

Peter Lauren Van Aken, 35

Peter Lauren Van Aken, 35, died in Mexico on May 27, 2001, from injuries resulting from an automobile accident.

He was born in Whitefish, on April 9, 1966, to Della and Gary Van Aken.

He is survived by his parents in Whitefish; sister Michelle in Tacoma, Wash.; grandmother Sheila Buck of Kalispell; aunts, uncles, cousins, and many friends and associates.

He graduated from Whitefish High School in 1984 and from the University of Houston in 1988. He lived in New York City for 10 years, then moved to Las Vegas in 1998. He had a successful business designing and marketing jewelry. He was an avid traveler.

No services are planned at this time.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Alice Louise Van Mullem, 94

Alice Louise Van Mullem, 94, died at her home in Somers, on Oct. 26, 2001.

She was born in Antwerp, Belgium, on Feb. 20, 1907, to Edmond and Elisa Poels Geeraerts.

She is survived locally by

one son, Edmond Van Mullem of Somers; two daughters, Rosemary Glessing and husband Herbert, and Geraldine Hall and husband Bradley, both of Kalispell.

Funeral services are pending.

William Armstrong Vessie, 79

William Armstrong Vessie, M.D., 79, fell asleep in death on Dec. 1, 2001, losing a courageous battle against cancer.

He was born in New York City to Dr. Percy R. and Florence Armstrong Vessie on Nov. 20, 1922. He attended school in Greenwich, Conn., and graduated from Hackley Prep School in Tarrytown, N.Y., in 1941.

After attending Dartmouth College for one year, he enlisted with the Marine Corps in December 1942. At the end of World War II, he was in charge of troops being transferred to Chicago from San Francisco. When the train stopped in Whitefish, he determined to return after completing his education...In his words: "I knew the fishing would be wonderful here."

Once returning to New York, he decided to attend medical school and graduated from Columbia College in 1948, and then went on to study at Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, serving his years of internship, residency and fellowship in the department of urology at Roosevelt Hospital in New York City.

A man of many interests and unspoken talents, Dr. Vessie was a world class athlete, holding international high jump records, which were not broken for 30 years. His



many interests included his passion for flyfishing, fly-tying, calf roping, race horses, falconry, dogs (especially his beloved lab, Huckleberry), rose gardening ... the list goes on. "Whatever Dr. Vessie pursued, he did with excellence."

Dr. Vessie had considered himself fortunate to return to Montana, where he practiced in Kalispell until 1983. He then accepted the position as "Prison Doc," in Deer Lodge with the Department of Institutions for the State of Montana until his retirement in September 1990, when he moved back to Kalispell.

Even though disabled by a ski accident in 1964, which left him a quadriplegic, Dr. Vessie maintained a positive and progressive attitude. "He was a brilliant man, always dignified and we must not forget to mention his wonderfully dry sense of humor." To quote a colleague, "Bill Vessie was bigger than life!"

William Armstrong Vessie is survived by his wife Donna; his three sons, Joel Vessie of Kalispell, Thomas Vessie of California, Timothy Vessie of Colorado; five stepchildren, Dixie, Lance, Lisa, Julie and Brenda; as well as numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The family wished to express deep gratitude to his special friends, Dr. Rusby Seabaugh, Dr. John Heine, Dr. Harvey Swanson, and Dr. Joe Bilboa for their valued friendship and support during his

last illness. He will truly be missed by all who loved him.

Dr. Vessie requested no formal services but voiced his wish to have his ashes scattered by his sons and grandsons at a favorite spot in his beloved Montana.

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Alice Louise Van Mullem, 94

Alice Louise Van Mullem, 94, of Somers, passed away at her home on Friday, Oct. 26, 2001.

She was born Feb. 20, 1907, in Antwerp, Belgium, to Edmond and Elisa Poels Geeraerts. She came to the United States with her parents in 1920 and attended schools both in Belgium and in Chicago, Ill.

She worked as switchboard operator for the Illinois Bell Telephone Company. On Oct. 12, 1929, she married Joseph Van Mullem in Chicago.

The couple moved to Winter, Wis., where they owned a dairy farm. In 1968, they moved to Somers. She was a lifelong member of St. Anne's Catholic Church and an active member of St. Anne's Council of Catholic Women.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sister Rose, and lov-

ing husband Joseph.

She is survived by two daughters, Rosemary Glessing and husband Herbert and Geraldine Hall and husband Bradley, both of Kallispeil; three sons, Albert Van Mullem and wife Christine of Sussex, Wis., Joseph Van Mullem Jr. and wife Betty of Bozeman, and Edmond Van Mullem of Somers; 12 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

A rosary will be held on Tuesday at 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel. Mass of Christian burial will be held Wednesday at 10 a.m. at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Somers with the Rev. Richard Sodja as celebrant. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary.

Alton L. Vinje, 83

Alton L. Vinje, 83, passed away Thursday, May 17, 2001, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He was born April 21, 1918, in Kalispell, to Alfred and Amanda Hougan Vinje.



He was a loving and giving father to his family. He was always there for them whenever needed. Family came first for him.

He was an avid fisherman, hunter, and camper. He loved the outdoors, and enjoyed most of his spare time there.

He was a World War II Army veteran and was involved in the Philippines Liberation.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife Vera; first wife, Lillian Holmes Vinje; and brother, Cliff Vinje.

He is survived by three daughters, Trish and husband Pat Walsh, Janet and husband Fritz Lamey, and Harriett Rubin; four sons, Marion and wife Vickie Coverdell, Stan and wife Fran Coverdell, Kevin and wife Beth Coverdell, and Doug Coverdell; one sister, Lorraine Campbell; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held on Monday at 9 a.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, with military honors by the United Veterans of the Flathead. A reception

will follow the service at 125 Sunset Court for Alton's friends.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Ellsworth 'Hap' Vinnedge, 93

Ellsworth "Hap" Vinnedge, 93, passed away on April 28, 2001, at Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork.

He was born on Dec. 3, 1907, in Chetek, Wis., to Warran and Dolly Cliver Vinnedge.

He moved to Cortland, N.Y. in 1916, where he continued schooling and learned the masonry trade. On April 25, 1931, he married Dorothy Henry in Cortlandville, N.Y. They resided in



Cortland and he continued in the masonry trade. Later, he owned and operated a sawmill until he enlisted into the Navy in 1943.

He was discharged from the Navy in 1945 after extended naval hospital stays. In 1946, he was classified 100 percent disabled, and after schooling in Denver, he became a certified gunsmith. He and his wife moved to Bigfork in 1949 and operated a gunshop from his home. Following years were spent in Oregon and Arizona on a seasonal basis. While gunsmithing he was a hunter safety trainer, a long standing member and commander at the

Bigfork American Legion and attended the Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Carroll and Wilbue; four sisters, Ida, Gladys, Iva and Lois.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Dorothy Vinnedge of Bigfork; one son, Wallace Vinnedge of Somers; five grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

A memorial service and urn burial are pending at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Hestell H. Volin, 91

Hestell H. Volin, 91 of Kalispell, beloved wife of the late Bradford C. Volin and mother, died following a stroke on Tuesday, July 24, 2001, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She was born on Aug. 30, 1909, in Ardmore, Okla., to James Oscar "Pop" McGee and Ethel Bettie McGee. After a brief residence in Missouri, the family packed all their belongings in a Model T Ford and moved to Kalispell in 1918.

On June 22, 1927, she married Brad Volin and together they began ranching and farming west of Kalispell. They moved to and resided in the city of Kalispell for eight years and operated a logging enterprise. Thereafter, they owned, operated and resided on several farms in the Flathead area — in the communities of Columbia Falls, Creston, LaSalle, and Fairview. They worked hard at improving each place in progression. She was a loving and dedicated helpmate and companion to her husband as together they gardened, raised purebred livestock, prepared the land, constructed houses and buildings, and harvested crops.

They were members of the Kalispell Christian Center Assembly of God church, where she served and participated in many capacities. She taught for many years in the Sunday school program and spent many hours participating in the church's women's Missionary Council making quilts



and clothing for Christian mission projects around the world. She had a gracious, loving heart and quiet dedication for serving people and her God.

She was preceded in death by her husband Bradford C. Volin; a brother James "Estof" McGee of Spokane; and a sister, Oida "Ted" Jones of Coos Bay, Ore.

She is survived by three sons, Burt "Bill" Volin and Kathleen King of Polson, Ray Volin and his wife Betty of Rancho Murieta, Calif., and Leonard Volin and his wife Janet of Stillwater, Minn.; five grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Thelma Holter of Helena, and Laverne Miller of Pittsburgh, Pa.

Funeral services will be Tuesday at 10 a.m. at the Christian Center with the Rev. Robert Ross and the Rev. Mary Ballenger officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be Monday from 3 to 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Home Mission Fund of Kalispell Christian Center, 255 Summit Ridge Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

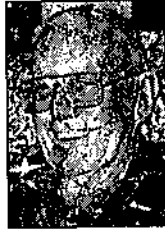
Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory

Lenord Leroy Volkman, 77

Our loving father, Lenord Leroy Volkman, 77, passed away at his home on July 2, 2001, in Kalispell. He was born in Leroy, Mont., on Sept. 29, 1923. He served in the 101 Airborne during World War II and was part of the Normandy invasion. He married Evelyn Buddy in 1947 in Bellingham, Wash. He later married Sheila Mitsch on Feb. 20, 1959. He worked as a hunting guide for Flathead Lake Lodge. He later delivered fuel for Standard Oil throughout the Flathead Valley and lastly delivered mail for the United States Postal Service, retiring in 1984.

After retirement he traveled throughout the U.S. His interests varied and included the Harley Davidson Club, The Citizen Band Radio Club, the Model Airplane Club and the Good Sam Club. He was an avid hunter and loved to spend hours fishing in the Montana area. Helpful was his middle name and he was always willing to help those in need.

He was preceded in death by wife, Sheila; grandson, Joshua Hawley; sisters, Anna Syth and



Dora Mayo; brothers, Buster Volkman, Calvin McDonald and Bill McDonald.

He is survived by his sons; Dwan Hall and wife Cathy of Juneau, Alaska, and Keith Volkman of Juneau; daughters, Susan Miller and husband, Don, of Kalispell; Linda Hawley and husband, Rob, of Fayetteville, Ga.; grandchildren, Lynette Ovnicsek and husband, Chad, of Florence, Colo.; Travis Hall of Portland, Ore.; and Stacy Hawley of Fayetteville, Kyle Miller of Kalispell; one great-granddaughter, Taelyn Ovnicsek; a brother, Harold Volkman, of Somers; and a sister, Edith Wavrick, of Havre.

He was a wonderful person and will be missed by all the lives he touched.

Graveside services will be held Friday at 11 a.m. at Fairview Cemetery with the Rev. Darold Reiner of Trinity Lutheran Church officiating. Visitation will be Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary. A reception will follow services at Susan and Don Miller's home. The family suggests memorial gifts be given to Camp Mak-A-Dream, P.O. Box 1450, Missoula, MT 59806.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

William John 'Bill' Vornbrock, 65

William John "Bill" Vornbrock, 65, passed away on Feb. 2, 2001, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

He was born on Feb. 24, 1935, in Lethbridge, Alberta, to George and Bertha Vornbrock. He attended schools in Masinasin and Milk River, Alberta. He attended the University of Alberta, Edmonton, graduating with a degree in electrical engineering in 1958. On Jan. 3, 1959, he married Janet Rachwal-ski.

In 1960, he went to work for N.U.L. as a professional engineer. After 32 years with N.U.L., he retired as a supervising engineer of measurement and electronics. In 1992, he and his wife moved to Bigfork.

He loved traveling, photography, and gardening.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers.

He is survived by his wife Janet

Vornbrock of Bigfork; brothers, Milton Vornbrock of Surrey, British Columbia, Arnold Vornbrock and his wife Elsie of Calgary, Alberta; nephews Ron Vornbrock and Howard Vornbrock of Vancouver, B.C., Tom Vornbrock of Cochrane, Alberta, Gordon Vornbrock and Donald Vornbrock of Calgary; and a niece, Kathy Johnson of Calgary.

A memorial mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday at St. Catherine's Catholic Church in Bigfork with the Rev. Richard Sedja officiating. A second memorial mass will be held at 11 a.m. on March 16, 2001 at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Milk River.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggest donations be made to the cancer charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Dana 'Dan' von Kraut, 65

Dana "Dan" von Kraut, 65, passed away peacefully March 29, 2001.

He was born May 7, 1935, in Havre. He grew up in Shelby where he started his career in law enforcement with the city police.

He served three years in the Army, stationed in Bremerhaven, Germany. Returning to Montana, he joined the Montana Highway Patrol. After 24 years of service he "gave them back their car" and was ready for a new adventure and passion.

With his love for humor, he became a "rehumorfier," hiring himself out to the corporate world giving people the permission to laugh.

Now that everyone was laughing once again, he turned his attention to the deserts of the Southwest, studying the ancient drawings and

teachings of the Hopi and Anasazi Indians. He classified himself as an "avocational archeologist;" educating, re-discovering Anasazi sites, protecting their artifacts and assisting the Hopi people in honoring their heritage.

He is survived by his wife Donna Rae; Bonnie, mother of Kirk, Tyra, Thane, and Thor; six grandchildren, Konor, Kameron, Ansel, Julayne, Albany, and Jacqui; his brother Ogden; and many friends throughout the country.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Montana Hope Project (he was one of the founders of this wonderful organization that grants the wishes of Montana kids with chronic or life threatening illness), c/o Project Coordinator, P.O. Box 5927, Helena, MT 59604-5927; (406) 949-4673; <http://www.montanahope.org>