

Geraldine 'Gerry' Wackler, 76

Geraldine "Gerry" Wackler, 76, of Missoula, passed away on July 9, 2001, at St. Patrick Hospital of pulmonary fibrosis.

She was born on March 22, 1925, in Mason City, Ill., the daughter of Alvin J. and Jennie W. Shipp. She graduated from Mason City High School in 1943. She married the Rev. M.E. Wackler in 1948.

A beloved mother and grandmother, she will be remembered by many friends of all ages for her fun loving nature and her giving spirit. She was a self-declared "people person," and it showed in her words and deeds. Her family remembers her as the one who devoted her life to each and every one of them and as the one who was always there, in good times and bad. Her sons and daughter especially will remember her as the mother every child should be fortunate enough to have been blessed with.

She was preceded in death by

her parents, Alvin and Jennie Shipp; her brother Leon Shipp, and her son Jon Wackler.

She is survived by her husband, the Rev. M.D. Wackler of Missoula, four sons, Daniel Wackler of Eugene, Ore., Joseph Wackler of Soldotna, Alaska, and Thomas Wackler and Timothy Wackler, both of Missoula; one daughter, Jane Curtis of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; 15 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Services were held on July 20 at the Messiah Lutheran Church with the Rev. John Wackler officiating. Committal services will take place at the family plot in Mason City, Ill.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorials be made in her name to the American Lung Association, 825 Helena Ave., Helena, MT 59601.

Arrangements are under the direction of Garden City Funeral Home and Crematory.

Trustin Andrew Wagener, 95

Trustin Andrew Wagener, 95, died on Jan. 3, 2001, at Brendan House in Kalispell. He was born Jan. 23, 1905, in Oak Grove, Mo., the son of Elmer Wagener.

He moved to Banfry, N.D., and from there to Fortino in 1917. He worked in the woods as a young man, many times skidding logs with a team of horses. He then worked 33 years for the Montana Highway Department as a foreman, retiring in 1968.

He married Irma Parker in Kalispell on Nov. 3, 1934. He was a member of Central Christian Church for 66 years. He loved to hunt and fish. He did both well into his 80s. He is preceded in death by his parents and a brother.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Irma; his sons Gary and his

wife, Linda Wagener, of Columbia Falls; grandchildren Scott and his wife, Maria Wagener, of Toledo, Ore., and Kathleen and her husband, Blake Passmore, of Kalispell; great-grandchildren Kaila and Kirsten Wagener and Brendan and Alyssa Passmore; and son Robert and his wife, Ginger Wagener, and their family of La Grande, Ore.

Graveside services will be held today, Jan. 8, at 1 p.m. at Conrad Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for memorial contributions to go either to the Central Christian Church, Second Avenue East and Third Street, Kalispell, Mont. 59901, or to the charity of one's choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary.

Benjamin Richard Wagner Jr., 74

Benjamin Richard Wagner Jr., 74, went to be with the good Lord, Jesus Christ, on Aug. 8, 2001.



He was born to Iris Crockford Wagner and Ben R. Wagner Sr., on April 28, 1927, in Conrad. He was reared and educated in Cut Bank, where upon graduation from high school, he was inducted into the U.S. Army, Infantry, later transferring into the U.S. Ordinance, "The Big Red One." He served in Germany during World War II.

Upon discharge from military service, he studied engineering at the Columbia Institute of Technology, in Washington, D.C.

He began a career in law enforcement in a correctional institute at Lorton, Va., then returned to Montana to work in Cut Bank as a city police officer. On a visit to the state capitol, he met his wife, Shirley. They married on March 11, 1956, and had 45 1/2 years of "wedded bliss." Later, he was selected out of many applicants to become a Montana Highway Patrolman, and he and his wife settled into the Flat-

head Valley, where #214 retired from M.H.P. on June 9, 1976.

He was also well known as a Western artist and an expert craftsman. He left his mark on history by extensively researching and duplicating authentic scaled replicas of many 19th century horse-drawn vehicles, most importantly specializing in the historical Wells Fargo Overland Stage Coach.

His reproductions were done in 3/16th scale and attention to accuracy and detail has made them "masterpieces," which are on permanent display in many famous museums and private galleries throughout the United States.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley; daughters, Jeannie Walker, and husband Steve, Debra, Susan, and Lisa Ann Wagner; son Ben R. Wagner III; granddaughter, Lisa M. Corn; and his sister, Alice Kremkrau.

He was an A-1 husband and father right to the end of his journey in this life. "Ben, you are loved and will be dearly missed, until the 'next meeting beyond.' Rest in peace, gentle Ben, your family will always love you."

Arrangements were under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Virginia R. Wagner, 85

Virginia R. Wagner, 85, passed away on Sept. 11, 2001, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born on Aug. 16, 1916, in Kremlin, to Otto and Elsie Buck Schultz. She moved to the Flathead Valley at a young age.

On March 3, 1936, she married Beryl Wagner in Kalispell. She worked as a nurses aid at the Sisters of Mercy Hospital in Kalispell for a number of years.

Most of all, she was a wonderful wife, mother, and homemaker. She could make the best bread and cookies.

She was also very talented with crafts, especially making decorative eggs as well as ceramics. She collected crystal, enjoyed working in her yard, camping with her family, picking huckleberries, and canning the fish that her husband smoked.

After her husband's retirement, the couple enjoyed traveling to many places together. She and her husband were both members of the First Baptist Church in Columbia Falls.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Beryl, in November 2000; her parents; two daughters, Donna Copenhaver and Patricia McHale; and one brother, Clifford Schultz.

She is survived by one daugh-

ter, Berylene Taylor and her husband Forest of Kalispell; one son, Beryl G. Wagner and his wife Janie of Columbia Falls; seven grandchildren, Steven Bronson and his wife Cynthia of Colorado Springs, Gordon Bronson and his wife Peggy of Coeur d' Alene, Idaho, Terry Denzer and her husband Allen of Brady, Linda Russell and her husband Gary of Kalispell, Rita Wagnarr and her husband Paul of Hardin, Jim Wagner and his wife Nicole, and David Wagner, all of Kent, Wash.; eight great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and one sister, Betty Daley and her husband Carl of Kalispell.

Funeral services will be held on Friday at 2 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with the Rev. Jerry Buchanan of the First Baptist Church, Columbia Falls, officiating.

Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery. Visitation will be today at Johnson Mortuary from noon to 6 p.m.

The family requests that any memorial contributions in her name be sent to a charity of the donor's choosing.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Terry Gene Waldusky, 30, of Whitefish died at home Nov. 1, 2001. Memorial services will be held at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish today at 2 p.m.



He was born June 1, 1971, in Whitefish, a son to Mabel and Donald Waldusky. He was raised in the Whitefish area and graduated from Whitefish High School.

He married Cheryl Gimbel on Dec. 11, 1999. They lived in the Kalispell area for a time before

moving to New Mexico. They had recently returned to the area, residing in Libby. He loved bass fishing, hunting, camping and woodworking.

He was preceded in death by his father.

He is survived by his wife, Cheryl; two stepsons, Chance and Gunner, and two stepdaughters, Tiffany and Brandi, all of Libby; his daughter, Chelsea of Kalispell; his mother, Mabel; sisters Sheila and Janice and brothers Vernon and Barry, all from the Flathead Valley; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Frederick Henry Walker, 91

Frederick Henry Walker, 91, passed this life on July 15, 2001, in Lolo, at the home of his daughter, Robin Walker, and special daughter, Denise Ryan.



He was born Nov. 14, 1909, in Spokane, Wash., to Elwin and Ellen Walker. He was a retired railroad worker. He began his career with the Great Northern Railway in Shelby, where he and his family lived for three years before he transferred to Bonners Ferry, Idaho, where he lived for approximately 10 years until the railroad closed its station.

He then took a transfer in 1957 with the Great Northern to Kalispell, where his wife's family had resided since 1898. He retired at Kalispell.

While in Bonners Ferry, he joined the Masonic Order, becoming a 32nd-degree Mason and a life member of the Masonic Lodge No. 43. He was a Montana resident for 44 years.

After his retirement he especially enjoyed socializing with his friends and family throughout Kalispell, meeting other retirees and/or friends for breakfast or lunch, and taking his wife to different restaurants for dinner.

He had several special places he liked to visit on a regular basis. Among them, but not limited to them, were First Interstate Bank, Perkins Restaurant, Outlaw Inn, Sizzler and Fred's Cafe.

He did so enjoy all his friends, and with that thought in mind, the family would like to thank each and every one of you for being his friend.

Also, he looked forward to "going across the mountains" to the ranch of his nephew and niece, Art and Edra Dresen of Kalispell, and helping them.

Even though that sounds like a lot of hard work, it could not have been all work, judging from the stories he would tell on his return. He had so many fond memories of the ranch.

In the early years at Bonners Ferry, he enjoyed coming home from work and going to his garden to remove weeds before dinner.

As the garden started to produce, he always carried a set of small salt and pepper shakers in his pocket so he would have his snack, preferring tomatoes before dinner.

After moving to Kalispell, he continued to enjoy his yard and

was very proud of it, however, when it came to doing the weeding, this was done under the watchful eye of his wife, as it seems he had trouble distinguishing a flower from a weed.

Sunday was always a special day to him, as he loved to take his family for a Sunday ride.

He did play Santa Claus once during a Christmas pageant at the Methodist Church in Bonners Ferry, which did not fool anyone as he was recognized by his youngest daughter, who announced: "That's not Santa Claus, that's my daddy." He was never to play Santa Claus again.

He was married on June 20, 1937, in Kalispell, to Elinor "Clara" Griffin, who departed this life on Feb. 23, 1998.

They had met in Spokane, Wash., where he was employed by an oil company of which her father was the area manager, and she was a bookkeeper. This union was to last almost 61 years before God separated them, and now they are reunited.

They did do some traveling in their retirement together by taking different tour trips, one to Alaska, another to Hawaii.

Even though he had a "fear of heights," he did take a helicopter ride while in Hawaii.

They even took a trip along the western coast line, many trips to Detroit, Mich., and several points between Kalispell and Detroit, by going different routes, and even did a motor-home tour of New Mexico, Texas, Juarez, Mexico, and Las Vegas, Nev.

He is survived by two daughters, Carla Eaton and husband Richard of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Robin Walker of Lolo; special daughter Denise Ryan of Lolo; three grandchildren, Nate Eaton and wife Danielle of Fountain, Colo., their two daughters, Ashlee and Alyssa; Kimberly and husband Michael Marvin and their two boys, Joh and Gregory of Eau Claire, Wisc.; Janna Eaton and her son Damien of Lovington, Ill.; two honorary grandchildren, Sonja and husband Allan Gasch of Kyle, Texas; their children, Ashley, Mikal, Ryan and Damian Harness of Lolo, along with many nieces and nephews.

Masonic funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 18, at Johnson Mortuary Chapel in Kalispell. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

The family requests memorials to the hospice of one's choice or Partners in Home Care of Missoula. Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Ovene Walker, 87

Ovene Walker, 87, passed away May 31, 2001, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She was born Feb. 28, 1914, in Pleasant Valley, Ark., to Roark and Lilly Young.

She married Samuel Edward Walker on Sept. 6, 1931, in Indianola, Okla. During the Dust Bowl, she and her husband moved to Indio, Calif., in their Model T.

Her focus was her family, and her longtime membership in the Church of Christ. She moved to Montana in 1993 with her daughter June and grandchildren, Lori, Mark, Kim, Paul, and their families.

She is survived by her two sons, Edward Walker of Sonora, Calif., and Bill Walker of Las Vegas, Nev.; her daughter, June Yuza-



pavik of Kalispell; five grandsons; four granddaughters; nine great-grandsons; nine great-granddaughters and 15 great-great-grandchildren.

A viewing will be held from 10 a.m. until noon on Monday at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home with Evangelist Milton Caraway officiating. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad cemetery. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

John Robert 'Jack' Wallace, 75

John Robert "Jack" Wallace, 75, died July 28, 2001, in Colorado Springs. He was retired as an accountant with the Colorado Springs Realtors, and International Harvester in Montana.

He was born March 20, 1926, in Miles City. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II.

He was a member of 32nd degree Mason, past master of Cascade Lodge #34 AFAM, past patron Evergreen Chapter #129 OES.

He is survived by his wife, Vera Jane of 53 years; three sons, Gordon Steven "Steve," Douglas Shawn and David John; four grandchildren; and brother Don Wallace of Harlowtown.

He is preceded in death by brother Cecil Wallace Jr.

A memorial service is planned for 11 a.m. today at Central United Methodist Church, 4373 Galley Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80915.

Betty 'Turk' Walling, 78

Betty "Turk" Walling, 78, passed away at her home on March 5, 2001, after an extensive illness.

She was born in Conrad on Aug. 30, 1922, to Nellie and Amos Turk. She attended schools in Shelby, and was a waitress in Cut Bank and Shelby for many



years.

She is survived by a son, Garth Walling Jr.; a sister, Phyllis Harmon of Kalispell; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Shelby.

Visitation will be today from 4-6 p.m. at Johnson Funeral Home in Kalispell.

Arrangements by Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Dick Walsh, 83

Longtime Flathead County Sheriff Dick Walsh, 83, died at the home of his daughter in Fort Collins, Colo., on March 20, 2001.



His parents, Patrick and Catherine Walsh, had homesteaded near Columbia Falls, in 1887, and he was born on Oct. 31, 1917, at the family home. He graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1936 and attended Montana State University.

In 1940, his National Guard Unit was activated as part of the 163rd Infantry Regiment of the 41st Division. In 1942, he married Bernice Peterson at Fort Lewis, Wash., shortly before his unit was sent into combat in the South Pacific.

Following World War II, he returned to the Flathead Valley. He was elected Flathead County Sheriff at the age of 29 and took office in 1947. At a time when Montana law enforcement officers received virtually no training, he attended the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va. In his first year as sheriff he founded the Flathead County Sheriff's Posse and the Flathead Lifesaving and Rescue Association. Both of these organizations are still active.

In 1957, he graduated from the Keeler Polygraph Institute in Chicago, becoming one of the first polygraph examiners in the Pacific Northwest. He served four terms as the sheriff of Flathead County, leaving office in 1963. Fol-

lowing this he was appointed as the superintendent of the Montana Veterans Home and served in that capacity for 11 years. During this time he was instrumental in the organization of the North Valley Rescue Association.

During his professional career he had served as the president of the Montana Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association; president of the Northwest Chapter of the FBI National Academy Graduates Association; chairman of the Western States Crime Conference; and Montana State Commander of the VFW.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Bernice; brothers, Oliver and John Walsh; a sister, Maude McCrea; and a grandson, Richard Christopher Knutson.

He is survived by his daughter Maureen Knutson, son-in-law Frank Knutson, granddaughter Lisa Broeder and her husband, Wade Broeder, and grandson, Shane Knutson of Fort Collins; his son, Pat Walsh, daughter-in-law, Trish Walsh, grandchildren Richard and Courtney Walsh and Amy Schroth, all of Columbia Falls.

A Rosary will be held at the Johnson Funeral Home in Kalispell at 7 p.m. on Sunday. The funeral will be held at St. Richards Catholic Church in Columbia Falls at 11 a.m. on Monday, followed by internment at St. Richards Cemetery.

The family asks that any donations be made to the North Valley Rescue Association.

Eileen E. Walsh, 81

Eileen E. Walsh, 81, died Jan. 29, 2001, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born on Feb. 11, 1919, in Yakima, Wash., to Christian and Annie Burkardt Maier.

Memorial services will be held today at 11 a.m. at Johnson Mortuary with the Rev.

Glenn Burfeind of the First Presbyterian Church officiating.

The family requests that memorial donations be made to a charity of the donor's choosing.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Fern Delores Walter, 74

Fern Delores Walter, 74, passed away on Thursday, May 3, 2001, from a heart attack at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She was born on April 14, 1927, in Fargo, N.D., to Harold and Verna Albert. She moved to the Flathead Valley when she was nine years old, attending schools here and graduating from Flathead County High School in 1944. She married Virgil Walter on Sept. 15, 1946.

She was very active in her community and clubs. She was a member of a bowling league for many years. She served for many years as a volunteer at the hospital and was very active in her church. She served as church secretary for many years, and was also a Sunday school teacher and a deacon. She loved her women's church groups and bridge parties. Her joy in life was giving to others which she did so gracefully and graciously. She was an avid reader, great cook and loved her roses.

She will always be remembered for her loving, generous and giving nature. She was one to always bring people together and loved to have dinner parties with family and friends. She had a wonderful zest for life and knew how to enjoy it to the fullest. There was never any doubt how much she loved her family and friends. This was



her greatest joy in life. She touched the lives of so many people in such a special way and she will be missed greatly by all.

She was preceded in death by

her father and mother.

She is survived by her husband of 54 years Virgil; two daughters, Sandy Lamoreux and Sharon Sevier and her husband Tom; one son, Mike Walter and his wife Donna; six grandchildren, Mark J. Lamoreux, Amie Lamoreux, Matt Sevier, Jennifer Roettig and her husband Brock, Amber and Levi Walter; three great-grandchildren, Isabeau, Connor and Cain Roettig; two brothers, Chet Albert and his wife Auvern, and Darrel and wife Sheila Albert; and numerous other relatives.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church of Kalispell, with the Rev. Glenn Burfeind officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family request donations to the Kalispell Regional Medical Center Foundation Volunteer, or the cardiovascular services at 310 Sunnyview Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

Rodney M. Wang, 55

Rodney M. Wang, 55, passed away on March 5, 2001, in Fallon, Nev.

He was born June 19, 1945, in Kalispell, to Ludwig and Ruby Wang of Somers.

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

He is survived by two daughters, A.J. and husband, Scott Brotnov, of Cut Bank, and Debbie and husband, Jesse Lewellen, of

Kalispell; two grandchildren, D.J. and Brandon Brotnov of Cut Bank; two brothers, Thomas and wife, Holly, of Deer Lodge and Marvin and wife, Avis, of Kalispell; sister-in-law Sharon Wang of Kalispell; and many nieces and nephews.

A graveside memorial service with military honors will be held on March 17, at 1 p.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

H. Lloyd Ward, 66

H. Lloyd Ward, 66, died of cancer Feb. 15, 2001, at his home in Fairfield.

He graduated from Fargo Central High in 1952, and received his bachelor of science degree in pharmacy in 1966 at NDSU in Fargo. He completed his residency in pharmacy under the tutelage of John Oud of Orofino, Idaho.

He married Shirley Edwards April 16, 1955, in Moorhead, Minn. He worked for Northwestern Bell Telephone Company from 1955 to 1966. From 1966 to 1967 he was employed by Oud's Drug in Orofino, Idaho, and at B & B pharmacy in Kalispell from 1969 to 1971. Lloyd and Shirley purchased Lloyd's Drug and Variety in Fairfield which he operated from 1971 to 1996.

He was a former deacon at the Faith Bible Church in Fairfield and actively involved in AWANA, a program for youth. He was a member of the Fairfield Town Council; Teton County Airport Commission; Fairfield Lions Club; and the Teton County EMS-EMT program.

He was the recipient of the prestigious Bowl of Hygeia, an award for outstanding community service by pharmacists.

He treasured time spent with his children and grandchildren. He enjoyed helping people, flying his Cessna 182, golfing, camping and fishing, boating, traveling and watching boxing. He participated with enthusiasm in all areas of life.



He is survived by his wife Shirley; sons, Jon Ward of Fort Worth, Texas, Michael Ward of Fairfield, Chris Ward of Winnemucca, Nev.; daughters, Jo Van-

horn of Grangeville, Idaho, and Teresa "Terri" Williams of Great Falls; sisters, Audrey Jeral and Helen Christy, both of Dilworth, Minn., Marjorie Houghlum of Moorhead, Minn., and Myrtis Goral of Lake Havasu City, Ariz.; and nine precious grandchildren. He is also survived by special nieces and nephews as well as several treasured sisters-in-law and a brother-in-law.

Visitation will be at the Gorder Funeral Home in Choteau, Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m. and at the Faith Bible Church in Fairfield, Monday, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Private family graveside burial services will be held prior to a memorial service. The Rev. John Hunsucker and the Rev. Rex Heckel will be officiating at the memorial service, Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Fairfield Community Hall.

Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society Relay for Life or to the Great Falls Rescue Mission.

Verna L. Ward, 89

Verna L. Ward, 89, went to meet the Lord on Friday, Sept. 21, 2001, at her home, while surrounded by her family.

She was born in Manchester, Mont., on Sept. 5, 1912, the fifth of eight children born to Gilbert and Mae Warner.

On Nov. 1, 1933, she married George Ward in Essex. They then moved to Nyack, and later to Kalispell, then Polson, and back to Columbia Falls when she retired.

They raised four daughters.

She worked as a cook in Polson for many years, and at Big Mountain and Many Glacier. She loved her family. They were her whole life. She was loved by all ages for her willingness to listen and console, her quick wit, and happy disposition. With her Gypsy soul she loved to travel and enjoy her trips through most of the Northwestern states.

She was a deeply religious

Christian lady and tried to raise her family to follow in her footsteps. She set a wonderful example. She will be sorely missed by all.

She is preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, two sisters, her husband, a daughter, Joyce Motichka, and a son-in-law, Warren Motichka.

She is survived by her three daughters and their husbands, Gayle and Barry Spooner of Kalispell, Faith and Bob Lake of Hamilton, and Montana and Warren Luce of Columbia Falls; 14 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; nine great-great-grandchildren; a brother, Urval Warner of Columbia Falls; two sisters, Viola Greene of Columbia Falls and Faye Reeves of Columbia Falls; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A private service was held Sept. 25 for the family and close friends.

Robert E. Warner, 61

Robert E. Warner, 61, died in Whitefish on Sept. 30, 2001, after a long battle with cancer.

He was born on July 11, 1940, in Great Falls, the son of James A. Warner and Cleo H. Schaedler. After graduation from Great Falls Central High School, he graduated from Montana State University in 1962.

He wed Mary Faye Smeltzer in July of 1963 and they relocated to Butte, where he worked for the Montana Power Company for 31 years. In 1996, they retired and moved to the Flathead Valley.

He was an active member of the Flathead Valley Community Band and enjoyed playing tuba with them and other musical groups. They also spent many happy hours driving and camping in their motor home. He was a member of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his father.

He is survived by his wife Mary; daughter and son-in-law Joan and Greg Blake and their children Ryan and Kaitlyn of Walnut Creek, Calif.; daughter and son-in-law Donna and Kevin Murphy and their children Shannon, Daniela and Sean of Vancouver, Wash.; his mother Cleo Warner of Great Falls; brothers John Warner of Havre and Mark Warner of Tualatin, Ore.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to St. Charles Church, hospice, or an organization of the donor's choice.

A Christian wake service will be at 7 p.m. on Thursday at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

A memorial Mass will be at 11 a.m. on Friday at St. Charles Catholic Church in Whitefish with Rev. Charles Roman as celebrant.

Royer G Warren, 80

Royer G Warren, 80, passed away on Sept. 2, 2001, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He was born Jan. 16, 1921, in Philadelphia and was raised in Dunellen, N.J. After enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps, he served in the Pacific Theater during World War II and was part of the Iwo Jima invasion force. After recovering from injuries sustained in this operation, he was assigned to be part of the occupation forces in Japan. A career Marine Corps officer, Warren also served during the Korean War as part of the DMZ Commission and retired in June 1963 with the rank of major.

Along the way, he was graduated from UCLA with a master's degree in political science. Following his retirement from the



Marine Corps, he worked in the savings and loan and city administration fields.

In 1968, he moved to Montana and became a tree farmer. He was especially proud of the homes he designed and built himself using the trees from his property. In 1980, he was named Montana Tree Farmer of the Year.

A voracious reader, Warren was a lifelong student of history, languages and opera and enjoyed worldwide travels with his wife, Joan.

He is survived by his wife, Joan, of Lakeside; sister Susan Kempik and her husband, Al, of Fullerton, Calif.; daughter Sharon Muller of Minden, Neb.; local cousins Virginia Larson and Hazel Hutchinson and her husband, Henry, and son Jan; numerous other cousins, stepchildren and grandchildren and many close friends.

A private memorial service will be held.

The family requests that any memorials or contributions be sent to Lakeside QRU, P.O. Box 911, Lakeside MT 59922.

Judy Ann Washburn, 50

Judy Ann Washburn, 50, of Rexford, died on May 5, 2001 at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She was born on Jan. 8, 1951 in Virginia to Robert and Ruth LeFrance Fenton.

She is survived by her husband Billy Washburn of Rex-

ford; two daughters and six grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held today at 2 p.m. at the Mountain View Manor in Eureka.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Ellen Wastweet, 86

Ellen (Fell) Wastweet, 86, formerly of Shelby and recently of Havre, was called home on Monday, Dec. 24, 2001. She died at Northern Montana Hospital in Havre of natural causes.

Born May 11, 1915, to Anna and Henry Fell in Bemidji, Minn., Ellen was raised in Shevlin, Minn., attending school at Bear Creek School and Bemidji High School. She worked as a bookkeeper in Bagley after high school.

In 1940, Ellen married Marv Wastweet in Shevlin at Sell Lake Church, where both Marv and Ellen were baptized and confirmed. Ellen worked as a nurses' aide in Walker, Minn. until moving to Shelby in 1951.

While in Shelby, Ellen worked in various supper clubs as a waitress until age 80. She was an active member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, where she helped with the quality circle making quilt tops for many years. Ellen was also an Avon representative for several years in Shelby. Ellen and Marv moved to Havre in



July 2001 to live with their daughter when Ellen's health worsened. She loved being around people. Her warm and gentle spirit will be missed by all those whose lives she touched.

Survivors include her husband, Marv Wastweet, of Havre; daughter, Mavis Filler, of Havre; grandchildren, Jim Fenger, Brenda Bauer, Darrin Fenger and families of Kalispell; Pam West and family of Havre; and Christine Lambert and family of Great Falls; brother, Ken Fell, of Shevlin, Minn. and sister, Shirley Powell, of Waupun, Wisc.

Ellen was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Roberta, daughter and son-in-law, Marlene and Delmar Fenger in 1990, twin brothers, Carl and Robert, an infant sister, and brother, Vernon.

A celebration of her life will be held Saturday, Jan. 5 at 2 p.m. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby. Burial will take place at a later date at Sell Lake Church in Shevlin, Minn.

In lieu of flowers, Ellen requested memorials be sent to any of the following: St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby, Gift of Life in Great Falls, or Sell Lake Lutheran Church in Shevlin, Minn.

Jotham 'Joe' Richard Watson, 95

Jotham "Joe" Richard Watson, 95, passed away Friday, Oct. 12, 2001, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. He was born Dec. 24, 1905, in Decatur, Ill., to Richard Jotham and Leona Dee (Cummins) Watson.



In 1972, he married Bettye Lentz in Los Gatos, Calif. They were soon to celebrate their 30th anniversary. He always enjoyed the outdoors and especially loved camping, fishing and hunting with family and friends.

He was extremely versatile in many fields and was employed in the automotive industry for more than 50 years as a service manager and parts department manager, where his talents in mechanical design and repair were evident. His knowledge and ability to recall details were an unending source of amazement to anyone with a question concerning anything from Model A's to Ferraris.

He was active his entire life and was a tenacious worker. As always, his firewood for this year already had been cut and stacked neatly.

He was loved and will be remembered by all for his strength, generosity, dependability, humor and kindness. His steadfast belief and love for the Lord were shown by example in his daily life.

He is survived by his wife, Bettye Watson; son, Jimmy Lentz of Oroville, Calif.; daughter, Katie; son, Gary Lentz, and his wife, Ruth, of Berry Creek, Calif.; son, Buck Lentz of Bozeman, and his sons, Jacob, Jeremy, Aaron and Joshua; son, George Lentz, and his wife, Jamie, of Kalispell and his children, Jotham, Clinton, Carmen, Amanda and Nakesha; son, Ray Lentz, and his wife, Martha, of Lakewood, Wash., and his children, Sarah, Angie, Erin and Jason; and daughter, Karen Lentz of Kalispell and her sons, Jotham, Clinton and Sammy; his children from his first marriage to Ruth Adeline, including his daughter, Maxine Vesta Sabel, and her husband, Donald Edwin, and their children, Donald Edwin Sabel, Jr., and Marshall Keye Sabel; son, Clayton Gene Watson, and his wife, Gladys, and their children, Danny Watson and Kathy Peterson; son, Velvin Richard Watson, and his wife, Cassandra, and their children, Melanie Ruth Bruner, Mark Charles Watson and Amy Marie Beebe; 12 great-grandchildren; sister, Helen Krockner; and many friends.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Bigfork with the Rev. Roger Daley officiating. Cremation will follow. Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday at Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

Dorothy E. Watts, 83

Dorothy E. Watts, 83, passed away on Thursday, May 3, 2001, as a result of a stroke. She was with her daughter and the loving care of the North Valley Extended Care in Whitefish.

She was born on March 3, 1918, to Henry and Ellen Whitney in Brattleboro, Vt.

She owned the Bar B Que Restaurant in Dennisport, Cape Cod, Mass. There she waited on Rose Kennedy and Ertha Kitt weekly. Complete meals cost 99 cents.

She married Norman Watts and they retired from Cape Cod to Apopka, Fla. In 1995 they moved to Montana to be near her daughter and son.

She is survived by her daughter

Sandy Sutherland and favorite ex-son-in-law Dick Sutherland of Columbia Falls; her son Robert Wade and his wife Marcia of Pasco, Wash.; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A memorial Mass will be held at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls at 10 a.m. on Monday. The Rev. Joe Pat Moran will officiate. Inurnment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

The family requests that donations be made in Dorothy's name to the North Valley Extended Care in Whitefish.

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

Wilford 'Wil' Weaver, 75

Wilford "Wil" Weaver, 75, passed away peacefully at his home near Kalispell on Sept. 23, 2001. He was born Dec. 23, 1925, in Monte Vista, Colo.



He was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, proudly serving his country in World War II, the Korean Conflict, and two tours of duty in Vietnam.

He was a resident of the San Geronio Pass for 35 years. He owned an automobile dealership and was involved in auto and RV sales.

He was a member of the Kiwanis, Elks, Sportsman Club, and Rotary and served six years in the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

In 1996, he retired to Kalispell where he enjoyed fishing, boating, and the outdoor life.

He will be greatly missed by his loving wife, Mary of Kalispell; he will live on forever in the hearts of

his daughters, Margaret Koahou of Hemet, Calif., Sharon Hazell of Beaumont, Calif., and Betty Morissette and son-in-law Fred Morissette of Las Vegas; and stepsons, Chris and Alex Oeppinger of Los Angeles; his grandchildren, Abel Jr., Alan and Brian Koahou, Kuuipo Benson, Mechelle Cebrowski, Brent Thompson, Amanda and Shay Morissette, and 13 great-grandchildren; two sisters, three brothers, and numerous friends.

He cherished life to the fullest and will be greatly missed by all that knew and loved him.

A memorial service will be held Thursday at 3 p.m. at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Rev. Joe Pat Moran from St. Richard's Catholic Church will officiate. Military honors will be conducted by the United Veterans of the Flathead.

His remains will be scattered at sea.

Viola Gleisner Wehr, 90

Viola Gleisner Wehr, 90, was received into the arms of her Savior July 28, 2001, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She was born May 25, 1911, in Rudyard to Joseph and Matilda Didt Gleisner.

Her marriage to William Wehr took place June 5, 1932, at the ranch near Rudyard where she spent her childhood days.

She attended a rural grade school near Rudyard and graduated from four years of high school in Havre in 1928. Her lifelong goal to become a teacher was realized after enrolling in 1950 at Western Montana College in Dillon. In 1960, she attended the University of Montana in Missoula to complete her education.

Her first teaching position was in Rudyard. She moved with her husband to Big Sandy where she continued teaching. In 1947, they and their three sons moved to Kalispell, where she and her husband owned and operated Wehr's Grocery for six years. She taught at Montford School for three years and then began her teaching career for District #5 at Cornelius Hedges where she taught for five years as a first grade teacher. She completed her career as a first grade teacher for Russell School for 15 more years. She was loved and respected by her students and co-workers.



She was very active as president of the Parent Teacher Association with on a local and district level. She was president of the Flathead Retired Teachers Association, charter member of Alpha Delta Kappa, life member of Montana Federation of Women's Club, a member of the American Association of University Women, and a faithful and active member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bill; and a granddaughter, Laurie Wehr.

She is survived by her three sons, Richard "Dick" Wehr and wife Carol of Sequim, Wash., Roger Wehr of Spokane, and Gary Wehr and wife Virginia of Lynwood, Wash.; five grandchildren, Guy Wehr and wife Kelly and son Garrett, Dana Jones and husband Brent and Auburn Lee, Linda Wehr, Kristie Wehr, and Lisa Wehr; one sister, Florence Jenkins and husband Ralph of West Seattle Wash.; with numerous relatives.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 11 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church with the Rev. Dan Wurster officiating. Visitation will be today from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

The family suggests memorials be given to Bill Ludwig Scholarship Fund of Trinity Lutheran School, 495 5th Ave W.N., Kalispell, MT 59901, or Trinity Lutheran Church 400 W. California, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Evelyn M. Welch, 91

Evelyn M. Welch, 91, passed away at Brendan House on March 19, 2001. She was born on Dec. 25, 1909, in Los Angeles, to William and Ruth Smith Murray.

She loved watching NASCAR Winston Cup Races, as well as football. She waterskied until her mid-70s, and enjoyed reading and fishing. She had worked as a bookkeeper, retiring in 1975.

She was preceded in death by her parents and spouse, William

"Bill" Welch.

She is survived by a daughter, Penny and her husband, John Armstrong, of Kalispell; sons, Ron and wife, Jean Welch, of Altaloma, Calif., Bill and wife, Carol Welch, of West Linn, Ore., Richard and wife, Jane Welch of Lakewood, Calif.; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Funeral Home.

Nevin V. Welch, 74

Nevin V. Welch, 74, of Troy, died on Jan. 24, 2001, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He was born in Libby, on April 16, 1926, to Vernice Duke Welch and Ellen Mae Dailey Welch, and was raised and educated in Troy.

He married Harriet Vinson on Jan. 7, 1946. He was a long-

time employee of the J. Neils Lumber Company and St. Regis Paper Company.

He is survived by his wife Harriet of Troy; a son, Bob Welch and his wife, Joyce, of Troy; his brothers Jim and Dennis Welch, both of Troy; seven grandchildren and 12

great-grandchildren.

Services will be Saturday at 3 p.m. at the Troy Church of God with the Rev. Gene Bushnell officiating; interment services will follow at Troy Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the care of Nelson and Vial Funeral Home.

Gerald L. Wellington, 65

Gerald L. Wellington, 65, passed away on June 30, 2001, in Whitefish. "Jerry" was born in Whitefish to Louise and Duke Wellington.

He graduated from Whitefish High School and then served two years in the U.S. Army. After his time in the service he returned to Whitefish and joined his father in the refrigeration and air conditioning business. Upon his father's illness, he became sole proprietor of Glacier Refrigeration, which he operated until the time of his death.

He was preceded in death by his father, and brother, Gary "Buddy."

He is survived by his mother and step-father, Louise and Art La Brie; two daughters, Jane Hoyt



and husband Steve of Escondido, Calif., and Mona Hayes and husband John of Rapid City, S.D.; four sons, Kevin Wellington and wife Renee of Wasilla, Alaska, Curtis of Eugene, Ore., Ryan of Aberdeen, S.D., and Cory of Whitefish; granddaughter Ali of Eugene; aunt and uncle Jane and Lorin Barnes of Columbia Falls, numerous cousins including Wayne Penecard and Elaine Thoring of Whitefish, and many friends and loyal customers.

Visitation will be from 4-8 p.m. today at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. A memorial service is scheduled for Thursday at 3 p.m. at the Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be made to the North Valley Food Bank Fund or a charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Austin Funeral Home.

Lawrence Elton 'Larry' West, 92

Lawrence Elton "Larry" West, 92, passed away on Dec. 10, 2001, at Mountain View Manor in Eureka.

Larry was born on May 2, 1909, in Dodge City, Kan., to Dennis and Hallie West. When he was 5 years old, he moved to Roy, N.M., and lived there until he was 15. They moved to South Gate, Calif.

Larry lived in El Monte, Calif., for 60 years. While living in El Monte, he worked for Pacific Telephone and Telegraph for 42 years. After retiring, he spent another 15 years working as a tax man, not because he needed to but because he enjoyed helping out people with their tax problems.

Larry and his wife Zuma moved to Kalispell in 1997, and Larry moved into the Mountain View Manor in Eureka in March of 2001.

Larry loved music. He played the piano, tenor sax and clarinet. He had his own band for 25 years. People that knew Larry will remember his stories about his youth, his 42 years working for Pacific Telephone and the stories about the telephone pioneers. He enjoyed his time at Jerry's Saloon, in Fortine, where he loved playing the piano and making music with

his grandsons, family and friends around him. His grandson Bret told him that he would be playing piano with the angels for all to hear.

Larry was a past member of the Lexington Masonic Lodge #104, and was a master Mason.

"When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure. Daddy you will always be a treasure to me."

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

He is survived by his wife of 67 years Zuma of Kalispell; a daughter Ora Bullock and her husband Jack of Eureka; grandsons, Bret Bullock and his family of Kalispell, Loren Bullock of Portland; and a granddaughter, Pamela Hein and her family of Van Nuys, Calif.

Visitation will be from 3-7 p.m. today at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. on Thursday at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Arrangements are under the direction of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Dorothy E. Westergren, 65

Dorothy E. Westergren, 65, passed away at her home on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2001.

She was born Sept. 21, 1935, in Port Townsend, Wash., to Joseph Leland and Ida Fay Anderson Homan. She grew up in the same house in Seattle, and was a graduate of Highline High School.

She married Jerome Westergren in October 1955. She moved to Kalispell in October 2000.

As a young woman she held a membership in the Order of Eastern Star; and had been a past worthy advisor and Grand officer of Rainbow girls. At the age of 21, she became a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

She loved her children, family, and the outdoors. She especially liked hiking and camping.

She was preceded in death by her parents

She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Jerome of Kalispell; four daughters, Lee Hopkins and husband, David, of California,

Dawn Pickard of North Bend, Wash., Terri Wise and husband, Mark, of Virginia, JoEllen Ziegler and husband, Don, of Kila; two sons, Jon Westergren and wife, Jill, of Seattle, Scott Westergren and wife, Tracey, of Snoqualmie, Wash.; and 10 grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held on Monday at 12 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Stake Center on Whitefish Stage Road, Kalispell with Bishop Leroy Turner officiating. Visitation will be in the relief society room at 11 a.m. at the church. Burial will follow the services at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

The family requests memorial donations in Dorothy's name to Hospice, 1280 Burns Way, Kalispell, MT 59901; to any kidney foundation center, or the Dialysis Center Patient Fund, 66 Claremont Street, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Richard Carmen Westom, 70

Richard Carmen Westom, 70, passed away at his home in Kila on July 2, 2001, after a short battle with cancer. He was born Oct. 12, 1930, in Minot, N. D., to Carmen and Etta Mae Goodpastor Westom.



He enlisted in the Army Air Force on July 16, 1947, and was honorably discharged on July 16, 1950. He then enlisted in the Navy on Oct. 13, 1950, and was honorably discharged on Aug. 11, 1954, and as a Korean War veteran received the Korean Service Medal (4 stars), United Nations Service Medal, China Service Medal and a National Defense Service Medal.

The family resided in Santa Ana, Calif., from 1956 until he retired from Duracell in July of

1993. The family then moved to Kila, where they became homeowners on Rogers Lake Road. He loved living in the country and enjoyed the wildlife and the beautiful surrounding area. He always had a pleasant smile and will be greatly missed by all that knew him.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Geraldine, who he married on Oct. 16, 1955; and his son, Richard Wm. Westom, both of Kila; his daughter Teresa C. Chadwick and her husband, Johnny, and their children, his grandchildren Ashley and J.J. Chadwick, all of Redlands, Calif.; a sister Marilyn Stake of Perris, Calif., and numerous loving nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held at the family home on Sunday at 3 p.m. at 1075 Rogers Lake Rd. All are welcome.

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

Alta Rae Wetzel, 76

Alta Rae Wetzel, 76, passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2001, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

She was born on Nov. 1, 1925, in Great Falls, to Edward and Virginia Wormley. They moved to the Flathead Valley in 1934. Alta graduated from Flathead County High School in 1945.

She was married to Robert McWilliams in 1946. They had three children and later they were divorced.

She married Fred Wetzel and they had a son. She bought her home in Woods Bay in 1971 on Flathead Lake.

When her children were grown she decided to go to Germany with her two children where she worked for the Army Air Force exchange systems for 10 years.

She retired and came home to her beloved Flathead Lake where she had resided until she moved into Lake View Care Center on Nov. 20, 2001.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a son, Mike Williams, and numerous other relatives.

Alta is survived by five siblings, Mary Ann and her husband Dave Townsend, Dennis and his wife Sandy Wormley, Patty and her husband Lee Kidwell, Sue and her husband Don McClean, and Roger Sobel; three children, Tom and his wife Maria McWilliams and Franz and his wife Reba Gebel, all of Germany, and Fritz and his wife Alice Wetzel; eight grandchildren,

Robert and Stacy McWilliams, J.J. and Travis Wetzel, Courtney, Hyrum, Cheryl and Kristen Cattaneo; one great-grandchild, Jordyn Englund.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Bigfork Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Charles Wayne Wetzel, 50

Charles Wayne Wetzel, 50, died Aug. 21, 2001, of heart failure at his home near Coram.

He was born Sept. 5, 1950, in Polson, to Wayne and Beverly Wetzel. He married Wanda Schultz in 1976. They had three sons. He worked on the road crew at Glacier Park for the past 21 years.

He was preceded in death by his father Wayne in 1973.

He is survived by his wife Wanda of Coram; four sons including Jeremy, Joel, and Tyler of Columbia Falls; his

mother, Beverly Wetzel of Polson; a sister, Deanne Schultz and her husband, Bill, of Polson and families; and a brother and sister-in-law.

A service will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A potluck dinner will be held at the Columbia Falls Senior Citizen Center following the services.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested that a donation be made to the charity of the donor's choice.