters, Otilie Schindler, Rose Schulz and Mikki Meyer and one brother, Herbert Eschberger. She was preceded in death by her husband, Matthew Stiewert; parents, Otto and Emma Eschberger and a sister, Wilfried Lacker. Memorials have been requested to be given to the St. John Lutheran Church in Cypress, Texas or to St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Paige, Texas.