

## Charles Walter 'Walt' Radel Jr., 78

Charles Walter Radel Jr., passed away early on the morning of Oct. 28, 2004, at the Evergreen Convalescent Center in Hot Springs at the age of 78, after a long battle with diabetes and cancer.



"Walt" was born on June 16, 1926, in Spokane. He attended school at the Antelope School in Niarada, the Hog Heaven School and Kalispell.

He quit school early and lied about his age so he could join the U.S. Marines. He served from Nov. 14, 1944, to June 4, 1946, in the 4th Marine Division in World War II. He served in the Hawaiian Islands, Kniwetok, the Marshall Islands, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Guam. Walt was honorably discharged as a corporal.

He was a member of the VFW in Hot Springs.

He married Ida Weingart in 1958. They lived in Elmo and had four children.

Throughout his life Walt did many things he was proud of, like serving on the Elmo School Board for many years. He was also a member of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribal Council from 1962-1966. He was also added to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Veterans Warrior Society.

He worked at the sawmill for about five years and loved working in the woods until he retired. He moved to Hot Springs in 1989.

His hobbies were cooking, especially for his family. He loved playing cards and hunting, and loved spending as much time as he could with his family.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Charles Walter Radel Sr. and Victoria Radel; a niece; a nephew; and a granddaughter.

He is survived by his sister, Dorothy Griffin of Polson; three sons and a daughter, Scott Radel and his wife, Jenny, of Colorado, Mike Radel and his wife, Carrie, of Colorado, Dean Radel and his wife, Debbie, of Louisiana, and Heidi Radel of Polson; 11 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

"We would like to give special thanks to Scottie Marcoe, Christene Tucker, Debbie King, Lydia Hewankorn, Barbara Hallick, Sadie Saloway, Beeb Ducharme, and Harlen and Tim Jensen and the many nurses and doctors who helped him through the years and especially lately. Thank you for all the help and support you have given to Walt and his family."

Memorials are suggested to the Evergreen Convalescent Center in Hot Springs or to cancer research.

At Walt's request, no services will be held. Cremation has taken place and his ashes will be spread in Hog Heaven sometime in the spring and a memorial dinner will be held at that time. A notice will be announced for any family or friends who would wish to join us.

Arrangements were by Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory of Polson.

## Virginia Mabel Ramsey, 88

Virginia Mabel Ramsey, 88, died peacefully on Oct. 25, 2004, knowing she was loved by her family and gentle caregivers, at Heritage Place in Kalispell. She was born in Bigfork on Oct. 7, 1916, to William and Mabel (Pengell) Felix.



Virginia had fond memories of growing up in Bigfork. Soon after Virginia finished grade school, the family moved to Kalispell where she attended junior high school and high school. After graduating from Flathead County High School, Virginia attended Eastern Washington College in Cheney, Wash.

On Aug. 27, 1938, Virginia married Charles M. Ramsey in Kalispell. The newlyweds rode their Harley motorcycle to Missoula on their honeymoon, and continued to ride a motorcycle throughout most of their 60 years together.

The couple raised five children and even though it was a busy household, Virginia found time to do the things she loved. She loved her garden, and was known for sharing vegetables and flowers with neighbor and friends. She was an accomplished seamstress, and baked the best pies and cinnamon rolls. Some of the best times were the camping trips with family at Flathead Lake. Virginia was a loving mother, grandmother and wife. She will be remembered for her kind and gentle nature.

Virginia worked many years at

the Cherry Warehouse and Montana Evergreen in Kalispell. She was a longtime member of Ora Y Plata and Adah Chapter of Eastern Star. Virginia and Charles were members of the Good Sam's in Kalispell and enjoyed traveling with their friends. Virginia was a member of the Epworth Methodist Church and later attended Lakeside Chapel.

Virginia was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a sister, a brother, and an infant son.

She is survived by three daughters, Charlene McDonald and James of Walnut Creek, Calif.; Kathleen Killorn and Randy of Ames, Iowa; and Colleen Ramsey of Kalispell; two sons, Kenneth Ramsey and Sharon of Granite Falls, Wash. and Douglas Ramsey and Linda of Olympia, Wash.; a brother, William Felix Sr., of Billings; a brother-in-law, Jim Ramsey and Helen of Bozeman; a sister-in-law, Ruth Roy and Russell of Kalispell; nine grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Virginia will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 28, in the Johnson Mortuary Chapel with Pastor Ray Davis officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27, at Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

The family suggests memorial be given to Heritage Place, 171 Heritage Way, Kalispell, MT; or the charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

## Graydon W. Rasmussen, 88

Graydon W. Rasmussen, 88, of Libby, died Saturday, Aug. 28, 2004, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital from natural causes.

Survivors include three children, Kim Rasmussen of Minneapolis, and Joni Rosen-

crantz and Ann Mason, both of Libby.

Private family services will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are by the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

## Clarice 'Carey' O. Raybourn, 72

Clarice "Carey" O. Raybourn, 72, passed away on July 6, 2004, at her home in Kalispell.

Clarice was born to John and Mathilda Engbretson on April 7, 1932, in White Earth, N.D. She grew up in the Flathead Valley with her six sisters, Gertie, Jean, Bernice, Louella, Patty, and Mavis and her five brothers, Clifford, Egil, Aril, Erling and Sidney.

Clarice's life was all about her family. She married Kenny Wood in 1949 in Kalispell. They had five children, Sharrell, Janice, Janet, Pamela and Rickie.

Kenny preceded her in death in 1959.

She met and married Merlin Raybourn and had one daughter, Marcy.

Clarice spent 34 years traveling the West Coast with Merlin, going from power line job sites. She had a passion for reading and used her quick Norwegian wit to solve mys-



teries and puzzles. She enjoyed bowling, gardening, cooking, sewing, making arts and crafts, as well as caring for her loyal companion, her dog, Misty.

Besides her brother Aril, she is survived by five children; 14 grandchildren, Rodney Thueringer, Jeffrey Thueringer, Julian Thueringer, Carrie Kurta, Tammie Schwegel, Shana Gregg, Joel Ellis, Megan Ellis, Heather Burford, Christina Wood, Amanda Wood, Cody Wood, Raleigh Thompson and Corey Petersen; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Clarice was preceded in death by her infant daughter Janet; her husbands, Kenny Wood and Merlin Raybourn; her parents; and 10 siblings.

Family and friends will gather at the Johnson Funeral Home at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 10, for a memorial service and burial at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials may be made in Clarice's memory to the American Cancer Society, in care of Rick Wood, P.O. Box 1534, Kalispell, MT 59903.

## Georgia (Christensen) Reading, 86

Georgia (Christensen) Reading, 86, passed away on Monday, Jan. 5, 2004, at her home in Kalispell, with her husband, John, and children and friends by her side.



She was born Feb. 24, 1917, in Goshen, Idaho, to Wilford Christensen and Harriett (Bates) Christensen. She was the sixth of nine children.

Georgia married John Junior Reading on June 21, 1940, in Logan, Utah. They moved to Kalispell in 1957. It is here that they raised their children.

Georgia was a school teacher by profession. She taught school in many rural schools around the valley. She also worked at Syke's Grocery as a bookkeeper for 18 years.

Georgia loved life. She was enthusiastic about everything she did. She was the ultimate optimist and always tried to see the good in others. She had the patience of Job and showed selfless service to friends, family and even those she did not know. Music, reading and quilting, in addition to visiting with friends and family were only a few of her favorite pastimes.

She took tap lessons and participated in a recital when she was 68. She was a member of a music club that her husband often referred to as the "squawkers" club. She was always willing to learn new things. She took a Ger-

man class at the college after she retired, so she could talk to her daughter, Sally, when she returned from a LDS mission in Germany. She was a lifetime member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Georgia is survived by John, her husband of 63 years; three sisters, Jean Keetch and husband Buddy of Montpelier, Idaho, Mary Lacey of Harlingen, Texas, and Joan Jordin of Little Rock, Ark.; five children, Martha Reading of Kalispell, Julie Parmenter of Phoenix, Kenneth Reading and wife, Dorothy, of Houston, Hal Reading and wife, Lini, of Whitefish, and Sally Forman and husband, Mark, of Riverton, Utah; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1380 Whitefish Stage Road, Kalispell. Family visitation will be held one hour prior to the service in the Relief Society Room.

The family wishes to thank the Tony McCarrel family, Mom's hospice nurses, and friends for their infinite loving care and support.

The family suggests memorials be given to the Primary Children's Medical Center, 100 N. Medical Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84113; or the Hospice/Home Health Options, 175 Commons Loop, Ste. 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

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



## Wilma Thacker-Rehmer, 71

Wilma Thacker-Rehmer, 71, longtime Columbia Falls resident, "went to be with our Lord" on March 1, 2004.



She was born on Sept. 28, 1932, in Corry, Pa. Their family moved to the Flathead Valley in 1946. She attended Columbia Falls High School.

She had many family and friends as she was a very caring and wonderful person who will be missed by everyone and always loved in all our hearts.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Troy and Louise Thacker; and her husband, Fred Rehmer.

Survivors include five children, Rebecca and husband, Michael Schomer, of Seattle, Benjamin and wife, Janell Rehmer, and David Rehmer of Kodiak, Alaska, Jennifer and husband, Dave Poelman of Bozeman, and

Lori Rehmer of Columbia Falls; six grandchildren, Kathy, Shawn, Angela, Aron, Tiffany and Shelby; also six great-grandchildren; sisters, Lois and husband, Alton Johnson, Marsha Wilkerson and Nancy Thacker, all of Kalispell; brothers, Gary Thacker of Columbia Falls, Glen and wife, Barbara Thacker, of Washington, and Troy and wife, Jan Thacker, of North Pole, Alaska.

In lieu of flowers family suggests making donations to the Immanuel Lutheran Home of Kalispell.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

## Colleen Marie Driscoll Reimer, 49

Colleen Marie Driscoll Reimer, 49, of Whitefish, passed away on Thursday, July 15, 2004, of complications due to a brain aneurism at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.



Colleen was the first of seven children born to William and Jean Driscoll on June 18, 1955, in California. In 1970, Colleen and her family moved from San Jose, Calif., to Whitefish, and in 1973, graduated from Whitefish High School. She married Kent Reimer of Whitefish, her high school sweetheart, in 1974.

She was an active member of the Whitefish Church of the Nazarene and went on many mission trips including going to Kiev, Ukraine, Ecuador and Mexico.

Colleen was a beautiful full-time mother to three girls, Heidi, 24, Katie, 22, and Melanie, 16, and was always willing to open her home to others who needed it.

She was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1996, but didn't let this stop her from reading, walking, watching her girls play soccer, and eating plenty of M&M's.

Colleen had a strong, loving commitment to her God that flowed into every part of her life. She had a heart for people and spent hours writing cards and letters, praying for others, and working with the church youth.

Kent and Colleen just celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on July 12.

Colleen will be missed by her husband, Kent; daughters, Heidi, Katie and Melanie; parents, William and Jean Driscoll; siblings, Mike Driscoll, Kathi Cronrath, Donna Bost, Brian Driscoll, Billy Driscoll and Elaine Kennedy and many other family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, any memorials can be sent to Hope Ranch, P.O. Box 4480, Whitefish, MT 59937, in the name of Colleen Reimer.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, July 25, at the Whitefish Church of the Nazarene.

## Cedric Jackson Lee Reid, four months

Cedric Jackson Lee Reid, who was four months old, died Nov. 22, 2004, at Children's Hospital in Seattle.

He was born July 5, 2004, in Kalispell.

Survivors include his parents, James Reid and Maygen Daggett Reid of Somers; grandparents, Dave and Charlotte Reid of Troy

and Mark and Chris Daggett of Libby; great-grandparents Ida (Ike) Gehring of Libby; and Alice Wilson of Veneta, Ore.

Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Monday, Nov. 29, at Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell with Pastor Eric Christiansen officiating.

Arrangements are by Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

## John Junior Reading, 83

John Junior Reading, 83, beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and brother, died Feb. 2, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in



Kalispell, "and returned to his Heavenly Father and into the arms of his life long sweetheart," who passed away just four weeks earlier. John was born July 2, 1920 to John J. and Elizabeth (Hobbs) Reading in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

John married Georgia on June 21, 1940, in the Logan, Utah, temple and together they had five children. He honorably served his country in the U.S. Navy.

John hauled cattle for many years. His lifelong dream of being a cattle rancher brought him to the Flathead Valley where he purchased a dairy farm in 1957. After ending his career on the farm, he worked for Stockton Mobile homes where he moved and installed mobile home trailers. He later was a custodian for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints where he retired as a physical facility representative. He was an active LDS member where he served in many callings, including bishop.

John had a love for life and a

great sense of humor. Family road trips went by fast because of his ability to entertain with unlimited volumes of jokes, stories and songs. He was very well-known for his musical talent in singing and enjoyed sharing his love for music with others. He was a caring, diplomatic and fun-loving man and will be missed by all those who were blessed to have him be a part of their lives.

John is survived by his sister, Dolline Beesley of St George, Utah; five children, Martha Reading of Kalispell, Julie Parmenter of Phoenix, Kenneth Reading and wife Dorothy of Houston, Hal Reading and wife Lini of Whitefish, and Sally Forman and husband Mark of Riverton, Utah; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1380 Whitefish Stage Road, Kalispell. Family visitation will be held one hour prior to the service in the Relief Society Room.

The family suggests memorials be given to Primary Children's Medical Center at 100 N. Medical Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84113.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

## Gary W. Redman, 69

Gary W. Redman, 69, died Saturday, Aug. 21, 2004, at his residence east of Kalispell. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth of Kalispell.

No services are planned at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Edward Glenn 'Ed' Reed, 48

Edward Glenn "Ed" Reed, 48, passed away at his home in Las Vegas, on May 7, 2004.

Ed was born Feb. 13, 1956, in Delta, Colo., to Clarence and Joan Reed. Ed was the eldest brother of four children.

He graduated from Delta High School in 1974 and later moved to Montana with his family. It was there that Ed became a father to his two children. While in Montana Ed worked on several ranches and also worked in the timber industry. He later moved to Nevada where he married Toni.

Ed had a love for animals, camping and the outdoors. One of



the greatest prides in his life aside from his children were his grandchildren.

His mother, Betty Joan Reed, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, Toni Reed, of Las Vegas; his father, Clarence Reed, of Kalispell; his brothers, Kenneth Reed of Idaho, and David Reed of Kalispell; his sister, Karen Miller of Washington; his son, Ryan Reed, of Columbia Falls; his daughter, Amber Guckenber, of Kalispell; stepdaughters, Robin and Kristen of Nevada; and his five grandchildren, Shelbie and Kandra of Kalispell, and Tahliah, Michael and Evan of Nevada; along with numerous aunts, uncles, nephews and nieces.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 22, at the North Forty Resort in Whitefish.



## Robert Max Retz, 64

Robert Max Retz, 64, died at his home in Whitefish, on Sept. 30, 2004, after a very courageous battle against pancreatic cancer. He was surrounded by his family and held in the arms of his beloved grandson, Kaleb Retz.



Bob was born March 4, 1940, in Lewistown, to Forrest V. and Irene (d'Autremont) Retz. He attended St. Leo's grade and high school, graduating in 1958. He then attended Carroll College in Helena and the San Francisco School of Mortuary Science.

After completing the program he joined his father in Lewistown in the family business, Creel Newton Retz Funeral Home, where he worked for 10 years. He served in the Air National Guard for six years.

He married Jo Ellen Rutherford in St. Leo's Catholic Church on June 15, 1968. In 1970, the family moved to Great Falls, where Bob was employed as a stock broker for Dain Bosworth Inc. He was promoted to branch manager in 1976, a position he held until 1991, when he was hired by D.A. Davidson as the director of retail branch operations. He held that position until 1996.

He and Joey then moved to Whitefish to manage the North Forty Resort, a business he built

with his sons in 1993 and was still active in at the time of his death.

Bob developed a passion for horses after moving to Whitefish. He loved every aspect of riding and caring for his Tennessee Walkers and Missouri Fox Trotters. He also enjoyed playing golf, skiing and touring on his Harley Davidson motorcycle.

Bob is survived by his devoted wife of 36 years, Joey; their three sons, Brendon and Misty, Erik, and Ryan and Angie, all of Whitefish; and nephew Jeff Pipinich and niece Lori Pipinich, both of Phoenix. He also leaves behind the grandchildren who brought so much love and joy into his life, Kaleb, Ellie, Reagan and Jason.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Pat Pipinich.

Bob was loved, admired and respected by his family and friends for his courage, strength and integrity. He will be deeply missed.

Memorial mass will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 4, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls, with burial of remains at a later date. A reception following the service will be held in the Snowberry Center at the North Forty Resort.

Memorials may be made to Home Options Hospice, Camp Mak-A-Dream or Human Therapy on Horseback.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home of Kalispell is in charge of arrangements.

## Charles E. 'Bud' Rhine, 84

Charles E. "Bud" Rhine, 84, passed away Monday, Feb. 2, 2004, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

He was born Feb. 24, 1919, in Whitefish, to William P. and Nanny Pearl Rhine.

Bud married Maxine L. Stannard on Nov. 15, 1937, in Polson. She preceded him in death. The Rhines lived in Great Falls, Billings, and for many years, in Sioux Falls, S.D., and Nebraska; and Bud was employed for many years as a truck driver and equipment operator. He moved to the Flathead Valley in 1995.

Bud was an avid reader, and he loved to travel, and ventured to Bullhead, Ariz., often. He also traveled the Al-Can highway route to Alaska.

He was a member of the Eagles Lodge in Kalispell.

Bud was preceded in death by



his parents; and 10 brothers and sisters.

Survivors include three sons, Gary Rhine and his wife, Joyce, of Tucson, Larry Rhine and his wife, Joanne, of Delta, Colo., and Jack Rhine and his wife, Mary Lou, of Golden, Colo.; there are eight grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and numerous step grandchildren and stepgreat-grandchildren; and Bud's very good friend, Rosetta "Rose" Carpenter, of Kalispell.

Funeral services for Bud Rhine will be at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 6, in the chapel of Johnson Mortuary with Chaplain Brenda Wills officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Thursday at Johnson Mortuary.

The family suggests memorials be given to the Hospice/Home Health Options, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Clarence Rhodes

A memorial service for Clarence Rhodes who died on Feb. 7, 2004, will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

## Trusty Arline (Perry) Rice, 95

Trusty Arline (Perry) Rice, 95, passed away Nov. 6, 2004, in Whitefish due to a stroke.

She was born March 21, 1909, in Swifton Ark., and raised in Emmenui, Mo.

In 1928 she married Archie B. Rice in Alicia, Ark.

Trusty worked in retail for over 40 years, with jobs in men's, women's and children's departments until her retirement.

She was an active member of the Emblem Club in southern California, until her stroke. She moved to Montana in August to live with her daughter, Alice Caldwell.



Trusty loved to do crafts and crochet. She also loved flowers. There were not many things she couldn't do. She loved to travel and enjoyed listening and watching baseball, and following politics.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 47 years, Archie B. Rice; and her son, Archie B. Rice Jr.

Trusty is survived by her children, Alice Caldwell of Polebridge, Don Rice of O'Brien, Ore., Betty Mendonca of Chino, Calif., and Carroll Rice of San Bernardino, Calif.; 14 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m., Nov. 12, at Green Acres in Bloomington, Calif.

## Jack W. Rich, 82

Jack W. Rich, 82, of Lewistown, died suddenly Wednesday evening, March 3, 2004, at his home of an apparent heart attack.

He was born Jan. 28, 1922, in Winifred, the son of Glenn O. and Golda E. (Sweet) Rich. He received his schooling in Winifred, graduating from Winifred High School. He then worked on ranches in the area until December, when he entered the U.S. Army.

After his discharge in 1945, he returned to the Winifred area and began working on the PN Ranch breaking horses. He also participated in many rodeos.

In 1947, he was united in marriage to Hazel P. Dolsman in Roundup.

They continued to make their home in the Winifred area until the early 1950s, when they moved to the Lewistown area. He worked for U.S. Gypsum at Heath, Timberland Packing Company as a meat inspector, also working in Havre as a veterinarian assistant and later for the Boeing Company.

After Hazel's death in 1962, he continued working in Lewistown until his marriage to Charlene Hall on March 3, 1973, in Sheridan, Wyo. They lived in the Billings area until her death in 1978.

He then returned to Lewistown where he worked until his retirement.

He was a member of Fergus Post No. 16 American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars of Lewistown and the Disabled American Veterans of Great Falls.

He is survived by three sons Jim, Jerry and Charles, all of Lewistown; five daughters, JoAnn P. May of Lakeside, Judy Wolfe of Billings, Janice LaFountain of Hilger, Jackie Bailey of Clyde Park, and Julie R. VanDyke of Lewistown; one brother, Vern of Roundup; one sister, Helen Bermis of Hardin; 16 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by wives, Hazel and Charlene; son, Jack Jr.; two brothers; two sisters; and his parents.

Funeral services were held on March 8 in the Cloyd Chapel in Lewistown with interment in the Veterans Section of the Lewistown City Cemetery.

Cloyd Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Friends may make memorials to the Shodair Children's Hospital or the Shrine Crippled Children's Hospital and they may be left at the funeral home.



## Elva G. Reichert

On May 1, 2004, Elva G. Reichert "went home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." Elva was born in Deview, Ark., on June 11, 1926, to William and Mattie (Mauldin) Stowe.

Elva was blessed with the gift of friendship. She enjoyed people and conversation and took immense joy sharing life's events with those around her.

Elva attended Trinity Lutheran Church faithfully and loved her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with all her heart. She was a wonderful sister, mother, grandmother and friend and will be greatly missed by those left behind. Elva's family would like to extend their greatest appreciation to the staff at Brendan House for their care and compassion during Elva's illness and passing. The Lord blessed us with your presence.

Elva is survived by her son,

Ron Clem, wife Karyl, and grandchildren, Alicia, Carren and Scott; her daughter, Anita Clem, granddaughter, Jayme Christiana, and great-grandson, Frankie; and a brother, Willie Stowe and wife Jane; plus numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 5, at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery with Pastor Darold Reiner of Trinity Lutheran Church officiating. Visitation will be at Johnson Mortuary from noon until 6 p.m. today, May 4.

Elva also had great compassion for the children in our community and requested that memorials in lieu of flowers or gifts be directed to Teens in Crisis Inc., P.O. Box 213, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Lester C. Reynolds, 100

Lester C. Reynolds, 100, of Helena, and formerly of the Flathead Valley, died Dec. 13.

Graveside services will be conducted at 1 p.m. Saturday,

June 12, in the Murray Memorial Cemetery in Lone Pine.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hagler-Anderson Funeral Home in Helena.

## Nellie Evelyn Murray Reynolds, 101

Nellie Evelyn Murray Reynolds, 101, "joined her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ" on Feb. 16, 2004, at the Colonial Manor Nursing Home in Whitefish of natural causes.

She was born near Highwood, Mont., on Nov. 18, 1902, the oldest of 11 children of George and Dora Murray.

Nellie will be sorely missed by her large extended family and many friends.

Nellie and her husband, Harris, moved to Whitefish, in 1988, to be

near her daughter and son-in-law, Evelyn and Art Peterson. Her grandson, Randall "Pete" Peterson also lives in Whitefish.

She was a member of the Women of the Moose, Whitefish Women's Club, Golden Agers, and an active member of the First Presbyterian Church.

Viewing will be from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Burial and memorial services will be held at a later date in Great Falls.

## Randall William 'Randy' Dains-Reynolds, 37

Randall William "Randy" Dains-Reynolds was born in Great Falls on Feb. 2, 1966. On Jan. 5, 2004, at age 37, Randy suffered a major heart attack and "left us to join his aunt and grandfather in heaven."



He was the son of William E. Reynolds and Kathleen A. Reynolds. "We thought we raised him and he knew he raised us and his brothers as they came on board." His first soul mate was cousin, Anne Carden. They were six days apart in age and while they realized they had separate parents, they were together day and night until age 4 and were quite sure they were twins.

His second soul mate was Weste Williams whom he met at age 4. Weste and Randy were close enough that they would go on to "trade" birth dates, which is why many thought his birthday was April 24 instead of the actual Groundhog Day.

He married his beloved Tabitha Irene Freeman on May 11, 1996, and even though they divorced they remained very close.

His primary and secondary education was in Whitefish where he graduated and received his high school diploma in 1984. He went on to college out of state but due to health reasons, returned home to Whitefish. Upon his return, Randy and his old friend, Jeff King, shared a small home. Many a person could be found there enjoying Randy's cooking and specialties of green macaroni and cheese and blue colored mashed potatoes.

Randy was profoundly dyslexic. He said, "Where you see words I see a row of letters with no spaces." Randy overcame. His allergies included all grasses and hays. He never let it slow him down or keep him indoors. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and an exceptional shooter.

Randy always worked at least two jobs, and was on the sheriff's posse for 15 years. His most recent accomplishments were opening his own successful business of Action Services, and as a security screener at Glacier Park International Airport.

Randy was preceded in death by his grandfather, John "Doc" Reynolds; his aunt, Janet Carden; and, a cousin, Kimberley DuFour.

He is survived by his parents, Bill and Kathleen Reynolds of Whitefish; his grandparents, Ret. M/Sgt. William C. Dains and Tillie E. Dains, of Great Falls; his grandmother, F. Lucille Reynolds, of Whitefish; his brothers, Timothy S. and Joy E. Reynolds, and their children, Zac, Shay and Neena, and John "Toby" and Kristyn M. Reynolds and their daughter, AmberJae; his cousin, Christopher J. Carden, who moved into the Reynolds household when his mother, Janet, died; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. Arrangements are by Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Mass of the Resurrection will be at St. Charles Catholic Church in Whitefish at 11 a.m. today, Jan. 9. A reception will be from 1 to 6 p.m. this afternoon in the pool room of the Hideout Lounge in the Whitefish Mountain Mall.

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

## Catherine Riviere, 91

Catherine Riviere, 91, died on Monday, April 19, 2004, at the Edgewood Vista in Kalispell.

Burial will take place in the

Evergreen Cemetery in Jacksonville, Fla.

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

## Eleanor I. Richey, 90

Eleanor I. Richey, 90, died Sunday, May 30, 2004, at the Libby Care Center where she had resided for the last several years.

She is survived by her son, Elmore Richey, of Elko, Nev., and daughter, Carolyn Sue

Noble, of Nampa, Idaho.

A graveside service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 5, at Milnor Lake Cemetery. Viewing is from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday, June 4, at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home.

## Leonard A. Riemer, 81

Leonard A. Riemer, 81, died Friday, Nov. 19, 2004, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

He is survived by his son, Robert Riemer of Danville,

Calif., and daughter Kathy Stetson of San Pedro, Calif.

There will be no services or visitation. Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Wayne Allen Riddle, 50

Wayne Allen Riddle, 50, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Wayne was born on Dec. 15, 1953, in Kalispell, to Ralph and Dorothy Riddle. Wayne attended school at Flathead High school where he played football and track. He was a member of the 1972 Flathead High School football team that won the state championship.

He served in the U.S. Army for four years.

Wayne married LaVonne Clark on Oct. 12, 1985. They have two children that he adored.

He loved fishing, camping, hunting, especially with his family and close friends, and doing carpentry work. If something needed fixed, he could do it. Wayne absolutely loved teaching his nieces and nephews how to fish, and beating them playing video games. His family was number one to him. He was a wonderful husband, father,



son and grandson.

Wayne had worked at Immanuel Lutheran Home as a care giver for 14 years. He loved his work and his residents loved him. He had a heart of gold and the patience of Job.

He was preceded in death by his father, Ralph M. Riddle; and grandfather, Richard Wunderlich.

He is survived by his wife, LaVonne, a daughter, Kristina, and a son, Michael, all at the family home; a son, Merlin, and his family of Somers, and son, Vincent, of Seattle; mother, Dorothy Hartsoch, of Kalispell; sisters, Susan and Brad Rauthe of Kalispell, Janice and Jon Olson of Kalispell, and Linda and Stephen Brown of Denver; grandmother, Lena Weimar of Kalispell; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be from 1 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 22, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home with the Rev. Tim Bartholomew officiating.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Harold E. 'Hody' Riggles Sr., 82

Harold E. "Hody" Riggles Sr., 82, died March 4, 2004, at his home in Libby.

He is survived by his wife, Liz, and a son, Dale Riggles, both of Libby.

Services will be 10 a.m.

Tuesday at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Monday.

Interment will be at a later date at Pine Grove Cemetery in Cass Lake, Minn.



## Helen R. Roberts, 87

The "good Lord took his servant Helen" home on March 18, 2004. Helen R. Roberts, 87, passed away peacefully at the home of her daughter, Karen, in Helena. Karen and her husband, Bob, had been giving loving care to her mother since September 2003 in their home.

Helen was born April 25, 1916, in Dickinson N.D., to John and Karen Robertson. Her father was born in Denmark and started a homestead in North Dakota in 1909 at the age of 42. Her mother was Norwegian.

Helen rode a horse to a one-room schoolhouse and had to board and room in Beach, N.D., to attend high school. Education was recognized by her parents to be important so Helen would have a better life.

The homestead was successful enough to be able to send Helen to Concordia College. She became a high school teacher and taught in Libby.

In Libby, she met fellow teacher and future husband, Don Roberts. Don and Helen both grew up on the plains and appreciated so much the mountains of western Montana.

On Christmas day 1941 they married on the family homestead in North Dakota. This was right after World War II started after the December 7 attack on Pearl Harbor. Gary was born in 1942 and Don was in the Army Air Corps by then. The new family was able to be together in Louisiana and Texas during the war.

In 1946 they returned here to Libby and founded Don's Men's Store. Joe was born in 1947 and Karen in 1949. In 1950, the family home was built at 920 Main, which was across the street from the home Helen had boarded as a new school teacher in Libby in 1939. Helen lived at the family home until she moved to Helena in 1999.

Being active members of Christ Lutheran Church was important for her family. Helen was in the choir, played organ, and was in Ladies Aide. Don was on the church council and taught Bible classes. In the later years she was also a member of the quilting group and the Tuesday and Friday morning coffee group.

She enjoyed the activities of the local Bird Watching Club. She was a life-long member of the 4-L club. Education was important and all three of her children graduated from Lutheran colleges.

After Don passed away in 1981, Helen did travel, making two trips to Europe, Norway and Greece with

her old college friend, Minerva Jensen. She went on a bus tour to Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., with Alice Anderson, and went to several elder hostels in Minnesota, Yellowstone Park, Oregon and Washington.

Her three children and their spouses survive Helen; Karen and Bob Enhelder, Joe Roberts and J. Anne of Helena, and Gary Roberts and Carol of Libby; three grandchildren, Brook and Jacob Enhelder of Helena and Kevin Roberts and wife, Christy, and their children, Kelsey and Kacie. Kevin had a special relationship with his grandmother because he lived all those years in Libby, completing first grade to graduation from high school. Her niece, Audrey Reimer, is in Minnesota.

Her only sibling, Roy, preceded her in death.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Christ Lutheran Church. Interment will take place at City of Libby Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Christ Lutheran Church/Bell Tower Fund.

Arrangements are by Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

## Tracy R. Robertson, 57

Tracy R. Robertson, 57, died on Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

He is survived by his parents.

There will be no services at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## William A. 'Bill' Robertson, 72

William A. "Bill" Robertson, 72, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2004, at his home in Kalispell.

He was born July 18, 1931, in Worland, Wyo., to George and Olga (Fredrickson) Robertson. Bill graduated from Worland High School in 1948.

He served four years in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. He was employed by Mountain States Power Company in Wyoming in 1953, and was transferred to Cody, Wyo., and to Portland, as assistant transportation superintendent with Pacific Power. Bill came to Kalispell as operations manager for the state of Montana and retired after 30 years with Pacific Power.

He was active for many years in the Lions Club, the Elks Club, the Masonic Lodge, and the Shriners. Bill was also active in the Episcopal churches where he resided.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, James and George; and a sister, Eva.

Survivors include his wife, Janet; daughter, Sherri Robertson and grandson, Justin; daughter, Sandra and her husband,

Michael Easdale, and granddaughter, Candace; and son, Michael and his wife, Alene. He is also survived by three stepsons, Forrest, Richard, and Roger Reid, their spouses, Shelley, Liisa and Debbie Reid, and five stepgrandchildren, Nathan, Remington, Rhyann, Hannah, and Josie Reid; there are two sisters, Mary and Helen, and her husband, Darrell; and a brother, Harry and his wife, Jackie.

Memorial services for Bill Robertson will be at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, at Christ Church Episcopal of Kalispell with Rev. Fr. William Baumgarten officiating. Cremation has taken place. Burial will be held in Worland, this summer.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, P.O. Box 2472, Spokane, WA, 99210-2472, Hospice Home Options, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT, 59901, or the Christ Church Episcopal, 215 Third Ave., East, Kalispell, MT, 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Stella Callie Ann Robillard, 85

Stella Callie Ann Robillard, 85, died Monday, July 26, 2004, at Evergreen Vista in Kalispell.

She is survived by her son,

R. Wayne Bliss of Lakeside.

No services are to be held. Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Gerald E. Robinson, 62

Gerald E. Robinson, 62, died at his home in Hungry Horse on Wednesday, March 24, 2004.

He served in the Air Force from 1959 to 1966. He worked as a fisherman on commercial

fishing boats for many years.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is in charge of arrangements.

## Catherine E. 'Betty' (Roche) Rode, 85

Catherine E. "Betty" (Roche) Rode, 85, passed away on Jan. 17, 2004, in Bigfork due to complications from breast cancer.

After Betty's birth in Oxnard, Calif., on Sept. 13, 1918, the family moved to Van Nuys, Calif., where Betty loved to curl up with a good book in the crook of an old walnut tree in the family's backyard orchard. At an early age, her parents instilled in her a love of summer camping expeditions into the Minaret Meadow area of California's high Sierra Mountains where she spent many hours hiking and fly fishing the San Joaquin River and its tributaries.

After high school, Betty attended UCLA, where she pledged Alpha Gamma Delta, and earned a bachelor's degree in liberal arts. She later returned to UCLA to earn her master's degree in history. Her insatiable curiosity and passion for research led her into a life long pursuit of a Ph.D. in theology along with its accompanying studies of world history.

A teacher by vocation, Betty became a resource specialist for the Sierra Sands School District in Ridgecrest, Calif., where, for over 30 years, she taught children to overcome their learning disabilities.

After retiring in 1992, she moved to Loveland, Colo., where she became an active member of the Chilson Senior Center, volunteering one day a week at the front desk and joining other seniors on numerous excursions around Colorado.

In 2001, she relocated to Big-

fork, purchasing a home in the Woods Bay area near her daughter and son-in-law.

Betty is survived by her four children, Catherine E. Walston and husband, Gary, of Bigfork, Patricia McCabe and husband, Greg, of Prunedale, Calif., Robert J. Emery and wife, Melody, of Campbell, Calif., and Richard A. Emery and wife, Joani, of Las Vegas; plus three grandchildren, Michele Bernard and husband, Steven, of Los Altos, Calif., Eric A. Bolt of Morgan Hill, Calif., and Lisa J. Emery of Willow Glen, Calif.; two great-grandsons; her sister, Helen Johnston and husband, Robert, of Van Nuys, Calif., and sister-in-law, Katherine Roche of Lafayette, Colo.; plus numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Emerson W. Roche and Catherine Ludlow Roche, and two brothers, infant Walter Roche and Rodney L. Roche.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 23, at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Bigfork.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations in Betty's name to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901 (406-751-4200).

Additionally, the family wishes to express their gratitude to Dr. Karen Hunt and her staff for extending Betty's life far beyond initial expectations, and to the wonderful Hospice team who eased her final transition. "Thank you."

## Shirley L. (Kirk) Roeder, 63

Shirley L. (Kirk) Roeder, 63, died June 18, 2004, at her home in Kalispell.

Survivors include her children, Amber Schriver of Weed, Calif., Vonda Schriver of

Kalispell, Rochelle Richie of Ridgecrest, Calif., and Ernest Wood of Salinas, Calif.

Cremation has taken place. Services will be held in Wilburton, Okla., on June 29.

## Dorothy Rohrman, 83

Dorothy Rohrman, 83, formerly of Kalispell, died Dec. 20, 2004, in Spokane.

Survivors include her three sons, Terry Rohrman of

Spokane, and Chuck Rohrman and Bill Rohrman, both of Kalispell.

Burial took place Dec. 31 in Shelley, Idaho.



## Cora Elizabeth Romine, 88

Cora Elizabeth Romine, 88, died Thursday, Jan. 6, 2005, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell.

She was born Sept. 30, 1916, in Bakersville, Calif., the daughter of Thomas Fountain and Francis (Hunt) Price.

She received her education at Bakersville and graduated from Bakersville High School.

She enjoyed sewing, was an avid reader and also did plastic canvassing. She was married to William Romine. She worked as a



seamstress at Catalina Swim Wear for several years. She and William enjoyed RV travel and were members of RV clubs and she also volunteered at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Cora was preceded in death by her husband, William, in 1980, and her two children, son, Tom Mason and daughter, Winona Holst.

Cora is survived by her grandchildren, Lynn Hall, Julie Meeke, John Holst, all of Kalispell, and Virginia Eacker in California; also great-grandchildren; and a daughter-in-law, Joyce Mason.

There are no services planned for Cora. Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Manuel Floreal 'Rusty' Romera, 85

Manuel Floreal "Rusty" Romera, 85, died on Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Private family services will be held.

Bigfork Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Mike Romine, 58

Mike Romine, 58, passed away on January 3, 2004, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. He was born in Portland, Ore., on March 19, 1945, to Clell and Mildred (Rutan) Romine.

Mike lived most of his life in the Flathead and loved the outdoors, hunting, fishing and being with his many friends. He will be

remembered by his life's adventures, stories, smile and laughter. He will be missed.

Mike was preceded in death by his father; and one sister, Penny Harvey.

He is survived by six children, Matthew, Michael, Ann Marie, Clell, Dennis and Craig; his mother, Mildred Romine of Bend, Ore.; three sisters, Pat

Benson and Sue Taff of Bend, Ore.; and Julie Smith of Jamesville, N.C.; one brother, Dave Romine of Kalispell; and many nieces, nephews and extended family.

No services are scheduled at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Thelma Herd Roog, 78

Thelma Herd Roog, 78, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 23, 2004, at her residence in Kalispell. She was born on Dec. 5, 1925, at Kevin, Mont., the daughter of B.C. and Evalina (Griffin) Herd.

She graduated from Oilmont High School and attended the University of Montana. On June 2, 1945, she married John A. Roog of Shelton, Conn., where they raised three children. She worked as a bookkeeper for Trico Manufacturing in Shelton for 11 years and was organist at St. Michael's Church. In 1976, she and her husband returned to Montana, where she worked for Big O Tire until April 2001, at which time she retired. During that time she was an organist/pianist for St. Matthew's Church and spent many happy hours playing for sing alongs at the Immanuel Lutheran Home.

She was preceded in death by



her parents.

She is survived by her husband John of Stuart, Fla.; son Michael of West Palm Beach, Fla.; two daughters, Lt. Col. Paula Stephenson of Alexandria, Va.; and Suzanne McClung of Crest, Calif.; two grandchildren, Stacey Roog Asnani and Christopher Roog; brother Warren Roog of Great Falls; and three sisters, Catherine Rice of Butte, Allegra Ahlquist of Dragoon, Ariz.; and Rosemary Fields of Sparks, Nev.; her nephew and caregiver Stephen Rice of Kalispell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mass of Christian Burial will be on Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2004, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Matthew's Catholic Church. Visitation will be from noon until 6:00 p.m. on Monday at Johnson Mortuary. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to Home Options Hospice 175 Commons Loop Suite 100 Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

## Harry J. Rooney, 69

Harry J. Rooney, 69, of Eureka, died Sunday, May 9, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center from natural causes.

Survivors include his wife, Marjorie, of Eureka; and children, Patti Morgan, Kathy Baker and Debbie Surplus, all of Port Angeles, Wash.; Chuck Rooney of Tacoma, Wash.,

Wendy Easterday of Arizona, Gina Hardie of Auburn, Wash., and Ron James and Vicki Reed, both of Seattle.

Services will be at 3:30 p.m. today, May 15, at the Church of God in Eureka.

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

## Leslie Alton Rose, 79

Leslie Alton Rose, 79, formerly of the Flathead Valley, died June 23, 2004, at his home in Katheys Valley, Calif., of natural causes.

A memorial service is to be

announced soon.

Evergreen Memorial Park and Funeral Home in Merced, Calif., is handling arrangements.

## Sophie Rosario, 76

Sophie Rosario, 76, passed away Saturday, Feb. 14, 2004, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

Sophie was born Feb. 20, 1927, in Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii. She was the fourth of 12 children.

Sophie lived on the islands until her mid-20s, then came to the mainland. When on her travels, she most enjoyed the beautiful scenery, but her biggest love was always, and still is, her children.

Sophie, in her lifetime, witnessed events such as Pearl Har-



bor to the first man on the moon to landings on other planets. Sophie was fascinated with John Glenn, the first man in space.

Sophie had four children, 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

She worked as a laundry worker at Fort Lewis Army Base for many years. She also worked in many hospitals in the laundry department.

Sophie loved music and dancing. She was the jitterbug champion in Hawaii. Sophie was known and loved by so many, especially her family, which was very precious to her.

Cremation has taken place. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Dr. Herman 'Chet' Ross, 87

Longtime Kalispell veterinarian, Dr. Herman "Chet" Ross, 87, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 2, 2005, at his home in Somers. He was born on Sept. 15, 1918, in Naugatuck, Conn., to Samuel and Gussie (Eisen) Rosenstein. He was the younger of two boys.



After high school, he enrolled at the University of Alaska from 1936-1939, studying geology. In his final year, he enlisted in the service. He became a member of the fabled Devil's Brigade, a Canadian/American Special Forces Unit. In Helena they trained for a daring mission. They were to parachute into German-occupied Norway on Christmas Eve 1942 and blow up three hydroelectric plants. In the long run, the mission was assigned to British troops, which suffered horrendous casualties. He was Company Commander, First Lieutenant (Airborne Infantry) and his unit went on to fight in the Aleutians, in Italy and in the invasion of southern France. Chet was injured in the Italian mountains and his leg became infected, resulting in him spending 10 months in the hospital.

This past summer he returned to Italy for the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Rome on June 4. They were honored by the Italian government and the pope, and were celebrated for never failing any mission and for being instrumental in freeing Rome.

After the war, Chet went back to Alaska to finish his education in mining engineering but eventually decided to go into veterinary medicine. He earned his doctor of veterinary medicine degree in 1950, graduating from Colorado State University.

Chet and his former wife Georgiana Powers met and were married

in 1947 at Fort Collins, Colo. After his graduation, they moved to the Flathead Valley in 1950 and started one of the first veterinary clinics. He specialized in large and small animal care. Being such a remote area at the time and with limited veterinarians, his territory took him from the Montana/Idaho border to the Canadian border, Glacier Park and south to Polson. Chet and his very good friend Dr. Phinney helped control the wild horse population on Wild Horse Island.

Chet and Georgiana soon adopted two girls who were the love and joy of their daddy's heart. They could not wait to get home from school and hang around the animal clinic or go on large animal calls with their father.

Kalispell Animal Hospital was operated as a single practice until he took in a partner, Dr. William Noble, for eight years back in the 1960s. Chet was also president of the Montana Veterinary Medical Association from 1964-1965.

It was in those years that Chet became active in what he saw as two basic community needs: transportation and education. He became a member of the Flathead County Airport Authority in 1969, and served in that capacity for 12 years, and was a member of the Kalispell Airport board for seven years. In 1967, he became founder of Flathead Valley Community College and was chairman of the board from 1967 until 1972. He remained an active board member for 34 years. He related to FVCC as "the big thing in my life."

The governor of the state of Montana formally recognized Chet's leadership qualities and commitment to education in 1971 and appointed him as a member of WICHE — Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. During his eight-year membership on the board, he was instrumental in developing a system of educational opportunity for students in the field of veterinary medicine. This program of educational

opportunity was implemented and has been extremely successful in serving the residents of the 13-state WICHE region.

In 1974, Chet was recognized by the citizens of Flathead County for his leadership in civic affairs by naming him Flathead County's Outstanding Citizen. It was also in that year that he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Colorado State University.

In 1996, FVCC awarded him the ACCT (Association of Community College Trustees) Regional Trustee Leadership Award. Dr. Larry Blake, the first founding president and Chet were instrumental in beginning the association in the state of Montana and it held annual meetings for the purpose of organizing prior to the state legislative sessions. Under Dr. Blake's leadership and with Chet as chairman, FVCC was presented an award as the second most outstanding rural college in the nation by the U.S. Department of Education.

Chet was then awarded the prestigious Eagle Award at the President's Annual Donor Dinner on May 10, 2001, from FVCC. The award is given annually to honor an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the development of the college.

In September 2004, the college board voted to name the Science and Technology Building as Ross Hall in his honor.

After 53 years of veterinary practice, he officially retired and closed the doors to the animal clinic. However, he continued to keep his veterinary license up to date and it was not unlike him to continue to provide some services to his daughters' animals, as well as those of his friends and neighbors.

His memberships include the American Veterinary Medical Association; Montana Veterinary Medical Association; Flying Veterinarians; advisory board for the

National Jogging Association; American Community College Trustees; and advisory board of the School of Veterinary Medicine (University of California, Colorado State University and Washington State University).

His passions besides the college were flying (he owned two airplanes) and golfing with his very close buddies, and he had also taken up oil painting. He especially enjoyed the summer months when his family would come down to the lake and cook him up a special barbecued burger.

He will always be remembered for his ambitions, his great leadership, accomplishments and contributions to the betterment of the Flathead Valley. But most of all, he was a great husband, friend and the best father his two daughters could have had. It will leave a very big void in all of our lives.

Chet was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his brother, Dr. Sid Ross, and his wife in New York; his daughters, Carrie Ross and Mary Ross-Goodnough and her husband, Norm, of Kalispell; and two beautiful granddaughters he thought he'd never have, Jill Goodnough and Katie Goodnough, both of Kalispell; and also his former wife, Georgiana Ross, of the family home in Kalispell.

Memorial Services for Chet Ross will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 14, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church with the Rev. Matthew Huber (Chet's nephew) officiating. A reception will follow at the Elks Lodge in Kalispell. There will be no visitation. Military honors will be conducted by the United Veterans of the Flathead.

The family suggests that any memorials be made in Chet's honor to the Science and Technology Building (the future Ross Hall) at FVCC, 777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Chet and his former wife Georgiana Powers met and were married



## Orman C. Rossing, 76

Orman C. Rossing, 76, died Tuesday evening, March 30, 2004, at his home in Libby.

He had been a longtime employee of St. Regis and Champion International until his retirement in 1992.

Surviving are his wife, Anita, of Libby; and his children, Wade Miller of Columbia Falls, David Rossing of Missoula, Brenda

Miller of Kalispell, Linda Alexander of Post Falls, Idaho, Thad Wollan of Great Falls, and Chad Wollan of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Les Nelson officiating. Interment with military honors will be in the City of Libby Cemetery.

## Mary Elizabeth (Bruce) Rothweiler, 84

Mary Elizabeth (Bruce) Rothweiler, 84, passed away Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2004, in a nursing home in Great Falls after an extended illness.

At her request, cremation has taken place and no services are planned at this time. Family services will take place at a later date.

Mary was born Jan. 30, 1920, in Great Falls. On Oct. 15, 1938, she married Lee Rothweiler of Great Falls, in Conrad. In 1950, they moved to Kalispell, where they lived until 1977.

Survivors include a daughter, Bettie Holzberger; three grandchildren, Lee Holzberger of Eugene, Ore., Heidi Harms M.D., of Dallas, and Doug Holzberger of Stevensville; brother, Jack Bruce, of Lincoln, brother, Bob Walden, of Great Falls; and a sister, Billie Leon, of Rio Vista Calif.; and two great-grandchildren, Morgan Holzberger and Taylor Harms.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lee Rothweiler, in 1977.

## Jay Lyle Rowe, 71

Jay Lyle Rowe, 71, passed away Saturday, Oct. 2, 2004, at his home in Columbia Falls.

Jay was born on July 10, 1933, in Sidney, to Lyle and Frances (Daniels) Rowe. He attended schools in the Sidney area, before moving to the Flathead Valley, in 1946, where he graduated from Flathead County High School.

Jay enlisted in the Navy in 1951, and was discharged in 1954. He worked for the aluminum plant in Columbia Falls for 30 years, having worked for all three of the owners of the plant.

He loved doing woodcrafts, hunting and fishing.

He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. Jay loved helping people, and had assisted many different people with lots of different things. He was always willing to give a helping hand.

Jay was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Curtis J. Rowe; and a nephew.

He is survived by a son, Cecil J. Rowe, and a daughter, Vickie Jackson, both of Columbia Falls; a brother, John D. Rowe of Kalispell; a sister, Marge Spilis and her husband, Chuck, of Crystal Lake; grandchildren, Cody Sterna and Kally of Missoula, and Ed Rowe of Kalispell; great-grandchildren, Anton and Brooke Rowe; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Graveside urn burial will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9, at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Jay was able to live his final days at home with the wonderful help of Home Options Hospice. Memorials to Home Options Hospice would be appreciated.

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

## Alfred Theodore 'Al' Rufenach, 84

Alfred Theodore "Al" Rufenach, 84, left his family and friends on June 9, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.



Al was born April 18, 1920, to Waldemar and Amelia (Brickel) Rufenach on Schrade Lane in Kalispell. He attended Grandview, Pine Grove and Birch Grove schools. He then attended Flathead County High School while working on the family farm.

He married Alice Elizabeth Mower on June 19, 1954, and they have been living on "the farm" ever since. They would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this month.

Al was a devoted farmer and loved to keep "the farm" looking good. He enjoyed working. He had inventive abilities making and using machinery in unique ways. Al was an active Jehovah's Witness and shared his home for

weekly Bible studies. He shared in the teaching work and assisted where he could with building Kingdom Halls.

Al was preceded in death by his parents; sister and brother-in-law, Elsie and Gregory Bruyer; sister, Lydia (Serels) Shew; and brother, Richard.

He is survived by his wife, Alice, of Kalispell; younger brother, Walt, of Columbia Falls; sister, Lillian Case, of Weaverville, Calif.; son, Daniel and wife, Senna, of Kalispell; daughters, Tina and husband, Ed Hood, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and Sandie and husband, Rod Lenz, of Lakeside; six grandchildren, Colby Lenz, Kelsey and Kinsy Hood, Jamie, Amanda and Daniel Shane Rufenach; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services for Al will be held at 3 p.m. today at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 1100 W. Reserve Drive. A reception will follow services at the LaSalle Grange Hall, on U.S. 2 East.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home caring for the family.

## George Paul Ryan, 83

George Paul Ryan, 83, passed away on Friday, Aug. 6, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He was born on June 29, 1921, in Syracuse, N.Y., to Michael and Mary Ryan. George was raised in Queens, and served with the U.S. Marine Corps' 122nd Division in the South Pacific during World War II.

George married Norma Nemeckay in Queens in 1954. He worked for an oil company, and spent most of his career in Indonesia, Singapore, Africa and Japan. He retired in 1979 and moved to Rollins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Father

Thomas G. Ryan; and sisters Mary Gilmartin, Jeanne Ryan, and Helen Ryan.

George is survived by his wife of 51 years, Norma, of Kalispell; son Robert Ryan of Austin, Texas; daughter Nancy Long of Longmont, Colo.; sons Michael and William Ryan, both of Albuquerque, N.M.; brother Joseph Ryan of New Orleans; sister Elizabeth Ryan of Chattanooga, Tenn.; grandchildren Anna and Georgia Ryan, Nicholas Long, and Nina Ryan.

Memorial services will be held at a later date. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Royce Nelson Ryan, 72

Royce Nelson Ryan, 72, passed away in Kalispell, May 11, 2004, from asbestosis.

Royce was born June 13, 1931, in Amarillo, Texas, to Frank and Bertha (Robnett) Ryan. Royce was raised in California and graduated from school there.

He enlisted in the United States Marines and was honorably discharged after two years of service.

He married Helen Beatty in Metaline Falls, Wash., in 1953. Royce then moved to Libby and worked on the Libby Dam Project for W.R. Grace.

He enjoyed playing poker, hunting, fishing, camping with his



family, motorcycling, and he loved to help his sons-in-law with his advice.

Royce was also considered the "mayor" of Meadow Manor Trailer Court.

Royce was preceded in death by his parents; son-in-law, David Gable; and a brother, J.R. Ryan.

He is survived by his wife, Helen, of Kalispell; children, Connie Gable, Deborah Ryan, Royce Ann Duncan and Pat Ryan, all of Kalispell, Diane Birky of Wasilla, Alaska, and Mike Ryan of Vancouver, Wash.; sister, Connie Clark, of California; and a brother, Earl Ryan, of Arkansas.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home Chapel. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## George Paul Ryan, 83

A memorial mass for George Paul Ryan, 83, who died Aug. 6, will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 9, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Kalispell. Urn burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens, with the United Veterans of

the Flathead Valley doing military honors.



## M. Sterling Rygg, 89

M. Sterling Rygg, 89, passed away on Friday, June 18, 2004, in Kalispell.

He was born Dec. 26, 1914, in Warren, Minn., to Peder and Etta Rygg. Sterling was raised in the small town of Fairdale, N.D., graduating from Fairdale High School in 1932. He then attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn., where he majored in economics and was captain of the tennis team. He graduated in 1936 with the distinction of being the only one not qualified to teach or go on to a seminary. He instead wished a career in business.

After graduation, he worked for GMAC and then was employed in a local Fairdale business.

In 1940, Sterling left North Dakota and hitchhiked to Montana, ending up in the beautiful Flathead and Glacier Park. He found Glacier Park particularly appealing and did spend a significant amount of time later in his life exploring the park's back country.

He went to work for Montgomery Ward, where he remained employed until he enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1942. His naval experiences included deep-sea diving, fire fighting, and rescue work as the skipper of a salvage ship with five officers and 60 men in the Mediterranean Sea at Anzio and in southern France.

During the war, Sterling married Inga Johnson, a college sweetheart, in Minneapolis. After the war, they returned to the Flathead Valley, where they spent most of their remaining life.

Sterling and a college roommate teamed up in 1946 and purchased a building in Whitefish in which they intended to house a Chevy franchise they'd just obtained. Three months later and a Chevrolet not yet on the ground prompted them to call Ford Motor Co. and see if Ford desired them as Ford dealers in Whitefish. For the next seven years, they operated Glacier Motor Co. as a Ford franchise until they sold the business and Sterling became a farmer.

Three years later, Sterling returned to Whitefish and re-purchased the Ford franchise, which he operated until his purchase of the Ford franchise in Kalispell in 1964.

Sterling was an active and involved member within the automobile industry. At various times he owned both Ford and other make franchises elsewhere, and he usually ended up selling them to



other partners he had brought in.

He served on the Montana Automobile Dealers' Association board of directors for a number of terms and as its president. For 1979, Sterling was selected as a recipient of Time magazine's coveted Quality Dealer Award. It went to only 20 Ford dealers nationally who were selected for their individual outstanding contributions to business and their communities.

Sterling also had considerable interest in the workings of government and was elected to the Montana House of Representatives four terms in the 1960s. He served as a member of the 1972 Montana Constitutional Convention in the re-writing of Montana's constitution and was chairman of its Revenue and Finance Committee.

Sterling was both a strong believer in his community and in the Lutheran church. He served as congregation president at both Christ Lutheran in Whitefish and Bethlehem Lutheran in Kalispell. He also served as president of both the Kalispell and Whitefish Chambers of Commerce, and as a director of three local banks. Nationally, he was a member of the executive committee of the board of directors of Lutheran Homes and Hospitals and was a regent of Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash. Other interests included golf, duplicate bridge (playing into his late 80s) and anything and everything Norwegian.

He and Inga left Montana to spend each winter in Florida, but always awaited their return to the Flathead.

Sterling was preceded in death by his son Phil in 1998; and his wife, Inga, in 2002.

He is survived by son, Tom and wife Cheryl, and their daughters, Briana and Kristin; daughter, Mary Roper and husband Jeff, and their sons, Jess and Reid; and his daughter-in-law, Char Rygg, and her daughter Becky and sons Jeff, Adam and John. He is also survived by his brother, Ralph Rygg, of Texas, and his sister-in-law, Irene Rygg, of Washington, as well as other cousins, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, June 24, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, and a reception will follow in the church basement. Viewing will be from noon until 6 p.m. Wednesday at Johnson Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to the Phil Rygg Spinal Cord Injury Scholarship Fund, c/o Lutheran Community Foundation, 625 Fourth Ave. South, Suite 200, Minneapolis, MN 55415.