Eliza Jane (Ball) Ernst

April 25, 1863 – July 10, 1918



Photo by Deb Curry

Mrs. Ernst Dead - Wife of George Ernst, of Peterson, Died at an Early Hour.  
Bad Case of Dropsy - Body Reached the Weight of Nearly Five Hundred Pounds

   Eliza Ball Ernst, wife of George Ernst, of Peterson, died this morning at six o'clock. Death resulted from a long and peculiar ailment, the result of which was an extreme dropsical condition. So severe was the dropsical condition that her body had assumed a weight of nearly five hundred pounds, and so aggravated was the case, that in giving relief by tapping, the physician at one time drew thirteen and a half gallons of water from the tissues of her body.  
  Mrs. Ernst, however, had been bedfast only since Sunday when she grew much worse. Her suffering is said to have been very intense, and death was a great relief.  
  Mrs. Ernst was fifty-five years of age. She was born April 25, 1863, in Wells County. She is a daughter of Mrs. Sarah Ball, of Magley; and of the late James Ball.  
  The deceased was married September 20, 1885, to George Ernst, who with the following children is bereft: Nettie Bell Bowman, Bluffton; Iona Best and Don Ernst, Sorrento, Ill.; Eunice, at home.  
  Mrs. Ernst has one brother, Grant Ball, who lives at Magley.  
  She was a member of the Beulah Methodist Church, and was a woman of Christian character.  
  The funeral will be Friday afternoon at two o'clock, from the home, with burial at Pleasant Dale Cemetery.

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Contributed by Karin King