

Chester Willard Clements, 81

Chester Willard Clements, 81, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2002, at his home in Kalispell.

Chet was born Dec. 14, 1920, in Ryegate, to Maud and Charles Clements.

He moved to the Bitterroot Valley in 1928, where he attended schools at Etna and Victor. He ranched at Stevensville and Victor, then moved to Corvallis in 1938.

He entered in the U.S. Army in 1942, where he served as a medic, and was with the troops at the invasion of Normandy. He was wounded in France and received the Purple Heart. He was honorably discharged from the military in 1945.

He returned to ranch with his father in Corvallis, where they raised sugar beets and had a grade "A" dairy. He married Marie Fifield on Nov. 15, 1945.

After the death of his father, he moved into the city of Corvallis, where he did contractor work as well as for the U.S. Post Office as a mail carrier. When he retired he took a job with the Montana Fish and Game as a park attendant for nine years.

They moved to Lakeside, in

1984, and to Kalispell, in 1999. He was a member of the Corvallis American Legion, and Eidsvold Lutheran Church of Somers.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Cecil and Clarence; sisters Letha Jones and Beulah Morrison.

He is survived by his wife Marie; daughter Becky and her husband Don Connors; grandchildren Anita Hewitt and her husband Dan and Mike and Nicki Connors; great-grandchildren Ashleigh and Logan Hewitt, all of Kalispell; sister-in-law Agnes Clements of Shawmut.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at Eidsvold Lutheran Church in Somers. Graveside rights with military honors will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Corvallis Cemetery. A luncheon will follow at the Grace Lutheran Church in Hamilton.

In lieu of flowers, the family request that memorials be made to the Eidsvold Lutheran Church, Corvallis Cemetery Association or the charity of donor's choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory.

Karen Lynn Cleveland, 51

Karen Lynn Cleveland, 51, "ascended into heaven" while sleeping May 16, 2002. She spent her last days at home under the care and with the love of many family and friends.

Karen was born Feb. 14, 1951, in Great Falls, and lived in White Water, a town her grandfather established, until she was 5 years old. She was raised and her schooling was done in Wolf Point where her father worked for the Great Northern Railroad Company. When she was 18, Karen met David Cleveland, who would later become her husband.

In 1969, Karen and Dave moved to Columbia Falls, where they bought a house and raised two kids. In Columbia Falls, Karen opened and ran a successful Christian bookstore with a partner, sold it, and then went on to get her associate's degree at Flathead Valley Community College. After graduating, she began a career as



a bookkeeper that lasted many years.

Karen was a woman of tremendous faith and was always active in the Lutheran church. Throughout the course of her life, she affected and changed the lives of many, always for the better. Her commitment to God, her family and her friends will never be forgotten.

Karen is survived by her parents, Bob and Evelyn Brandt; her husband, David; her son, Chad; and her daughter, Tonia, who is married to Bill Sapa with kids, Hailey and Lane.

Karen wished to have her memorial donations sent to: Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church Pew Fund, Box 2005, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

Visitation will be held today from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A funeral service will be held on Monday at 10 a.m. at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls, with the Rev. Terry Forke officiating. Burial will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Thelma L. Close, 85

Thelma L. Close, 85, passed away on Thursday, March 14, 2002, at Immanuel Lutheran Home.



Thelma was born at the Miller homestead west of Kalispell, on Jan. 29, 1917, to Curtis and Orva Miller. Thelma's parents were dairy and vegetable truck farmers. Her father logged with horses and cut ice in the winter. She spent most of her life in Kalispell and graduated from Flathead County High School.

On June 12, 1948, she married Cecil E. Close from North Dakota. They moved back to the Flathead Valley in 1951, where they remained.

She loved to cook for family and friends. She enjoyed gardening, tending her flowers, sewing, crafts, camping, and some folks would agree that she lived for fishing, whether in streams, lakes or the ocean. Thelma and Cecil often vacationed on the Oregon and Washington coasts to camp and fish. Their greatest fishing adventure was a trip to Alaska in 1984, where the Miller sisters and brother gathered. She also loved hiking and camping in Glacier National Park as a Girl Scout assistant leader.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Fred Miller; and her sister, Margaret Miller-Penrod.

Thelma is survived by her daughter, Dolores J. French of

Buckley, Wash., and her husband, Donald French; her son, Curtis Rice of Kalispell and his wife, Nola Rice; her daughter, Nancy Rice-Parr of Moses Lake, Wash., and her husband, Dennis H. Parr; her sister, Florence Stebbins-Penrod of Niland, Calif., and her husband, Harold Penrod; her special cousin, Maxine Miller-Drew of Kalispell, and her husband, Bob Drew. She leaves many happy memories with her six grandchildren, Diane L. French, David French, Daniel French, Kimberly Parkin, Mark A. Rice and Kathleen L. Parr; and her great-grandchildren, Gabriel French, Brady Parkin, Levi Parkin, Jacy French and Kylee French; and numerous other nieces and nephews.

Thelma was courageous in her struggle against Parkinson's disease. She made friends with many and was a loving and giving person. She always thought of others first and you knew when you dropped by to visit her that she would have homemade cookies or something really yummy to eat.

A private graveside service will be held on Monday at 3 p.m. at Glacier Memorial Gardens (if inclement weather, the service will be held at Northridge Lutheran Church).

The family suggests memorials be made to the Flathead Food Bank, 105 Sixth Ave. W., Kalispell, MT 59901, or to the charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Elzada Cobler, 81

Elzada Cobler, 81, passed away Sunday, May 26, 2002, at Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Elzada was born Nov. 1, 1920, in Henryetta, Okla., to William and Millie (Pierce) Eslick. Elzada was the youngest of four brothers and two sisters. During the Great Depression her family's crops washed away. The family sold their belongings and joined with relatives in a caravan of covered trucks seeking employment. In Washington, Elzada worked in the fruit orchards alongside her parents and brothers.

Elzada married Arthur Zimmerman, a fruit ranch owner, in Yakima, Wash. The couple had three children. They later divorced.

In 1960, she married Charles Cobler, a carpenter foreman in Federal Way, Wash., and a daughter was added to the family.

Elzada enjoyed working and was employed as a fruit picker, farmer, warehouse fruit packer, seamstress and sewing instructor. She had her own dressmaking shop for many years. Elzada moved to the Flathead Valley to stay in 1986.

Elzada is survived by two sons, Frederick and Mary Zimmerman and Charles and Marion Zimmerman, all of Yakima; two daughters, Linda Loween of Kalispell, and Deana Marie Knapton of Puyallup, Wash.; 15 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services for will be on Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Kalispell Christian Church with Pastor Dwayne Hull officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Verlie E. Cockrell, 85

Verlie E. Cockrell, 85, passed away on Sunday, April 14, 2002, at the Brendan House; she had been ill for several years.

She was born on Nov. 17, 1916, in the Spokane area.

She married Charles Cockrell after World War II, and they resided in the Kalispell area since his discharge from the U.S. Army. Charles worked for Pacific Power and passed away in 1997.

Verlie was employed as secretary to the superintendent of the Kalispell schools for a number of



years before her retirement. She was an active volunteer at Kalispell Regional Hospital and had more than 8,261 hours of service during 20 years of working with the volunteers.

She enjoyed her dogs and was fond of her friends and fellow volunteers, and her friends Art Otto and Shirley Stanearth.

She was preceded in death by her husband, father and mother, a brother and a sister, and her father- and mother-in-law, Dr. E.P. and Kathryn Cockrell.

At her request, a simple graveside service will be held at the Conrad Cemetery at 2 p.m. today.

Arrangements are under the care of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Phylis L. Cole, 67

Phylis L. Cole, 67, died Jan. 18, 2002, at Clark Fork Valley Hospital in Plains.

She was born April 1, 1934, at St. Ignatius to Harold and Frances Harbor Nelson.

She is survived locally by her son, Bruce Cole and his wife, Debbie of Troy; two daughters, including Theresa Merritt and her husband William of Troy; a sister,

Joanne Norman and her husband Chuck of Troy; seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be held Friday at 2 p.m. at the Troy United Methodist Church. Visitation will be Thursday from 1 to 8 p.m.

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

Dale Collins, 76

Funeral services for Dale Collins will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 2, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, with a reception to follow. Vigil services and rosary will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 1. The dates were listed incorrectly in Tuesday's Inter Lake.

Dale Collins passed away in Sun Lakes, Ariz., Oct. 16, 2002, of natural causes. Dale was a lifelong resident of Kalispell. He was born in Bigfork on July 31, 1926, to Bud and Winnifred Collins.

Dale was a building contractor in Kalispell, owner of Collins Management Company and part-owner of Fun Beverage. He was also on the board of directors for First Interstate Bank for many years.

As a young man, he served in World War II.

He was a member of the Elks and Lions Clubs. He loved the Flathead Valley and took advantage of all it has to offer throughout his life. He snow-skied with family and friends, and enjoyed Flathead



Lake and sailing.

Dale and Rita were heavily involved in showing and breeding Arabian horses.

He was baptized and joined his wife in membership at St. Matthew's Catholic Church.

When Dale retired, he and Rita spent their winters in Sun Lakes, Ariz., where he enjoyed all their Arizona friends, warmer weather, golfing and RVing. He loved to laugh with friends. He loved, cared for and enjoyed his family deeply. He was greatly loved and will be deeply missed. The love of a husband, the love of a father lasts forever.

He was preceded in death by one brother and three sisters.

Dale is survived by Rita Collins, his wife of 55 years; his five children, Pat LaVoie of Kalispell, Linda Day of Spokane, Sharon Collins of Parker, Colo., Don Collins of Kalispell, and Dorothy Stensrud of Edmonton, Alberta; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and one brother, Eldon Collins of Puyallup, Wash., who was also at his side when he passed away.

In lieu of flowers, please send gifts of love to F.A.C.E., 602 S. Main St., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Charles H. 'Charlie' Collinson, 86

Charles H. "Charlie" Collinson, 86, of Libby died Saturday, Aug. 17, 2002, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital from complications from asbestosis and congestive heart failure.

He worked for J. Neil's Lumber Company and later St. Regis Paper Company. He was also an Allstate Insurance Agent, and later owned and operated

Bull Winkle's Sports and Toys in Libby. His last job was as a driver on the forest fires.

He is survived by his wife, Linda; two sons, Terrence and Gordon; and daughter, Elizabeth Ann Smith.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

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

Nancy C. Combs, 60

Nancy C. Combs, age 60, of Kalispell, passed away at Kalispell Regional Medical Center from natural causes on Saturday Nov. 23, 2002.

Nancy was born on Feb. 24, 1942, in Milwaukee, Wis., to William and Helen (Chapman) Sharpen.

She attended schools in Longview, Wash. and graduated from R.A. Long High School in Longview.

Nancy married LaVern Combs, Jr. on Jan. 12, 1963, in Longview, Wash.

She and LaVern moved to Polson, where they lived most of their lives. They raised their family in Polson. Nancy worked as a dietary technician for St. Joseph Convalescent Center in Polson and the Swan River Youth Camp. She retired in 1985 due to her health conditions.

She had also lived in Pablo, before she moved to Kalispell.

Nancy liked to play bingo and video games. She especially loved her family and she never met a stranger.



She was preceded in death by her husband, LaVern; her father, Bill Sharpen; a brother, Roger Martin; and her stepfather, Frank Martin.

She is survived by her mother, Helen Martin of Longview, Wash.; a brother, John Martin of Seattle, and a sister, Mary Martin of Longview; her children, Harold Combs of Longview, Alan Combs and his wife Libby of Kalispell, Lori Combs and Susan Combs of Kalispell, Brian and Rita Moldenhauer of Polson, Tom and Kathy Tinker of Silverdale, Wash., Jim Kempter and Kim Yoast of Kalispell, and Debbie Profitt of Kalispell; grandchildren, Fallon Combs, Kala Ridnour, Terry, Erica, Bryan, and Samantha Combs, Harold Combs II, Victor, Justin and Chris Moldenhauer, Aryal, Shianna and Dakota Kempter, Jeremy and Zachary Whiton, Paul, Mary, Sara and Donnie Beattie, and Melissa and Kristen Profitt.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. today at the Grogan Funeral Home in Polson with the Rev. Dave Anson officiating. Private family interment will be held at Lakeview Cemetery in Polson.

Arrangements are by Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory in Polson.

Melba Lorene Compton, 61

Melba Lorene Compton, 61, died on Thursday, July 11, 2002, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

Arrangements are pending under the direction of Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory.

Ward Henry Compton, 90

Ward Henry Compton, 90, retired rancher and bar owner, died Saturday, May 25, 2002, at a Chinook nursing home, of natural causes.

Ward was born June 10, 1911, to Henry and Leafy (Emerson) Compton at the homestead house of his parents in Eyebrow, Saskatchewan, Canada, the oldest of three children.

When Ward was 5 years old, his family moved across the border to north of Malta. He was educated in country schools in that area and graduated from Malta High School. He attended Northern Montana College.

On June 5, 1940, Ward married Edna Ramberg in Malta. To this union four children were born. Ward ranched north of Malta and had a bar in Manhattan. He then opened a grocery store in Hungry Horse. He moved his family back to Malta, at which point he returned to his original ranch, adding to it.

In 1959, he purchased the Palace Bar in Havre, which he owned until his son "Jupe" purchased it. He was involved in the Palace Bar in Fort Benton.

In 1990, Ward retired and returned to Havre. In late fall, Ward moved to the Sweet Memorial Nursing Home in Chinook.

Ward had an unforgettable sense of wit and humor. He will be greatly missed by friends and family throughout the Hi-Line.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Leafy (Emerson) Compton; his wife, Edna (Ramberg) Compton on Oct. 7, 1997; and a sister, Fern Mangis.

Ward is survived by a brother, Duane Compton and his wife, LaVonne, of Malta; sons, Clark Compton and his wife, Kay, of Eugene, Ore., Jupe Compton and his wife, Lora, of Havre, and Grant Compton and his wife, Diane, of Kalispell; and a daughter, Fern and her husband, Russell Puls, of Eugene; 10 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday at the First Lutheran Church with Pastor Brad Ulgenes officiating. Burial will follow at the Highland Cemetery. A fellowship will follow burial at the Vets Club in Havre.

Memorials in Ward's honor may be made to: Sweet Memorial Nursing Home, U.S. 2 W., Chinook, MT 59523, or to the charity of a person's choice.

Services and arrangements are under the direction of the Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.

Debra Grilley Conn, 48

Debra Grilley Conn, 48, passed away in her home on Dec. 31, 2002, of natural causes.

Debra was born June 12, 1954, in Whitefish, to Darrell and Gloria Grilley. She was the oldest of five children.

She graduated from Whitefish High School in 1972, and then attended Flathead Valley Community College to pursue a business degree.

She had two children. Debra married Russ Conn on April 15, 1991.

She loved sewing and doing miscellaneous crafts. She also loved to spend time with her family camping and being outdoors.

She was a member of the Women of the Moose.

She was preceded in death by her maternal and paternal grand-

parents.

Debra is survived by her husband, Russ, of Whitefish; son, Mark Kauffman of Kalispell; daughter, Gretchen Kauffman of Butte; grandson, Kenny Grilley of Bigfork; granddaughter, Kaylyn O'Neill of Butte; parents, Darrell and Gloria Grilley of Bigfork; three brothers, one sister, three sisters-in-law, one brother-in-law, numerous aunts and uncles, and nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Monday at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Visitation will be from 1 to 5 p.m. today at the funeral home. Burial will follow funeral services at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

The family suggests that memorials can be made to the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Butte.

Lyle L. Connor, 64

Lyle L. Connor, 64, passed away July 18, 2002, at his home in Marysville, Wash.

He was the oldest son of Alice and Monty Connor.

He is survived by his wife, Andrea Connor; four children, Harold, LaVonne and twins, Mike and Mark, all of Seattle; his brother, Bernard Connor; and his sister,

Jean Stafford.

Services will be today at 1 p.m. at Floral Hills Cemetery in Lynwood, Wash.

In lieu of flowers, donations in remembrance of Lyle L. Connor can be made to the Washington Elks Children's Therapy Programs, P.O. Box 110760, Tacoma, WA 98411-0760.

Colleen 'Connie N. Corpe, 75

Colleen "Connie" N. Corpe, 75, passed away Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2002, at the Ted Warthen Center in St. George, Utah after a courageous struggle with

Alzheimer's disease.

She was born April 1, 1927, in Long Beach, Calif.

Connie made friends wherever she lived, moving her family 31 times from California to Montana to Vientiane, Laos, and Atlanta, Ga, and, after Ed's retirement, to Mesquite, Nev. She was educated at Holmby College and UCLA and worked as a parish secretary and as a schoolteacher.



She was much loved by all who knew her and will be greatly missed.

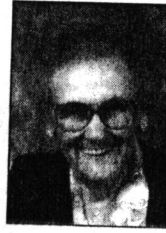
She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Ed Corpe, of Mesquite; daughters, Gretchen Ellinger of Prescott Valley, Ariz., and Tina Hardin of Sedro Woolley, Wash.; son, Keith Corpe of Anchorage, Alaska; two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She also has two sisters, Lorraine Hewen of Reno, Nev., and Bennita Whalen of Indio, Calif.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Judge Lloyd S. Nix and Helen Ryons Nix, and her brother, Lt. Commander Henry B. Nix USN.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be sent to the Ted Warthen Center, 2046 N. Tuweap Drive, St. George, UT 84770, (435)-656-4855.

Eunice M. Corne, 92

Eunice M. Corne, 92, a wonderful ma and grandma, "went to be with the Lord" on Saturday, April 27, 2002, surrounded by the love and comfort of her family and friends.



She was born March 5, 1910, in Clear Lake, Minn., to Fred and Louise Shaw Williams. She attended schools in the Clear Lake area, graduating in 1927.

On Aug. 9, 1927, she married Theodore "Ted" Corne. To that union was born nine children, four sons and five daughters, including a set of twins. The family lived in several communities in Minnesota before finally settling down on a farm outside Blackduck, Minn., where they raised their family.

Eunice loved her family and friends above all else, but had a passion for fishing, golfing, sewing, traveling, bowling and playing cards. Every summer found her out on a lake fishing. She happily shared her catches with her extended family and friends. She was a wonderful cook and a favorite amongst her grandchildren was "Jell-O with stuff."

After Ted's passing in 1983, Eunice moved to Olney, where she resided with her son, Jerome, and helped care for his children, the neighbor's children and just about anyone who needed a grandma's love. After Jerome's death, she remained in Olney for several years, living by herself, but being far from alone. She was active in the Ladies Auxiliary to the Fire Dept., the Olney PTO, and was a life member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 276 in Whitefish. Eunice became fast friends with the entire community of Olney and did a lot of fun things, most notably a dogsled ride, the Old Timers Softball Game and even rode a float in the Whitefish Winter Carnival parade.

Eunice began quilting and most, if not all, of her children, grandchildren and even some great-grandchildren and friends, are in possession of one of her handmade treasures.

Eunice traveled a lot, visiting her children, grandchildren and friends all over the country, going to such places as Alaska, Hawaii, Arizona, California and Pennsylvania. She especially liked Hawaii and her visit to a comedy club in Boise, Idaho. She frequently traveled to Minnesota to visit family and friends. In early 1997, she moved to Columbia Falls to live with her special ex-daughter-in-law, Judy Sizemore and husband, Dave. She resided there at the time of her death.

"Grandma never forgot her grandchildren's or even her great-grandchildren's names and she loved them all." She will be deeply missed by everyone whose life she touched, no matter how short.

Eunice was preceded in death by her parents, four brothers, Stanton, Emmett, Glidden and Freddy; her husband, Ted, in 1983; sons, Thomas in 2000 and Jerome in 1992; daughter Betty Lou in 1997; two grandchildren, Christine in 1962 and Lori in 1989; and a great-grandchild, Chase, in 1988.

She is survived by a brother, Ben, and a sister, Anna Mae; sons, Benjamin in Fairbanks, Alaska, Ted and his wife Valerie in Whitefish; daughters Nancy and her husband Roman Schwegel in Whitefish, Mary and her husband Doug Lawson in Ephrata, Wash., Joanne Stiles in Suison City, Calif., Lynn Sande in Park Rapids, Minn.; and 29 grandchildren; 43 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; numerous stepgrandchildren, stepgreat-grandchildren and stepgreat-great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews; special sons- and daughters-in-law, Helen Corne, Judy Sizemore, Diana and Albert Schwegel; and many wonderful friends.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Inurnment will be at a later date in Blackduck.

"Grandma was loved by all who knew her and she loved them all in return. We all miss her so very much. We all have special memories of Grandma Ma, and we will cherish them forever. She was a grand lady and one who saw the goodness in everyone. May the Lord keep you and bless you."

Bertha Mae 'Bertie' (Anderson) Corrigan, 78

Bertha Mae "Bertie" (Anderson) Corrigan, 78, went to join her husband and best friend of 60 years on June 9, 2002. She passed away at her home in Polson.

Bertie was born Jan 6, 1924, at Lake Blaine to Arthur and Ruth (Conant) Anderson. For the first six months of her life, she was known as Dandelion Geranium. Her aunt Margie named her Bertha Mae.

Bertie enjoyed bowling, growing a garden and flowers (with Don's help), homemaking, sewing, taking a drive down Bluebird Alley, looking for her beloved bluebird and wildflowers. She enjoyed her early mornings listening for meadowlarks and killdeers. She enjoyed the simple basic things in life, with a wonderful sense of humor. "She was the best grandma in the whole world."

Bertie was preceded in death by her husband, Don; parents, Arthur and Ruth; a brother, Jackie Anderson; sister, Bonnie Clark; a grandson, Cory Corrigan; a great-granddaughter, Madison Corrigan and a great-grandson, Howard Clark.

She is survived by sons, Garry

Corrigan and wife, Ida, of Polson, Larry Corrigan and wife, Jackie, of Portland, Mike Corrigan and wife, Cathy, of Polson, and daughter Lori Cooper and husband, Doug, of Trout Creek; sisters, Jane Hillman, of Salem, Ore., Norma Fochtman and husband, Orval, of Weiser, Idaho, Shirley Fox and husband, Rod, of Swan Lake; and a brother, Bob Anderson and wife, Vicki, of Weiser; and the loves of her life, 12 grandchildren, Kimberly Shriner, Suzanne Clark, Curt and Jason Cooper, Melina, Chris, James, Shawn, Bryan, Bill and Nick Corrigan, Jesse Bethal; and 11 great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Friday at 1 p.m. at the Church of the Nazarene in Pablo with the Rev. Jim Perry officiating. Inurnment will follow at Lakeview Cemetery in Polson.

Memorials may be made in Bertie's name to the Lake County Hospice, 711 Main St. S.W., Ronan, MT 59864.

Cremation and arrangements are by Grogan Funeral Home & Crematory, Polson.

Donald A. Corrigan, 80

Donald A. Corrigan, 80, of Polson, passed away on Tuesday, April 23, 2002, at St. Joseph Hospital.

He was born Nov. 5, 1921, at Shaunavon, Saskatchewan, to Atlas "Doc" and Gladys Pearl (Lyst) Corrigan.

Don married Bertie Anderson on March 7, 1942, in Libby. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He owned and operated Corrigan's Disposal Service for 27 years selling that business in 1972, and he also worked for Security State Bank as a janitor for 27 years. He was well known for his faithfulness in delivering groceries for local grocery stores in town.

He was a member of the Polson Fire Department for 20 years, served on the Polson City Council for eight years, and served Polson as mayor for six years. In 1972 he was elected as Lake County Commissioner and retired from that position in December of 1984, after serving two terms.

Don was a great person to stop and visit with — he enjoyed wood-working, yard work, going to his cabin on the lake and visiting about politics. There wasn't a person he couldn't visit with.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Doc and Gladys; a brother, Jack Corrigan; a grandson, Cory Corrigan; a great-grand-

daughter, Madison Corrigan; and a great-grandson, Howard Clark.

He is survived by his wife, Bertie, of Polson; a daughter, Lori Cooper and husband, Doug, of Trout Creek; sons, Garry Corrigan and wife, Ida, of Polson, Larry Corrigan and wife, Jackie, of Portland, and Mike Corrigan and wife, Cathy, of Polson; and a sister in Polson. He is also survived by his 11 grandchildren, Kimberley Shriner, Suzanne Clark, Curt and Jason Cooper, Melina, Chris, James, Shawn, Bryan, Bill, and Nick Corrigan, and 11 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday at the Church of the Nazarene in Pablo at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Jim Perry officiating. Inurnment with military honors will follow at Lakeview Cemetery in Polson. A reception will follow services at the Pondera Restaurant in Polson.

Memorials may be made in Don's name to the Lake County Hospice, 711 Main St. S.W., Ronan, MT 59864.

Arrangements are under the direction of Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory, Polson.

Evelyn Lilah Couey, 94

Evelyn Lilah Couey, 94, passed away March 20, 2002, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She was born March 10, 1908, in Bloomer, Wis., to Emil and Inga

(Heldstab) Ehrenberg. Evelyn and her older brother were raised and received their early education in Rice Lake, Wis.

Evelyn then attended Normal College in Platteville, Wis., and taught school before marrying Faye Couey in Pembine, Wis., on May 23, 1936. Faye and Evelyn moved to Montana in 1941. The family lived in Billings and Roundup, and spent 11 years in Helena, where Faye worked for the Montana Fish and Game Commission. Evelyn substitute taught in the East Helena schools.

Evelyn enjoyed flower and vegetable gardening, cooking, preserving, sewing, square dancing and playing bridge. Evelyn taught Sunday school and was active in the Lutheran Ladies Aid.

In 1957, the Coueys moved to Kalispell. They made a point of visiting each of the continental



U.S. states. They also took the Inland Cruise to Alaska, and in 1990, they toured Germany with the Flathead Community Band. Evelyn was a member of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. In 1998, Faye and Evelyn moved into the Immanuel Lutheran home, after living at the Buffalo Hill Terrace for 10 years.

Evelyn was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Clifton.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Faye, of Kalispell; two daughters, Lorrie Fisher and husband, Gary, of Kalispell, and Lynn Couey of St. Ignatius; one son, James Couey and wife, Janet, of Woodenville, Wash.; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with the Rev. Larry Stappler officiating. Private urn burial will take place prior to the service.

The family suggests memorials be given to Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline Ave., Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

Faye M. Couey, 94

Faye M. Couey, 94, passed away Sept. 1, 2002, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

He was born Dec. 6, 1907, in Mohall, N.D., to Frank L. and Wilhelmina R. (Morrison) Couey. In 1916, the family moved to Poplar where they ran a store and post office. After successive years of drought, the family moved to Wolf Point in 1920 and ran a rooming house. While in high school in Wolf Point, he took up the coronet and played in the band as well as in the pit for a silent film theater.

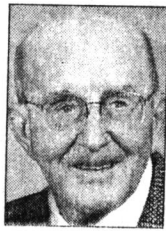
After graduation he enrolled at the University of Montana and completed his Bachelor of Science degree in biology in 1930. Along with his studies, he played in the ROTC band, Grizzly band, University orchestra, International orchestra and private dance bands.

Following graduation, he was awarded an assistantship at the University of Wisconsin. His transportation part of the way there was a memorable canoe trip down the Missouri River. He and friends put in near Whitehall on the Jefferson River and floated to Mandan, N.D., a distance of 1,400 miles in six weeks.

He obtained his master's degree in zoology and began work on his Ph.D. He worked for the State of Wisconsin Conservation Department as a crew supervisor for the Civilian Conservation Corp.

On May 23, 1936, he married a teacher, Evelyn Ehrenberg. In 1941, he moved his family to Montana to begin his career with the Montana Department of Fish and Game. Faye and Evelyn raised three children and lived in Billings, Roundup, and East Helena before moving to Kalispell in 1957.

In 1982, Faye received the Distinguished Service Award of the Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society. His accomplishments as one of Montana's first game biologists were numerous. He was responsible for some of the first upland bird survey work along north central Montana's Hi-Line. Between 1942 and 1944, he did a comprehensive survey of bighorn



sheep in Montana which later resulted in the 1950 publication "Bighorn Sheep of Montana."

From 1944 to 1946, he was in charge of surveying antelope in eastern Montana and was among the first to use aerial survey techniques. In 1946, he was in charge of the wildlife land acquisition program. Lands purchased under his supervision were Freezeout Lake, Sun River Game Range, Ninepipe Game Management Area, and the Blackfoot-Clearwater Game Range. He was assigned to Kalispell as the Department's Region One game manager in 1957 and held that position until his retirement in 1969.

Throughout the years, Faye played trumpet in the Helena City Band, the Helena Symphony, the Algeria Shrine Band, the Flathead Symphony Orchestra, and the Flathead Community Band, with whom he and Evelyn toured Germany in 1990. He liked to spend leisure time as well as work time in the outdoors. He was affiliated with Blue Lodge Free Masons, Scottish Rite Masons, and the Helena Shrine Association and was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

He loved music. He loved the outdoors, especially fishing and hunting, and was dedicated to Montana, and he passed these passions on to his family.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 65 years, Evelyn, earlier this year; his parents; and two brothers, Lyle and Eldon.

He is survived by his children, Lorrie Fischer and husband, Gary, of Kalispell, Lynn Couey of St. Ignatius, and Jim Couey and wife, Janet, of Woodinville, Wash.; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a sister, Genevieve Randall of Rapid City, S.D.

Memorial services will be held on Monday at 11 a.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with Pastor Larry Stapler officiating. Private urn burial will take place prior to the services.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline Avenue, Kalispell, MT. 59901

Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary.

Gerald T. Cosgriff, 65

Gerald T. Cosgriff, 65, died Sunday, May 12, 2002, at his home in Libby from cancer.

He was born Sept. 21, 1936. He worked for the St. Regis Paper Company.

Survivors include his wife, Donna, of Libby; two sons, Edward and David; and one

daughter, Amy Cosgriff.

Services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Faith Bible Church in Libby.

Memorials may be given to Wings or St. John's Lutheran Hospital Hospice.

Arrangements are by Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

John Thomas 'Tommy' Couture, 54

Our brother, John Thomas "Tommy" Couture, 54, of Pablo, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2002, his birthday. We lost

him due to injuries sustained in a car accident near Polson.

He was born to Susan Andrew and Joseph Couture on Jan. 26, 1948, in St. Ignatius.

He married Florence Bays on Oct. 8, 1986, in Couer d'Alene, Idaho.

Tommy was an enrolled member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, was educated at the Ursines and Flandreau Indian schools. He served in Vietnam, and after he returned, he worked in the logging industry for many years. For the last 11 years, he had worked at S&K Electronics in various positions, with the most recent being production coordinator.

Tommy loved anything to do with the outdoors. Most summers and weekends you would find him hunting, fishing or camping with his son and grandkids. He also enjoyed going to his son's various sporting events. He was best known for telling it how it was. We all loved his sense of humor and will miss that most.



He was preceded in death by his parents, Susan and Joseph Couture, and a sister, Regina Matt.

He is survived by his loving wife, Florence, and a son, Travis, both of Pablo. He is also survived by his stepdaughter, Anglie Quequesah and her husband Dan James of Pablo, and stepson, Joseph Quequesah Jr. and his wife Gwen Hewankorn of Elmo; brothers, Richard Couture and his wife Annette of Elmo, Roy Couture and his wife Janice of Ronan, Albert "Butch" Couture of Parshall, N.D.; sisters Rita Cannon, of Polson, Rhoda White Horse of Rocky Boy, Judy Philips of Pablo; and an aunt, Helen Charlo, of Elmo.

He will be especially missed by his grandchildren Matyssa, Amanda, Amber and Isaiah Quequesah, and Kimberly and Karla Burke, with whom he shared a special and close relationship. He will also be dearly missed by many cousins, nieces, nephews and many, many friends.

Traditional wake services will begin today at 10 a.m. at the Elmo Hall in Elmo. Rosary will be held on Wednesday at 8 p.m. A funeral Mass will be held on Thursday at 10 a.m. at the Elmo Hall with the Rev. Gary Reller officiating. Burial will follow at the Dayton Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Grogan Funeral Home of Polson.

Josephine 'Jo' Cover, 95

Josephine "Jo" Cover, 95, passed away Sunday morning, March 31, 2002, at the North Valley Extended Care Unit in Whitefish.

She was born Dec. 17, 1905, in Gordon, Neb., the daughter of William and Carolyn (Winters) Gardner. Jo was educated in Gordon, Chadron and Omaha, Neb.

She married Leslie Cover in 1926. They moved to Whitefish, in 1945, where Leslie was with the Whitefish Police Department. Leslie preceded her in death in 1956.

Jo was then employed with Snappy Foods in Whitefish for several years and later in 1959, she was employed with First National Bank as a bookkeeper, retiring in 1970.

Jo was a lifetime member of the

United Methodist Church; the Order of the Eastern Star; as well as Daughters of the Nile Tirzah Temple.

She was a dedicated supporter of all Whitefish school activities, attending almost all home Bulldog football and basketball games for many years.

She is survived by her niece, Nellie Nielson, along with three nephews.

Cremation has taken place and memorial services will be conducted at the United Methodist Church of Whitefish at 3 p.m. on Wednesday. Graveside committal of ashes will follow at the Whitefish City Cemetery.

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

Bertha Elnora 'Bertie' Coverdell, 83

Bertha Elnora "Bertie" Coverdell, 83, formerly of Polson, passed away peacefully Sunday, July 14, 2002, at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital.

Bertie was born Nov. 29, 1918, in Ryegate, to Bertha May Oard Mullen and Charles Henry Mullen. She attended the first grade at the "79 School" in the Big Coulee, out of Ryegate, where her father farmed. Her family moved to Polson in 1923, where she attended grade school through high school.

She married Ralph Coverdell on Aug. 28, 1937, in Polson, where they made their home for 61 years before moving to Belgrade in 1999. Bertie was a mother and a housewife until Ralph got sick and was unable to work, at which time she was employed by Utsond's Locker Plant and then the Wardrobe Cleaners before her retirement.

She was a member of the New Life Christian Center in Polson and attended the Ronan Senior Center with Ralph. She attended the Belgrade Christian Assembly and enjoyed the Tuesday evening Bible study, as well as other church activities.

Bertie loved to "try her hand" at painting and sketching, a hobby she began later in her life under the urging and guidance of a dear friend. She loved to read and enjoyed crossword puzzles. While living in Polson, she'd shared with Ralph a love of gardening and was especially proud of the tulips and beautiful seasonal flowers that flourished in their garden.

She loved times spent with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, often remarking how the young people were so "full of life" and made her feel "young."

She had a zest for life. She and Ralph were able to get great enjoyment out of the simple things in life and were content with them. Her love for God, and her complete trust in Him were part of her everyday life. "Mom/Grandma was the first person her family would go to for prayer needs."

She was often heard saying "Oh, I spy the hand of God."

She will be greatly missed by her family and friends who were all so blessed to have been touched by her life.

Her parents; one brother, Theodore; and her husband, Ralph, preceded her in death.

Survivors include her daughter and son-in-law, Marilyn and Miles Miller of Belgrade; two sons and daughters-in-law, Art and Carolyn Coverdell of Missoula, and Dick and Clairice Coverdell of Martin City; 10 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; her sister, Charlene Siphers, of Stevensville; and her twin sister, Gertrude Hilton, of Couer d'Alene; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Aug. 17 at the New Life Christian Center in Polson.

Memorials may be made in her name to the Belgrade Christian Assembly Library Fund, which was started from books donated from Bertie's personal collection.

Lenore J. Cox, 84

Lenore J. Cox, age 84, passed away on Friday, March 8, 2002, at Heritage Place in Kalispell. She was born on Dec. 15, 1917, in Kevin, Mont., to James and Nellie Jewart.

She moved to the Flathead Valley in 1952 with her husband John, who ran the fish hatchery at Somers.

Lenore was preceded in death by her parents and her husband,

John.

She is survived by her two sons, John J. of Hillsboro, Ore., and Jerry of Beaverton, Ore., and one daughter, Kay Marsh of Kalispell.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Glacier Memorial Gardens, with Deacon Fred Topp of St. Matthew's Catholic Church officiating. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Michael E. Cox, 53

Michael E. Cox, 53, passed away at his home in Carlisle, Ohio, on Sept. 26, 2002.

He was born on a farm in Clermont County, Ohio, on July 5, 1949. He grew up on the farm in Ohio, before moving to Columbia Falls in 1966. He graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1967.

He moved back to Ohio where he worked for General Motors-Delphi in Dayton, Ohio, for 24 years before retiring because of ill health in 1999.

Michael is survived by his wife, Tera, and stepson, Cody Hatfield, at home; daughters, Anna Shultz and husband, Richard, of

Franklin, Ohio, and Amber Schwartz and husband, Michael, of Hilliard, Ohio; parents, Samuel and Arletta Jean Cox of Columbia Falls; brothers, Samuel and wife, Sonja, Walter and wife, Melanie, all of East Helena, and Kenny and wife, Debbie, of Evergreen; sisters, Deborah Beck and husband, Kenneth, of Columbia Falls, and Alice Meyer and husband, Henry, of Swan Valley; three grandchildren Michalee, Richelle and Nicholas in Ohio; and many nephews and nieces in Montana.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the LaSalle Grange Hall with the Pastor Gene Speer conducting services.

Dolores J. Smith-Crawford, 74

Dolores J. Smith-Crawford, 74, of Green Valley, Ariz., and Dayton, died Jan. 3, 2002, in Kalispell.

She was born Feb. 9, 1927, in Visalia, Calif., to Pete and Mary Martins. She attended school in Wasco and Dinuba, Calif., as well as Fresno State University. She was a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

She was married to Marvin C. Smith Jr. in California on Dec. 6, 1945, and moved to Nevada, Iowa, where she became a farm homemaker and the mother of four. She was active in the Nevada Adventist church and taught music in the Academy School. Her husband



preceded her in death many years ago.

In 1996, Dolores moved to Dayton, and married J.M. Matt Crawford.

She is survived by her husband, J.M. Matt; four children: Marvin C. Smith III of Nevada, Merrie Lyn Williams of Apopka, Fla., Dr. Ted Smith, D.V.M. of Holstein, Iowa and Jennifer R. Cannell of Galt, Calif.; 12 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

There are many friends left behind in Green Valley, Ariz. and in Dayton and throughout America.

She was rewarded for having lived a gracious life, by God taking her peacefully, sleeping into eternity.

A private burial of her remains was in the Smith family site in the Nevada Iowa Municipal Cemetery.

Charles A. Creon, 86

Memorial services for Charles A. Creon, 86, who died on Friday, Sept. 28, 2001, in Kalispell, will be held at 2 p.m.

Monday at the United Methodist Church in Kalispell. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home caring for the family.

Verna J. Criner, 59

Verna J. Criner, 59, of Libby, a retired U.S. Postal Service employee, died Friday, April 5, 2002, in Atlanta, Ga., due to amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease).

She was born Feb. 5, 1943, at Miles City.

She is survived by her husband Gerald R. Criner of Libby, two daughters, Tana L. Criner and Tami Criner Kidd; two grandchildren; and mother, Luella Steyee.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. May 4 at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Libby. Further services will be held May 8 at 11 a.m. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby, with burial of ashes to follow in the Mountain View Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to the ALS Association of Georgia, 1955 Monroe Drive N.E., P.O. Box 13427, Atlanta, GA 30324.

Ford B. Cripe, 87

Ford B. Cripe, 87, of Troy, died Monday, July 15, 2002, at his home in Troy from natural causes.

He served three terms as mayor of Troy.

Survivors include two daughters, Carol Young and

Kathy Cripe and one son, Larry Cripe.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Troy Methodist Church. Local arrangements are by Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

Robert L. Cripe, 92

Robert L. Cripe, 92, a lifelong resident of Troy, died Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2002, in Troy of natural causes.

He worked as a mechanic, an accountant for Greyhound

and as a barber.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at the United Methodist Church in Troy. Local arrangements are by Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

Clive C. Cromwell, 59

Clive C. Cromwell, 59, of Polson, died Sunday, Sept. 15, 2002, at his home on Finley Point.

He owned and operated Cromwell Orchards on Finley Point.

He is survived by his daughter, Camille Cromwell, of

Reno, Nev.

Cremation has taken place and burial will be held in California.

Arrangements and cremation are under the direction of Grogan Funeral Home in Polson.

Mabel Billmayer Cronce, 94

Mabel Billmayer Cronce, 94, died surrounded by her loving family on Tuesday, May 14, 2002, at the Pioneer Medical Center in Big Timber.

Mabel Rhoda McGuire was born October 20, 1907, in Bourgon, Ill., the eighth of 10 children to Sterling and Minnie McGuire. She moved to Montana when she was 6 years old. She attended school in Harlem.

She married Roy Billmayer of Harlem. When Roy accepted the job of rural mail carrier on Route 2 for the Twete Post Office, they moved to the Wing area. When the railroad came and the town of Hogeland was started, they moved to town and started a dairy. To this union, six children were born.

They later built a new ranch house one mile west of Hogeland, where they farmed, ranched and carried mail. Mabel enjoyed helping her husband, Roy, and being a housewife and mother.

She belonged to several organizations, including the Wing Ladies Aid and the American Legion Auxiliary. She was a member of the Harlem Saddle Club and danced with the Big Flat Square Dancers. She enjoyed "Chuck Wagon Days." While her children were in high school in Harlem, she owned and operated "The Confectionery." She later worked at the Harlem Rest Home. She served as a 4-H leader and as a Junior Leader for the Farmer's Union and helped at several camps. She also helped start the hot-lunch program in the Hogeland Public Schools. In addition to her public service, Gram enjoyed the simple things in life — family, fishing, sports, birds and gardening.

Roy died in January of 1965.

She later sold the farm and moved to Kalispell, where she built a new home. She married Clyde Cronce in June of 1972. Mabel and Clyde did a lot of traveling, including several trips to Alaska and wintering in Niland, Calif. Together, they attended graduations and weddings and all family get-togethers. Mabel grew beautiful roses and huge tomato plants while living in Kalispell.

Clyde passed away in December of 1992. She then sold her home and moved to Big Timber. She was preceded in death by her parents; eight brothers and sisters; husband, Roy; infant son, Donald; sons, John and Frank; stepson, Myron Cronce; and husband, Clyde.

She is survived by son, James and his wife, Helen Billmayer, of Hogeland and Sun City, Ariz.; daughters, Lois and her husband, Merlin Alcorn, of Custer, Wash., and Doris and her husband, Art Egbert, of Big Timber; one sister, Ruby and her husband, Jake Homchick, of Washington; 24 grandchildren; 74 great-grandchildren; 18 great-great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; and a sister-in-law, Mary Lou Benson, of Sunburst.

Gram has been cremated. Her ashes were buried during a private family burial in the Wing Cemetery beside her late husband, Roy, on May 20. Following the burial, a memorial service for family and friends was held at the American Lutheran Church in Hogeland, with Pastor Rowlie Hutton officiating.

The family requests that individuals make a donation to the charity of their choice in lieu of a specific memorial.

Clark 'Bus' McKorcle Cunningham, 88

Clark "Bus" McKorcle Cunningham, 88, of Grantsdale, passed away from sudden heart failure at Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital the evening of Friday, Feb. 15, 2002.

He was born in Vernon County, Mo., on July 13, 1913.

"Bus" came to the Bitterroot Valley in the 1930s. His working years were spent in forest-related jobs with more than 30 years as a timber faller.

He was preceded in death by his brother Charles, sisters Vonnie and Kate; and grandson Todd.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Irene Cunningham; sons Dennis and wife Suzette, Pat and

wife Dorothy, Rick and wife Barb; grandchildren Brian Troy, Chris and Sarah; sister Maxine, "sister" Joyce, and "brother" Rex.

Bus' love of the outdoors, his passion for nature and animals, and his ability to give his knowledge to those around him will live on for generations. Thank you, Buster.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Cremation and arrangements are under the care of the Daly-Leach Chapel in Hamilton.

The family suggests memorials to the Bitterroot Humane Association, 262 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton, MT 59840.

Lavona L. Cunningham, 83

Lavona L. Cunningham, 83, who lived in Martin City during the '70s and '80s, died Jan. 5, 2002, at the Chico Creek Care and Rehabilitation Center, Chico Calif.

She was born in Camas, Wash., April 7, 1918, to Pearl and Henry Cooper.

Lavona was a homemaker the majority of her life. She was a member of the Widowhood Society of Chico. She loved the outdoors, especially the mountains and the seashore, and she enjoyed camping. She loved spending time with her family and doing crafts. She also loved dogs.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lawrence Cunningham in 1995, and by her two sons, Dale L. Cunningham in 1970 and Dean L. Cunningham in 1971.

She is survived by her daughter, Patricia Shirley of Cohasset, Calif.; 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her name to a favorite charity.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Neptune Society of Northern California, Chico branch.

Ralph Ellsworth Coverdell, 89

Ralph Ellsworth Coverdell, 89, of Belgrade, formerly of Polson, passed away peacefully Jan. 9, 2002. Ralph is now with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. His family will miss him.

He was born June 4, 1912, in Sandpoint, Idaho, the son of Ottman R. and Gladys Olia (Hilton) Coverdell. He was educated in Kila.

He married Bertha E. Mullen on Aug. 28, 1937, in Polson. Ralph and Bertha made their home in Polson for 61 years. During his life he was employed by the Dewey Lumber Company in Polson and he worked for numerous other lumber mills in the Lake County area. He retired from the city of Polson, where he worked for the street and water department.

Ralph was a member of the New Life Christian Center in Polson and the Ronan Senior Center.

Ralph loved the outdoors, especially camping, of which his fami-

ly has many fond memories. He was an avid fisherman, hunter and loved gardening. On many occasions people would drive past and take pictures of the beautiful tulips and other flowers that Ralph and Bertie planted.

His parents; one sister, Oma Wittwer; and three brothers Eldon, Bobby and Donald preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife Bertha of Belgrade; daughter and son-in-law Marilyn and Miles Miller of Belgrade; two sons and daughters-in-law Art and Carolyn Coverdell of Missoula, and Dick and Clairice Coverdell of Martin City; 10 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Jan. 19 at New Life Christian Center in Polson.

Memorials may be made in his name to the charity of one's choice.