PLATTSBURGH - Alva Emma Channell, 84, of Evergreen Valley Nursing Home, passed away there on Friday, July 20, 2007. She was born in Essex on Nov. 23, 1922. Upon the death of her mother, Netta (Sibley) Stafford, she was raised by her aunt and uncle, John Burt and Maude (Sibley) Fisher.

Alva was a graduate of Essex High School and attended the State University of Plattsburgh, majoring in home economics. She was a member of the Alpha Delta Sorority. Between 1961 and 1971 she was employed as the Social Services Executive Director for the Council of Community Services of Plattsburgh and Clinton County. While there, she initiated many programs such as Meals on Wheels. Between 1971 and 1988, she was employed as administrative services officer for the Northern New York Center, which dealt with emotionally disturbed children and adults. She was working for them when they started out in the old Children's Home on Bailey Avenue, and moved with them when they acquired their own building on Broad Street. She was in charge of all fiscal operations. Alva retired from there on May 9, 1988. She was a longtime member of the First Presbyterian Church of Plattsburgh and served faithfully as a deacon, elder and Sunday School teacher. Alva was a member of the Board of Directors for Homemaker Services of Clinton County and served as president between 1967-68; the Board of Directors for the Joint Council for Economic Opportunity in 1967; the Tri-County Council for the Aging 1967-68; and was district vice chairman of the New York State Advisory Committee of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, 1967-69. She was associated with the Girl Scouts and the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Eta Iota Chapter, Plattsburgh. She was a volunteer for the Cancer and Heart Associations, the Christmas Bureau, the Association of Retarded Children and the Community Chest. Alva was an avid painter and loved to sing.

Alva is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, K. Joe and Joyce Channell of Plattsburgh, a daughter, Nancy Channell of Cornwall on the Hudson, a daughter, Marjorie Quattrini of Tonawanda, a daughter and son-in-law, Jill and Carl Dattel of Manassas, Va.; three grandsons, Todd Channell of Plattsburgh, Jeff Quattrini of Akron, Tim Quattrini of Tonawanda; two granddaughters, Kelly Citro and her husband Brian of Essex Junction, Vt., Erin Quattrini of Cheektowaga; four great-grandchildren, Ryan Perry of Essex Junction, Vt., Brady, Molly and Riley Channell and their mother Beth, all of Plattsburgh. She also leaves behind many nieces and nephews, including Janice Moran of Essex; and a sister-in-law, Florence Fisher of Hartford, Conn.

Alva was predeceased by her husband, Kenneth Elton Channell, in 1993.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, July 27, 2007, at 1 p.m. from the First Presbyterian Church in Plattsburgh. Burial will be in Riverside Cemetery in Plattsburgh.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Mrs. Channell's memory may be made to First Presbyterian Church, 34 Brinkerhoff St., Plattsburgh, NY 12901, for the choir or the Samuel F. Vilas Home, 61 Beekman St., Plattsburgh, NY 12901.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home, 29 Broad St., Plattsburgh.