

Alvin 'Nitch' Naccarato, 84

Alvin "Nitch" Naccarato, 84, of Whitefish, passed away Dec. 15, 2002. He was born in Whitefish on June 20, 1918, to Ambrosina and Natale "Nick" Naccarato.

He graduated from Whitefish High School in 1936 and married Lucille Burlingham in 1938. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

Nitch spent his entire life in Whitefish and was very devoted to the community. He was active in the Chamber of Commerce, Moose Lodge, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Lions, Kiwanis, Whitefish Public Library, the volunteer fire department and many other civic organizations. Nitch especially enjoyed the Winter Carnival and served as Winter Carnival king in 1981.

Nitch was preceded in death by his wife, Lucille; brother, Eddie; and his eldest daughter, Angela Ramey.

He is survived by his son, Richard, of Reno, Nev.; and daughters, Luci Whitaker of Whitefish, and Linda Lillianbong of Boise, Idaho. He is also survived by three granddaughters and eight great-grandchildren.

The wake will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Austin Funeral Home. A funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Charles Catholic Church in Whitefish.

Memorial contributions may be made in Nitch's name to the Whitefish Public Library.

Funeral arrangements are by Austin Funeral Home.

William S. Nader, 86

William S. Nader, 86, died Monday, Aug. 5, 2002, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He is survived by his wife Dorothy, and daughter, AnneDee.

A memorial service celebrat-

ing his life will be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday, at Gilman Woodworking Studios, 245 Twin Bridges Road, Whitefish.

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

Dessie Loreta Neely, 88

Dessie Loreta Neely, 88, died on Wednesday, June 26, 2002, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She is survived by her daughter, Elaine, of Columbia Falls.

Urn burial will be next to her husband Will at the Burns Cemetery in Burns, Ore.

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

Cyril 'Cy' Henry Neether, 55

Cyril "Cy" Henry Neether, 55, passed away on Saturday, June 1, 2002, at Duck Lake. He was born Dec. 8, 1946 in Stanley, N.D. to Henry Lawrence and Lillian Marie (Gustafson) Neether.

Cy attended Palermo High School in North Dakota, graduating in 1965. He then went to St. Paul, Minn., for mechanics schooling.

Cy was a decorated Vietnam veteran with the National Defense Service Medal; sharpshooter badge for M-16 rifles; marksman badge for M-14 rifles; Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, Vietnam Service Medal; and an Overseas Bar. He had been working for the past 31 years at Plum Creek, Evergreen Division. Cy was a member of the Elks Lodge and a lifetime NRA member.

He loved hunting, fishing, camping, and spending time with his grandchildren.



Cy is survived by his wife, Bobbie Neether of Kalispell; son Scott Neether and wife Heidi and grandsons Tucker and Tre; stepson Donald Weakley and his children, Coty and Darby; stepdaughter Anna McComb and husband Matt and children Jourdan and Sean; and sister, Birdie Marum and husband Roger; and nephews, Scott and Shane.

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

Funeral services will be held at 4 p.m. on Friday at the Christian Center Assembly of God with Pastor Robert Ross officiating. This service will be held jointly with Norman Schwartz.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests remembrances to the Whitefish Credit Union, "Neether Grandchildren Education Memorial Fund," 234 East Montana, Kalispell, MT 59901

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

Albert Edward Nelson, 88

Albert Edward Nelson, 88, of Libby, died Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2002, at the Libby Care Center from asbestosis.

He served as a medical NCO during World War II, where he received the Bronze star.

He worked at various jobs around Libby including J. Neil's Lumber Company and

the St. Regis Lumber Company.

He is survived by a son, Neil A. Nelson of Libby; and a daughter, Pamela Starke of Prescott, Ariz.

Graveside services will at 1 p.m. Saturday at the City of Libby Cemetery.

Local arrangements are by the Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

Doris Marguerite Rathje Nelson, 92

Doris Marguerite Rathje Nelson was born Aug. 23, 1909, in Minneapolis, raised in Valley City, N.D., and attended the University of North Dakota where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in music. She was active in the arts, appeared as a dancer in several school dramas and was very proud to be the first female drum majorette at the University of North Dakota. She went on to post-graduate schools at the University of Wisconsin and the University of Minnesota.

In 1931, Doris married Carl Nelson in Grand Forks, N.D. They moved to Bismarck, N.D., and later to Des Moines, Iowa, where her husband of 12 years passed away. While living in Des Moines, Doree



received her laboratory technician certification, but her life revolved around music; she played string bass with a local band. She moved to Whitefish in 1956, and worked for Dr. F. Michael Ricker as a laboratory technician for 32 years.

She was active in the Whitefish Chapter of Women of the Moose for 22 years, was a member of North Valley Eagles Chapter 4181 in Columbia Falls, and contributed to the local Veterans of Foreign Wars Chapter 276 Auxiliary.

Doree Nelson passed away peacefully July 14, 2002, at home in Whitefish. She will be remembered as a gracious hostess, occasionally entertaining her friends with a soft-shoe dance and sharing her love of music.

Funeral services will be held at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish at 10 a.m. on Thursday. The Rev. Brenda Wills officiating. Burial will follow at Whitefish Cemetery in Whitefish.

Esther Marie Nelson 75

Esther Marie Nelson 75, departed from her family and friends on Feb. 17, 2002, at Community Hospital in Missoula of natural causes.

She was born to Belgian immigrants, William and Marie DeMessemaker at their homestead on the Milk River near Tampico on Oct. 4, 1926.

She married Robert Nelson on Aug. 2, 1947, and brought four children into the world. She attended school in Tampico and Glasgow.

She was a member of the Gumbo Gals Garden Club, the Badland Biddies craft club and the Daughters of the Nile. She was a past worthy matron of Eastern Star, Valley Chapter 29. She taught Sunday school at Fort Peck Community Church.

Some of her interests included fishing, gardening, bird-watching, camping, cooking, traveling, crafts, playing cards and bingo. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends.

Esther has lived in Kalispell, Glasgow and settled with Robert at Fort Peck. She has lived in Alberton the past 6 1/2 years with a daughter and her family.

Esther was preceded in death by her husband Robert Nelson; brother William; father William;

and mother Marie DeMessemaker.

She is survived by her four children, Marie Wagner and her husband Bill of Billings, Arthur Nelson and his wife Sandy of Kalispell, Rose Ann Dehne and her husband Carl of Alberton, and Carl Nelson and his wife Cheryl of Great Falls; nine grandchildren, Heather, Rob and Lynette Wagner, Mike and Bradley Nelson, Cassandra and Geoffrey Dehne and Clarke and Rachel Nelson; five great-grandchildren, Evan and Anders Epperly, Logan and Ravenna Nelson and Jalen Wagner; two sisters, Rachel Pugh and Eva Stohl; and numerous nieces and nephews and grandnieces and grand-nephews.

Esther was a loving mother and grandmother and a friend to many. "She will be greatly missed, yet we are comforted to know that she is with us in so many ways."

A celebration of Esther's life was held at Fort Peck Chapel on Feb. 23 at 1 p.m. with burial at Highland Cemetery.

The family suggest donations to Lion's Eye Bank, stroke research, Shriner's Children's Hospital and the Chalice of Repose Project, 554 W. Broadway, Suite 436, Missoula, MT 59802.

Fred D. 'Nip' Nelson, 79

Fred D. "Nip" Nelson, 79, a longtime area logger, died Thursday, April 25, 2002, at St. John Lutheran Hospital in Libby.

He was born at Rexford on March 23, 1923, to Benjamin and Clara Nelson and was raised and educated in the Tobacco Valley. He served with the U.S. Army in Europe during World War II, participating in the Normandy invasion. He was honorably discharged in 1946 and returned to Montana. He married Geraldine Pearson on Jan. 28, 1946, at Libby.

For a brief period of time, he was employed as a logger by the J. Neils Lumber Company. In 1954, he, along with other family members, formed a family logging contracting business that he continued to operate for many years until his retirement in 1993.

An avid outdoorsman, he had a lifetime love of fishing and hunting. He was a member of the Montana Logging Association and a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He was preceded in death by a grandchild, two great-grandchildren, four sisters and three brothers.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Geraldine, at the family home in Libby; three sons, Larry Nelson and friend, Karen, Bruce Nelson and friend, Joetta, and Dean Nelson, all of Libby; two sisters, Daisy Smith and Faith Lasher and husband, Don, all of Kalispell; 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 3 to 8 p.m. Monday at the Nelson & Vial

Funeral Home in Libby and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Eureka. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Tobacco Valley Cemetery in Eureka with military honors.

Jacob M. Nelson, 82

Jacob M. Nelson, 82, went to his heavenly house on Jan. 16, 2002.

Jake was born on April 21, 1919, to Jacob and Eva Kirkpatrick Nelson in Kalispell, together with his twin sister, Jean Payne. He had only one other sister, Betty. Except for his years in military service, he lived his life in the Flathead, receiving his schooling in Kalispell.

He was married to Dorothy Herzog and they had two sons, Jacob Jr. and Randy.

He was in the National Guard and spent three years in the Army before joining the U.S. Marine Corp, where he spent 23 years before retiring in 1960. He served during World War II on Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan and also in the Philippine Islands, Japan and China. He was injured in a mine explosion in Guadalcanal, receiving his Purple Heart 56 years later. He was in the second Pearl Harbor attack, when his ship was blown out of the water.

On returning to the states by boat, he entertained the men by playing his saxophone. He had played at one time with the Marine Band in California. When stationed at Camp Pendleton, he was one of the "guinea pigs" in the first atomic tests in Nevada. In 1950, he went to Korea to serve in a supporting role at the Chosen Reservoir. He was very proud to be a Marine and proudly displayed all his medals, especially his Purple Heart.

He was a member of the 2nd Marine Division, Marine Corp League, Veterans of Foreign Wars, DAV and the Purple Heart. He was also a member of the Eagles and Bethlehem Lutheran Church. At one time he was a member of the Elks, Sons of Norway and Northridge Lutheran Church.

In 1961, he married Dorothy Craft and they raised three daughters, Sharon, Jackie and Jill, and a son, Gary. They later divorced.

He was a master with wood, and loved making many toys each year for the Toys for Tots program. He left many oak wood treasures for his family and friends and was always ready to help when needed.

Returning from the service, he worked in construction for Leonard Knutson, building many homes and businesses around the valley. He worked at Superior Mills as the head millwright, then lastly worked at Renfrow Cabinets, establishing strong friendships with each employer.

He loved people, especially his

family. He enjoyed dancing, camping, huckleberry picking, playing bridge and pinochle with his friends. He became an avid golfer and was always a true fisherman.

In 1987, he married Lucille Doran, whom he called the "love of his life." They traveled to New Zealand to visit, where he had been stationed during the war and met and made some very special friends.

He was a member of the 2nd Am Trac Battalion and enjoyed traveling to attend the yearly reunions with fellow Marines and their wives, establishing bonding friendships while exchanging service experiences. Each reunion was held in a different state and place and hosting the reunion of 1997 here in Kalispell was special to him. He was a member of the Northwest Chapter of the 2nd Marine Division and enjoyed their annual reunion each April.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Betty; a grandson, Raymond; and a stepgrandson, Chris Doran.

He is survived by his wife, Lucille; his dear twin sister, Jean, and family; his sons, Jacob III, Randy and his wife Patty, and Gary; his daughters, Sharon and husband Jerry Burghdoff, Jackie and husband Don Hancock, and Jill; several grandchildren including Jason Johnsrud, Justin and Scotty Walters, Jacob IV, Angela and Shelley Nelson. He was a very loving father and grandfather to his stepchildren, Gary Doran and daughter Tayvia, Rich Doran and wife Diane, Stacey Taylor, Evan Gardner, Paul and wife Shelley Doran, Ryan, Shanise, Teisha and husband Chris, Jamiz and Keira, Debra Mills and husband Tom Norton, Cory, Kasey and Sina Mills and Andrew and Cali Norton.

He touched so many lives and had so many loving wonderful friends. He will be dearly missed by all his family and friends.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with the Rev. Larry Stappler officiating. Urn burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, with the Flathead Veterans and the Marine Corp doing the graveside honors.

In lieu of flowers remembrances may be made to the Toys for Tots, 610 California St., Kalispell, MT; the Bethlehem Lutheran Church; Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls; or donor's choice.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

Lee C. Nelson, 87

Lee C. Nelson, 87, Montana native with many Utah loved ones, died Sunday, Feb. 2, 2002, in Washington, D.C. His final moments were spent relating one of his wonderful stories to a daughter. Vicky, his loving wife and companion, was by his side.



Born March 11, 1924, in Chestnut Valley, Mont., to John and Vera (Wilcox) Nelson, Lee was the fourth of seven children. Known as "Socky" as a child, he never backed down from a fight. He was ready to go, or he wouldn't have! Lee was a self-made man who owned construction and roofing companies in Great Falls.

He joined the merchant marines shortly after high school graduation, to serve in World War II. He married Linda Ann Hall, March 8, 1947. They had six children and later divorced.

He and Vicky Perry were married Sept. 3, 1981. Dad found the good in everyone he met, and made people feel loved unconditionally.

The heavens rejoiced to greet him, even as we mourn, to say "farewell for now."

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Val, sister Joyce McMaster, and son Rande Lee.

He is survived by his wife Vicky of Bigfork; sons Michael Perry and wife Jodie of Valier, Tony of Provo, Utah, and Reece of Bountiful, Utah; daughters Sheila and husband Dave Zolman of Taylorsville, Utah, Sheryl and her husband Bob Scialfa of Arvada, Colo., Shauna and husband Jim Rohbock of Sandy, Utah, Sharla and husband Chris Cenis of Lolo;

27 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Surviving siblings are Ruth and her husband Ivan Miller of Hyrum, Utah, Verda and her husband Leon Jensen of Draper, Utah, Bruce and his wife Ruth of Great Falls, Robert and his wife Missy of Kalispell; as well as numerous nieces and nephews; and everyone who affectionately called him Uncle Lee.

Friends may call Friday from 6 to 8 p.m. at McDougal Funeral Home, 4330 South Redwood Road, and Saturday at the church, 12 to 12:45 p.m.

Memorial services will be held Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Mount Jordan LDS chapel, 2675 East Mount Jordan Road (9800 South) in Sandy, Utah.

In Bigfork, friends may call Tuesday between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. and again at 10 a.m. on Wednesday. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday at 11 a.m. at the Bigfork LDS Chapel.

Lee's favorite quote was, "I've lived too long among the stars to be fearful of the night."

Lois Louise (Maze) Nelson, 71

Lois Louise (Maze) Nelson, 71, died Thursday, Nov. 7, 2002, at her son's home in Great Falls.

She was born Feb. 8, 1931 in Havre, to Luther W. and Victoria Louise (Jackson) Maze. Louise was one of 13 children. She finished eighth grade in the Havre schools.

Her first job outside the home was at Bob's Drive-In, where she worked as a waitress. It was there that she met her husband, John Clifford Nelson.

When she was young she had a favorite horse called Babe that she loved to roam the hills or go down to the creek. Louise worked outside a lot with her dad milking cows, haying, and what not. She got hay fever and it was from this disease that she got the nickname, "Weezie."

Louise always had a helping hand. If you needed a meal or a place to stay, she was the first to offer help. Louise "loved the Lord and her faith kept her strong up to the end of her life here with us."

Louise loved to crochet, knit, sew, do bead work, garden, and can her own food.

Louise did not have the privilege of having a grandmother when she was young. She made sure that her grandchildren knew that they were all very special to her.

Louise married John Clifford Nelson on Aug. 9, 1947, in Chinook.

She had eight children in eight years. Louise had to go outside of the home to work when her husband got injured and support the family. In 1966 she moved her family to Kalispell and worked as a waitress and cook at the Hut Cafe, the Four Seasons Motor Inn, and Mountain Shadows Cafe. She also worked at a Circle "K" store in Hungry Horse as a clerk.



Louise was a long time resident of Hungry Horse, and just recently moved to Great Falls, to be close to her doctors. At the time of her death she was at her youngest son's home where she was surrounded by her family. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her and her loving children.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, John C. Nelson; four brothers, Archie, Harold, Gordon and Murrell Maze; two sisters, Minnie Simpson and Noreen Maze; grandson, Christopher Thompson; and a great grandchild from Alaska.

Louise is survived by her children, Clifford and Nancy (Ribich) Nelson of Joplin, Melvin Nelson of North Pole, Alaska, Ellen Nelson of New Mexico, Carl and Cheryl (Nicklaus) Nelson and Margaret Thompson Miller and husband, Bill, all of Columbia Falls, Leonard and Trudy (Olson) Nelson of Great Falls, Karen Nelson Holmquist and Sharon and Greg Elavsky, all of Kalispell, and Donna and Donny McBride of Kileen, Texas; sisters, Eva Ellis of Columbia Falls, Lorraine and Bert Fraley of Anchorage, Alaska, and Audrey Halcomb of Tooele, Utah; brothers, James "Scotty" and wife, Rita Maze, of Joplin, Norman and Margaret Maze of Havre, and Harvey and Carol Maze of Great Falls; sisters-in-law, Minnie Simpko and Dorthy Wornik, both of Havre, Audrey Maze of Kalispell, and Goldie Maze of Helena. Louise leaves behind 30 grandchildren, 54 great-grandchildren, one-great-great-grandson, and lots of nieces and nephews.

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 1 p.m. at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Captain Daniel Freeman of the Salvation Army will officiate. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell.

Mick Nelson, 61

Mick Nelson, 61, of Libby, died Saturday, April 6, 2002, at his home.

He was born in Libby on Jan. 20, 1941, to Henry and Louise Nelson.

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

Survivors include his wife, Corky; his children, including Charlene Snyder and husband Jeff, Mike, Brant, Nikki, Axel and Kraig Nelson, all of Libby; his brother Pete Nelson and

wife Sandy of Libby; and his mother and father-in-law, Rose and Robert Schliep of Libby; and 15 grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and until noon on Thursday at the Nelson and Vial funeral Home.

Services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at the City of Libby cemetery with the Rev. Eric Christiansen officiating.

Memorials may be made to "Wings," 350 Louisiana Ave., Libby, MT 59923.

Velma S. Nelson, 91

Velma S. Nelson, 91, died Wednesday, May 15, 2002, at her home near Columbia Falls.

She was born April 28, 1911 in Shelton, Idaho. She and her husband owned the Bad Rock Motel until they retired.

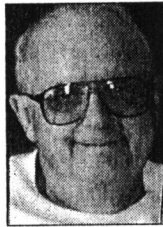
She is survived by her children, LaRue Shara, Carol Houston, Melvern Nelson, and Kathleen Hanks.

A funeral service will be held Monday at 1 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Columbia Falls. Burial will follow in Woodlawn Cemetery. Visitation will be from noon to 1 p.m. at the Relief Society Room at the church on Monday.

Columbia Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

James 'Jim' H. Neuman

James "Jim" H. Neuman "was lifted into the Savior's arms" on Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2002, embraced by his children and wife, and surrounded in the peaceful melodies of one of St. Patrick's harp players.



He was brought into this world as the youngest of five on Nov. 14, 1932, in Roundup, to William and Elsie Neuman. He spent his early years scampering around Roundup and visiting the "big" city of Billings. He traveled to St. Cloud, Minn., to attend and eventually graduated from St. John's Preparatory School in 1951. He worked his way through Creighton University, working at Yellowstone National Park during the summers. When he graduated in 1955, he began his career as a pharmacist in Omaha, Neb.

In 1957, he enlisted into the U.S. Army and was stationed in Schwaebisch Hall, Germany, where he fell in love and married his best friend and love of his life, Emma Dehoust, in 1958. After his tour of duty the newlyweds moved to Missoula where he continued his work as a pharmacist, which eventually led to his ownership of the Professional Village Pharmacy. In 1979, he expanded his entrepreneurial spirit and purchased Tina's Mexican restaurant, which he successfully owned until 1985. After 1985, Jim went back

into pharmacy, which took him to Great Falls, Arizona and Washington. He retired in 2000, working for Safeway in Whitefish.

His true passion was his family. He was very active in his children's schools, activities, sports and the Catholic Church. His favorite time were spent with his family and grandchildren at his vacation home on Flathead Lake.

He was a member of the Elks, Professional Village Business Board, Loyola Sacred Heart Sideliners, Knights of Columbus, served as one of the BASH chairmen, as well as serving on St. Anthony's Elementary School and Parish board.

He is survived by his wife, Emma, of Kalispell; his son, John, wife Missy, and children, Brendan, Joshua, and newest arrival Megan of Seattle; daughter, Deborah O'Brien, husband Kevin, children, Rosie and Mickie of Florence; and daughter, Sandra of Seattle. He is also survived by a sister, Helen Hughes of Holter Lake; brother, Ted and wife, Rose Mary, of Stevensville; and brother, John and wife, Phyllis, of Wyoming.

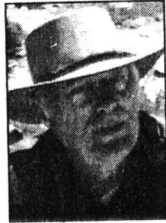
Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Francis Xavier in Missoula with the reception to follow.

The family request that in lieu of flowers, please send memorials to the Loyola Sacred Heart Foundation, 320 Edith, Missoula, MT 59801.

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

Fletcher E. Newby, 75

Fletcher E. Newby, 75, passed away at home on March 2, 2002, surrounded by loving family and friends, after a courageous battle with cancer.



Fletcher was born July 20, 1926, near Lingle, Wyo., the youngest of four children of George E. "Ed" and Vera L. Newby.

He attended school in LaGrange, Wyo., graduating in 1944. He enlisted in the Air Force and was discharged in 1945. Fletch attended the University of Montana, where he met Elaine I. Crowe. They were married on Dec. 29, 1946, in Kalispell.

Fletch received his Bachelor of Science degree with honors in 1949 and entered graduate school at Washington State University in Pullman. Upon completion of his master's in 1951, Fletch and Elaine moved to Kalispell, where Fletch began work for the Montana Department of Fish and Game.

Subsequent moves took them to Helena and Billings, where Fletch served in various positions of increasing responsibility. In 1971, they returned to Helena, where Fletch accepted the position of first executive director of the Montana Environmental Quality Council. In 1974, he took a position at Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks as deputy director, a position he held until his retirement in 1981.

By then, Elaine was becoming increasingly handicapped by rheumatoid arthritis, and until her death, Fletch devoted himself to her care. Their mutual devotion was an inspiration and role model for many. After 10 years at Finley Point near Polson, Fletch and Elaine moved to Sapphire Retirement Center in Hamilton. There they continued their lifelong inter-

est in wildlife, and Fletch helped establish a wildlife habitat area next to the center. He also wrote a column on local wildlife, which resulted in the book, "Wildlife Notes from Beaver Lake."

Following Elaine's death in 1998, Fletch turned to his interest in photography and joined the board of the Bitter Root Land Trust in Hamilton, on which he has most recently served as an indispensable volunteer and advisor.

During the last two years of his life, Fletch met and married Pam Gouse, the executive director of the Bitterroot Land Trust. They moved to her home on Sheafman Creek where, along with Pam's 10-year-old daughter Kayla, Fletch was again able to enjoy tramping the hills and passing on his knowledge and his love for the wild things. Pam and Kayla brought much life, laughter, and joy to Fletch's final years.

Fletcher was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Marvon and Lee Newby, and sister, Ethel Murphy.

He is survived by his widow, Pam Gouse, and stepdaughter, Kayla Gouse, of Hamilton; stepson, Jason Gouse, of Missoula; daughter, Barbara Newby, of Moses Lake, Wash; and two sons and daughters-in-law, Rick Newby and Liz Gans of Helena, and Steve and Tammie Newby of Missoula.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Assembly of God Church in Hamilton with the Rev. Miles Finch of the Polson Assembly of God Church officiating. Private family urn placement will take place at a later date. Arrangements and cremation are under the care of the Daly-Leach Chapel in Hamilton.

The family suggests memorials to Bitterroot Land Trust, 120 S Fifth Street, Suite 203, Hamilton, MT, 59840.

James H. 'Judge' Newman, 81

James H. "Judge" Newman, 81, died of natural causes on Nov. 23, 2002.

Born in Havre, on Oct. 14, 1921, Judge led a full and prosperous life. He graduated from Havre High in 1940.

After high school he started his career by opening the first Texaco station in Havre at the tender age of 21. In 1945, he met and married Gwendolyn Audrey Dooley in Havre, where they chose to reside and raise their family for the next 21 years.

Judge opened Havre's first Studebaker dealership, then later bought the Mayflower business on the north end of town. In 1966, Judge and his family moved to Whitefish where he began selling cars for Rygg Ford and Gwendolyn began teaching school full-time in Kalispell.

In 1972, Judge was elected justice of the peace for Flathead County and worked out of his Whitefish office. In 1974, he was elected city judge for the city of Whitefish where he presided until his retirement in 1977.



Judge loved the mountains, playing cards with his friends, and most importantly he loved his family. He was a World War II veteran and recently celebrated his 50-year membership in the Elks, the Shriners, the Scottish Rite, the Masonic Lodge, and Eastern Star.

Judge was preceded in death by his daughter, Shirlee Jane Newman; his brother, Paul Newman; and his parents, Herman and Elsie Newman.

He is survived by his loving wife, Gwendolyn Newman of Kalispell; his children, Gwendolyn Buck of Heart Butte, Barbara Paul of Babb, John Newman of Olympia, Wash., Douglas Newman of Houston, and Donna Newman of Kalispell; seven grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. "He will be greatly missed."

The family is planning a memorial service on Jan. 2, 2003. They have scheduled a dinner at the Moose Lodge in Whitefish immediately following and would like everyone to attend. Please call Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell for more information.

Memorials may be sent to the Shriner's Hospital, Attn: Memorial Dept., PO Box 2472, Spokane, WA 99210.

Scott 'Bobo' Neyer, 46

Scott "Bobo" Neyer, 46, died Sept. 28, 2002, at his home in Whitefish after a short battle with cancer.

Scott was born Nov. 5, 1955, in Hamilton, Ohio, to Lee and Constance Neyer. He was raised in Cincinnati, where he graduated from high school and later attended the University of Ohio and Xavier University.

He taught high school for many years and later owned his own landscape business in Fort Collins, Colo. Scott and his business partner moved to Whitefish in August 2002, and opened the Peaks N Quiet bed-and-breakfast and campground. He loved to landscape and be around people. He always said there are no strangers, just friends you haven't met yet.

Scott was involved in the Special Olympics program and worked with troubled teenagers. His love of people, wit, humor and

infectious laugh will be missed by all who knew him.

Scott was preceded in death by his parents and his grandmother, Hattie Collins.

He also is survived by brothers, Kent Neyer and his wife Karen, of Cincinnati, Troy Neyer and his wife Donna, of West Harrison, Ind.; sister, Debbie Waples and her husband Jim, of Lawrenceburg, Ind.; aunts, Verna Hageny and Delores Collins; nieces, Jamie, Amy Krisha and Leah; nephew Mich; great-niece Josie Marie; and business partner Ron Ferguson.

Cremation has taken place, and private services will be held in Cincinnati. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

Mack Niccum, 94

Mack Niccum, 94, died Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2002, at his home in Bigfork.

He was born on Dec. 21, 1907, in Trenton, Mo., to Francis and Minnie Niccum.

He is survived locally by his wife, Nina.

Cremation has taken place and no services are planned at this time. Bigfork Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Nancy Kathleen "Kay" Hanson Nice fulfilled her baptism in her sudden death from complications of cancer at her home in Tucson on Jan. 5, 2002, at the age of 68 years, one month and 27 days.



Nancy was born in Minneapolis, on the March, 7, 1933. She joined her older brother Gene Alan and parents Jens Olaf Hanson and Clara Alfreda Baardson Hanson as the fourth and final member of the Hanson household on the family farm in rural Battle Lake, Minn.

Nancy was grafted into the vine that is Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism through water and word on the 14 of May, 1933, at Trefoldighed Lutheran Church in rural Battle Lake. She attended school at the rural District 2 school near her home and graduated from Battle Lake High School in 1950.

She was active in 4-H and even was crowned 4-H health queen. She was involved in a host of church activities, and at an early age, music had become a passion. Nancy took piano lessons and voice training lessons, and was often called upon to sing for local and area events.

She stood before the congregation at the age of 13 and publicly affirmed her baptismal vows in the Rite of Confirmation on Oct. 27, 1946, also at Trefoldighed Lutheran.

Following graduation from high school Nancy had planned to attend Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., where she had been offered a scholarship to study music and voice. Her father's asthmatic condition had compromised the family resources so she directed her studies to the Minneapolis School of Business whereupon she was employed immediately by Northwestern Equipment Co. of Fargo, N.D. Continued declining health forced her parents to move to Arizona to be near their son and brother Gene for the winter months. Nancy soon joined her parents and accepted a position as secretary to the president of Infilco, Corp. in Tucson.

As a young, single woman in the world of business in the mid-1950s Nancy was not the type to settle for the traditional role assigned to women. She purchased a car, and a home and was the first single woman in Tucson, to secure a mortgage from the bank. Her boss thought the name Nancy too long and complicated, as was her middle name, so he dubbed her "Kay" and the nickname stuck for all

except her Minnesota family and friends. Nancy moonlighted with a second job while working at Infilco; she also assumed the responsibility of running the Fly Safe flying school and charter service in Tucson.

Major Robert A. Nice, USAF entered the scene in 1960 when Nancy arrived for her date in a local area restaurant and was introduced by her date to his friend Bob. Bob made a polite exit and later learned that the two had stopped seeing each other. The rest, as we say, is history. Bob and Kay were married at Calvary Lutheran Church in Tucson, on March 10, 1962, and made their home at Schilling Air Force Base in Salina, Kan.

Their next assignment was Zaragoza, AFB in Spain and it was there that their first child, Robin Kay, was born. In the fall of 1964, the family was transferred to High Wiccombe, AFB in London, England. In the summer of 1965 they were transferred to Malmstrom, AFB in Great Falls. In November of 1966, their second child, son Robert Frank was born. Nancy's widowed mother Clara also came to live with the family and remained with them until 1973 when she entered a nursing home in Ashby, Minn.

The family moved to Canyon Ferry in rural Helena, in June of 1967, when her husband, Robert, retired from active duty as a lieutenant colonel in June of 1967. The household grew to include Bob's aunt, Elizabeth, and his father, Frank, both of whom years later moved to their own homes.

Kay and Bob had built two homes in the rural Helena area but in the summer of 1976 moved to the east shore of Flathead Lake in northwestern Montana to operate a cherry orchard. Kay was the orchard operator and did so with phenomenal energy, enthusiasm and endurance. She dearly loved working outdoors and tending the orchard, her many flower beds and gardens.

For several years she returned to the work force at the Lake Co. Courthouse in Polson, working in Justice Court, Juvenile Court and District Court offices.

Bob and Kay began spending winters in warmer climates in 1987 finally purchasing a home in the Tucson foothills in 1997.

Nancy Kay's first bout with cancer came in 1999 and the cancer recurred in the summer of 2001.

She is survived by her husband Robert A. Hanson of Bigfork and Tucson; daughter Robin K. of Shelly, Minn.; son Robert F. of Bigfork; brother Gene and Kathy Hanson of Tucson; nephew Gene Allan and niece Cindy, Barbara and Ed Fudurich of Dana Point, Calif.; a very special niece, Bonnie

Hanson Blumenthal of Redding, Calif.; and a number of cousins and dear friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

"May God bless the memory of Nancy Kay Hanson Nice in our midst."

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Bethany Lutheran Church in Bigfork with the Rev. Jack Shannon officiating. Urn burial will be later at Bethany Lutheran Cemetery.

The family requests memorials to support the building of a Lutheran seminary in Russia. The Lutheran Board for Mission Support, c/o Robin K. Nice, Box 98, Shelly, MN 56581.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home caring for the family.

Margaret Emily Nichols, 83

Margaret Emily Nichols, 83, passed away Sunday morning, July 28, 2002, at her home in Kalispell.



She was born south of Columbia Falls, on Nov. 25, 1918, a daughter of Lewis and Henrietta (Scott) Robinson. She attended Bad Rock grade school and Flathead County High School, after which she graduated from Ricks College in Rexburg, Idaho, and Northern Montana College in Havre.

She taught in Foy's Lake School and Bad Rock school for two years, preceding her marriage to Charles H. Nichols in the year of 1941 on June 8.

The majority of their married life they resided in Yakima, Wash. She started and ran an employment agency from her home while she raised her five children. She returned to college in Ellensburg, Wash., to complete her education, and received her teaching degree. She taught second grade for 18 years in Toppenish, Wash.

She moved to Kalispell three years after the death of her husband in 1989. Here she was lucky enough to spend time with her three sisters, Marie Burtsfield, Louise Cassan and Irene Klingler.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Robin Nichols; her husband, Charles H. Nichols; and her parents.

She is survived by her four sons, Gary Nichols and his wife, Janet, of Murry, Ky., Kevin Nichols and his wife, Diane, of Seattle, Nyle Nichols and his wife, Bonnie, of Sound Beach, N.Y., and Scott Nichols and his wife, Tina, of Ferndale, Wash. She is also survived by her 15 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and put most of her time and efforts in the Family History Program.

Funeral service will be held on Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1380 Whitefish Stage Road. Visitation will be today from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary and one hour prior to the service on Thursday. Graveside services will be held at Terrace Heights Memorial Park in Yakima on Saturday at 10 a.m., where she will be buried next to her husband and mother-in-law.

The family suggests memorial gifts be given to the Montana Heart Association, c/o Lavonne Aikin, 623 Second Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901 or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 1002, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Marvel Berdelia Nichol, 89

Marvel Berdelia Nichol, 89, of Kalispell, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2002, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home.



She was born Oct. 9, 1912, in Hartland, Minn., to Martin H. and Emelia Sibley.

The family moved to Montana in 1919, first settling in Wolf Point, then Glasgow, and in 1920, came to Kalispell. The family lived in the Egan vicinity where Marvel received most of her schooling. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1930.

She was employed as receptionist for Dr. Albert Brassett and Dr. Lawrence Griffis until 1934.

On Dec. 16, 1934, she was married to Henrie H. Nichol of Whitefish and later, Libby, where they made their home until 1945, when they returned to Kalispell. She was employed at O'Neil Printers for a number of years and as an office employee with the Montana State Highway for 17 years. She retired in 1972.

She was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church where she was active in the women's group and taught Sunday School.

Marvel was preceded in death by her husband Henrie, four brothers; Harold, Maynard,

Ellsworth, and Kenneth Sibley.

She is survived by her daughter, Sharon Sparling and husband, Robert, of Tacoma, Wash.; son Ronald Nichol and wife, Karen, of Kalispell; six grandchildren, Kathy Lumsden and husband, Terry, of Olalla, Wash., Jill Scherrer and husband, Scott, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Bruce Sparling and wife, Cindy, of Tacoma, Wash., Heidi Berosik and husband, John, of Kalispell, Heather Jordt and husband, Luke, of Kalispell, Holly Jordt and husband, Caleb, of Missoula; and 12 great-grandchildren. Marvel was also anticipating her 13th great-grandchild who will be born in November. She is also survived by one sister, Buenetta McCown; one brother, Donald Sibley and wife, Jo; and a sister-in-law, Kathryn Sibley, all of Kalispell, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Visitation for her will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday at Johnson Mortuary. Funeral services will be held on Saturday at 2:30 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with Pastor Larry Stappeler officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

The family suggests memorials be made to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or to Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Phyllis A. 'Sam' Noack, 64

Phyllis A. "Sam" Noack, 64, of Helena, passed away Jan. 3, 2002.

Sam was born Dec. 19, 1937, in Bozeman, to Lucille A. McGinnis and Floyd Heron. She was raised in Bozeman and graduated from Bozeman High School.

She worked for the State of Montana in administrative support for the Department of Justice. Sam was also in the bar business in Flathead County for 20 years.

She is survived by her mother, Lucille, of Belgrade; a daughter,



Sherri and husband, Bob Muir of East Helena; a son, Mitch and his wife, Mary Noack of Bozeman; and grandchildren, Lacey N. Muir, Brandon R. Muir and Thomas O'Malley.

She enjoyed ceramics, watching NASCAR racing, including her favorites, Bobby LaBonte and Tony Stewart. She also enjoyed watching football, especially the Kansas City Chiefs and the Oakland Raiders.

Sam will be missed by her family and many friends. "Gotta love her."

A memorial service will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at Retz Funeral Home Chapel in Helena.

05 Nov-02 Leonard 'Pete' Norville, 54

Leonard "Pete" Norville, known as "Montana Pete," 54, was born in Washington D.C., on Aug. 26, 1948, and was raised in Philadelphia by his mother and father, Lonnie and Shirley Norville. He had five brothers and five sisters.



Montana Pete took his last breath of Montana air on Nov. 5, 2002, at 10 p.m. with his lady, Laila Proffitt, two sisters, Valorie and Jovie (Bev), his stepson whom he loved dearly, Jolian, whom he called "the little guy," and his mom whom he called "moma san Shirley, his favorite girl" at his side. His given name was Leonard Peter Norville.

Locals knew him as "Philadelphia Pete." He served in the U.S. Army where he was stationed in

Vietnam, and served with the Army Reserve. Montana Pete loved life and those around him knew that, and shared his love of nature and everything that God made for humans to enjoy.

Montana Pete moved to Bigfork with his lady Laila Proffitt in January of 1990. They called Bigfork their home ever since. Pete loved life, lived to laugh, and to try and tell a joke or two.

"His love, understanding, generosity and his strong sense of humor will always be remembered in our hearts while his smile will float over Flathead Bay."

Pete's spirit will be with the Montana spirit on Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Little Brown Church in Bigfork. Everyone is invited to come and share in Montana Pete's life with his family. Flathead Valley Veterans will be doing the military honors.

Bigfork Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Roger Lee Nygren, 57

Roger Lee Nygren, 57, died March 13, 2002, in Plantation Key, Fla.

He worked for the Forest Service and Columbia Falls Aluminum Co.

He is survived by his mother, DeLores Becker; his sons, Dennis David Nygren of

Kalispell and Robert Paul Nygren of Post Falls, Idaho; and his daughter, Elizabeth Ellen Martinson of Post Falls.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at the North Valley Eagles Club, 1640 U.S. 2 W., Columbia Falls.