

## Albert Phillip 'Abby' Waggoner

Albert Phillip "Abby" Waggoner, passed away peacefully in his sleep at his home in Whitefish on Saturday, August 7, 2004. Abby or "A.P." as many referred to him, was an explorer, a sailor, a husband, a father, a grandfather and a friend. He never met a stranger, and a stranger will never forget meeting him.

He was born April 22, 1919, in Turin, Alberta, to Alexander and Gertrude Waggoner.

Abby moved to the Ferdig, Mont., area at an early age and was schooled in Ferdig and Oilmont through the eighth grade. He worked in oil fields, digging ditches by hand as a young man and then in the oil drilling industry. Abby was in the Civilian Conservation Corps in the Belt Mountains.

He married Bess Badger in 1939 prior to enlisting in the Navy in 1941. He served in World War II and the Korean War. After WWII, he worked in the oil industry and was in the propane distribution business in Havre until being recalled for Korea. After the Korean War, he returned to Cut Bank where he and Bess raised their two children, John and Phyllis.

He worked for Montana Oilwell Cementers before operating his own Texaco service station. He was an entrepreneur, bringing the first large four-wheel-drive Wagner tractors to the Hi-line wheat farmers. He went back to the drilling industry with Gene Lansford as Waggoner-Lansford Drilling Co. in 1956, becoming A P Waggoner Drilling Co. in 1957. He was a founder of General Well Service in 1962. He was always a "wildcatter," gambling everything

on the next well and hoping to hit the big one!

In 1975, he and Bess began their move to Whitefish where they joined friends and family for the remainder of their lives.

Abby was always ready and eager to help people, and developed a wide variety of friends in his travels over the years. He spent many hours each day keeping in touch with these friends and family on the phone. He loved golfing, a good steak and fishing, and spent many hours on the lakes around Whitefish.

Bess preceded him in death in 1988.

Abby is survived by his two children, son, John, and wife Jennie of Sheridan, Wyo., and their children, Lindsey of Billings, and RJ and wife Anna of Helena; and daughter, Phyllis Sprunger, and husband Randy of Whitefish, and their children, Erin of San Francisco, and Stephanie of Thornton, Colo. He is also survived by his brother, George Waggoner, and family of Whitefish; sisters, Orva Cochran, of Shelby and her family, and Ila Larson and her family of Spokane; as well and many nephews and nieces.

A memorial service will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Aug. 13, at the First Presbyterian Church, 301 Central Ave., Whitefish; 406-862-2802.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the National Gaucher Foundation, 5410 Edson Lane, Suite 260, Rockville, MD 20852-3130, 800-428-2437, [www.gaucherdisease.org](http://www.gaucherdisease.org) — in memory of Albert Waggoner and in honor of granddaughter Erin Sprunger.

## Carrie Ellen (Weed) Wade, 92

Carrie Ellen (Weed) Wade, 92, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2004, at Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork after a short stay.

She was born on May 8, 1912, in downtown Bigfork, to Alexander and Marie K. (Gehres) Weed. At age 5 she moved with her grandmother to Swan Lake to prove up a homestead. She stayed there until starting school. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1930 and shortly thereafter went to Minneapolis, to Asbury Hospital where she received certification as an X-ray and lab technician.

She married Erling Wade on Jan. 10, 1942, in Minneapolis. They were married for 56 years. In 1949, Carrie and Erling moved back to Bigfork and raised a family. After Erling retired in 1974 they moved to Swan Lake on the family homestead. Swan Lake was Carrie's favorite spot. Her family and extended family were the most important things in her life and always enjoyed family being together at the lake.

Carrie was preceded in death by her husband, Erling; her brothers, Vernon Weed, Gehres Weed, Maynard Weed, George Weed and Willard Weed; and a sister, Gladys (Weed) Melby.

She is survived by her sons, Jeff Wade and wife, Jessie, of Bigfork, and Kris Wade and wife, Laurie, of Missoula; grandchildren, Christy Clare and husband, Leo, and Curt Wade and wife, Marshelle; great-grandchildren, Ashley and Jordyn Clare; and numerous nieces and nephews and special children who called her "grandma."

Graveside services will be 2:30 p.m. at Lonepine Cemetery next to the Little Brown Church in Bigfork, Saturday, Oct. 24, with Pastor Ron Pierce officiating. A reception will follow at the church.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to the Bigfork QRU, 810 Grand Avenue, Bigfork, MT 59941.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## George E. Waggoner, 78

George E. Waggoner, a retired banking executive and Navy veteran who was active in both the Cut Bank and Whitefish communities, died of cancer Monday, Sept. 20, 2004, at his home in Whitefish, on his 78th birthday.

A celebration of his life is 3:30 p.m. Thursday at the First Presbyterian Church in Whitefish, followed by a reception at the Whitefish Country Club. Austin Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Helen Waggoner, of Whitefish; children, Linda Vidanage and husband, Sarath, of Saratoga, Calif.; Fred Waggoner of Whitefish, Susan Beyer of Missoula, and Sheri Glaspey and husband, Greg, of Whitefish; sisters, Orva Cochran of Shelby, and Ila Larson of Spokane; seven grandchildren, Heidi, Cory, Evan, Sarah, Myles, Sean and Dustin; and a great-grandson, Phoenix O'Neill.

He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings Mildred Gertzen, Albert "A.P." Waggoner, Art Waggoner, Paul Waggoner and Marie Dahlen; and grandson, Gary Johansen.

George was born Sept. 20, 1926, in Sunburst, to Alexander "Al" and Gertrude "Gertie" Waggoner. He attended grade school in Ferdig, Oilmont and Kevin; high school in Oilmont and Cut Bank (1944); and Pacific Coast Banking School in Seattle (1958).

He served in the Navy from 1944-1946 and was a signalman first class, serving on the USS Braxton APA. He was in Tokyo Bay when the Japanese surrendered. After his discharge from the

Navy, he worked briefly in the Cut Bank oilfields.

He married Helen Marie Kraut on Oct. 15, 1947. They raised their four children in Cut Bank.

George began an apprentice program under the G.I. Bill at Bank of Glacier County in Cut Bank, where he started as bookkeeper. He became executive vice president of the bank in January 1959, and was elected president in October 1959. He served in that capacity and as chairman of the board of directors of First Interstate Bank until his retirement Jan. 1, 1990. He and his wife have made their home in Whitefish for the past 12 years.

George was a Cut Bank city councilman for two years and was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church of Cut Bank, serving as deacon, elder, choir member and director, building committee co-chair, and on the finance committee and Mariners Club. He was also a member of the Elks Club, Masonic Lodge and Scottish Rite. He served on the board of directors of Memorial Hospital Association for 20 years, during which time a new hospital and clinic were built, and the old hospital was converted to a nursing home. He and Helen Marie were always active in the Cut Bank Country Club and Whitefish Country Club.

George was devoted to his family, his community and his country. Music and dancing were a part of him. His beautiful tenor voice graced many a wedding and funeral. He had a fine sense of humor coupled with great compassion and love for his fellow man.

## Hilda May Waggener, 77

Hilda May Waggener, 77, passed away on June 3, 2004, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She was born on Sept. 6, 1926, in Gateway, to Reginald and Amelia (Saken) Lanfear. Hilda's family moved to the Somers area when she was very young and she attended school in Somers and at Flathead County High School.

Hilda married Milfred Strand on May 15, 1943, in Elizabeth Town, Ky., and after Milfred returned from the war made their home in Kalispell. In 1962, Hilda went to work for the telephone company as an operator. She worked there for 14 years.

In 1964, the Strands bought property on Echo Lake, and lived there for 30-plus years. Hilda truly loved living on the lake; it was her pride and joy.

On Jan. 28, 1992, Hilda married Ted W. Waggener in Bullhead City, Ariz. The couple enjoyed



traveling. They also enjoyed bowling, fishing and all of the outdoors. They would spend their winters in Quartzsite, Ariz., and summers on Echo Lake until Hilda suffered a stroke in 1995.

Hilda was loved by all who knew her; especially her family. She lived for her family and extended family. She will be truly missed.

Hilda was preceded in death by her first husband, Milfred, on Feb. 28, 1986; her parents; and a brother, Robert Lanfear.

She is survived by her husband, Ted W. Waggener of Kalispell; two children, Regina Houston and husband, Mike, of Echo Lake, and Terry Strand and wife, Loretta, of Kalispell; stepchildren, Ted A., James E., and Carol; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Graveside memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday, June 7, at Bethany Cemetery in Bigfork, with Pastor Jim Holman officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Bernice Elaine Wagner

Bernice Elaine Wagner of Kalispell, died unexpectedly June 4, 2004, in Lancaster County, Pa., while on an extended vacation with her husband.



She was born and raised in Glasgow, and also attended schools there. She married William Heis and they were later divorced.

In 1972, Bernice received her Bachelor of Science degree in education at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

She returned to Columbia Falls in 1973, and in 1974, began teaching at Deer Park Elementary School. She taught first, second and third grades primarily, and also taught fifth and six grades for two years there.

Bernice and James J. Wagner were married in June of 1990. Together, they built their home in

Ponderosa Estates in Kalispell. They were very much in love and had a wonderful marriage, sharing everything. At the time of her passing, Bernice and Jim, who had retired in February, were on an extended trip through the eastern part of the United States. They had also planned additional trips to New England and Alaska.

Bernice retired from teaching in 1999, then worked for three seasons at Hooper's Garden Center in Kalispell. She was an avid crafts person, taking courses in pottery, weaving and basketry. She also made beautiful wreaths, and was a skilled sewer and enjoyed making dolls and quilts. She was an excellent cook as well.

Bernice was a very devoted and gracious mother, grandmother, wife and friend. She was a very warm, soft-spoken and pretty lady who was also a respected teacher. She will be dearly missed by everyone whose lives she touched.

She is survived by her loving

husband, Jim, of Kalispell; her mother, Hazel Lingle, of Denver; her children, Kathy Heis and Mike Heis, both of Kalispell, and Jerry Heis of Missoula; stepchildren, Richard and wife, Charmaine Wagner, of Spokane, and Shelley Wagner of East Lansing, Mich.; grandchildren, Ken and Jaymie Stevenson of Kalispell, and Amy Heis of Missoula; and stepgrandchildren, Justin VanCurler and Kyle Wagner of Spokane. She is also survived by her brother, Jerry Deleary, of Florida; and many other brothers and sisters; and cousins, nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. A private family graveside service is planned. A celebration of life for Bernice will be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been established — the Bernice E. Wagner Memorial Education Fund. Donations may be sent to any Whitefish Credit Union office.



## James W. Wagner, 74,

James W. Wagner, 74, passed away on Monday, Oct. 18, 2004, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

He was born on April 21, 1930, the son of Charles W. and Velma Parker Wagener at Kalispell. He was raised in Kalispell and attended elementary schools and graduated from Flathead County High School.

On July 9, 1955, he was united in marriage to Pat J. Pronovost at Libby. He worked for the Flathead County Road Department as a crusher operator for over 38 years until his retirement. He served in the U.S. Army and the Army National Guard. He was a longtime parishioner of Easthaven Baptist Church. He enjoyed the outdoors, hunting

and fishing. He also enjoyed spending time with his family. And he was also an avid reader.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Pat, of Kalispell; his son, Kenneth Wagner and his wife, Shawn, of Kalispell; his daughter, Darlene Fowler and her husband, Lynn, of Indianapolis, Ind.; a brother, Donald Wagner and his wife, Stella, of Kalispell; two step-sisters, Selma Skillman of Walla Walla, Wash., and Fadelma Zakro of Denver; his grandchildren, Joshua, Jessie and Justin Poling of Texas, Erica Thurgood and husband, Steve, of Clinton, Utah, and James M. Wag-

ner of Kalispell; a great-granddaughter, MaKaylynn M.

Thurgood of Clinton, Utah; also numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 21, at Easthaven Baptist Church in Kalispell. Visitation will be from noon until 6 p.m. today at Johnson Mortuary. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Military honors will be conducted by the Veterans of the Flathead.

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

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Cassandra Dawn Marie Walker, 6 months

Cassandra Dawn Marie Walker, 6 months old, passed away at Kalispell Regional Medical Center on Friday, April 16, 2004, from natural causes. She was born Oct. 7, 2003, in Kalispell to Danette and Mike Walker.



She had a big smile that would warm anyone's heart. Her eyes were so beautiful with very long lashes. She just melted mommy's and daddy's heart from the start. "Our little 'Sassy Cassy' was a very beautiful gift given to us from God above." No matter what the odds were, she always tried to

prove them wrong. She was a very strong little girl whose great-grandma called her, "Scrapper."

She is survived by her mother and father, Danette and Mike Walker of Miles City (formerly of Kalispell); her beloved twin brother, Gabriel; brothers, Michael and Sam; and sister, Tyiva; her grandparents, Pete and Jeanie Arneson of Kalispell, Rockanna and Mike Rand of Columbia Falls, and Reg and Gail Walker of Miles City; and great-grandparents, Robert and Gladys Jeffrey of Miles City. She also has numerous aunts and uncles, cousins, friends and church family.

A service will be at 10 a.m. today, April 20, at the Salvation Army, 110 Bountiful Drive in Kalispell.

## Zella M. Wagner, 86

Zella M. Wagner, 86, died Friday, May 28, 2004, in Libby.

She is survived by her sons, Bill Wagner and wife Ruth, and Jerry Wagner, all of Libby.

Services will be held 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 2, at the City of Libby Cemetery. Friends may call at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home from 5-8 p.m. Tuesday.

## Lorraine L. Wainwright

Lorraine L. Wainwright died Sept. 24, 2004, in Arizona.

A memorial will be held at

5:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2, at Desert Heritage Church, 1020 N. Horne Street in Mesa, Ariz.

## Muriel Ethel Wallingford, 82

Muriel Ethel Wallingford, 82, passed away on Friday, Aug. 27, 2004, at her residence in Kalispell.

She was born on July 9, 1922, in Stamford, Conn.,

to George and Marie Nicol.

She married Vernier R. Wallingford on April 27, 1946, in Montreal, Quebec. He passed away on May 14, 1989.

She is survived by her daughters, Lee Farren of Ukiah, Ore.,



Lynn Wallingford of Whitefish, and Elise LaJeunesse, of Taylorsville, Utah; and one son, Vernier Wallingford of Oregon. She is also survived by her 12 grandchildren; two brothers; and one sister.

A private family memorial was held on Saturday, Aug. 28. At her request, there will be no public services.

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

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Irene Gale Walter, 78

Irene Gale Walter, 78, passed away Saturday, March 20, 2004, at Heritage Place in Kalispell. She was born Sept. 6, 1925, in Creston, the daughter of Lawrence Gale



and Thelma L. (Breckinridge) Gorton. Irene attended school in Montford and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1943.

On June 16, 1946, she married R.G. (Dick) Walter in Kalispell, and she worked in the family trucking business until their three children were born. In 1982, she and R.G. built the Finish Line and operated it with their son until selling the business in 1989.

Irene was active in the Parent-Teachers Association, taught Sun-

day school, volunteered for the March of Dimes, and was an accomplished bowler, having rolled several perfect 300 games. She enjoyed golfing and skiing, and her other favorite interests included reading, working crossword puzzles and family activities.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, and took an active role in the Kalispell Bowling Association.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Willis "Bud" Gorton; a sister, Dorothy Brown; and a granddaughter, Camille Wagner.

Survivors include her husband of 58 years, R.G.; a son, Rod Walter and Vicki Cox, of Fruitland, Idaho; two daughters, Jan Wagner and her husband Terry, of Miles City, and Connie Loucks and her husband Bob, of Wolf Point; there are six

grandchildren, Ryan Wagner of Sheridan, Wyo., Jase Wagner of New York City, Jackie Walter of Seattle, Rocky Walter of Bellingham, Wash., Bif Loucks of Billings, and Jed Louck of Wolf Point. Also surviving are a sister, Mildred Pullen, of Memphis, Tenn.; five nieces and nephews; and special relatives, Bill and Grace Hathaway.

Funeral services for Irene Walter will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 24, in the chapel of Johnson Mortuary with Pastor Ron Pierce officiating. Burial will follow at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be today from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Johnson Mortuary.

The family suggests memorials be made to your charity of choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

## Arlene M. Walters, 80

Arlene M. Walters, 80, "went to be with the Lord" on May 31, 2004, in Spokane.

Arlene was born April 24, 1924, in Estella Township, Wisconsin, to Thorwald and Adeline Enger. She was the oldest of five children and was preceded in death by her husband, Gordon, in 1998; two sisters, Betty Hattamer and Florence Spaeth; and one brother, Theodore Enger.

She grew up in rural Wisconsin and graduated from Holcombe High School in 1942 as valedictorian of her class. Hopes of future education were dashed due to World War II. She worked in a munitions plant during the war and then went to Oklahoma City where Gordon was stationed and they were married there on Feb. 10, 1943. Later that year, Gordon was shipped overseas with the Army Air Force to Europe. Arlene returned to Wisconsin where their oldest daughter, Darleen Ann was born on March 29, 1944.

When Gordon returned from overseas, they purchased a dairy farm and two more daughters were born, Beverly Jean on Aug. 10, 1946, and Carolyn Lee on Sept. 16, 1947. In 1953, the family relocated to Whitefish. Wayne Louis was born on Nov. 15, 1953, and their youngest child, Mark Richard, was born Dec. 21, 1960.

Arlene was a member in the Holiness Methodist Church prior to its merging with the United Methodist Church and remained active until ill health intervened. She was a longtime member of the American Legion Auxiliary and volunteered at the monthly birthday parties at the Veterans home. She was a member of the Women of the Moose and the Whitefish



Hospital Auxiliary. She also volunteered at the Senior Center where she assisted in serving lunches.

Arlene and Gordon celebrated their golden anniversary in 1993, renewing their wedding vows with their children and other relatives attending. After Gordon died in 1998, Arlene spent time living with their children in Idaho, Montana, and Washington. She was living in Spokane at the time of her death.

Arlene is survived by her daughters, Darleen and John "Jack" Hamilton, of Mountain Home, Idaho, Beverly Bonner, in Spokane, and Carolyn and Harry Huntsinger, in Bozeman; her sons, Wayne and Carol Walters, in Greenville, Ala., and Mark and Paula Walters, in Yacolt, Wash.; a brother, Magnus and Loretta Enger of Columbia Falls; sisters-in-law, Arloa Kaiser of Illinois, and Therese Enger of Wisconsin; and former daughter-in-law, Shirley Johnson, of Whitefish. She is also survived by 15 grandchildren, Eric Hamilton, Lindy Carter, Jean Veluppillai, Joseph Bonner, Julie Ross, Tim Huntsinger, Tammy Marks, Travis Huntsinger, Trenton Huntsinger, Emmaline Walters, Connally Walters, Robert Walters, James Walters, Jesse Walters, and Cathy Walters; and 12 great-grandchildren, Matthew Benke, Kari, Katie and Michaela Silra, William Carter, Cameron and Amber Hamilton, Derek and Dillon Marks, Ryan Huntsinger, Cadence Huntsinger, and Jacob Ross.

Services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 5, at the United Methodist Church in Whitefish. There will be a reception at the church following the service. Interment will be at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery at 4 p.m. Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. today, at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

## Elva Laura (Longpre) Walters, 81

Elva Laura (Longpre) Walters, 81, of Kalispell, passed away Jan. 20, 2004, after a long illness.

She was born Dec. 13, 1922, at the family home, 426 Sixth Ave. West in Kalispell, the sixth of eight children, born to Antoine Edouard Longpre and Theresa (Novotny) Longpre. She began her education at Elrod Elementary, graduating from Flathead County High School in 1940.

After graduation, she worked for the Sisters of Mercy Hospital in the dietitian department until her marriage to Gerald A. Walters of Whitefish on Sept. 27, 1941. There were three children born to this union. During her children's formative years, she was heavily involved in scouting activities.

She was then employed by J.C. Penney until 1973. Later she worked for Head Start in Kalispell. She deeply loved working with the little ones.

Elva was an active member of Beta Sigma Phi, and was their sweetheart at their annual Sweetheart Ball. As a member of the Loyal Order of the Moose in Whitefish, she served as senior regent.

She was a long time member of the United Methodist Church.

Elva was a devoted wife and mother.

She is survived by her son, Gerald Walters and wife, Ava, of Kalispell; daughters, Elana

Shanklin and husband, John, of Corona, Calif., and Gaylene Bordeaux and husband, Jean, of Natick, Mass.; her eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, Kara Walters of Mesa, Ariz., Casey Walters of Kalispell, Jeanna Grabuskie and husband, Joseph, and son, Joey, of Corona, Calif., John Shanklin and wife, Becky, and their daughters, Kirstin, Kendell and Courtney of Corona, Jeff Shanklin and wife, Lorelie, of Alameda, Calif., Jean-Noel Bordeaux of W. Chester, Pa., Matthieu Bordeaux of Westminster, Mass., and Seth Bordeaux of Natick; her sister, Irene Loveday of Castro, Calif.; brother, Joseph Longpre and wife, Evelyn, of Kalispell; and sister, Almeda and husband, Jack King, of Kalispell.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Gerald, in 1971, sisters, Dorothy Rose, Amber Mero, infant Christina, and Frances Shepherd; and infant grandson, Jean-Philippe.

Funeral services will be at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Viewing will be from 3 to 8 p.m. today. The services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24. Interment will immediately follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

The family requests donations in Elva's name be to the Lupus Foundation of America Inc., 2000 L. Street N.W. Suite 710, Washington, D.C. 20036.

## Melvin C. Wangerin, 78

Melvin C. Wangerin, 78, passed away while surrounded by family on Jan. 3, 2004, at St. Luke's Hospital in Ronan.

Melvin was born on July 2, 1925, to Henry and Bertha Wangerin in Outlook. Melvin began working with his father on the family grain farm at an early age. He also played baseball for the local team in Outlook, and looked forward to watching the World Series each year.

A veteran of World War II, Melvin received an award for expert marksmanship.

Melvin had many interests in life and one of them was aviation. He received his pilot's license in 1946 and continued his interest in airplanes throughout his life. Later in his life he enjoyed attending air shows and making and flying miniature airplanes. He played the piano by ear and could usually pick out a tune on the guitar as well. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and being with his family.

Melvin married Agnes Lorraine Christensen in Westby, on June 30, 1951. He continued to work on his father's grain farm

outside of Outlook, until 1956, when he and Agnes moved their family to Bozeman. They moved their family to the Mission Valley in 1960 and bought a ranch in the Round Butte area in 1961.

Melvin worked at Plum Creek for 25 years while ranching and building a herd of Angus cattle. He was a good caretaker of the land and of the animals on his ranch.

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

He is survived by his wife, Agnes; four children, Marcia Wangerin, Wayne Wangerin and his wife, Jayne, Rich Wangerin and his wife, Waneta, and Sandy Murray and her husband, Bob; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; three sisters, Esther Bakker and her husband, Clyde, Lorna Schroll and Betty Klimper; and many nephews and nieces.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 9, at Shrider's Mortuary in Ronan. A funeral service will be at 2 p.m. on Friday at Faith Lutheran Church in Ronan.

Shrider's Mortuary is assisting the family with arrangements.



## Debbie Jo Ward, 48

Debbie Jo Ward, 48, passed away Aug. 23, 2004, at her home in Whitefish.

She was born in Whitefish on April 30, 1956.

She married Neal Ward on Sept. 29, 1973. She started a family in 1974 with the birth of her daughter, Amy Marie Ward; in 1976, the birth of her daughter, Anne Marie Ward; in 1987, the birth of her daughter, Kimberly Ann Ward; and twin boys, Kevin James and Kyle Eric Ward in 1990.

Debbie loved to spend time with her granddaughter, Tanis, and help with the other children that Anne cared for. She was active in the Whitefish Softball Association, and enjoyed helping teach Sunday school at the Whitefish Church of God. She also loved to camp and fish.



She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Harry William Bowers and Katherine Mae Bowers; and most recently by her sister, Tami Hovland, on July 15, 2004.

Debbie is survived by her husband, Neal Ward; daughters, Amy and husband, David Campbell, of Kalispell, Ann and husband, David Blythe, and Kimberly Ward, all of Kalispell; sons, Kevin and Kyle Ward of Whitefish; granddaughter, Tanis Blythe of Whitefish; mother, Kathryn Eckelberry, of Medical Lake, Wash.; father, Ted Allum, of Sedro Wooley, Wash.; brothers, Tony Allum and Mike Sandblom, both of Spokane, and Harry Lee Bowers of Whitefish; sisters, Michelle Chapie of Silverdale, Wash., and Jeri Sandblom of Elk, Wash.; and their families and many extended family and friends.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 28, at the Whitefish Church of God.

## Lee Roy Ward, 85

Lee Roy Ward, 85, died Sunday, June 6, 2004, at Brendan House in Kalispell. He was born Feb. 24, 1919, in Wendell, Idaho, to Frank and Susie Belle (Lewellen) Ward.

Lee's family included three brothers and three sisters. He graduated from Wendell High School. He served in the U.S. Army and saw action in northern France, Rhineland, Italy and the Philippines. After his discharge, he settled in Kalispell where he was a carpenter. He was a member of the Carpenter's Union for 49 years. He was also a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Polson Chapter of B.O.P.E.



Until his illness, Lee enjoyed hunting, fishing and trapping small game. He will be missed by all who loved him.

He was preceded in death by his parents and six siblings.

Lee is survived by his beloved and cherished, Mary D. Stocking, of Kalispell; daughter, Carole Lee Ward Davis, of Canoga Park, Calif.; stepdaughter, Susan Storf, of Kalispell; two stepsons, David Reynolds of Kalispell, and Lee Reynolds of Helena; five grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, June 9, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery with Pastor Milton Caraway officiating. There will be no visitation.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

## Lynette Joylene (Arneson) Ward, 49

Lynette Joylene (Arneson) Ward, 49, died May 6, 2004, at her home in Columbia Falls.

Survivors include her mother, Violet Arneson, of Columbia Falls.

Family services were held May 12 at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

A further celebration of her life for her friends will be held at a later date.



## Leo 'Marvel' Wastweet, 89

Leo "Marvel" Wastweet, 89, of Shelby, and well-known for his band called The Bald Spots, died of natural causes at the Shelby Care Center on Saturday, July 24, 2004.



Family and friends are invited to a celebration of his life 11 A.M. on Saturday, Aug. 7 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby. Burial will take place at a later date at Sell Lake Church in Shevlin, Minn.

Memorials in Marvel's honor may be made to Bear Paw Hospice of Havre; Peace Hospice of Great Falls; Senior Citizen's Center of Havre or Shelby; St. Luke's Lutheran Church of Shelby; or Sell Lake Free Lutheran Church of Shevlin. Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby is in charge of arrangements.

Marvel was born in Bagley, Minn., in 1915, to John and Emelia Wastweet, the youngest of six brothers. He attended school in Itasca Township in Mallard, Minn., through eighth grade, and worked on the family farm in his young years. His brother taught him to box at a young age, and he had a good swing. He learned to play guitar at a very young age, and played music for a burlesque show while traveling throughout the United States.

Marvel attended CCC (Civilian Conservation Corp) in Nevis, Minn., in 1937-39, sailing the Great Lakes working on ore boats.

In 1940, he married Ellen Felt, who was raised a half mile from where Marvel lived. They were both baptized, confirmed, and married at Sell Lake Church in Shevlin, Minn. He worked in a family restaurant, sold insurance, operated the Silver Dollar Club in Walker, Minn., and drove tankers.

In 1951, Marv, Ellen and two daughters moved to Montana, set-

ling in Shelby, where Marv and Ellen remained until their ill health in 2001, when they moved to Havre with daughter, Mavis.

Marv made a living as a salesman, but was best known as an enthusiastic musician, playing guitar and singing as the leader of The Bald Spots band – often playing as a one-man band.

He played largely in Havre, Great Falls, Shelby, Cut Bank, and Conrad, but over 40 years of playing, was known to play all corners of the state of Montana. He was very recently coined as "the chordmaster," and had a unique guitar-playing style that is remembered by anyone who danced or listened to his music.

His wife, Ellen, died in December 2001 in Havre. In April 2002, Marv had a stroke which limited the use of his right hand, ending the musical chapter of his life, as well as his love for the game of pool. He continued to live in Havre with his daughter, Mavis, until moving to the Marias Care Center in Shelby in June of 2004, where he lived until his death one month later.

Besides his music, Marv loved to play horseshoes, cribbage, pool and poker. He was a member of St. Luke's and Sell Lake Lutheran Churches and an active Eagle member until his illness.

Marv was proud of his full-blood Norwegian heritage, and actually enjoyed lutefisk. His sense of humor was one of his strongest and most loved assets.

Survivors include daughter, Mavis Filler of Havre; five grandchildren, Pamela and Bob West of Havre, Christine and Tom Lambert of Great Falls, Jim and Brenda Fenger, Brenda and Duane Bauer, and Darrin Fenger, all of Kalispell; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Marv was preceded in death by his wife, Ellen, in 2001; his daughter and son-in-law, Marlene and Delmar Fenger in 1990; an infant daughter, Roberta; his parents; five brothers, Harry, Elmer, Ray, Clifford and Dillard.

## Hilma I. Waugh, 95

Hilma I. Waugh, 95, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2005, at Riverside Health Care Center in Missoula of natural causes.

Hilma was born in Kalispell to Richard and Mary Oftedal Reinertson. In 1912, her family moved to the Valley View area of Polson to homestead. She attended Valley View School through the eighth grade, then continued her education in Polson.

She was baptized and confirmed in the Norwegian Lutheran faith of which she was very proud.

On July 28, 1931, she was united in marriage to William R. Waugh in Kalispell. During her lifetime, she was a devoted wife and mother, always ready to help when needed. She greatly enjoyed gardening and playing cards.

Hilma was a 70-year member of the Order of The Eastern Star, serving as worth matron of the Adah Chapter in 1965. She was also a member of Sapphira Temple No. 79, Daughters of the Nile.

In 1990, she moved to be with her son where she lived until going to Riverside.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William, in 1975, her parents and two sisters.

Hilma is survived by her son, Robert, of Missoula; a niece, Pat, and her husband, Orson Murray; a nephew, Dick and his wife, Imogene Rooney; and numerous cousins in Montana, Arizona and Minnesota as well as many special friends.

Cremation has taken place under the direction and care of Montana Cremation and Memorial Society. Graveside services will be held at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell later this spring.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials in Hilma's name to the St. Paul Lutheran Church Organ Fund, the Shriner's Hospital for Crippled and Burned Children, N. 820 Summit Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201, or to a charity of the donor's choice.

## Delores Rosamond Watters, 79

Delores Rosamond Watters, 79, beloved mother, sister, grandmother and great-grandmother, passed away April 3, 2004, after a brief illness, surrounded by her family.

She was born Dec. 11, 1924, in Whitefish, to Rueben and Fern Larson.

She married Harold Watters in 1944, and together they raised five children. She returned to college and became an LPN in 1970, to comfort and care for the elderly, which she continued to do even after her retirement.

She remained active by reading, doing crossword puzzles, crocheting and sewing quilts that she wrapped around teddy bears to donate for children in crisis. She was a very active member and past president of the Eagles 3358, helping in numerous chari-

ty events. She was always there with a helping hand and a warm heart.

She courageously survived breast cancer twice and became a role model for many others and went on to travel the world with her husband.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold, of 57 years, and her sister, Eleanor.

She leaves behind a legacy with her family that include children, Harold, Jane, Linda, Shirlee and Terry; 18 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren, and sisters, Pearl and Shirlee. She will be greatly missed by her family and lifelong friend, Janelle.

No service will be held at her request.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in her name to the charity of the donor's choice.

## Teeny Ann Weaver, 66

Teeny Ann Weaver, 66, "went to be home with her Lord Jesus" on June 9, 2004, at their home in Kalispell.

She was born Oct. 4, 1937, in Salmon, Idaho, to Ernest and Esther Waterman. She grew up in Salmon, where she attended elementary school and graduated from high school.

She married the Rev. John R. Weaver in Salmon, and immediately moved to Polson, where she served with John as pastor of the Assembly of God church in Polson for 10 years. In Polson, Andrea, John D. and Mark were born. From Polson, they moved to Bozeman and served as pastors of Christian Center for 17 years. They moved to Sidney and pastored First Assembly of God for four years.

In 1987, John and Teeny moved to Kalispell, where John has served on Christian Center's staff for the past 17 years. Teeny was active in ministry with John in Polson and Bozeman, serving as church secretary, counselor, teacher and church organist.



Teeny loved to cook, decorate, and dress up for every occasion. She enjoyed oil painting and loved flowers of all kinds.

She was preceded in death by both parents, Ernest and Esther Waterman, and her sister, Marda Fischer.

She is survived by her husband, John, of Kalispell; her daughter, Andrea Kenney and husband, Steve, of Billings; sons, John D. and wife, Joanna, of Whitefish, and Mark and wife, Sherril, of Hamer, Idaho; brothers, Francis, Phillip and Carl Waterman; stepmother, Florence Waterman; step brothers and sisters; and 10 grandchildren; as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

This beautiful, elegant lady will be greatly missed by her family, her church family, and all who knew her.

Burial service will be held 10 a.m. on June 14, at Glacier Memorial Gardens, followed by the memorial service at 11 a.m. at the Christian Center located at 255 Summit Ridge Drive in Kalispell. Her son John D. Weaver is officiating.

Viewings will be at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 3 p.m.



## Julia U. Weber, 67

Julia U. Weber, 67, former resident of the Flathead Valley, died April 4, 2004, at a nursing home in Great Falls due to lung cancer.

She had been a licensed practical nurse.

Survivors include her daughter, Randeena Dowling, of Great Falls; and sons, James Weber of

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Daniel Weber of Columbia Falls, and David Weber of Great Falls.

Cremation has take place. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Whitefish Christian Church.

Services are under the direction of O'Connor Funeral Home in Great Falls.

## Theodore R. 'Ted' Weber, 76

Theodore R. "Ted" Weber, 76, passed away at his home in Olney peaceably March 22, 2004, after a long battle with cancer.

Ted was born July 25, 1927, in Kalispell, to Jacob and Clara Weber, moving to Olney in his youth where he had resided since.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and brothers, George, Bill, Jim and Ray.

He is survived by one sister, Mrs. Larry (Alice) Ryerson of Olney; and one brother, Bob Dun-

lock, of Whitefish; one uncle, Tom Torgerson, of Olney; and a number of nieces, nephews and cousins.

He will be deeply missed by his loving family and his many good friends.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at the Olney Fire Hall with L. Peter Larson officiating. A potluck dinner will follow.

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

## Dorothy R. Welch, 73

Dorothy R. Welch, 73, of Troy, died Tuesday, April 13, 2004, at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane.

Survivors include her husband, Jim, of Troy; her children, Linda Lance of Tacoma, Wash., Wayne Miller of Auburn, Wash., and Janis VanCourt of Seattle; and stepchildren, Shirley Parrish of Tacoma, and Linda Wood

of Superior.

Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Saturday at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Troy; interment will follow at Troy Cemetery. A parish vigil and rosary service will be at 7 p.m. Friday evening at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home Chapel in Libby.

## Sylvia Louise Pfrimmer Welch

Former Whitefish resident, Sylvia Louise Pfrimmer Welch, died Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2004, in St. Peter's Hospital in Olympia, Wash. following heart surgery.



Surviving grandchildren include Donald Chase of Chicago, Traci and her husband, Tom Sowards, of Auburn, Wash. Sean and Jeffrey Welch of Lacey, Wash. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

She was born June 18, 1925, in Great Falls to Robert and Lillian Pfrimmer. She grew up as one of eight children on a ranch in Dupuyer. Sylvia and her brothers and sisters traveled on horseback to attend a one-room schoolhouse in which the class sometimes got snowed in for days at a time.

In 1939, the family moved to Whitefish where Sylvia attended Whitefish High School. She excelled in art and music and became a first-class cook following the example of her mother.

After high school, she worked for the Great Northern Railroad in Whitefish. She lived in Libby for a few years before going to Wenatchee, Wash. to attend cosmetology school. Sylvia practiced as a beautician for a number of years in Wenatchee and Yakima.

She moved to Olympia, in 1957, where she worked as a seamstress for Miller's Department Store. She later went to work for the department of motor vehicles until she retired in the mid '80s.

In retirement, Sylvia found much happiness with the time to create many poems, paintings, drawings and handicrafts for which she won numerous prizes. In recent years, she performed throughout the area as a member of the Tumwater Old Town Chorale.

Sylvia was extremely proud of being chosen as a first citizen of Olympia and honored in a parade for her work helping found the inner city transportation service and the community action agency. The title was also in recognition of her record of 50 years of never missing an opportunity to vote.

Throughout the community, Sylvia was affectionately known as "the hat lady of Olympia" for her collection decorated with all manner of pins and hand-made jewelry. Her hats framed an unflinching smile that spread her zest for life and brought her a treasure trove of friends.

A regent of the Catholic Daughters, Sylvia practiced the faith for over 50 years. She was a parishioner of St. Michael's Catholic Church.

Arrangements for a memorial service are pending in Washington.

Survivors include her son, Fred Chase, and his wife, Candace, of Bigfork; son, Patrick Welch, and his wife, Karla, of Lacey, Wash.; daughters, Lillian Welch, and life companion, Cal Davenport, of Rochester, Wash., and Elizabeth Layburn and her husband, Richie, of Union, N.J.; brothers, Jack Pfrimmer, and his wife, Emily, and Bruce Pfrimmer and his wife, Carolyn, all of Whitefish, Chuck Pfrimmer and his wife, Trudy, of Rome, N.Y., and Don Pfrimmer and his wife, Gail, of Nashville, Tenn.

## Angela Michelle 'Angie' Weldele, 25

Angela Michelle "Angie" Weldele, 25, passed away Wednesday, July 21, 2004, at University of Washington Medical Center following a brief illness.



She was born in Whitefish, on Sept. 9, 1978, to Mitch and Janna Weldele, and is survived by them at the family home.

Angie was pursuing a degree in elementary education in Tacoma, Wash., at the time of her death.

She is survived by her beloved daughter, Zhoe Elennah Weldele, 5, of Whitefish; three sisters, Aubrey Hanson and husband, Craig, twin, Amber Weldele-Wynn and husband, Dustin, and her youngest sister, Alison.

She dearly loved children, and especially her nieces and nephews, Kyle, Kalli and Karli Hanson, and Joey, Logan and Jalen Wynn. She is also survived by Grandma Barbara and Grandpa Butch Arm-

strong, and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her paternal grandparents David and Elizabeth Weldele, and her maternal grandfather, James Clark.

It has been said by many that you could see Angie's soul in her smile and judging by the amount of friends she had made all over the world it is true. She has many special friends around the country that are grieving the loss of her today. She was free spirited and loved to travel and experience many different things. Her love of music was quite diverse and crossed many generations. Now, her spirit is free and without pain and for that we are happy.

"Please join us in celebrating her love of life at 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 27, at her childhood home at 655 West Ninth St. in Whitefish. All are welcome to share their feelings and stories of their life with Angie." Dress casually as that is how Angie lived her life. The celebration of her life will be held outdoors; bring appropriate seating.

## Mae Hamill Wells, 93

Mae Hamill Wells, 93, died Monday, Oct. 18, 2004, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She is survived by her daughter, Shelley Tronstad, of

Kalispell.

No services are scheduled at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

## Lily E. Wells, 96

Lily E. Wells, 96, a longtime resident of Whitefish, passed away July 2, 2004, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish of natural causes.

Lily was born Nov. 4, 1907, in Leith, N.D., the daughter of Peter and Katrina Hedman. The family lived for a short time in Wisconsin, then came to eastern Montana in 1916 where they lived for several years. Lily attended schools there from third grade to about eighth grade. They then moved to Whitefish, and Lily later graduated with the class of 1925.

She then took her teacher's training in Dillon and Cheney, Wash. She then attended the Chicago Evangelistic Institute where she obtained a degree in theology. She later received a degree in speech from Wheaton College.

Lily taught school here in the valley at the Canyon View School, Grandview School and at Kila. She then returned to the Chicago Evangelistic Institute where she taught speech.

She married Kenneth Wells, who was the dean of the Music and Speech Department. Together with Kenneth she was an evangelist and sang duets with him. She took great pride in being an ordained minister in the Church of the Nazarene.

The Wells were married in

Chicago and were married for 50 years until his passing in 1997. Kenneth had two daughters, Gerrie and Jean, to whom she became a beloved stepmother, and later a grandmother of six grandchildren.

She loved people and told many interesting stories about her travels to Montana in the covered wagon, and life on the prairie. She loved to sing and sang well almost to the end of her life. After moving to Riverside Assisted Living in Whitefish, she enjoyed playing piano, especially songs that her husband Kenneth had written and that they had sung together.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Wells; five sisters; and two brothers.

Survivors include her sister, Helen Hedman, of Whitefish; stepdaughter, Gerrie Pepler, of Phoenix; six grandchildren; and 13 nieces and nephews, including Carol Newbury and Gene Hedman, both of Whitefish; and by many great-nieces and great-nephews.

Funeral services will be at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 7, at the Church of the Nazarene in Whitefish with the Rev. Cliff Purcell officiating. Burial will follow at the Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell under the direction of the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.