Beverly Jean Edelen, 78

Beverly Jean Edelen, 78, passed away peacefully at home on April 1, 2012. Beverly was born on April 21, 1933 in Manchester.

Beverly and her husband, Charlie, drove the Alcan Highway from Brooklyn and arrived in Anchorage, Alaska on April 1, 1958. She was 24 years old, 8 months pregnant and already caring for four small

children. Beverly is the mother of nine children, 19 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Her large family was her

proudest accomplishment. Her love of fishing and Alaska's beauty was a life long delight. Interests included writing short stories, poetry, reading, politics, faith and playing cards.

Her beautiful smile and laughter will always be remembered by those who knew and loved her.

Beverly is preceded in death by her eldest son,

Randy Edelen; and husband, Charles.

She is survived by her daughters, Rita Neuharth (Mark), Renae Thompson (Jim), Rhonda Dunlap (John), Raeanne Dere (Wayne) and Roxanne Edelen; her sons, Ron Edelen (Gayla), Richard Edelen (Maria) and Robert Edelen; her sisters, Erlene Slaymaker (Robert) of Iowa City, and Linda Goodrich of Des Moines; her grandchildren, Shanna, Shane, Grant, Andrea, Rosalyn, Beverly, Conner, Elaina, Veronica, Danielle, Ryan, Ross, Reid, Adam, Katie, Kelie, Alie, Alexandra and Josephine; great-grandchildren, Evan, Kyle, Daisy, Shaina, Nevaeh, Jyllian, Addie, Elijah, Aurora, Makayla, Brendon, Madelyn, Jaylee

A celebration of Beverly's life was held at the home and Michael. of her daughter, Rhonda, and husband, John Dunlap, on Saturday, April 7 in Anchorage, Alaska.