



Betty Jean Knowles Austin Bindl died peacefully March 28, 2007 surrounded by her children in Bozeman.

Born December 9, 1927 near Neihart, Montana to Leona Doyle Knowles and William Hay Knowles, Betty spent her childhood in the Little Belt Mountains. After attending college in Billings and Dillon, Betty began her teaching career in a one room schoolhouse in Roberts, Montana. Closer to home and family she then taught in Ringling where she met and later married Russell Austin.

As Betty and Russ moved from Two Dot to Gold Creek then Tarkio and Alberton, Russ worked for the Milwaukee Railroad while Betty raised their three children.

Retiring in Trout Creek, Montana, Russ and Betty owned and operated the Lakeside Motel. After Russ passed away in November of 1977, Betty ran the motel single-handedly until she married John Bindl in 1981.

John and Betty retired and moved to Townsend in 1990.

Betty was active in the Trout Creek Community Church, the Trout Creek Improvement Association, the Townsend Episcopal Church, Garden Club, Book Club, as a volunteer at elementary schools and was instrumental in the formation of the Trout Creek Huckleberry Festival.

Survivors include her husband John Bindl; brothers: Bill (Marj) Knowles and Bruce (Jean) Knowles of Great Falls, Hank Knowles of Denver, sisters: May Keilt and Laura Kaiser of Great Falls. Daughter, Kerry (Bob) Pettit of Bozeman, Sons: Russ Austin of Twin Falls, Idaho, and Mark (Robin) Austin of Peoria, Arizona, Five grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Betty's family would like to extend a special Thank You to the staff at the Mountain View Care Center in Bozeman for all of their support, love, and care over the last several years.

Memorial Services will be held Friday March 30, 2007 11:30 AM at Bozeman United Methodist Church, 121 S. Wilson Ave., Bozeman and a graveside service will be held at the White Pine Cemetery on Saturday March 31, 2007 10:00AM in Trout Creek, Montana.