WILLIAM D. 'BILL' PORTER

March 6, 1932 - June 12, 2005

William D. "Bill" Porter, 73, Kokomo, died 6:42 p.m. Sunday, June 12, 2005, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Hospital. He was born March 6, 1932, in Covington, Ky., a son of John and Mildred (Murphy) Porter. His mother later married Robert L. Ferring Sr., who raised him. On June 19, 1948, he married Gloria (Hines) Porter, who preceded him in death. He then married Brenda (Ward) Hendrix on May 15, 1982, and she survives.

He was employed by the Pennsylvania/Penn-Central Railroad, retiring after 31 years. He owned the Whistle Stop Tavern.

He was a member of the Moose Lodge, Independent Order of Foresters, the Eagles, Naphtali Masonic Lodge F.&A.M. 389 and was a charter member of Kokomo Area Lions Club, where he held many offices, including president.

Always willing to help a friend, he was greatly loved by many.

Surviving are his wife Brenda of Kokomo; one brother Robert L. and wife Wilma Ferring Jr., Cold Springs, Ky.; one sister-in-law, Judy Porter, Taylor Mills, Ohio; three daughters, Lindsay and husband Jerry D'Agostino Sr., Annette Gorham, all of Kokomo, and Robin Rodriguez, La Mesa, N.M.; three sons, Douglas and wife Judy Porter, David and wife Cheryl Porter, all of Kokomo, and Paul and wife Charlotte Hendrix, Mount Pleasant, S.C. He is also survived by two special "sons," Steve and wife Vivian Heronemus, Kokomo, and Rick and wife Cathy Perkins, Sturgis, Mich.; a special friend, Raymond Hawkins; 23 grandchildren and 33 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and stepfather; one brother, Thomas Porter; and one son, John M. Porter.

Services will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday in Murray-Weaver Funeral Home, 401 S. California St., Galveston. Calling hours are 2 to 8 p.m. today with Masonic services at 7:30 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will be in the Galveston Cemetery.

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