

Ann Trowbridge Tollefson, a nationally-recognized leader in foreign language instruction and distance learning, passed away at her home in Story, Wyoming on February 22, 2026. Also an award winning artist, philanthropist and community leader, Ann was a life-long resident of Wyoming who deeply loved her home state and its children.

Ann Lynn Trowbridge was born on January 31, 1942 – a few weeks after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Her father joined the U.S. Navy soon after. After the war ended, the family returned to Cheyenne, where her parents started the Trowbridge Company, which bought and sold oil and gas leases across the West.

Ann grew up in Cheyenne and graduated from Cheyenne High School in 1960. She then attended the University of Wyoming, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in French in 1963, and a Master of Arts degree in French Literature in 1969.

She briefly taught French in Torrington and Laramie before moving to Casper, where she taught French at Natrona County High School for 25 years. During her career she won multiple teaching awards, including Wyoming Teacher of the Year in 1983.

Ann later became a national leader in foreign language instruction, serving as president of the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages, an administrator for the Natrona County School District and the world language content specialist for the Wyoming Department of Education. A prolific and successful grant writer, Ann secured both state and federal funding for numerous projects that she directed.

Upon retirement, Ann became a private consultant sought out by school districts across the nation for her expertise in the development, implementation, and evaluation of world-language programs.

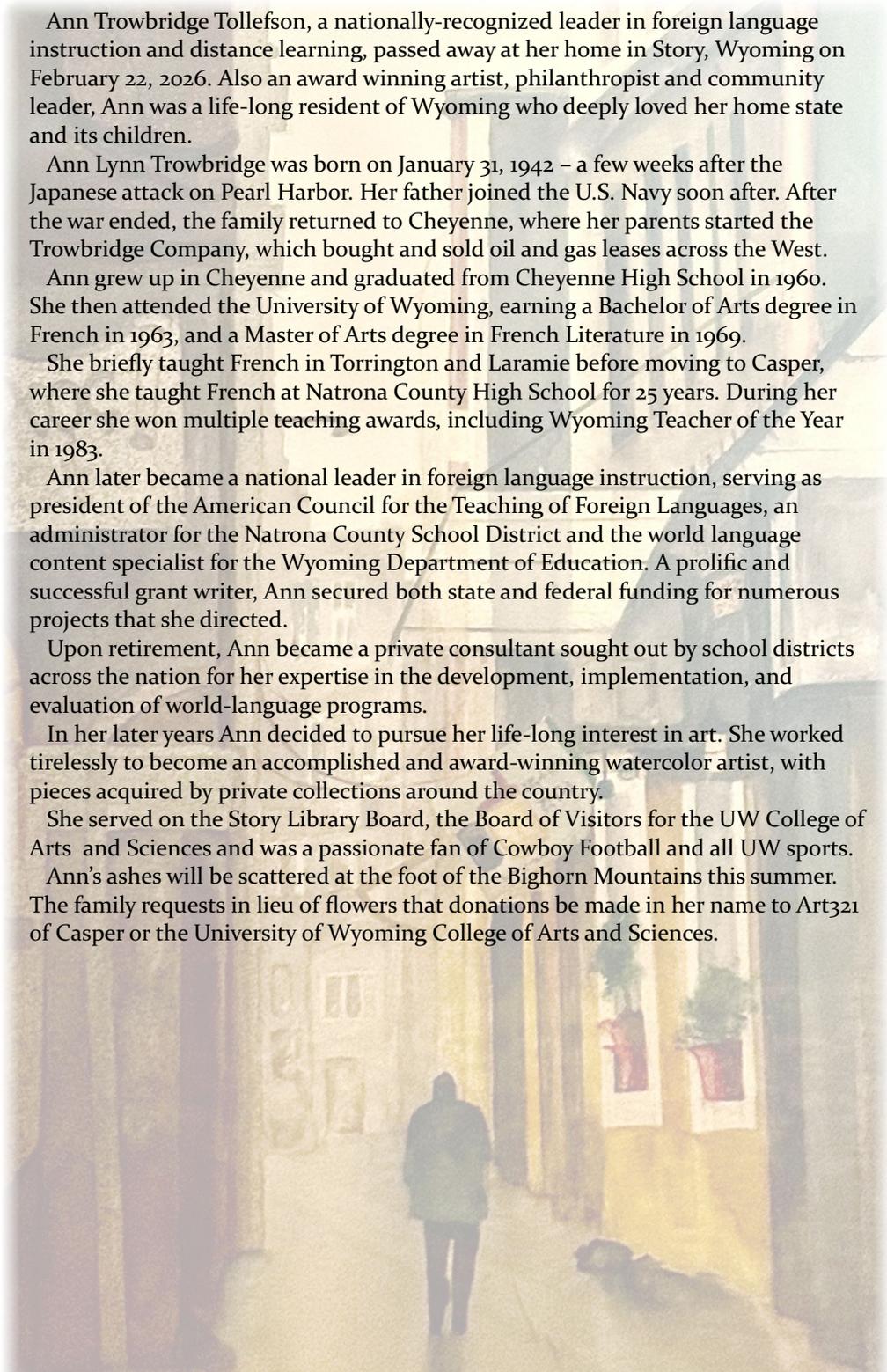
In her later years Ann decided to pursue her life-long interest in art. She worked tirelessly to become an accomplished and award-winning watercolor artist, with pieces acquired by private collections around the country.

She served on the Story Library Board, the Board of Visitors for the UW College of Arts and Sciences and was a passionate fan of Cowboy Football and all UW sports.

Ann's ashes will be scattered at the foot of the Bighorn Mountains this summer. The family requests in lieu of flowers that donations be made in her name to Art321 of Casper or the University of Wyoming College of Arts and Sciences.

Celebrating the life of Ann Trowbridge Tollefson

January 31, 1942 - February 22, 2026





Ann Trowbridge Tollefson

Celebration Of Life And Reception
Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 12:00 (Noon)
Story Women's Club
28 N Piney Rd,
Story, WY 828420.

Celebration Of Life And Reception
Saturday, March 7, 2026, at 11:00 AM
Art321 Casper Artists' Guild
321 W Midwest Ave
Casper, WY 82601.

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Chris Tollefson and Anna Strankman
Jeff Tollefson and Ioana Staicu
Marc Strahn and Kathi Hudson
Holly Turner
Holly and Dave Bryson
Jennifer and Brian Deurloo
Sally Johnson
Cheryl Olsen-Quinlan

“I don't think anybody sets out to win awards. You just have to do the best you can, just like anybody else. I just hope at the end of the day when they look at me they say, ‘You know, she worked hard and she did her best to make a difference.’”



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