



**B**everly Henson Knapp, 78, passed away at home the morning of March 25, 2010. Bev was born the only child of William and Iva Henson on September 9, 1931 in Pueblo, Colorado. Her parents also raised her first cousin, William Crawford who later won the Congressional Medal of Honor. When growing up, Bev lived for a time in New Mexico, Arizona and Oregon. She graduated from The Dalles High School, Oregon in 1949. That fall she entered Pacific University, Oregon where she met her husband-to-be, Stuart. They were married on August 19, 1951, then moved to University of Idaho, Moscow where Stu had a teaching scholarship and she completed her baccalaureate in journalism and English.

The Knapps subsequently moved to Manhattan, Kansas where Stu was a research assistant in zoology and she worked as a librarian and administrative assistant in the school of architecture and engineering. From 1954-1956, Bev taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math and English in San Antonio while Stu was in the service. She returned to Kansas State until December 1958 when Stu took a position on the faculty at Oregon State in the department of veterinary medicine. Her first son, Karl was born while they were in Kansas and her second son, Paul was born in Corvallis, Oregon.

At Oregon State she worked as an instructor in the international education program teaching English as a second language, as a research assistant on a grant projects in the school of education and as a science editor in the school of oceanography.

Bev came to Bozeman in 1978 when Stu was hired as the vice president for academic affairs at MSU. She was active in service with the Bozeman Public Library, the Bozeman 10-year study plan, and various political groups including serving as chair of the county democratic party. Bev was a Bozeman city commissioner from 1989-1993. While serving as a library trustee, she was elected president of the Montana Library Association.

Bev loved hiking with her friends and the BWAGs. She was especially proud of her home-produced memoirs of the hiking group. She enjoyed traveling to numerous countries, including South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, and Zimbabwe. She also traveled extensively in Mexico, England (visiting her oldest son at Oxford) and Scotland. Bev will be remembered by those who loved her as adventurous, compassionate, straightforward and given to spontaneous humor.

She is survived by her husband, Stuart, son Paul (Robin) and grandson Hugh, and son Karl (Luisa) and grandchildren Honor and Scarlett, and Haley and Reid and their mother Jennifer Bell Knapp. She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Iva.

A memorial service is scheduled for Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at Pilgrim Congregational Church, 2118 S. 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 2:00 pm, with a reception following the service. Memorials in Bev's name can be sent to the Bozeman Public Library, 626 E. Main St., Bozeman, MT 59715.