Ward T. Allen, 80

Ward Thomas Allen, 80, died Sept. 20, 2006 at an assisted living facility in Anchorage, Alaska, with his caregiver, Valerie Cooper Brown, at his side.

A celebration of his life was held Sept. 27 at Teamsters 959 Hall in Anchorage with a potluck following. Burial was at a private cemetery in Barnes City next to his parents and sister. Evergreen Memorial Chapel was in charge of the arrangements.

Ward was born in Barnes City on April 14, 1926, to Rolla and Nina Allen. His father was postmaster and his mother was a school teacher. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. He was a member of the American Legion, Moose Lodge, Pioneers of Alaska Igloo 15 and Teamsters 959 in Alaska. He went to Alaska in 1948 and worked for the Alaska Road Commission at Tok and on Thompson Pass in the wintertime operating a dozer to keep the road open. He worked for the Alaska Freightlines in the warehouse in Anchorage and drove a truck for them to the Arctic with supplies for the DEW line. He also drove a truck for Odom Company and Consolidated Freight Ways and then bought his own truck which he leased to Sea Land and drove until his retirement from Teamsters 959 in 1982. He was proud of his Teamsters ledger number 18.

He enjoyed his years of retirement in his motorhome, driving between Anchorage and his birth home in Barnes City and winter place in Yuma, Ariz. He visited with friends wherever he traveled.

His hobbies were flying and fishing, especially the Seward Salmon Derby, and playing cards with his friends.

He had a family of many friends and is survived by close friends, Burt Smith of Big Lake; Glen Starn, Skip Weeks, Dan Craig, Jim Miller and Brad Brown of Anchorage; Leslie C. Steele of Deep River; Mayo Grubbs of Oskaloosa; Homer Burns, Lyle Johnston and Willy Willbanks of Yuma, Ariz.; Mel Graves of Washington and Gilbert Hamilton of Omaha, Neb.

He was preceded in death by a sister and his former wife, Shirley Renaud.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to My Home Is Your Home Assisted Living, 8040 Opal, Anchorage, AK 99502; and Hospice of Anchorage, 500 W. International Airport Road, Suite C, Anchorage, AK 99518-1175.