The Bridge connecting Bristol and New Hampton has always been an important part of Anna Davis’s 89 years of life. It was and is her tie to home on both sides of the River. The bridges, through collapse, replacement, flooding, repair and removal, have given many challenges through the years, which she has faced and conquered to always keep this tie. Living and growing up with her family on the New Hampton side, it brought her to the Bristol side for Church, shopping and errands for her Mother. After being married Anna moved to Bristol, first to Lake Street and then to Peaked Hill. It took her home to visit and help her Mother and Father.

Anna and the bridges have seen many changes in her 89 years of life. The opening of the bridge for one lane traffic on September 3, 2009 found Anna there after almost 2 years of wanting to cross. As she walked across the bridge, looking down and checking for the three familiar rocks in the River which marked the Bristol/New Hampton town line she stopped so a photograph could be taken of her to commemorate this waited event. One of the men there asked her “How do you feel, the bridge being so high, did you mind going across?” Anna replied, “No, I kept saying if they ever get a bridge in there, I want to be the first to cross that bridge just to see if I can do it.” The man asked a second question. “Do you remember the Covered Bridge?” Anna, “Oh yeah, I walked it every day. I was 5 years old and my sister and I were the last to walk over it. We were headed for Easter rehearsal at Church and just as we stepped off the bridge, it went in.” Asked about the second bridge Anna replied “Just as quick as there was a board to walk on I walked on the floor of that too.” Asked about today’s bridge, Anna replied “This is something different. We had plank floor to walk on before, this is like walking down the city of Concord.”

Anna and all are so happy and grateful this bridge is there for all on both sides of the river.