



Evelyn Vickrey passed peacefully from her earthly home in the early morning hours of Friday, February 12, 2010. We rejoice in the fact that her tenacious spirit is no longer confined by her fragile body.

She was born January 24, 1919, the daughter of Charles and Bessie (Newland) Allen, early settlers in the Gallatin Valley. She was born at the family home, then north of Bozeman. Due to the 1918 flu epidemic, her doctor felt it was too dangerous for her mother to be admitted to the hospital. She joined an older brother, Wallace, and sister, Denzel (Thompson). She graduated in 1937 from Belgrade High School.

She married John Wesley Vickrey in January of 1939 in Belgrade, and then moved to Seattle, Washington. After living in the Seattle area until 1944, they returned to live in Belgrade permanently. They were blessed with two children, Diana Lee and Vickie Sue. She lived in Belgrade for the remaining years of her life, living in the home in which she had grown up.

Evelyn was a devoted daughter, sister, wife, mother, aunt, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Family and friendships were clearly most important to her. She loved her family well. She kept an immaculate home, which was very important to her, and she thoroughly enjoyed entertaining there. She was a gifted seamstress and also enjoyed knitting. She was an avid sports fan and league bowler for many years. She was a crossword puzzle whiz and always took the time to engage her grandkids in games where she was a true card shark. She had a great affection for cats and had a feline companion by her side for most of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother and sister; and then by her husband, John, in 1973.

She will be sorely missed by her adoring family, most of which live close by. She is survived by her daughters, Diana (Bob) Rector, and Vickie (Jim) McMilin; four grandchildren, Sheryl (Pete) Peck, Michelle (Shawn) Cole, Heather (Jenn) and Ross McMilin; and five great-grandchildren, Courtney and Trevor Peck, and Skyler, Cerissa and Camber Cole.

We are so very grateful to her wonderful caregivers, Daylene, Karen, Suzan and Melinda. They enabled her to remain in the home that she so dearly loved. Thanks, also, to Cindy R., Judy, Cindy S., and the other previous caregivers who loved and cared for her through her final years. Thank you, also, to Marybeth Adams, St. Catherine Family Health Care, and Josh Geiger, Price Rite Medical Equipment, for always being available when needed. She lived her life, including her final years, with amazing dignity and grace. She always had a smile and a thank you for everyone.

A private ceremony will be held to reflect and celebrate Evelyn's life. For those wishing to make a donation in her name, please contact Heart of the Valley Animal Shelter, P.O. Box 11390, Bozeman, MT 59719, or by calling 388-9399.