

Zula Fern Birch
Retired Tiffin homemaker

Zula Fern Birch, 98, formerly of 385 N. Sandusky St., died at 11:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, 1998, in Autumnwood Care Center, where she had resided since December 1996.

Born Feb. 21, 1900, in Republic, to Louis N. and Mary Belle (Taylor) Krupp, she married Charles Birch, Dec. 19, 1921. He died in 1965.

Survivors include: a son, John W. Birch of Tiffin; two daughters, Mrs. George (Betty) Hammond of Lake Milton and Mrs. William (Eileen) Shumaker of Tiffin; 17 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were two sons, James and Howard Birch; a granddaughter; and six brothers, Alvin, Jesse, Raymond, Floyd, Orlin and De Forest Krupp.

A homemaker, she was a 1918 graduate of Columbian High School.

The oldest member of Ebenezer United Methodist Church, where she taught Sunday School for many years, Mrs. Birch also was a member of its United Methodist Women and active in all activities of the church.

Services will be 2 p.m. Monday in Tiffin Ebenezer United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Dr. Robert E. Buckley officiating. Burial will be in Fairmont Cemetery.

Visitation at the church will be noon Monday until time of the service.

The Turner-Engle Funeral Home of Tiffin is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials may be made to the church or a charity of the donor's choice.