Norma I. Brewer was a longtime resident of Main Street in St. Johnsbury. She died at her St. Johnsbury House residence surrounded by family Tuesday evening, Sept. 6, 2011, at the age of 89.

Norma was born here in St. Johnsbury on April 5, 1922, one of five children born to Truman and Beulah (Gregory) Brewer. After graduating from St. Johnsbury Academy in 1940, she proudly served stateside in the Army WACS during World War II. She had a career working as a telephone operator at New England Telephone here in their St. Johnsbury office.

+ click to enlarge

Norma I. Brewer

Norma lived at her Main Street apartment on the corner by the clock above the old Randall and Whitcomb's for 37 years. Her later years were spent happily at the St. Johnsbury House. She loved the history of St. Johnsbury. Family members will remember long walks about the town enjoying the architecture of the town's beautiful buildings. She also delved into her own family's heritage. Dennis and Donna Jenkins were primary caregivers and happily cared for her over the past 16 years.

She was very close to her extended family. She spent many a Friday night with Heather, or Becky, or Justin, or Chris after picking them up from school. These were wonderful times spent with her great nieces and nephews.

She is survived by two sisters: Barbara Brewer and Marilyn Simons both of St. Johnsbury; nieces and nephews; great-nieces and nephews; great-great-nieces and nephews. Her brother Truman passed away in 1998; her sister Donna Allard passed away tragically in 1974. She was also predeceased by three nieces: Norma Mae Shumway, Martha Davis, and Anna Morton.

Graveside services will be held this Saturday, Sept. 10, at 11 a.m. at the St. Johnsbury Center Cemetery. Mr. John Sleeper will officiate at the service with military honors concluding the service. Anyone wishing to attend is welcome.

Norma spent many hours reading at the Athenaeum; it would therefore be fitting that memorial contributions be directed to St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, 1171 Main St., St. Johnsbury, VT 05819.