

Eugene 'Snooks' Aageson, 88

Eugene "Snooks" Aageson, 88, a longtime resident of Havre and Hill County, died Thursday, April 6, 2006, at the Benefis Care Center in Great Falls. Snooks had suffered from Alzheimer's disease the past several years, and his death occurred one week to the day of the death of his wife, Laura Aageson.

His burial will take place at 10 a.m. Maundy Thursday, April 13, in Highland Cemetery. His memorial service will be afterward at 11 a.m. at the First Lutheran Church in Havre.

Memorials may be made to the First Lutheran Church in Havre or to the Alzheimer's Association. Arrangements have been entrusted to Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.

Snooks is survived by three children, Dr. James and Julie Aageson of Moorhead, Minn., Rachel Aageson of Kalispell, and Mark and Carrie Aageson of Havre; seven grandchildren: Erin and Scott Allee of Juneau, Alaska, Anne Aageson of Bellingham, Wash., Megan Aageson of Moorhead, Amy Hanson of Park City, Utah, Michael Hanson of Kalispell, and Gunnar and Ivar Aageson of Havre.

His siblings all preceded him in death, Wallace Aageson, Arvin



Aageson, Lorraine Aageson Gorham and Nan Aageson Nokleberg.

Snooks was born in Hingham, the son of Ella and Asmund Aageson. He helped operate the family's farm until 1942, when he married Laura Miller and they purchased their own farm at Fairchild.

Snooks was a member of Goldstone Lutheran Church and helped build and remodel that church. When Snooks' and Laura's children were of school age, the family moved to Havre, where they were active members of First Lutheran Church. Snooks served on many church boards and always enjoyed working at First Lutheran's annual lutefisk dinner.

In later years, Snooks and Laura built a home in West Glacier. Snooks was an avid golfer and loved to travel during the winters visiting most of the United States and Hawaii. He and Laura traveled twice to Europe and especially enjoyed visiting family in England and Norway.

Snooks was devoted to his family and proud of his Montana roots. His wide circle of friends included golfing partners, fellow farmers and members of his church and community.

The disease that robbed him of his last years of life meant a very long goodbye for his family. Even so, we remember his laughter and smiling eyes, his funny sense of humor, and his warm and welcoming embrace. Blessed be his memory.

Laura Aageson, 86, of Havre, died of natural causes on Thursday, March 30, 2006, at a Havre hospital.

Viewing will be at the funeral home from 7 to 9 p.m. today for family and friends. Graveside services will be held 10 a.m. Monday, April 3, at the Highland Cemetery. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. also on Monday at the First Lutheran Church with Pastors Brad Ulgenes and Michael O'Hearn officiating. A luncheon will follow the service at the church.

Memorials in Laura's name maybe given to the First Lutheran Church, 303 6th Ave., Havre, MT 59501.

Services and arrangements have been entrusted to Holland & Bonine Funeral Home.

Laura was born Oct. 25, 1919, in Gildford, the daughter of Lydia and Henry Miller. She was the youngest of six children, Louis, Leonard, Lillian, Pearl and Henry. Her sister, Pearl Hamilton of Chinook, survives.

Laura graduated from Rudyard High School and attended Northern Montana College. In December 1942 she married Eugene "Snooks" Aageson. Laura and Snooks lived on their family farm at Fairchild and in Havre. During the winter months, they often traveled.

Laura is survived by her husband of 66 years, Eugene "Snooks" Aageson; three children, Dr. James and Julie Aageson of Moorhead, Minn., Rachel Aageson of Kalispell, and Mark and Car-

Laura Aageson, 86



rie Aageson of Havre; and seven grandchildren, Erin and Scott Allee of Juneau, Alaska, Anne Aageson of Bellingham, Wash., Megan Aageson of Moorhead, Amy Hanson of Park City, Utah, Michael Hanson of Kalispell, and Gunnar and Ivar Aageson of Havre.

Laura and Snooks were members of Golstone Lutheran Church until they moved to Havre where their children began school. They joined First Lutheran Church where Laura taught Sunday school, first communion, was an active supporter of Lutheran League and women's groups, and volunteered in many other ways.

Laura and Snooks traveled to many places during the winters, visiting most of the United States, including Hawaii, and many places in Europe, including Scandinavia.

Laura's love and loyalty to family and friends were gifts to all of us.

Her love of farming and Montana shaped her whole life. In her 80s, she still liked "riding the drills" with Mark during seed-time. She learned to paint in her middle years and enjoyed sharing her work with her family. Laura loved sports, especially basketball and golf, following and attending the games of many family members and was always pleased about her own state basketball title in high school.

Her deep faith and trust in God were central to all she did. Most of all, she will be remembered for her generous spirit, lavishing her children, grandchildren, extended family and friends with unconditional love and support.

Blessed be her memory.

Mayme H. Abraham, 96

Mayme H. Abraham, 96, passed away of natural causes Monday, May 15, 2006, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Mayme was born Sept. 23, 1909, in Blackfoot, Idaho, to Jacob and Sena Tibke. The family moved to Cascade in 1920. Mayme attended schools in Cascade and then moved back to Blackfoot to work for a family friend before returning to Cascade.

She married Kenneth M. Wilson on Dec. 29, 1929, in Cascade. They owned a ranch in the Dupuyer area before moving to the Flathead Valley in 1936. Kenneth passed away in 1958.

Mayme was a loving wife and mother. Her favorite hobbies were sewing and reading.

She was also a longtime member of Epworth United Methodist Church and the VFW women's auxiliary.

Mayme married Osman Abraham in 1970 and they later divorced.

Mayme was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Kenneth; son, Kenneth Jr., in 2003; sisters, Bernice, Margaret and Juanita; and brothers, Lester, Roland, Donald and Douglas.

She is survived by two sons, Richard and Connie Wilson of Polson, and Gary and Arlene Wilson of Great Falls; two sisters, Grace Hanson of Cut Bank, and Betty Held of Bigfork; along with eight grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. today, May 17, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services for Mayme will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 18, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, with the Rev. Paul Jones officiating. Burial will be afterward at Glacier Memorial Gardens, with a reception afterward at the Easthaven Baptist Church, 2010 Whitefish Stage Road, Kalispell.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Dorothy A. Abrahamson, 75

Dorothy A. Abrahamson, 75, of Libby, died from natural causes Saturday July 8, 2006, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital.

Survivors include four children, Raymond Abrahamson of Post Falls, Idaho;

Alfred Abrahamson of Libby, Lawrance Abrahamson of Belgrade, and Tammy Lang of Butte.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 13, at Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

Yvonne Marie Acheson, 57

Yvonne Marie Acheson, 57, of Kalispell died April 3, 2006, after a determined and courageous battle with multiple illnesses.

She was born March 23, 1949, in Bertha, Minn., to Harris and Verna Chase, the third child in a family of six. She graduated from high school at Deer Creek, Minn. After high school she moved to Fairbanks, Alaska, for a few years to go to college, where she was wed to James Acheson.

In 1987 Yvonne returned to Kalispell to live after many adventures and became employed at the Heritage Nursing Home. She loved her work and enjoyed the people that she worked with.

Some of the things she enjoyed were her many crafts, miniature horses, little dog Sasha, and any kind of animal that might come her way. Shopping, cooking and the Northwest Montana Fair were some of the things that delighted her. But most of all she loved her children, grandchildren, family, friends and church.

She was preceded in death by her father, Harris Chase, and infant sister, Joanie Jean.

She is survived by her mother, Verna Chase, in Kalispell, three children, Drew Acheson and wife, Julie, of Stevensville, Tracy Ache-

son of Lolo, and Jason Acheson of Columbia Falls; grandchildren, Brandi Sweet, Jocelyn, Natasha and Josette Acheson; great-grandson, Gabriel Sweet; sisters, Jeanne Everhart and husband, Doug, of Erhard, Minn., and Sylvia Stenzel and husband, Roger, of Kalispell; brothers, Michael Chase and wife, Neila, of Kila, and Jeff Chase and wife, Lynn, of Columbia Falls.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, April 7, at the Church of Christ. Arrangements are by the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Special heart-felt thanks to the casket bearers, Roger Stenzel, Joe Stenzel, Gene Peterson, Brandon Peterson, Doug Dougherty and Bob Becker; honorary casket bearer, Gabriel Sweet.

The family also wishes to thank Jimmy Goins, preacher, and the Columbia Falls Church of Christ congregation.

Thank you to Wanda Nichols for the music.

Anyone wishing to donate to a memorial in Yvonne Acheson's name, please donate to Gabby's Place Children's Home, P.O. Box 5408 Kalispell, MT 59903; or Dialysis Clinic Patient Fund, 135 Commons Way, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Karl Hans Adacker, 67

Karl Hans Adacker, 67, died Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2006, in Kalispell.

He has been cremated, and his ashes will be returned to Germany for burial.

He is survived by his

mother, two brothers, four nephews and two nieces, all in Germany.

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

Brett David Adams, 24

Brett David Adams, 24, passed away July 1, 2006, in Kalispell. He was born April 18, 1982, in Prescott, Ariz., to Larry and Nona (Haist) Adams.

Brett spent his childhood in Chino Valley, Ariz., and moved to Montana in November 1999.

During and after high school, Brett worked with his dad in construction work, which lead to his own business, A-Tech Gutters and Drywall.

Brett loved challenges, baseball, archery, skiing, wakeboarding, saxophone, guitar and business.

"There are no words to express how much we will miss your love and laughter. Until we meet again,



we will hold you in our hearts."

Brett was preceded in death by his beloved sister, Spring; and grandfathers, Bob Adams and Melval Heist.

He is survived by his parents, Larry and Nona Adams, of Bigfork; brother, Bill Adams, and wife, Susan, of Branson, Mo.; sister, Gloria Ferrari, of Bigfork; nephews, Andrew Adams, Branden Adams, Jeffery Mc Cormick, Christopher Ferrari and Alac Ferrari, all of Bigfork; niece, Samantha Ferrari, of Bigfork; two grandmothers, Sarah Adams of Prescott, and Pauline Heist of Bern, Ind.; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Memorial services for Brett Adams will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 6, at Bigfork Community Cemetery in Bigfork. There will be no visitation.

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

Jon Paul Adams, 57

Jon Paul Adams "went to be with the Lord" on Feb. 21, 2006.

He was born May 19, 1948, in St. Maries, Idaho, to Carroll and Philis Adams. He graduated from Hamilton High School in Hamilton in 1967.

He married Faith Meyers on Oct. 14, 1972, and they had two sons, Chris and Todd. They also have two grandsons, Chance and Isaac Adams.

Jon was preceded in death by his grandparents, Philip and Nellie Long, and Chalmer and Lena Adams; his father, Carroll Adams; and a beloved niece, Holly Timmons.

He is survived by his wife, Faith; sons, Chris Adams, and Todd Adams and his wife, Jennifer, and their sons, Chance and Isaac; his mother, Philis Adams; his sister and brother-in-law, Alaina and David Board; his nephews, Jeff Timmons and his wife, Carla, sons, Brad and Truman, and daughter, Brittney, and Greg Timmons and his wife, Laurie, sons Kevin, Bob and Mike, and daughter, Nina. He is also survived by his father- and mother-in-law, Ronald and Bertha Meyers; brothers-in-law, Rod Meyers and his wife, Holly, their sons, Shawn, Dylan, Cody and Adam, and daughter, Rachel, Jim Meyers and his wife, Lorraine, and



Randy Meyers and his daughter, BreAnne, and son, Brenton; and his sister-in-law, Vicki Funk, and her husband, Paul, daughter Shelby, and son, Conner; and many uncles, aunts and cousins.

Jon loved life and fought a long, courageous, and often painful fight against diabetes, blindness, renal failure and heart disease. He never gave up the fight, never complained and handled his health problems with grace. He impressed everyone with his bravery in the face of his many infirmities.

He loved his family and his God more than anything, often saying that he didn't care whether he had a penny to his name as long as he had his family around him, and that his sons were his greatest treasure. He loved his grandsons, who loved him back and called him "The Incredible Papa."

He loved to travel and enjoyed racing stock cars and hanging out with his sons. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Those wishing to give a memorial in his honor may do so to Lifeline of Hope International Orphan Aid, 135 Kelly Road, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Visitation for Jon will be from 2 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at the church of The Nazarene, with burial afterward at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Shirley Ann Adams-Hamond, 72

and music.

Her greatest love was her children, grandchildren, brothers and sisters, and the Lord.

Visitation will be held from noon to 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 19, at Riplinger Funeral home, 4305 N. Division, in Spokane. A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at Riplinger Funeral Home; with interment afterward at Holy Cross Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery, 1004 E. Eighth Ave., Spokane, WA 99202.

"Rest now, Mom, with Jesus. From all of us who love you and who you loved, thank you!"

Shirley Ann Adams-Hamond,

72, was born Jan. 12, 1934, in Sheldon, Iowa. She passed away April 15, 2006, in Spokane.

She is survived by her children, Brian Hamond, Wanda Adams, Norma Buzzard and Tyre Adams; 11 grandchildren; and siblings, Paul Adams, Erwin Adams, Barbara Hicks and Patricia Peterson.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Edward "Ted" and Laura Adams; and brother, Hugh Adams.

Her hobbies included knitting, sewing, jewelry making, picture painting, all arts and crafts, gardening, water fights, badminton

Sherry J. Addy, 55

of Columbia Falls; her father, Roy Oldfield of Iowa; a sister, Vicki Johnson of Gilchrist, Ore.; a brother, James Bjorgo of Bull Shoals, Ark.; a daughter, Shelly Addy, and two granddaughters, Kehllyn and Autumn of Eugene, Ore.; and son, Jeremy and grandson, Mikkel Ray, both of Iowa.

She will be remembered in the hearts of those who loved her.

Private services to be held later at the home of her sister in Oregon.

Sherry J. Addy passed away in the early evening of May 11, 2006, at the North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

Having moved here in her early teens, she chose to make the beautiful Flathead Valley her home.

She loved fishing and the great outdoors. She was known to be a hard worker with a heart of gold and a wonderful sense of humor.

She is survived by her companion and friend, Robert "Jes" Borst

Grace May Albright, 87

Grace May Albright went peacefully Sept. 16, 2006, surrounded by her loving family in Kalispell.

Born July 5, 1919, in Dos Palos, Calif., to Oscar and Esther Jacobson. She married Nolan E. Albright on July 12, 1937. They enjoyed many adventures and travels for 53 years. Grace loved spending time with all of her family.

She enjoyed sewing, canning, playing card games, hiking, camping, and many other fun things. She was very good at remembering birthdays, mailing cards and letters regularly. Grace often talked of her numerous jobs. She enjoyed working at her uncle's gas station and Pingles Drug Store in Dos Palos, and the ship yard during World War II.

In 1947, Grace and Nolan moved to Calveras Big Trees State Park. They also lived in Sonoma Coast, Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park, Curry Bidwell State Park and Lake Oroville, all in California. While living in the Oroville area, she worked for Todd McGinnis, also Montgomery Ward in the parts department. She was a member of the First

Christian Church of Dos Palos.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Carl Jacobson; husband, Nolan; her son, Leland; and daughter in-law, Debbie Albright.

She is survived by her daughter, Alma, and son in-law, Clinton Shields, of Columbia Falls; and daughter in-law, Karen Albright, of Lamar, Okla.; grandchildren, Pam and Cliff Christensen, Terri and Todd Downen, of Kalispell, Cindy Shields of Columbia Falls, and Shawna Albright of Vacaville, Calif.; great-grandchildren, Michael Christensen and Amanda Christensen of Kalispell, and Teen Shields of Columbia Falls; sisters, Bea Tiffiee and Letha Zusan, of Dos Palos, Thelma Cline of Stockton, Calif.; sisters in-law, Bess Jacobson of Rohnet Park, Calif., and Jeannie Finch of Vacaville; brother-in-law, Bob and Zella Albright of Oklahoma; and several nieces and nephews. She loved them all dearly.

Services will be held at 1 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 27, at Scheer Memorial in Oroville.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Dos Palos First Christian Church or to charity of choice.

James L. 'Jim' Alleman, 48

James L. "Jim" Alleman, 48, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2006, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. He was born Jan. 21, 1958, in Peru, Ill., the son of John Leonard and Phyllis Anne (Starkey) Alleman.

He attended schools in Tonica, Ill., and graduated from Tonica High School in 1976. He attended Illinois Valley Community College in Oglesby, Ill., and received an associate's degree as a machinist.

He worked for several years in Illinois as a machinist, including at Sunstrand and several other machine shops, before relocating to Kalispell seven years ago where he was employed at Semitool. At the time of his illness, he still was

working at Semitool. He was a very proud employee and was a very strong believer in the integrity of Semitool.

He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying hunting and fishing.

Jim is survived by his mother, Phyllis Alleman, of Tonica, Ill.; his father, John Alleman, of Ottawa, Ill.; two sisters, Mary Alleman of Mount Lebanon, Pa., and Barbara Alleman of Warrenville, Ill.; a brother, Bill Alleman, of Palatine, Ill.; three nieces and five nephews.

There will be a visitation for Jim from 2 to 6 p.m. today, Dec. 1, at Johnson Mortuary. Funeral services will be in Illinois.

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

James E. 'Jim' Alefteras, 52

James E. "Jim" Alefteras was born April 19, 1954, to Jim and June (Line) Alefteras in Whitefish. Jim passed away May 16, 2006, in Aberdeen, Wash., from heart failure. Jim started school as Jim-Stock. He attended in Olney, Whitefish and Demarsville. After school he went to the Job Corps in Darby.

In 1971, he married Linda Ivers, moving with their daughter, Jina, to Centralia, Wash. They later moved to Hoquiam, Wash., White Sulphur Springs and Rock Springs, Wyo., and Vernal, Utah, where he drove heavy equipment and a truck.

In 1984, he married Nettie Nauman in Montesano, Wash., making their home in Elma, Wash. They moved to Kalispell where he drove a logging truck for Keller. They then moved to Montesano where he drove a logging truck.

He is survived by his mother, June Kuenzel, of Hayden, Idaho; his children, Jina Clark of Spokane, and Melody, George, Katy and Ira, of Montesano; his sisters, Jeanie Emerson of Spokane, Kim Hansmeir of Prosser, Wash., Tam-

my Humes of Minot, N.D., and Dawn McClain of Columbia Falls; brothers, Monte Fox, John Alefteras of Priest River, Idaho, Greg Alefteras of Prosser, Rocky Alefteras of Shelton, Wash., Tom Alefteras of Arizona, Alex Alefteras of Minot, Peter Anderson of Shelton, and Joe Franz of Cheyenne, Wyo.; stepsisters, Margaret Campbell of Columbia Falls, Cindy Fox and Gail Burlison; aunts and uncles, George Alefteras, Robert Alefteras, and Swede and Helen Anderson, all of the Centralia area, Mary (Gable) Kuhn of West Richland, Wash., and Lilly Westerlund of Whitefish; and special cousins, Gail Henrick of Kalispell, Patty Mack and Kathy Tellegen, both of Whitefish, Barbara Loveall of West Richland, and Casey Alefteras of Centralia.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Donnie Fox; father; grandparents, Ed and Sarah Line, and Tom and Mary Alefteras; five uncles, two aunts, two cousins and two second cousins.

Cremation has taken place.

A graveside memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, June 2, at the Whitefish cemetery.

Martha Mary Allen, 89

Martha Mary Allen, 89, passed away peacefully at Kalispell Regional Medical Center on Thursday, Dec. 21, 2006, with her family by her side. She was born Aug. 14, 1917, in Cameron, Texas, to Charles and Frances Simecek.

She met and married Hardy D. Allen in Vancouver, Wash., in 1950. They lived in Kellogg, Idaho, and in Crockett, Calif., before moving to Columbia Falls in 1954.

After Hardy retired from the aluminum plant in 1974, they moved to Lakeside, where they lived until 1982, when Hardy passed away. Martha then moved to Whitefish to be closer to her son and daughter-in-law. She lived in Whitefish until 2005 when she moved to the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

Martha was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Hardy; two brothers, Charles and Albyn Simecek; and a sister, Julie Covey.

Martha is survived by two brothers, Alfred "Fritz" Simecek

of Temple, Texas, and Joe Simecek of Buckholts, Texas; and by three children, son, Robert Allen and his wife, Patricia, of Kalispell, and two daughters, Carol Schumacher and her husband, Wally, of Broadus, and Martha Leighton and her husband, Michael, of Jackson, Miss. She is also survived by five grandchildren, Holli Hansen of Aledo, Ill., Brady Allen of Havre, Kristen Peterson of Helena, Patti McClinn of Kalispell, and Janice Smith of Spokane; and four great-grandchildren, Brandon, Zachary, Madelyn and Amber.

Martha requested that no funeral service be held for her as she wanted her friends to remember her in life rather than her death. A private family burial service will be held in the summer of 2007.

Memorial contributions may be made to the donor's choice or to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 2411, Great Falls, MT 59403.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Ole Amundson Jr., 77

Ole Amundson Jr., 77, of Dayton passed away Tuesday, June 20, 2006, at HealthCenter Northwest in Kalispell from natural causes. He was born July 17, 1928, in Kloten, N.D., to Ole and Clara Amanda Haugen Amundson. He attended school in Kloten, and worked in construction and farming in the Wadena, Minn., area until moving to Montana in 1979.

He enjoyed working in his garden. He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Claras; and a brother, Elton.

Ole is survived by his wife, Myrtle, of Dayton; and a stepson, Jerry, and Donna Hefner of Dayton.

Cremation has taken place and no services are planned at this time.

Arrangements and cremation under the direction of Grogan Funeral Home in Polson.

Ole married Myrtle Hefner Light in 1948 in Fargo, N.D.

Malvern K. 'Mel' Alsbury Jr., 76

Malvern K. "Mel" Alsbury Jr., 76, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2006, at the Evergreen/Polson Health and Rehabilitation Center in Polson. Mel was born in Salina, Kan., Nov. 20, 1929, to Malvern K. Alsbury Sr. and Mildred (Robison) Alsbury. The family moved to California in 1937.

Mel's lifelong passion for cars began at an early age. At age 15, he began working in the family-owned automobile dealership. He graduated in 1948 from Hollywood High School and entered the Army in 1951. Mel was stationed in Fort Ord and served in Okinawa, Japan. He married Rae-Nell Laskey March 24, 1952, in Santa Barbara, Calif. They had four children.

The Alsburies enjoyed the great outdoors, and the family spent vacations in the mountains and camping at the Colorado River with friends and family. Boating, fishing and waterskiing were favorite pastimes. Mel moved to Montana in the early 1970s and worked at several local automo-



bile dealerships, including Manion's and Roy Stanley's.

He is preceded in death by his parents; a brother, George Alsbury; and ex-wife and best friend, Rae-Nell Alsbury.

He is survived by four children, Christie Lindsey and husband, Ray, of Agoura, Calif., and Deborah Brekke, Kasey Alsbury and Kimberly Araiz and husband, Tony, all of Kalispell; four grandchildren, Crystal Araiz-Phillips and husband, Rod, Jennifer Rae Araiz of Kalispell, Rachael Marie Billmeyer and husband, J.D., of Bigfork, and Ryan Scott Brekke of Agoura, Calif.; four great-grandchildren, Gage, Nathan and Jordan Phillips and Zachary Nell, all of Kalispell; two sisters, LaVonne Read and husband, Robert, of Glendale, Ariz., and Lorraine Lynch of Las Vegas; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Graveside services for Mel will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 7, 2006, at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery with Chrysta Bourne of Shining Mountain Church of Religious Science officiating. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. until noon on Monday in the Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

Johnson Mortuary & Crematory is caring for Mel's family.

Mary Amos, 86

Mary Amos, 86, passed away Nov. 28, 2006, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork. She was born Jan. 29, 1920, in Cornucopia, Ore.

Mary had many friends in the Flathead Valley, and for the past few years she resided at Lake View Nursing Facility in Bigfork. Her family wishes to thank the staff of Lake View for marvelous care and love shown their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother during her stay there.

Mary is survived by her daughter, Kay Lafley, of Las Cruces, N.M.; sons, Harold L. Elston of Arkansas, and Charles A. Elston of California;

grandchildren, Terri Finch of Kalispell, Alan Elston of Kalispell, Shawn Lafley of Kalispell, and Robert Lafley of Missoula; great-grandchildren, Mandy Elston of Kalispell, Timothy Elston of Kalispell, Tom Elston of Portland, Ian Lafley of Eureka, Cindy Nelson and family of Missoula, Geri of Wyoming, and Grant Matthew of Missoula.

Mary requested that she be cremated, and no public services be held. Her ashes will be spread over her birthplace.

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

Clarice Whitney-Peterson Almquist, 82

Clarice Whitney-Peterson Almquist, 82, passed away with her daughter Linda at her side on Feb. 21, 2006, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She was born on March 20, 1923, in Hardy, Neb., to Cyril and Velva (Irwin) Whitney. After her father, Cyril, passed away in 1927, her family moved from Chanute, Kan., to Fort Dodge, Iowa. Her mother married Mervin Peterson of Fort Dodge five years later, and Clarice came to be known as Clarice Peterson. It was here she grew up with her younger brother and sister, Monte and Virginia (Ahrens).

After graduating from Fort Dodge High School in 1941, she moved to Chicago and received her infant nurse training from Augustana Hospital. She was a nurse at Swedish Covenant Hospital for 15 years as well as providing private infant care for various families around the country.

Her co-workers introduced her to Sixten "Bink" Almquist, a tall, good-looking Swede. They were married on Nov. 1, 1947, at North Park Covenant Church in Chicago, where they raised their two children, Linda and Edward. During the Chicago years, she combined her nursing skills and her caring nature by opening her heart and home as a foster parent to 13 newborn infants awaiting adoption. They retired to Wisconsin where they lived for 20 years before moving to Kalispell in 2001. They had celebrated 56 years of marriage before Bink passed away on Feb. 2, 2004.

Over her lifetime she served others in many ways. She was employed as a teacher's aide and volunteered for many organizations including RSVP, Meals on Wheels, school breakfast programs, Lutherdale and was honored for her classroom volunteer work in Janesville, Wis. She was also involved in many church activities including choir, board membership, quilting and women's groups.

Clarice was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolu-

tion in every community where she lived and had been a member of various historical research organizations.

Perhaps her greatest legacy was evident in the exquisite needlework she created and the beautifully organized family albums of photos and documents she compiled from her years of genealogical research.

She enjoyed spending time with family, working puzzles, card and board games with friends, sewing, knitting, watching movies and travelling. A lifelong love of dolls translated into many hours spent restoring dolls and creating beautiful wardrobes for them. Clarice's artistic nature was also expressed in her flair for decorating, which was evident to anyone who visited her home.

Being a person who always put other people first was a gift she freely gave motivated by a warm and caring heart, and everyone who came into contact with her was a recipient of her accepting, deeply friendly spirit. Had you been lucky enough to have known Clarice, you would have been struck by her optimistic, open-minded and gracious nature. She was always young-at-heart and a progressive thinker.

Clarice leaves behind her daughter, Linda Paisley, of Kalispell; her son, Edward Almquist and wife, Jean, of Bartlett, Ill.; and five grandchildren, Ian Paisley of Denver, Laura Paisley and Elizabeth Almquist, both of Chicago, and Tessa and Dan Almquist of Bartlett; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Those wishing to give a memorial in her honor may do so to Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois, 7620 Madison Street, River Forest, IL 60305.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, March 2, at Northridge Lutheran Church to celebrate her life and the gift of eternal life. Interment for both Clarice and Bink will be held later this year at Memory Gardens Cemetery in Arlington Height, Ill.

Esther Anderberg, 89

Esther Anderberg of Helena passed away of natural causes at the age of 89 on March 7, 2006.

Esther was born on Nov. 1, 1916, in Helena, to Ernest and Theresa (Stefon-ski) Chriske.

She married Bror "Vern" Vernor Anderberg of Malmo, Sweden, in 1939. They moved to Columbia Falls and lived in a cabin on the Flathead River below the Veterans Home where he worked. In 1943, Vern was killed in an accident at the Portland shipyards.

After Vern's death Esther moved her family to Bremerton to live with her sister, Olga. Following World War II, the family moved to the Raleigh St. Chriske family home where, with the help of her brothers and sisters, she raised her two children.

Esther was extremely proud of her sister, Louise, and brothers, Clarence, Walter, Arthur and Heinz Chrikes' service in the military during World War II. Her sister Olga was a welder at the Bremerton Shipyards.

Esther's hobbies included gardening, especially flowers, jigsaw puzzles, water conservation ("don't waste it") and playing the accordion until some "kid" broke it.

Prior to her marriage she worked for Percy Gaw Insurance and then the Hart Insurance Com-



pany.

She retired from the Federal Government Treasury Department.

Esther had a special way about her and it showed in her attitude towards the people of Helena. She would often say, "There are a lot of nice people in Helena. I don't know all their names, but they are really nice."

Esther is survived by her daughter, Alice Anderberg of Helena; son and daughter in-law, Clarence and Noreeta Anderberg of Columbia Falls; brothers, Clarence Chriske of Helena, and Heinz Chriske of East Helena; sister and brother in-law, Louise and John Miller of Helena; grandchildren, Mark and Sharon Anderberg of Chicago, Carl and Andree Anderberg of Helena, and Paul Anderberg of Conrad; great-grandchildren, Karri and Katlyn Anderberg of Chicago, and Emma Anderberg of Helena; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Preceding Esther in death are her parents; brothers, Walter, Ernest and Arthur Chriske; and sister, Olga Tursich.

Services for Esther will be held 1 p.m. Monday, March 13, at Hagler Anderson Funeral Home. Interment services will follow at Forestvale Cemetery.

Memorials in Esther's memory and honor can be sent to the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), 501 N Park Ave., Helena, MT 59601 or Hospice of St. Peters, 2475 Broadway, Helena MT 59601.

Robert Valdemar Andersen, 77

Robert Valdemar Andersen passed away in his home, the one he and his wife built on Flathead Lake, on Oct. 9, 2006.

Robert, or Bob, as he was known by his countless friends, was born Aug. 7, 1929, in Westby, the son of Martin and Marie Andersen. He grew up in the farming community around Westby, played basketball in high school, and graduated from Westby High School in 1947.

Starting with self-study and correspondence courses at the age of 13, he developed an insatiable curiosity and passion for electronics, where he repeatedly excelled in formal training after high school. Bob graduated with honors from the Coyne Electrical School in Chicago in 1949. He then joined the Navy in September 1950, where his service included active duty in the Korean War as a radio technician on board a destroyer, instructor training school in San Diego, and a faculty assignment at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago.

After leaving the Navy in 1955, and beginning an entrepreneurial career that spanned four decades, Bob established a television repair business in Chicago. His desire to live in the Northwest led him a job with Boeing in Seattle. On frequent trips between Seattle and Westby, he discovered and grew to appreciate the natural beauty of the Flathead Valley. He left Boeing and moved to Kalispell where he was soon thereafter joined by his parents, who relocated from Westby to Kalispell.

He married the love of his life, Joan Park, on May 19, 1962. Joan joined with Bob in caring for Robert J. "Bobby" and Kathy, Bob's children from his previous marriage. Bob and Joan then gave birth to two boys, Richard and John, and raised them in Kalispell.

He founded and ran a Motorola two-way radio business in Kalispell and later joined with Terry Maki from Libby in building A&M Communications, which operated branches in Kalispell and Libby. As a businessman, he earned a reputation for honesty, integrity, hard work and fairness. He was well-known and respected by his customers in the timber, law enforcement, and public safety sectors. A&M employed many people over the years in the Flathead and was a thriving business when Bob sold his part of the business and retired in 1985.



From his earliest days growing up in Westby, Bob had a native Montanan's love for the outdoors. His passion for hunting and fishing spawned many hunting trips with friends throughout the state, and fishing trips to places as distant as Alaska and as near as Flathead Lake, where he enjoyed countless hours on his boat with family and friends. Bob and Joan introduced their kids to Northwest Montana's splendor through many camping and hunting trips, and summers on Flathead Lake and in the surrounding area.

Bob was a very gifted technician, craftsman and builder. He was legendary in his ability to understand how things worked and fix just about anything. His natural engineering talent, strength and creativity are visible in many ways, including the retirement home he and Joan built on Flathead Lake and in the cabin he and his family built — from trees off the land over the course of 13 years — in the North Fork. Bob was wonderful at building lasting memories.

He had a warm and quick wit, loved to spend time with friends, and had an almost magnetic appeal to children, especially his grandkids. His nieces and nephews visited often and shared many outdoor adventures. He particularly delighted in spending time with boundlessly enthusiastic grandchildren, Megan (5) and Nathan (3), who treasured tractor rides, swimming at the lake, and playing games with their "Grandpa Bob."

He did many wonderful things for his family and friends and was very generous with his time and talents. He simply liked to help others, and yet his intelligence and tenacity enabled him to help others deal with the most complex types of problems. Many stories about his inventiveness and generosity have been shared in recent days and have given the family much comfort.

If readers of this notice wish to call or write, they are welcome to do so. The family is also preparing an online memorial to Bob at <http://robertandersen.blogspot.com/> where you can share your memories of Bob.

Bob overcame several health-related challenges with the help of gifted physicians and the support of family over the past 13 years and was living vibrantly at the time of his sudden and unexpected death. For those years, for the unwavering devotion and care he gave to his wife, Joan, in her last years, and for the joy he expressed to his last days, the family is eternally grateful.

Bob and Joan together shared a love for camping, entertaining on Flathead Lake, and visiting relatives in many Western states. They kept a busy and open home with frequent visits from John, his wife, Stacey, and his loving and adoring grandkids, Megan and Nathan, who live in Kalispell, as well as Richard and his wife, Ursula, who made many trips and called often from their home in San Jose, Calif.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife, Joan; his parents, Martin and Marie; and sister, Florence.

He is survived by his immediate family mentioned earlier and sister, Marilyn Casey, of Visalia, Calif.

A memorial service celebrating Bob's life will be held at First Presbyterian Church in Kalispell at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 16.

The family suggests that donations in memory of Bob be made to First Presbyterian Church of Kalispell c/o Robert V. Andersen Audio Assistance Memorial, which will provide necessary equipment to aid the hearing impaired.

Joan Park Andersen, 76

Joan Park Andersen "went to be with the Lord" on Feb. 16, 2006, at her home on Flathead Lake with her family by her side. Joan, often called Joanie by her friends, was born Sept. 21, 1929, in Amarillo, Texas, the daughter of Arthur and Olive Park. She grew up in Salt Lake City, and graduated from Lewis and Clark High School in Spokane.



She attended Saint Patrick's Nursing School in Missoula, graduating in 1950. Upon graduation, she worked in Oakland, Calif., Missoula and Butte until she relocated to Kalispell to be close to her parents, who had retired and built a home on Angel Point, just south of Lakeside.

Joan spent the majority of her 50-year nursing career working in the Kalispell family practice offices of Dr. Robert Benke and Dr. Bruce Allison. She was very fond of the doctors and colleagues she worked with and also the many patients she came to know as friends.

She married the love of her life, Robert Andersen, on May 19, 1962, and joined with Robert in caring for stepson, Robert J., and stepdaughter, Kathy. Robert and Joan gave birth to two boys, Richard and John, and raised them in Kalispell.

Because Joan's father's work had required her family to move several times during her youth, she vowed that "her boys" would have the opportunity to start and graduate from the same school system. They did, and for that they are very grateful. The family also attended First Presbyterian Church in Kalispell for many years, and Joan helped establish faith and an appreciation for church community as central elements in the life of her family.

Joan was wonderful at making and capturing memories. She was quick to laugh, had a natural gift of hospitality, and loved nature and the Flathead. She did many wonderful things that went largely unnoticed, simply because she liked to help people and didn't seek attention for herself. She took two young ladies into

her home while she had toddlers herself and helped them through their own childbearing experiences.

Many stories about her kindness have emerged in recent days and have given the family much comfort. If readers of this notice wish to call or write, they are welcome to do so. The family is also preparing an online memorial to Joan at <http://joanandersen.blogspot.com/> where you can share your memories of Joan.

Robert and Joan together shared a love for camping and entertaining on Flathead Lake, visiting relatives in many Western states, and the lovingly spoiled dogs that shared their homes and lives.

In 1990, Robert and Joan built their retirement home on Flathead Lake near Somers and in recent years were blessed with several new additions to the family. John and his wife, Stacey, along with their boundlessly enthusiastic children/grandkids, Megan, 4, and Nathan, 2, frequently visited from Kalispell; while Richard and his wife, Ursula, made many trips and called often from their home in San Jose, Calif.

Joan was a woman with a tremendous capacity to care, and loved many people and many aspects of God's creation. She loved hummingbirds, Glacier Park, flowers, Erma Bombeck's humor, and her trips to Portugal, Hawaii and Scotland, staying in close touch with friends and a large extended family, and exchanging letters. She had beautiful handwriting.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Arthur L. and Olive Park, of Lakeside and sister, Patricia "Patsy" Gilbertson, of Tucson, Ariz.

She is survived by her immediate family mentioned earlier and brother Arthur H. "Art" Park of Kent, Wash.

A memorial service celebrating Joan's life will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, at First Presbyterian Church in Kalispell. There will be no visitation.

The family suggests that donations in memory of Joan be made to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, 43 Woodland Park Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

Caroline Oie Anderson, 95

On Aug. 8, 2006, Caroline Oie Anderson "passed into Heaven." Caroline, more affectionately known as Carrie, lived 90 years in Polson, the home of her birth. During the past five years she resided in Columbia Falls with her daughter and son-in-law.

Carrie was the third child of 11 children born to Ole and Margaret Oie of Polson. Her father was a blacksmith, and her mother was busy raising and tending to the large family.

Carrie, as a youth, was very industrious and ambitious, and found numerous jobs to help out the family, often at the expense of her own needs and ambitions. She completed her schooling through high school in Polson, graduating in 1928.

She was married to Carl E. Anderson of Polson in 1932. They had two children, Carl James Anderson of Polson, and Karen Marie Anderson (Anderson) of Columbia Falls.

Carrie's eventual calling as a retail salesperson began during her high school days as she asked for work at Davis Mercantile in Polson, working there after school and weekends, and then later working at Funke and Sons retail clothing and general goods store; much of this work was for little pay due to the economy. She was a very dedicated employee and in a brief time had mastered many of the necessary skills of retail sales. During the ensuing years she managed to keep gainfully employed throughout the Depression era. At one point, after the birth of her second child, she was forced to leave Polson briefly to find work in the panhandle of Idaho, again in the clothing business located near a Civilian Conservation Corps facility.

On her return to Polson she began her long tenure with Pearce Style Shop in Polson, and became sought out by her many customers from miles around. She had that ability to make a customer pleased with the purchase and took the

time necessary to make a positive sale. Carrie was the consummate employee; loyal, hard-working, responsible and always available. She later became associated with Doreen's Fashions, also in Polson, and after a brief retirement from clothing sales, she was back to work with Krubsack's Jewelry in Ronan. In this position she commuted to Ronan from her Polson home and lent her experience and loyal service to Mrs. Krubsack during the next six years, leaving only after the business was sold. She had worked with the public in sales into her 80th year, concluding more than 65 years of being "on the job." When she was not at work she found relaxation by sewing and baking.

She was toughened mentally and physically by living through two World Wars, and numerous geographical conflicts, the Great Depression, loss of siblings and parents, loss of her husband, a mugging, several broken bones, and a hip fracture at age 93. In all of that she never lost interest in family, and particularly her children to include grand- and great-grandchildren.

She is survived by her brother, Robert Oie, and sister, Virginia Peek, of Polson; her son, James, and his wife, Arliss; and daughter, Karen, and husband, Bill; grandchildren, Alan and wife, Denise, of Camas, Wash., Anna and husband, Eric Larson, of Petersburg, Alaska, Jean and husband, Gary Soderberg, of Cossman Cove, Alaska, John Anderson of Buckeye, Ariz., Pamela and husband, Brett McCrumb, of Polson, Tricia and husband, Norman Rosenthal, of Princeton, N.J., Lynnette and husband, Thorsten Jessat, of Columbia Falls, and Jill and husband, Josh Johns, of Seattle; 16 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren; and numerous cousins and nephews.

A family memorial service will be conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, in Polson at the Polson Cemetery.

Roger Joseph Anderson, 70

Roger Joseph Anderson, 70, passed away Saturday, April 8, 2006, in Missoula.

Roger was born May 16, 1935, in Janesville, Wis., to Elmer and Cora (Keyes) Anderson. Roger graduated from high school and attended some college. He was an honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. Air Force. He married Linda Beth Biby in Great Falls in 1977. They had 29 wonderful years together. Roger worked for the Civil Service for 32 years before retiring. He was a member of the Eagles Lodge and

volunteered large amounts of time to the Flathead soccer team.

He loved hunting, fishing, woodworking, gardening, pets and spending time with his family.

Roger is survived by his wife, Linda, of Marion; children, Randy Anderson and wife, Sara, Rhonda Anderson and husband, Ed Boggs, and Brian Anderson and Lisa Cloutier; and three grandchildren, Jestine, Karissa and Raymond.

Roger's family asks that memorial contributions be made to St. Patrick House, 501 W. Alder, Missoula, MT 59802.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.



R. Dale Anderson, 73

R. Dale Anderson, 73, passed away April 26, 2006, at his home in Columbia Falls.

He was born Aug. 11, 1932, in Great Falls to Lester and Bernice Anderson. Dale attended school in Columbia Falls and later received an associate of arts degree from Flathead Community College. He served in the Army for two years and the Army Reserve for six years.

Dale worked on the Alaska pipeline and on road construction for many years.

He belonged to the Shriners and enjoyed staying busy at retirement, doing yard work and helping elderly people with theirs.

He was a Grizzly sports fan and

enjoyed rafting and camping. He took great pride in his grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Joann. Dale is survived by his children, Tim Anderson of Anchorage, Alaska, Mark Anderson and Elizabeth Remington of Kallispell, and Michael Anderson of Belgrade.

A memorial graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 20, at Woodlawn Cemetery. Friends may meet after the service at Mark Anderson's residence.

Arrangements are with the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Wilbur Leland Anderson, 74

Wilbur Leland Anderson, 74, died Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2006, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. He was born Feb. 8, 1932, near Colony, Wyo., at the family home. The doctor came from Belle Fourche, S.D., so Wilbur's birth certificate lists that incorrectly.



He grew up in the Albion, Mont., area and graduated in 1950 as valedictorian from Carter County High School in Ekalaka. Over the years contact with his classmates was always a very high priority.

After high school he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served during the Korean War from 1951-1955 with over two years spent in the war zone. In 1956 he went to Wichita, Kan., to attend college with help of the G.I. bill.

On July 4, 1956, he met Phyllis Hinderliter on a blind date. They were engaged Christmas Eve 1956, and married June 30, 1957. Both were attending Wichita University. Phyllis completed her studies for an associate's degree in late 1957 and Wilbur graduated from Fort Hays State, Kansas, in 1960.

They returned to Montana to the family ranch for a year. While there Roma Lee was born. Never was there a father more proud of his child!

Next Wilbur taught in a country school in Wyoming. He had two students and Phyllis and Wilbur learned to really depend on each other in an isolated setting. Gina Lucille was born while they were there and when she was 1 month old they moved to Busby where Wilbur taught industrial arts for the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Their third (and last) daughter, Gail Marie, was born at Busby. Wilbur delivered her at home unexpectedly. It was a wonderful, special happening for the couple but nothing they would have done intentionally — 40 miles from the hospital. Wilbur's girls were his pride and joy and that love for them continued his entire life.

Wilbur entered the public power field when they moved to Livingston and he worked for Park Electric Cooperative. This would be the beginning of over 30 years spent in the field. He was dedicated to the rural electric program and its goals.

He worked for Hill County Electric and Triangle Telephone Cooperatives in Havre, and spent six years in Washington State as a division manager for Okanogan PUD in Brewster, Wash., before returning to Montana to serve 20 years as the general manager of Vigilante Electric Cooperative in Dillon. There was one "side trip" of one year when he worked at Purdue University but you cannot keep a Montana boy out of the state for very long and he was glad that he could spend his career years in the state he loved.

During his years he served as president of the Northwest Public Power Association, secretary of the Western Montana Managers Association, general manager of Western Montana G & T and on many, many committees and boards.

His dedication also extended to civic activities and over the years. He was president of Jaycees, Kiwanis, and the Chamber of Commerce. In Dillon he served on the City/County Airport board for many years and the Western Montana College Foundation board for 19 years.

He was a private pilot and loved flying. He had been involved in a large air show at Brewster, Wash., and the Civil Air Patrol plus was president of the Havre Hangar of Montana Pilots.

He was appointed to the Montana State Board of Public Education and served a seven-year term. He was very proud of being chairman when the board approved the teaching of Indian language in schools by non-tenured teachers so that the languages would not be lost.

He was a life member of VFW Post No. 4042, Bigfork. Being a veteran was something he was very proud of.

Wilbur and Phyllis were fortunate to purchase property south of Creston in 1986. They worked on developing it for nine years, driving back and forth from Dillon. They retired there in 1995. The move to Bigfork was wonderful and they made many good friends. It has been a gift!

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff of the Montana Veterans Home, especially those in the Special Care Unit. Their love and concern was wonderful and will never be forgotten.

Wilbur was preceded in death by his father, Lorenz Casper Anderson; his mother, Mary Lee Arbuckle; and his stepfather, Franklin Pierce Arbuckle.

He is survived by his wife, Phyllis, of Bigfork; daughters, Roma Krebs and her daughters, Gemma and Hannah, of Tucson, Ariz., Gina and Tom Harrah of Fountain Hills, Ariz., and Gail Anderson and her daughters, Angelique and Devin, of Midland, Texas.

Funeral services for Wilbur Leland Anderson will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11, at Crossroads Christian Fellowship, 7465 Montana 35 in Bigfork, with the Rev. Hal Curtis officiating.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that you send memorials in Wilbur's name to either Intermountain Children's Home, 500 S. Lamborn, Helena, MT 59601; or the charity of your choice.

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

Lucille C. Annala, 89

Lucille C. Annala, 89, joined "Our Lord" on Friday, Aug. 18, 2006, in Kalispell.

Lucille was born March 4, 1917, in Spokane.

She is survived by her daughter, Alanna Susan Brasen of Kalispell; grandchildren, Sharon Annala Goedhart and husband, Mike Goedhart, of Twin Falls, Idaho, Laura Brasen Lloyd and her husband, Hunter Lloyd, of Bozeman, Lincoln Brasen and Lindsay Lard of Gilbert, Ariz., and Leslie Brasen and Mitch Klindt of Kalispell; great-grandchildren, Alex Goedhart, Logan Brasen, Ramey Lloyd, Addiley Lloyd and Layla Brasen; sisters, Dorothy Dolan and Mary Ann Murray of Spokane; and brother, Ronald Kofmehl of Indianapolis, Ind.; as well as many nieces, nephews and other family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Lorraine Dewey; son, Richard Annala; and husband of 50 years, John J. Annala.

Lucille attended Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School and



Marycliff High School in Spokane. After graduating she attended Comptometer School to go on to work for Sears Roebuck Co. and then Graybar Electric Co.

She met and married John J. Annala after only knowing each other for a month on Dec. 9, 1944. She always said "it was love at first sight." Lucille and John lived in many places throughout the United States before finally calling Geysers home.

In the later years, they wintered in Arizona with family and friends until John's passing in 1995. Then Lucille moved to Great Falls and again moved to Kalispell to be closer to her daughter.

At Lucille's request a graveside service for family and friends will be held 2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, at Fort Harrison Veterans Cemetery, followed by a memorial reception at Jorgenson's in Helena.

If friends desire, in lieu of flowers, please make a memorial contribution to the Gift of Life Foundation or a charity of your choice.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Buffalo Hills Funeral Home and Crematory.

Anne H. Archie, 61

Anne Archie died on Sept. 24, 2006, at her home in Kalispell. Her courage, independent spirit, and wry wit remained intact through nearly a year of ups and downs with lung cancer.

Anne was born and raised in Wisconsin, where she married Bill, her high school sweetheart. In 1978, she moved with Bill and their four children to Columbia Falls. The mountains and streams brought and kept them here, and Anne became an avid fly angler.

After the kids left home, Anne and Bill bought a cabin in the hills south of Kila. Anne enjoyed quiet living in the forest, watching deer in the meadow, pitching horseshoes, and battling the



brush.

Anne worked for many years in Dr. Newman's dental office in Columbia Falls, and then at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. She was known as the person who kept things running behind the scenes, with a tremendous organizational skill and commitment.

Anne is remembered with love by many, including Bill, her husband of 43 years; the families of her four children, Chris and Cari; Peter and Alexa; Michele and Howard; Paul and Diane; and Greg and Teresa, Lauren and Emily; and her brother and sisters, Rick Heinzen, Debbi McKim and Mary Heinzen.

A celebration of Anne's life will be scheduled in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

William 'Allen' Arlint Sr., 81

William "Allen" Arlint Sr., 81, "passed into the arms of his Savior" on Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2006, at his home in Kalispell. He was born on July 24, 1925, in Kootenai, Idaho, to William and Hazel (Kaufman) Arlint.

Allen moved to Ronan at the age of 5 after living in Livingston and Missoula a short while. He received his early education in Ronan.

On Sept. 5, 1942, Allen married Betty Drebes in Ronan. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps, serving his country from 1943 to 1945. Returning to the Ronan area, Allen worked for Milo's Conoco and also farmed west of Ronan.

On July 24, 1956, he started working for Glacier Wholesalers and was able to buy into the business in 1967. He eventually purchased the business and just recently celebrated 50 years of service there. Despite retiring, Allen could be found working at Glacier Wholesalers with his sons who now operate the business.

Allen was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church where he served as financial secretary and elder.

He enjoyed farm work, espe-



cially building fences and driving his tractor.

Allen was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Howard and Ralph; and a sister, Mildred Black.

He is survived by his wife, Betty; three sons, William Allen "Bill" Jr. and wife, Linda; Timothy James and wife, Barbara; and John David Arlint and wife, Tamra; and one daughter, Thelma Mae Weigum, and husband, Archie, all of Kalispell; sisters, Marie Decker and Elizabeth Reum of Ronan; 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Allen will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 5, at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church with Pastor Mark Cutler officiating. There will be a private family burial.

The family suggests memorial gifts be given to the Trinity Lutheran Church, Youth Center & Camp.

Johnson Mortuary & Crematory is caring for Allen's family.

Minnie M. Arnold, 76

Minnie M. Arnold, 76, passed away March 18, 2006, in Nine Mile Falls, Wash.

She was born July 7, 1929, in Whitefish, the daughter of Ross and Alice (Stocking) Donohoe.

Minnie was preceded in death by her loving husband of 55 years, Roy Arnold, in August 2005.

She is survived by her children, Matt Arnold and Lenya Treewater of Seattle, Mark and Robin Arnold, John and Stephanie Arnold, Cathy and Mike Sacco, Joe Arnold, and Beth and Jim Brasch, all of Spokane, Peggy and Scott Spiegelberg of Corvallis, Ore., Tom and Kathleen Arnold, and Bill and Dina Arnold, also all of Spokane; 23 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

As a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, she was a true leader of the Arnold clan.

Minnie grew up and graduated from Whitefish High School. She met Roy after he returned from World War II. Minnie's activities included volunteering at Holy Family Hospital as a patient advocate, leading the Arnold clan in family songs as an



accomplished pianist, and orchestrating a safe, loving home. Her skills from nursing school helped with keeping her nine children healthy.

Minnie was always concerned for others more than herself, a true testament to her faith.

Minnie Mae was loved deeply by her husband, family and friends. "The chain is broken, but will be linked again when we are reunited with her and Roy."

Visitation will be from noon to 5 p.m. Friday, March 24, at the Hennessey Smith Funeral Home in Spokane. Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Assumption Parish. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 25, at Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, 3624 W. Indian Trail Road, in Spokane, with committal services afterward at Holy Cross Cemetery, 7200 N. Wall St.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Hospice of Spokane, P.O. Box 2215, Spokane, WA 99210-2215; or Gonzaga Prep New Chapel Fund, 1224 E. Euclid, Spokane, WA 99207.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Hennessey Smith Funeral Home, 2203 N. Division St., Spokane, WA 99207, (509) 328-2600.

Willard Rodman 'Rod' Ash, 78



Rod, beloved husband, father, grandfather, passed away Nov. 5, 2006, two days after his 78th birthday after a brave battle with cancer. He was at home, surrounded by family.

Rod, the youngest of four, was born Nov. 3, 1928, to Robert W. Ash and Myrtle G. (Rork) Ash in Southern California. He attended schools in Oakland, Calif., receiving his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees in anthropology and teacher's credential from UC Berkeley (1947-1954).

He met and married June Ellen Fischer at Cal Berkeley and moved to Shasta County in 1954 where he taught for 30 years at Enterprise High School. He was teacher, counselor, chairman of the District Social Studies Department and initiated an ecology program for the students at the High School.

He was manager, vice president, and player agent of Cottonwood Youth Baseball.

While in California, Rod helped organize the Teachers' Local 1320 A.F. of T, and served as the editor of the Local 5 Counties Labor Council.

He helped organize the Wintu Audubon Chapter in which he served as conservation chairperson for many years. He was chairman of the Shasta County Democratic Committee and was county chairman of the Robert Kennedy and Hubert Humphrey campaigns.

In 1984, Rod and June retired to their log cabin in the Swan Valley in Condon, which they bought in 1969 and where they had camped with their family in the Mission Mountains since 1960. They became active in the Flathead Audubon immediately and Rod served as president of

MT Audubon for 5 years. He also became an officer of the Grounded Eagle Foundation for a period of time and served as the president of the Upper Swan Valley History Group. In 1995, Rod served as precinct chairman and ran unsuccessfully on the Democratic ticket for the State Senate.

Rod was a founding member of the Swan Citizens' ad hoc Committee and became president of the Swan Ecosystem Center which occupied his work and passion to the last days of his life. He was a true believer in bringing people together to achieve a harmonious balance in living, working, enjoying and conserving the beauty and special qualities of the Swan Valley.

Rod and June received the Flathead National Forest Danny On Award in 1993. Rod was Conservationist of the Year for Montana Audubon in 1999. In 2000, both Rod and June were awarded "Lifetime Achievements" with Montana Audubon and Volunteer of the Year from the Swan Ecosystem Center in 2003.

Rod loved his Swan Valley home where his passions included gardening, bird watching with June, and hiking and fishing in the Mission and Swan Ranges.

He leaves June, his wife of over 55 years, best friend, and soul mate; and children, Gordon and wife, Susan Kemper, David, Ellen and husband, Kirk, Sullivan of Montana, and James and wife, Erin McDonough of Andover, Mass; also grandchildren, Jessica and Jennifer Ash, and Galen and Elena Sullivan, also of Montana; and six nieces and nephews.

Any remembrances of Rod's extraordinary life may be sent to the Swan Ecosystem Center, 6887 Montana 83, Condon, MT 59826; or MT Audubon, P.O. Box 595, Helena, MT 59624.

Sandra Lee 'Sandy' (Clifford) Arnold, 49

Sandra Lee "Sandy" (Clifford) Arnold, of Kalispell, passed away suddenly on Wednesday, March 1, 2006, at the age of 49.



A prayer service will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday, March 6, at the Buffalo Hill Funeral Home on U.S. 93 North. The celebration of her life will be held 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, on the fairgrounds in the Expo Building in Kalispell. A potluck luncheon to celebrate her life with friends and family will follow immediately after. Pastor Vernon Joyce will be the celebrant.

Sandy is survived by her daughter, Ashley; stepchildren, Jennifer and Tommy Arnold of Texas; mother and father, James and Dolores "Babe" Clifford of Shaunavon, Saskatchewan; sister, Patti and George Cobb and

nephew, Bryan, of Swift Current, Saskatchewan; brother, Wes and Carol Clifford and family, Jacquie, Connie and Michael; numerous aunts and uncles, cousins, and nephews all over North America.

Sandy was born in Shaunavon, on Oct. 10, 1956. Sandy has lived and worked in Kalispell since 1982. Her love for friends and family was ever flowing and always on her mind. Her true love and devotion to her daughter Ashley was always her first priority.

Sandy loved flowers, loved life and most of all, she loved her God.

"Sandy our Guardian Angel will forever look down upon us to give us strength. Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same but as God calls us one by one the chain will link again." Sandy will be sadly missed but fondly remembered by her family and friends.

Marjorie Ruth Beck Asselstine, 87

Marjorie Ruth Beck Asselstine, 87, passed away on Friday, June 30, 2006, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She was born on March 30, 1919, in Big Sandy to Harry A. and Jeannette (Brown) Beck.

Marjorie moved with her family to Kalispell in 1923, where her dad was offered a job by Mr. Conrad as a caretaker of the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. She had wonderful memories of growing up there and often said that when she died, it would be like going home again.

Marjorie worked as a salesperson most of her life, starting with F.W. Woolworth Co., Buttreys Department Store, and finally at Montgomery Wards Co.

During World War II, she worked in the shipyards at Vancouver, Wash., while her husband, Rudy Aune, served in the Air Force in England. When he returned from the military, they moved back to Kalispell, where they made their home until he passed in 1976. They had two children, David, who passed away in 1982, and Marianna Ward, who resides in Kalispell.

In 1979, Marjorie married Cliff Asselstine. They did a lot of traveling to the Pearl Harbor survivors conventions in Hawaii,

Texas, Oregon, etc. He passed away in June of 2000.

Marjorie, who worked as a salesperson, loved meeting and talking with people and helping them with their purchases. Her other interests were reading, sewing and most of all, working in her flower and vegetable gardens.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Warren and Kenneth Beck.

Marjorie is survived by her daughter, Marianna Ward, of Kalispell; one brother, Bob Beck and his wife, Joan, of Columbia Falls; one sister, Dorothy Peterson of Las Vegas; three grandsons, David Lee and Jerry Aune, both of Portland, and Joe Aune of Ohio; one granddaughter, Linda Ward of Cottonwood, Ariz.; two great-granddaughters, Kimberly Ward-Duong and Elizabeth Aune; one stepdaughter, Shan Corban and her husband, Ron, of Bigfork; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Marjorie had been living at the Immanuel Lutheran Home since 2005. The staff were all so loving and caring to her and made her feel like family. They liked to call her "grandma." She made friends with several of the residents.

Graveside urn burial will be at 2 p.m. Friday, July 7, at C.E. Conrad Cemetery.

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



Lester Willey Averill, 85

Lester Willey Averill passed away peacefully May 15, 2006, surrounded by his family and caregivers, ending a long and adventurous life. His life was consumed by hard work, family, community and a determination to leave this world a better place. His vision and legacy continues to bring enjoyment and memories to families around the world.



Les was born July 3, 1920, in Tabor, Alberta. He was the fourth son of Samuel and Tillie Averill. The Averills left their ranch in Canada, where they raised horses for commercial use, and relocated to Somers, a town exploding from the timber industry and railroads. Les grew up in Somers and attended Flathead County High School, where he played football and became an Eagle Scout. In 1938, Pan American Airlines, the first commercial airline, was recruiting talented young men and Les tested in the top 1 percent. He completed his pilot training in Spokane. Les quickly moved to Miami to become Pan American's youngest commercial captain at the age of 20.

As World War II progressed, Les enlisted in the Army Air Corps and soon was transporting military aircraft around the globe. Les piloted B-17s, B-24s, Corsairs, and P-51s, across the north Atlantic, to Alaska, South America, Africa, India and China. Les would log more than 5,000 hours flying in service to his country, earning the rank of major.

One of his most memorable flights was when he returned home from the war and flew a bomber from India to Great Falls, taking time to buzz over his hometown of Somers so low it shook the groceries off the shelf at Sliter's Store. A celebration took place in Kalispell when he landed the large aircraft.

On his 70th birthday, Les again shook Somers and Bigfork as he was flying the only remaining four-engine B-29 on a flight from Spokane to the Kalispell Air Show. Les always said he had flown around the world and had never seen anything as beautiful as flying over the Flathead Valley.

After the war, he came home to marry Doloris Dufour, his high-school sweetheart, who grew up next door in Somers. Doloris attended the University of Montana and later became an English teacher in Bigfork. In 1945, Les gave up his flying career and risked his entire military savings to acquire the Flathead Lake Lodge property, then a deserted set of buildings built in 1932 on 100 acres of lakeshore land. Later he would expand the lodge property to

include 2,000 acres along Flathead Lake. He had a vision during his flying days to return to Montana and create a place where others from around the world could experience the beauty and grandeur of Montana.

Les created his vision of the Lodge and style of Montana hospitality that has endured 60 years of success and continues to be a model for the hospitality industry. It was his concepts of how to provide family hospitality that produced four generations of repeat guests and a return rate of over 70 percent.

Les was one of the first and few commercial outfitters in the wilderness. Many local friends contributed to the success of Les' hunting camp. In the Lodge lobby is a bronze telling the story of Les' pack string being attacked at night on his horse by a grizzly bear. Later he had a second encounter, being dragged out of his camp tent in his sleeping bag by a marauding grizzly. These life experiences added to the enjoyment of his storytelling around the fireplace in the Lodge.

Les trained himself to become one of the early wildlife adventure film photographers, shooting 16mm film. He captured scenes from the wilderness and wildlife, which he marketed for early television wild-

life films. Numerous television and national magazines featured Les in his many real-life adventures in Montana. In 1964, Les helped lead Montana's Centennial train to New York's World Fair. A train loaded with more than 100 horses, wagons, stagecoaches and ranchers traveled across the nation holding parades in dozens of large cities before reaching New York. This was Montana's largest and most-successful marketing program ever completed. At age 42, he expanded his ranching lifestyle to include a large cattle ranch west of Kalispell. Later in his years, Les began a Christmas tree farm, planting and harvesting thousands of trees in the Echo Lake area.

Les attributed his confidence and the way he approached life to his early experiences as an Eagle Scout. He remembered his mother's tears when he said goodbye to earn his Eagle Scout Award by walking alone at age 15 for a week through the Bob Marshall from north to south before quality trail systems were developed. He was a lifelong supporter of scouting and was pleased to help with the acquisition of Melita Island for scouting and have a camp named in his honor.

Doloris preceded Les in death, passing at age 50 of cancer, leaving Les and four sons. Les married Virginia "Ginny" Clark on Oct. 22, 1970. This began a new chapter in Les' life.

Les loved Bigfork and enjoyed volunteering for many organizations that enhanced the community. As president of the now Community Foundation For A Better Bigfork, he was particularly proud of helping to establish the library and Village Square Art Center.

His biggest challenge came at age 76 when he suffered a massive stroke and underwent brain surgery. To everyone's amazement he survived and recovered to endure two more strokes, and nine long years with restricted physical ability and loss of sight. He showed unbelievable resilience in these last years, showing humor, compassion and patience, and he enjoyed every day as it came. Les was able to remain comfortable at the home he and Ginny built on the shores of Flathead Lake. He was forever grateful to the wonderful caregivers, Jessica Kurkowski, Rachele Centner, Robin Gough, Kristen Hollemans, Carol Amick, Debbie Conaway, and Saia Misa, who provided 24-hour care to him and Ginny.

He had a deep belief in God, which he wrote about as he flew bombers across the Atlantic, often alone, flying by compass, looking for land before he ran out of fuel. Les was a man of remarkable physical strength and stature. He had many near-death experiences in his adventures that left him stronger in all that he attempted. Les lived the American dream, he lived to the fullest, he loved his country and Montana, and was dedicated to his family and friends. He was a great American and true Montanan, and a wonderful, kind, gentle man. He will be greatly missed.

His parents and three brothers, Stan, Clifford and Kenny, also preceded him in death.

His wife, Virginia, remains at the family residence at Flathead Lake Lodge. Surviving are eight sons, Dan and Laurie Averill, Darv and Sheila Averill, Doug and Maureen Averill, Dal and Kathy Averill, and Brad and Maryanne Averill, Jim Clark, Kent and Jan Clark, and Marc and Debbie Clark. There are 22 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Funeral arrangements are being directed under Johnson Mortuary and Crematory. A memorial service will be held for Les' close friends and family at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at the Swan Lake Chapel. After the service, a celebration of life and military honors will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. at Flathead Lake Lodge.

The family suggests memorials to The Community Foundation For A Better Bigfork, c/o Jerry Bygren, P.O. Box 486, Bigfork, MT 59911.

Katherine Alice Bercier Azure, 93

Katherine Alice Bercier Azure, 93, passed away Sunday, Nov. 12, 2006, at Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born Sept. 5, 1913, in Belcourt, N.D., to Joachim and Mary Swain Bercier.

She married Louis E. Azure in 1927 in Killarney, Manitoba. In 1940, they moved to Wolf Point. Katherine worked as a cook at the Triangle Cafe for many years.

They moved to Columbia Falls closer to her daughter, Rose Moran.

She was a member of the St. Richard's Parish in Columbia Falls.

Katherine kept her Chipewewa and French traditions and culture alive by baking her own La gallet (bread) making grends (finely ground choke cherries) and cooking la bouillon (bullets) during la shut d' lawn (New Year Holiday).

She was one of the last fluent speakers of the Michif language.

She will always be remembered as grand-mamma to all her great-grandchildren. She was a very gentle woman who offered so much love so everyone.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Louis, in 1996; and her son, John, in 1981.

She is survived by her daughter, Rose, and Alfred Moran Sr., of Columbia Falls, 18 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, and many great-great-grandchildren; and a great-great-great grandson, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Her memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls, with the Deacon Bob Pearce officiating. Her ashes will be buried with her husband in Wolf Point.

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