

Bechler, Robert

Robert William Bechler, 75, of Pigeon died peacefully at his home in Pigeon on Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2002. He was born March 12, 1926, in Pigeon to William and Luanna (Weidman) Bechler. On Nov. 18, 1943, he was united in marriage to Mildred M. Morris at the Elkton United Methodist parsonage. Mr. Bechler was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, and a master mechanic at General Motors before retiring in 1989. He was considered a magician when it came to fixing anything mechanical. He loved to spend time with his family debating the finer points of politics and sports, and regaling all with stories about Pigeon's history. Mr. Bechler is survived by his wife of 58 years, Mildred; eight children, Rose Ann Houk and her husband, Peter, of East Lansing, Bonnie DeLaRosa of Sterling Heights, Karen Smith and her husband, William, of North Branch, Yvonne Bechler of Glade Springs, Va., Janet Villarreal and her husband, Tomas, of Clarkston, Jacqueline Bailey and her husband, Bruce, of Largo, Fla., Robert Bechler and his wife, Faye, of Arcadia, Fla., and Bobbie Jean Brown and her husband, David, of Mooresville, N.C.; 18 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; a sister, Pearl Menzel of Mayville; two brothers, Roland Bechler and his wife, Phyllis, and Clare Bechler and his wife, Donna, of Pigeon; and several nieces and nephews. Cremation will take place in Bay City. There will be a gathering of friends and family at noon Saturday, Jan. 26, 2002, at the Pigeon District Library, with a memorial service beginning at 2 p.m. Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice. Meyersieck-Bussema Funeral Home, Pigeon, handled arrangements.