

Draves, Erma R.

Erma Reno Draves, RN, joined her family and friends in the loving arms of our Lord on Saturday, October 28, 2006. She was born January 23, 1915 in Pinnebog. Erma moved to Detroit where she earned her RN degree and met her husband, Edward F. Draves, MD, who has preceded her in death. She had many careers over her lifetime. She raised three natural children and many foster children. When Edward retired from his practice, they became the doctor and nurse for the Detroit Racetrack, taking care of all the racing personnel and customers who came to the track. When she learned Disney was coming to Central Florida, they moved there and over the course of 10 years, bought and sold more than 1,000 acres around the Disney area. Erma and Edward loved to buy a piece of property, get it rezoned, start to develop it and then sell it. One Christmas, she bought Edward a chain saw and he gave her a bush hog. When they retired from land development, they moved to Maggie Valley, North Carolina where she taught painting and rug braiding. She moved to Longwood, North Carolina in 1996 where she continued to give painting lessons. She is survived by her son, Edward F. (Glenda) Draves Jr., Michael (Judy) Draves, and Mary Scott; grandchildren, Michael M. Draves, Lisa Draves, Heather Draves Lorenz, Edward F. (Colleen) Draves III; and great-grandchildren, Abigail and Matthew Draves. Erma was a woman who loved life and lived a full one. She had a wonderful sense of humor and could make anyone laugh. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her. Throughout her life she lived as a lay minister as part of the Third Order, Society of Saint Francis. The Third Order consists of people who, through following ordinary professions, are called to a dedicated life of service to our Lord through prayer, study and work. A Memorial Mass has taken place with interment on the Campus of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. According to her wishes, in lieu of flowers, you may send a donation to your local school for art supplies or to the Hospice of the Comforter in Altamonte Springs.