

Walter Sherman Smith, 82

Walter Sherman Smith, 82, passed away Friday, Oct. 12, 2001, at the Libby Care Center. He was surrounded by his family.

He was born in Moore, to Harry and Mildred Smith on Aug. 10, 1919, and was reared in Lewistown. In 1939, he married Judith Williamson of Moccasin, and they recently celebrated 62 years of marriage.

He was a United States Navy veteran as well as a graduate of Northwest Bible College in Seattle. He moved to Libby with Judy and his three children in 1952. He worked for J. Neils Lumber Company for 10 years.

He was an avid golfer and was instrumental in building and developing the Libby Country Club. He won several city and invitational golf championships and eventually became the club pro for six years. He worked as foreman for the Lincoln County Road Department and retired from the county in 1981.

He loved golfing, shooting pool and fishing but his greatest passions were his family and music. He taught himself to play guitar, banjo, Hawaiian guitar and mandolin and was an accomplished musician. His wife Judy played the piano and together they taught their children at an early age to sing and play. Making music was a daily part of family life and he

took great pride in the musical accomplishments of his children.

For the last 25 years he and Judy, known as the Walt and Judy Swing Band, played for dances at various events and venues throughout Montana. They played in Libby, Kalispell, Missoula, and most recently Polson, until they retired from playing two years ago. They gave countless hours of joy to all who had the privilege to hear and dance to their music.

He was respected for his strong moral values and integrity and his many friends enjoyed his generosity, warmth and sense of humor.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Ray Smith

Survivors include his wife Judy of Libby; two daughters, Sharon Scott and husband, Jim, and Nita Hamilton and husband, Jim Aiken, all of Missoula; son Tony Smith and wife, Peggy, of Troy; two grandsons, Jim Scott of Missoula, and Scott Botchek of Reno, Nev.; a great-grandson, Jim Scott of Missoula; two brothers, Everett Smith and wife, Ardie, of Kalispell and Hemet, Calif., and Bill Smith and wife, Val, of Idaho Falls, Idaho; and several nieces and nephews.

At his request no services are planned.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nelson & Vial Funeral Home of Libby.

L. Violet Aker Smithers, 89

L. Violet Aker Smithers, 89, passed away at Bendan House on Thursday, March 29, 2001.

She was born Aug. 15, 1911, to Danish immigrants N. Emil and Betty Hansen in Tyler, Minn. After the death of her mother in 1919, she was raised by her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Jensen in Herman, Neb., where she finished high school, then moved to Kalispell in 1929.

She was married to James F. Aker on Dec. 24, 1930. He passed away on May 24, 1961. To this union one son was born, James J. Aker. She worked at the Sisters of Mercy Hospital from 1941 to 1946 and then in the offices of doctors Brasset, Griffis, Town, and Higgins until her retirement in 1970. She married Carl Smithers in 1970 and he passed away in 1974.

She was preceded in death by both husbands; her parents; three sisters; and a very special niece,

Mrs. Betty Balding.

She is survived by her son, James J. Aker; three grandchildren, Robin Aaseby and her husband, Jeff, James M. Aker and his wife, Sonja, Karen Campo and her husband, Mark; and four great-grandchildren, Alexander Campo, James P. Campo, Victoria Aker, and James D. Aker.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Johnson Mortuary with the Rev. Hal Irvine officiating. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be on Monday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The family requests that memorial contributions be made to the Montana Talking Book Library, 1515 E. 6th Avenue, P.O. Box 201800 Helena, MT 59620-1800 or to the Montana Association of the Blind, Attn. Hazel Stull, 317 7th Street South, Great Falls, MT 59405.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary.

John L. 'Smitty' Smithlin, 82

John L. "Smitty" Smithlin, 82, the unofficial mayor of Evergreen, passed away Friday, April 27, 2001, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center after a lengthy illness.

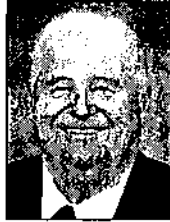
He was born on July 11, 1918, in Frazee, Minn., to Leon and Jessie Haney Smithlin.

John and his wife Carol arrived in the Flathead Valley in 1948. Together they started Smitty's Triple XXX on the corner of Montana Highway 2 and LaSalle, later adding Smitty's HiBoy. He then retired and opened Smitty's Beef Palace with his son Tom and wife Debbie, along with Carl's Take and Bake Pizza with his son Carl. John and his business partners then developed land in the Evergreen area into what is now Shopko, Perkins, Cellular One, Staples, and Super 1 Foods. During John's "retirement", he also drove cars for Avis, traveling all over the country.

The Smithlin family wishes to thank all the staff at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center, especially the staff at the Dialysis Center, Immanuel Lutheran Home, Dr. Sharpe, Dr. Wilson, and Dr. Erickson for your wonderful care. "We love you Dad and Grandpa."

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Donald and Harold; and a grandson, Christopher.

He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Carol; six children, son John Smithlin and his wife Jeannette of Tacoma, Wash., daughters, Caren Smithlin of Tacoma, Betty Cox and her husband Phil of American Fork, Utah, Joanne Dickinson of Williston, N.D.; sons, Tom Smithlin and his wife Debbie of Kalispell, and Carl Smithlin and his wife Susan of Puyallup, Wash.; 16 grandchildren, Mark, Tina, Tony, Shannon, Christie, Thomas, Caren, Jennifer, Geoffrey, Natalie, Robert, Josie, Stephanie, Alicia, Julia, and Emily; eight great-grandchildren, Jamie, John, Mark, Luke, Kelly, Christopher, TJ, and Jessi-



ca; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A mass of Christian burial will be held on Tuesday at 10 a.m. at Risen Christ Catholic

Church with the Rev. James Connor celebrant. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be Monday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary. A vigil service will be held Monday night at 7 p.m. at Risen Christ Catholic Church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Dorothy 'Dottie' Theresa Snyder

Dorothy "Dottie" Theresa Snyder, 70, passed away March 18, 2001, at her home in Martin City.

She was born Dec. 29, 1930, in Northwood, N. D., to Thorbin and Deborah Maurseth. She attended school in Nashua. On Jan. 25, 1947, she married Spud Snyder in Wolf Point. They moved to the Flathead in 1952.

She was president of the PTA and worked the election booth for many years. As an officer in the POA Club, she kept points, helped the announcer, and volunteered anywhere help was needed. She joined her husband in the POA Hall of Fame in 1999. She was a member of the Rocky Mountain Riders Saddle Club.

Her greatest joy was spending time with her family but she enjoyed hunting, walking, traveling, and following sports, especially wrestling. Her 50th wedding anniversary present was a long awaited trip to Hawaii. Last fall, she took a wonderful trip to England, Sweden, Ireland, and her ancestor's homeland in Norway.

As a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, and friend, her needs never came first. She was a caregiver



not only to family and friends, but also to anyone who had the privilege to know her. She touched so many lives and was a true angel on earth. "She will be greatly missed but will live in our hearts and our memories forever."

She was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Donald Maurseth.

She is survived by her husband Spud of Martin City; two sons, Gerry and his wife, Sharon, of Kalispell and Paul and his wife, Holly, of Columbia Falls; a daughter, Nina and her husband, Tom Ringo, of Ballantine; a brother, Arlie Maurseth; two sisters and their spouses, Mildred and Lester Nickels and Maryann and Del Thompson; and her grandchildren, Jason and Stephanie Snyder, Kim and Sean Vann, Beau and Melissa Snyder, Chad Snyder, Tyler Ringo, Cody Ringo; and great-grandchildren, Seth Parker, Caiti Snyder, Trenton Vann, and Joshua and Madison Snyder.

A viewing will be held today from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A memorial service will be held Saturday at 3 p.m. at the Canyon Elementary School in Hungry Horse.

Memorials may be made to the Wildcat Athletic Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 2732, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

James Paul Somerville, 89

James Paul Somerville, 89, died June 13, 2001, at Brendan House after a long struggle with cancer.

He was born in Gardiner, Mont., on Aug. 4, 1911, to Thomas and Margaret Lindemeyer Somerville. He completed elementary school there and graduated from Wilsall High School.

On Nov. 12, 1938, he married Verna Roe in Deer Lodge. Both worked for the National Park Service in Yellowstone Park. In September 1941, he enrolled at Curtiss Wright Tech in Glendale, Calif., where he pursued a course in master aviation mechanics. Upon completion of this course, he returned to his home in Yellowstone Park where his wife was employed and he could fish with his brother Thomas.

On Sept. 11, 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served until Sept. 15, 1945, having achieved the rank of aviation machinist mate, 1st class. He served as a crew chief on a Navy PBV submarine surveillance aircraft.

In November 1945, he and his wife moved to Kalispell to be with her ailing mother. They made their home in Kalispell where their two children were born, raised and educated.

He owned and operated a logging truck, then an oil tanker, and for a few years was in partnership with Charles and John Jellison in the Parkway Truck Stop in Kalispell. He helped set up the

two-way communications system that made it possible for loggers to communicate throughout the Flathead Valley.

He later was employed at the Kalispell Union 76 bulk plant, and in 1966 he accepted a management position with J. C. Penney Auto Center in the Spokane Valley. He worked there until retiring in 1976.

He and his wife continued residing in Spokane and enjoyed traveling to Washington, D.C., Europe and Australia to visit their children.

In 1993, they returned to Kalispell to be near their son. In retirement he was most happy serving as a volunteer in several capacities at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, and while there he made many new friends. He was also a lifetime member of the Elks.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother and a sister.

He is survived by his wife Verna; his son Roger, both of Kalispell; his daughter Susan and her husband Geoffrey Young of Canberra, A.C.T., Australia; two sisters-in-law, Francis Roe of Kalispell, and Marjorie Somerville of Livingston; and many nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

A memorial service is planned at a later date.

Memorials may be made in his honor to Home Options Hospice or a charity of the donor's choice.

Henrietta 'Henri' M. Nesvacil Solberg, 72

Henrietta "Henri" M. Nesvacil Solberg went home to be with the Lord on July 26, 2001, at her home in Whitefish of natural causes.

She was born Oct. 7, 1928, in Holland, Mich., the daughter of Henry and Anna Haas. She grew up and went to school in the Boyd, Wis., area.

On March 11, 1946, she married Lawrence Nesvacil in Cadott, Wis., and raised five children. In 1948, the family moved to Whitefish. She had various jobs over the years. She worked in the woods, as a waitress and cocktail waitress, to mention a few.

She also traveled and worked in Illinois, Colorado, Arizona, California and Washington.

In 1974, she married Albert Solberg in Seattle, Wash. They then returned to Whitefish where they have lived for the last 30 years.

She had many friends and was a noted letter writer. She played the piano by ear and could get your feet tapping to her ragtime music.

She loved gardens and growing tomatoes. She was always reading and was concerned with world problems and health issues. She was a member of the Catholic church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three sisters, Irene Egan, Shirley Fry and June Scuzs, two brothers, Leroy and Clarence Haas.

She is survived by her husband Al at the family home in Whitefish; three sons, Grant and wife Anita Nesvacil of Chelan, Wash., Tom and wife Elaine Nesvacil in Columbia Falls and Forrest Nesvacil in Whitefish; two daughters, Lori Avery in Milwaukee, Wis., and Leigh Ann Jenkins in Wisconsin; three grandchildren, Travis and Troy Nesvacil and Felicia Hall; three step-children; Merdie, Nancy and Duane; four step-grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. on Monday at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

Marilyn Ann Solum, 60

Marilyn Ann Solum, 60, passed away on Feb. 20, 2001, at her home in Somers.

She was born on Nov. 9, 1940, in Yakima, Wash., to Russell and Marietta Griffith. She attended schools in Orange County California.

She moved to Montana in 1970. She married Alan Solum in April of 1984 in Missoula.

She was very active in her community. She was a member of the labor liaison United Way committee, allocations committee for the United Way camp, proud blood donor with over six gallons of blood donated, member of the Montana Family Union, B.M. L.U. 312 HERE & B., president of the Hotel and Restaurant Workers State Association, coordinator of Coalition of Labor Union Women, secretary/treasurer Flathead area central labor council, had worked for 12 years as the director of the Labor Day picnic at Loon Lake 4-H campground, coordinator of the Project Challenge Work Again, Kalispell office, two terms Montana AFL-CIO executive board, was a proud member of the Bosom Buddies and Relay for Life team, and chairman for the Somers Water and Sewer District.

She was the owner and operator of Bayview Office Computing. She loved camping, fishing, and espe-



cially loved her children, grandchildren and great-grandson.

She was preceded in death by two infant daughters, Alice Louise and Maralin Shields; one brother, William Russell Griffith Jr.; and her grandson, Bradley Joe Solum, by whom she shall be laid to rest.

She is survived by her husband and soulmate Alan Solum; her parents, Russell and Margaret Griffith; and her mother Marrietta Griffith; daughters, Deborah and her husband, Randall Eickhorst, Barbara and her husband, Steven Reeder, Laural Solum, Pamela and her husband, Joe Pfau; sons, Joseph and his wife, Lorraine Shields, David and wife, Rose Solum, and Erik and his wife, Penny Solum; grandchildren, Melissa, Venus, Ryan, Micheal, Mathew, Erik Jr., Richard, Alicia; and great-grandson Andy; one brother, Joe Griffith, three sisters, Rosemary Clark, Peggy Torge and Nancy Griffith.

Visitation will be from 3 to 7 p.m. today at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home with the Rev. Richard Whittet officiating. Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. on Friday at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home with the Rev. Richard Whittet officiating. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

The family request memorials in her name be given to Home Options Hospice, or American Cancer Society.

Arrangements are under the direction of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Dorothy Staab, 90

Dorothy Staab, 90, passed away on Friday, March 17, 2001, at her home in Kalispell. She was born Aug. 14, 1910, to William Earnest Luke and Maude Sweeney on the family homestead northwest of Kalispell.

She attended Sparks School, where her Aunt Merle was her teacher, then business school in Missoula. In early life, she cooked for numerous lumber camps and played piano and guitar for dances. She married a neighbor, Laurence Staab, in 1935 and devoted her life to raising a family. Despite progressive blindness, she strived to maintain her independence. With the help of family and caregivers she was able to remain in her home to the age of 90, where she died peacefully in her sleep. Her positive spirit and quiet strength impressed everyone who got to know her.

Dorothy enjoyed gardening and "reading" the talking books. She was also a member of the Montana Association for the Blind.

She was preceded in death by her husband, an infant son, her

parents, one brother, LeRoy "Bud" and three sisters, Laura, Minnie and Elsie.

She is survived by four children, Ruth Julian of Martin City, Faye McLeland of Toledo, Ore., Roger Staab of Colfax, Calif., and Margaret Hubber of Helena; 12 grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; and two great-great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday at 10 a.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be at Johnson Mortuary on Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The family suggests that memorial contributions be sent to the Montana Association for the Blind, Attn: Mrs. Hazel Stull, 317 Seventh St. S., Great Falls, MT 59405, or to the Agency on Aging; or to Northwest Montana Human Resources, Inc., 214 Main St., Kalispell MT 59901, or to any home care facility of choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Robert A. 'Bob' Stacy, 54

Robert A. "Bob" Stacy, 54, Hume, Mo., passed away Nov. 6, 2001.

He is survived by his beloved Freda "Ann" Peak; son Shane A. Stacy; daughters, Candie Hess, Kathie Al-Ghsein; brothers, James "Lucky" Stacy, Dennis Stacy, Norman "Gene" Stacy; sister Carolyn Tonkesion; stepchildren, Jimmie and Jamie Cureton, Kelly Peak;

and 10 grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. on Monday at Charter Funerals/Kansas Chapel, 10250 W. 63rd St., Merriam, Kan. Visitation will be Sunday from 1-3 p.m. at the chapel.

Memorial contributions may be made to Bates County Hospice, 615 W. Nursery, P.O. Box 370, Butler, MO 64730.

Lillian Stanfield, 80

Lillian Stanfield, 80, passed away on May 24, 2001, at her home in Kalispell, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born Aug. 19, 1920, in Choteau, to Louis and Marie Skimmeli Owens. She received her early education in Choteau, and continued with a focus on chemistry at University of Montana in Missoula. After three years she moved to Great Falls where she received her certification as a laboratory technician.

She began work at the Deaconess Hospital during which time she met Donald Stanfield. They were married on March 7, 1947 in Bozeman. The couple spent most of their married life in Great Falls operating a gas station and finally a miniature golf business until 1981. They then moved to Finley Point where they resided until 1994 when the couple moved to Kalispell.

She was very involved in craft work of all kinds, especially art and painting. She enjoyed spend-



ing time with her neighbors but could not get enough of the special relationship she had with her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

She is survived by her son Donald Stanfield and wife Kathi of Finley Point; one sister, Bergliot Absjornlot of Oppdal, Norway; two brothers, John Owens and wife Pauline of Polson, and Carl Owens and wife Daryl of Mesa, Ariz.; also eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday at the Johnson Mortuary Chapel with the Rev. Scott Johnston of the Dwelling Place officiating. Burial will follow at Lakeview Cemetery in Polson.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Vernon Melvin Stanton, 85

Vernon Melvin Stanton died Aug. 18, 2001. He was born near New Meadows, Idaho, on Jan. 16, 1916, to Charles and Martha Stanton.

He married Gloria Salisbury in 1939 and raised four daughters and two grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Gloria; four daughters including Wendy Kleker and her husband, John, of Trego; 13 grandchildren, 29

great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters and his daughter, Joyce.

Memorial services will be at 4 p.m. today at Fortine Community Church. Interment will take place prior to services at Fortine Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Larry Dean Steffenson, 53

Larry Dean Steffenson, 53, died on April 28, 2001.

He was born in Kalispell, on July 30, 1947, the son of Irene and O.B. "Steff" Steffenson. He attended school in Kalispell and graduated Flathead High School in 1965.

He and his former wife Sharon had one beautiful daughter, Dee Ann who currently resides in Phoenix, Ariz.

He worked a variety of jobs from Boeing in Seattle, to oil refineries in California and once was a co-owner of a "mac" farm in the Flathead Valley with his uncle Duane Olson. His love of fishing, friends and the outdoors brought him back to the Flathead Valley.

He and his long-time childhood friend, Larry Baker, were insepa-

rable. Fishing and huckleberries filled most of their days.

He was best known for his comic wit. He was loved by all who knew him, and will be greatly missed by all his friends and family.

He was preceded in death by his father, "Steff" in 1990.

He is survived by his daughter, DeeAnn Steffenson of Arizona; mother Irene of Kalispell; sister Cheryl A. Thompson; and brother, Wayne of Washington; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

There will be private services for the family. On Thursday, everyone is welcome to celebrate his life with a reception at 3 p.m. at the Eagles Club.

Cremation will take place at Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Kathryn K. Sterling, 79

Kathryn K. Sterling, 79, passed away on Dec. 9, 2001, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She was born on May 28, 1922, in Bricelyn, Minn., to Gerhard and Gertie Savick Haugland.

Kathryn received her education in Bricelyn, where she met and married Carson D. Sterling on May 19, 1941, before moving to Pennsylvania. They were blessed with three children. Kathryn and Carson were both members of the Moose Lodge #1922 and Fraternal Order #234 Eagles in Kalispell.

After spending 20 years in Colorado, and raising their children



in Austin, Minn., Kathryn and Carson retired to the Flathead Valley in 1980.

Kathryn was preceded in death by her husband, Carson; her parents and her brother Orlando.

She is survived by two sons, Carson David Sterling III and wife Carol of Scottsdale, Ariz., Milton "Guy" Sterling and wife Pam of Spokane; one daughter, Susan L. Martinez of Lakewood, Colo.; six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held today at 2 p.m. at the Moose Lodge in Kalispell. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until noon today at Johnson Mortuary.

Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Glenn Arley Stevens, 88

Glenn Arley Stevens, 88, of Whitefish, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2001, at the Heritage Place nursing home in Kalispell after a 15-year battle with cancer.

He was born April 8, 1913, in Whitefish, to Clara A. and Ira B. Stevens. He was raised in Whitefish and graduated from high school in 1931.

He married Florence Garr on July 27, 1933, in Libby. He bought his first truck and hauled men and equipment for the WPA and then hauled railroad ties. His first son Philip was born and the family lived at a work camp at Avalanche Creek while he worked on the construction of rock walls and bridges in Glacier National Park. He also drove dump trucks and freight trucks at this time.

A second son, Jerry was born. In 1941, he started working on the railroad as a brakeman until 1945. He then bought a new truck and moved to Eureka to haul logs and railroad ties for the clearing of Hungry Horse Dam. Later, he started his own logging business and logged for Superior Building and Lumber Company in Columbia Falls.

For 20 years he owned and operated a gas station and grocery store in Columbia Heights. He also owned and operated a school bus for 20 years for the Whitefish schools. Every year he took all of his bus kids for a picnic at Lake Blaine Resort when school was out. He also took them to the movies every Christmas.

Glenn retired in 1971 and he and his wife did extensive traveling in the southern states and also Alaska. For many years he took joy in packing his horses and going into the Bob Marshall Wilderness on hunting and fishing trips.

His wife Florence passed away in 1986 after 53 years of marriage. He later married and is survived by Opal Baker.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife Florence; son Jerry in 1964; a sister, Beth Brown; brothers, Allan, Earl, Hollis, Harold and Jack Stevens; half-brothers, Dennis, Darwin, Rollin, Robert and Ira Jr.; and half-sis-

ters, Hazel Darwin and Phyllis Hall.

He is survived by a son, Phil and wife Karen in Whitefish; granddaughters Cheri Stevens of Whitefish, Teri Stevens in Big Arm; a grandson, Doug Stevens in Whitefish; great-grandchildren Tyler and Taylor in Whitefish; half-brothers Lewis in Fortine and Delbert in Lolo; a half-sister Sylvia Riggs; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until noon on Monday at the Austin Funeral Home. Funeral services will be 1 p.m. on Monday at the funeral home with the Rev. David V. Kauffman officiating. Burial will follow at the Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell.

The family suggests that any memorials be made to the Flathead Valley Hospice.

Bernice Sterner, 82

Bernice Sterner, 82, passed away on Oct. 29, 2001, at Brendan House in Kalispell, Montana. She was born March 2, 1919, on her folks' homesite at Ophem, the daughter of Sig and Tillie Suiter Holmes.



She attended lower grade school there, and moved with her parents to Kalispell, where she finished her education and graduated from Flathead High School in 1937.

On Nov. 30, 1939, she married Harry Sterner. They lived here most of their lives except for a few years in Seattle, Wash., during the war and a few years at the Hungry Horse project during the construction of the Hungry Horse Dam. Her husband worked on the dam from the beginning until its completion.

She was a life-time member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell. She was a member of the Senior Citizens Association, the Scandinavian Fraternity of America Lodge #233, and the Eagles Lodge #234 where she was on the drill team, held a position

as an officer, and was inducted into the Eagles Hall of Fame a couple of years ago. She also worked for Coca-Cola for 20 years until she retired in 1984.

She was preceded in death by her husband Harry in 1966, her son in 1968, her parents, and four brothers, including one brother Lyle who shared the same birthday as Bernice, only seven years apart.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Lalonie Bec and her husband Arden of Otis Orchards, Wash., and Mrs. Linda Grilley and her husband Roger of Kalispell; two sister-in-laws, Mary Holmes of Post Falls, Idaho, and Marge Holmes of Westby, Wis.; nine grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Funeral services will be held on Friday at 11 a.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with Rev. Herb Knutsen officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be on Thursday at Johnson Mortuary from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Mildred Leon Hays Siefke Stevens, 80

Mildred Leon Hays Siefke Stevens, 80, went to be with her Lord on Jan. 27, 2001.

She was born on Feb. 12, 1920, in Streeter, N.D., to Leslie and Margaret Hays. Her family moved to the Seattle, Wash., area in 1933. She had five brothers and five sisters. She is survived by three sisters — Nellie; Ida; and her twin sister, Margaret.

She met her husband Paul O. Siefke while working in the shipyards in Seattle. They were married in 1942. They moved to Libby, where she raised her family — Tom Siefke of Missoula; Joy Galloway of Stanwood, Wash.; Gayle Parker, Dayle Mercier and Steve Siefke, all of Kalispell; Patricia Graham of Heron; and Alan Siefke of Rapid City, Mich. She had 19 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren.

While living in Libby, she worked at the Libby High School in the laundry room. She married George Stevens in 1967. He

passed away in 1971. She then moved to Kalispell to be closer to her family. While living in Kalispell, she worked at the Kalispell Regional Hospital until she retired.

She was a creative and handy person with her hands. Everyone will miss her great sense of humor and quick smile. She loved to sing, yodel and play guitar. Her other hobbies included quilting, sewing, collecting things and drawing. Her dog Widgett was a very special friend and companion of hers for over 17 years. To her many nieces and nephews, she is their favorite Auntie Midge.

Visitation will be from 2 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, with the Rev. Tim Bartholomew officiating. Cremation will follow the services. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Ruth A. Stevens, 66

Ruth A. Stevens, 66, of Columbia Falls, died Jan. 1, 2001, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She was born July 19, 1934, in Valley City, N. D.

She married Cal B. Stevens. She moved to this area with her family in 1983.

She is survived by her husband, Cal at the family home;

her four daughters, a son and their families; 13 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren; a sister, a brother and their families.

A private memorial service will be held Saturday.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to KAMTA Music Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 11056,

Violet June Barthuly Sticka, 71

Violet June Barthuly Sticka, 71, died Nov. 3, 2001 at her home in Bridger.

She was born June 24, 1930, in Laurel, to Carl and Barbara Barthuly. She married Arnie Sticka on June 14, 1949, in Fromberg.

She was preceded in death by her parents and other siblings.

She is survived by her husband Arnie; two sons including Larry and wife Wanda of Whitefish; a daughter; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; three brothers and one sister.

Services were held Nov. 5 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bridger.

Laura O. Stjern, 93

Laura O. Stjern, 93, passed away at Heritage Place in Kalispell, on March 17, 2001.

She was born on a farm near Willmont, Minn., on Aug. 23, 1907. She was the second oldest of 13 children born to Mathias and Lena Mattson, who had met on a ship coming to the U.S. from Norway in 1902.

At the age of 22, she left home for employment in North Dakota. It was in Grand Forks, and there she met her husband, Andrew, who had emigrated from Norway at the age of 19. They were married in a beautiful lawn wedding held at the farm of her parents.

They moved to Cut Bank in 1937, living in the same home for 57 years.

She always remained involved in church and community activities. She found joy with her special talent in teaching young people through her 15 years of 4-H leadership. She instructed and guided youth in gardening and home arts.

She was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and a charter member of the Women of the Moose and Sons of Norway. She was also very active in the senior

citizen's groups.

She was always eager to play bridge, pinochle or whist with others and loved working in her garden.

She was a resident of Heritage Place in Kalispell since June 1996.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1994.

She is survived by three children, Lorene Dyrdaahl and her husband, Lee, of Kalispell, Annette McSheffrey, Vivian Sandwisch and her husband, Merle, both of Cupertino, Calif.; seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren; two brothers, Leonard Mattson of Cut Bank, and Vernon Mattson of Lake Park, Minn.; four sisters, Olga Freed of Cut Bank, Lillian Lindemoen of East Grand Forks, Minn., Opal Forness of Moorhead, Minn., and Ruth Iversen of Pueblo, Colo., and many nieces and nephews.

Those who wish may make memorial contributions to the St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cut Bank or to the donor's choice.

Gravesite services will be held today with arrangements under the direction of Day Funeral Home. Burial will be at Crown Hill Cemetery.

Lloyd Robert Stocker, 68

Lloyd Robert Stocker, 68, of Shelby, a retired truck driver, passed away on April 4, 2001, at a Great Falls Hospital due to renal failure.

He was born June 19, 1932 in Jordan, to Henry and Bessie Stowell Stocker. He grew up and was educated in Jordan.

He married Lucille Bossler on June 19, 1960, in Great Falls, and they celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary last year. The couple lived in several different places, including the Kalispell area where he was a construction worker, a ranch hand for the Lost Trail Ranch, C&C Plywood Co., a logger and also a log truck driver. He and his wife had lived in Shelby for the past 15 years where he retired as a tanker truck driver in 1993.

He was a member of the Eagles Club in Kalispell, enjoyed playing cards and watching John Wayne western movies.

He is survived by his wife Lucille of Shelby; daughters Michelle and husband, John Brandvold, of Shelby, Kari and husband, Roy Brown, of Billings, Wendy Bradley of Salt Lake City, and Marty Ann Bradley of Albuquerque, N.M.; sons, Robert and wife, Lisa Stocker, of Litchfield, Ill., and Raymond and wife, Dona, of Shelby; sisters, Matilda Leach of Eagle, Idaho, and Vanna McDonald of Meridian, Idaho; one brother, Henry Stocker of Cohagen; 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his

parents, one half brother and one infant granddaughter.

Memorial services will be today at 2 p.m. at the Whitted Funeral Chapel. Burial of ashes will be in the Flathead Valley at a later date.

Memorials are suggested to the American Diabetes Association, 3203 Third Ave. N., Ste. 203, Billings, MT 59101-1945.

Betty P. Stockhill, 79

Betty P. Stockhill, 79, died of natural causes April 1, 2001, in Mesa, Ariz., where she was vacationing for the winter.

She was born Feb. 24, 1922, in Oskaloosa, Iowa, to John and Lena Poe.

She graduated from high school and attended Penn College in Oskaloosa. She married Ensign L. E. "Larry" Stockhill, then of Miles City, on Dec. 11, 1943, in Oskaloosa. They lived there while he was stationed at Ottumwa Naval Air Station. After World War II, they moved to Miles City for two years, then to Whitefish for 10 years, and then to Kalispell. She worked as an assistant



librarian for five years; as secretary and bookkeeper at C&C Plywood Corporation for 21 years; and also worked at her husband's business of Flathead Air Transport and Stockhill Aviation.

She enjoyed drawing and painting, golf, bridge, swimming and line-dancing.

She was preceded in death by one son, Douglas Stockhill, who was killed in an airplane crash in 1976.

She is survived by her husband Larry Stockhill of Kalispell; son Michael Stockhill of Polson; granddaughter Ashley Stockhill of Renton, Wash.; and a brother, Jack Poe of Wapello, Iowa.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Ray Webster Stoddard joined his Father in Heaven and ancestors on Nov. 19, 2001, following a car accident south of Logan, Utah.

He is survived by wife, Thelma of Victor; daughters, Teresa of Salt Lake City, Utah. Shauna Gellis of Logan, Utah and Shelli Kenworthy and Christian of Butte; sons, Michael and Lorice of Orem, Utah, Nyle and Lisa of Logan, Theron and Julie of Alpine, Utah, Ki of Bountiful, Utah; 24 grandchildren and one great-grandson

Ray was born Nov. 23, 1924, in a two-story farmhouse situated on the Old Experimental Farm in Jerome, Idaho. He was the twelfth child of Catherine Coffin and William Henry Stoddard. Much of his education took place in and around Salmon, Idaho.

He decided upon ranching and farming as a livelihood, raising hay, grain, peas, potatoes, cattle and horses. He and his brother, Frank, specialized in seed potatoes. The July 3, 1947 edition of the Post Register of Idaho Falls, published photos and an article about the Stoddard Brothers and their Rogue-Mobile, designed for roguing inferior plants and able to cover two rows at a time. They sent a 100-pound sack of seed potatoes by air from Lemhi County to Saudi Arabia in an effort to cultivate a sturdy King Russet overseas. The brothers converted their 58-acre farm into the state's largest commercial producer of registered seed potatoes at that time.

In 1949, Ray commenced a career in the field of real estate, in Missoula, where he worked as salesman, broker and independent contractor until 1956. He was employed as a field representative and appraiser for J. L. Cooper and Company, then later advanced to vice president and general manager of the Western Montana office. He was an outstanding employee of Commerce Mortgage Company in Portland, Sherwood and Roberts Company and First Security Realty Services in Salt Lake City. Eventually he went into private practice. Professional peers referred to him as a "natural" in the world of mortgage banking. As an appraiser he attained the designation of M.A.I. which is the equivalent of an M.D. in the field of medicine.

Ray loved the land and obtained deep satisfaction from his connection with the earth; hiking camping, planting and tending nursery stock, observing nature and feeding "his" wild turkeys. He was an enthusiastic four-wheeler before the sport was in vogue, and he took his family on many unforgettable adventures.

All who knew Ray over the years can attest to his razor-sharp wit and unparalleled sense of humor, which delighted most and eluded some. He had a tender and generous heart and a well-defined sense of justice. Hard work, hon-

esty, integrity and moral balance were signature traits by which he was consistently recognized. His conduct in business, family matters, friendship or pleasurable pursuits reflected these innate qualities.

Ray was a staunch defender of the Constitution of the United States of America. He honored those who sacrificed indescribably to found this country. He believed to the end in its divine purpose and destiny.

Ray was a devout and actively involved member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In nearly all auxiliaries he held numerous and varied positions. These included Branch President, Elders Quorum President; Young Men's President; High Priest; Seventy; Boy Scout leader; Ward Mission Leader; Gospel Doctrine Teacher; faithful Home Teacher; and much more.

A favorite niche for Ray was the Visitor's Center at the Salt Lake City LDS Temple, where he conducted tours and exemplified his beliefs for people from all walks of life and geographic locations. His most recent calling was that of a CES instructor. He thoroughly enjoyed the opportunities and challenges of teaching. He was an example of true Christianity and he did, indeed, practice what he preached.

His life had immeasurable impact and influence in the lives of those around him and in the lives of many he never knew. He inspired us, encouraged us, entertained us, sustained us, teased us, taught us, taught us some more, served us, served with us, chastised and corrected us when warranted, loved and comforted us when we least deserved it, and gave us far more than his all. One of the great ones has passed on, and we will surely miss him.

A viewing will be held Tuesday, December 4, 2001 from 12:30 to 2 p.m., at the LDS Stake Center, 135 North "A" Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. Memorial Service will follow at the LDS Hospital Auditorium (Rooms A&B), from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Enter directly from "C" Street just north of the main entrance to the hospital. The entrance is marked "B". Interment will take place Wednesday, December 5, 2001, 1 p.m., at the Paris, Idaho Cemetery.

For further information, please refer to www.stoddard.org

Many thanks to Allen-Hall Mortuary of Logan, Utah, for assistance and arrangements. The family of Ray W. Stoddard extends tremendous gratitude to all those who have expressed condolences and offered their services during this difficult time.

Marvin D. 'Mike' Storkson, 71

Marvin D. "Mike" Storkson, 71, a Montana native residing in Hot Springs, passed away at his home on Sept. 29, 2001, after a long battle with cancer. He was born March 31, 1930, in Glasgow to George and Margaret Miller Storkson. In 1932, the family moved to Kalispell and shortly thereafter to Whitefish. He attended school in Whitefish.

At the age of 16, he went to work for Northwest Lumber Co. In the 1950s, he worked for Slim Evans who ran a sawmill. During this employment he worked for \$1.00 per hour, being promoted to cat operator after a short time, running his first HD-5 cat, skidding logs. Later he worked for Woods and Dempsey Sawmill at Stillwater Lake near Olney. Afterward, he worked for Superior Buildings Co. in Columbia Falls, then Hamilton Construction Co. in Whitefish, operating heavy equipment. During the winter months for 45 years through the 1980s, he worked for Big Mountain Ski area. He then worked for L. Peter Larson of Olney and retired.

After his retirement, he moved to Hot Springs where he has resided since. He enjoyed fishing and hunting, and his many friends. He had a great sense of humor and always had a witty comeback.

Survivors include his former wife Twila Sagen; daughter Michelle and granddaughter Nakomi of Columbia Falls; three sisters, Eloise Egtvedt of Dillon, Shirley Emery of Troy, Betty Whitman of Whitefish; three brothers, Richard Storkson of Troy, Carl Storkson and Delbert Storkson, both of Olney; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and many, many dear friends.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with Rev. Ronald Meyers officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials may be made to the Clark Valley Hospice Program, P.O. Box 768, Plains, MT 59859.

Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Elnora H. Martinson Hall Stricker, 77

Elnora H. Martinson Hall Stricker, 77, passed away peacefully in her home on Oct. 7, 2001.

She was born July 19, 1924, in Ismay, to Nels and Elsie Martinson. In 1935, she moved to Creston in the Many Lakes area. She went to school in Creston and graduated from Flathead County High School.

In 1942, she married Ted Hall in California. From this union four children were born: Eileen, Gene, Bill and Larry. She resumed schooling at a Billings business college while raising her family.

She moved back to Kalispell in 1967, where she worked as a grocery checker at B&B for seven years, then Norwest Bank for four and a half years, and then retired.

She was a Cub Scout leader, a mom and grandma to everyone.

In June 1994, she married Henry Stricker from Eureka. They moved to Kalispell the same year.

The loves of her life were her family, dancing and camping. Her family and friends will remember her for her generosity, kindness and love. "We will miss her deeply."

She was preceded in death by her parents; her children's father



Ted Hall; her son Sgt. Maj. Eugene Hall; three brothers, Lloyd, Glen, and Elfred Martinson.

She is survived by her husband Henry Stricker; daughter Eileen Pearson and husband Jim of Medford, Ore.; sons, Bill Hall and wife Aleta, Larry Hall and wife Brenda, all of Kalispell; daughter-in-law Diane Hall; grandchildren Michael Kelley and friend Tina Fidler, Kari Kearns, Andrea Hall, Darren Hall and wife Carly, Tyler Hall, Chris Hall, David Hall, Bryce Hall, all of Kalispell, Deannie Pearson, Mark Pearson and wife Debbie and Brent Pearson of Medford, Ore.; six great-grandchildren; stepdaughters and their families including Penny Brinton of Kalispell; her brothers, Bill Martinson and wife Rae Marie of Spokane, Carl Martinson and friend Dorie of Polson; sisters Opal Larson and husband Jim of Sheiby, Ann Lucas and husband Don of Polson, Della Dooley and husband Hugh of Oklahoma City, Okla.; numerous nieces and nephews; and many close friends.

"Thank you for all your love," and in her words to those she loved, "Thank you for a loving life and love you all much."

Visitation is today from 1-5 p.m. at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral service is at 1 p.m. on Thursday at Trinity Lutheran Church with Rev. Dan Worster officiating.

Lawrence Bittenhouse Stringfellow, 72

Lawrence Bittenhouse Stringfellow, 72, passed to the other side on Oct. 1, 2001.

He was born in Columbia Falls, on Aug. 22, 1929, to Martin and Florence Stringfellow. He followed his dream and moved to Fairbanks, Alaska in 1970. He lived in Fairbanks for 31 years.

He was a graduate of Columbia Falls High School. Logging was a natural transition for him as a young man. He also drove gravel trucks and repaired heavy equipment on many construction jobs around the state such as the Hungry Horse Dam construction as well as the Going-to-the-Sun highway, a train tunnel near Libby, and road construction at Choteau.

Working for E.J. Lundstrom acquainted him with his future wife, Donna. A crowning event was their marriage on Aug. 12, 1953, in Missoula. But the would-be prospector continued to work a shipping and moving business until a near fatal accident. He recovered and began a selling career of quality meats and refrigerators. He had a mechanical gift and is well known for his ingenuity and inventiveness. After moving to Alaska, he started working

at N.C. Machinery in 1970, becoming a shop foreman. He also worked as a heavy-duty mechanic for Carrington (International) Co. In 1975 he "retired" to begin the on-going adventure of Alaska placer mining.

His heart was broken in 1991 with the passing of his beloved wife, Donna. He also lost a daughter in 1976. His brother Norman preceded his death this last February. He looked forward to a reunion with his loved ones.

He leaves behind a son, Marc and daughter Estellita "Chrisy" Boyle, both of Fairbanks, Alaska; as well as grandchildren, Christopher, Bobbie, Holly, Benjamin, Casey and Sean Boyle. Fondly, a brother "Budd" M. S. Stringfellow of Columbia Falls, remains.

He served as a Stake Missionary for the Lord in 1980 and as a Cub Scout leader. He served as a Sunday school president, sang in the Ward choir, and served as second counselor to the Third Ward Bishopric in 1999.

A graveside service will be held on Thursday at 1 p.m. at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Arrangements are under the direction of Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Norman Madison Stringfellow, 79

Norman Madison Stringfellow, 79, died of a heart attack at his home in Columbia Falls on Feb. 15, 2001.

He was born on May 1, 1921, in Columbia Falls.

After attending elementary and high school in Columbia Falls, he graduated in 1939. He married Jeannie Wendt in 1940. They had one daughter, Judy. Later they were divorced.

He served in the CCC for two years and worked for the U.S. Forest Service clearing trails and on lookout duty during the summers of 1939-41. He then worked at various jobs associated with the war effort before and after World War II was declared. He joined the service in September 1943. He received extensive training in flight and engineer school before being honorably discharged in 1945.

Diesel mechanic and construction work kept him occupied until he attended Montana State College in Bozeman in 1950. While there, he met Alvina "Nikki" Warwood. They were married in 1953 and settled in Columbia Falls. He began logging so he could work for himself. Over the years, he saw many improvements in the equipment and methods used, but it was still hard work every day. Two of his most challenging jobs were clearing some of the logs that were cut in the construction of Hungry Horse Dam and, later, moving logs logged from the perimeter of the reservoir in booms pulled on the reservoir itself behind an ex-military amphibious vehicle.

He and Nikki built an unusual home at the foot of Columbia Mountain in 1963. There they



raised their three children: René, Tiki and Ty. The deer and other wildlife that frequented the yard and the beauty of the mountain provided endless entertainment.

He was a capable mechanic and never shirked from hard work. He loved cars and making them go fast. Hunting was one of his greatest joys. He hunted every year of his adult life and shot elk, deer, moose and antelope. Camping and exploring the great outdoors were activities he loved and passed on to his entire extended family. Climbing Columbia Mountain 28 times as a teen was one of his proudest achievements. He passed the time playing cards until the very end. He won high at the senior center pinocle game with his highest score ever the week he died.

He is survived by his wife, Nikki Stringfellow, at the family home; his daughters, Judy Hall and her husband, Lenard, of Tallahassee, Fla., René Mountain of Columbia Falls, and Tiki Levinson and her husband, Alan, of Naknek, Alaska; seven grandchildren, Erika Pollner of San Diego, Tara Norick of Columbia Falls, Dierdra Dougherty of Landenberg, Penn., Michael Mountain of Columbia Falls, Shawn Mountain of Great Falls, Taylor and Thea Levinson of Naknek, Alaska; five great-grandchildren; brothers, Martin "Budd" Stringfellow and his wife, Arliss, of Columbia Falls, and Lawrence "Happy" Stringfellow, Fairbanks, Alaska; and a dear family friend, Ilse Bailey.

His parents, Martin L. and Florence Feirstein Stringfellow, and his beloved son, Ty Stringfellow, preceded him death.

The funeral services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Lauralyn 'Lorri' Stromer, 55

Lauralyn "Lorri" Stromer, 55, completed the cycle of life on Wednesday, May 23, 2001.

She was a self-described free spirit, whose biggest loves in life were dreams, laughter, and the compassion of friendship.

She was born on Sept. 28, 1945, to Dorothy and Joseph Bergeson in Helena.

After graduating from the University of Montana Western in Dillon with a bachelor's degree in education, she imparted care and wisdom to the many students she taught in Rapid City, S.D. Her quest for new experiences and new dreams took her to St. Cloud, Minn. in the mid '80s, where she raised her children and made many lasting friendships. In the mid '90s, she journeyed to Phoenix, where the desert sun-

shine mirrored the warmth of her smile. In all places she landed, she made many friends who will carry her fondly in their memory.

She is survived by daughter, Jennifer Stromer-Galley of Philadelphia, Pa.; son, Mark Stromer of Minneapolis; and sisters and brother, Nancy Williams of Dillon, Shele Appgar of East Helena, Joseph Bergeson of Kalispell; cousin, Joanne Anderson of Clancy; and nieces and nephews.

Her parents preceded her in death.

Memorial gifts may be made in her name to Hospice of Arizona, 2222 W. Northern Ave., Suite A-100, Phoenix, AZ 85021.

A private memorial service was held Saturday in Phoenix.

Leonard Strong

Leonard Allen "Sparky" Strong, 56, resident of Greybull, Wyo., died at his residence on Jan. 20, 2001.

He was born Sept. 3, 1944, in Rockford, Ill., to Ralph and Fern (Leonard) Strong. He received his schooling in Rockford, Ill.

On Oct. 23, 1961, he joined the Navy serving in the Vietnam War, he was honorably discharged Oct. 8, 1970. He worked as a electrician in the Navy and in the Merchant Marines. Due to ill health he retired from the Merchant Marines in 1988. He lived many years in Martin City. He moved to Greybull, Wyo., in 1992. On May 19, 1997, he married Jingyan Guan in Greybull, Wyo.

He was a member of the N.R.A. He loved the sea, enjoyed fishing, hunting and traveling.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Judy Strong, and son, Wade.

He is survived by his wife, Jingyan Guan of San Francisco; his children, Cliff Strong, U. S. Navy of Great Lakes, Ill., Doug Strong of Martin City, Don Strong of Seattle, Jack Strong of Roseburg, Ore., and Debbie Lambert of Portland, Ore.; a sister, Jackie Sherman of Rockford, Ill.; and four grandchildren.

Full military graveside service will be today, Jan. 25, at 2 p.m., at the Hillside Cemetery in Greybull, Wyo. The Rev. Kent Dempsey will officiate the service.

Robert E. 'Bob' Stubbs Jr., 58

Robert E. "Bob" Stubbs Jr., 58, passed away May 8, 2001, in Kalispell, due to a tragic logging accident.

He was born Jan. 23, 1943, in Kalispell, to Robert E. Sr., and Betty Dofelmire Stubbs.

He attended Kalispell schools and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1961 and was honorably discharged in 1964. After completing basic training in San Diego, he served aboard the USS Ranger. He then began his logging career with John Jump Logging and worked several years for them. He then went to Alaska to work on the Alaskan pipe line before returning to Kalispell in 1975 where he continued his career at John Jump Logging.

At the time of his death he was working for Wagar logging. He was an avid stock car racer and was involved in racing for 30 years. He also was active in Motocross racing with his son Robbi. He was a volunteer fireman for Evergreen Fire Department for three years.

On March 14, 1964, he married Loma Guy and they were later divorced. To this union were born two daughters, Laurie Ann and Lorraine "Rainey."

In 1982, he married Runelle Clark and they were later divorced. To this union was born a son, Robbi.

He was a devoted father, husband, and son and was a great friend to many. He was blessed with a loving and caring family who will miss him greatly. The family will find comfort that he is



with his Lord and family members that have preceded him in death.

He was preceded in death by his parents, daughter Lorraine "Rainey" Demoulin, numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He is survived by son Robbi Stubbs of Helena; daughter Laurie Brandt and husband Sam; son-in-law Mike Demoulin and two grandchildren, April and Mike; granddaughter and husband Heather and Travis Gariner, all of Castle Rock, Colo.; grandson Matt Woodring of Kalispell; brother Dave Lawrance of California; half sisters, Jeri Sisk, Donna of Idaho, Sandy Mansir and husband Bud, Tammy Hendrickson, Elsie "Kookie" and Mark Holcomb; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requests that donations be sent to Darrel Guy, 418 Eighth Ave. W., Kalispell MT 59901, to help with funeral expenses due to no insurance.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Community Alliance Church, 348 Second Ave. W., with the Rev. Jim Davey and the Rev. Ron Pierce officiating. Burial with military honors will follow the services at Fairview Cemetery. A reception will be held at the church community hall following the burial.

Raceway Park is going to have a special memorial during races on Saturday.

Visitation will be at Johnson Mortuary today from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Robert F. Stuart, 65

Robert F. Stuart, 65, a rancher and thoroughbred horse trainer and breeder, passed away Jan. 26, 2001, at his home on the Jocko River near Arlee.

He was born Dec. 4, 1935, in Chicago to Max J. and Mildred C. Stuart. He is survived by his wife, Susan, of Arlee; two sons, Clinton C. Stuart of Edmond, Okla., and R. Scott Stuart of Colorado Springs, Colo.; two daughters, Jennifer M. Saavedra of Monrovia, Calif., and Sandra E. Jenners of Kailua, Hawaii; and nine grandchildren.

He also is survived by his brother, Dr. Frank C. Stuart of Miami, Fla., and former wife, Mary Ellen Stuart of Phoenix, Ariz.

Reared in Albuquerque, N.M., he was a leader in many areas. He farmed and produced professional rodeos in New Mexico until moving in 1957 to Colorado, where he founded and operated the Skylark Ranch Company Inc. in the north central mountains near Kremmling. He pioneered the crossbreeding of Charolais cattle in Colorado, and was an organizer and president of the Rocky Mountain Charolais Association.

In the mid-1960s he began train-



ing racehorses and was a well-known trainer at Turf Paradise in Phoenix as well as at Centennial Race Track in Denver. In 1980, he moved the ranching operation to Montana, settling near Pablo. He continued to produce and back-ground cattle, but also became active in breeding thoroughbred racehorses. He was recognized many times as the owner of Black Mackee, one of the nation's leading sires of stakes winning horses. Known for his love of animals, stewardship of the environment, business acumen, judge of character, and wit, he was liked by all who knew him.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30, at the Grogan Funeral Home in Polson. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, at the Jocko Valley Catholic Church, with the Rev. Drew Maddock officiating. There will be a visitation from 10 a.m. until service time at the church. Interment will be held on the Stuart Ranch. Pallbearers will be Bud Hendrickson, Ray Norgaard, Ted Schall, Randy Hovit, Lee Hestekin, Dan Barney, Gene Starlin and Tom Richwine.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the St. Joseph Hospital Dialysis Center, 6 - 12th Ave. E., Polson, MT 59860. Arrangements are under the direction of Grogan Funeral Home, Polson.

Clarice Elaine Sullivan, 75

Clarice Elaine Sullivan, 75, passed away on Dec. 20, 2001, from natural causes.

She was born on June 21, 1926, in Moulton, Iowa, to Glen and Celia Mason. She was raised in Des Moines, Iowa, and graduated from North High School.

While at North High she met the love of her life, Robert M. Sullivan. They eloped while he was on leave from the Army Air Corps during World War II. Following the war she lived in Des Moines and worked while her husband attended Drake University in Des Moines.

In 1952, Clarice, her husband and two children, Mark and Marsha moved to northwest Montana, originally settling in Kalispell and then moving to Whitefish. She was a homemaker, while her husband worked as a public accountant in Whitefish. Her youngest child, Patrice, was born in Whitefish.

When her three children were all of school age, she rejoined the work force and worked for several years at the Conrad Bank in Kalispell, and then with her husband in his CPA office in Whitefish.

She and Robert were active in the early years of the Whitefish Winter Carnival and worked sev-

eral years to help the winter carnival grow. She later went to work for Schellinger Construction where she worked until she retired.

She was active in retirement as a volunteer at North Valley Hospital, at the Studio, and with the Whitefish Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors and enjoyed friendships with other volunteers in those organizations.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Robert; and her brother, Paul Mason.

She is survived by her sister, Marjorie Clemens of Moline, Ill.; her son and his wife, Mark and Robbie Sullivan of Whitefish; her daughters and their husbands, Marsha and Chuck Palmer of Kent, Wash., and Patrice and Brad Neal of Columbia Falls; nephews, Rex, Eric, and Kirk Mason, and Scott Clemens; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The family suggests that in lieu of flowers those who wish may contribute to the American Lung Association; the American Heart Association; the Studio; or the charity of donor's choice.

A memorial mass will be held at St. Charles Catholic Church in Whitefish at a date to be announced later.

Eugene L. Sullivan, 78

Eugene L. Sullivan, 78, passed away on Jan. 27, 2001 in Bigfork. He was born April 23, 1922 in Kalispell to Dan and Mildred Fox Sullivan.



His life was centered around horses. As a farmer, horses were always around the farm. He broke, trained, and shod them. He also traded horses and had a contract with Glacier National Park to shoe the horses used there.

He used horses to pack for the Forest Service in fighting fires. He was instrumental in guiding pack trips into the Jewel Basin for the Wilderness Hiking Association. He was a charter member in the Echo Lake Saddle Club, and stayed involved with them for many years. He constantly took his family and friends on pack and hunting trips into the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area. This he did up until about seven years ago.

Other interests he enjoyed were dancing, square dancing, fishing and hunting.

He married his lovely wife Ruth Walstad in 1949 in Coeur d' Alene, Idaho.

He is preceded in death by a son and daughter-in-law, Ted and LaRae Sullivan, brother Cecil Sullivan and his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Sullivan; sons Terry and wife Nita Sullivan, Tim and Darlene Sullivan; sisters Florence Paulson and Lois Sudan; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, all of Bigfork.

It was his wishes to be cremated and not have a funeral. A memorial luncheon will be held at the Swan River Hall on Saturday at 1 p.m. for all friends and family. The family requests memorial contributions be made to Bigfork QRU in his memory.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Elsie Leanore Rauthe Sundberg, 82

Elsie Leanore Rauthe Sundberg, 82, passed away on Aug. 20, 2001, at Brendan House in Kalispell.



She was born July 16, 1919, in Somers, to Frank J.H. and Leone Liniger Rauthe. She attended Somers school until she graduated in 1934.

She then married Otto Kind in November. They lived in Patrick Creek for one year. Then they moved to Kalispell. In 1943, they moved to Spokane, during World War II. In 1959, she and her husband divorced. Nine children came from the marriage.

In 1964, she married Harold Sundberg in Redmond, Wash. He was master-mack for Caterpillar and she worked as a cook in The Hotel Rest until her retirement in 1980.

She belonged to the Local #8 Seattle H.M.R. & B. Union. She was a member of F.O.E. Eagles in Kalispell for 35 years. She loved people and was always helping out. She loved to cook, garden, lis-

tening to music and had a smile wherever she went. She was loved by everyone who knew her.

In 1984, she moved back to Kalispell. Her husband passed away in 1986.

She is survived by her daughters Adefine Lunde of Gold Bar, Wash., Karen Blackstone of Chowchilla, Calif., Diane Travilyon of Apache Junction, Ariz.; sons Donald Kind of Anacortes, Wash., Eddie Kind of Chelan, Wash., Gary Kind of Troy, N. Y.; sister Jennie Meyers; brother Carl Rauthe, both of Kalispell; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three sons, Arnold, Lester and Dennis Kind; four brothers, Frank Rauthe, Hank Rauthe, Oliver "Butch" Aurand, Jerry Aurand; and a sister, Agnes Newell.

Cremation has taken place. Private urn burial will take place at C.E. Conrad Cemetery. No memorial services will be held per her wishes.

Arrangements are under the direction of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Louise K. Sundberg

Louise K. Sundberg, 73, of Columbia Falls, passed away at home after a short illness.

She was born to Anna and Albert Sundberg on Sept. 1, 1927, in International Falls, Minn. She grew up and attended school in International Falls.

She moved to Columbia Falls in the early 1960s and worked at the Montana Veterans Home, Kalispell Laundry and

later went to work for School District 6 as a custodian, where she retired from in 1993.

After retiring, she enjoyed doing embroidery and crocheting, making her grandchildren numerous warm afghans.

She was a loving mother and grandmother and sister who will be missed by her family.

She was preceded in death by her father and mother.

She is survived by her son Alan of Columbia Falls and his wife Lynda; her grandchildren, Michelle Ren of Valier, and her husband Jerry, Alana, Tim and Justin of Columbia Falls; and her great-granddaughter Lexis Ren of Valier; her brother Arnold of Columbia Falls and his wife Barbara; her sister Florence of Paulsbo, Wash.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be Thursday, Feb. 15, 2001 at 10 a.m. at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls. The Rev. Ray Davis will officiate.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is in charge of the arrangements.



Sundberg

HH

Dorothy Mise Sunde, 83

Dorothy Mise Sunde, 83, of South Pasadena, Calif., died Oct. 24, 2001.

She was born May 29, 1918, in Minneapolis, Minn. She moved to Whitefish with her mother and stepfather, Lonnie and Ann Mise, when she was an infant. She attended grade schools and graduated from Whitefish High School. She married Edwin Sunde on March 27, 1937.

Survivors include her husband of 64 years, Ed Sunde of South Pasadena, Calif.; one son, Rodger Sunde and wife Ronnie of Pasade-

na; one daughter, Leslie Sunde and friend Jay of Long Beach, Calif.; three grandchildren, Bobby Lynn, Ed and Taylor Alayne Sunde; two great-grandchildren Dillon and Dakota; and many relatives in Montana and California.

Cremation has taken place. As per her wish no services will be held.

Her husband underwent quadruple bypass surgery and now resides at the Californian Nursing Home. Cards can be sent to Ed Sunde; 1235 Huntington Dr., South Pasadena, CA 91030.

Virginia E. Swanson, 78

Virginia E. Swanson, 78, passed away Saturday, Oct. 6, 2001, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She was born Nov. 13, 1922, in Jetmore, Kan., to George and Winnie Pound. She married Harry Swanson on May 17, 1946. From this union five children were born, Susanne, Nancy, Michelle, Mike and Mark.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Harry; two brothers, Donald and Thaine; and one sister, Maxine.

She is survived by her brother,

Lyle Pound, and his wife, Edith; her children, Susanne Taft, Shelley Hilderbrant, Mike Swanson and Mark Swanson; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; many close friends and her many special dancing friends.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the family home of 50 years, 1320 Foothill Road.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Sandra Jean Swanstrom, 64

Sandra Jean Swanstrom, 64, died Friday, Feb. 23, 2001, at Benefis Hospital in Great Falls, due to pulmonary embolism.

She was born Oct. 14, 1936, in Glasgow, to Carl and Stella Thornton. She spent her childhood years traveling from coast to coast with her parents and siblings to various heavy equipment construction sites. The family settled in Lyons and Berthoud, Colo., in the early 1950s where she graduated from Berthoud High in 1954.

It was there she met William Swanstrom and was married Jan. 29, 1956. The next year they moved to Tennessee where Bill was stationed in the Air Force and they began their family. They later moved to Colorado, Illinois and in 1970, moved to McGregor Lake west of Kalispell, where she worked as a cook for 15 years at Boisvert's Resort.

She worked at various jobs and found it satisfying to travel with her husband to all of his construction sites once the kids were grown. In 1995, they moved to Fort Benton, finding joy in attending grandchildren's sporting events.

Visiting family, gardening, quilting, sewing and working puzzles were some of her favorite pastimes. Her love for woodworking



with Bill created many nice gifts for the family. She was an avid reader, a true animal lover and a serious Bronco's

fan.

She is survived by her husband William of Fort Benton; a son, Kenneth Swanstrom and wife, Paula; three daughters, Karla Cartwright, husband Bob, children, LeeAnn and Libby of Kalispell, Kris Kelly, husband Steve, and children, Sara, Abby and Wade of Fort Benton; Kara Kaltschmidt, husband Kenneth, and twin girls, Cali and Sierra of Auburn, Wash.; a brother, Jack Thornton, wife Corlet, of Sydney, Australia, and Benton City, Wash.; a sister, Charlene Walls, husband Bob, of Longmont, Colo.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Stella, and recently her grandson, Weston Cartwright.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Benton Funeral Home.

Doris E. Sward, 73

Doris E. Sward, 73, went home to be with her Lord on June 14, 2001.

She was born on Oct. 10, 1928, to Frances and Archie McGlenn in Winnett. She was educated in Glasgow through the seventh grade, in Eureka for half a school year, and then graduated from Flathead County High School in 1946. She studied one year at the University of Montana.

On June 12, 1948 she married her high school sweetheart, Elwyn Sward. This union produced four sons, Robert E., William Scott, Michael J. and Thomas B. Sward. She stayed home with the boys while they were growing up, and when they were in school she went to work for A & B Rambler for five years and then the Flathead County treasurer's office and auditor's office for 21 years, retiring in 1990.

She served as den mother in Cub Scouts for eight years and in district scouting positions for 20 years. She enjoyed gardening, knitting and crafts. Most of all she



enjoyed her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and was an avid football fan.

She is survived by her loving husband Elwyn Arthur; brother Archie "Gene"

McGlenn of Kalispell; and sister Nancy Sloan of Chelan, Wash.; sons and daughters-in-law Robert E. and Barbara Sward in Springfield, Ore., W. Scott and Toni Sward of Bakersfield, Calif., Michael J. Sward and his fiancée Deborah, Thomas B. and Leslie Sward in Woodbridge, Va.; seven grandchildren, Daniel, Jeffrey, Cindy, Laurell, Brook, Brett, and T.J.; three great-grandchildren, Shelby, Darby and Brady; and numerous relatives and friends.

Graveside services are at 2 p.m. at Conrad Cemetery on Monday. Memorial services follow at 3 p.m. at the New Life Christian Center, Summit Ridge, Kalispell.

Elwyn 'Art' Sward, 74

Elwyn "Art" Sward, 74, died Sept. 22, 2001. He was born to Arthur and Blanche Sward on June 12, 1927, in Kalispell.



He was educated in Kalispell at the South Side Elementary School, Flathead County High School and at the University of Montana, Missoula.

He enjoyed football and basketball, but his first love was football. He also played drums in the high school band and went on to play in various dance bands for the next 25 years.

Summer work as a boy included farm harvesting, section crew for the railroad, and timber harvesting.

He served in the United States Navy in World War II and was honorably discharged.

Thereafter, he returned home to continue his education and play football at the University of Montana.

On June 12, 1948, he married his high school sweetheart, Doris Ellen McGlenn. This marriage was blessed with four sons.

He worked for Pacific Fruit and Produce, T. J. Landry Oil Distributors, and founded the Flathead Glass and Paint Company.

In 1965, he began work with the Forest Service on the road and recreation crew, and later established his own company to thin timber and harvest fence posts.

In 1969, he served as a District Scout Executive for the Western

Montana Council, and later the consolidated Montana Council as field director and director of camping. During those years, he served as a volunteer Cub Master, Boy Scout Master, and Sea Explorer Advisor. He pioneered the Boy Scout hikes through the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area, taking more than a 1000 boys over a fifteen year period.

His scouting efforts culminated in being awarded the highest honor for distinguished service to boyhood — the "Silver Beaver Award."

In 1980, he served as Flathead County Parks and Recreation Department superintendent. During that time he initiated construction of the Conrad Sports Complex.

In 1983, he worked for the Daily Inter Lake as a district circulation manager until his retirement in 1988. Since that time, he and his wife enjoyed their family and retirement until her passing in June of this year.

He is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law; Robert E. and Barbara of Springfield, Ore., William Scott and Toni of Bakersfield, Calif., Thomas B. and Leslie of Alexandria, Va., and son Michael and fiancée Debra of Bigfork; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Gravesite burial will be conducted at the Conrad Cemetery on Thursday at 1 p.m. A reception will follow at Christian Center, U.S. 93 North, Kalispell.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Earling W. Swennes, 77

Earling W. Swennes, 77, went to be with his Lord Jesus Christ on Oct. 20, 2001, at the Brendan House in Kalispell. He was born April 19, 1924, in Clarkfield, Minn., to Sid and Amanda (Holland) Swennes.



He attended Helena Flats, Evergreen and Flathead High schools. He joined the Army in 1944 and, after his discharge, came back to the Flathead Valley. He was employed at various mills and Joe's Radiator. One of his passions was flying remote-control airplanes. He was a member of the Bible Baptist Church and the Glacier R.C.'ers.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife,

Erma, of Kalispell; three stepchildren, Sue Vaughn and her husband, Lanny, of Kalispell, Mike Bibb of Columbia Falls, and Doug Bibb and his wife, Lois, of Kalispell; two brothers, Richard Swennes of Troy and Donald "Buck" Swennes of Libby; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery with the Rev. Nathan Bemis of Bible Baptist Church officiating. Visitation will be on Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel. Military honors will be conducted by the United Veterans of the Flathead.

The family suggests memorial donations be given to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 1002, Kalispell, MT 59903-1002.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Elvera H. Swenson, 89

Elvera H. Swenson, 89, of Whitefish passed away on Nov. 28, 2001, at Colonial Manor in Whitefish.

She was born on Sept. 2, 1912, in Pine County, Minn., to John and Hilda Johnson, one of 11 children.

She married William Soderstrom and had five children. After he passed away, she married Stan Swenson in April 1955. She was very active in the V.F.W. of Mar-



tin City and was an active bowler. Anyone who knew Elvera will miss her zest for life and kindness.

She was preceded in death by her parents, first husband and one son, Denny, in 1963.

She is survived by her daughter Sandie Satter of Lake Five; three sons, Virgil, Glenn and Ronnie Soderstrom all of Minnesota, several grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by all.

No services are planned at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Columbia Mortuary.

Vernon C. Swenson, 92

Vernon C. Swenson, 92, passed away Feb. 28, 2001, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

He was born on Jan. 25, 1909, in Belgrade, Minn., to Ole J. and Julia Tarkelson Swenson. He grew up in Minnesota and attended school there.

He moved to Cut Bank in order to go to work for the Union Oil Company. While in Cut Bank, he met and married Ruth Buttke. He work for Union Oil for many years and eventually retired from there. After retiring, he and Ruth moved to Kalispell. After Ruth's passing, he married Eleanor Richards-Donich on Aug. 31, 1984.

He was a great card player and enjoyed many hours with friends and family playing cards. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing and traveling. He and Eleanor once traveled around Europe together.

He was a member of the Sons of Norway, Eagles, and was a past

member of the Masons.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife Ruth; and all of his 10 brothers and sisters.

He is survived by Eleanor Swenson of Kalispell; one stepson, Terry Donich and his wife, Janice; two grandsons, Damon Donich and his wife, Kari, and Michael Donich, all of Tracy, Calif.; and many special nieces and nephews too numerous to mention.

Funeral services will be held on Monday at 2 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary with the Rev. Peter Ramseth of Immanuel Lutheran Home officiating. Burial will follow at Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A reception will follow the burial at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church and all are invited to attend. Visitation will be Monday from 9 a.m. until the time of service.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.