

Obituary by Daily Camera, Boulder, CO
October 24, 2010

Helen Louise (Poole) Tonish
1915 - 2010

Helen Louise (Poole) Tonish, a Broomfield resident for 46 years, passed away on October 21, 2010.

Helen was born in 1915 and raised on the family ranch in the Flint Hills of Kansas. Her education began in a one bedroom country school house and culminated with a B.S. degree from Kansas State University and a Masters from the University of Colorado. As an educator, she taught math, science, and home economics at the Sr. High and Jr. college level. She retired from the Boulder Valley School District in 1982. Helen was an active member of the 1st Presbyterian Church, Boulder, P.E.O., Questers as well as presenting numerous programs using her extensive collection of vintage valentines.

The publication of her book, "One Time on the Upper McDowell", was one of Helen's treasured accomplishments. Along with her writing, her other passion was her piano and music, from classical ragtime to attending the Jimmy Buffet concert in Maui. Helen was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Edward Tonish, former principal of Broomfield Jr. High School.

Helen is survived by her two daughters, their husbands, three grandsons and their families: Marsha and Max McMillan, Barbara and Ron Nichols, Jonpaul and Linda Sauer, Porter, Brenden, Matthew and Ashley McMillan, Shane and Perri Sauer, Tatum, Pali Louise. She is also survived by her dear sister, Ann Peycke of Conroe, Texas.

A gathering to celebrate Helen's life will be held on October 28th, 2:00-4:00 at the Dove House, 1055 S. 112th Street, Lafayette, CO. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to children Mercy Hospital, Kansas City Missouri or Family hospice Foundation, 1790 30th Street, Suite 308, Boulder, CO 80301.