YORKTOWN - Ethel Hickox Story, 77, of Yorktown, Va., passed away Tuesday April 24, 2012.

Ethel is survived by her husband, H. Daniel Story; her children, Pamela J. Smart, Cynthia S. Brown, Andrew D. Story, Ryal C. Greenwood, Joanna S. Heath, John H. Story, and Daniel H. Story; 12 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and countless nieces and nephews.

Born in Berkeley, Calif., to Dr. G. H. and Doris Hickox of Manchester, lowa, she grew up in Norris, Tenn., with her siblings, Paul and Mary. After graduating high school, she attended the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where she majored in Biology and English. She spent 41 years teaching middle and high school science, as well as English and math.

As a Christian, Ethel was involved in the work of the Church, leading and participating in worship, missions, church administration, Bible study, VBS, Sunday school, and Christian community work. She greatly enjoyed the Navajo people, leading missions in the Four Corners region of the country.

She was interested in genealogy and American history. She was a member of the Virginia Historical Society, as well as the Comte de Grasse chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, where she served as Regent for several years.

Ethel was so creative! She spent many days (and late nights!) creating and tailoring clothes for weddings, dances, school musicals, and the Yorktown Fife and Drum Corps, among others. She also baked, designed, and decorated cakes with icing that became legendary!

She loved to travel. She especially enjoyed New Zealand, China, the Holy Land, Alaska, and most recently, Italy, singing with her church choir in Renaissance cathedrals.

Ethel found her greatest happiness in serving others. Generous and joyful, with a broad smile and bright spirit, she would find a need and fill it. She will be missed by so many!

The family encourages friends to join them at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 13, 2012, at Crooks Memorial United Methodist Church to share memories, followed by a service celebrating her life at 3 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Missions c/o Crooks Memorial United Methodist Church, 204 Cook Road, Yorktown, VA 23692.

Amory Funeral Home, Grafton, is in charge of the arrangements.