



Stella Evelyn Anacker, 85, passed away April 20, 2007 at the Gallatin Rest Home. She was born October 13, 1921 to Anna P. and Waldemar E. Lillo in Turtle Lake, ND. She earned a B.A. in English at Jamestown College in 1943 and taught in high schools the next three years. She married Edward W. Anacker, an Ensign in the U.S. Navy, in 1945. After World War II ended, Stella and Ed moved to Ithaca, NY so that Ed could resume his graduate work in chemistry at Cornell University. He earned a doctorate in 1949.

In the summer of 1949, Stella, Ed and their two sons, Steven and David, moved to Bozeman, MT where Ed began a teaching/research career at Montana State College (later renamed Montana State University). Two additional sons, Eric and John, joined the family in subsequent years. Stella entered the graduate school at MSU and earned a masters degree in philosophy in 1971. All of her sons earned advanced degrees in their fields – Steven, a doctorate in mathematics; David, a doctorate in physics; Eric, a doctorate in medicine; John, a masters in art.

Stella was baptized, nurtured and confirmed in the Norwegian Lutheran Church. She became a member of Hope Lutheran Church shortly after arriving in Bozeman. Favorite activities at Hope involved the Deborah Circle and quilting.

Throughout her adult life, Stella maintained an interest in local, state and federal governmental matters. She regularly recommended appropriate action to officials who were involved.

Because Stella demonstrated “a strong commitment to education and equity for women and girls through 50 years of membership in the American Association of University Women...” she was awarded an Honorary Life Membership in the year 2000. Twice AAUW named a gift to the Educational Foundation in her honor.

Stella’s outdoor activities included gardening and hiking. Membership in the Big Sky Wind Drinkers encouraged her to participate in running activities. Although not completely comfortable on steep terrain, she managed to reach the summits of a number of neighboring peaks. These included Baldy, Ross, Hyalite, Sacajawea and Lone Mountain (before skiing started).

She was preceded in death by her parents; mother-in-law, Nellie Anacker; father-in-law, Edward F. Anacker; and daughter-in-law, Lola Anacker.

Stella is survived by her husband, Ed, of Bozeman; son, Steven, of Sunnyvale, CA; son, David, of Fremont, CA; son, Eric (Betsy) of Great Falls, MT; son, John (Deb) of Bozeman, MT; sister, Norma Hansen of Fargo, ND; brother, Bob (Ruth) Lillo of Hillsborough, CA; brother, Jim (Fran) Lillo of W. Lafayette, IN; and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 30, 2007 at Hope Lutheran Church in Bozeman. Should friends desire, memorials may be made to Hope Lutheran Church, 210 S. Grand Ave. Bozeman 59715; to the Gallatin Rest Home, 1221 W. Durston, Bozeman 59715; or to a charity of the donor’s choice. Arrangements are in the care of Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service.