

Robert Harold Babb, 67

Robert Harold Babb, 67, passed away during open heart surgery on Monday, Nov. 11, 2002, at St. Patrick's Hospital in Missoula.



He was born Dec. 9, 1934, in Southgate, Calif., to Harold L. and Sadie M. (Miller) Babb.

He retired in 1997 as the Kalispell city engineer and public works director after a 40-year career as a civil engineer and professional land survivor.

He was active in his local church as a Bible teacher, musician and vocalist.

He is survived by his beloved

bride of 47 years, Dee Babb of Kalispell; four sons; Michael Babb and wife, Deanna, of Great Falls, Mark Babb and wife, Kathy, of Trophy Club, Texas, Jonathan Babb of Namibia, Africa, and Stephen Babb and wife, Sharie, of Great Falls; one daughter, Jill Spady and husband, Barry, of East Helena; also 14 grandchildren.

Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Community Alliance Church, 348 Second Ave. West in Kalispell with Pastor Jim Davey officiating.

Memorials may be made to Circuit Riders Ministries, c/o Ron Elridge, P.O. Box, 190352, Boise, Idaho 83719.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Thomas J. Bachteler, 65

Thomas J. Bachteler, 65, died Saturday, Dec. 14, 2002, at his home in Libby.

He had been a longtime employee of the St. Regis Paper Company, Champion International and Stimson Lumber Company.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy, of Libby; daughters, Brenda Turner of Sinagra, Australia, and Natalie Dompier and Lisa Laycock, both of Libby; sons, Darreld Bachteler

of Chateroy, Wash., and Bret Bachteler of Libby; and his mother, Helen Wheeler, of Rochester, Wash.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Robert Foote officiating. Visitation will be from 3 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and until noon on Thursday. Interment with military honors will be at the City of Libby Cemetery.

Maxine Elizabeth Bailey, 87

Maxine Elizabeth Bailey, 87, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2002, at Brendan House.

Maxine was born on April 25, 1915, in Havre, to Helen (Maxwell) and Alexander Chisholm. She attended Havre public schools, Northern Montana College and the University of Minnesota. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English and education from the University of Southern California in 1938.

Maxine taught high school English in Montana schools — Malta, Winnett, Broadus and Poplar — before marrying Edward Bailey in 1941. They lived in Chester and Eureka, where Ed was superintendent of schools until 1950, when they moved to Kalispell, and have resided here since.

Maxine was a homemaker for most of her life, enjoying her three children, John, Jim and Helen, and taking part in community activities.

She and Ed were lifelong members of the First Presbyterian Church and Maxine was active in Philanthropic Educational Organization and the Retired Teachers Association.

Maxine returned to teaching in 1958 at Linderman, where she taught until 1967. She enjoyed her students immensely and the camaraderie of her fellow teachers.

One of her fondest memories was a trip to Catron, Scotland, after Ed's retirement, where she was able to spend a few weeks with



relatives and friends of her parents, who came to the United States in the early part of the 20th century. She also enjoyed several winters as a snow bird in Lake Havasu City, Ariz., where she and Ed enjoyed the sunshine and making new friends.

She is survived by one brother, Kenneth Chisholm of Carpinteria, Calif.; two sons, John D. Bailey and wife, Robin, of Kalispell, and James E. Bailey of Spokane; a daughter, Helen Bradley of Yakima, Wash.; and three grandchildren, Chris and wife, Elizabeth Bailey of Mukilteo, Wash., Katie and husband, Dale French of Portland, and Brent Bradley of San Francisco.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Roderick and Robert Chisholm; and her loving husband of 60 years, Edward.

Burial has taken place next to Ed in C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, and the family will hold a private memorial service for Maxine.

John, Robin, Helen, Jim, Katie, Brent and Chris wish to extend the warmest of thanks to the staff of Brendan House for their loving care of both Ed and Maxine during the past few years and to the numerous neighbors and friends who helped "Mom and Dad" during their later years.

"Maxine dearly loved her family and her life in Kalispell among the most beautiful of mountains and lakes and is at peace with God now."

Memorials may be made to the Edward Bailey Scholarship Fund at the Hockaday Center or Cotley College in Nevada, Mo.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Thomas P. Bain, 79

Thomas P. Bain, 79, passed away Jan. 2, 2002, at St. Luke's Extended Care in Ronan.

He was born June 30, 1922, to James and Marion McLean Bain in Somers. A graduate of Flathead County High School, Tom worked in clothing stores all his working years, with many of them at Moodies Clothing Store of Columbia Falls.

He was a past member of the National Guard and was active in the United Methodist Church in St. Ignatius.

Tom was preceded in death by his wife Vi in 1988 and a son, who was adopted at 10 months, and who was killed at 22 by a drunk driver in 1983; and a sister, Agnes Murray.

He met and married Ayleen Schliep through the Sweetheart Magazine in 1989 when he was living in Coram.

He is survived by his wife, Ayleen Schliep Bain, at the family home in St. Ignatius. He is also survived by three stepsons, Leland and wife, Cathy, Schliep of Billings, Glenn and wife Vicki Schliep of St. Francis, Kan., and Gordon and wife, Joyce Schliep of St. Ignatius; brothers, Don Bain of Kalispell and Bill and wife Pam Bain of Columbia Falls; and brother-in-law Art Murray of California; seven stepgrandchildren and nine stepgreat-grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held today at 1 p.m. at the St. Ignatius United Methodist Church with the Rev. Jill Borden officiating. Inurnment will follow in the Pleasant View Cemetery in St. Ignatius.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the United Methodist Church or to the St. Ignatius Senior Center.

Bruce Baker, 64

Bruce Baker, 64, a former resident of Libby, died Monday, Feb. 4, 2002, in Yakima, Wash.

He was born in Whitefish on Jan. 26, 1938, to William and Edith Baker.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a son and a grandson.

He is survived locally by a daughter, Peggy Terry, of Polson; a brother, Ernie Baker, of Whitefish and a sister, Flora Sladek, of Whitefish.

Local services will be conducted today at 1 p.m. at the Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Libby with the Rev. Kurt Hensley officiating.

George W. Baker, 74

George W. Baker, 74, passed away Feb. 19, 2002, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He was born in Tillamook, Ore., on Feb. 27, 1928, to Nelson and Genevieve (King) Johnson.

George was a U.S. Army veteran, who served in an airborne division during World War II. After being discharged, he started driving truck for McElroy and Wilkin in Kalispell and eventually retired from there.

George's lifelong dream was to own a farm but he was unable to realize that dream. To satisfy himself, he created a farm in his mind where he daily went through chores, crop rotations, grain prices, and daily tasks associated with farm work. He even kept books on his endeavors.

Besides farming, George liked to just have fun. He loved to travel, especially going on cruises. He held memberships in the Eagles Aerie and the Moose Lodge.

He was preceded in death by



his parents; stepfather Arvid Carlson; and a daughter, LeeAnn Baker.

George is survived by his wife, Monty, of Kalispell; four daughters, Georgia Johnston of Seattle, Genevieve Baker of Kalispell, Helen Brickman of Great Falls, and Rhonda Phipps of White Sulphur Springs; granddaughters, Carley Baker of Kalispell, Justin Sheehan of Salt Lake City, Amber Thompson of Great Falls; stepdaughters, Linda K. Bristow of Kalispell and MonteRae Ingraham of Whitefish, and Lake Havasu, Ariz; stepson, Gordon R. Taylor of Kalispell; stepgrandchildren, Jerry Ingraham, Rick Bristow, DesiRae Carrothers, Alan Taylor and nine great-stepgrandchildren; special cousins, Sandra and Shirley as well as many friends and family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 3203 3rd Ave. N., Suite 203, Billings, MT, 59101.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Kalispell Moose Lodge.

Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary.

Theron Edward 'Eddie' Baker, 45

Theron Edward "Eddie" Baker, 45, died Jan. 10, 2002, at his home in Kila.

He was born June 30, 1956, in Decatur, Ga., to James and Martha Baker.

Graveside services were held Friday at C.E. Conrad

Cemetery.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Columbia Falls.

Arrangements are under the direction of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

James F. Bakkila, 68

James F. Bakkila, 68, formerly of Eureka, died Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2002, in Brainerd, Minn.

He was born Nov. 26, 1933, in Brainerd, to John A. and Elsie (Anderson) Bakkila.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a grandson, a brother and two sisters.

He is survived locally by a son, Veikko Bakkila of Whitefish and a daughter, Lauri

Holdaway of Eureka.

Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Eureka with President Michael Smith officiating. Interment services with military honors will be at Tobacco Valley Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

Frank C. Baldik, 86

Frank C. Baldik, 86, passed away on Monday, Feb. 11, 2002, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

He was born on Dec. 13, 1915, in Iliad, Mont. Frank's father passed away when he was 12, and he became the breadwinner for the family. He went to work at the PN Ranch feeding cattle with his brother George and also farmed the family homestead in Big Sandy. He worked for Glacier Park with the Civilian Conservation Corp as a telephone lineman for two years before the start of World War II.

He enlisted in the United States Army and served four years and one month in the Aleutian Islands off Alaska with the 1344th Engineer Battalion.

After finishing boot camp in California, he married his sweetheart, Imogene Baldik, on June 6, 1942, in Inglewood, Calif. Their 60th wedding anniversary would have been this year.

After his discharge from the service Frank returned to Kalispell where he bought and operated his own logging truck for a short time. He decided to go to electrical school, Coin Electric in Chicago, Ill., and began working for Pacific Power and Light as a high-power lineman and telephone installer and repair worker. After retirement from PP&L, Frank



worked for two years as a private contractor with the Flathead National Forest Service on tree thinning projects in the Hungry Horse area.

Frank was very involved with the Boy Scouts of America, Kalispell Troop 20, where he served as Scout Master for 20 years and was awarded the "Silver Beaver" for his commitment and service. He shepherded several Eagle Scouts while working with them. He was also a member of the Kalispell Masonic lodge and Eastern Star.

Frank enjoyed hunting and fishing, canoeing and camping, hiking in Glacier Park, and spending time with his family at the property in the North Fork.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, and one sister, Martha. He is survived by his loving wife, Imogene Baldik; five children, Leslie Baldik of Pullman, Wash., Pati Guenther, Jerry Baldik and Tom Baldik of Seattle, and Daryl Baldik of Kalispell; eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one brother, George Baldik of Harlem; and one sister, Emily Brown of Big Sandy.

Funeral services will be held today at 2 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Kalispell with the Rev. Glenn Burfeind officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Alan W. Barker, 75

Alan W. Barker, 75, died Friday, Jan. 11, 2002, at his home in Kellogg, Idaho.

He was born Jan. 31, 1926, in St. Ignatius, to Frederick C. and Rosamond Jensen Barker. He graduated from the Montana State School for the Deaf and Blind, Great Falls, and from the Dunwoody School of Baking in Minnesota.

Alan moved to the Silver Valley in Idaho from Kalispell in 1968. He had worked for the Stein's IGA in the bakery, after it closed he worked as a custodian for the J.C. Penney Co. in Kellogg, until the store closed. Then he retired but continued to do custodial work for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, of which he was a member. He enjoyed fishing when he had the chance to go. He never married.

He was preceded in death by his

parents, one sister and a brother.

He is survived by two sisters, Marie Cozzetto of Marysville, Wash., Rosa Krim of Yerinton, Nev.; three brothers, J. Clark Barker of Kalispell, Fred Barker of Bigfork, and George Barker of Canmore, Alberta; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will begin at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Pinehurst, Idaho, with Bishop Russell Allred officiating. Burial will be Monday at 3 p.m. at Conrad Cemetery in Kalispell.

Arrangements are under the direction of Shoshone Funeral Service of Kellogg, Idaho.

Margaret 'Babs' M. Barnwell

Margaret "Babs" M. Barnwell died on Oct. 18, 2002, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

No services are scheduled. Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Lester M. Barr, 71

Lester M. Barr, 71, died Friday, March 8, 2002, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital of natural causes.

He was born Aug. 3, 1970, in Libby, to Arthur and Grace (Van Dyke) Barr.

He is survived locally by a sister, Marlys Barr, of Kalispell and a brother, Phil

Barr, of Libby.

Services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the Kootenai Chapel in Troy.

Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Local arrangements are under the direction of Nelson and Vial funeral Home in Libby.

Joy Lynn Schultz Barrett, 35, passed away on Sunday Sept. 15, 2002, at her home in Kalispell.

She was born in Kalispell, on Oct. 2, 1966. She was raised in

Kalispell, graduating from Flathead High School in 1986. She also attended cosmetology school.

She had a love of the outdoors, gardening, camping, fishing, and her children.

She is survived by her husband, Kenneth Barrett, and her children, Robert, 17, Michael, 16, Brian, seven, Katelynn, four, Sean, two, and Shannon, 11 months. She also leaves her parents, Don and Lorraine Schultz, and her siblings and their spouses, Tami and Mark Whitehead, Don Schultz Jr., Dan and Christy Schultz, Todd and Yvonne Schultz, Laurie and Scott Lank-



tree, Ron and Shirley Baier, Ray and Sami Baier, Steve and Gail Welch, Larry and Kathy Baier, Lance and Kim Baier, Gwendy Baier; and Ken's mother, Regina Anne Barrett of Florida; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, George and Mary Wise.

Joy's bright smile and cheery disposition will be greatly missed by all who knew her. She will never be forgotten for the positive impact she had on so many lives. "We love and miss you."

Visitation will be held from 3 to 8 p.m. on Friday at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1380 Whitefish Stage Road, with Bishop Steve Perrone conducting the services. Burial will follow at C. E. Conrad Cemetery in Kalispell.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Lottie M. Ball, 97

Lottie M. Ball, 97, passed away Monday morning, Jan. 14, 2002, at the Colonial Manor in Whitefish.

She was born March 26, 1904, in White Earth, N.D., to Ole and Kjerste Strom. The family moved to Berthold, N.D. After her father's death, they moved back to White Earth.

She attended Normal School and taught for several years in North Dakota.

Lottie was married to Richard T. Ball on Dec. 13, 1930, in Stanley, N.D. They farmed in the White Earth area until 1936, when they moved to Coram. In 1953, they moved to Columbia Falls, where she lived until moving to the Colonial Manor in 1996.

She liked to garden and was a member of the Columbia Falls

Senior Citizens Center for several years.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Richard, in 1980; and three sisters.

Lottie is survived by many nieces and nephews, including Delores Sanders and her husband David of Columbia Falls, and Gloria Lilly and her husband Bill of Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, and five great-great-grandnieces and nephews.

Viewing will be today from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A graveside service will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls. The Rev. Jerry Buchanan will officiate.

The family has suggested that memorials be made to North Valley Senior Citizens Center.

Jessilyn Michelle Baltz, 24 days

Jessilyn Michelle Baltz, 24-day-old infant daughter of Amanda Baltz, died on Feb. 27, 2002, at Children's Hospital, Seattle, after multiple medical complications.

She is survived by her mother, Amanda Baltz, of Pablo; maternal grandparents, Kay and Roy Baltz of Pablo; maternal great-

grandmother, Irene Tiffany of Polson; uncle Roy Baltz Jr.; aunt Kitty Cook of Pablo; and numerous other relatives.

Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, March 6, at 2 p.m. at the Grogan Funeral Home in Polson. Burial will be held at Lakeview Cemetery, Polson.

Teresa Marie Bamford, 66

Teresa Marie Bamford, 66, of Troy, died on Oct. 26, 2002, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital in Libby.

She is survived by her husband, Donn of Troy; sons Donald (Butch) Bamford of Troy, and William (Billy) Bamford of Craig, Colo.; Steven Bamford

of Seward, Alaska; and Joe Bamford of Carbondale, Colo.; and daughters Wendy and Kathy Bamford of Anchorage, Alaska.

Survivors will be at a later date. Arrangements are by the Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

Barbara Ann Bannon, 68

Barbara Ann Bannon, 68, passed away from natural causes Saturday, Oct. 26, 2002, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born Sept. 24, 1934, in Arbor, N.J., to John and Helen Kulesavage. She attended Ohio University. She was a member of St. Charles Catholic Church in Whitefish and a former member of the North Valley Extended Care Unit volunteers. She was an enthusiastic craft artisan, an avid reader and beloved friend to all.

Always a treasure to her family, Barbara is survived by her husband, John H. Bannon, of Whitefish; daughters, Kathy and Jay Reilly of Falmouth, Mass., Lori

Canning of Columbia, S.C., Valerie and Jeff Penfold of Palatine, Ill.; son Jack Bannon, of Chicago; brothers, Stan Kulesavage of Manahawkin, N.J., and Joe Kulesavage, of Palm Coast, Fla.; sister, Dolores Kulesavage, of Manahawkin; and seven grandchildren.

Visitation will be 2-7 p.m. today at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. A Christian wake service will be at 7 p.m. at the funeral home. A Mass of the Christian Burial will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Whitefish, with the Rev. Charles Roman officiating. Burial will follow at the St. Richard's Catholic Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

The family expresses its sincere appreciation and love to those who cared and prayed for Barbara, especially her physician, Dr. David C. Habel.

Lois LaVerne Swisher Barrett, 81

Lois LaVerne Swisher Barrett, 81, a Whitefish resident, passed away Friday morning, Nov. 15, 2002, at the Colonial Manor in Whitefish of natural causes.

She was born Jan. 31, 1921, the daughter of Harley and Marion Swisher. She graduated from Whitefish High School in 1939, and then attended college in Havre.

Lois was the city treasurer of Whitefish from 1947-63. She worked in Nevada from 1967-78.

She married Edmond "Dick" Barrett in Reno, Nev., in 1968. Dick

passed away in Kalispell in 1982. She was also preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by cousins of the Fredenberg family.

Graveside services will be at a later time at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

The family has suggested that memorials can be made to the Whitefish Library or to the Pam Fredenberg Scholarship Fund at Whitefish High School.

Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish is in charge of arrangements.

Robert Joseph Barta, 75

Robert Joseph Barta, 75, of Columbia Falls, died Saturday, Oct. 19, 2002, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

He was born in Chelsea, Wis., on March 15, 1927, to Andrew and Sylvia Barta. He attended schools in Wisconsin and moved to Montana in the fall of 1946.

He married Mary Opal Johnson on April 26, 1947; they had five children, Richard, of Stevensville, David of Missoula, Helen of Fort Valley, Ga., Karla of Bonaire, Ga., and Barbara Jean who preceded him in death.

On Jan. 16, 1976, he married Helen Hasbrouck Morrison.

Robert is survived by his wife Helen; his sons Richard (Deloris) Barta and David (Vickie) Barta;

his daughters, Helen (Grady) Shaw and Karla (Gary) Borosky; two stepchildren, Jean (Dennis) Randall of Billings, and Michael (Debbie) Morrison of Helena; five grandchildren, nine stepgrandchildren, four great-grandchildren, five stepgreat-grandchildren; three sisters; and one brother.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Richard, who went down on a submarine in World War II; one sister, Audrey; his daughter, Barbara Jean; and both parents.

A funeral service will be held on Friday at 1 p.m. at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls, with the Rev. Tom Gopp officiating. Burial will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Dennis D. Barta, 60

Dennis D. Barta, 60, of Columbia Falls, died Sunday, July 7, 2002, at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Denver.

He is survived by two daugh-

ters, Betty Jo Minor and Diane Ricketts and a son, Arnold Barta

A graveside service will be held Saturday, at 11 a.m. at the City Cemetery in Lewistown.

Olive Bartle, 85

Olive Bartle, 85, a longtime resident of Whitefish, passed away Friday, April 25, 2002, at son Howard Glidden's home in Topeka, Kan.

She was born to Howard and Lennie Field on Sept. 10, 1916, in Opheim, one of nine children.

She had gone to school in Whitefish and had moved back here and lived in Whitefish for the past 20 years. She was a member of the Moose Lodge there.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters, Wilma (Field) Robertson and Nanty Field; and four brothers, Raymond, Ronald, Ralph and Robert.

She is survived by her son, Howard Glidden, and his wife, Charlie; three granddaughters, Tracy, Kelly and Debbie; four great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren, all of Topeka, Kan.; a grandson, Jim Glidden of California; also two brothers, Wayne Field and his wife, Mary Lou, of Whitefish, and Kenny Field and his wife, Arlene, of Kalispell; four sisters-in-law, Marion Field, Bert Nutting, Merna Allen and Millie Baker; and many nieces and nephews.

There will be a family gathering sometime this summer to scatter her ashes and celebrate her life.

Joanne Beverly Button Bartlett, 68

Joanne Beverly Button Bartlett, 68, passed on June 24, 2002, after a brief, but courageous, battle with pancreatic cancer.



Joanne was born July 18, 1933, in Darien, Conn., to Ralph and Edith Button. She attended Vermont Junior College and the University of Michigan, graduating as a medical technologist.

She worked in the medical field most of her life and she was a superb mother to her children and a most valued companion to her husband.

Joanne had many interests and hobbies including knitting beautiful afghans and clothes for her family, cooking thousands of simple but elegant meals that could somehow not be duplicated even by following her recipes, and playing puzzles and games while artfully instilling her competitive nature in her children.

She was a Girl Scout leader for

her daughters and supportive coach/transportation director for her children's many activities that she encouraged. As an avid sports enthusiast, Joanne took up skiing at age 40 while living in Albuquerque, N.M., and also played competitive tennis. She participated in competitive softball during her years in Butte, and most recently enjoyed bowling on the Hits & Misses team for the Bigfork Over the Hill Gang Bowling League.

Joanne touched many lives with her strength, enthusiasm and positive spirit. She was an outstanding wife, mom and friend. She will be deeply missed.

She is survived, by her husband of 44 years, John D. Bartlett, M.D., of Bigfork; her daughter, Deborah and husband, David, of Phoenix, daughters, Jennifer and Wendy, of Seattle; her son, John and wife, Michelle, of Coeur d'Alene; her sister, Lois Bonnette, of Plainfield, N.H.; and grandchildren, Christina, Robert, Abby and Emma.

Donations may be made in her memory to the Bigfork Quick Response Unit.

Sara Elizabeth Bartlett, 90

Sara Elizabeth Bartlett, 90, died on Nov. 7, 2002, at her home in Bigfork.

Memorial services will be

held at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Natalie Anna "Natasha" Bartschi, 58, passed away peacefully on Aug. 24, 2002, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Natasha was born on Sept. 14, 1943, in Shelby to Cedor B. and Jane Aronow.

She was married to James R. Bartschi in Shelby in September 1964. She graduated from Montana State University at Bozeman in 1965, and later earned her Master of Fine Arts from the Instituto Allende in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, where she lived with her children from 1972-76.

Natasha lived her life dedicated to the arts. In her early years, she was a weaver, teaching at the Instituto Allende. She and her sister Marcia owned and operated a chain of successful women's apparel shops in northern California. She was a skilled pianist and harpist. She had a great love for music, arts and crafts, and was an avid reader and accomplished cook. She was an active member of Rotary International in Petaluma, Calif., and attended Rotary meetings during the summer in Whitefish. Although she lived in California, she always considered herself a Montanan.

Her greatest joy was her family and spending time with her grand-

children. She was an adored mother, grandmother, sister and aunt.

Natasha was preceded in death by her parents, Cedor and Jane Aronow.

She is survived by her daughter, Dana Fehler and her husband, Steve, of Petaluma; son, Jim Bartschi and his wife, Stephanie, of Telluride, Colo.; sister, Marcia Aronow, of Whitefish; brothers, Dr. Cedor Aronow and his wife, Noreen, of Milwaukee, and James R. Bartschi of Healdsburg, Calif.; grandsons, Logan and Hayden Fehler, of Petaluma; granddaughter, Mia Bartschi, of Telluride; nieces, Shawn Aronow of Seattle, Natalie Aronow of Chicago, Kathleen Lundy of Minneapolis, and Mary Ellen Aronow and Joe Burns of Boston; nephew, Michael Aronow of Marquette, Mich.; and her aunt, Dr. Regine Aronow Hoag and family of West Glacier.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28, 2002, at Holy Nativity Episcopal Church, 214 East Second St., in Whitefish.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of choice.

Montana Basler, 74

Montana Basler, 74, of Polson, passed away Saturday, Dec. 7, 2002, of natural causes at Evergreen Health and Rehab in Polson.

She was born Jan. 29, 1928, in Kalispell to Raymond and Esther McIntyre.

She was raised in Smith Valley and attended Kalispell High School. She worked with her parents on a cattle and dairy ranch. She was a member of 4-H and Smith Valley Grange. Her first love was her horses. She enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping and, later, crocheting.

She married Paul Basler in 1952. They moved often while her husband worked as a heavy equipment operator. In 1966, they purchased Basler Honey Apiary in Polson. She also worked for 14 years at Western Bee Supply until 1980.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Paul, in 1971; her brother, Warren, in 1955; and her parents.

She is survived by her children, Bruce Basler and his wife Cindy of Polson, Jim Basler and his wife Debbie, also of Polson, Ted Basler and his wife Jean of Butte, and Rosann Jenne and her husband Chuck of Florence. She also is survived by 11 grandchildren.

Mass of the resurrection will be celebrated at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, with Father Gary Reller officiating. Burial will be at Lakeview Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Paul Basler, Kyle Basler, Erich Basler, Sean Basler, Brian Basler, Brad Jenne and Jeremy Basler.

A reception will be in the church basement following services. Arrangements are under the direction of Grogan Funeral Home in Polson.

This paid obituary is being run again at the request of the family.

Donna Marie Bauer, 72

Donna Marie Bauer, 72, "our loving wife, mother and grandmother" passed away in her home in Columbia Falls on Thursday, May 9, 2002, after a short battle with cancer.

She was born Feb. 4, 1930, in Jackson, Mich., to John and Florence Midyett. She resided there until she moved to Kalispell, in 1947, where she finished her last year of high school.

She married F. Roy Bauer on May 28, 1948. She had a large family, who were by her side always which included her husband.

She was an active Jehovah's Witness, who enjoyed telling others of the kingdom of hope.

She loved the outdoors, hunting,



fishing and sitting around the campfire. Spotted Bear was her favorite spot. She enjoyed painting, crafts and quilting; not to mention shopping. She will be truly missed by all. She was the thread that tied people together.

She is survived by her husband, Roy Bauer, of Columbia Falls; three daughters, Marie Stover of Eureka, Karen Hulford of Kalispell, and Debi Jones of Redmond, Ore.; two sons, Dan Bauer and Howard Bauer of Columbia Falls; and a sister, Judy Angilley of Arlington, Wash.; 16 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren; and numerous other relatives.

A memorial service will be held at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Whitefish, Saturday at 2 p.m.

Austin Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Ervin Bauer, 90

Ervin Bauer, 90, died on Dec. 10, 2002. As was his wish, he passed away peacefully at home, with his wife, Marie, at his side.



He was born on the family farm on Whitefish Stage on April 4, 1912, the third of three children of Ed and Linda Bauer. They had immigrated from Lodsz, Poland, married, and homesteaded north of Kalispell.

After graduating from eighth grade at Pine Grove School, Ervin embarked on his life's work, farming with his brother, Art. The Bauer brothers were notable farmers, building up a fine 700-acre spread where they raised award winning certified seed potatoes, alfalfa, grain, and a few cattle. They received a special Conservation District award for planting some of the first shelter belts in the Flathead Valley, and were exceptional stewards of the land.

On April 25, 1957, Ervin married Marie Fritz Schroeder. Marie

was his helpmate and partner for 45 years. Ervin was not a traveler or a joiner, preferring to stay at home and tend to the farm and livestock while Art and Marie conducted the family business in town. He lived all but one of his 90 years on the land where he was born, and will be remembered for his uncommon dedication and care for the farm.

Ervin was a kind and gentle man who, despite having no natural children, was a role model, friend, and advisor to his extended family which included his nephews and nieces, and Marie's children and grandchildren. He treasured the times spent at home with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Marie, at Greenwood Village Assisted Living.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Johnson Mortuary. Visitation will be from noon to 6 p.m. today at Johnson Mortuary. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

The family suggest memorials to Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch or another memorial of your choice.

Mary Jean Beach, 80

Mary Jean Beach, 80, passed away on Monday, April 22, 2002, at the Extended Care Center at North Valley Hospital.

Jean was born Jan. 13, 1922, in Chicago, Ill., to Frank and Lula Lambert. She was raised in the Midwest, and was married to Douglas Beach in 1948.

Jean had lived in Whitefish for four years, and enjoyed her friends at Soroptimist of Whitefish, had fun with her rowdy pinochle group, loved Moose bingo and was very

happy at Mountain View Manor.

Jean is survived by her daughter, Lynn and husband, Jim Hagedorn of Peoria, Ill.; her son, Randy and his wife, Rayne Beach, of Whitefish; five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

A memorial service will be held at the Whitefish United Methodist Church, Saturday at 10 a.m. with a reception following.

"In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to your favorite charity."

Robert Perry 'Bob' Beal, 93

Robert Perry "Bob" Beal, 93, loved father and friend, passed away on March 25, 2002, at the Edgewood Vista in Kalispell. "He is so greatly missed."

Bob was born in 1908 in Boise, Idaho, the son of Lawrence Melville and Bertha M. Beal. At the age of nine, his family, including his sister Edith, moved to Southern California. In 1930, Bob attended Oregon State College in Corvallis, Ore., graduating with a Bachelor of Science in forestry.

Bob spent much of his life working in the outdoors, connecting with nature. His career in forestry involved working at Mount St. Helens in Washington, in Yosemite National Park as a ranger naturalist, and Yellowstone National Park as a park ranger. In 1938, he went into the U.S. Forest Service, working in Idaho and Utah.

Bob was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves in 1931. During World War II, he served with the Corps of Engineers of the U.S. Army and was stationed both at Fort Ord in California and Fort Belvoir in Maryland. He retired from the Reserves in 1968 as a lieutenant colonel.

After the war, Bob continued his forestry work in Idaho and Nevada, transferring to the Bureau of Land Management in 1952. In 1966, he and his wife, Orel, moved to Medford, Ore. He maintained his residence in Oregon until 2001, when he moved to Kalispell to live close to his daughter, Roberta, and son-in-law, Wyatt.

Bob married Orel Gurr in 1940 and is survived by their children, James Lawrence Beal of Medford, and Roberta Rel Silker, of Columbia Falls.

He is also survived by his son-in-law, Wyatt Silker, of Columbia

Falls; nieces Mary Jane Ciardella of Kalispell, and Betty Chasteen of Salt Lake City; nephews, William Garrett of Kalispell, and Mike Garrett of Black Diamond, Wash.; longtime friends, caregivers and companions, Maureen Hutchinson of Medford, and Richard Marak of Ashland, Ore.; as well as other family in Utah and Montana.

In 1973, he married Edna Olson and is survived by her son, Manfred Robert Olson, of Oceanside, Calif., and her daughters, Suzie Weldon of Grants Pass, Ore., and Barbara Olson Brown of Portland.

Bob was a dedicated hard worker and a caring husband and father. He maintained an undying love for the great outdoors and all its inhabitants and was a voracious reader who had a wealth of knowledge in history and natural resources. Bob also was a lifetime member of the Reserve Officers Association, the Retired Officers Association and the National Rifle Association and a member of the American Legion, Masons and the Elks.

Remembrance services will be held Monday at 6 p.m., at the home of Wyatt and Roberta Silker, 224 Sampson Lane, Columbia Falls, with military honors by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and dinner following. The Rev. Chrysta Bourne of Shining Mountains Center for Positive Living and Hospice Chaplain will officiate.

Suggested memorial contributions may be made to the Nature Conservancy, 4245 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22203; National Audubon Society, 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003; Alzheimer's Association, 1311 N. W. 21st, Portland, OR 97209; Hospice-Home Options, KMRC, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901 or charity of choice.

Mary Theresa Beck, 56

Mary Theresa Beck, 56, surrounded by family and friends, "took the hand of her Savior Jesus Christ on the eternal peaceful paths of Heaven," on Sunday, March 3, 2002.



Mary was born on Sept. 28, 1945, in Bellingham, Wash., to George and Mary Frostick.

Mary married Greg Beck on March 10, 1982, in Whitefish. They called Whitefish home for most of the year, along with McCall, Idaho, in the summertime.

She had lived throughout and skied most of the Western United States. Her jobs included ski instructor at Big Mountain Resort and manager of the outside food services at Whitefish Lake Golf Course, both of which she did passionately.

Mary's earthly loves included anything outdoors, skiing, camping, biking, in-line skating, gardening, basket-making and horseback riding. She was frequently atop her trusty horse, Fleet, on rides through the fields and mountains, herding cattle or practicing dressage.

She cared so much about people and showered her friends with hugs, encouragement and a listening ear and good advice. Mary was always in search of an adventure

in the outdoors in the Western United States, and delighted in sharing those moments with both friends and people who visited from other places.

Mary's children were the heroes in her life, and along with her grandchildren, were the joy in it. She was never happier than at family gatherings where she could cherish the ones she loved the most.

"Jesus lived in her heart for all to see," her faith was strong and sustained her through seven months of a very difficult battle with cancer. She witnessed to many those last months with her steadfast optimism, words of encouragement and care for everyone's needs despite the pain that could not conquer her spirit.

Mary is survived by her husband Greg and mother-in-law, Billie of Whitefish; daughter Brandi and her husband, Jeremy, and granddaughter Madelyn of Green Bay, Wis.; son Jeremy and his wife, Rachael, and grandsons, Braeden and Dylan of Missoula; her mother Mary; sister Irene and her brother Steven of Nevada.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Four Square Church in Whitefish.

Memorials in Mary's name should be sent to Hope Ranch, P.O. Box 4480, Whitefish, MT.

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

Lloyd Francis Behling, 77

Lloyd Francis Behling, 77, of Libby, died Sunday, Oct. 6, 2002, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital from natural causes.

He is survived by his wife, Florence Behling, of Libby; a daughter, Donna Behling, of Kalispell; and a son, Douglas Behling, of San Ysidro, Calif.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Local arrangements are under the direction of Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

Jennifer 'Ginger' Belcher, 42

Jennifer "Ginger" Belcher, 42, died Tuesday, June 18, 2002, near Columbia Falls.

She is survived by her sons, Jason, Alex, and Sam; and her

mother, Carolyn.

No services are planned at this time. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is handling the arrangements.

Fay Bengtson, 73

Fay Bengtson, 73, died Thursday, Jan. 31, 2002, at St. John Lutheran Hospital in Libby.

She was born at Havre, on May 27, 1928, to Herman and Ann Wingard.

She is survived by her husband Anson of Libby; four daughters including Gloria Beasley of Troy, and Sandy Dedrick of Libby; four sons, a sister, a brother, six grandchil-

dren, eight great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Services will be Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Troy United Methodist Church with the Rev. Ben Nardi officiating. Visitation will be today from 1-8 p.m. at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

Memorials may be made to the Troy United Methodist Church.

Rodney Dale Benner, 63

Rodney Dale Benner, 63, passed away on Monday, Nov. 25, 2002, in Billings.

Rodney was born on May 13, 1939, in Billings, to Henry and Ida Goldy Benner. He attended a little country school in Billings, before moving to the Flathead Valley when he was 12 years old.

Rodney had worked for the Forest Service as summer help, and took great pride in going out and getting Christmas trees, then selling them. He had a very special interest in raising pigeons, and had raised many of them.



He was preceded in death by his parents, and three brothers, Stanley, Carl and Don.

He is survived by three brothers, George and his wife, Doris Benner, Ben and his wife, Lanel Benner, and Ray Benner; three sisters, Jeannine Wagner, Donna Besel, and Hattie Stahlberg and her husband, Gerry; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday and prior to the service on Saturday. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home with the Rev. Jim Sandholt officiating. Burial will follow at Woodland Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Howard E. Benson, 81

Howard E. Benson, 81, a longtime Whitefish area resident, passed away Monday, Sept. 23, 2002, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center of natural causes.



He was born Nov. 7, 1920, in Tacoma, Wash., the son of Bert and Eva Benson. He attended schools in Whitefish and graduated from high school in 1939. He entered the U.S. Army during World War II and served in the infantry in the European Theater. He worked in sawmills and drove logging and lumber trucks for most of his life. He spent 11 years in Alaska, working at a fishing lodge and fishing in his time off.

Howard was a member of a senior citizens band, the Jammers, and played at local rest homes and senior citizen centers. He enjoyed playing the guitar, plowing snow,

mowing lawns, camping and fishing, and picking huckleberries.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a grandson, Timothy Benson.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 61 years, Marion Benson at the family home near Whitefish; a daughter, Cheryl Cave of Kalispell; four sons, Robert and wife, Mona Benson, of Whitefish, Ken and wife, Karen Benson, of Enumclaw, Wash., Terry Benson of Williston, N.D., and Gerry and wife, Jennifer Benson, of Rockford, Wash.; a brother, Carl Benson of Kalispell; nine grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. on today at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Friday at the Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell with the Rev. David V. Kauffman officiating.

Memorials can be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Palmer Edward Benson, 74

Palmer Edward Benson, 74, passed away on Dec. 1, 2002, at his home in Kalispell.

He was born on March 25, 1929, in Scobey, to Edward and Josephine (Stenerson) Benson.

Palmer lived on the family farm south of town until he graduated from high school. He moved to Scobey after graduation and was employed at the bank.

Palmer married Eddy Lou Whipple on Feb. 1, 1949, in Scobey. They observed their golden wedding anniversary with their "Eastern Star family" while on a Caribbean cruise.

He accepted a position in the county treasurer's office in Wolf Point in 1950. He was one of the youngest county treasurers in Montana when he was elected to that position in the next election. The couple returned to Scobey three years later when Palmer realized "politics was not for him."

The family moved to the Flathead in 1956, where both accepted positions at Anaconda Aluminum Co. He worked in the safety program and was transferred to Kentucky in 1972, to set up a safety program at the new plant there. Next, Palmer was transferred to Florida, where he supervised safety programs in Miami, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Meridian, Mo., and Atlanta, Ga., for two years.

The family returned to Kalispell due to his ill health, but he continued to work at Columbia Falls until taking early retirement from ARCO on his birthday in 1983 after nearly 27 years at the aluminum plant.

Following retirement, Palmer became interested in engraving and started a shop in the garage. Members of Masonic bodies throughout Montana were given attractive pins and many Masonic temples have wooden plaques made by Palmer. As his "hobby" expanded, equipment and supplies took over the garage. A second garage was built for their car.

Palmer joined Columbia Falls Masonic Lodge No. 89 in 1959, later transferring to Whitefish Lodge No. 64. He served as worshipful master in Whitefish in 1968. The couple became members of Vista



Chapter No. 44, O.E.S., Whitefish, in 1965. They served as worthy matron and worthy patron in 1971-72. This was the beginning of many years in Eastern Star together. Palmer served as worthy grand patron of the Montana Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, in 1998-99. The Bensons were elected as worthy matron and worthy patron of Vista Chapter for 2002-2003. It was the first time a past grand matron and past grand patron has been elected to serve together as heads of a subordinate chapter.

Palmer was a member of Scottish Rite, Royal Arch No. 31, Council No. 15, Cyrene Commandry No. 10, Algeria Shrine, Royal Order of Scotland, Grand Cross of Color in Rainbow, and honorary member of Job's Daughters in Kalispell.

Palmer was preceded in death by an infant son, Kenneth Edward, on Jan. 16, 1965; one brother, Evan Benson; and his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Eddy Lou of Kalispell; one brother, Earl Benson of Delta Colo.; one aunt, Cleo Corey of Scobey; two uncles, Ben Fagen of Dallas, Texas and Gus Whipple of Central Point, Ore.; and 10 nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers for Palmer are his nephews, Ken Benson, Perry Jensen, Wes Robinson, Myron "Smokey" Benson, John Tefelmeyer, and F. Mike Jensen; with honorary bearers A. Harold Small, Bernie Ault, Ron Fjild, Emil "Bud" Struck, Jim Treweek and Wayne Treweek.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at the First Presbyterian Church with Pastor Glenn Burfeind officiating. Ritual rites will be conducted by members of Vista Chapter No. 44, Order of the Eastern Star. Burial will follow at the Glacier Memorial Gardens with Past Grand Master Bill Brass conducting Masonic graveside services.

Visitation will be at Johnson Mortuary from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday.

The family suggests memorial gifts be given to Home Options/Hospice: 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901, or the Masonic Home of Montana, P.O. Box 45, Helena, MT 59601, or the charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Dorothy Jean Berger, 76

Dorothy Jean Berger, 76, after several years of pain and suffering, "went home to be with her loving Savior" on Monday, Oct. 21, 2002, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.



Dorothy was born on July 20, 1926, in Scobey, to Wyvil and Vera Kramer Bjerke.

Everyone who knew Dorothy will always be blessed remembering her love and acceptance for everyone and for her inner beauty which shined through her radiant smile and for her love for all animals.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and her brother, Bucky Bjerke.

Dorothy is survived by her husband, Paul Berger, of Kalispell;

daughter, Nancy Skurvid and her husband, Jim Skurvid, of Kalispell; son, Roger Berger and wife, Lacey Rose Berger, of Kalispell; granddaughters, Amy Fisher and Whitney Fisher, both of Missoula; and grandsons, Larry Berger of Seattle, and Casey Berger of Kalispell.

Visitation will be from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, at Community Alliance Church in Kalispell, with the Rev. Jim Davey officiating. Burial will follow the service at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials in Dorothy's name should be made to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana. A reception will follow the graveside service at the Community Alliance Church.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Nancy Lee Berglin, 53

Nancy Lee Berglin, 53, of Big Arm, passed away from natural causes on Thursday, May 30, 2002, at her home.

She was born on Feb. 21, 1949, in Hollywood, Calif., to Lee and Barbara Ruth (Greenfield) Doyon. She attended schools in Downy, Calif., and Sammamish, Wash.

She married David Berglin in 1967 in California and they later divorced in 1980.

Nancy Lee moved to Polson in November of 2000. She was a successful, self-employed entrepreneur her whole life. She



enjoyed gardening and woodworking.

She is preceded in death by her parents, a brother, Michael and an infant child, Brandy Lee.

She is survived by her partner, Sheila Courtney, of Columbia Falls; two sisters, Denise Worthington of Big Arm, and Christy Maloney; two nephews, Juan Sattler and James Olmedo; and two nieces, Sabrina Maloney and Nicole Maloney.

Memorials are suggested to any cause that prevents child abuse.

A memorial gathering will be held on Sunday at the Denise Worthington home in Big Arm. Arrangements are being handled by Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory in Polson.

Joseph J. Berosik Sr., 91

Joseph J. Berosik Sr., 91, went to be with his Heavenly Father on Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2002, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

Joseph was born July 30, 1910, in Kermit, Mentor Township, N.D., to Mike Berosik Sr., who was born in Hungary, and Anna (Jakusja) Berosik, who was born in Vienna, Austria. His parents were married in Illinois and homesteaded in North Dakota. Joe's dad played the trombone with the famous John Philip Sousa Marching Band in Illinois, and was instrumental in organizing bands in Illinois and North Dakota. Joe was the third of five children. He was educated in a country school near Kermit.

He married Ella Pederson on May 26, 1936, in Crosby, N.D. They moved to Sioux City, Iowa, for a time before moving back to Noonan, N.D., where they farmed until 1952. Beginning in the late 1940s, the family spent several winters in Vancouver, Wash.

When Joe was not actively farming, he worked in the trucking business. The couple raised three children, Marlene, Joseph Jr., and Jerrold.

In 1952, the Berosiks moved to 80 acres in the Helena Flats area near Kalispell. Some years later, they sold the property and went into the trucking business full time. Joe retired in 1978 after a deer-related accident that overturned his fully loaded grain truck. Joe loved driving and enjoyed mechanics and checkers.



In 1984, Joe and Ella moved to Apache Junction, Ariz., and were snowbirds for about three years. Joe and Ella have been members of the Christian Center, Assembly Of

God Church since moving to Kalispell in 1952. Joe has been a resident of Heritage Place since May 2001.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 65 years, Ella Berosik.

Joe is survived by his daughter, Marlene, and husband Roger Rusch of Federal Way, Wash.; two sons, Joseph Jr. and wife Karen Berosik, and Jerrold and wife Sally Berosik of Kalispell; daughter-in-law Sharon Wibbel of Mesa, Ariz.; 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren. He leaves many other family members, including nieces and nephews and many loving friends. He will be greatly missed.

Funeral services will be held on Tuesday at 3 p.m. at the Christian Center in Kalispell with the Rev. John Weaver officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be Monday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel and before services at the Christian Center.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Frances Irene Berry, 88

Frances Irene Berry, 88, of Kalispell, passed away Aug. 7, 2002, at Heritage Place. She was born in Kalispell, on June 1, 1914, the daughter of Frank C. and Lena (Isch) Domek. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1933.

Frances married Dennis E. Berry on July 19, 1974, after a lengthy courtship.

She was employed by Montgomery Ward and Co. locally in 1934. In 1941, she was transferred to Riverside, Calif., where she worked in numerous Montgomery Ward stores as an office trainer. She managed the accounting conversion of the southern California stores to the central accounting unit in Norwalk, Calif. She retired after 41 years in 1975.

After her husband's retirement in July of 1977, they moved back to Montana where they built a new home on Columbia Falls Stage Road. After her husband's death, she sold her home and built a new

home on Woodland Avenue in Kalispell.

Frances was preceded in death by her husband Dennis; her parents; and her sister, Rozella Brown.

She is survived by her nephews, Forest Anderson of St. Croix Falls, Wis., and Dale Anderson of Kalispell; her nieces, Betty Burton of Kalispell, Rachel Stevens of Helena, and Ione Schumacher of Missoula.

Graveside services will be held Saturday at 10 a.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery with Father Vic Langhans of St. Matthew's Catholic Church officiating.

Memorials may be made to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901, the Brendan House, 350 Conway Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, or to the Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline Avenue, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Clarence D. Bertino, 60

Clarence D. Bertino, 60, of Salt Lake City, passed away June 13, 2002, in a motorcycle accident near Bear Lake, Utah.

Clarence was born in Albany, Calif., on Nov. 28, 1941, to Louis R. and Clarice R. Bertino. He graduated from Columbia Falls High School, received a Bachelor of Arts degree with high honor in chemistry from the University of Montana and a doctorate in chemistry from the University of Colorado.

Clarence married Dorothy Roff on June 7, 1969; they later divorced but remained friends. He enjoyed



the outdoors, hiking, skiing, and motorcycle rides, and supported several environmental and outdoor issues.

His mother, Clarice, preceded him in death.

Clarence is survived and dearly missed by his father, Louis, of Polson; stepmother, Mary, of Columbia Falls; sister, Louise Allen of Spokane; brothers, William of Colorado Springs, Colo., Thomas of Springfield, Va., and Philip of Kalispell; longtime friend Virginia Owens and her daughter, Jessica, of Denver; and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial is planned at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Meadow Lake Resort, 100 St. Andrews Drive, Columbia Falls.

Destiny Paige Bettes, 23 days old

Destiny Paige Bettes, 23 days old, of Pratt, Kan., died Wednesday, April 17, 2002, at Pratt Regional Medical Center.

She was born March 25, 2002, the daughter of Mark Allen and Jessica Mae (Adrignola) Bettes.

She is survived by her parents, Mark and Jessica Bettes of Pratt; brother Alexander of the home; grandparents

including Brenda Duffy and Charles Adrignola, both of Missoula; great-grandparents including Anthony and Marie Adrignola of Rollins and Jenith Dorland of Libby.

Funeral service will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. at Larrison Mortuary in Pratt with the Rev. Scott Buller officiating. Burial will be at Greenlawn Cemetery in Pratt.

Jean Bibler, 86

Eleanor Jean Bibler, 86, died June 27, 2002, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. She was born July 12, 1915, in White Pigeon, Mich., the eighth of 12 children of John and Ella (Stoldt) Fritzen. When Jean was four, the family moved to Billings where her father was a carpenter.

After graduating from high school, she took classes to prepare for a secretarial career. She worked in Billings for several years and in 1942 married Harold Godfrey in Seattle. He died in 1945.

In the mid-1950s, Jean was working as a secretary in a Billings oil and gas exploration office where she met Louis A. "Sam" Bibler. They married on May 25, 1957, and moved to Calgary, Alberta, soon thereafter. In 1966, they moved to Kalispell together with their daughter, Carol. Sam Bibler died June 6, 2002.

Those who knew Jean remember her as a devoted wife and mother, gracious hostess, and good friend. She enjoyed visiting with family and friends, collecting art and antiques, reading, sewing, baking and pets. Jean had a sharp wit, a great sense of humor, and a gift for making people feel welcome and at ease, whether they

were old friends or new acquaintances. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Kalispell, where she taught Sunday school for many years, and also served as a deacon in the 1970s. Prior to her long illness, Jean was an active member of the PEO sisterhood, and volunteered many hours to the Girls Scouts of Big Sky Council as a bookkeeper.

Others preceding Jean in death include her brothers, Omar, Edward, Cleon, John and Bill Fritzen, and her sisters, Helen Stephens, Ruth O'Donnell, Lois Chatwood, Germaine Kober, and Kathryn Quarles.

Jean is survived by her daughter, Carol, son-in-law, Jim Watson, and their son, Sam Watson, all of Kalispell. Her sister, Nedra Shope of Billings, also survives, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Jean's life was celebrated along with that of her late husband Sam at a service held June 13, 2002. No further services are planned.

Memorial contributions may be made in Jean's name to the Alzheimer's Association, 919 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1100, Chicago, IL 60611, or the Immanuel Lutheran Home, Alzheimer's Wing, 185 Crestline Avenue, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Louis A. 'Sam' Bibler, 86

Louis A. "Sam" Bibler, 86, died Thursday, June 6, 2002, at his home.

He was born Feb. 25, 1916, in Portland, Ind., to Charles E. and Ethel (Ehrhart) Bibler. Affectionately known as "Bussie" to his siblings, he chronicled his childhood on the family farm in Indiana in his book, "Back Home Again."

He left the farm at age 25 to fly 25 missions over Europe as a bombardier in World War II, where he was the recipient of a Distinguished Flying Cross, among other honors. It was in the Army that he received the nickname "Sam," which stayed with him for the rest of his life.

After the war, he enrolled at the University of Washington and earned a degree in geology. At the university, he met Les Harrington, a fellow geology student, and upon graduation both went to work for Carter Oil Company. After three years, they quit and formed what would become a lifelong business partnership, opening an office for oil and gas exploration in Billings.

It was in Billings that Sam met Eleanor Jean Fritzen Godfrey, an office secretary who had been widowed several years previously. Their romance flourished despite Sam's frequent travel in the oil and gas business, and Sam and Jean married on May 25, 1957, in Billings. By 1958, they were living in Calgary, Alberta, where opportunity in the oil business was significant. While in Calgary, Sam and Jean began collecting antiques, and both developed a great appreciation for fine furniture and paintings.

In 1966, Sam, Jean and their daughter, Carol, moved to Kalispell, where Harrington and Bibler Inc. continued its work in the oil and gas business and also branched out into real estate and other ventures. In his spare time, Sam pursued his passion for gardening, creating a beautiful garden at their eastside Kalispell home. He also undertook numerous civic projects, many with the help of the Rotary Club, in which



he was active. His early efforts included a junk car cleanup and restoration of the Woodland Park lagoons. He was instrumental in restoration of the Conrad Mansion, and served as president of the Mansion Board for many years.

Around 1980, at the time when Sam and Jean were preparing to move to the home they designed in the Lakeshore Heights area, Jean began developing Alzheimer's disease. Sam faithfully cared for her at home, while still managing to undertake civic and conservation projects in the Foy's Lake and Lone Pine areas. As Jean's Alzheimer's progressed, Sam hired caregivers to help look after her at home during the day, and he continued his work both at the office and in his spectacular garden.

He designed a stable and acquired a menagerie of miniature animals that he loved. He wrote a book, titled "Lily," about the adventures of some of these animals. He also continued his open space preservation efforts, placing a conservation easement on the site of his 105-acre family farm in Indiana, and purchasing nearly 1,000 acres of land adjacent to the Lone Pine subdivision, upon which he also placed a conservation easement.

He was preceded in death by his brothers, Charles Bibler and Paul R. Bibler.

His wife Jean, now in the late stage of Alzheimer's, survives, as does his daughter, Carol, her husband, Jim Watson, and their son, Sam Watson, all of Kalispell. His sister, Jean Shumaker, of Urbana, Ill., also survives, as well as several nieces and nephews.

A celebration of the lives of Sam and his wife Jean will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday at First Presbyterian Church, where Jean was an active member for many years. A reception will follow at the Conrad Mansion.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to Hospice-Home Options, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901, or the L.A. Bibler Endowment Fund at the Conrad Mansion, P.O. Box 1041, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Eileen Maxine Bingaman

Eileen Maxine Bingaman died Dec. 21, 2002, in Troy, Idaho. She and her husband, Fred, were active in the Montana

Wesleyan Church.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Dec. 27, at the Conner Wesleyan Church.

Wilma F. Bird, 87

Wilma F. Bird, 87, of Lewistown, died Friday, July 26, 2002 in Valle Vista Manor of natural causes.

She is survived by one son, Robert.

Memorial graveside services

will be at 1 p.m. Friday in Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell. Cremation has taken place.

The Cloyd Funeral Home of Lewistown is in charge of arrangements.

Earnest P. 'Ernie' Birnel, 83

Earnest P. "Ernie" Birnel, 83, of Kalispell, passed away on Nov. 20, 2002, in Loma Linda, Calif.

He was born on Aug. 29, 1919, in Wheatland County, to James

E. and Emily (Laizure) Birnel.

Ernie married Esther Wittlake in 1939, in Kalispell. He served in the Army from August 1944 to February 1946. He had reached the rank of sergeant when he was honorably discharged.

He worked in Kalispell Cabinet Works cabinet shop, then at Western Building Center until he retired in 1981. He spent part-time working with his son, Ron Birnel, and grandson, Ron Birnel Jr., in their cabinet shop, R & R Custom.

In his early years, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, snowmobiling and motorcycling. In his later years, he spent time making desks, baby cradles, bowls, toys, etc., for family members and also sold them locally.

He was an active member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church



and loved his Savior.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Esther Birnel, in March of 1999, and his son, Ron Birnel, in February of 2002.

He is survived by his daughter, Darlene McIntyre of Loma Linda, Calif.; daughter-in-law Donna Birnel of Kalispell; brother, Charles and Grace Birnel of Missoula; sister Violet Waymire of Arizona; four grandsons, Ron Jr. and Sonia Birnel of Kalispell, Don and Rowena Birnel of Bellingham, Wash., Ernie and Jody McIntyre of Columbia Falls, and Lonnie and Paula McIntyre of Riverside, Calif.; two granddaughters, Ronda and Matt Thomas of Kalispell, and Radonna Birnel of Fairfield; 15 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-granddaughter.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with Elder Fred Devlin officiating. Burial will follow at the Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Family suggests memorial gifts be given to the Community Service Center, 494 9th Ave. E.N., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.