

Christina F. Babb, 67

Christina F. Babb, 67, of Dayton, died at her home on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2005, from natural causes.

Shirley Jean Backer, 59

Shirley Jean Backer, 59, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 1, 2005, at Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born June 24, 1945, in West Sacramento, Calif., to William and Marie Watters.

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

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

smile.

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

She was also preceded in death by her parents.

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

There will be no visitation or services.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Levi Joseph Baer, infant

Levi Joseph Baer was stillborn on Monday, Dec. 12, 2005, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He weighed in at seven pounds, four ounces.

Although the Baer family would have wanted Levi to have a home here, they are resting in the fact that he "has an external home in heaven not made with hands and in the truth that to

be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord."

Survivors include parents, Mike and Pattie; siblings, Josiah, 20, Luke, 18, Joanna, 16, Ruth, 14, David, 12, Bethany, 9, Shalom, 7, and Rachel, 4.

Levi was preceded in death by his brother, Isaac.

Funeral services will be held 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19, at Bethel Baptist Church.

M. Ilene Baertsch, 86

M. Ilene Baertsch, 86, of Polson, passed away Sunday, Oct. 23, 2005, from natural causes at Evergreen Health and Rehab Center. She was born



June 3, 1919, in Columbia Falls.

Ilene attended school through the eighth grade at Half Moon School in Columbia Falls, and then she had to quit school and work on the family farm.

Ilene married Oscar G. Baertsch in 1938. She was a homemaker and worked during the spring and fall at the A & W Drive-in for Newt and Emma Roberts during the 1960s.

Ilene was active with the South Shore Garden Club and was active with the Rebecca Lodge.

Her hobbies included cooking, gardening, seamstress, and spending time with her grandchildren. She was a wonderful cook and loving mother, and many friends of her children loved to come

over and enjoy her meals.

Her parents, Chester and Angie Barnes; brothers, Gene Barnes, Lorin Barnes and Raymond Barnes; sisters, Vivian Mero and Rita Fishel; granddaughter, Debra Kay Baertsch; and great-granddaughter, Jessie Baertsch, preceded Ilene in death.

Ilene is survived by her husband, Oscar G. Baertsch; daughter, Carla, and John Hilton of Townsend; sons, Gary and Sandy Baertsch of Ronan, Clint and Karon of Missoula, and Lon Baertsch of Missoula; and sister, Shirley, and Don Lamb of Lake Havasu City, Ariz. Ilene has 12 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 1 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, at the Grogan Funeral Home Chapel. Funeral service for Ilene will be held at 2 p.m. Friday Oct. 28, 2005, at the Grogan Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow the services at Lakeview Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggest memorials be sent to Melita Island Boy Scout Camp or to diabetes research.

Kenneth W. Bailey Jr., 72

Kenneth W. Bailey Jr., 72, of Polson, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2005, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center. He was born in Polson, Mont., on Oct. 22, 1933.

Ken was a member of the Polson High School Football Team, Polson High School, and the Polson Community Center. He was a member of the Polson Golf Club and the Polson Tennis Club. He was a member of the Polson Fire Department and the Polson Fire Association.

Ken was preceded in death by his mother, Margaret Bailey, and his father, Kenneth W. Bailey Sr., by his wife, Mary Bailey, and his wife, Arlene Bailey.

He is survived by his sister, Arlene Bailey, and his daughter, Arlene Bailey.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 28, 2005, at the Johnson Mortuary and Crematory. Burial will be in the Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 1701 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

Ken was a member of the Polson Golf Club and the Polson Tennis Club. He was a member of the Polson Fire Department and the Polson Fire Association.

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SHIRLEY JEAN BACKER, 59

January 04, 2005 at 5:00 am | Daily Inter Lake

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

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

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

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

She was also preceded in death by her parents.

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

There will be no visitation or services.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

KENNETH W. BAILEY JR., 72

April 03, 2005 at 5:00 am |

Kenneth W. Bailey Jr., 72, passed away on Thursday, March 31, 2005, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell, with his close friend, Kim Clausen, at his bedside.

He was born in Norwich, N.Y., on May 6, 1932, to Kenneth W. and Helen (Hamilton) Bailey. Ken lived in Norwich through his early childhood and moved with his family in 1946, to Mesa, Ariz. He attended local schools and graduated from Mesa High School.

Ken went on to college at Arizona State University. After college he served three years in the National Guard before joining the Army. While serving in the Army, Ken spent 18 months in Korea.

After separating from the Army he took up the game of golf and began a career with Pearce and Sons Beverage Company in Mesa. After working 18 years as the order clerk for those fine people, Ken moved to Kalispell.

In Kalispell, Ken made many wonderful friends. He worked for Kalispell Feed and Grain and B and B Beverage. In 1981 he took a job with Fun Beverage where he worked until his retirement in 2003. Ken loved working with everyone at Fun Beverage and truly enjoyed working for Brian Clark and Kim Clausen. "Thank you all at Fun Beverage for helping our brother these last few months. You all meant so much to him."

Ken was happiest when he was out golfing with his golfing companions and friends. "Thanks to his friends for being with our brother his last few days." Ken was known by his friends and around Kalispell as KB.

Ken was a member of the Mesa Episcopal Church and a member of the Elks Club. He was also a member of the Buffalo Hills Country Club and a member of the Whitefish Golf Club.

Ken was preceded in death by his mother and father, Helen and Kenneth W. Bailey Sr.; by his wife, Julia Bailey; and his wife, Arlene Bailey.

He is survived by his sister, Sue Campbell and husband, Buddy; his brother, Charles Bailey and wife, Linda; nephews, Dale Campbell, David Campbell, and Chris Bailey; and nieces, Shelia Bailey and Julie Bailey.

Memorial services will be held 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 5, in the Johnson Mortuary Chapel in Kalispell with Father William Baumgarten of Christ Church Episcopal officiating. Honorary pallbearers will be, Brian Clark, Kim Clausen, Tom Sullivan, Brad Smith, John Franklin, Guy Sipprell, George Mahoney, Bob Hooper, and Kathy Burrington.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Ken's family.

Ruby M. Baker, 81

Ruby M. Baker, 81, passed away on Friday, Feb. 3, 2006, at Kalspell Regional Medical Center in Kalspell. She was born on Dec. 31, 1924, at Ravalli, Minn. The daughter of Willard Austin and Lillian M. (Thornes) Jensen.



She lived with the tenacity of a horse-woman, meshed that with the strength and self-confidence to follow their own path. She nurtured her many plants with that same soul love.

Ruby was preceded in death by two sons, Steve Hughes and Tim Norcross, a granddaughter, Tammy Wolf, and son-in-law, Robert Wolf.

She is survived by two daughters, Susan Shapiro of California, and Vicki Good and husband, Bill; one son, Rocky Hughes, and a friend, Barbara Lockhart, and a large extended family in Kalspell.

Memorial services for Ruby M. Baker will be held at two p.m. on Friday, Feb. 17, at Johnson Mortuary-Crematory. A potluck coffee get-together will take place at Syke's immediately following the service.

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

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

Ruby Baker was an impressive woman. She was easily recognized by her flaming red hair, straight stance and high beamed shoes, as she walked between her jobs at Rosemary's Corner. She owned her home at the 5000 Main St. in Kalspell.

Ruby was strong and opinionated. She was the poor saleswoman that came to Bigfork, rolling goods on a streetcar. Even at her professional Kalspell Post, and the initial home care business, she was a great follower.

She was a great friend and a great mother. She was a great person.

Duke Baney, 74

Duke Baney, 74, died Saturday, June 25, 2005, at his home in Eureka.

He was a rancher and had owned and operated Baney Meats in Eureka until 1997.

Surviving are his wife, Ann; his children, Matt Baney of Kent, Wash., Russ Baney

of Port Hope, Mich., and Scott Baney and Gregg Baney, both of Eureka.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at the First Baptist Church in Eureka with the Rev. Carl Pershall officiating. Arrangements are by the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

Pearl Thoreson Bangeman, 97

Pearl Thoreson Bangeman, 97, passed away on Tuesday, March 22, 2005, at the Brendan House in Kalspell.

She was born Aug. 31, 1907, in Rosewood, Minn., to Peter and Caroline (Lappagard) Mellem.

She married Thomas Thoreson Dec. 9, 1925, in Thief River Falls, Minn. They had two children, Arheme and Thomas Jr. Her husband Thomas passed away in 1981.

In 1984, she married Dan R. Kingeman, a longtime family friend. He passed away in May 1997.

Pearl was a member of the Christ Lutheran Church in Libby, for over 50 years and also had been associated with Bethlehem Lutheran Church since moving to Kalspell. She is a charter member of the Sons of Norway in Libby. She loved to cook and was the happiest in her kitchen preparing food for her family.

She was greatly loved and will be deeply missed. "The love of a mother lasts forever."

She was preceded in death by

her parents, three brothers, and one sister.

She is survived by one daughter, Arheme Christianson, and husband "Click", and one son, Thomas Thoreson, and wife, JoAnn, all of Kalspell; two stepchildren, Danny Bangeman of Lakeside, and Barbara Haglund of Spokane; four grandchildren, Linda Mauck of Carmel, Calif., Don Thoreson of Billings, and Shari Basham and Lori Barrows, both of Libby; two sisters, Joyce Nielson of Missoula, and one brother, Alvin Mellem, of Palm Springs, Calif.; three stepgrandchildren, Terri Wiebenga, Peg Weston and Debbi Gabard, all in Iowa; nine great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services for Pearl will be held in Libby at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Pearl's family.

Ray Bakker, 73

Ray Bakker, 73, a resident of Kalspell, passed away quietly in his sleep Jan. 13, 2006, in Lewistown.

Ray was born July 11, 1932, in Malta.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Bakker and Ida Dufboy. His eldest son, Michael Bakker, daughter, Cherlene Bakker, whom she was prominently, old, and his brothers, Joseph Bakker and John Bakker.

He is survived by his sister, Gertrude Melton, of Wiley City, Wash.; daughters, Laura Bakker of Raleigh, N.C., Cynthia Eaves of Kalspell, and Terri Koeber of Woodville, Wash.; sons, David Bakker of Ocean Park, Wash., and Mark Bakker of Kennewick, Wash.; 14 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Robert Samuel Baller, 79

Robert Samuel Baller, 79, died Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2005, at his residence in Bigfork.

He was born Sept. 21, 1925, in Silverton, Ore., to Samuel and Doris (Elliott) Baller.

Robert joined the U.S. Navy on September 23, 1942 and was discharged from active duty on March 3, 1946, and was a Pharmacist's Mate 1st Class.

He married Lillian Buchholz on Oct. 15, 1947, at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls, Minn. He was an active member of Christ Lutheran Church in Superior, Wis.

He was employed for 32 years at Lakehead Pipeline Co., Superior, retiring in October of 1985. Robert and his wife enjoyed his active retirement for about 20 years, traveling to Europe, Central America, Costa Rica and Mexico. They also traveled by RV throughout the United States and Canada. He also enjoyed fishing, golfing, reading and was a nature lover.



He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Noreen Baller, Erma Brenden, Cleo Martin, Marie Larson, Mae Wilhite and an infant sister; and two brothers, William and Richard Baller.

He is survived by his wife Lillian (Buchholz) Baller of Bigfork; two daughters, Barbara Torba of Tucson, Ariz., and Brenda Olson of Bigfork; one son, Bruce Baller of Batavia, Ill.; six grandchildren, Alison Torba, Stephanie Philosphos, Neil Baller, Laura Baller, Thomas Olson and Lena Olson; one great-grandchild, Mia Philosphos; six sisters, Verda Burr of Guerneville, Calif., Vera Satern of Silverton, Ore., Thelma Scoggins of Mt. Angel, Ore., Cloreta Kaizer of Silverton, Ore., Virginia Large of Salem, Ore., and Marian Neimi of Yakima, Wash.; one brother, Ralph Baller of Lacy, Wash.; and many nieces and nephews.

There is no visitation or services scheduled.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 3550 Mullan Road, Suite 105, Missoula, MT 59808.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Robert's family.

Karen Elise Barbee, 75

Karen Elise Barbee, 75, died of cancer at her home Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2005, in Kalspell.

She was born Oct. 20, 1929, in Raymond, Wash., to Richard and Hilda Lorraine (Winrich) Jacobsen.

Karen grew up in North Cove, Wash., and graduated from Ocosta High School in Ocosta, Wash. Upon graduation from Virginia Mason School of Nursing in Seattle, she worked as a registered nurse in Seattle, Hawaii and Colfax, Wash.

She and Wendell J. Barbee were married in King County, Wash., on Nov. 12, 1961.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and a sister, Caroline Jacobsen Hardy.

She is survived by her husband, Wendell, at the family home in Kalspell; three sons, Charles, wife

Annu, their daughter, Uma, and son, Ammar, of New York, N.Y., Daniel, wife Janet, their sons, Connor and Tyler, of Mill Valley, Calif., and Christopher of Kirtland, N.M.; her sister, Catherine Jacobsen Doyle, and husband, Pat, of North Cove, Wash.; also her niece, Sandra Doyle Simmons, husband, Stewart, their daughters, Claire and Lily; and nephews, David Doyle, wife Maryke, and Tom Doyle.

Family and friends were very important to her.

There will be no public services or visitation, but friends and neighbors are invited to stop by the family home to visit with the family from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20.

The family has asked that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Home Options/Hospice: 175 Commons Loop Ste. No. 100, Kalspell, MT 59901.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Karen's family.



RUBY M. BAKER, 81

February 08, 2005 at 5:00 am | Daily Inter Lake

Ruby M. Baker, 81, passed away on Friday, Feb. 4, 2005, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. She was born on Dec. 28, 1923, at Richville, Minn., the daughter of Willard Austin and Lillian M. (Barnes) Jensen.

Ruby Baker was an impressive woman! She was easily recognized by her flaming red hair, straight stance and high-heeled shoes as she walked between her jobs at Rosauer's, Gamer's Shoes and her home at Big Sky Manor and Syke's.

Ruby was strong and opinionated. Pity the poor salesperson that came to her door selling goods or philosophies. Even in her passing on at Kalispell Regional Hospital she made certain her decisions were followed.

Above all, Ruby was a strong mother. She protected her children with the ferocity of a lioness when needed, but gave them the strength and self-confidence to follow their own path. She nurtured her many plants with that same solid love.

Ruby was preceded in death by two sons, Steve Hughes and Tim Norcross; a granddaughter, Tammy Wolf; and son-in-law, Robin Wolf.

She is survived by two daughters, Susan Shapiro of California, and Vickie Good and husband, Bill; one son, Rocky Hughes, and friend, Barbara Lockhart; and a large extended family in Kalispell.

Memorial services for Ruby M. Baker will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 11, at Johnson Mortuary Chapel. A pie and coffee get-together will take place at Syke's immediately following the service.

The family suggests memorials be sent to the charity of your choice.


Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

10/2/2018

Daily Inter Lake - Obituaries, Ray Bakker, 73

RAY BAKKER, 73

January 19, 2005 at 5:00 am | Daily Inter Lake

Ray Bakker, 73, a resident of Kalispell passed away quietly in his sleep Jan. 13, 2005, in Lewistown. 

Ray was born July 11, 1931, in Malta.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Bakker and Ida Dubois; his eldest son, Michael Bakker; daughter, Cherilee Bakker, when she was 20 months old; and his brothers, Joseph Bakker and John Bakker.

He is survived by his sister, Gertrude Melton, of Wiley City, Wash.; daughters, Lurae Bakker of Raleigh, N.C., Cynthia Eayrs of Kalispell, and Terri Keever of Woodinville, Wash.; sons, David Bakker of Ocean Park, Wash., and Mark Bakker of Kennewick, Wash.; 14 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Nebb Bailey, 82

Charles Nesbitt "Nebb" Bailey, 82, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2005, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

Nebb was born Jan. 21, 1923, in Analis, Wash., to Charles Nathan and Myrtle (Hamilton) Bailey. Nebb received most of his education in Great Falls, graduating from eighth grade in 1938. The family moved to the Flathead Valley in 1938, settling in the West Valley area.

As Nebb didn't own a car, he often walked or hitchhiked the 11 miles to Kalispell. He became active in 4-H and won a trip to Chicago. Later, he became very active in the Kalispell Jaycees and was in charge of weighing the fish at the annual fishing derby for about 17 years. Nebb was also active in the Elks Club.

He took care of his mother for many years after his father's death.

Nebb remained single until the age of 55. At this time, he married Lillian Ramsfield, whom he had met while working with her husband for Snow Line Tree Co. After their marriage, they lived in the Ferndale area.

Nebb retired after 24 years of working at the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant.

He enjoyed traveling and spent vacations visiting friends and relatives in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Idaho, Texas and California. He and Lillian also went to Hawaii three times and to Alaska once. There

were only three or four states that Nebb had not visited.

He had a lot of hobbies, mostly working with metal and wood.

While working for Snow Line he learned how to make beautiful Christmas corsages, making as many as 70 a year, which he gave away.

Nebb is survived by his wife, Lillian, of Ferndale; three stepchildren: daughters, Beverly and husband, Dennis Ostrout, of Ferndale, Carolyn and husband, Bryce Abel, of Security, Colo., and son, Ron Ramsfield, of Bozeman; one sister, Hope Evans, of Kamiah, Idaho; two nephews, Terry Evans of Kamiah, and John Evans of Fort Worth, Texas; three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and several cousins.

Visitation for Nebb will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18, at the Bigfork Funeral Home in Bigfork. Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, with memorial services afterward at Bethany Lutheran Church at 2:30 p.m. with Pastor Jack Shannon officiating.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Research, 22512 Gateway Center Drive, Clarksburg, MD 20871; or Bethany Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 398, Bigfork MT 59911.

Bigfork Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Robert D. 'Bob' Baker Sr., 63

Robert D. "Bob" Baker Sr., 63, "passed from this life into the next" on Friday, June 10, 2005, at home near Marion with his family at his side.



He is survived by Tommy, his loving wife of 35 years; nine children, Sherry Langlois of Bremerton, Wash., Scott Baker of Sequim, Wash., April Cromwell of Oklahoma City, Okla., Sheila Lawrence of Boise, Idaho, Robert Jr. of Colorado Springs, Colo., Abigail Crisp of Silverdale, Wash., Laurie Bridge of Cathedral City, Calif., Claire Fraser of Post Falls, Idaho, and Christopher Baker, living at home. He also is survived by 17 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; his brother, Glen Baker, of Chimuicum, Wash.; and his parents, Newton and Areee Baker, of Mount Vernon, Wash.

Bob was born in Sedro-Woolley, Wash., on Oct. 3, 1941. He spent his childhood and teen years in

the Skagit Valley, graduating from Mount Baker High School in Deming, Wash., where he excelled in football and skiing and served as the drum major of the marching band.

He enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1960, serving four years, during which time he was stationed in Key West, Fla., during the Cuban Missile Crisis and was a champion skier on the Air Force team and an alternate on the Olympic Skiing Team.

After his enlistment, he returned to the Pacific Northwest where he established Baker Equipment with his brother and owned his own construction company. In 1975, he bought a ranch in Northwestern Montana, near Kalispell, and spent the remainder of his working years in the agriculture business, much of the time as the owner/operator of a farm implement business.

He was a loving father and husband and will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. today, June 14, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell.

Alma L. Bain, 81

Alma L. Bain, 81, of Troy, died Tuesday, July 26, 2005, at the Libby Care Center.

Survivors include her son, Floyd Bain, of Troy; and two daughters, Sue Conway of Tonto Basin, Ariz., and Wanda Poder of Winnemucca,

Nev. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today, July 29. Graveside services will be Saturday, July 30, at the Milnor Lake Cemetery in Troy.

Nelson & Vial Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Myron F. 'Barney' Baker, 84

Myron F. "Barney" Baker, 84, of Glasgow, was called home on Thursday, Feb. 24, 2005, in Mesa, Ariz., of natural causes.



Barney was born in Glasgow, Wash., to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Baker. He was a member of the Glasgow Community Church.

Barney was a member of the Glasgow Elks Club.

Myron was born June 11, 1921, to the Rev. and Mrs. Albert Baker, the fourth of 12 children. He graduated from Flaxville High School in 1939 and for a short time worked on the Fort Rock Dam.

Following service in the Civil and Conservation Corps in Thompson Falls, he moved to Portland and worked in the Naval Shipyard.

He returned to Montana and enlisted in the U.S. Army.

Barney was stationed at a military hospital at Fort Meade, Wash., where he met his wife, Sherry, and they were married in 1947. He also worked for a number of years for the U.S. Forest Service and earned his Purple Heart for combat service.

While serving with the 70th Infantry Division in the European Theater at the Battle of the Bulge he was taken Prisoner of War. In

1945, he was liberated by allied forces, honorably discharged and returned home to Flaxville.

Later that year he moved to Glasgow and together with a brother, Virgil, worked in the restaurant business. There he met Ruth V. Hoffman, and they were married on Oct. 3, 1948.

He lived out on the Great Northern Railroad as a brakeman and retired with Amtrak's discharge in 1961 after a 30-year career with the railroad.

Barney enjoyed his retirement years, spending winters in Mesa, and summers in Kalispell, close to his children and grandchildren.

His hobbies included golf, cooking, and fishing, but his real passion was writing poetry. His published poem "Indian Summer" in Montana Magazine has been most noted for.

Barney is survived by his wife of 57 years, Ruth V. Baker of Mesa; one daughter, Linda Williams and Ken Barnett of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; one son, Michael and Kari Baker of Kalispell; and six grandchildren: Wade Williams, Nahum Timothy, Caleb, Timothy and Camille; all of Kalispell; Kim Baker of Great Falls; and Jan Baker of Helena; two great-grandchildren, Brannon, Wyatt, Maja, Arnel and Luke; two brothers, Clifton R. and Morris Baker of Seattle; and one sister, Shirley Gilbert of Seattle.

Memorials are suggested to Hospice.

Perce H. Baker, 91

Perce H. Baker, 91, a longtime Libby resident, died Tuesday, July 19, 2005, at the Libby Care Center.

He was a longtime employee of J. Neils Lumber Company and later the St. Regis Paper Company. He established Libby Litho Printing Shop.

He is survived by his chil-

dren, Kent Baker of Libby, Kathy Bengtson of Thompson Falls, and Kim Baker of Kauai, Hawaii.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home Chapel. Friends may call at the funeral home from 3 to 8 p.m. Friday.

MYRON F. "BARNEY" BAKER, 84

February 17, 2005 at 5:00 am |

Myron F. "Barney" Baker, 84, of Glasgow, "was called home" on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2005, in Mesa Ariz., of natural causes.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 19, at First Lutheran Church in Glasgow. Interment will be at Highland Cemetery in Glasgow.

Bell Mortuary in Glasgow is in charge of arrangements.

Myron was born June 18, 1920, in Flaxville, to Jay and Alice Baker, the fourth of 12 children. He graduated from Flaxville High School in 1939 and for a short time worked on the Fort Peck Dam.

Following service in the Civilian Conservation Corps in Thompson Falls, he moved to Portland and worked in the Naval Shipyards.

In 1941 he returned to Montana and enlisted in the U.S. Army.

Barney was stationed at a number of stateside military bases as an infantryman instructor/trainer and in 1943 was transferred to the European Theatre where he was awarded three Bronze Stars and earned a Purple Heart for combat service.

While serving with the 78th Lightning Division in the Hurtgen Forest at the Battle of the Bulge he was taken Prisoner of War. In 1945, he was liberated by allied forces, honorably discharged and returned home to Flaxville.

Later that year he moved to Glasgow and together with a brother, Virgil, worked in the restaurant business. There he met Ruth V. Hofman, and they were married on Oct. 5, 1946.

He hired out on the Great Northern Railroad as a brakeman and retired as an Amtrak conductor in 1984 after a 38-year career with the railroad.

Barney enjoyed his retirement years, spending winters in Mesa, and summers in Kalispell, close to his children and grandchildren.

His hobbies included golf, cooking, and fishing, but his real passion was writing poetry. His published poem "Indian Summer in Montana" is one he is most noted for.

Barney is survived by his wife of 59 years, Ruth V. Baker of Mesa; one daughter, Linda Williams and Ken Harman of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; one son, Michael and Kari Baker of Kalispell; and six grandchildren, Wade Williams, Nahum Tkachyk, Caleb Tkachyk and Cami Ames, all of Kalispell, Flint Baker of Great Falls, and Ian Baker of Helena; five great-grandchildren, Brianna, Wyatt, Maija, Ariel and Luke; two brothers, Clinton R. and Morris Baker of Seattle; and one sister, Shirley Filbert of Seattle.

9/20/2018

Daily Inter Lake - Obituaries, Myron F. "Barney" Baker, 84

Memorials are suggested to Hospice.

PEARL THORESON BANGEMAN

March 25, 2005 at 5:00 am |

Pearl Thoreson Bangeman, 97, passed away on Tuesday, March 22, 2005, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born Aug. 31, 1907, in Rosewood, Minn., to Peter and Caroline (Lappegard) Mellem.

She married Thomas Thoreson Dec. 9, 1925, in Thief River Falls, Minn. They had two children, Arloene and Thomas Jr. Her husband Thomas passed away in 1981.

In 1984, she married Dan R. Bangeman, a long-time family friend. He passed away in May 1997.

Pearl was a member of the Christ Lutheran Church in Libby, for over 50 years and also had been associated with Bethlehem Lutheran Church since moving to Kalispell. She is a charter member of the Sons of Norway in Libby. She loved to cook and was the happiest in her kitchen preparing food for her family. She was greatly loved and will be deeply missed. "The love of a mother lasts forever."

Pearl was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, and one sister.

She is survived by one daughter, Arloene Christianson, and husband "Click", and one son, Thomas Thoreson, and wife, JoAnn, all of Kalispell; two stepchildren, Danny Bangeman of Lakeside, and Barbara Haglund of Spokane; four grandchildren, Linda Mauck of Carmel, Calif., Don Thoreson of Billings, and Shari Basham and Lori Barrows, both of Libby; two sisters, Joyce Nielson of Libby, and Florence Moore of Missoula; and one brother, Alvin Mellem, of Palm Springs, Calif.; three stepgrandchildren, Terri Wiebenga, Peg Weston and Debbi Gahard, all in Iowa; nine great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services for Pearl will be held in Libby at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Pearl's family.

Wendell Jean Barbee, 76

Wendell Jean Barbee, 76, died of cancer Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2005, at Brendan House in Kalispell.



He was born Jan. 4, 1929, in Pullman, Wash., to Oscar Earl and Sarah Edith (Dark) Barbee.

Wendell worked in his high school years during World War II for the Soil Conservation Service. After the war, he also worked at the Cordova Theater and Strupplen's Restaurant.

He was president of the student body at Pullman High School his senior year and graduated from there in 1947. After high school, he entered Washington State University. He graduated from Washington State University in 1951, majoring in history and foreign languages, and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Lambda Chi Alpha.

He continued on with graduate studies at WSU, until he was drafted into the Army during the Korean War in 1953. Upon discharge from the Army in 1955, he began working at the Whitman County Soil Conservation Service office in Colfax, Wash.

Wendell married Karen Elise Jacobsen in King County, Wash., on Nov. 12, 1961. They moved to Kalispell in 1965, where Wendell continued to work with the SCS until the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service hired him in 1965 as a contracting officer for the St. Joe National Forest. He transferred to the Colville National Forest in 1967, moving to Colville, Wash., then to the

Flathead National Forest and Kalispell in 1969. Wendell retired from the Forest Service in 1989.

He was active in the Flathead Credit Union, serving on the supervisory committee for many years. He served four years on both the Montana State Legacy Legislature and the legislative committee for the local AARP. He was a lifetime member of the Local Chapter 646 of National Association of Retired Federal Employees and published the chapter newsletter for many years, as well as filling several offices.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Karen, in August 2005; his parents; and two sisters, Louise Dixon and Maxine Lafferty.

He is survived by his three sons, Charles Barbee and wife Annu, their daughter, Uma, and son, Ammar, of New York, Daniel Barbee and wife, Janet, their sons, Connor and Tyler of Mill Valley, Calif., and Christopher Barbee of New Mexico; brother, Ronald Barbee and wife, Margaret, of Spokane, and their families; a niece and five nephews and their families; and a stepsister, Betty Miller, and her family in Longview, Wash.

There will be no public services or visitation, but friends and neighbors are invited to stop by the family home to visit with the family from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that donations be made to Brendan House, 350 Conway Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Wendell's family.

Doris M. Barkley, 83

Doris M. Barkley, 83, passed away on Sunday, April 10, 2005, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

Doris was born on Sept. 16, 1921, in Kalispell, to Anson and Ruth (Grand) Fredenberg. Doris was the eighth child out of 16 children. She attended Half Moon School, Whitefish High School, and graduated from Flathead County High School.

She worked for several years at the Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, where she met her husband Robert Barkley; they were married on Sept. 2, 1941. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 2001, and Robert passed away on Oct. 9, 2001.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents, three sisters, five brothers, and her husband, Robert.

She is survived by five brothers and two sisters, Orville, Dale,

Duane, Leslie and Orm Fredenberg, Miriam Mack and Carol Patterson, four children and 19 grandchildren, Sherry McIlhargey and her husband, Larry, and their children, Dan, Don and Shaunda, Donna Schneider and her husband, John, and their children, Mark, Bob, Tara, Sara and Bret, Don Barkley and wife, Judy, and their children, Rod, Bill, Ryan and Nick; James Barkley and wife, Donna, and their children, Casey, Lacey, Matthew, Rebecca, Ruth, Laura and Deborah; 24 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter; and a very special friend of 68 years, Nellie Tripp.

Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, April 18, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Urn burial will follow the service at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

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

Douglas Edward Barnes, 63

Douglas Edward Barnes, 63, of Helena, died Friday morning, Nov. 4, 2005, at St. Peter's Hospital in Helena.



Doug was born in Whitefish on March 13, 1942, to Lorin D. and Janice (Smith) Barnes. He received his education, graduating from Whitefish High School. He continued his education, receiving a bachelor of art degree in special education from the University of Montana at Missoula. Doug and Susan Jeffery were married in Lewistown on Aug. 31, 1984.

Doug's career covered various positions with the state of Montana, ending with his retirement from the Department of Corrections in 2003. In his retirement years, he worked part-time with the Helena Industries.

He loved music, family, camping, fishing and working in

the yard. Doug was a member and director of various bands throughout the Flathead Valley, central Montana and the Helena area.

Doug was preceded in death by his father, Lorin Barnes.

He is survived by his wife, Susan, of Helena; sons, Erik Barnes of Boulder, and Jeffery Barnes of Helena; daughters, Ayrne Meyer and her husband, Holger, of Helena, and Somer Griffith and her fiancé, Chet Williams, of Helena; one grandchild, Enrya Meyer; brother, Dennis Barnes of Bremerton, Wash.; and his mother, Jane Barnes, of Columbia Falls.

A memorial service in celebration of Doug's life will be at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 7, at the Retz Funeral Home Chapel. Interment of his cremated remains will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8, at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell.

Memorials are suggested to the Helena Industries, 1325 Helena Ave., Helena, MT 59601.

Ruth Barker, 84

Ruth Barker, 84, passed away on Jan. 11, 2005, at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Stockton, Calif. She was a resident of Flathead County for 50 years.



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

She married Jensen Clark Barker on May 26, 1943, in Kings Chapel in Boston. They were happily married for 62 years and four months.

In 1988, Jensen retired and he and Ruth moved to Bigfork where they lived for five years and then moved to Forest Hill in Kalispell.

She was a librarian in Conza

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

She loved to fish, bowl, camp and sew.

She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Jensen Clark Barker, of Kalispell, and her daughter, Jean Barker, of Stockton, Calif.

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

A memorial fund has been established in Ruth Barker's name at the International Heart Institute of Montana Foundation at 354 W. Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to the memorial fund.

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

Merle A. Barnes, 68

Merle A. Barnes, 68, Lakeside, died Sunday, March 20, 2005, at Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

He is survived by his six children, Xarisa Spencer, Brett Barnes, Rebecca Hooven, Sarah Stephens, Margaret Tice and Joshua Barnes.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 9, at 630 Echo View Drive, Echo Lake. A finger food potluck reception will follow the service.

Arrangements are by Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

DORIS M. BARKLEY, 83

April 15, 2005 at 5:00 am | Daily Inter Lake

Doris M. Barkley, 83, passed away on Sunday, April 10, 2005, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

Doris was born on Sept. 16, 1921, in Kalispell, to Anson and Ruth (Grandel) Fredenberg. Doris was the eighth child out of 16 children. She attended Half Moon School, Whitefish High School, and graduated from Flathead County High School.

She worked for several years at the Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, where she met her husband Robert Barkley; they were married on Sept. 2, 1941. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 2001, and Robert passed away on Oct. 9, 2001.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents; three sisters; five brothers; and her husband, Robert.

She is survived by five brothers and two sisters, Orville, Dale, Duane, Leslie and Orin Fredenberg, Miriam Mack and Carol Patterson; four children and 19 grandchildren, Sherry McIlhargey and her husband, Larry, and their children, Dan, Don and Shaunda, Donna Schneider and her husband, John, and their children, Mark, Bob, Tara, Sara and Bret, Ben Barkley and wife, Judy, and their children, Rod, Bill, Ryan and Nick, James Barkley and wife, Donna, and their children, Casey, Lacey, Matthew, Rebecca, Ruth, Laura and Deborah; 24 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter; and a very special friend of 68 years, Nellie Tripp.

Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, April 18, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Urn burial will follow the service at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

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

RUTH BARKER, 84

January 14, 2005 at 5:00 am |

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

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

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

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

She was a librarian in Gonzales, Calif., and Twin Falls, Idaho, and volunteered at the Bigfork Library.

She loved to fish, bowl, camp and sew.

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

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

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

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

Cleo Mildred Fehlberg Barrie, 89

Cleo Mildred Fehlberg Barrie, 89, died Jan. 22, 2005.

She was born Feb. 15, 1915, in Kalispell, the only child of Bruno and Malinda (Hofshert) Fehlberg. Cleo lived her childhood in Coram, where her father and his partner, built and operated the Coram Lath Mill during the 1920s. Cleo attended grade school in Coram, Belton (West Glacier) and Kalispell. Her parents moved to Kalispell in 1930. Cleo graduated from Flathead County High School in 1932.

In 1941, she was employed as an assistant in the office of A.R. Johnson Finance Co. Later she was also employed as an office assistant for the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce. These offices shared floor space in the Elks Temple building in downtown Kalispell.

On Nov. 2, 1939, Cleo married her former high school classmate, Charles F. "Chuck" Barrie. Cleo began her employment at the Conrad National Bank (more recently First Interstate Bank) in 1942 and continued there during her husband's service in Europe during



World War II, working in nearly every department over her 35-year career there. She especially enjoyed her position as secretary to four different presidents: Edminster, Blyden, Sample and Collette — and to the bank's board of directors. In 1979, she took early retirement from the bank.

Cleo was an avid reader and a major league baseball fan. She enjoyed playing cards and was an expert quadrminos player. She liked to dance, troll for fish on Ashley Lake where they had a small summer cabin. Above all, she loved and completed many pieces of fine embroidery work.

Cleo was preceded in death by her parents, Bruno and Malinda; her husband, Charles, and many aunts, uncles, and several cousins.

She is survived by her son, Douglas, son, Lloyd and wife, Joanne; grandson, Matthew Barrie; granddaughters, Rachel and husband, Travis Steindorf, and Elise Barrie; one fine great-grandson, Adam; and her very dear friend, Doris Sonstette, all of Kalispell.

Private family services only. No visitation will be held.

Memorials may be given to the Bread of Life, P.O. Box 1235, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Shelby Baumberger, 42

Shelby Baumberger, 42, of Lincoln, passed away Nov. 5, 2005.

The funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at Sunset Memorial Funeral Home in Missoula. There will be a reception after the service in the funeral home's community room.

Shelby was born Oct. 2, 1963, to Allen and Anne (Schneider) Baumberger in Rapid City, S.D.

Shelby's passions included his family, pets and the outdoors, where he loved to hunt, ski, snowmobile and ride his horses. Shelby was an excellent cook and always put the needs of others first.

He married his first wife, Sally, in 1988, in Lake Tahoe, Nev.. While living in Montana, they had three wonderful children. Shelby was a wonderful father, son,



brother and friend.

Shelby later met Theresa Tripp with whom he shared the last few years of his life.

He will be remembered as a friend to everyone and for the love he had for his children and family.

Shelby is survived by his daughter, Carla, and son-in-law, Robert Keeland; son, Derek, who is currently serving in the Navy; and daughter, Starla and son-in-law, Justin Thompson. He is further survived by his father and stepmother, Allen and Polly Baumberger; his mother, Anne Baumberger; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Gaylen Baumberger and Kelly Redmond, Tracy and Teresa Baumberger, and Reid and Tammy Baumberger, with their children. He also is survived by his stepsisters and their husbands, Linda and Howard Nash, and Judy and Gordy Wyman.

Arrangements are under the direction of Sunset Memorial Funeral Home.

Richard Joseph Barrow, 72

Richard Joseph Barrow, 72, died on Thursday, Oct. 6, 2005, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

He is survived by five children, Don Barrow and Kim Hagen, both of California, Jay Barrow and Mary Ann Fry, both of Kalispell, and Debra

Ward of Washington.

Memorial services will be held at 6 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 9, at the Kalispell Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 1375 U.S. 93 North with the Rev. Tom Glatts officiating.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for the family.

Edward George Barton, 75

Edward George Barton, 75, died Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2005, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, June Barton, of Bigfork and San Rafael, Calif.

Memorial services will be held in California at a later date. Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for the family.

Joyce Edna Battest, 84

Joyce Edna Battest, 84, died Jan. 24, 2005, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

Survivors include her husband, Harold, of Eureka; two daughters, Betty Gardner of Seattle, and Joanne Holmes of Tacoma, Wash.; a stepson, Bill Battest of Rhame, N.D.; and two stepdaughters, Tammy Hickey

of Lexington, Ky., and Michelle Hasha of Duchesne, Utah.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 29, at the First Baptist Church in Eureka. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday.

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

Frank M. Bear, 56

Frank M. Bear, 56, passed away at his Kila home Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2005.

Frank was born Jan. 9, 1949, in Downey, Calif., the son of Frank and Helen (Bartosch) Bear.

Frank was raised in Montana and joined the U.S. Navy where he served as a navigator on some of the Apollo landings. He also served in Vietnam and was honorably discharged.

He married Lee Ann delDuca in 1994, and they had 11 wonderful years together. Frank owned and operated Flathead Fire Protection and was respected by many busi-



ness associates and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Frank.

Frank is survived by his wife, Lee Ann; mother, Helen Bear; children, Frank Bear, Katie Bear, and Theresa and her husband, Brandon Albrecht; stepchildren, Keith Franks and Amber Bucholz; siblings, Janet Wolverton, Collette Kirsch, and John and Michael Bear grandchildren, Abby, Emily and Allison Albrecht, and Johnathan, Kasey Ann, Kylee, and Jacob Sauer.

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Burial will be afterward at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Agnes E. Beck, 81

Agnes E. Beck, 81, of Columbia Falls, died on April 13, 2005, at

the Montana Veterans' Home in Columbia Falls.

CLEO MILDRED FEHLBERG BARRIE, 89

January 23, 2005 at 5:00 am |

Cleo Mildred Fehlberg Barrie, 89, died Jan. 22, 2005. □

She was born July 15, 1915, in Kalispell, the only child of Bruno and Malinda (Fleisher) Fehlberg. Cleo lived her childhood in Coram where her father and his partners built and operated the Coram lath mill during the 1920s. Cleo attended grade school in Coram, Belton (West Glacier) and Kalispell. Her parents moved to Kalispell in 1930. Cleo graduated from Flathead County High School in 1932.

In 1934, she was employed as an assistant in the office of A.R. Johnson Finance Co. Later she was also employed as an office assistant for the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce. These offices shared floor space in the Elks Temple building in downtown Kalispell.

On Nov. 2, 1939, Cleo married her former high school classmate, Charles F. "Chuck" Barrie. Cleo began her employment at the Conrad National Bank (more recently First Interstate Bank) in 1942 and continued there during her husband's service in Europe during World War II, working in nearly every department over her 35-year career there. She especially enjoyed her position as secretary to four different presidents - Edmiston, Bianco, Sample and Gillette - and to the bank's board of directors. In 1979, she took early retirement from the bank.

Cleo was an avid reader and a major league baseball fan. She enjoyed playing cards and was an expert quadorminos player. She liked to dance, troll for fish on Ashley Lake where they had a small summer cabin. Above all, she loved and completed many pieces of fine embroidery work.

Cleo was preceded in death by her parents, Bruno and Malinda; her husband, Charles; and many aunts, uncles, and several cousins.

She is survived by her son, Douglas, son, Lloyd and wife, Joanne; grandson, Matthew Barrie; granddaughters, Rachel and husband, Travis Steindorf, and Elise Barrie; one fine great-grandson, Adam; and her very dear friend, Doris Sonsteli, all of Kalispell.

Private family services only. No visitation will be held.

Memorials may be given to the Bread of Life, P.O. Box 1235, Kalispell, MT 59903.

SHELBY BAUMBERGER, 42

November 10, 2005 at 5:00 am |

Shelby Baumberger, 42, of Lincoln, passed away Nov. 5, 2005.



The funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12, at Sunset Memorial Funeral Home in Missoula. There will be a reception after the service in the funeral homes community room.

Shelby was born Oct. 2, 1963, to Allen and Anne (Schneider) Baumberger in Rapid City, S.D.

Shelby's passions included his family, pets and the outdoors, where he loved to hunt, ski, snowmobile and ride his horses. Shelby was an excellent cook and always put the needs of others first.

He married his first wife, Sally, in 1988, in Lake Tahoe, Nev., While living in Montana, they had three wonderful children. Shelby was a wonderful father, son, brother and friend.

Shelby later met Theresa Tripp with whom he shared the last few years of his life.

He will be remembered as a friend to everyone and for the love he had for his children and family.

Shelby is survived by his daughter, Carla, and son-in-law, Robert Keeland; son, Derek, who is currently serving in the Navy; and daughter, Starla and son-in-law, Justin Thompson. He is further survived by his father and stepmother, Allen and Polly Baumberger; his mother, Anne Baumberger; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Gaylen Baumberger and Kelly Redmond, Tracy and Teresa Baumberger, and Reid and Tammy Baumberger, with their children. He also is survived by his stepsisters and their husbands, Linda and Howard Nash, and Judy and Gordy Wyman.

Arrangements are under the direction of Sunset Memorial Funeral Home.

Jean Richards Beck, 82

Jean Richards Beck passed away Thursday, Aug. 11, 2005, at Kalispell Regional Hospital, Health Services Northwest. She was 82 years old.

She was born Sept. 22, 1922, in Laykill Haven, Pa., to George W. and Theresa P. (Folk) Richards.

Jean received her nursing degree and registered nurse license from the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia in March 1945, where she also served as a science instructor before joining the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in March 1945. She was stationed in the CBI Theatre (India) where she served during and after World War II. First Lieutenant Jean Richards also served in Postwar Japan where she met her future husband.

Her military honors include the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and Army of Occupation Ribbon with clasp "Japan." Jean's service to the United States is recorded and remembered at the Women's Veterans Memorial at Arlington, Va., near Washington, D.C.

Her interests included helping others through a number of volunteer efforts throughout her lifetime, including shelters for abused women, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and the Veteran's Administration.

She also tutored children and adults in English and math. She spent several years as a volunteer

for Kalispell's Peterson School. Jean's compassionate interest in helping others endeared her to everyone she met.

Jean had a passion for education and spent her lifetime pursuing additional education for herself and encouraging others to do the same.

She maintained an intense love of life and loved children and animals, especially dogs.

After traveling the Northwest many years earlier, she fell in love with Montana and the mountains around Kalispell and retired here in 1992.

Jean was preceded in death by her parents, both of Pennsylvania.

She is survived by her five children, Jean M. Akin of New York, William J. Beck Jr., of West Virginia, Nanette L. Beck of California, Stuart W. Beck of Pennsylvania, and Cynthia C. Beck of California; and her two grandchildren, Forrest and Matthew Beck.

Although no memorial service is planned, Jean had a number of favorite causes accepting donations. These include The American Cancer Society, 3550 Mullen Road, Suite 105, Missoula, MT 59808; Humane Societies or Animal Sanctuaries, 3499 U.S. 93, Kalispell, MT 59901; and any organization that supports and honors U.S. veterans.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Jean's family.

Daniel Irvin Bell, 53

Daniel Irvin Bell, 53, formerly of Kalispell, passed away June 9, 2005, in Sunriver, Ore.

He was born Feb. 22, 1952, in Portland, to Robert Grant and Janet Edna (Hays) Bell.

He grew up in Tigard, Ore., Lincoln City, Ore., and in Kalispell.

He graduated from Flathead High School in Kalispell and attended two years at Flathead Valley Community College.

He moved to Vancouver, Wash., from Kalispell 10 years ago. He moved to central Oregon last year.

Daniel worked in the general construction industry, specializ-

ing in concrete finishing.

He was an avid outdoorsman and enjoying hunting, fishing and mountain biking.

He is survived by his daughters, Geri Louise Sampson of Milwaukie, Ore., and Toni Marie Lee of Vancouver, Wash.; brother, Jim Bell, of Tigard, Ore.; and sister, Nancy Bell, of Sunriver, Ore.; as well as three grandchildren.

Private services will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

Deschutes Memorial Chapel in Bend, Ore., is handling arrangements.

Clarene Bennette, 60

Clarene Bennette, 60, of Libby, died Monday at her home in Libby from cancer.

Survivors include a son, Clay Arbuckel, of Kalispell.

Private family services will be held.

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

David Royce Beckedahl, 55

David Royce Beckedahl, 55, died July 21, 2005, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

Mr. Beckedahl was born Aug. 20, 1949, in Whitefish, to Roy and Lou Beckedahl.

He was a longtime employee at the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company. He resided in both Columbia Falls and Hungry Horse and was an avid outdoor enthusiast, spending many hours hunting and fishing with his family.

He was preceded in death by

his father, Roy Beckedahl.

Survivors include his children, Andrea and Royce Beckedahl, of Columbia Falls; twin brother, Dean Beckedahl, of Livermore, Calif.; stepfather, Leo Ost, of Whitefish; and step-sister, Carol Ost, of Whitefish.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, July 29, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

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

Ruth B. Beckedahl, 93

Ruth B. Beckedahl, 93, passed away July 21, 2005, at her home in Columbia Falls. She was born March 26, 1912, in Whitefish, Ore.

After earning a Bachelor's degree from Virginia State Teachers College in Tampa, Fla., in 1936, she began her teaching career at Hungry Horse, Ore., in a one-room school house. She later moved to Whitefish, Ore., and taught elementary school until her retirement in 1964. While teaching, she completed her master's degree in the field of State colleges. Ruth lived over 40 years in Ontario, Oregon, with her sons, Harry and Bob, and their wives, Mary and Betty. She is survived by her sons, Harry and Bob, and their wives, Mary and Betty. She is also survived by her daughter, Ruth, and her husband, Bob. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Robert and Robert, and their wives, Mary and Betty. She is also survived by her great-grandchildren, Robert and Robert, and their wives, Mary and Betty.



The year 2004 was very special to Ruth as she was able to attend the marriage of a granddaughter, traveled to her birthplace in Whitefish and enjoyed sharing Christmas with both granddaughters and great-grandsons.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Howard and Bertha Douglas Barkell, her brother, Spencer Barkell of Phoenix, her former husband, Clayton Beck and of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., and her cousin, Harry Barkell of Kirkland Lake, Ont.

She is survived by her daughter, Carole and her husband Bill Jensen of Kalispell, her granddaughters, Anne Hughes and her husband, Ted of Missoula, and John Hartman of Wintook, Iowa, and two great-grandsons, Sebastian and Rade, also of Wintook, Iowa, Bill Barkell and his wife, Maria, of Arlington, Va., also son Steve Ruth. There are countless cousins in Kirkland Lake and scattered throughout Ontario.

A funeral service will be held at Johnson's Mortuary in Kalispell on Tuesday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Hollywood Hills, Calif., near her parents.

The family asks that donations be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

RUTH B. BECKLUND, 93

January 24, 2005 at 5:00 am | Daily Inter Lake

Ruth B. Becklund, 93, passed away on Jan. 21, 2005, of natural causes. She was born March 28, 1911, in Bisbee, Ariz.

After receiving her teaching degree from Arizona State Teachers College at Tempe in May, 1933, she began her teaching career at Buckeye, Ariz., in a one-room school house. She later moved to Burbank, Calif., and taught elementary school until her retirement in 1973. While teaching, she completed her master's degree in 1955 at L.A. State College. Ruth lived many years in Ontario, Canada, with her cousin Harry Barkell and his large family. In 1995, she moved to Kalispell.

Ruth truly enjoyed teaching and being a mother and grandmother. Her many hobbies over the years included knitting, traveling, reading and gardening. She was an avid Harry Potter fan. In recent years, feeding "her birds" had become a favorite pastime. At age 91, Ruth delighted in learning to e-mail after the gift of "her machine" from a favorite former fifth-grade student.

The year 2004 was very special to Ruth as she was able to attend the marriage of a granddaughter, traveled to her birthplace in Bisbee and enjoyed sharing Christmas with both granddaughters and great grandsons.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Howard and Bertha Douglass Barkell; her brother, Spencer Barkell of Phoenix; her former husband, Clayton Becklund of San Luis Obispo, Calif., and her cousin, Harry Barkell of Kirkland Lake, Ont.

She is survived by her daughter, Carole and her husband Bill Jensen of Kalispell; her granddaughters, Anne Hughes and her husband, Ted of Missoula, and Julie Hartman of Wauke, Iowa; and two great-grandsons, Sebastian and Kade, also of Wauke. A nephew, Bill Barkell and his wife Marta, of Arlington, Va., also survive Ruth. There are countless cousins in Kirkland Lake and scattered throughout Ontario.

A funeral service will be held at Johnson's Mortuary in Kalispell on Tuesday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m. Burial will be at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Hollywood Hills, Calif., near her parents.

The family asks that donations be made to a charity of their choice in lieu of flowers.

LAVON KNUDSEN BEDORD

February 09, 2005 at 5:00 am | Daily Inter Lake

The independent spirit of long-time Missoula resident, LaVon Knudsen Bedord, released its grip on 90 years of living on Sunday, Feb. 6, 2005.

The eldest of four children, she was the daughter of Martin and Gertrude Knudson. Her walk through life began on Jan. 24, 1915, in Badger, Minn., where her father worked as a telegrapher and later a depot agent for the Soo Line Railroad. In time, and after many moves, the family settled in Voltaire, N.D., where she graduated from high school in 1932.

A two-year stint at Minot State Teachers' College led to a short career as an elementary teacher in rural North Dakota. Wishing to further pursue her vocation as an educator, she moved to Missoula and attended the University of Montana. Soon after her arrival, she met and married Sverre Knudsen on Aug. 25, 1940. A Knudson married a Knudsen!

After Sverre's death in 1977, she sold the family home in Missoula and moved to their house on Flathead Lake. Several years later she met Albert Bedord, a retired farm implement dealer from Missoula.

Following their marriage in 1985, they spent summers at Flathead Lake and winters basking in the warmth of Lake Havasu City, Ariz. Even after Albert's death in 1990, LaVon continued to divide her time between Flathead Lake and Lake Havasu, sharing her life with family and friends in both places.

In the face of a significant vision loss due to macular degeneration, she returned to Missoula, in 1998, as a full-time resident. During the past several years, she has been living at Grizzly Peak Retirement Residence.

LaVon wore many hats on her path through life. A devoted parent, she was always deeply interested and involved in the activities that go along with having four children. Her wide-ranging skills as a homemaker were evident in her talent to transform a pot roast into gourmet fare or a few yards of cloth into a beautiful prom dress. A dedicated gardener, her homes were always a welcoming sight with their beautiful flower garden arrays.

Since her early years in Missoula, she was engaged in many civic activities as president and lifetime member of the Missoula Women's Club. During the late 1950s, as part of her association with the Women's Club, she hosted a weekly television program focusing upon area human-interest stories. Her Scandinavian heritage led to even further civic involvement with a lifetime membership in the Sons of Norway where she served as local chapter president in the 1970s.

Even though failing eyesight made reading impossible, she found alternative ways to sustain her life-long quest for knowledge. LaVon loved stimulating conversation shared over strong coffee and freshly baked cookies. A Christian since birth, her faith-based life included a keen understanding of the Bible and its message. In the end, her life of meaning and substance will be in evidence for generations to come.

9/19/2018

Daily Inter Lake - Obituaries, LaVon Knudsen Bedord

With the power of her ever-present love, she provided strength to her family, son, Gerhard Knudsen and wife, Gayle, of Missoula; daughter, Margit Hatcher and husband, Jim, of Helena; son, John Knudsen and wife, Lauren, of Missoula; daughter, Trudi Shjeflo and husband, Doug, of Kalispell; granddaughters, Olivia Shjeflo of Kalispell, and Elyse and Jocelynn Knudsen of Missoula; grandsons, Brad Dawkins of Great Falls, Erik Dawkins of Bozeman, and Leif Shjeflo of Wenatchee, Wash.; a sister, Marjorie Knosp, of Mill Creek, Wash.; a brother, Darrell Knudson, of Richardton, N.D., and, before his death, younger brother, Winslow Knudson.

Services celebrating the life of LaVon Knudsen Bedord will be 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 11, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Missoula with Pastor Chris Flohr officiating. Interment will be at the Missoula Cemetery following a reception at the Nordic Pines. Visitation will be from 2 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 10, and Friday, Feb. 11, from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at Garden City Funeral Home.

Brad Dawkins, Erik Dawkins, Jim Hatcher, Elyse Knudsen, Doug Shjeflo, and Leif Shjeflo will be pallbearers.

Memorials may be given to the St. Paul Lutheran Church Organ Fund, the American Cancer Society, or the American Diabetes Association.

DAVID W. BENSON, 84

January 04, 2005 at 5:00 am |

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

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

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

After his retirement at age 62, he opened Dave's Welding at his permanent residence in Bigfork, which he operated until his final retirement in 1994.

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

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

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

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

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

VIOLA BELLA (STAPLES) BENSON, 95

March 04, 2005 at 5:00 am |

Viola Bella (Staples) Benson, 95, passed away on March 3, 2005, at Heritage Place in Kalispell of natural causes.

She was born Nov. 11, 1909, in Wyndmere, N.D., to William and Cora (Springer) Staples. She was raised and attended schools in the Havre area.

Viola began her career as a cook at the Dutch Shop Cafe in Havre.

On Sept. 6, 1945, she married Joseph Benson in Kalispell.

In 1950, they moved to Coram. She worked at the Highland Cafe in West Glacier, Club Rocco in Hungry Horse, and at several other places throughout the north Flathead Valley prior to her retirement.

In 2001, she moved to Greenwood Assisted Living and later moved to Heritage Place.

Viola was a longtime member of Jehovah's Witnesses.

She enjoyed gardening and kept a flower bed and a large vegetable garden for many years. She also loved to sew and crochet, and made many quilts and blankets for her grandchildren.

Viola was preceded by her parents; a son, Joseph H. Benson, in 1969; and her husband, Joseph Benson, in 1980.

She is survived by her sons, Edwin and wife, Diane Mundel of Longview, Wash., and Gary and wife, Lois Mundel, of Spokane; daughter, Eleanore Hamilton, of Paragould, Ark.; a sister, Martha Buzzell, of Coram; nine grandchildren, and 19 grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 5, at Kingdom Hall in Columbia Falls. A reception will follow at the North Valley Senior Center, 205 Nucleus Ave.

Erma Eckelberry Benner, 85

Erma Eckelberry Benner, 85, passed away July 3, 2005, just 22 days before her 86th birthday.

Erma Eckelberry Meade was born July 25, 1919, in Creston, in ahead County, Montana, the youngest child born of George Garfield Meade Eckelberry and Mina May (Kinch) Eckelberry, who homesteaded in the valley in 1887.

Erma lived nearly all her life in the Flathead Valley. As a young girl, she cooked for many a "thrashing crew" for her parents on their farm. She learned many adult tasks as a small child, as her parents busied about their farm.

She married Lawrence Edward Benner on June 3, 1940. Upon marriage, they moved to Sunburst, where Lawrence worked for Texaco for a number of years and where Darleen Occhiogrosso McCauley was born. They later moved to Columbia Falls to a small farm where Lonnie was born.

Lawrence and Erma raised cattle, pigs, chickens and the like, while Lawrence worked in the lumber industry as a licensed steamfitter. Erma was a home-maker. She was always eager to help her nephew in the potato fields, and she hauled grain to town during harvest time, helping any relative who needed help. She and Lawrence would haul machinery for repairing, and they enjoyed smoking fish for people.

They tried hard not to miss an auction sale!

She loved to garden when she was able, and she worked side by side with Lawrence at every endeavor he undertook.

They celebrated their 57th wed-

ding anniversary together June 3, 1997.
Her passions were her two children, nine grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren, other relatives and her friends.
When visiting their daughter and son-in-law and family in Washington, they loved to salmon fish, and they enjoyed camping in their motor home. They camped often with family in the Flathead.
She enjoyed painting ceramics, playing pinochle and bingo, reading, and she loved playing cribbage with Tom. He considered her a "shark" at playing crib and she loved to "crow" when she won, often teasing him of dealing off the bottom if and when he got ahead of her.
She loved baseball, and the Seattle Mariners were a favorite.
A kind and generous soul, she lived a life of simple pleasures, the love of family; the peace and joy her embroidery work gave her on the hundreds of pairs of pillow cases she created — how she enjoyed that. Often times she proudly showed drawers full of fresh sewn ones, and anyone excited at seeing the different colors and print, often left the bedroom with a pair in their hand. They were her trademark gift of love.
She greatly enjoyed the satisfaction of being with family and friends in the warmth of her home, before she endured the transition of moving from the farm to Prestige, then Assisted Living and to Heritage Place, where she passed away. She nurtured tenderly, gently and she was blessed in life and death, surrounded by the love of her family and the peaceful embrace of God's universe.
Erma had an abundance of love

to give and was generous in sharing it. She loved her family and her many friends. Her positive attitude, her unbreakable spirit and her vibrant enthusiasm for life guided her through health struggles and heartache, and she inspired those who knew and loved her.
Erma leaves a legacy few can claim, but all should aspire to. She was much more than a daughter, wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, sister, aunt, sister-in-law and friend; she was a pillar of faith and selfless in everything she did. "Her absence in our lives will leave a 'hole' that will never be filled, and she will be deeply missed by those who were privileged to know her. She enabled us to see the possibilities in anything and everything, one day at a time. Her steadfastness and perseverance reflected her hope of eternal life and glory with her savior Jesus Christ. Her profound and unshakable commitment to her Lord carried her through many uncertain events and trials."

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Lawrence E. Benner; her sisters, Margaret Logan, Ruth Olsen, Orisse Wendt, Mildred Eckelberry and Thelma Eckelberry; brothers, George Lee Eckelberry, Gerald, and Kenneth Eckelberry; and grandson, Larry Benner.

She is survived by her beloved family, daughter, Darleen, and husband, Tom McCauley, of Fern-dale, Wash.; son, Lonnie Benner, and wife, Susan, of Columbia Falls; granddaughters, Melody Sheehan and husband, John,

of Bellingham, Wash., Diana McDonald and husband, Scott, of Ferndale, Wash., Lanae Daffern of Tucson, and Laura Hunt and husband, Doug, of Columbia Falls; granddaughters, Leesa and LaKayla Benner of Columbia Falls; grandsons, Chuck Occhiogrosso and wife, Jeanne, of Fern-dale, Wash., Lance Benner and wife, Krissy, of Columbia Falls, Scott McCauley and wife, Sheila, and Ian McCauley, all of Fern-dale, Wash., and Ronald, Logan and Landn Benner of the Valley; great-grandchildren, Lyndee, Bradlee and Matthew Sheehan, Tyler, Ryan and Chasen Occhiogrosso, Ashlee and Preston McDonald, Britni and Sean McCauley, Lauren and Tyler Daffern, Tristen and Dylon Benner, and Ethan Hunt; more like sisters than sisters-in-law, Audrey Wigen and husband, Byron, of Devon, and Jane McDurmont and husband of Shelby; nephew, Rod and wife, Ilo, of Columbia Falls, who we are very grateful to for their constant love and support; numerous other nephews and nieces; and cousins, Eunice and husband, Clyde Johnson, who lovingly supported Erma and kept her in supply of "goodies."

Our deep appreciation goes to Dr. Palcheck, the staff at Heritage, Pastor Newby; and her niece, Adeline Logan, who gave graciously her help, friendship and support.

Memorials may be sent to the Bad Rock Fire Department, c/o Lonnie Benner, 210 Sullivan Cross-road, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

A celebration of life for Erma Eckelberry Benner will be held at 2 p.m. July 8 at Johnson Funeral Home in Kalispell.

Erma had an abundance of love

Deborah Lynn 'Debbie' Bergren, 53

Deborah Lynn "Debbie" Bergren, 53, died on Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2005, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish, from complications of emphysema.

She was born in Kenosha, Wis., on July 13, 1953, the daughter of Gerald J. and Helen Diane (Voight) MacNorius. Debbie attended schools in Kenosha and Whitefish, and graduated from Waukegan Township High School in Waukegan, Ill. During the time she went to Waukegan Township High School, she stayed



with her aunt and uncle and built a close relationship with them.

She loved gardening, but her pet project was inventing unique earrings, which she sold on the Internet for the last 10 years.

She is survived by her son, Shawn MacNorius; parents, Gerald and Diane MacNorius, all of Columbia Falls; a brother, Brian MacNorius; and her aunt and uncle, Anne Benson and John of Waukegan.

Memorial services for Debbie will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, at Johnson Mortuary Chapel in Kalispell. There will be no visitation at the family's request.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Debbie's family.

ANTHONY ROBERT "TONY" BENTON, 44

April 03, 2005 at 5:00 am |

Anthony Robert "Tony" Benton, 44, passed away on Thursday, March 31, 2005, at his home in Columbia Falls.

Tony was born on May 2, 1960, in Albany, Ore., to Robert and Patty Benton.

He had worked as a car salesman for Don K. Chevrolet and was currently working for Mission Valley Motors in Polson.

He was preceded in death by his father, Robert.

Tony is survived by his girlfriend, Patricia Stidman; his mother, Patty Benton; and three sisters, Linda, Terri and Karen.

Memorial services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 5, at the Church of Latter-day Saints, 1780 Talbot Road in Columbia Falls.

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

Alice Anna Beringer, 86

Alice Anna Beringer, 86, passed away peacefully Thursday, Oct. 20, 2005, at the Jan House in Kalispell.



She was born on Oct. 1, 1919, in Plentywood, to Charles and Alma (Halverson) Yeager. Alice graduated from high school and attended nurse's school in Great Falls.

She married Andrew Beringer, Dec. 26, 1937, in Plentywood. She and Andy moved to Conrad, where Andy was a farmer east of Conrad. They moved then to Mansion, eight miles north of Conrad. They farmed there until 1963. In 1963, they moved to Kila, and bought a cattle ranch. They sold the ranch in 1972, moving to Kalispell where they lived until Andy's death in 1997.

She worked as a licensed practical nurse at Kalispell Regional Hospital for 20 years. After Andy's death, Alice moved to the Elm's Apartments until she entered Brendan House in 2004. Alice loved living at the Elms. She treasured her friends there and was also very thankful for all their help and caring.

She was a member of the nurse's association, the senior citizen center board, and was on bowling teams. She loved gardening, bowling, fishing, camping, play cards, crossword puzzles and reading. She was very devoted to her

family, loving holidays and family gathering. She had a stroke in October of 2004 and was "called home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ one year later." The family will miss her a lot but "knowing she is well and living in her heavenly body with God gives us comfort."

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and all her sisters and brothers.

She is survived by her four children, Alden Beringer and Mavis Heitmann and husband, Jerry, all of Kalispell, Richard Beringer and wife, Rosie, of North Bend, Wash., and Calvin Beringer and wife, Terri, of Maple Valley, Wash.; five grandchildren, Kent Heitmann and wife, Betty, of Kalispell, Roxanne Swartzenberger and husband, John, of Kalispell, Richard Beringer II of North Bend, Darrin Beringer and wife, Barbara, of Hamilton, and Kim Martin and husband, Andrew, of Redmond, Wash.; 11 great-grandchildren, Travis and Sarece Heitmann, Candice, John, Bailey and Tony Swartzenberge, Emily, Jacob and William Beringer, also Jennifer and Megin Martin.

Memorial services for Alice Anna Beringer will be held 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with Pastor Larry Stappler officiating. There will be no visitation. Urn burial will follow the service at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell, Montana.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Alice's family.

Vera Janiak Biggar, 79

Vera Janiak Biggar, 79, of Eureka, died Sunday, Oct. 16, 2005, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish. She was born June 16, 1926, in Mishawaka, Ind., to Charles and Frances Barkley Janiak. She came to Montana in October 1930 where she lived with her mother and grandparents in the North Fork of the Flathead.

Her mother married James Sinclair, the Canadian customs officer, in 1931. Vera attended her first eight years of school in Columbia Falls. In 1941, the family was moved to Roosville. She attended high school in Eureka and graduated from Lincoln County High School in 1944.

She worked at the shipyard in Portland as a bookkeeper until the end of World War II. She met and married Mark "Tex" Russel. To

that union, one son was born. They divorced, and she met and married Hugh Biggar in 1949 in Kalispell.

She enjoyed reading, crocheting, crossword puzzles and her dog. Her parents, husband and a son, Gene, preceded her in death.

Survivors include daughter, Annette Biggar, and husband, Neil, of Boston; daughter-in-law, Ellen Biggar of Eureka; grandchildren, Wesley Biggar of Belgrade, Tina Morgan and husband, Brandon, of Eureka, and Leslie Biggar of Kalispell; four great-grandchildren, Kionna, Preston, Cassidy and Rylee; and a sister, Jeanette Ferris, of Eureka.

Private family services will be held.

Arrangements are by the Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

Charles James Berry, 82

Charles James Berry, 82, longtime Columbia Falls resident, died Dec. 28, 2005.

He is survived by his wife, Wilma "Billie" Berry, of Martin City; sons, Michael and

Richard; and daughters, Joy, Renee, Elana, Linda, and Carol.

An informal memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, at the Martin City Fire Hall.

Sherwin Arthur Bevan, 63

Sherwin Arthur Bevan, 63 went home to be with his Lord and Savior on Dec. 16, 2005, as a result of injuries sustained from an auto accident.

He was born in Missoula, on Aug. 18, 1942, to Fred and Alvira (Morris) Bevan. He mainly grew up in Whitefish, on his uncle's ranch, but he also lived in Washington and Oregon when he was young. On his Uncle Dave and Aunt Helen's ranch, he helped with the farming and the mechanical responsibilities. He spent most of his summers bucking hay. When he was old enough he joined the Hot Shot crew and fought fires.

He began his military career in the National Guard and from there he went into the Army. While serving in the Army, Sherwin was stationed all over the United States, Germany, Korea and Vietnam. He always felt very fortunate that he was able to see most of Europe.

When he was stationed in Germany he met and married his first wife, Mary. Together they had two sons, Robert and Lester. He later divorced and married his second wife, Carol. During his time in the Army he served two tours in Vietnam as a crew chief/door gunner on Huey helicopters. He was proud to serve his country. He retired as a staff sergeant after 22 years of service.

Sherwin lived in California with Carol until they were divorced. He came back to Whitefish in 1982. At this time he joined the Sheriff's Posse. He really enjoyed his work with the Posse. He continued working with them for 22 years. He was proud to be an American and would serve his country any way he could.

If possible he would have gone to Iraq to support the troops there.

Sherwin met his wife Cathy in October of 1992. They were married on April 17, 1993. They lived in Ferndale, until the time



of his passing. They were members of the First Baptist Church in Whitefish, and he was a past member of the Whitefish Saddle Club.

He was preceded in death by his parents; stepfather, Ernie Smith; his grandparents, Arthur and Edna Morris; several aunts, uncles, cousins, and his niece, Debbie Hedman.

He is survived by his wife, Cathy Bevan of Ferndale; his sons, Robert of Kalispell; and Lester of Seeley Lake; his stepsons, James Brown of Detroit, Mich., and Michael Brown and his wife, Carissa, of Ferndale; his granddaughters, Kallie, Samantha, and Tabetha Bevan of Marion, Jennifer and Caitlin Brown of Grand Rapids, Mich.; one grandson, Calib Haitman of Lancaster, Ohio; his sisters, Ruth Wynn and husband, Thomas, of Chehalis, Wash., and Joanna Dalton of Spokane; his Uncle Dave and Aunt Helen Morris of Whitefish, and Uncle Art and Aunt Jean of Bigfork; his cousins, Marie Hedman of Kalispell, and Robert Morris and his wife, Patty, who was also his brother and best friend. He is also survived by numerous other nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

He was loved by all and will be missed.

Memorial services will be held 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20, at the First Baptist Church in Whitefish, with Pastor Kent Morrison officiating. There will be no visitation. Full military honors will follow the service at the church.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to the VFW Post 2262, 111 S. Main Street, Kalispell, MT 59901 or to the Flathead County Sheriff's Posse, 920 S. Main Street, Kalispell, MT or to the charity of the donor's choice.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Sherwin's family.

Rosella Billi, 67

Rosella Billi, 67, passed away Thursday, Sept. 22, 2005, at her son's home in Wash.

ella was born March 28, 1938, in Omak, Wash., to Wayne R. and Laura

Fliieger Newman. She was raised in Washington and Oregon, graduating from Newberg High in Newberg, Ore. She attended business school in Portland.

Rosella married James Billi in 1961 in Salem, Ore. She worked as a secretary at the school of Veterinarian Medicine at Oregon State University. She loved knitting and especially her grandchildren.



She was preceded in death by her parents, and a brother, Lowell Newman.

Rosella is survived by her husband, James; a son, Keith Billi; and one daughter, Cheryl Robertson; brothers and sisters, Lila Maheffy, Nina Rifenberg, Bonnie Weddle and Lance Newman; grandchildren, Brianna Neidigh, and Chet, Dawken and Whitney Billi.

Visitation for Rosella will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home Chapel with burial afterward at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Lyle Alton Blackburn, 51,



Lyle Alton Blackburn, 51, passed away at his home in Big Sandy, Mont., on Sept. 15, 2005. He was a graduate of Montana State University and worked in the lumber industry for many years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Blackburn, and his wife, Mrs. Lyle Blackburn. He was a loving father and grandfather.

He had worked in the lumber industry for many years and was a member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

He was a member of the Big Sandy Community Church and was a devoted family man.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Blackburn, and his wife, Mrs. Lyle Blackburn.

He was a member of the Big Sandy Community Church and was a devoted family man.

Lyle Alton Blackburn, 51, passed away at his home in Big Sandy, Mont., on Sept. 15, 2005. He was a graduate of Montana State University and worked in the lumber industry for many years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Blackburn, and his wife, Mrs. Lyle Blackburn. He was a loving father and grandfather. He had worked in the lumber industry for many years and was a member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. He was a member of the Big Sandy Community Church and was a devoted family man. He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Blackburn, and his wife, Mrs. Lyle Blackburn. He was a member of the Big Sandy Community Church and was a devoted family man.

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Helena Pannell Blend

A memorial mass for Helena Pannell Blend who died Dec. 10, 2004, will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at St. Catherine's Catholic church in Bigfork. A buffet luncheon will follow at 122 Parkway Dr., North Shore Harbor.

Doris Aliene Bingham, 95

Doris Aliene Bingham, 95,

passed away Monday, July 25, 2005, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

Doris was born April 27, 1910, in Perth, Kan., to Edward E. and Mabel (Brashear) Smiley. She was raised and attended schools in Perth.

Doris married Herbert R. Bingham in Eldorado, Kan., in 1930. Doris and Herbert moved from Kansas to Cut Bank in 1936 with their four young boys.

Four more children were born in Cut Bank, where Doris raised the family.

In June of 2001, she moved to Greenwood Village Assisted Living in Kalispell, to be closer to her daughter Edra and family.

Illness caused her to have to move to Brendan House in 2005.

Doris worked as a cook at the rest home in Cut Bank for 14 years.

She was a charter member of

the Women of the Moose. She loved gardening, raising beautiful flowers and quilting.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Herbert R. Bingham; a daughter, Tanna Warehime; a son, Mervin Bingham; and two sisters, Pauline and Verna.

She is survived by children, Russell Bingham of Eagle River, Alaska, LeRoy Bingham of Pueblo West, Colo., Jimmy Bingham of Anderson, Calif., Herb Bingham of Pendroy, Edra Dresen of Columbia Falls, and Kay Griffith of Tualatin, Ore.; and more than 70 grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, July 29, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, July 30, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Whitefish Stage Road in Kalispell. Burial will be afterward at C.E. Conrad Cemetery.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.



Paul Emil Bley, 57

Paul Emil Bley, 57, passed away tragically as a result of an automobile accident on Thursday morning, Sept. 15, 2005, outside of Geraldine.

A vigil service will be held 7 p.m. Sunday evening at St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Church in Big Sandy. A funeral mass will be held 11 a.m. Monday morning also at the Catholic Church in Big Sandy with a reception following. Family graveside services will be held Tuesday in Kalispell, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Paul was born to Melvin and Ruth Bley in Havre, on May 5, 1948. He was raised on a family farm eight miles west of Big Sandy. After graduating from Big Sandy High School in 1966, he went on to attend Northern Montana College in Havre, earning a degree in agricultural studies with a business minor.

Paul was married to Valerie Morger in January 1973. Together they had four daughters, Erin, Tessa, Jenna, and Emily. Paul and Valerie later divorced in

1996. Paul continued farming the family farm, dividing his time between Big Sandy and Kalispell. He was a loving son, brother, father, and most recently a grandfather.

Paul enjoyed hunting, fishing, boating and gathering with his friends. His other great loves were traveling and cooking. Most of all, nothing captured his heart more than spending time with his family and his girls, whom were always his pride and joy.

Survivors include children, Erin Bley of Fort Benton, Tessa and Tom McGree of Kalispell, Jenna Bley of Highlands Ranch, Colo., and Emily Bley of Kalispell (currently attending The University of Montana - Missoula); mother, Ruth Bley of Kalispell; sister Donna and Gary Richner of Big Rapids, Mich.; a nephew, Chad and Lori Richner of South Bend, Ind.; a niece, DeAnn Richner and son, Peter Jr., also of Big Rapids; and granddaughter, Molly McGree of Kalispell.

Paul was preceded in death by his father Melvin in June 1974.

The family is asking that all donations be made to: Paul Bley Memorial, Wells Fargo Bank, #1 Johannes Ave., Big Sandy, MT 59520



LYLE ALTON BLACKBURN, 51

April 27, 2005 at 5:00 am | Daily Inter Lake

Lyle Alton Blackburn, 51 , passed away Sunday, April 24, 2005, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

Lyle was born Oct. 2, 1953, in Ft. Meyers, Fla. As a young child, Lyle spent his years growing up in the Bigfork area. He graduated from grade school and then was a self-taught man with many skills.

Lyle had worked in various fields including mechanical, timber industry, construction and was retired from them all.

Lyle was a real family man who enjoyed camping, fishing and mechanics as a hobby.

Lyle was preceded in death by his parents, Marietta Todd and Lyle Blackburn, and a dear friend, Coby Bradshaw.

He is survived by his wife and soulmate, Laura Higgins; five sons, William and wife, Michelle, of Whitefish, James and wife, Michelle, of Kalispell, Anthony and Lyle Jr., both of Kalispell, and Joey Reczek of Great Falls; three daughters, Gina Reczek of Great Falls, Amber Donovan at the family home in Kalispell; and Michelle Sprouse Blackburn of Whitefish; a sister, Vera Lockwood and husband, Jim, of Helena; eight grandchildren, Alexander, Brady, Izabella, Kyla Mae, and Chelsey Blackburn, Allyssa Elavsky, Sean Reczek and Trinity Mestus.

Memorial services will be held 2 p.m. today, April 27, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home Chapel.

The family requests memorial contributions to Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch, 1732 S. 72nd Street, Billings, MT 59106; or the local humane society, 43 Woodland Park Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

JOANN KATHERINE GARDING BLECK, 61

December 29, 2005 at 5:00 am | Daily Inter Lake

On Dec. 23, 2005, Joann Katherine Garding Bleck died as a result of an automobile accident in Spokane. She was born on Dec. 19, 1944, in Kalispell to Erwin and Eleanor Garding. She was raised in Kalispell, graduated from Flathead High School and lived in Seattle; and then moved to Spokane.

She worked for the K-Mart stores for 32 years, retiring in 2004. Afterwards she enjoyed time spoiling her grandsons and having time to enjoy her yard and swimming pool, trying to get rich playing the penny machines at her favorite casino, and spending time with her family and friends.

Joann is survived by her husband, Gary Bleck, of Spokane; daughter and son-in-law, Janet and Mike Mckillip, of Seattle; sons, Craig and Brad Bleck, of Spokane; and two grandsons, Sean and Matthew Mckillip; one sister, Sandi Mason, of Colville, Wash.; two brothers, Donald Garding of Whitefish, and Daniel Garding of Kalispell, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Erwin and Eleanor; sister, Susan Manley; two brothers -in-law, Ray Manley and Doug Mason; and one sister-in-law, Gail Garding.

Memorial services for Joann will be at a later date in the spring.

The family has requested any memorial contributions to be made to the Diabetic Society or a charity of your choice.

She will be deeply missed by all her family and friends.