

Beula . Bell Barker Muston

Born in a house where Bud's Auto Parts is now (Tom Hurin's "rented" house..

First of four children born to Herman and Ada Reed Barker.

Decendant of 3 pioneer Washington Township families, Barker's, Reed's and Larsh's.

Theadore Dresser played organ music on the first Atwater Kent radio.

Beula was the first student office worker at school.

She remembers have two 98¢ dresses to wear to school.

Beula can remember coping with the depression. Collecting tin cans to be sent back for use again. (This would be the first ecology program in the U.S.)

Beula dreamed of being a ballet dancer but went to nursing school in 1930 after graduation from Avon High School. Dancing dreams carried over to include having each of her daughters take tap and ballet lessons.

During her nursing training she was admitted to the honorary nursing sorority of Sigma Theta Tau. (Back in the days of Dr. Gatch.)

After nursing training Beula married Irvin R. Muston in 1934 and resolved never to work outside the home ever again. But 4 years later and three hungry little boys changed her mind. Beula worked 15 years for Indiana University Medical Center most of which was at Riley Hospital for Children. During this time 4 more children had ~~be/born to Irvin and Beula~~ been born to Irvin and Beula. She is a member of the American Nursing Association, Indiana University Alumni Association. She transferred to Hendricks County Hospital in 1962 to assist in setting up the new county hostital and lacked only 6 months of working 15 years there.

As a housewife and mother of 7 children, Beula never felt the kids tied her down but provided opportunities and activities she would not have had otherwise. She never tired of providing opportunities for her children as they were growing up. Including music as her parents and grandparents had done for her, dancing lessons for the boys as well as the girls, helping with community projects such as Halloween festivals at school, church programs etc.

As an active citizen of the community Beula helped with boy scouts as a den mother (4 boys) and girl scbuts as her 3 girls were brownies and girl scouts. As the children grew so did the activities from 4-H, athaletics (tennis, basketball, baseball etc.), stamp clubs, band boosters, sunshine mother, accordian band, choir mothers at Christ Church, participation in foreign student exchange program, sponser barber shop quartet, taught sunday school from cradle on up. Beula started Children's Church for youngsters when the adults were at "real church".

When the children were in high school she started a mother's club for mothers of pre-school age children as requested by Rev. Bradford (Avon Methodist church). Taught Red Cross Home Nursing Classes. Worked on various committies for the Avon school system to help insure it's growth in the community. Beula was the first president of the Avon Happiness is Together Senior Citizens Club. Worked on the original committee for development of senior citizens in Hendricks County. Was the secretary



for the first Council on Aging in Hendricks County. Set up a blood pressure program for the senior citizens club.

My daughter <sup>Sara</sup> remembers that when the band parents voted there wasn't enough money for a school flag her mother made a school flag and presented it to the school. And when they first started pom pom girls she went to Ayres and bought a bolt of black and gold satin tearing off a yard of each color for the girls to make their shirts.

Mrs. Muston enjoyed the Hendricks County art league and craft clubs where she was able to show some of the art work she accomplished. (Beula tells us she was told in school she "couldn't draw a line with a ruler" and not to bother with art") She was even able to sell some of her pastel drawings and oil paintings. Her Raggedy Ann and Andy pastels are hanging in the Pediatric Unit of Hendricks County Hospital.

As a professional nurse Beula received a journalism award by the Indiana State Nurses Association for an article "Nighttime on Pediatrics" which was published in the May, 1962 issue of the American Journal of Nursing. The article was selected for reprint in Ross Laboratories Pediatric Nursing Currents. Mrs. Muston was a nurse from the old school believing the patient came first and strove to teach her staff the importance of tender loving care for all patients. She was never happier than to have her staff go on to school to better their education and skills, always pointing out ways to help them do this. She took advantage of every opportunity to learn personally attending seminars, work shops etc over the years.

Beula thinks of herself as an ordinary person -- doing the best you can coping with problems as they come. She is still doing this. And problems do come. Beula has retired dreaming of visiting the children and grandchildren as time would permit, and has been able to somewhat.

When the children were young Irvin, and Beula took them on a vacation each summer visiting all of the 48 continental states, nothing educates like seeing first hand. Since that time they were able to take a real vacation together to the Holy Lands and some of the European nations. After retirement one of the boys sent them to Hawaii, and another arranged for them to visit him at his home in Alaska. Completing the tour of all 50 states and some exciting places overseas. Now the children are scattered to 5 different states but they managed to visit each home before illness slowed them down.

Now another plateau has been reached. Irvin died in April, 1980. My life has taken a new turn in the fact I must now accept help, sometimes even ask for it. This is new for me. I meant to do so much after retirement however, I was brought up short. I realized something was wrong but kept neglecting the obvious. I had developed Parkinson's Disease, SO, I remember to do the best you can coping with problems as they come. Now as a ~~nursing/care~~ patient in a convalescent home what can I do. Well, I participate as best I can. At parties in wheelchair, I can still keep time to the music, - we can start a quilting club! I still can organize even if my body won't cooperate. I still enjoy my children and grandchildren, maybe even great-grandchildren before too long. Some of the grandchildren are in college, some in high school, some in grade school, some younger than that. Maybe one of these kids will harness solar energy. I have so much to look forward to.

One only needs to look at the children to see the values instilled by the parents

Charles H. Muston, (B.S., Indiana State University; M. S. Indiana University)  
(Married Harriett Kepner)  
Athletic Director, Tennis Coach, Plainfield High School, Plainfield, Ind.

Father of: Charles H. Muston Jr. (B.S. Indiana State University)  
(married Kimberly Glessner)  
Math Teacher and Football Coach  
Mooresville High School, Mooresville, Ind.

Janet Sue Muston  
Student at Franklin College

Mark Andrew Muston  
Student at Plainfield High School

Donald Gene Muston (B.S., M.A., Indiana University; Foreign Business Trade, Thunderbird  
University, Phoenix, Ariz)  
(Married Marilyn Kendall)  
Now teaching at Elizabethtown College, Pennsylvania, spent 8 years prior as banker in  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Father of: Michelle Muston  
Student in Pa.

Michael Muston  
Student at Ben Davis, Indianapolis

Abigail Muston  
Grade School Student

Luke Muston  
pre-grade school student

Ray Allen Muston, (B.S. and M.A., Ph.D. Indiana University)  
(married Linda Hefner)

Associate Dean of Academic Affairs in the office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs  
University of Iowa

Father of : Ray Allen Muston II  
Student at Indiana University

Rex William Muston  
High School Student

Joy Muston  
Junior High Student



1  
Sara Ann Muston Rutledge (Married William C. Rutledge)  
Echocardiographer at North Mississippi Medical Center, Tupelo, Mississippi

Mother of William Richard Rutledge  
High school student

Russell Curtis Rutledge  
Grade school student

Irvin R. Muston, Jr. (Married Shirley Tillson)  
B.S. Indiana State University, M.A., Indiana University)  
Athletic Director and Tennis Coach Robinson, Illinois.

Father of (Ritchie) Richard Muston  
Grade school student

Anthony Drew Muston  
grade school student

Kristopher Muston  
pre-grade school student

Ada Alice Muston  
died at age 10 of leukemia

Peggy Sue Muston Wheatley (Married Dennis Wheatley)  
Speedway Beauty Academy  
Chief Telephone Operator IUPUI (Now ~~retired~~ medically retired)  
Talented musician

Mother of Steven A. Morphew  
grade school student



# Eulogy at Bulah's Muston Funeral

Levin R. Muston, Jr. (Married Shirley T. Wilson)  
B.S. Indiana State University, M.A., Indiana University  
Athletic Director and Tennis Coach, Robinson, Illinois.

Father of (Richard) Richard Muston  
Grade school student

Anthony Drew Muston  
Grade school student

Kristopher Muston  
Pre-grade school student

Abs Alice Muston  
Died at age 10 of leukemia

Peggy Sue Muston Westley (Married Dennis Westley)  
Speechway Beauty Academy  
Chief Telephone Operator IUPUI (Now retired medically retired)  
Talented musician

Mother of Steven A. Muston  
Grade school student