



**N**orah Williamson, 81, of Bozeman, Montana went home to be with her Lord Jesus on December 26, 2008, surrounded by her loving husband, who never left her side, and her five children, several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Norah was born June 13, 1927 in Missoula, MT to Edward Martin and Nellie Maxine Connelley. She graduated from Park County High School in Livingston in 1945, and attended Montana State College in Bozeman for two years. Norah then traveled to New York City, against her father's wishes, to model for a fashion agency. She loved the experience of modeling but returned home to Livingston after one year. Norah finished her teaching certificate at Eastern Montana College in Billings and taught school in Boulder, MT for one year. From the time she was a little girl, camping in Yellowstone and Grand Teton with her family, her dream was "to marry a park ranger and live on a mountain top." In the summer of 1948 she met ranger/naturalist and rescue climber Lynn Williamson at the Jenny Lake Ranger Station. Two years later they were married on June 11, 1950, and within a month they together climbed the Grand Teton and several other peaks. They spent the next three summers living in a GTNP tent cabin on the shore of Jenny Lake. In the winters, Norah taught in a one room schoolhouse at Deep Creek in the Paradise Valley.

During their 30 year career in the National Park Service they raised their family in some of the most glorious parks in the west and visited numerous others in the U.S. and Canada. After 14 years in Yellowstone, they retired to Big Sky where they continued to raise their youngest son Marty in the mountains and backcountry of the Madison Range.

Norah is survived by her husband, Lynn, her sister, Marla (Neal) Riley; her children, Blake (Wickie) Williamson, Marla Kay (David) Johannessen, Karolyn (Jim) Dudley, Nellie Ann Tresch, and Marty (Kerry) Williamson; her grandchildren are Mary Gretchen, Erin Renee, Lysie, Carly, Talitha, Jayme, Cole, Davya, Bo, David, Kurt, Tyler, Bethany, Eric, Kevin, Hailey, and Conner; and her great grandchildren are Tyler Renee, Lilly, Emma Lynn, Brody, Jake, Olivia, Theodore, Lizzylee, and her next great grandchild due in March. Norah is also survived by her dear sister-in-laws, Kay and Phyllis Williamson, her brother-in-law Mahlon Williamson and numerous nieces and nephews. Norah was preceded in death by her parents, Martin and Nellie Connelley, her brother, Budge Connelley and her son-in-law, Tony Tresch.