

Kenneth Keith 'Kenny' Cameron, 84

Kenneth Keith "Kenny" Cameron, 84, passed away on Friday, July 28, 2006, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.



He was born on June 12, 1922, in Rapid City, S.D., the second of 10 children born to Archie and Hazel (Horton) Cameron. Kenneth moved with his family to Montana at an early age.

He worked in the Round Butte area as a farm hand and at various mines around Montana. In the '40s Kenneth drove for Intermountain Bus Company driving the route from Kalispell to Bonners Ferry.

Kenneth married Marie Hyatt in 1960, in Idaho Falls, Idaho, and the couple lived in Utah and Nevada. Kenny owned and operated his log truck at Libby, Mont., Idaho and Utah.

He spent 15 years as a heavy

duty mechanic in Las Vegas. After Marie's death, Kenneth moved to Kalispell to be near his family.

Kenny loved to dance, and he loved to sing.

He was constantly tinkering and was an excellent mechanic.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his wife; parents, infant sister and two brothers, Fred and Archie Jr.

He is survived by four sisters, Vivian Workman of Eureka, Goldie Tremis and husband, Jack, of Butte, Cecil Whitehead and husband, Richard, of Kalispell, and Josephine Bouton and husband, Micky, of Kent, Wash.; two brothers, Don Cameron and wife, Dana, of Moyie Springs, Idaho, and Earl Cameron and wife, Pat, of Kalispell; along with numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Graveside services for Kenneth will be held 10 a.m. Monday, July 31, at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Kenneth' family.

Lavonne Virginia Cameron, 72

Lavonne Virginia Cameron, 72, passed away Saturday, Feb. 18, 2006, at her residence in Kalispell, after a long, courageous battle with cancer.



She was born Sept. 28, 1933, at Aitkin, Minn., the daughter of John H. and Angeline (Chatelle) Wilson. Lavonne moved to Kalispell when she was 6 years old. When she was a kid she worked at a soda fountain and delivered papers for the Daily Inter Lake.

She married Fred Cameron in 1948. They raised two children, Melvin and Vicki.

Lavonne worked at Olie Lee Boat Plant, Small's Potato Farm, cherry warehouse, and O'Neil's Print Shop in 1979.

Fred and Lavonne purchased Kalispell Wrecking. They worked there and ran it until they sold it in 1986.

She was a very devoted housewife and mother. She loved to fish and hunt. She loved and enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Lavonne was preceded in death

by her husband, Fred Cameron; her parents, Jack and Babe Wilson; one brother, David Wilson; and one granddaughter, Julie Drewniak.

She is survived by her son, Melvin Cameron, and his wife, Shirley, of Columbia Falls; her daughter, Vicki Drewniak, of Kalispell; three granddaughters, Cheryl Brenno and husband, Shane, Ronnie Cameron and Jenny Cameron, all of Columbia Falls; one grandson, Wally Drewniak, of Aberdeen, Wash.; and one sister, Joanne Drake, of Dalton, Ga.

Funeral services for Lavonne will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, at Johnson Mortuary Chapel, with burial after the services at Glacier Memorial Gardens. A reception at the Eagles in Kalispell, where Lavonne was a lifetime member, will be after the burial. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today, Feb. 22, at Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

The family suggests memorials be made in her name to Hospice Home Health Options, 175 Commons Loop, Ste. 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

Mae Guffey Campbell, 98

Mae Guffey Campbell, 98, died in her home in Kalispell with her beloved husband, Harry Campbell, at her side on Aug. 31, 2006.



She was born May 3, 1908 in Far West, Mo., the daughter of William Jephtha and Lucy Luenda (Littrell) Guffey.

Mrs. Campbell worked as a retail salesperson in Denver and an insurance salesperson in Great Falls, early in her life. Later she greatly enjoyed working with her husband on numerous ranches. They loved traveling between ranches, sometimes traveling over 500 miles in a weekend.

She was preceded in death by her children, Norman Livengood and Peggy Dwiggins, as well as

two grandchildren, Lynn Livengood and Thelma Livengood Korb. She was also preceded in death by her mother and father and two sisters and four brothers.

In addition to her husband of 56 years, Harry Campbell, she is survived by four grandchildren, Judy Mae Hickey, Bonnie Farrar, Connie Souza and Edward Livengood. She is also survived by 12 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at noon Tuesday, Sept. 5, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1380 Whitefish Stage Road, in Kalispell. Graveside services will be held 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8, at the Mount Hope Cemetery in Baker, Ore. There will be no visitation.

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

Pauline Moselle Canada, 76

Pauline Moselle Canada, 76, died Nov. 4, 2006, at Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born to George Carl and Annie (King) Christian on Nov.



23, 1929, in Benson, Ariz., the youngest of eight children. Her early childhood was spent in Arizona until 1941, when the family moved to Modesto, Calif. After graduation from high school, Pauline worked in a bank in San Jose, Calif.

In 1951, she married Homer Canada. Her stepson, Ronnie Ree Canada, came to live with them in Sunnyvale, Calif., in 1952. From the time of her marriage, Pauline was a hard-working homemaker. In 1955, a daughter, Joann Rose, was born.

Pauline was widowed in 1967. Left with a young daughter to raise, she enrolled in secretarial courses and was employed as executive secretary at the San Jose YMCA. She moved to Tucson, Ariz., in 1978 and continued working as executive secretary at the YMCA until her retirement in 1984.

After retirement, Pauline moved to Nampa, Idaho, and then to Boise, where she lived with her sister-in-law, Alma Christian, and later with her niece, Becki Blankenship.

She enjoyed reading and working in her iris beds.

In November 2005, Pauline suffered a stroke while on vacation in Oregon. When she was able, she moved to Kalispell to be near her daughter and son-in-law, Joann and Steve Russell, and grandchildren, Sara Russell, and Jake and his wife, Amanda Russell. Even though each day was a challenge, Pauline was happy to be close to her daughter and family.

About 10 years ago, Pauline rekindled a high-school friendship with Dale Welch of Reed-sport, Ore. They enjoyed traveling together and were a very happy couple. Her time with Dale was some of the happiest of her life.

Pauline was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Annie Christian; her husband, Homer Canada; brothers, Ray, Wilbur, Art and Jesse; and grandson, Clayton Earl Russell.

She is survived by her daughter, Joann, and husband Steve; grandchildren, Sara Russell, and Jake and wife, Amanda Russell; sister, Lila Andrews; brother, Roy, and wife, Violet; sisters-in-law, Alma Christian and Ruby Christian; nieces, Lana and husband, Brian Johnson, Sandy and husband, Gene Huffman, Becki Blankenship, Brenda Christian, and Cheri and Bart Bartholomew; nephews, David and wife Candy Christian, Gary Christian and Tim Christian; great-nephews, Josh Bartholomew, Bret and wife Allison Johnson, Keith Christian, Benjamin and Andrew

Huffman, Justin and wife, Stephanie Blankenship, Grant and wife, Candace Blankenship, and Remington Hanson; great-nieces, Janine Johnson, Cindy Christian, Stacy, Jennifer and Amber Bartholomew; great-great-nephew and niece, Corbin Blankenship and Audrey Paige Johnson; and special friends, Jane Rice, Kay and Julie Stewart and Dale Welch.

Pauline loved her family and her small circle of friends, and cherished her time spent with them. She took with her a lifetime of happy memories.

Cremation has taken place. No services will be held at this time. A celebration of her life with a gathering of family and friends will be held in Boise at a later time this spring.

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

Donald Lewis Canfield, 58

Donald Lewis Canfield, 58, passed away at his Kalispell home Saturday, Oct. 21, 2006. Donald was born Sept. 30, 1948, in Youngstown, Ohio, to Carl Lewis and Eileen (Fleischmann) Canfield. He was raised in Covina, Calif., and graduated high school there.



He married Linda Hilley in West Covina, Calif., in 1973. Donald worked as a heavy-equipment operator and landfill operator. He was the best cat skinner west of the Mississippi. Donald enjoyed operating his equipment, hunting, fishing, building stuff, riding his four-wheeler (playing with his toys), his children and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Carl Lewis Canfield; and a brother, Ronald Lee Canfield.

Donald is survived by his wife, Linda Canfield; mother, Eileen Kerekes; daughter, Renee, and husband, Hal, Sturdevant; sons, Don and his wife, Mandy, and Casey Canfield; brother, Larry and Debbie Canfield; sister, Linda Merrill; aunts and uncles, Laura and Tony Petrocco, and Butch and Sandy Fleischmann; nephews, Brian

and David Palmer, Eric and Silas Canfield; and nieces, Stephanie Kathman, and Elise and Marie Canfield.

Visitation for Donald will be held from 3 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 26, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 27, at the funeral home with burial afterward at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Heart Association, 510 First Ave. N., Room 114, Great Falls, MT 59401.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Kathy Ann (Sandefur) Cantu, 50

Kathy Ann (Sandefur) Cantu, 50, of Lolo and formerly of Whitefish died on Aug. 7, 2006, at Northwest Healthcare in Kalispell.

Survivors include her parents, Arnold and Eileen Sandefur, of Kalispell; and her

three children, Brooke Cantu of Kalispell, and Brad and Brian Cantu, both of Missoula.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 19, at First Baptist Church of Stevensville.

A full obituary will follow.

Hazel Montana Gilbertson Capps, 95

Hazel Montana Gilbertson Capps, 95, passed away on Monday, July 31, 2006, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. She was born on Aug. 7, 1910, in Kalispell, Montana the daughter of Walter and Alelia (Clothier) Colby.



She attended local schools and was a graduate of Flathead County High School in 1930. The FCHS 1930 yearbook said of her, "And her eyes were as black as the berries that grew by the wayside."

She was married to Sidney A. Gilbertson in the spring of 1930. He preceded her in death in 1936. "Tana" as she was known, was a patient at the Galen Tuberculosis Hospital from 1936 to 1940. She lived in Butte, until she returned to Kalispell, for two years in 1944.

She then returned to work at Galen, becoming a licensed practical nurse. During this time she was married to Walton Capps who preceded her in death in 1968.

Upon her retirement in 1972, she returned to Kalispell, caring for her elderly mother for many years.

Tana was a very sociable person and enjoyed being in the company of people, the happier the better.

She is survived by her son, Sidney Gilbertson, and his wife, Eunice, of Oceanside, Calif.; two grandsons, Joseph and wife Mary Ann, and John and wife Kay; and great-grandchildren, Brittany, Tyler and Jessica; two sisters, Queveene Tally and husband Glenn, and Marie Sterner, all of Kalispell; one brother, George Colby, and wife, Rose, also of Kalispell; and many nieces and nephews and their families.

She will be greatly missed by her many friends acquaintances and her special friend Elmer Knudson.

Graveside services for Hazel will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 4, at Johnson Mortuary.

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

Antonio Pete 'Tony' Carbonari, 81

Antonio Pete "Tony" Carbonari, 81, lately of Portland, passed over during the evening of Sept. 2, 2006. "He sought the hand of his wife who had gone before him."

Tony was born in Somers on Jan. 10, 1925, to Henry and Dominica Carbonari. He attended school first in Somers, and then Kalispell, where he attended Flathead County High School.

He met and married Juanita Elaine Rollefson in Seattle, after a stint in the Army and a move to the West Coast. Much of his early working career was spent with what was then the Portland Gas and Coke Company. His later work years were with the Bonneville Power Administration, where he will be remembered by his many friends and acquaintances.

Tony was truly a family man and spent countless hours coaching, watching, and recounting the athletic endeavors of his three sons, of whom he was very proud. He believed in working hard, keeping one's word, and in meeting his responsibilities. His efforts were appreciated then and now.

After raising his family in Portland, Tony lived in Umatilla and Hermiston, Ore., as well as Post Falls, Idaho, before finally settling in Apache Junction, Ariz., for the last five years of his life. He enjoyed the Arizona climate immensely and usually only ven-

tured out of the region to visit family and friends. Tony maintained membership and actively participated in the Lutheran church throughout his adult life.

Over the past three years, Tony fought a valiant fight against the effects of different cancers that ultimately claimed him. Those who kindly cared for and assisted him during this period were taken by his unfailingly positive attitude and the wonderful sense of humor that he somehow managed to maintain throughout his struggle.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 44 years, the aforementioned "Lita" Carbonari.

He is survived by his three sons, Joseph Carbonari of Whitefish, Michael Carbonari of Tampa, Fla., and Donald Carbonari of Portland. His grandchildren include Christopher Carbonari of Rockville, Md., Aaron Carbonari of Bend, Ore., and Ned, Seth, and Jenny Carbonari-Ford, all of the Flathead Valley. His sister, Edith Batten, is of Cheraw, S.C.; and his brother, Rino Carbonari, resides in Spokane.

The body is to be cremated. A memorial service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at Whole Life Church, 3890 Upper Drive, in Lake Oswego, Ore.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to any children's charity of your choosing, at his request. May he rest in peace.

Evelyn Marie Carda, 68

Evelyn Marie Carda, 68, passed away suddenly, from natural causes, Friday, June 30, 2006, at the family home in Kalispell.

She was born Jan. 2, 1938, in Kalispell to Forest Berl and Freda (Fladmark) Buck.

Marie was a lifelong Flathead Valley resident, having grown up in the Creston and Columbia Falls areas. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1957.

Marie married Chuck Carda on Jan. 10, 1960, in Kalispell. They lived on and worked the family farm since then. Her early married life was spent helping on the farm and raising their children, Kurt Carda and Kristi Davis.

In the mid-1980s, she went to work for the B and B at the courtesy counter, then at Syke's as a checker and in the office. She later worked as a home care attendant for the elderly, eventually working in the office for Westmont as a scheduler.

Marie enjoyed gardening, sewing, reading and most of all being with her grandchildren Shaughn, Alana and Kinzey. They were the light of her life and they will miss her greatly.

Marie was also a member of the Eagles Auxiliary and the West Valley Fire Department Auxiliary. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.



Marie was preceded in death by her parents; an infant nephew; and many aunts and uncles.

She is survived by her husband of 46 years, Chuck Carda; of Kalispell; a son, Kurt Carda, and his son, Shaughn; her daughter, Kristi (Carda) Davis, and husband, Gene, and their daughters, Alana and Kinzey, all of Kalispell; brothers, Berl Buck and wife, Nyla, of Columbia Falls, and Clinton Buck and wife, Thora, of Sandpoint, Idaho; nephews, Keith Carda and wife, Debbie, of Dundee, Ore., Frosty Buck and wife, Coleen, of Columbia Falls, Lowell Buck of Anchorage, Alaska; Kelly Buck and wife, Julie, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Eric Buck and wife, Sara, of Sandpoint, and Steve Gonzales and wife, Jeanie, of Loogoote, Ind.; niece, Renal Lind, and husband, David, of Kalispell; and aunts, Borgie Buck, Shiela Buck, and Ethyl Wagner, all of Kalispell, and Ruby Shaw of Spokane.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 5, 2006, at Easthaven Baptist Church on Whitefish Stage Road in Kalispell. Burial will be afterward at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. today at Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

The family suggests that memorial gifts be given to the West Valley Fire Department, 2490 Farm To Market Road, Kalispell, MT, 59901, or to the charity of your choice.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for the family.

Jane V. Carlberg, 85

Jane V. Carlberg, 85, formerly of Libby, died Aug. 29, 2006, in Richland, Wash.

She has worked at the St. Regis Plywood plant in Libby, until retiring in 1979.

Survivors include her children, Laurence Carlberg of

Elma, Wash., Pete Carlberg of Sheridan, Wyo., Pam Moore of Grandview, Wash., Mike Carlberg of Libby, and Sheelagh Fenison of Pasco, Wash.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 1, at Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

Tommy J. Carter, 75

Tommy J. Carter, of Whitefish, died July 11, 2006, in Kalispell. Tommy was born in Leadville, Colo., on March 27, 1931, to Thomas and Mabel Carter.



Tommy taught himself to ski at 16 years old, and was an extraordinary athlete. He was part of the early ski scene in Aspen in the late '40s and early '50s.

After his honorable discharge from the Army in 1953 and upon earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism at the University of Denver, he and his wife, Jean, returned to Aspen in 1959 where he coached the Aspen Ski Club and later worked for the Aspen Skiing Corporation. He was also a self-employed carpenter, freelance photographer and writer.

Tommy and his family left Aspen in 1978 for Red Lodge,

where he worked as a journalist and carpenter. He moved to Whitefish in 1998. He carpentered for eight years up until his death, framing homes and businesses throughout the Flathead Valley.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and older brother, Jim.

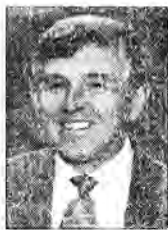
Tommy is survived by his ex-wife, Jean; his older son, Sean, and his daughter Jill, both of Whitefish, and by his younger son, Michael, of Moab, Utah. He will be sadly missed by them all, and by his many friends, cousins, and co-workers who were amazed and moved by his vitality, humor, and work ethic.

His ashes will be spread in September in his favorite place at Conundrum Creek in Aspen. "We know he will find peace in the mountains and valleys he cared for so profoundly."

Please send memorials to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, P.O. Box 221, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Ed Casne, 66

By any measure, whether it be a loving family, spiritual abundance, a successful business or most trout caught, Ed Casne achieved a life well lived. It was cut short by a brain tumor that tested his faith but never defeated his spirit. Ed died Sunday afternoon, Nov. 26, 2006, at home, in the enduring love of his family.



Born Oct. 22, 1940, in Butte, Ed grew up on a dairy farm on the Whitefish River in Kalispell, where he was educated in a one-room schoolhouse. From this humble background, he inherited a powerful work ethic and a sense of fair play that put every friend and acquaintance on equal footing.

He went on to earn degrees in chemical engineering from Montana State University and environmental engineering from the University of Washington but never let his academic or professional credentials stand between him and his clients and co-workers. A school janitor was as important as a school superintendent in Ed's eye.

After receiving his undergraduate degree, Ed served as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army in Korea and in Duluth, Minn. Upon discharge, he went to work for the Boeing Company in Seattle. The massive Boeing layoffs in 1970 that led to the memorable billboards, "Last One Out, Turn Off the Lights," sent Ed to UW, where he completed the work required for his advanced degree in 1973.

It was in Seattle that Ed met Patti, who was working as an airline attendant for United Airlines. They were married in May 1970 and moved to Helena in 1974, where they had the good fortune to raise their three children — Amy, Ryan and Christopher.

These treasured children were the center of Ed and Patti's lives. Schedules were altered and appointments canceled for track meets, choral concerts, piano and voice recitals, cross-country meets, softball, baseball, soccer, basketball and football games. Ed was so proud that each of his children has grown into a fine young adult, and he was so very pleased to be "Papa" to his 5-year-old grandson, Connor, who learned at his knee to camp, fish and play fort. •

By leaving every campsite cleaner, releasing the trout he caught on a fly, hiking, backpacking, cross-country skiing and recycling, Ed taught his children by example to treasure the environment.

Ed worked in the Montana Department of Health and Environmental Sciences from 1974 to 1982 as chief of the Subdivision Bureau. He was honored as the Employee of the Year in 1982, the same year he was recognized by the Montana Environmental Health Association for Distinguished Service in Environmental Health.

In fall 1982, he opened his own consulting, engineering firm, Casne and Associates, now in the historic Child Carriage House on Sixth Avenue in Helena. His integrity and professional standards earned him the respect of the business community and his clients — most of whom remained lifelong friends. Ryan and Patti Casne carry on the legacy of his work.

He was proud to serve his community as airport commissioner for five years. The Helena Regional Airport underwent a major renovation during Ed's tenure, and he was delighted to welcome family and friends to the newly remodeled airport facility. He and Patti belonged to the Downtown Helena Kiwanis, which he served as secretary until earlier this year.

Ed was a man of deep faith, active in parish life at St. Mary Catholic Community as a Eucharistic minister and youth leader. He and Patti led a high-school youth group through a four-year "Godparent" program where they shared their love of God and young people. Ed was honored to serve the diocesan church of Western Montana as a member of the Diocesan Finance Council for 10 years. He was involved in the Power of the Word prayer group and served several times as chairman of the Conference of the Holy Spirit. He was active in the Cursillo movement since 1982 and served as rector in 1991. Many were brought to a deeper faith as a result of his quiet, abiding faith in Christ.

Ed was preceded in death by his father, Sam Casne; his father-in-law, Joe Long; his mother-in-law, Eve Larrick; and his stepfather-in-law, Herschel Larrick.

Ed is survived by his loving wife of 36 years, Patti Casne; his children and spouses, Amy Casne-Fetz and Paul Fetz of Helena; Ryan Casne and Anna Rolando of Helena; Lt. JG Chris and Cassie (Ponroy) Casne of Alexandria, Va., and grandson, Connor Jones, of Helena. He is also survived by his mother, Evelyn Casne, of Kalispell; his brothers and their wives, Robert and Janet Casne of Camino Island, Wash., and Sam and Martha Casne of Seattle; his brothers- and sisters-in-law, Alex

and Nancy Long of Olivenheim, Calif., John and Susie Piek of San Marcos, Calif., and Bob and Teri Fox of Flint, Texas. Many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends will miss him, too.

Friends are invited to celebrate Ed's life. Visitation will be from 1 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, at Retz Funeral Home in Helena. A vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, at St. Mary Catholic Community. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 30, at St. Mary Catholic Community. Interment with military honors will follow at Resurrection Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Joe Selogub, Ed Beall, Frank Crowley, Milton Coty, Zane Kelly and Alex Long. Honorary pallbearers will be Gordon Bennett, Cliff Caughron, Andy Chovanak, Pat McCain, Ron Waterman, Norma Tirrell, Dan Ellison, John Fitzpatrick, Tom Pomroy and Bob Fetz.

Scripture will be read by his brothers-in-law, John Piek and Bob Fox. Prayers of the faithful will be led by Diane McKittrick and Bill Beaman. Margy Kernan will play the flute.

In lieu of flowers, friends may honor Ed's life with gifts to the Diocese of Helena, care of Bishop George Thomas; the "Angel Fund," care of the Helena School District, or St. Mary Catholic Community Building Fund.

Ed loved this passage from St. John of the Cross: "In the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human successes, but on how well we have loved." Ed loved well.

Frank Marvin Caudill, 45

Frank Marvin Caudill, 45, died Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2006, at his home in Kalispell. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie Caudill; and one son, Chance Caudill, of Kalispell. No services will be held. Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for the family.

James Albert 'Jim' Chapman, 73,

James Albert "Jim" Chapman, 73, passed away Jan. 30, 2006, at the Colonial Manor in Whitefish.

He was born March 14, 1932, in San Francisco, the son of Colenso James and Alice

K. Chapman. He was raised and educated in the San Francisco Bay area. He graduated from Sequoia High School in San Carlos, Calif., and later from San Francisco State University. He served two years in the U.S. Navy and many years in the Naval Reserve.

He worked for Atkins Kroll and Co. in San Francisco and New York City for 10 years. He worked for Lockheed-Martin in Sunnyvale, Calif., for 28 years. He was the stadium announcer for the San Jose Giants (the San Francisco Giants A team) for 19 years. He retired in 1993.

He met Mary Ann Hutchison and they were married Oct. 20, 1962.



They lived in Los Gatos, Calif., until moving to Whitefish in 2000.

After moving to Whitefish, Jim did some announcing for the Glacier Twins Baseball Club and was on the board for the Stumptown Historical Society of Whitefish.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann Chapman, in Whitefish; three children, Cheryl Plusch and Darrell in Rhu, Scotland, Chris Chapman and Lynett in Whitefish, and a son, Jeff Chapman, in Whitefish; a sister, Linda Mandy and Mario in Brentwood, Calif.; a brother, Robert Chapman, and fiancée, Sally Ann Stover, in Brookings, Ore.; and two grandchildren, Ryan Plusch and Skylar Gobel.

Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13, at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Cancer Society; the Stumptown Historical Society; the Glacier Twins Baseball program; or to the Home Options Hospice, 175 Common Loop, Suite No. 100, Kalispell, MT 59901; or to your favorite charity.

Betty Jane Chapple, 84

Betty Jane Chapple, born Betty Jane Mitchell, died Friday, June 30, 2006, at a nursing home in Whitefish after a battle with cancer. She was 84 years old. She was born Nov. 3, 1921, at Mooresville, Ind., the daughter of Walter and Camille (Fennell) Mitchell.

Betty began a long career as a nurse in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Later she spent decades working as a nurse for Ford Motor Company in the Detroit area.

She relocated to Whitefish after she retired in 1989 to live near her daughter, Jean.

Betty was a wonderfully unconventional, forgiving and kind person. Raised a Quaker, she was a lifelong liberal pacifist with an aversion to violence in any form.

Caring for animals was one of the great loves of her life and she will be remembered in this area for the animal rescue work she did. She was active in placing homeless animals for the Animal Relief Center (ARC) and donated generously to the Spay and Neuter Task Force. She partnered with her friend, Susan Mohlenhoff, to save more than 150 feral cats in the area. Betty was devoted to her many pets and loved wild animals of all kinds. If anyone had true "animal magnetism," she did!

She was also a crossword puzzle enthusiast, a great reader of mysteries, and an artist who enjoyed many arts and crafts.

Betty will be buried back in Detroit, next to her husband, Philip K. Chapple, who died in 1969.

Betty is survived by her two daughters, Jean Arcel of Whitefish and Anne Chapple of Ann Arbor, Mich.; a sister, Priscilla Sherrick, in Wisconsin; and a brother, Walter Mitchell, in Florida.

Her daughters remember her as a devoted mother — unfailingly encouraging and supportive. "We all remember her as one of the most profoundly loving people we've ever known: generous to a fault, completely unselfish, deeply spiritual, and determinedly optimistic." She had a gift for discovering the best in every person she knew.

No services are planned locally. Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Betty's family.

William 'Bill' Stratton Chatterton Jr., 38

William "Bill" Stratton Chatterton Jr., 38, passed away Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006, at Community Medical Center in Missoula.



He was born April 30, 1967, in Baton Rouge, La. He grew up in Bigfork. In high school he played baseball for the Glacier Twins as a pitcher.

He married Missy Anderson in 1984. They had two children, Danielle and Devin, his pride and joy.

He had a successful career in telecommunications working on the fiber optic line until 1991 when he was critically injured in a motorcycle accident in Creston. He became a quadriplegic from injuries sustained in his accident.

Bill has been living in Missoula since then. He was very independent. He owned his own home and lived on his own. He had caregivers who came in and out as he needed them. Great friendships were made through this and they took wonderful care of him.

He was not one to just sit around home.

He was a huge Grizzly and Osprey fan. He loved his sports.

Bill worked for the MonTech Program, which is a federal assistive technology program for people with disabilities.

He was the resource coordinator, providing information and referral, training and demonstration of the technology available to assist people in living more independently, a job he did very well. He also was assistant coach of junior baseball and basketball teams.

He was a huge inspiration to so many people. He touched many lives. He will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his two children, Danielle and Devin, and their mother, Missy Chatterton, all of Bigfork; his mother, Claire Chatterton of Minnesota; his aunt, Diane Chatterton of Louisiana; and many extended family and friends. He also leaves behind his faithful companion, Jaz, a gold retriever service dog.

He was preceded in death by his father, William Stratton Chatterton Sr., and his brother, Richard Chatterton.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Feb. 25, at the Little Brown Church in Bigfork.

Peggy Jo (Chase) Cherry, 57

Peggy Jo (Chase) Cherry, 57, of Yakima, Wash., passed away Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2006, from an extended illness. She was at home, surrounded by her family.



Peggy was born Nov. 27, 1948, in San Francisco to Earl and Helen (Gentile) Chase. She grew up in Whitefish, where she graduated from Columbia Falls High School.

In 1977, she married Melvin Cherry in Moses Lake, Wash. In 1980, they moved to Yakima, where they raised their three sons.

Peggy enjoyed planting flowers in front of her home, gathering at get-togethers with family and friends, and she

loved spending time with her grandchildren.

Peggy was always lending a helping hand to anyone who was in need.

Survivors include her husband, Mel; three sons, Brian and wife Amy, Joshua and Jason; grandchildren Gianni (8), Hailey (2), and Jason (3); and three brothers, Dick Chase of Libby, Fred Chase of Bigfork, and Mike Chase of Moses Lake.

Her parents preceded her in death.

A celebration of Peggy's life was held at the Yakima Eagles Lodge on Sept. 30.

The Valley Hills Funeral Home in Yakima handled arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, please send condolences or donations to help with final expenses to Mel Cherry, 917 Rose Place, Yakima, WA 98902.

Aleen B. Chestnut, 90

Aleen B. Chestnut, a resident of the Flathead Valley, passed away June 13, 2006, in Whitefish. She was born Aleen Byington in Lava Hot Springs, Idaho, on June 6, 1916, the daughter of Henry and Viola Byington. She graduated from high school in Lava Hot Springs in 1934. She attended the University of Idaho in Moscow and graduated in 1939.

Upon graduation, she married John H. Chestnut and moved to his hometown of Havre. She lived in Havre for 46 years until she moved to the Flathead in 1985 to be closer to her two children, Tom and Mary Ann.



She retired from Buttrey Foods in 1981 and was active throughout her life as a volunteer.

She enjoyed skiing, golf, hiking and gardening.

She is survived by daughter, Mary Ann; and son, Tom, and his children, grandson, Scott and granddaughter, Shelby. She was also the proud great-grandmother of Braden Chestnut.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John H. Chestnut; parents, Henry and Viola Byington; sister, Lucille Nix; and brother, Dow Byington.

There will be a memorial gathering at 3 p.m. Saturday, June 24, at the home of her son on Spoon Lake, 870 Lake Drive, in Columbia Falls. For directions, call Tom Chestnut at 406 387-4286 or e-mail tomchestnut@yahoo.com.

James W. Christensen, 81

James W. Christensen, 81, passed away Sunday, June 25, 2006, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. He was born Dec. 20, 1924, in Havre, the son of James and Mary K. (Kjois) Christensen.



The family homesteaded north of Havre where he was raised. He was educated in the Havre schools and graduated from Havre High School.

He served in the U.S. Army with the 504th Parachute Infantry in 1945-1946. It was during this time that he realized he loved flying and pursued his goal of flying after his discharge.

In 1963, he was united in marriage to Rose LaFrance. After moving to Kalispell, in 1963 he began a career with Pacific Power and Light, for which he received many awards for his outstanding service. He retired in 1980.

He was active in the Civil Air Patrol and in 1966 became commander of the Kalispell Squadron. He was interested in hunters' safety, and throughout the years he received awards for teaching and certifying Montana's youths in hunter safety. Jim loved just about everything outdoors and was particularly happy when tracking an elk or tempting a fish through a hole in the ice with his dog at his side.

He was always able to find that secret huckleberry patch where

he and his dog spent many hours picking and eating. Several friends depended on him to provide them with fruit for jams and syrup. He was particularly proud of his gardening skills, planting large gardens to share with family and neighbors. He was well known for his love of auctions and garage sales. He could be found quietly watching the bidding activity and waiting for the right time to place his bid.

He was a lifetime member of the Elks of Kalispell, the Civil Air Patrol-Kalispell commander and Duck's Unlimited.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Rose Christensen, of Kalispell; his children: Larry Kjørvestad and wife, Teresa, of Polson, daughter, Sharon Kjørvestad, of Ronan, and son, James Vold, of Seattle; a brother, Albert Christensen, and a sister, Evelyn Paugh, both of Havre; a grandson, Tony Olson, of Missoula; a granddaughter, Deanna Olson, of Havre; and a great-granddaughter, Kaitlyn Boucher, of Havre.

Graveside services for James Christensen will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 28, at Glacier Memorial Gardens, with Pastor Bob Nilsen officiating. There will be no public visitation.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, 3499 Highway 93 N., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for James' family.

Martha Althora Morgan Childs, 92

Martha Althora Morgan Childs, 92, died Saturday, Nov. 4, 2006, at her daughter's home in Bigfork. She is survived by six children, Howard LeRoy Childs of Stansbury Park, Utah, Jane LaRee Jorgensen of Cedar City, Utah, Leslie W. Childs of Samara, Russia, Errol Ray Childs of South Jordan, Utah, Eddie DeVon Childs of St. George, Utah,

and Jean Marshall of Bigfork. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, in South Jordan, Utah, with burial at Larkin Sunset Gardens in Sandy, Utah. Johnson Mortuary is caring for the family in Kalispell and Larkin Mortuary is caring for her family in Sandy.

Chris Ronald Lee Christenson, 60,

Chris Ronald Lee Christenson, 60, passed away March 26, 2006, coming home from Arizona after two weeks of "prospecting." Chris was born on June 21, 1945, to Leo Wilhelm and Viola Mae (Smith) Christenson in Galesburg, Ill.



He attended Saint Mary Catholic School in Galesburg until 1954 when his father passed away. His mother, Vi and Chris, took the advice of Vi's brother "Buss" and moved to Lynnwood, Calif. He attended Hosler Junior High and Lynnwood High School. He loved to swim and was on the swim teams.

In 1964 he enlisted in the U.S. Army. While in the service, he was a team leader of a Recon team in Vietnam. He had 2 1/2 tours in Vietnam and received two bronze stars for valor. He was a part of the 101st Airborne, the 173rd Airborne Brigade, Rangers LRP (Long Ranger Patrol). He was a reservist for 12 years as an MP and a Staff Sergeant platoon leader.

He worked for the Los Angeles

Herald Examiner for 10 years as a printer, doing pasteup and later into maintenances. He attended Cerritos College in Norwalk, Calif., and received his associate of arts degree in police science, then onto Cal State in Long Beach where he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in criminal justice.

He met his wife, Nancy Osuna, in 1973 and they married in August of 1974. In 1976 Christina Ann was born. They lived in Downey until 1979 when they moved to Bozeman. He worked for the Gallatin County Sheriff's Department as a jailer and part time dispatcher.

In May 1980, Chris was hired by the Kalispell Police Department. His first weekends on duty he experienced Mount St. Helen's eruption and Canadian Day weekend! He once wrote, "This has been a life long goal that I have worked at since boyhood and I guarantee that I will do my best." He served the Kalispell community as police officer and patrol sergeant until he retired in 2003.

He loved what he was doing with his retirement years by prospecting, sailing and even served our country again as a civilian security contractor for Cochise and Ronco in Basra, Iraq.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Nancy Christenson, of Kalispell; three daughters, Christina Ann Menke and husband, Tom, and Katrina Rose Christenson and her fiancé, Gary Conan, all of Kalispell, and Cynthia Mae Balboa and husband, Noni, of West Jordan, Utah; one son, Craig Leo Wilhelm Christenson, and fiancée, Ashley Robinson, of Butte; one granddaughter, Daechen Menke, of Kalispell; grandson, Jaden Kekoa Balboa, of West Jordan; mother-in-law, Jean Ramirez, of Simi Valley, Calif.; sister-in-law, Rose Kupstaitis, of Simi Valley; brother-in-law,

Steve Arnaudoff, of San Diego; with nephew and nieces, numerous cousins, aunts, uncles and his "Ranger Brothers"; He also leaves behind his dog and companion for walks, Ketcher.

A prayer service/wake will be held for Chris Christenson at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 1, at the Best Western White Oak Grand Hotel at the "Somers cut across" at U.S. Hwy. 93 South and Montana Hwy. 82. There is no visitation.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Veterans Affairs for the Disabled Vets or Vietnam Vets. You can go to www.va.gov for addresses.

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

Ora Glenn 'Skip' Rickey Christensen, 62

Ora Glenn "Skip" Rickey Christensen was born May 29, 1943, to Oral Oliver Rickey and Francis Mae Shafer Rickey in Dillon. He passed away Friday, April 21, 2006, in Kalispell.

His parents divorced when Skip was almost 3, and his mother married Marion Christensen. Skip attended high school in Dillon and finished his formal education as an adult by attaining his GED in Butte.

He loved to work with his hands and gained experience in many vocations. He worked in the mines in Butte, Argenta, Mont., and Idaho. He farmed and fenced for ranchers in Montana and Idaho. He was an excellent carpenter and loved to work with wood in all ways from constructing art pieces to remodeling projects.

On March 31, 1961, he married Shirley Rowe, and they had three daughters, Melinda Sue, Melissa Gay and Melanie Ann.

On June 27, 1967, he married JoAnn Eslick in Bigfork. Together, they caught the antique bug and have done business through the Kalispell Antiques Market for the past 12 years.

Skip had many interests. He loved music, reading, and gathering knowledge about our world, past, present and future. He was a fan of radio-controlled airplanes but claimed to be a better builder than flier.

His favorite companions were his dachshunds, Quinn and Trille, and they returned his love wholeheartedly. Skip loved fishing and hunt-

ing and telling wild stories about the ones that got away, as well as those that didn't. He loved meeting people and could always find common ground for a good visit.

He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Skip is survived by his loving wife, JoAnn, of Bigfork; daughters, Mindy Hunt of Springville, Utah, Melissa Durley and Carl of American Fork, Utah, and Melanie Mormon and Jeff, stationed in Germany; mother, Francis Christensen, of Dillon; stepfather, Marion Christensen, of Sheridan; brothers and sisters, Chris and Michele Christensen of Townsend, John and Danise Christensen of Fallon, Nev., Joyce and Rick Given of Caldwell, Idaho, Jan Rogers of Butte, Sandy Smith and Clark and Paula Christensen, all of Dillon, and Carlette Rickey, Pat Rickey, Sue Powers and Clifford Rickey, all of Butte; father-in-law, Joe Eslick, of Bigfork; brothers-in-law, Jay and Barbara Eslick of Chino, and Lee Eslick of Bigfork; 13 grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services for Skip will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 6, in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Bigfork, with Bishop Tom Marshall officiating. Urn burial will take place at a later date.

The family suggests memorial gifts be given to Home Options/Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901. Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Skip's family.

James Robert Clark Jr., 64

Jimmy "was taken from us" unexpectedly on June 25, 2006, doing what he loved — helping people.

He was born on Feb. 27, 1942, in Lewistown, to J.R. "Bob" and Virginia. His family moved to Missoula when he was 4 years old. He attended Missoula County High School where he was a standout rodeo participant, football player, and state champion wrestler. He graduated from the University of Montana where he was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity.

Jim worked in the clothing business throughout college and for over 20 years after graduation. During his college summers, he worked as a smokejumper, parachuting into fires throughout the Northwest. During this time, he also discovered fast cars, water sports and skiing.

He eventually ventured into the hospitality business and became an accomplished auctioneer. He naturally flourished with his fun-loving nature and quick wit. Jimmy's most recent business venture was partner and operator of Cowboy's in Crested Butte.

His love of rodeo brought him back to the sport several years ago. He won the Canadian Senior PRCA Bull Riding Championship in 2000.

"His belt buckle was almost as bright as his smile!"

Jim always had a zest for life and being around people. In the past few years he has been actively involved in several nonprofit charities such as Challenge Aspen, Crested Butte Adaptive Sports Center, Crested Butte Academy, 4-H auctions,

Cattleman's Days, Winter Sports Clinic, T.J. Martell Foundation and Tough Enough To Wear Pink Foundation. Jimmy helped raise millions of dollars for these charities.

He was also active in the Colorado State High School Rodeo Association and a director for the Colorado Pro Rodeo Association.

Jim leaves his legacy in his survivors, partner in life, Cathy Benson, and their daughter, Jessica, son and daughter-in-law, Corey and Ruth Clark, and grandchildren, Melissa and Tara, and son Cjay Clark, all of Crested Butte, Colo.; and son, Cody Clark, of Butte. Also surviving him is his mother, Virginia Averill; brothers, Kent Clark, Marcus Clark, and Brad Averill; stepbrothers, Dan Averill, Darv Averill, Doug Averill and Dalvin Averill; and countless friends.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 1, at the Union Congregational Church in Crested Butte, followed by a celebration of Jimmy's life at Jimmy and Cathy's ranch located at 21946 State Highway 135, Crested Butte, CO.

Memorial donations can be sent to Challenge Aspen, an organization that makes possibilities for people with disabilities; or, Tough Enough To Wear Pink Foundation, an organization to raise awareness and provide assistance for breast cancer patients who are not eligible for medical benefits in Gunnison County. Challenge Aspen, P.O. Box M, Aspen, CO 81612; or Tough Enough To Wear Pink (TETWP), 500 E. Tomichi, Gunnison, CO 81230

Lawrence Neil Christie, 88

Lawrence Neil Christie, 88, known to most as "Christie," passed away at Kalispell Regional Medical Center on July 18, 2006, surrounded by those he loved.



He was born Sept. 9, 1917, to Peter and Polly (Brandow) Christie in Sanger, Calif. His school years were spent in Sanger, and in 1933 he joined the U.S. Navy and served until 1937 aboard the aircraft carrier the USS Ranger.

In 1944, while working in the Bremerton, Wash., shipyards, he met the love of his life, Nadine Landon, and they were married Jan. 5, 1945. They celebrated 61 years of marriage this year.

The majority of his adult life was spent farming in Raisin City, Calif., where he lived for 30 years. In 1979, he and Nadine retired and moved to Kalispell to be near family and friends.

When parting from him after a visit, he would use the expression: "Love ya and miss ya." It's now our turn to tell him the same. So we say, "Goodbye. Chris-

tie, we love ya and are sure going to miss ya."

He was preceded in death by his sister, Nadine Lake, and grandson, Brent Christie.

He is survived by his wife, Nadine Christie, of Kalispell; one son, Larry Christie, and wife, Shirley, of Post Falls, Idaho; one granddaughter, Joy Harmon; two great-grandsons, Brandon and Justin Purse; one great-great-grandson, Braxton Harris; one brother, Clifford Christie; one sister, Darlene Christie; one sister-in-law, Grace Watters, and her companion, Bob Wilkerson; brothers and sisters-in-law, Jim Landon and wife, Nancy, Frank Landon and wife, Phyliss, Don Landon and wife, Gloria, Verna Landon, and Gladys Landon; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Graveside services for Lawrence Christie will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, July 21, at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be from 1 to 6 p.m. today, July 20, in the Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

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

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

Billy Ray Clark, 35

Billy Ray Clark, 35, passed away Friday, April 7, 2006, at Pathways in Kalispell.

Arrangements are pending at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory.

Josephine 'Jo' Carol Mercer Clark, 87

Josephine "Jo" Carol Mercer Clark, 87, passed away Friday, Feb. 17, 2006, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born April 6, 1918, in a farmhouse just outside of

Twin Bridges, to Clifford A. and Mary Eliza (Stark) Mercer. Jo lived with her family in Gallatin County for five years, where her mother was a school teacher and her father farmed. They moved to Butte, where her father went to work in the copper mines. Jo was the oldest of six children, having four brothers and one sister. She graduated from the eighth grade at Longfellow school in Butte.

Jo moved to Great Falls where she worked at the school for the deaf and blind. She supervised the children and also helped out in the kitchen and dining room.

Jo married Ole V. Clark, a ditching contractor, on Oct. 17, 1940, in Cut Bank. Jo and Ole had three children, two girls and one boy. The family moved to Columbia Falls, in 1964, where Ole owned and operated a wrecking yard and had a new block home



built on their acreage.

Jo's "biggest" hobby was sewing.

As far as traveling, Jo tells of how a friend and she drove to the World's Fair at Treasure Island in San Francisco, in 1939, the year before she married. After many years in the wrecking business Jo's husband died on Aug. 18, 1988.

Jo sold the business in 1989 prior to moving to Brendan House.

Jo is preceded in death by her parents, her husband and her four brothers and one sister.

She is survived by one son, Vern Clark and wife, Dorothy, of Kalispell; two daughters, Carol Marie Henderson of Macon, Ga., and Mary Jean Lundstrom and husband, Frank, of Silverdale, Wash.; 11 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.

Funeral services for Josephine "Jo" Clark will be held 10 a.m. today, Feb. 18, at the Expo Building at the Kalispell Fairgrounds. Burial will be 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls. Viewing will be prior to services at the Expo Building from 9 to 10 a.m.

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

Lee W. Clark, 55

Lee W. Clark, 55, the fire management officer for the Lewis and Clark National Forest, died of natural causes at his home in Great Falls on Sunday.



A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 10, at the Church Of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Great Falls. A reception will follow the service.

Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

Lee W. Clark was born in Bozeman, on Feb. 20, 1951, the younger son of Helen B. and the late Ralph W. Clark. Lee's early childhood was spent in Chile and Costa Rica where his father was an agricultural economist with the U.S. Department of State. The family returned to the United States and purchased a cattle and mink ranch in Manhattan, when Lee was 10. He graduated from Manhattan High School in 1970.

On June 26, 1970, Lee married his high school sweetheart, Teresa "Terry" Robinson. They moved to Missoula to attend the University of Montana. During these years, his summers were spent as a seasonal Forest Service employee. He worked fire lines on the Jefferson, Deer Lodge, Kootenai, Flathead and Spotted Bear Ranger Districts. In 1976, Lee graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in forestry.

Lee received his permanent appointment with the Forest Service on the Tally Lake Ranger District in 1978. In 1983, Lee moved his family to the Powell Ranger District, on the Clearwater National Forest in Idaho. While at Powell, Lee held several different positions, including the district silviculturist and then district fire management officer. In 1998, Lee was promoted to the fire management officer for the Lewis and Clark National Forest and moved to Great Falls.

Lee's greatest love was his family, his wife and best friend of 36 years; his son, a Marine

Gulf War veteran; and his daughter, who followed in the family footsteps for several seasons as a fourth generation wildland firefighter. "Papa was also very proud of his grandchildren, Caitlin, Caeden and Madison."

Lee's love of nature and the outdoors drew him to his lifelong career in the Forest Service of more than 30 years. Lee was a hard-working forester with a heart of gold who always had a smile and a supportive hand for all those who were in need of it.

He found nothing more relaxing than enjoying a good book or golfing with family and friends. Lee enjoyed traveling, and a recent highlight was a family vacation to Australia and New Zealand. His love of getting his hands dirty gardening and maintaining the yard was evident by the ever-present tree in a pot waiting for Lee to find it a permanent home. He loved getting out of the office and into the middle of the action, whether it was helping with prescribed burns or getting sent out on fire assignments.

Lee died unexpectedly. His loss is felt greatly by his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Terry, of Great Falls; son, Craig, his spouse, Alex, and grandson, Caeden, of Lolo; daughter, Michelle, her spouse, Brian Pfile, and granddaughter, Madison, of Las Vegas; mother, Tommie Clark, of Bigfork; brother, Jack Clark, of Billings; mother-in-law, Darlene Robinson, of Manhattan; sister-in-law, Deanne Robinson, of Belgrade; brother-in-law, Rod Robinson, of Minneapolis; and numerous cousins, nephews, nieces, aunts and an uncle.

His father, Ralph W. Clark, and his father-in-law, Donald Robinson, preceded Lee in death.

His family thanks you all for your thoughts, prayers, and support during this trying time.

The family will be accepting donations for a scholarship fund, in loving memory of Lee, at the University of Montana, School of Forestry.

Condolences can be sent to croxfords@qwest.net.