Trusky’s Legacy Lives on through Kindle

One of Tom Trusky’s last projects at Boise State involved sharing the story of another compelling Idahoan — Evelyn E. Amos. Amos was a ranch woman who lived from 1914 to 2003, and she kept a diary for many of those years on everything from paper bags to bulk mail flyers to used billing envelopes. By the mid-1970s she had typed the entire collection, and in 1987, she contacted Trusky about potential publication of her memoirs.

Publish they did in 1990 through Boise State’s cold-drill literary magazine, which Trusky founded. Called Life in the Upper Country: The Diary of Evelyn E. Amos, it sold out in its first printing, and a second edition paperback was issued two years later. Only four copies remain today, and rather than let it go out of print, Trusky dedicated himself in recent months to getting Amos’ work digitized and made available on Amazon’s Kindle.

In a recent article for The Idaho Librarian, Trusky noted that the diary is “an authentic, colorfully detailed, no-nonsense yet eloquent and vivid to the point of poetry, intermittent (almost decade-long), hand-writ (later manual machine-typed) journal kept over half a century ago by a backcountry Idaho ranch woman with an eighth-grade education.”

Thanks to Trusky, the Kindle edition of Life in the Upper Country is now available at http://www.amazon.com/Life-Upper-Country-Diary-Evelyn/dp/B002R8LF0C/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=digital-text&qid=1255585843&sr=1-1 for a download fee of $3.99.

To read Trusky’s article in The Idaho Librarian, go to http://www.idaholibraries.org/idlibrarian/index.php/idaho-librarian/issue/current.