

Larry Steven Baier, 53

Larry Steven Baier passed away in a flight accident on Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2004, at the age of 53.

Larry was born March 15, 1951, and was a fourth generation Flathead native. He attended Flathead schools.

On Nov. 5, 1973, he married the true love of his life, Catherine Grosswiler. Their 30-year marriage would give them four children.

Larry was well known in the local aviation business. He had been a longtime flight instructor. He was employed as a flight captain at Alpine Aviation for five years.

He lived an adventurous life. Whatever the task, Larry gave his all. He was always learning something — from flying, scuba diving and photography to welding and stained glass. Through his many talents he made numerous friends. However, his true passion in life was being a dad and loving grandpa.

"He may have left us too early, but he lived his life to the fullest. May his kind smile and sense of



humor warm the hearts of all that knew him."

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, and sister, Joy Lynn Barret.

He is survived by his parents, Don and Lorraine Schultz of Kalispell, and Ray Baier of Cortez, Colo.; wife, Catherine Baier, and sons, Jesse and his wife, Angie Baier, and Kace and Dakota Baier, all of Kalispell; daughter, Sara and her husband, Wesley Long of Melbourne, Fla.; five grandchildren, Levi, Kaylee, Devin and Hunter Baier, and he was anxiously awaiting the arrival of grandson, Malakai Long; brothers and sisters, Ray and Sami Baier, Ron and Shirley Baier, Gail and Steve Welch, Gwendy Baier, Lance and Kim Baier, Tammy and Mark Whitehead, Don Schultz, Laurie and Scott Lanktree, Dan Schultz, and Todd and Yvonne Schultz; and numerous nieces and nephews.

"Please join our family in honoring an open celebration of Larry's life at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 21, at the Christian Center, in Kalispell."

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Judith Basin Search & Rescue, P.O. Box 427, Stanford, MT 59479.

Clarence 'Dutch' Bain, 91

Clarence "Dutch" Bain, 91, died on May 7, 2004, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish. He was born to Henry and Cecile Bain on May 8, 1912, in rural South Dakota near the town of Leola in McPherson County.

He married Eva Neff on Nov. 22, 1933, and she preceded him in death in 1976. They had two children, Shirley and Eugene.

He resided in South Dakota until drought conditions forced a move to the Flathead area and Kalispell. He resided in the Flathead until 1976 when he moved to Eureka.

He worked in the woods for many years and for a wholesale distributing company until he retired.

After his move to Eureka, he married Jean Rivers Bain on April 11, 1977.

He is survived by his wife; his daughter, Shirley; his son, Eugene;

and by brothers and sisters, Lee of California, Esther of Arizona, and Ernest, Maysie, Phyllis and Henrietta, all of South Dakota.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Cleo; and three brothers, Alan, Leslie and Glen.

Dutch will be remembered by many people in all the areas he lived for his faithful work as a Jehovah's Witness, calling at their homes to share the wonderful hope from the Bible "when the Lord's prayer is fulfilled and God's Kingdom under Christ rules the earth in righteousness." He died peacefully, looking forward to a restoration to life in the paradise the Bible promises through a resurrection, where he can enjoy life again.

Memorial services will be on at 4 p.m. Sunday, May 16, at the Woodland Park Kingdom Hall, 1414 Woodland Ave., Kalispell.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

William J. Bain, 90,

William J. Bain, 90, of Columbia Falls died Monday, Oct. 25, 2004, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

He is survived by his wife, Pamela Bain, of Columbia Falls; a son, Larry Bain of Hungry Horse; and two daughters, Laurie Farmer of Califor-

nia and Bonnie Coutsourakis of Hawaii.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 5, at the Assembly of God Church in Columbia Falls.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is in charge of arrangements.

Vernon Lawrence Babb, 89

Vernon Lawrence Babb, 89, died on Sept. 8, 2004, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Vernon was born on Feb. 11, 1915, in Redwater, Mont., to Vernon P. and Nora (Rust) Babb. He was the youngest of 11 children. He attended school in Richey.

Vernon worked for the Great Northern Railroad until 1941, and then moved to Alameda, Calif., where he worked in the shipyards.

On June 20, 1942, Vernon married Eileen White in Alameda. In 1945 they returned to Montana where Vernon worked in the oil fields north of Cut Bank until 1970; he then worked as a custodian for the Cut Bank school system until his retirement in 1980. The couple raised three children.

Vernon was a member of St. Margaret's Church and the Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed reading, playing cribbage, and tinkering in his garage in his spare



time. He was always willing to lend a helping hand to his friends and neighbors.

Eileen, his loving wife of 36 years, died in 1978. Vernon married Barbara Christopherson in 1982; the marriage ended in 1997. He moved to Kalispell, in 1997, to be close to his son, and had lived at Bee Hive Homes, Greenwood Village Assisted Living and the Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Vernon was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Eileen, and his siblings.

He is survived by his son, John and his wife, Connie of Kalispell; son, Ron and his wife, Sandy, of West Fargo, N.D.; and daughter, Tracy Iano of Vallejo, Calif.; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 13, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home Chapel. Urn burial will take place at 3 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 13, at the Crown Hill Cemetery in Cut Bank.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Shirley Jean Backer, 59

Shirley Jean Backer, 59, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 1, 2005, at Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born June 23, 1945, in West Sacramento, Calif., to William and Marie Watters.

Shirley was united in marriage to Roy Backer on Jan. 20, 1963. He preceded her in death on April 13, 1993.

Shirley enjoyed gardening, reading, listening to music and keeping up with her family and grandchildren's activities. She loved being with others and shared with all her beautiful

smile.

Shirley also was thankful and loved the care givers and other residents at Brendan House.

She was also preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her four sons, Joseph, Jason, Joshua and Jacob Backer; and her daughter, Jennifer Backer; and eight grandchildren.

There will be no visitation or services.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Margaret Elizabeth 'Maggie' Bachman, 80

Margaret Elizabeth "Maggie" Bachman, 80, of Stevensville, died at the Bitterroot Living Center in Stevensville on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2004.

She was born on March 14, 1923, in Helena to Lenora and William Rimel.

She attended school in Glasgow as a young girl and worked at the Army Hospital in Walla Walla, Wash., from 1944 to 1945.

On June 14, 1946, she married Karl Bachman. The couple lived in Kalispell where Maggie worked for JC Penney in the late 1940s. After leaving Penney's, she stayed home to raise her family. When Karl retired, the couple enjoyed winters at their home in Yuma, Ariz., until Karl's passing in 1990.

Maggie enjoyed all aspects of homemaking, especially cooking, baking and sewing. She loved

mer months. She was a devoted wife and mother who centered her activities around her family. She will be remembered for her kind, gentle and loving ways.

She was preceded in death by her mother, father, half brother and husband.

Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Rick and Leslie Bachman of Florence; a grandson, Tanner Bachman of Missoula; two granddaughters, Shayna and Kaylee Bachman of Florence; a brother and sister-in-law, Cal and Midge Rimel of Greybull, Wyo., and a stepdaughter, Judy Dawn Sherman of Portland, Ore.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

No formal service is planned at this time. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to the charity of the person's choice.

The Whitesitt Funeral Home

James C. 'Jim' Barden, 67

James C. "Jim" Barden, 67, passed away on Feb. 1, 2004, at his home in Kalispell. He was born on May 28, 1936, in Shelbyville, Ill., to Roy and Leah Bowman Barden.



He moved with his family to Redwood City, Calif., when he was 10 years old, where he attended schools, graduated from Sequoia High School in 1954.

After high school, Jim moved to San Diego, where he opened two businesses, Micky Finn's and the Diamond Palace. While living in San Diego, Jim met and married Meridel Ruth Ashby. They lived in the San Francisco Bay area, Palo Alto and in Placerville, Calif., where they raised their three children.

Jim worked as an auto mechanic, a claims adjuster for AAA, fleet manager for a special education program and supervisor of warehouse operations for the El Dorado County Office of Education.

He retired from the El Dorado County of Education in 1992.

He loved collecting things, and was known to have a huge collection of nuts, bolts, screws and

washers. His neighbors checked with him first before going to the hardware store, because more often than not he had it.

Jim was a very hard worker, who took great pleasure in helping other people. He truly loved his family and his pets. His dog, Freckles, was his constant companion.

In 1997, Jim and Meridel moved to Kalispell, to retire and be closer to their granddaughters. They enjoyed working in their yard and improving their home.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Meridel, of Kalispell; his sister, Leah Jeanne Barden Renn of Diamond Springs, Calif.; three children and their spouses, Summer Leah Barden Hawke and Benjamin of British Columbia, Brett James Barden and Leslie of Vista, Calif., and Lara Ruth Barden Mahar and Robert of Juno Beach, Fla.; seven grandchildren, Janice McIntire, Sierra Nicole, Rachel Jennaya and Mackenzie Marie Hawke, Robert Tsali, Yona James and Sage Waya Mahar; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 12, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Whitefish Stage Road. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Helen Baldwin, 89

Helen Baldwin, 89, formerly of Lakeside, and a longtime resident of Newport, Ore., died Monday, Dec. 6, 2004, at Samaritan Pacific Communities Hospital in Newport, Ore.

She was born Jan. 11, 1915, at her parent's homestead at Lakeside. At age 7, the homestead was sold and her parents moved to Kalispell to further their daughter's education. Helen graduated from Flathead County High School in 1933.

She married Melvin Baldwin in 1936. They lived in Kalispell, until 1941, when they moved to Mullan, Idaho. They moved to Newport, in 1952. He preceded her in death in 1966.

She worked in Newport area fish plants until her retirement.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church of Newport, Yaquina Head Grange and Newport's Rebekah Lodge.

Helen was an active volunteer in many local area organizations, including Newport Meal Site, Contact Information and Referral Service, Newport Senior Activity Center, Lincoln Council on Aging, Lincoln County Food Share, Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce, Hospice of Central Oregon Coast, and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).

Helen was chosen Newport's "Woman of the Year" for 1990 by the Newport Business and Profession Women. In 1992, Helen was recognized as a "Super Senior" by the Bank of Newport and the Lincoln County Fair for "outstanding contributions to the betterment of the community."

Her extensive hobbies and interests included reading, crafts, art work, sewing, gardening, and collecting elephants. She served on many boards and committees in the church and community.

Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law, Edmond and Scherry Baldwin, of Columbia Falls; a daughter and son-in-law, Nina and Smith Trammell, of Newport; a daughter, Ellen Dages, of Salem, Ore.; six grandsons, four granddaughters, 13 great-grandsons, and six great-granddaughters.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 11, at the Newport First Baptist Church, 208 NW Sixth St.

Memorial contributions may be made to Newport First Baptist Church, Newport Senior Center, the Newport Library, or Lincoln County Food Share in care of Bateman Funeral Home, 915 N.E., Yaquina Heights Dr., Newport, OR 97365.

Anna Virginia Baker, 86

Anna Virginia Baker, 86, died Friday, Aug. 6, 2004, in Kalispell. There will no local services. Urn burial will take place in

Phoenix later this month.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory

Lucille Bainbridge, 94

Lucille Bainbridge, 94, passed away July 15, 2004.

She was born on Oct. 21, 1909, in Black Duck, Minn., to William and Rose Zimmerman. After she graduated from high school in Wolf Point, she earned a bachelor's degree in education in North Dakota.

After marrying and divorcing twice, Lucille began teaching in Troy and later at Hedges School in Kalispell. Following retirement, she worked as a volunteer at the library and the Senior Center.

She was a longtime member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

She moved to the Immanuel Lutheran Home in 1999 where she enjoyed keeping the staff alert and on their toes.

Her interests included playing piano, bowling, knitting, reading, letter writing, big band concerts and classical music.

Lucille is survived by her daughter, Patricia Phillips, and husband, Donald, of Kalispell; her grandchildren, Denise (Bishop)

Erbeznik of Spokane, Becky Croucher and husband, Brian, of Kila; Don Lofgren and wife, Dorothy, of Kalispell, Brenda Lofgren of Spokane, Anna Hanna, Rose Gazes and husband, Darren, and Sarah Kosztołnik, all of Sterling, Va. She had many great- and great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She is also survived by longtime childhood friend, Ellen Peterson of Wolf Point.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Roland Zimmerman; son, Jeri Sillerud; and two grandsons, Ronald and Steven Bishop.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, Tuesday, July 20, with Pastor Lawrence Stappler officiating; with a reception to follow at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Kalispell.

Larry E. Baker

Larry E. Baker was born on Aug. 9, 1942, in Kalispell, and was "called home to glory by his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" on July 9, 2004. Larry shared his life with and is survived by his wife of 30 years, Linda Johnson Baker of Columbia Falls. They shared in everything life had to offer, including "a personal walk with God," and lived faithfully and loyal to each other.

Larry has two surviving children, a daughter, Nicole Gray of Columbia Falls, married to Jim Gray, and a son, Jason Baker, married to Holly Baker of Columbia Falls.

Larry is survived by five wonderful grandchildren, Kaylee and Meghan Gray and Ashlynn, Zachary, and Hannah Baker, whom he loved very much and were the delight of his life. He is also survived by his brothers, Leroy Baker of Libby, Martin Baker of Las Vegas, David Baker of Columbia Falls, and a sister, Sylvia Hatten of Columbia Falls.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Everett Baker and Clara Naethe Baker.

Larry most of all enjoyed his family, spoiling his grandchildren, and spending time with his wife. He enjoyed flower gardening, working on cars, boating, and for eight straight years as a youth had

School. He graduated from Flathead County High School in 1961 and spent his career of 31-1/2 years working with Stoltze Lumber mill in Columbia Falls.

He was an active member of the Central Christian Church in Kalispell and previous to his membership there, he was very active in the First Christian Church in Columbia Falls. He served as a volunteer fire fighter with the Badrock Fire Department for 23 years. Larry was a very honorable, loving, and kind man who was a friend to everyone.

A service will be held at the Central Christian Church, 2nd Ave. E. and 3rd St., in Kalispell, on Tuesday, July 13, at 3 p.m. A graveside committal service will follow at Fairview Cemetery near Columbia Falls. Pastor Jan Van der Pol of the Central Christian Church will preside, assisted by Pastor Kent Morrison of the First Baptist Church in Whitefish.

The casket will not be open for viewing.

The family suggests that memorials be made to the Central Christian Church, 248 2nd Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901 or to the Badrock Volunteer Fire Department, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is in charge of

Floyd 'Barney' Barnhart, 87

Floyd "Barney" Barnhart, 87, "went to be with his Lord and Savior" on Sunday, April 25, 2004, at the North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.



He was born April 19, 1917, in Fairview, to Roy and Ellen Barnhart.

Floyd married Cecelia Lyonais on Jan. 4, 1939, in Sidney. He worked on farms in the Sidney-Fairview area and moved his family to the Flathead in 1945 where he had a variety of jobs including working at a bakery, service stations, and a plumbing shop, until employed by Plum Creek in 1947. He often worked two jobs to support his family. He retired from Plum Creek in 1982.

After retirement, he and Cecelia became involved in the North Valley Senior Citizens and his activities earned him the 1986 Flathead Senior Citizen of the Year. He also enjoyed working at the local food bank, delivering Meals on Wheels, had been a member of the legislative and budget committees for the Council on Aging, a council member at St. Richard's Catholic Church, and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Floyd was a man of integrity and a friend to everyone he met. He truly enjoyed a life of giving. He was always willing to help provide transportation when friends needed a ride and was the quiet, friendly "handyman" for disabled, ill or vacationing neighbors.

For many years, he and Cecelia donated their time conducting card parties at the Senior Citizens Center. He loved to dance and sang with the Troubadours.

Playing cards and bingo with his friends and family was a favorite pastime. He also enjoyed long rides in the country and never lost his awe at seeing the wildlife and beauty of the Flathead.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; two daughters; two; three brothers; and a sister.

Floyd is survived by his son and wife, John and Karen Barnhart of Bozeman; his daughters (commonly referred to as "Barney's Angels") Cherie and husband, Doug Darsow, Mary and husband, Don Reynolds, Frances and husband, Jerry Thomas, Jan and husband, Dave Prier, of Columbia Falls, Sandy and husband, Roger Erickson, of Kalispell, Kathy Yang of Tacona, Wash., and Patty and husband, Dan Arlt, of Sandy, Ore. He is also survived by his brothers and their wives, Oren and Roberta Barnhart of Kalispell, Glenn and Mary Barnhart and Lee and Ileta Barnhart of Portland, and Neil and Jennie Barnhart of College Park, Ga.; sister, Bessie Fairies of Dallas, Texas; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and many friends. Also surviving him is a very special friend, June Bloomer.

A visitation will be held from 1 to 8 p.m. Thursday, April 29, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A rosary will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, at the Columbia Mortuary. A celebration of Floyd's life will be at 11 a.m. Friday, April 30, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls. Rev. Joe Pat Moran will officiate. Burial will follow in Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the North Valley Senior Citizens, 205 Nucleus Ave., Columbia Falls, MT 59912, or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Paul Samuel Baker, 34

Paul Samuel Baker, 34, "went to be with the Lord" on Oct. 16, 2004.

Paul was born in Spokane, on Dec. 5, 1969, and graduated from Cheney High School in Cheney, Wash., in 1988.

He is survived by two sons, Cade, age 3, and Luke, age 2, who both live in Everett, Wash.; his mother, Sondra Hatton, of Kalispell; sisters, Sheri Litchfield of Kalispell, Vickie Hensley of Columbia Falls, and Lisa Ellman of Spokane.

Moreland of Kalispell. Stepbrothers and sisters include Richard, Tim, Tom, Harry and Jane; also numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Paul's life will be held at 3 p.m., Nov. 13, at the Crossroads Church, 5091 U.S. 2 West.

A fund is set up for the future of his sons: The Cade and Luke Baker Fund, P.O. Box 220, Glacier Bank of Whitefish, Whitefish, MT 59937-0220. Make checks payable to

Sharon L. 'Sheri' Bardo, 55

Sharon L. "Sheri" Bardo, 55, "changed her address to heaven" on Thursday, Jan. 8, 2004, after a courageous battle with cancer. She died peacefully at home in the loving company of her family and friends.

Sheri will be missed by all who knew her.

She was born on July 28, 1948, in Denver, to George and Virginia Roebuck. She attended schools in Denver and enjoyed summer vacations at her grandparents ranch near Fraser. The early ranching experiences led to a lifelong love affair with horses.

After high school she married Harry Brewer and to that union a son, Jody, was born. She and Harry were later divorced.

When Colorado got too crowded, Sheri's love of the wide open spaces drew her to Montana. In 1976, she met and married Richard "Dick" Bardo. Dick and Sheri spent their honeymoon summer working as cook and packer, taking dudes into the Bob Marshall Wilderness. They fell in love with the Swan Valley, and soon moved to property near Lindbergh Lake. Over the next 20 years, they raised their family there, including a son, Seth, and daughter, Alyssa.

Gardening and horses were her passions. She owned and operated Bardo's Organic Greenhouse and improved her horse training

skills. This love of nurturing both plants and animals, led her into the area of life coaching for people. She was a true "horse whisperer" and through her understanding of horse psychology, she learned to also look deep into the hearts of people and see their needs. She used these skills to develop her life coaching business, Authentically You, where she touched hundreds of lives.

In the late 1990s, the family moved to Columbia Falls where Shari continued to pursue her passions.

Sheri is survived by her husband Dick, son Seth, and daughter Alyssa, all of Columbia Falls; and son, Jody, and five granddaughters, all of Centralia, Wash., She was also fond of her blue heeler dog, Wiggles. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday Jan. 17, at the Bigfork Assembly of God Church on Montana 83 in Bigfork. A reception will follow the services at the church.

Memorials in Sheri's name may be offered to the family to help pay medical expenses in c/o of Dick Bardo, 350 Kelley Road, Columbia Falls, MT 59912; or Home Options Hospice of Kalispell.

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

Ruth Barker, 84

Ruth Barker, 84, passed away on Jan. 11, 2005, at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Stockton, Calif. She was a resident of Flathead County for 27 years.



Ruth was born Dec. 17, 1920, in Springfield, Mass. She was raised and educated in Providence, R.I.

She married Jensen Clark Barker on Aug. 26, 1944, in Kings Chapel in Boston. They were happily married for 60 years and four months.

In 1978, Jensen retired and he and Ruth moved to Bigfork where they lived for five years and then moved to Forest Hill Village in Kalispell.

She was a librarian in Gonza-

les, Calif., and Twin Falls, Idaho, and volunteered at the Bigfork Library.

She loved to fish, bowl, camp and sew.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Jensen Clark Barker, of Kalispell, and her daughter, Joan Barker, of Stockton, Calif.

Ruth suffered from heart problems since 1990. She underwent two heart bypass surgeries and had an artificial mitral heart valve.

A memorial fund has been established in Ruth Barker's name at the International Heart Institute of Montana Foundation at 554 W. Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to the memorial fund.

A memorial service will be scheduled later in the spring for friends and family.

Shirley Mae (Breitenfeldt) Barrow, 74

Shirley Mae (Breitenfeldt) Barrow, retired, died at the Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital, in Trail, British Columbia, on Sept. 22, 2004, at the age of 74. She was cremated with her cowboy boots and hiking boots, and the ashes will be distributed in Montana and British Columbia.



Shirley is survived by her sister, Beverly and Charles Deshaw of Billings; her three children, Deyanne and Edward Davies and granddaughter, Mariah of Rossland, British Columbia, Dennis and Joan Barrow and grandchildren, Sean Ryan, Tyra, Michael and Denise of Columbia Falls, and Curtis and Leslee Barrow and granddaughters, Kirsten and Caitlin of Great Falls; numerous cousins, and many friends from coast to coast in both countries, "as well as those trout in Montana and British Columbia she had not yet caught."

Shirley was born May 25, 1930, in Wibaux. Her parents were Ervin and Miriam Breitenfeldt, now deceased. She grew up on a farm and attended the Baird School and the Wibaux County grade and high school.

She was married in May 1948. She resided in Wibaux, Fromberg, Missoula, Whitefish, and Martin City, before immigrating to Rossland, British Columbia, in 1990.

Some of her favorite pastimes, activities and employments were fishing, milking cows, breaking and riding horses, training Here-

ford bulls for the show ring, buck-raking hay, killing rattlesnakes, riding trail bikes, fishing, playing pool and snooker, hunting rabbits, prairie dogs, elk, deer, pheasants, and hunting coyotes on land and from a homemade airplane, pumping gas, meat cutting, reading, writing, Cub and Boy Scout and Campfire Girl activities, skiing, winning pool trophies, reservations assistant, marketing director, backpacking outfitter, camping, hiking, fishing, canning fish, and cribbage.

She was the first licensed backpacking outfitter in the state of Montana. After 1990, she took up snooker, and medaled several times at the British Columbia Senior Games, receiving two gold medals for snooker in the Senior Games for all of Canada. One of the gold medals was won in Regina, Saskatchewan, and the other in Medicine Hat, Alberta.

She also enjoyed woodworking, shuffleboard, bocce, birding, and was a discriminating garage saler. In 1998, she went downhill to a new home in Trail due to 24 feet of snowfall that winter. In the next 20 years she had planned to play golf, curling, and more snooker. She left pool cues to each of her eight grandchildren, and told them not to brag to people how good they were, but to show them. She expressed appreciation for all of the many prayers and memories sent to her by her many friends in her last days.

"Thank you to Doctor's Scully, Scotland O'Flanagan and Dala Lana."

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the donor's choice and would be appreciated by the family.

Ernest A. 'Ernie' Barry, 84

Ernest A. "Ernie" Barry, 84, left his loving family on Jan. 31, 2004.

He was a Flathead native born on Oct. 25, 1919, the oldest son of Alfred and Elizabeth Barry. He attended rural schools and graduated from Flathead County High School with the class of 1939.

After graduation, he was employed by the railroad in Butte and Anaconda before he enlisted in the Army in 1942 with the 20th Field Hospital. He served in England, France, Belgium, Germany and the Aleutians on the island of Attu. During the summer and fall of 1945, his unit cared for prisoners of war and displaced persons from German concentration camps. He was honorably discharged in December 1945.

During his brief stay in England, he met Joyce Carter, his wife-to-be. They were married Nov. 3, 1946, in Kalispell. Ernie worked as a carpenter and, for a short time, in retail sales and was involved with the construction of Hungry Horse Dam. He retired in 1982.

He was an avid reader and a self-taught computer operator and would spend countless hours on his projects. In his healthy days, he



enjoyed riding his Honda and snowmobile in the mountains and would often say he felt closer to God's heart in the mountains than anywhere else on earth.

Ernie and Joyce made several trips to England and spent a few winters in Arizona, but were always glad to get back to the Flathead Valley and family.

Ernie was preceded in death by both parents; his brother, Alroy, in 1993; and his sister-in-law, Eileen Mather and her husband, Ken.

Ernie is survived by Joyce, his wife of 57 years; three children, daughter, Kathy Grace of Bozeman; son, Chris Barry and his wife, Cindy; daughter, Rachelle Hines and husband, Don; seven grandchildren, Chad Grace and wife, Terri, Scott Grace and wife, Wanda, Cathi Spence and husband, Jim, Christie Schultz, Craig Barry, Christopher Grace and Addy Hines, all of Kalispell; nine great-granddaughters, all of Kalispell, Marissa, Taylor Rose, Kaitlyn, Telaine, Tarynn, Kyra, Gracie, Shaylee and Riley; his brother, Ralph Barry and wife, Genevieve; his sister, Elaine Moothart and husband, Wayne; sister-in-law, Ariene Barry Fry in Kalispell, sister, Adaline Stephenson of Forks, Wash.; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

Robert A. 'Bob' Bartel, 73

Robert A. "Bob" Bartel, 73, passed away on Monday, Dec. 13, 2004, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

Bob was born on Dec. 8, 1931, in Kalispell, to Anton and Grace Bartel. He was raised in the lower valley area of Flathead County. He attended Hodgson School and Echo Lake School.

Bob served in the U.S. Army as a cook and was stationed both overseas, and at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. After the military, Bob went to work for the Forest Service in Troy as a thinner, had worked cutting cedar posts, and had worked in the saw mills, both in Troy and Libby.

He enjoyed reading, fishing, camping and playing cards at the Home Bar in Troy. He enjoyed vis-



iting with people at the Trojan Bowling alley. He will be remembered for his kindness towards people and the love he had for children. He loved playing games and telling stories.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, two daughters, and two brothers.

He is survived by three daughters; three sisters, Roberta Shelley of Bigfork, Rodessa Norton of Kalispell, and Ramona Norton of Whitefish; one brother, David Bartel of Coos Bay, Ore.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A gathering of family and friends will be held from 1 to 2 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 18, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens with the United Veterans of the Flathead doing the military honors.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Hazel C. Bateman, 72

Hazel C. Bateman, 72, "has gone home to be with our Lord Jesus." Hazel left us in the early morning hours of Sept. 26, 2004, and was surrounded by her children.



Hazel was born to Horrace Watrous Humphrey and Leah Magnolia Hargett on April 3, 1932. She lived in Arbon Valley, Idaho. She graduated from Pocatello High School and later married Charles W. "Bill" Cullen in Pocatello on June 4, 1949. They were blessed with four children: Katherine, Patricia, Michael and Timothy.

Hazel and Bill were later divorced and she then went on to complete her education and became an licensed practical nurse. She later married Dean C. "Bud" Bateman on Aug. 29, 1959, in Salt Lake City. Bud and Hazel resided in Roy, Utah, and together they had four children: Terry, Rex, Clifford and Barbara. After her marriage and completion of her education, she began her nursing career at St. Benedict's Hospital in Ogden, Utah.

Hazel and Bud later divorced and she moved to Kalispell in 1977. At that time, Hazel continued her career at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, where she later retired after working more than 20 years with them.

Hazel loved being a nurse and taking care of her patients in the

intensive care unit. Even up to the time of Hazel's death she had peers who cared for her and expressed their gratitude and heartfelt appreciation towards her and her many years of service with Kalispell Regional and its patients.

Hazel enjoyed camping, fishing and watching old TV shows. Above all, she really loved a good family poker game.

Hazel is survived by her children, Katherine "KC" of Columbia Falls, Patricia Clay of Kalispell, Michael Cullen of American Falls, Idaho, Timothy Cullen of Gillette, Wyo., Terry Bateman of Salt Lake City, Clifford Bateman of Missoula, and Barbara Jacobson of Alpharetta, Ga., and their spouses; a sister, Leah of Brigham City, Utah; along with numerous grandchildren, nieces, nephews and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her dear son, Rex Bateman; and her beloved son-in-law, Kenny Clay; as well as her siblings and two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 29, in the Johnson Mortuary Chapel after which Hazel will be laid to rest in the Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be Wednesday from 9 a.m. until the time of services.

The children are requesting that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Hospice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

Carl John Bauer, 76

Carl John Bauer, 76, of Kalispell, passed away Monday, June 14, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center of natural causes.

He was born July 22, 1927, in Kalispell.

During high school, Carl was drafted into the Army and served in the occupation of Japan at the end of World War II.

On May 31, 1947, he married Zona Wigle in Kalispell.

That same year he started his career in logging with a team of horses and his wife, Zona, by his side. Later he was joined by his sons, John and Fred, in his logging and truck driving ventures until his retirement.

Carl enjoyed hunting, camping



and bowling; and spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Carl is survived by his wife of 57 years, Zona; his children, Carol and Don Reum, John and Cathy Bauer, Fred and Debbie Bauer, and Dorene and Vince Conklin, all of Kalispell; brothers, Roy Bauer and Robert Bauer; and sister, Barbara Anderson; grandchildren, Sheila Riley, Monica Messick, Devin Bauer, Jonny Bauer, Mindi Nelson, Jamie Burton, Ken Spain, Richard Spain, Howard Spain, and Kyle Lawson; and several great-grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Friday, June 18, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, followed by a reception at 3 p.m. at the Eagles, Kalispell.

Jane Jeremy Barthelme, 67

Jane Jeremy Barthelme died at her home in Spokane on May 25, 2004, following a courageous struggle with pancreatic cancer. She was 67.



Born Sept. 5, 1936, to Rebecca and Thomas Jeremy in Salt Lake City, she grew up on the Jeremy Sheep Ranch east of Salt Lake and attended Salt Lake public schools.

Jane devoted her life to learning and teaching. She graduated from the University of Utah in 1958, achieving a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, magna cum laude, and was elected to the university's Phi Beta Kappa chapter the same year.

The recipient of an NDEA Fellowship in 1960, Jane was admitted to graduate school at the University of Washington-Seattle, where she earned a Master of Arts degree and Ph.D. in classics. She married James Barthelme, a fellow graduate student, in 1961. Following graduate school, the couple moved to Richmond, Va., where occasionally Jane taught courses in ancient archaeology and Latin at the University of Richmond.

After moving to Cleveland, Jane embarked upon what would become a distinguished teaching career at both the high school and university levels. From 1974 to 1988 she was head of the Classics Program at the Laurel School for Girls in Shaker Heights, Ohio, where she taught Greek, Latin, ancient literatures and English. At Laurel, she was awarded the prestigious Hostetler Award for Excellence in Teaching. Jane ended her formal teaching career at Cleveland State University where for five years she was adjunct professor of classical and medieval studies.

In 1993, the Barthelmes retired from teaching and moved to Lakeside where they built a home on Flathead Lake and established J-BAR-J Inc., a property management company; in 2002 they moved to Spokane.

Throughout her life Jane sought out additional opportunities to tutor both young people and adults. In Richmond she participated in a reading program for small children; in Cleveland she

worked in a Saturday Latin series for fifth-graders and was chairperson for the education program at the Unitarian Society; in Montana she organized an extra-curricular Latin class for gifted high school students and was active in Literacy Volunteers of America; in Spokane she participated in a tutoring program at her church.

Always socially and politically active, Jane worked in voter registration, equal opportunity housing, on political campaigns, in food banks and for various environmental and educational causes. For many years she was treasurer and Altar Guild member of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Bigfork. She was a longtime member of the Democratic Party, the ACLU, the American Philological Society and the Episcopal Church. In Spokane she was a communicant at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

In her private life, Jane enjoyed music and art, hiking, travel and time with family. She was a devoted mother, accomplished cook and energetic conversationalist.

She is survived by her husband, James, of Spokane; son, Thomas Jeremy Barthelme of Spokane; daughters, Diana Jane Barthelme of Chicago, and Erika Liese Barthelme and her partner, Natalie Panshin, of Canton, N.Y. In Spokane, she leaves behind many gracious and generous new neighbors and friends.

Burial service and Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 1, at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 127 East 12th Ave., Spokane, with the Very Rev. John Smylie and Rev. Carolyn Kuhr officiating. Telephone 509-838-4277. Interment will be at noon, Wednesday, June 2, in the Florence Carlton Cemetery, 21000 Old Highway 93, Florence, Mont. Arrangements are under the direction of Heritage Funeral Home in Spokane.

With deep gratitude the family thanks the many world-class physicians, nurses and other caregivers in Spokane who helped Jane with her final journey.

The family requests that memorials be given to Hospice of Spokane, the Native American College Fund, the Barthelme Honors College Fund at the University of Montana, or the Department of Classics at the University of Washington.

Jack R. Beller, 78

Jack R. Beller, 78, of Whitefish passed away on Thursday June 17, 2004, at Evergreen Health & Rehab Center in Polson, from natural causes.

He was born Sept. 5, 1925, in Whitefish, to Arthur and Anna (Johnson) Beller, and attended school in Whitefish.

He worked as a logger before joining the Army during World War II. After the service he returned to Whitefish and married Rayma Wagner on April 15, 1950, in Polson. He worked as a car man for both the Great Northern Railroad and Burlington Northern for 43 years, before retiring.

He was preceded in death by

his parents, and two brothers.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Rayma Beller, of Whitefish; a daughter, Terri Gimello, and a son, Wayne Beller, both of Whitefish; four grandchildren, Adam and Jason Gimello of Whitefish, Berianna Beller of Arizona, and Kyle Beller of Whitefish; two great-grandchildren; and a brother, Merrel, of Salem, Ore.

Graveside inurnment services with military honors will be held at the Whitefish Cemetery at 2 p.m. Monday, June 21, with Dr. David Kauffman officiating.

Arrangements and cremation are by Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory, Polson.

Kay Beller, 69

Kay Beller, 69, passed away to be with her Lord and Savior on Dec. 14, 2004.

Kay was born April 6, 1935, in Wapato, Wash., to John Robert and Earlene Paul. She was the second daughter of six girls. In 1942 the family moved to the Flathead Valley, settling in Whitefish.

Kay received her education in Whitefish and graduated from Whitefish High School in 1953. In 1954, she married Bill Beller. Together they raised two daughters, Gail and Kelli.

Kay worked as the bookkeeper in the Whitefish JC Penney store for 23 years. In 1977, she went to work for the city of Whitefish as city clerk and retired in 2000. Shortly after her retirement, the City of Whitefish honored her by dedicating a park in her name.

Kay enjoyed serving on the board of directors of the Whitefish Credit Union and volunteering her



time at the Whitefish Historical Society. In 1990 she was honored to serve as First Lady of Whitefish.

She most enjoyed bowling and spending time with her family and friends.

Kay was preceded in death by her father, John Robert Paul; her husband, Bill Beller; and three sisters, Nancy Paul, Janet Ott and Karen Paul.

She is survived by her mother, Earlene Paul; her daughters, Gail Holien and husband, Ray, and Kelli Bowden and husband, Art. Grandchildren are Kristen Holien, Michael and April Holien, Kelli and Jerrod Stephenson, Robert and Emily Bowden; and seven great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her two sisters, Jolene Brockel, and Lee and Kathy Paul; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services for Kay will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 20, at Austin Funeral Home.

At the family's request, donations can be made to the Whitefish Historical Society or the Whitefish Food Bank.

Henry 'Ray' Belston, 74

Henry "Ray" Belston, age 74, passed away on Nov. 23, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell with loving support from family and friends.

He was born on Dec. 29, 1929, in Mullan, Idaho. He served in the U.S. Navy.

Ray was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, "Bunny," his parents, "Mommy and Pappy," and a brother, Bill.

He is survived by his children, Vicky and husband Cliff Silcox of Libby, Carol and husband Ben Hoerner of Columbia Falls, Terry

and husband Gary Pritchard of Quitman, Texas, Lynda Medhus of Columbia Falls and Brent and wife Colleen Belston of Kalispell; 14 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews, and close and dear friends.

A memorial service in celebration of his life will be held at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls at 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29, 2004.

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

Bailey Jaye Beardsley, infant

Bailey Jaye Beardsley, infant, died Jan. 16, 2004, in Kalispell. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 26, at

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be a C.E. Conrad Cemetery.

Richard Ervan Beekman, 76

Richard Ervan Beekman, beloved husband, brother, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, passed away on June 29, 2004, in Kalispell. He was 76.

Born in Corona del Mar, Calif., on Feb. 22, 1928, Richard grew up in the Great Depression. He lost his father in 1940, and was raised by his mother with his two sisters in southern California.

He graduated from Newport Harbor High School in 1945 and began at Fullerton Junior College, but decided to join the Army Air Force in 1946. He was stationed first in San Antonio, and later Boca Raton, Fla. He mustered out early and finished his studies at Fullerton Junior College.

Thanks to the G.I. Bill, the poor boy from southern California was able to continue his studies in physics at Stanford University (B.A. 1950). He later added a degree in engineering awarded through the University of California at Los Angeles (M.A. 1960).

Richard met his future wife, Elizabeth Ellen Stockard, at Fullerton JC, and they were married in 1948. They soon had their children, Richard Ervan (1951) and Margaret Ellen (1953). Later in life the couple had their third child, Christopher Stockard (1967), and in 1971 moved to Lake Arrowhead, their last home in California.

Richard made his living as an aeronautics engineer with several firms in southern California, including Beckman Instruments, General Dynamics and Lockheed. He directed government projects in times of peace and war, including the Mercury space program, but he specialized in electronics related to defense of aircraft. He retired in 1988.

In his newly acquired free time he nursed an interest in genealogy, which grew naturally from his deep love of his family. In his retirement he lived close to his first son's family, and this was a great joy to him. He and Elizabeth also traveled extensively throughout the United States and Mexico at this time, visiting his second son in various places and his daughter in Trego. It was ultimately these visits to Montana that led Elizabeth and him to choose to live close to their daughter, and they moved from California to Montana in April of 2003. In the brief time that he lived in Kalispell, Richard was very happy with the area and its people.

Richard was a very gentle and intelligent man. He had little in the way of hobbies, but dearly loved to visit and help his family. His respect for education was shared by his wife, and together they strongly prodded their children on to complete their degrees and to go their own ways. The family remains close despite the distances between them. He will be grievously missed.

Richard is survived by Elizabeth, his wife of 56 years, who resides here in Kalispell; by their children, Richard, Margaret and Christopher, and their families, residing in California, Montana, and Colorado; by grandchildren, Tina Marie Guthrie, Shannon Ellen Freiheit and Kathryn Elizabeth Beekman, residing in Virginia and California; by great-grandchildren, Elizabeth and Cathryn Guthrie; by his sisters, Margaret Elvira Myers, and Evelyn Marie Zenker, residing with their families in California and Nevada.

David W. Benson, 84

After a year-long battle with esophageal cancer, David W. Benson, 84, passed away on Dec. 31, 2004, at his winter home in Quartzite, Ariz. Dave was born in Juneau, Alaska, on Sept. 12, 1920, where he spent his first six years before moving with his family to Port Angeles, Wash. He was raised in Washington state for the next 10 years before striking out on his own as a musician and singer.

His professional musical career ended in Kalispell in 1938. Without a job and broke, he landed a job as a chore boy at the M-Lazy-B ranch in Marian. He spent the next nine years as a cowboy. Some of his favorite stories were about his times as a real life cowboy: chasing wild horses, herding cattle in the Big Draw, and managing an all-girl dude ranch during the summer months.

While at the ranch he met and married Mary Lou Billmeyer of Kalispell in 1946, hand-built a log house and had his first son. After spending 1948 in Kerrville, Texas, he and his family moved to eastern Montana where he started a new career in construction working for Morris Construction in Chinook. After several years, he went to work for Zook Bros. Construction in Great Falls where he was a superintendent and built roads all over the state of Montana.

After his retirement at age 62, he opened Dave's Welding at his

permanent residence in Bigfork, which he operated until his final retirement in 1994.

Dave and Mary Lou moved to Sunburst. They spent their summers in Montana and winters in Quartzite, Ariz., where Dave searched for gold and rode four-wheelers (his modern replacement for a horse) in the desert mountains with a great circle of friends.

Dave is survived by his wife of 58 years, Mary Lou; sons, John Benson and Debbie of Houston, Dave Benson and Jane of Franktown, Colo., Gary Benson and Kathrin of Houston, and L.G. Benson and Yanira of Houston; daughter, Wanda Stanford, of Couatts, Alberta; sister, Hazel Baker and George of Hamilton, Ohio; 16 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren; and relations and friends across the country.

Dave was predeceased by his grandson, David Benson, of Bigfork. Special thanks to the Hospice of Havasu for all their care and support.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Hospice of Havasu Inc., 365 S. Lake Havasu Ave., P.O. Box 597, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86405.

A memorial will be held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, at the Marias River Electric Conference Center, 910 Roosevelt Hwy 2, in Shelby. For questions, contact Wanda Stanford at 406-335-2891.

Erma M. Thompson Ridgway Benson, 77

Erma M. Thompson Ridgway Benson, 77, passed away Sunday, June 6, 2004, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She was born on Feb. 24, 1927, in Whitefish, to Robert C. "Shorty" and Gladys (Runyan) Thompson. Erma grew up in the Somers area, attending school there as well as at Flathead County High School.

She enjoyed doing needlework, sewing, crossword puzzles and was a charter member of the Faith Baptist Church and a former member of the Eagles.

She was employed at many Flathead Valley restaurants as well as in Helena and Libby.

Erma was preceded in death by each of her husbands, Robert Ridgway Sr., Leonard Gaab, and George Benson; one son, Floyd "Pete" Ridgway; and a daughter, Wanda Pierson.

She is survived by seven daughters, Carol Lee Jeffries and hus-



band, Jim, Bobbie Annamae Glenn and Brian, Nancy Lynn Swanson and husband, Lance, and Deana Rae Carter, all of Kalispell, Patty Jean Brewer and husband, Charles, and Terry Sue Hamper and husband, Pat, all of Helena, and Glenda Kay Neff and Dave Clairmont of South Windsor, Conn.; and two sons, Robert Lee Ridgway Jr. of Kalispell, and Kevin Ray Gaab and wife, Teresa, of Bozeman; 30 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; one sister-in-law, Margaret Thompson, of Lewiston, Idaho; with many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Friday, June 11, at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with Pastor Clint The-line officiating. Burial will follow at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be from noon until 6 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

The family suggests memorials be given to Faith Baptist Church Building Fund, 1015 East Idaho, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory

Anna Constance Bengtson, 101

Anna Constance Bengtson, 101, formally of Whitefish, died Thursday, April 22, 2004, in Valley View Estates Health Care Center in Hamilton.

She is survived by one son, Ted Bakken, of Naknek, Alaska.

Services will be in the fall in Whitefish.

Reginald D. Bennett, 81

Reginald D. Bennett, 81, of Fortine, died Sunday, Feb. 15, 2004, at his home in Fortine from natural causes.

Survivors include his wife, Connie Bennett, of Fortine; and children, Bonnie Sporie of New Hampshire, Bruce Ben-

nett and Tom Bennett, both of Fortine.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Eureka.

Local arrangements are by the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

Carl Axel Benson, 81

Carl Axel Benson, 81, died at home on May 20, 2004. He was born in Whitefish on July 30, 1922, to Bert D. and Eva Benson. Bert's parents, John and Annie, came to the Whitefish area from Colorado in 1911. John and Bert were skilled carpenters and masons and helped build many of the buildings in Whitefish, including the Central School, Presbyterian Church and Odd Fellows Hall. Like his father and grandfather, Carl could build and fix anything.

Carl attended school in Whitefish and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1941. Although he had a strong opinion that women should not be assigned to work in "his" airplane engine shop, he met his match in Frances M. Mole, a woman Marine from Lawrence, Kan., who was assigned to the shop in 1944. They married later that year just prior to Carl shipping out to the Pacific.

After the war, Carl and Fran moved to back to Whitefish where

they raised four children: Carol, Larry "Butch," Barbara and Michael. Carl worked all his life in the lumber industry, working some 30 years for Royal Logging of Columbia Falls.

After retirement, Carl and Fran traveled extensively in their motor home. Carl also built and flew remote controlled airplanes. He was meticulous in all he built and had a wonderful sense of humor.

Carl was predeceased by Bert in 1967; Eva in 1978; and his brother, Howard, in 2003.

Carl is survived by his wife, Frances, of 59 years, at the family home; daughters, Carol and her husband, Dick Hubley, of Riddle, Ore., and Barbara and her husband, David Neumann, of Libby; sons, Butch and Mike of Kalispell; as well as six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Carl wanted to be cremated without service and fanfare and his ashes to be scattered privately by his family after Frances' death.

Mary H. Bertino, 95

Mary H. Bertino, 95, of Columbia Falls, passed away of cancer, Thursday, Dec. 2, 2004, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born Oct. 16, 1909, in Dagget Brook, Minn., to John and Barbara (Campbell) Ellman.

Mary was married to Louis "Boots" Schoenberg on Sept. 2, 1932, in Whitefish. They operated the Boots Café for a number of years in Columbia Falls. Later he was a butcher at the Parc Merc. The couple donated land to the City of Columbia Falls for Schoenberg Park. It is used for a skating rink, sliding hill and baseball field.

Mary supervised the home demonstration booth at the country fair for many years. She was a member of St. Richard's Catholic Church and the Altar Society for more than 75 years. She was active in the Columbia Annas Home Demonstration Club, enjoyed ice skating, fishing and hunting. Mary and Boots "tripped the light fantastic" as members of the square dance club.

Boots passed away on Sept. 22, 1968.

Mary Schoenberg and Louis Bertino were married on Nov. 4, 1972. They lived in Sumner, Wash., where he was an iron worker. The Bertinos returned to Columbia Falls, in 1982, when he retired.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Donna Nadeau and Lorene Sallee; four brothers, John Jr., Ray, Pat, and Jim Ellman; and one stepson, Clarence Bertino.

Mary is survived by three sisters, Frances and husband, Dale Gardner, of Peachtree, Calif., Margie and husband, Stan Sklodo, of Aberdeen, Wash., and Kate Lundstrom of Columbia Falls; two brothers, Frank "Bud" and wife, Mary Lou Ellman, and Sam and wife, Frankie Ellman, of Columbia Falls; her son, John Schoenberg of Apple Valley, Calif.; her husband, Louis Bertino, of Polson; four stepchildren, Louise Allen of Spokane, William and wife, Marilyn Bertino, of Colorado Springs, Colo., Thomas and wife, Ellen Bertino, in Virginia, and Phillip Bertino of Kalispell; three grandchildren, Tanya, Kim and Mark Schoenberg; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral mass will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 9, at St. Richard's Catholic Church. A reception will follow the service. Interment is in St. Richard's Catholic Cemetery under the direction of Columbia Mortuary.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Wings, the Columbia Falls Food Pantry, or the charity of the donor's choice.

Anna Bach Bergum, 96

Anna Bach Bergum, 96, of Somers, died at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell, on Jan. 23, 2004.

She was born Sept. 24, 1907, to Nels and Minnie Bach in Houghton, Mich. Her father was a shoemaker and Anna was raised with an older brother and a younger sister. The family visited Denmark, where their parents were born, when Anna was a small child. In 1914, they moved to Helena, where Anna graduated from high school.

She worked in a grocery store, for a coal company, and in a law office before her marriage on July 2, 1932, to John A. Bergum, a building contractor. The couple raised three children, J. Allan, David and Karen.

Anna enjoyed sewing, needle work, baking, crossword puzzles, pinochle, and mysteries.

She was a member of the Rebekah's, and was active in Camp Fire Girls as a leader and a board member. She belonged to St. John's Lutheran Church, Helena.



After her husband's death, Nov. 20, 1962, Anna accepted a position at Montana State University working as a dorm mother from 1964 to 1970.

In 1971, Anna moved to Somers to help her daughter, a teacher, raise her children. Altogether Anna had 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Anna moved to Immanuel Dec. 8, 1998.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John, in 1962; sons, J. Allan Bergum and David Bergum; her parents; brother, Andrew Bach; and sister, Dagmar Potter.

Anna is survived by daughter, Karen, and son-in-law, Ted Richardson, of Somers, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Family will receive friends at a visitation between the hours of 6 and 8 p.m. Friday evening, Jan. 30, in the Retz Funeral Home Chapel in Helena. A graveside service will be held 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 31, at Forestvale Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline Ave., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Margaret Berger, 88

Margaret Berger, 88, died Friday, Nov. 12, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She was born July 22, 1916, in Albany, Ore., the daughter of Roland Simon and Margaret (Templeton) Snyder. At the age of four, she moved with her parents to New Plymouth, Idaho, and about 1924, they relocated to Kalispell. She attended grade school at Central School and graduated from Flathead County High School. She was very active in the music programs, and was quite proficient at the piano and violin. She was the concert mistress during her high school years under the direction of J.B. Van Amberg.

Following graduation she attended the Northwest Bible Institute in Seattle for one year. In 1939, she went to Chicago and worked as a singer and also played piano. She later worked at the School Musician magazine in Chicago. She also worked in the factories during World War II. Fol-



lowing the war she returned to Kalispell and about 1954 began working as a telephone operator and continued until her retirement.

She enjoyed singing, playing the piano and violin and was also an avid reader and also enjoyed cooking.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Larry "Shorty" Berger; a sister, Mary Louise Snyder; and a brother, David Louis Snyder.

She is survived by her children, David Stark and Carolita Pixie Stark, both of Kalispell; two brothers, Paul Snyder of Serverna Park, Md., and Haven Snyder of Auburn, Wash.; seven grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Urn graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 16, at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell. There is no visitation.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to the charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Paul Jerome Berger, 82

On Dec. 22, 2004, Paul Jerome Berger went to spend Christmas in heaven with his wife, Dorothy, daughter Denise, and his parents, Carl and Emily Berger, who were all waiting for him there.

Paul was born in Whitetail in 1922. He attended grade school and graduated high school in Whitetail. He later went to college.

Paul served in the Army in World War II. After the war, he met and married Dorothy Bjerke from the Scobey area. They farmed there for many years. He had car dealerships in Kalispell and Missoula. Paul retired to his garage to work on his many inventions.



Paul attended Kalispell Faith Alliance Church. He was a loving husband and father, and avid aviator, sailor, and inventor. He loved jazz music and was a wonderful friend to many.

"Paul was a gift from God, loaned to us, that we will all treasure in our hearts and memories forever."

He is survived by his son, Roger and wife, Rose; his daughter, Nancy and husband, Jim Skurvid; all of Kalispell; grandchildren, Amy and Whitney Fisher of Missoula; grandsons, Lars and Casey Berger of Seattle; and two great-grandchildren.

Viewing will be from 9 to 11 a.m., Wednesday, Dec. 29, with the funeral following at the Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell.

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

Bruce Anthony Birch, 51

Bruce Anthony Birch, 51, passed away 1:30 a.m., March 27, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. He continued to live at his home until hours before he passed away of cancer.



Bruce was born July 27, 1952, in Great Falls, to Rock and Barb Hendricks.

He met his wife, Cheryl Marie Galloway in Kalispell, where they were married on May 18, 1979.

Bruce graduated from high school and went into the U.S. Air Force as a jet engine mechanic in 1973. He then went on to college where he got his associate of science degree at FVCC in 1989. He then got his bachelor's of science degree at the University of Montana in 1993.

He worked as a cook for 14 years, a software engineer for Semitool, and as a customer ser-

vice specialist in electronics at Wal-Mart.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Hubert and Mary Hudson.

He is survived by his wife, Cheryl Marie Birch; sons, Travis Galloway, Daniel Birch, Anthony Birch, Tony Birch; daughter Amy Birch, all of Kalispell; brothers Bob Birch of Montana, David Hendricks of Utah, and Darren Hendricks of Arizona; sisters Suzie Newbold of Utah, Diane Sidson of Utah, and Debbie Hendricks of Arizona.

A memorial fund in Bruce's memory has been set up at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 400 West California St., Kalispell, MT, 59901.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 30, at Trinity Lutheran Church, with Pastor Dan Wurster officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Connie R. Birky, 62

Connie R. Birky, 62, of Columbia Falls, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2004, at 2:40 a.m. at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.



Connie was recently retired from her many years of work as a medical secretary. She loved and was loved by her husband of 42 years, all of her children and grandchildren. Her smile and laughter could light up any room. Everyone that knew Connie loved her because of her kindness and wonderful sense of humor. She was a lady of great beauty inside and out and will be desperately missed.

Connie was preceded in death by her parents, Burl and Lavina Maynard, and her brother, Tom Maynard.

Connie is survived by her husband, Dale Birky; her children, Vic and Tammie Birky, Hal and Dawn Birky, Tom and Krystal Birky, and Travis and Jodi Brousseau; her grandchildren, Ashley, Brittany and Cody Birky, Nikolette and Alyssa Birky, Josh and Chase Birky, Ashley O'Bright and Broyce and Kira Brousseau.

Visitation will be held from 1 to 8 p.m. today at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, Jan. 31, at 11 a.m. at the Mountain View Mennonite Church. Burial will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Naomi L. Bessler, 86

Naomi L. Bessler, 86, died Thursday, April 8, 2004, at her Kalispell home.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Robert W. 'Bud' Beyer, 55

Robert W. "Bud" Beyer, 55, of Martin City, passed away Thursday, March 4, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. He was born July 23, 1948, in Cheyenne Wells, Colo., to Robert and Ernestine (Dunn) Beyer.



Bud grew up in Basalt, Colo., and graduated from high school in 1966. He was a self-educated professor of American Indian history and artifacts, and collected many different items of those periods.

He loved being outdoors, hiking and picking huckleberries with his grandchildren.

He was an enlisted Army ranger for 10 years; served as a crew chief for the Medivac from 1967-69, was stationed in Fort Benning, Ga., from 1969-71, was a security guard at missile sites in Germany from 1971-75, served in Fort Dix, N.J., as a drill sergeant from 1975-78 and moved to Hungry Horse in 1978 following his mili-

tary career.

After moving to the Flathead Valley, he owned and operated Koin Korner in Kalispell from 1980 until 1988.

He married April Feist on Feb. 6, 1996, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Survivors include his wife, April Feist-Beyer, of Martin City; his daughter, Wendy Postelt, and her husband Jamie, of Creston; two grandchildren, Jada Williams and Colten Hart, of Creston; two stepsons, Jefferson McGillivray, of Martin City, and Pete McGillivray and his son, Jacob, of Hungry Horse; three brothers, Eddie Beyer and Mike Beyer, both of Fortine, and David Beyer, of Bullhead City, Ariz.; and Bud's best friends, Ray and Carolyn Miller, of Trego.

A memorial celebration of Bud's life will begin at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 13, at the LaSalle Grange Hall, U.S. 2 near the airport. The United Veterans of Flathead Valley will conduct military honors there.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

Ruth Margaret Biondi, 62

Ruth Margaret Biondi, 62, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 29, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.



Ruth was born on July 18, 1941, in Brooklyn, N.Y., to Edward and Karen Johnsen Ericksen.

She married Robert P. Rosenthal on Sept. 25, 1960. They were married for seven years before being divorced. They had a daughter, Sherry.

Ruth married Richard Biondi on Sept. 5, 1970. They were married for 27 years before being divorced. They had a son, Joseph.

Ruth was a full-time mother and homemaker. She moved to Montana in 1997 to be near her daughter. Ruth took the trip of a lifetime last year with her sister, Carol, to Norway. They loved

every minute of the vacation.

She loved all animals, especially dogs. She also enjoyed sewing, baking, her children, the N.Y. Yankees, politics, and talking about anything to do with Norway.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Edward Ericksen; one sister, Leonora Ericksen; and a nephew, William Ericksen.

Ruth is survived by her daughter and her husband, Sherry and Gerald Splaine; one son, Joseph Biondi; one brother and his wife, John and Fran Ericksen; one sister, Carol Ericksen; seven nieces and nephews; and 10 grandnieces and grandnephews. Ruth was also fond of three very special dogs, Jeter, Bart and Mooby.

Private family services have already been held.

The family requests memorials be sent to the Humane Society, or the Democratic Party.

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

Agnes Fetveit Bjorneby, 91

Agnes Fetveit Bjorneby, 91, died Nov. 18, 2004, in Yakima, Wash.

She was born April 9, 1913, on her parents' homestead in McKenzie County, N.D. Her father and mother, Sveinung "Sam" and Guri Storbraaten Fetveit, were immigrants from Norway. She attended a country school near the farm and graduated from Watford City High School.

Agnes attended Dickinson State College for a year and then began teaching in the same country school she had attended. She later attended Eastern Montana College, the University of Montana and the University of Washington.

In 1935, her family moved to the Flathead Valley, where Agnes taught at Marion. She later taught at other rural and city schools, last at Edgerton School. During World War II, she worked for Boeing in Seattle. Agnes was a summer employee in Yellowstone National Park.

In 1950, she married Laurence "Larry" Bjorneby in Kalispell. They owned Bjorneby Jewelry, managed by Agnes after her husband was elected mayor of Kalispell. In 1957, their son, Ladd, was born. They retired in 1975 and Laurence died in 1979.

She was active in various ministries at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell, among which were teaching Sunday school, serving as a leader in the women's group and singing in the choir.

Agnes' hobbies were drawing and painting, knitting and hand-weaving, pinocle and bridge. She was active in Republican Women. She also served in leadership with the Community Concert Association. Agnes traveled to Norway twice.

In September 2003, she moved to Yakima to be near her son, and granddaughters.

She is survived by her son, Ladd; granddaughters, Amy and Alison Bjorneby; several nephews and nieces including Ron, Steven and Gary Fetveit and their families; and sister-in-law, Dorothy Fetveit, all of Kalispell; and dear friend, Charlotte Ebeltoft, also of Kalispell.

Agnes was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her sister, Margit Fetveit; and brothers, Olav and Martin Fetveit.

The funeral service is at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Memorials are to Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Opal Klara Black, 3

Opal Klara Black, 3, died on Friday, Dec. 10, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

Memorial services are pending with Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory.

Margie Blake

Margie Blake "went to be with her Lord" on May 20, 2004, in Kalispell.

Margie was born Oct. 15, 1905, in Fort Dodge, Iowa. Her father, Charles Bert Colwell, was a carpenter. Her mother, Mabel Grace Newton Colwell, a schoolteacher, raised eight surviving children. When the family relocated to a homestead in Williston, N.D., Margie helped with family chores by shucking grain, feeding the chickens and calves and cooking.

As a young girl, Margie attended a country school and enjoyed playing baseball during recess. A one-horse buggy provided transportation during the summer months.

On Margie's 22nd birthday she married Bill Blake, who "loved her all the time." During the 50 years of marriage the couple lived in Havre, Great Falls, and Anaconda, before settling in Kalispell.

During the war years Bill was employed at the smelter in Anaconda. As a powder monkey he worked with explosives in gold mines and during the construction

of the Hungry Horse Dam. Such dangerous work proved a source of worry for Margie. At eight years of age, Bruce Hartel, came to live with the couple after misfortune scattered his family.

Margie enjoyed traveling to many areas of the United States. She and Bill visited Washington, D.C., Canada and the Northwest. Margie's solo journeys after Bill's death in 1978 included Hawaii, Mexico, Alaska and Niagara Falls. During a fall foliage bus tour she traveled to Maine and Massachusetts.

In retirement, Margie remained active through volunteer work with Big Brothers and Big Sisters. Working with AOA she knitted caps for school children and was honored as Senior Citizen of the Year after 30 years with RSVP.

Margie was affiliated with the Church of Christ. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 26, at the Church of Christ, 241 Stillwater Road in Kalispell. Lunch will be served following the service in the fellowship hall at the Church of Christ.

Dorothy A. Norris Birky, 85

Dorothy A. Norris Birky, 85, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 14, 2004, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. She was born on Oct. 28, 1918, at Lake Five, Mont., to Royal A. and Effie (Halberg) Norris, the third of nine children. Dorothy received her early education in Columbia Falls.



In October 1940 she married Earl Doverspike in St. Maries, Idaho, and to this union was born one daughter. Earl passed away in 1945, and Dorothy moved her family to Kalispell where she worked various jobs.

She met and married Vernon L. Birky on April 5, 1951, in Helena, and they had one son. Vernon passed away in 1968 and after a short stay with her brother in Colorado Springs, Colo., Dorothy returned to Kalispell and retired in 1983.

Dorothy was very active in volunteer work at the hospital and worked many hours with RSVP, assisting the visually impaired. She was a member of the Women of the Moose, The Eagles and the VFW Ladies Auxillary. Dorothy also loved to travel.

She was a joy to her family and

loved by all her grandchildren, friends and family.

Dorothy was preceded in death by three husbands, three brothers, and one sister.

She is survived by her daughter, Patsy Holt, and husband Richard, and son, Steven Birky, both of Kalispell; five grandchildren, Corinne Daken and husband Kirt, Johnna Gonzales and husband Leonard, Sandra Corpron and husband Shane; Alaine Stremel and husband David, and Jacob Birky. She is also survived by one sister, Verna Landon, of Kalispell; three brothers, Ray Norris of Kalispell, Alfred Norris and wife Joan of Colorado Springs, and Earl Norris and wife Gloria of Florida; nine great-grandchildren, one great-great-granddaughter; and many nieces and nephews.

Graveside memorial services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 19, at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery with Pastor Tim Bartholomew of Stillwater Free Lutheran Church officiating. Friends and family are invited to continue this celebration of Dorothy's life at a gathering at the Moose Lodge in Kalispell immediately following the services.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

Carolyn Joyce 'Honey' Bivens, 68

Carolyn Joyce "Honey" Bivens, 68, died Feb. 3, 2004 after a battle with cancer.

She is survived by her husband, Bill, and sons, Mike Bivens and Jerry Bivens, all of

Gilbert, Ariz.; and daughter, Maryleigh Darling of Whitefish.

A memorial and urn burial will take place in the spring in Montana at Fairview Cemetery.

Helena Pannell Blend, 88

Helena Pannell Blend, 88, of Bigfork, died Friday, Dec. 10, 2004, in Phoenix.

Helena was born in Choteau on Jan. 1, 1916. She grew up on the sheep ranch of her parents, Mary E. and John E. Sullivan, near Pendroy. She loved to ride horses everyday while on the ranch. She attended the Ursuline Academy in Great Falls during high school and graduated from the University of Minnesota.

In 1939 she married James B. Pannell. She bought and sold many properties during her lifetime. An active volunteer, she was involved in PTA, Red Cross and Junior League and worked hard in the Great Falls community.

Helena and Jim raised four children in Great Falls. Jim was an architect until 1967 when he and Helena built the Mid-Town Motel and later, Smitty's Pancake House, which they owned and operated until 1970 when they retired.

After Jim's death in 1978, she married Carroll Blend. She and



Carroll traveled all over the world while living in Great Falls, Bigfork and Phoenix.

Helena was a wonderful, hard-working mom and grandmother to her children and grandchildren, making brownies for all occasions, bragging about sleeping in a prostitute's bed that she bought second-hand in Butte, and telling everyone her first name was Helena, emphasis on the "Hell." She had requested the song, "As the Saints Go Marching In," be sung at her funeral Mass. She was a fun-loving person and "her memory will remain in our hearts and thoughts forever."

Four children, James Pannell of Great Falls, John Pannell of Duxbury, Mass., Marylane Pannell of Kalispell, and Joan Perrins of Gilbert, Ariz.; a stepson, Carroll Blend, in Bigfork; 10 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren, and many friends survive Helena.

A memorial service will be held in Bigfork at St. Catherine's Catholic Church on Saturday, Jan. 15, at 10 a.m. Cremation has taken place.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donation be made to Hospice.

Rhonda L. Blessing, 51

Rhonda L. Blessing, 51, died Thursday, Feb. 5, 2004, in Eureka.

She is survived by her husband, David, of Eureka; her children, Shawn Pershall of Eureka, Kendra Pershall of Los Angeles, Joshua Lamb, David Blessing Jr., and Kim-

berly Blessing, all of Eureka; and her parents, Ron and Barbara Morgan of West Kootenai.

Services will be 1 p.m. Tuesday at the First Baptist Church.

Arrangements are by Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

George Willis Bland, 66

George Willis Bland, 66, passed away on Monday, July 26, 2004 at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

He was born on Dec. 4, 1937, in Philadelphia, to Dr. George and Helen (Jones) Bland. At an early age George moved with his family to the Panama Canal where he received his early education and graduated from Cristobal High School in 1956.

After graduation he attended Cal Poly, in California for one year before returning to Panama and went to work for the post office. In 1960, George moved to Somers and worked for Lee's Glass Shop and then joined the National Guard, serving with the Green Berets in Vietnam.

After returning to the valley, George met and married Dale M. Marquette in Somers. George then worked for Lee Crafts where he



became a master mechanic and boat builder. He worked for Lee Crafts for 19 years before starting his own business in 1982. He then operated George's Marine Service until 1995.

George was extremely talented and adventurous. Among George's passions were his love of life; his love of this country; working in his shop; flying both fixed and rotary wing aircraft; and his pets.

He is survived by his wife, Dale; four sons, George Arthur and wife, Desiree, and Tony and wife, Cindy, both of Kalispell, Ed Willis and wife, Janet, of Somers, and George Willis III and wife, Miriam, of Fountain Hills, Ariz.; eight grandchildren; and one brother, Harry and Marge Bland of Elk, Wash.

Memorial services for George will be held 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 31, at the Glacier Memorial Gardens with military honors by the United Veterans of the Flathead.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Frank Henry Bleick, 61

Frank Henry Bleick, 61, of Whitefish, died Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004, in Whitefish of natural causes after a long illness.

He was a brakeman for Burlington Northern Railroad.

Survivors include his loving companion, Rosalie Berg of Whitefish; mother, Irene

Thomson of Green Valley, Ariz., and sons, Mark Bleick of Columbia Falls, and Rickie Bleick of Whitefish.

A wake/potluck will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, at the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Whitefish.

Cremation has taken place.

Carroll Clifford Blend, 91

Carroll Clifford Blend, 91, died July 3, 2004, in Bigfork of natural causes.

Survivors include his wife, Helena Pannell Blend of Bigfork; and stepchildren, Carroll C. Blend of Bigfork, Joan Per-

rins of Gilbert, Ariz., John Pannell of Duxbury, Mass., Jim Pannell of Great Falls, and Mary Lane Pannell Kuhl of Kalispell.

Cremation has taken place.

A private memorial service will be held.

Lloyd Leslie Blood, 68

Lloyd Leslie Blood, 68, passed away Wednesday, March 31, 2004, at his home after an extended illness.

Lloyd was born Oct. 16, 1935, in Columbia Falls, a son of Leslie "Skinny" and Hazel Dunn Blood. He was raised and educated in Columbia Falls.

He joined the National Guard and was stationed in Fort Ord. On returning to the Flathead Valley, he worked at Plum Creek for 35 years.

Lloyd enjoyed fishing, hunting, coaching baseball and watching sports on TV.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a nephew.

Lloyd is survived by his loving wife of 43 years, Patricia Martin

Blood of Columbia Falls; daughter, Crystal Blood of Columbia Falls; his sister, Marjorie Cheff Daniels of Columbia Falls; stepsons, Donald and wife, Brenda, and Douglas and wife, Jeanie Mapston; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren, all of Conroe, Texas.

A memorial service will be held 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 7, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Bob Pearce will officiate.

The family has suggested that memorials be made to the Columbia Falls Baseball Association or to Hospice.

A reception will follow the service at the North Valley Eagles Club.

Cornelius F. 'Neil' Blum, 81

Cornelius F. "Neil" Blum, 81, passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2004, at his home in Somers.

Neil was born on Aug. 17, 1922, in Passaic, N.J., to Cornelius and Mary Harrington Blum. He was raised and attended schools in New Jersey.

He worked as a sales manager at OKT in New York City for many years.

He married Charlotte Walker on March 1, 1971, in West Patterson, N.J. They moved to Montana in 1971, where he worked for KCFW-TV in sales, Scott Publishing Co. in sales, and A & E Research in sales.

He was an avid hunter, fisherman, gardener, participant in the Farmers Market, and loved to paint.

He was a past member of the Boy Scouts of America in New Jersey; and was a member of the Masonic Lodge and a Shriner, both in New Jersey.

He was preceded in death by

his parents; three brothers, Edward, Clifford and Kenneth; and one son, Larry.

He is survived by his former wife, Ann Ludwig; his current wife, Charlotte; children, Cynthia, Margaret, Bruce and Robin Wheeler, and Sue and Gary Wilson; one sister, Evelyn; grandchildren, Jennifer Blum, Casey Blum, (great-granddaughter, Zandra Blum) Larry Blum Jr., Jessica Blum, Vincent Saulino, Daniel Hauptvogel, Melanie Wheeler, Bryan Wheeler, Kevin Wheeler, Christi Mauroni, and Eric Andrew J. Wilson; and honorary grandchildren, Merlin and Christina Riddle, and their children, Eli and Aleena.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday Aug. 14, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

The family request donations be made to the Lakeside QRU, or the Home Options Hospice.

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

Jess Willard Bolen, 88

Jess Willard Bolen, 88, of Eureka, died on April 17, 2004.

Survivors include his wife, Lila, of Eureka, and daughters, Kathleen of Eureka, and Rebecca Williams of Detroit Lakes, Minn.

Funeral services with full mil-

itary honors will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 22, at First Baptist Church with the Rev. Carl Pershall officiating. Visitation will be from 1-8 p.m. Wednesday.

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

Jerry L. Boothman, 62

Jerry L. Boothman, 62, formerly of Libby, died May 25, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

Survivors include his daughter, Cheryl Fauske of Kalispell; and sons, Scott Boothman and Jamie Boothman, both of Seat-

tle.

Cremation has taken place at Buffalo Hills Funeral Home.

A service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, May 28, at North Valley Baptist Church on Talbot Road in Columbia Falls.

Odin H. 'Dean' Blockhus, 89

Odin H. "Dean" Blockhus, 89, passed away on Jan. 19, 2004, at the Montana Veteran's Home in Columbia Falls.



Odin was born March 19, 1914, in Big Sandy, to Ole and Maria Blockhus. He attended school in Big Sandy, where he was active in sports, graduating in 1923.

In 1936, he married Jennie Turner and they had one daughter, Sherry. They later divorced.

Dean was in the U.S. Navy and served in both World War II and the Korean War. He was in the CC's, worked at Carsow's soda fountain and 36 years as postmaster in Big Sandy. He was also a postmaster trainer.

Dean was very active in the community and was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Shriners, Eastern Star, Rotary Club, and a member of Christ Lutheran Church.

He spent many enjoyable hours with his former father-in-law, Bert Turner, making furniture and other wood working projects. Dean enjoyed and attended all high

school sport events, enjoyed reading and was a philatelist (stamp collector).

He is survived by his daughter, Sherry Baker, and her significant other, Claude Aaberge, of Kalispell, grandson, Rob Baker, and wife, Kirstin, and great-grandson, Ryan Baker, all of Bozeman. He is also survived by his nieces, Sandy Lindlief of Kalispell, and Sue Roach of Graham, Texas; nephews, Jim Bliss of Manchester, N.H., Gary Foss of Campbell, Calif., Jon Alan Blockhus of Hinsdale, and Curtis Blockhus of Freemont, Calif.; and several great-nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters, Rosella Padilla, and Inga Bliss; and brothers, Clifford, and Louie; and his nephew, Jerry Bliss.

In place of flowers the family suggests memorials be made to the Masonic Lodge, Big Sandy Historical Society, Big Sandy Senior Citizens Center, or the Shriners Children's Hospital in Spokane.

Graveside services will be held at the Big Sandy Cemetery 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24. A reception will follow at the Masonic Lodge.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

John Blodgett

On Jan. 31, 2004, John Blodgett passed away of a sudden illness in Whitefish. "The world will be a lesser place for the passing of one of its few truly great men."



John Franklin Blodgett III was born Feb. 20, 1945, to Kathryn Dolores (MacDougall) and John F. Blodgett Jr., in Everett, Wash. John graduated high school in 1963 on Bainbridge Island. He attended Whitworth College in Spokane prior to joining the Marine Corps. He served in Vietnam and was honorably discharged in 1968.

During his early adult life, John enjoyed commercial fishing, and during the off seasons he worked in various hotels in the Seattle area, eventually segueing into full-time employment with the Vance Hotels. Hotel management led him to Sitka, Alaska, where he met and married his wife, Liz, in 1983. John and Liz lived throughout the Northwest, settling in Whitefish in 1996, where John managed the Rocky Mountain Lodge up until the time of his death.

John loved golfing and all sports, especially at the high school level. He was an avid Bull

dogs supporter. He was also involved in several community projects in Whitefish. John will be deeply missed for his patience and compassion, as well as his witty sense of humor.

John's greatest legacy is the family he created, and who will now miss him deeply.

He is survived by his loving wife, Liz; daughters, Katy and Brettaine at home; and son, Dallas of Missoula. He also leaves behind his father, Jack; brother, Jeff, of Georgia; and sister, Jayne of Washington; as well as several nephews, cousins, and of course, his many friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Kathryn.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 8, at Central School in Whitefish with a reception following at the Best Western Rocky Mountain Lodge. In keeping with his love of Hawaii, aloha attire is requested.

Staying true to his giving nature, John's final gift was to the Northwest Tissue Foundation. The family requests that those wishing to make a donation in John's memorial to please remember the American Diabetes Association.

The family would like to thank the North Valley Hospital emergency room staff for their kind, compassionate and excellent care of John during his final moments. "We will miss you, Dad."

Peggy Bondurant, 72

Peggy Bondurant, 72, "went to be with Jesus" at her home, on Jan. 30, 2004, after a long battle with cancer. Memorial services and interment will be later this summer at a date to be announced.



Peggy was born in Havre, to Keith and Florence McDonald (now deceased).

Peggy married Burton Bondurant in 1950, and together they raised three sons, Michael, Douglas and Charles "Chip." She made homes for Burt and the boys from logging camp quarters to a wonderful house on Kalispell's east side.

Peggy worked at Kalispell General Hospital from 1972 to 1982.

Arla Bondurant of Spokane and Gina Bondurant of Kalispell.

Never once did she complain or fail in her responsibilities through the many adversities in her life. She devoted herself to taking care of her family.

She was always there with hugs and kisses for her grandchildren, Mik and his wife, Kim, of Spokane, Nathan and his wife, Raina, of Veneta, Ore., Danny and Ryan of Wenatchee, Wash., and Alex and Alli of Kalispell. Her great-grandchildren, Jessica, Richard and her namesake, Peggy Jo "PJ" brought her great joy.

She is also survived by her husband, Burt; a sister, Beverly Elward, and her husband, Eddie, of Irrigon, Ore.; and a brother, Robert McDonald and his wife Theresa, of Libby; and her children, Michael and his wife, Laura of Spokane, Douglas of Rock Island, Wash., and Chip of Kalispell; and daughters-in-law,

Her brother, William "Buzzy" McDonald, preceded her in death.

Roger Delinton Booth Jr., 54

Roger Delinton Booth Jr. died at home in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, on Feb. 13, 2004. Roger was born in Kalispell Aug. 20, 1949, to Roger D. and May Kinniburgh Booth. The family resided in Marion before moving to Coeur d'Alene in 1950.

Roger attended school in Coeur d'Alene, graduating from Coeur d'Alene High School in 1967. He worked for and owned Bud's Janitorial Service in Coeur d'Alene before moving to Tennessee.

Roger returned to Kalispell in 1987 and lived here for several years before returning to Coeur d'Alene.

Roger is survived by three children, Brenda in Idaho, Becky in

Colorado and Roger Jr. in Alaska; one granddaughter and a grandson; six sisters, Phyllis Marvin and husband, Boots, in Kila, Faye Hartsoch and husband, Earney, in Kalispell, Mildred Morrison and husband, Wendell, in Yakima, Wash., Patty Robinson in Coeur d'Alene, Dolla Collison and husband, Larry, in Rockford, Wash., and Helen Lily and husband, Wayne, in Marysville, Wash; two uncles, Bill Kinniburgh in Kalispell and Ted Kinniburgh of Marion; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Cremation has taken place, with memorial services to be held at a later date.

Donald R. Boslaugh, 95

Donald R. Boslaugh, 95, of Eureka, died Friday, Sept. 17, 2004, at a Whitefish hospital.

He served as principal of Lincoln County High School and mayor of Eureka, and was also co-owner of Ksanka Lumber Co.

He is survived by his wife, Eugene; and three children,

David Boslaugh of Ashburn, Va., Richard Boslaugh of Oak Harbor, Wash., and Carol Hanson of Eureka.

Services will be 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21, at the First Baptist Church under the direction of Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

Elenora 'Nora' Bertha Bolstad, 91

Elenora "Nora" Bertha Bolstad, 91, our "Mother B," passed on to her glory to be with her Dear Savior — Jesus Christ" on Sunday, May 2, 2004, from natural causes in Bishop, Calif., her home of retirement the past several years.



Elenora, known to her friends as "Nora," was born Oct. 7, 1912, in Sweden, to Halvor J. and Maria E. Lindell of Hallock, Minn., during the hard times, so as a young teen she learned to work hard and taught her children at a young age to do the same through working on the family farm at Homestead and Ferndale. She instilled in her three boys the values of life, God and country.

After the death of her parents, she moved to California. She worked at the Motion Picture Country House retirement home in Hollywood in the 1940s and as a nanny for an industrialist in Beverly Hills. It was in Indio that she met her future husband, Oliver Ernest Bolstad.

After Nora's Christian marriage to "Ernie" Bolstad in 1946, they farmed and ranched in the eastern Montana area, feeding good meals to the harvest threshing crews. Ernie was a 4-H leader in Sheridan County and a graduate of an electronics college in North Dakota.

They moved to the Swan River area at Bigfork, in 1951, for health reasons and early retirement. After purchasing a farm in Ferndale, their family was active in the community and were members of the Bethany Lutheran Church in Bigfork. Ernie was an elder and lay pastor in the church and a board member of the Ferndale Elementary School. Several years after his death, Nora and her three sons traveled by train to live in Riverside, Calif., where she and Ernie had hoped to retire someday.

Nora loved to garden and raised championship quality flowers and vegetables. As a master cook, there was nothing she

couldn't do cooking, baking and canning. As a lady of Scandinavian descent she was an expert of lutefisk and lefse preparation and mastered the intricate baking of Swedish pastries. She was famous with her kids and grandkids (kiddos) for making the best apply cobbler. She talked to her family about Christian faith, gardening, and farming. She was a wonderful wife, mother and friend to all. She was loved and respected by all who knew her. A greeting of: "How are you, nice to see you, how are you doing?" welcomed you into her home.

Nora was preceded in death by her parents; her loving husband, Ernie, in 1958; her brother and sisters; and three grandchildren.

She is survived by three sons, Phillip Lyle and wife, Judy, of Bigfork, Paul Oliver and wife, Sherry, of Fayetteville, Ark., and Daniel Elton of Big Pine, Calif. She is also survived by her special grandchildren, Penni Sue Stava and husband, Mike, and sons, Brent and Mason Johnson of Riverside, Calif.; Jennifer Lynn Hamer (Nora's step-granddaughter) and husband, Fred, and sons, Christopher and Josiah of Missoula; loving grandsons and granddaughter, Mathew Bolstad of Bishop, Calif., James Bolstad and wife, Jennifer, both in the U.S. Air Force stationed in Germany, Andrea Bolstad of Reno, Nev., and Daniel Paul Bolstad and wife, Jerri, and their two children of Fayetteville, Ark.; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

A celebration of Nora's Christian life in Jesus Christ will be in Bishop, Calif., sometime this summer. Stories and reminiscence of her full loving life will be shared at that time. God bless her memory as she will be remembered affectionately. She will be interred in the Big Lake Cemetery at Homestead, Mont., beside her loving husband with remembrance on June 16.

Obituary written by her loving son, Phillip Lyle Bolstad, May 12, 2004. Brune and Buck Mortuary of Bishop, Calif., and Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood, Mont., are caring for the family.

Ruth Elgestead Boulden, 90

Ruth Elgestead Boulden, 90, passed away on Monday, Jan. 3, 2005, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.



She was born Sept. 19, 1914, in Cogswell, N.D., to Gustav and Aasta (Skoe) Elgestead. Ruth's parents moved from Cogswell to Plentywood, when she was a baby. They traveled to Doo-ley, Mont. on the Sioux Railroad Line and by horse and wagon to Plentywood. Her parents received a 160-acre homestead. They lived in Scobey, where her father worked on a sheep ranch. During that time the family hauled lumber by horse and wagon for a house on the homestead. They resided on the homestead for a while but after a cloudburst and flash flood, her parents elected to move.

Ruth and her family lived several places around Scobey and Madoc. During that time they welcomed six additional siblings to the family. One brother, however, died when he was 1-1/2 years old.

Ruth attended school in Madoc in the summer. She had to board in town to attend school in Scobey. In 1931, Ruth came to the Flathead and worked for a couple that needed help on their farm, which is now the Creston Experiment Station. After she got tired of washing eggs and milking cows, she went to work at the Jordan Cafe in Kalispell. Ruth then moved to Polson, and cooked at the Salish House during the time Kerr Dam was being built. She also worked at the soldiers home.

She met Melvin Boulden in Polson. They married in 1939. He was called into the Army and Ruth went to work for Flathead Commercial until she moved to Utah to be with Melvin. She worked in the diet kitchen at the military base in Utah. After Melvin was discharged, they moved back to Kalispell and Ruth went back to work for Flathead Commercial.

Ruth and Melvin welcomed their only son, Myron, to the family in 1948. They lived several places around Kalispell until they purchased a farm west of town (the old Kelly Dairy) in 1953. Ruth lost Melvin after a lengthy battle with cancer in 1964. She stayed on the farm until 1977 when she moved to town.

She worked as a cashier at B&B Restaurant from 1964 until she retired. In 1995, when the yard work

overwhelmed her, she moved to the Glacier Manor Apartments. In September 2000, her health necessitated a move to the Immanuel Lutheran Home, where she resided until her death.

Ruth was able to travel to Europe to meet her son when he was in the service and stationed in Germany in 1969. She was thrilled to take in the sights of France, Austria, Switzerland, Denmark, Holland and Germany. She was able to visit Norway to meet her relatives. She was able to return to Norway for another visit in 1983. Her other travels took her to the Philippines, Hawaii, Mexico and Canada.

Ruth was an avid card player. Whist and pinochle were her favorites. She enjoyed a good game of Scrabble too. A deck of cards and the Scrabble game were always right by the card table ready to put to use whenever the opportunity arose. Ruth was a member of more than one card club through the years and active with the Senior Citizens Center. She enjoyed their card nights so much.

She was an active member of the Sons of Norway, the Scandinavian Fraternity and Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Melvin R. Boulden; two brothers, Oscar Elgestead and Carl Elgestead; and two sisters, Borghild "Bubbles" Miller and Alfid "Allie" Smith.

She is survived by her son, Myron Boulden, and wife, Marilyn, of Kalispell; three grandchildren, Jennifer R. Boulden, Rebecca L. Boulden and Eric S. Boulden, all of Kalispell; three sisters, Signe E. Stratton of Medford, Ore., Klara "Kay" Bedard of Troy, and Elen Fos- sen of Flaxville; also numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Ruth M. Boulden will be 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with Pastor Lindean Barnett of Bethlehem Lutheran Church officiating. Burial will be at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be noon to 6 p.m. Friday at Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

The family suggests memorials to Sons of Norway, 347 First Ave. East, Kalispell, MT 59901; Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 603 South Main, Kalispell, MT 59901; or Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch, 1732 South 72 West, Billings, MT 59102.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.