

# Iris Jean Chatham

## August 3, 1933 - June 18, 2011

Iris Jean Chatham, 77, died June 18, 2011, in Billings, Mont., surrounded by all six of her daughters and her husband John.

She was born Aug. 3, 1933, in Hardin, Mont. She married John Chatham on Dec. 15, 1951. They would have celebrated their 60th anniversary this year.

Iris was a wonderful homemaker, a great cook and seamstress. They lived in Lodge Grass, Mont., for most of the years spent raising their daughters. She was very active in women's clubs and the school PTA. They also lived several years in Thermopolis, where John ranched on Owl Creek for the H Triangle Ranch before moving back to Montana where they presently live, working for the Vermilion Ranch in Billings.

Iris enjoyed gardening, stitchery crafts, feeding the birds in her yard and writing. She especially loved animals and made monthly donations to several charities to help abused and homeless animals. She loved clothes, jewelry and especially shoes.

Survivors are her husband, of Billings, Mont.; daughters and their families, Debra of Sheridan, Kathie and Valerie of Billings, Johnette and Nedine of Rapid City, S.D., and Victoria of Denton, Texas; 11 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ned and Tonnie Crosby, and a grandson, Robby Dust.

At Iris' request, cremation has taken place and a family memorial will be held at a future date. Memorial donations can be made to a local animal shelter, the Humane Society or Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

