

Dr. Ralph MacDonald, 76

Dr. Ralph MacDonald, 76, passed away at home March 24, 2007, six years after suffering a stroke. Ralph Floyd MacDonald was born to Frank "Mac" MacDonald and Anne Matilda MacDonald on Dec. 9, 1930, in Whitefish. Ralph was the fourth of six children. He graduated from Whitefish High School and went to Modesto Junior College, where he played football. Ralph finished his undergraduate studies at Fresno State University.

Ralph joined the Marine Corps, where he met Virginia "Gina" Brumme of Detroit. They were married in San Diego on Feb. 2, 1957, and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2007.

After marriage, Ralph went to dental school at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wis. Ralph found his way back to Montana when he started a dental practice in Missoula in 1961. In 1996, when he retired, he was awarded the T.T. Rider Award for distinguished service to organized dentistry and the people of the state of Montana.

Ralph also was instrumental in starting the Partnership Dental Clinic, was a long-standing member of Rotary, and served on the United Way board of directors.

Ralph and Gina had six chil-

dren, Scott, born in San Diego; Brian, Craig and Deidre, born in Milwaukee; and Laird and Heidi, born in Missoula.

Ralph's greatest joy was to spend time with his family. We had 40 wonderful summers at the family cabin on Flathead Lake, fall was spent watching Griz games and hunting in the mountains, and winters skiing at Snow Bowl and Big Mountain.

He leaves behind his loving wife of 50 years, Virginia "Gina"; children, Scott and Kelly MacDonald, Brian MacDonald, Craig MacDonald, Deidre and Greg Frame, Laird MacDonald, and Heidi MacDonald and Randy Scott; nine grandchildren, Grant, Nolan, Piper Frame, Olivia and Bryce MacDonald, Bailey, Macklyn, Addison, and Sullivan Scott.

Ralph was preceded in death by his parents, Mac and Anne; stepmother, Dode MacDonald; brother and sister-in-law, Francis and Mary MacDonald; sister-in-law, Peggy MacDonald, and brother-in-law, Ed Schenck.

Mass of the Resurrection will be held at noon today, March 28, at Christ the King Church, 1400 Gerald Ave., in Missoula.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to New Directions with Rural Institute at the University of Montana.

Donald W. Mackey, 79

Donald W. Mackey, 79, of Marion, passed away on Thursday, April 26, 2007, at Health-Center Northwest in Kalispell. He was born on May 23, 1927, at Bonners Ferry, Idaho, the son of William and Beulah (Woodward) Mackey. He was raised and received his education in Bonners Ferry.

He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at 17 years of age and was honorably discharged in 1946. He moved to Kalispell in 1947 where he met and subsequently married Louise Richmond on June 27, 1948, in Missoula.

His work history includes owning his own saw mill in Plummer, Idaho, several years on the bridge crew of Great Northern Railroad, and then beginning in 1948, began work as an apprentice lineman at Flathead Electric Co-Operative, then lineman, foreman and general foreman working until his retirement in 1982 after 34 years.

He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fishing, hunting and camping. He always had a plentiful vegetable garden. He was a very skilled woodworker, building the family home, and

many other items for the family to enjoy. He had a great sense of humor. But his greatest love was that of his family and spending time with children and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Eugene, Irvin and Edward Mackey and Floyd Worley; and three sisters, Norma Straw, Margaret Ruenger and Cora Worley.

He is survived by his wife, Louise Mackey of Marion; son, Roy Mackey and his wife, Charlene, of Marion; daughter, Sue Waggener and husband, James; son, Rod Mackey and wife, Amy, all of Kalispell; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a sister, Lois Perez of Cheney, Wash.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be sent to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

There are no services planned at this time for Donald.

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

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Nellie Reukauf Mahlum, 86

Nellie Reukauf Mahlum, 86, of Kalispell died April 23, 2007, at Heritage Place. Nellie was born Dec. 1, 1920, in DeGrand, the sixth child of Arthur and Henrietta Reukauf.



She attended high school in Mount Hope, Wis., and Luana, Iowa, before returning to Terry to complete the last semester of her junior year, and her senior year. She was awarded a scholarship to Eastern Montana State Normal School in Billings and graduated with honors in 1940.

Nellie married Edwin P. Mahlum on May 1, 1943, in Missoula. They have resided in Flathead County since 1945, with the exception of two years on a farm in Wisconsin.

She returned to Eastern in 1946 and helped revise the state course of study in science under the supervision of Lillian Peterson, state supervisor of rural education. Mrs. Mahlum received her Life Certificate in education for grades one through 10 at that time. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern in 1967, and further credits from the University of Montana, the College of Great Falls, Northern Montana College at Havre, and Teachers' College in Cheney, Wash.

Mrs. Mahlum came to Flathead County in 1940 and began her 39-year teaching career at Deer Park School. She taught at Helena Flats, Marion, Bad Rock, and Batavia in Flathead County, as well as Pershing School in Prairie County, and Mount Hope State Graded School in Mt. Hope. The two latter schools she had attended as a pupil.

In 1957, she began her teaching career of 29 years at Evergreen School. She loved her pupils and the people of Evergreen, and when she retired in 1986, they honored her by awarding her the Evergreen Lions' Citizen of the Year

award. Her fellow teachers also bestowed upon her their Big Apple Award.

Nellie was a charter member of Calvary Lutheran Church, where she taught Sunday school, Bible school and confirmation classes. She served on the church council and sang in the choir.

She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and served as registrar for many years. She was a life member of the Montana Education Association and the National Education Association and held offices in the local associations. She was a member of Montana Retired Senior Citizens' Association and Northwest Chapter of Retired Teachers.

Mrs. Mahlum was preceded in death by her husband, Edwin Mahlum; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Reukauf; four sisters, Elaine Reukauf, Christine Smerke, Hazel Armstrong and Ruth Miller; and four brothers, Robert, Arthur, Walter and Bill Reukauf.

She is survived by one daughter, Ms. Sandy Glazier, of Kalispell; two sons, and their wives, Edwin and Joy Mahlum of Kalispell, and Peter and Gina Mahlum of Ferndale. She also is survived by six beloved grandsons, Jeffrey and Todd Glazier, and Daniel, David, Nicholas and Logan Mahlum; a beloved granddaughter, Chelsea Mahlum; two much loved great-grandsons, James Logan Mahlum and Dawson Scott Glazier; one sister, Mrs. Ann Mayne, of Mount Hope; one brother, John Reukauf, of Vale, Ore.; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Nellie will be at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Calvary Lutheran Church, with Pastor Kurt Rau officiating. Burial will be at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Viewing will be one hour before services.

Memorial contributions may be sent to Calvary Lutheran Church, 2200 U.S. 2 East, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

William Richmond MacPheat, 76

William Richmond MacPheat, the only American-born son of Alexander M. and Mary Richmond MacPheat, rejoined his ancestors in the Highlands of Scotland on March 16, 2007, at St. Patrick Hospital.

"Bill" was born Nov. 26, 1930, in Oak Park, Ill.

After his father's death in 1934, he returned with his mother and brother to their native Scotland for a short time, followed by a return to Oak Park. In 1948, he joined the U.S. Air Force. While stationed at Cheyenne, Wyo., he met Mary Anne Lorenz. They were married Feb. 14, 1953, in St. Louis.

Those who knew Bill will remember his sense of humor, love of people and animals, outgoing nature and willingness to lend a hand to anyone in need.

After retiring from the Air Force, he worked for Fred Meyer Stores and eventually started his own commercial refrigeration business in the Flathead Valley.

As a member of the Somers Lions Club, he spent summers at the Bitterroot Youth Camp doing maintenance on the camp buildings, plus plumbing and electrical work. He loved dogs, and he will surely be greeted at The Rainbow Bridge by Pal, Boots, Janus, Copper and April. He loved to travel, especially to Scotland, and made a number of trips back to "The Auld Country"

with Mary Anne and both of his children. No Thanksgiving was complete without his recitation of Robbie Burns' "Selkirk Grace."

In his later years, Bill fought a lengthy battle with congestive heart failure and post-herpetic neuralgia, and became a research subject in the landmark SCD-HeFT trial. His courage and determination were an inspiration to many during that time. His family is indebted to those who cared for him and about him during the past 20 years for their kindness, love and support. You know who you are.

Bill is survived by his wife, Mary Anne; daughter, Terry; son, Will (Mihaela), all of Missoula. He also leaves behind his beloved dog, Annie Rose. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Alex.

Memorial services are planned for 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, 2007, at Garden City Funeral Home, followed by a reception in the funeral home's community room.

In lieu of flowers, friends are encouraged to make memorials in Bill's name to the International Heart Institute of Montana, 554 W. Broadway, Missoula, MT 59802, or to their area Humane Society. For those who feel flowers are necessary, we ask that they plant a living memorial in the form of a rose bush, tree or another shrub.

Robert 'Bob' W. Main Sr., 87

Robert "Bob" W. Main Sr., 87, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2007, in Kalispell.



Bob was born April 26, 1920, in Moravia, Iowa, to Arthur and

Bea (Hunt) Main. He graduated from Madison High School in Madison, Wis. He enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard and was in the U.S. Navy, where he saw action in both World War II and the Korean conflict.

In 1949, he married Sara Jane Winfield in Reno, Nev. During the 1950s, Bob worked as an insurance salesman and sales representative for coffee distributors. In the 1960s, he was co-owner of a Dodge dealership and worked for Farmer Brothers Coffee as branch manager in Watsonville, Calif. He retired in 1985.

He was a lifelong Chicago Cubs fan, loved bowling, RV-ing, raising dogs — in particular a golden retriever named Barrie and a terrier named Boomer.

Bob was a member of the Kiwanis Club.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Sara Jane; and a sister, Charlotte Pehlke.

He is survived by a son, Robert W. and Brenda Main Jr. of Temecula, Calif.; a daughter, Connie Lee and Bert White of Kalispell; grandchildren, Paul M. Main and Jared J. White; and nieces, Robin Zaft and Leslie McCoy.

Bob has been cremated and his ashes will be put next to his wife, Sara Jane, at Skylawn Cemetery in San Mateo, Calif.

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

Beatrice 'Bea' Marais, 87

Beatrice "Bea" Marais, 87, passed away on Friday, Sept. 28, 2007, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. She was born on Jan. 5, 1920, in Manchester, England, to William and Mary Ann (Waring) Roberts.

Bea lost both of her parents when she was very young. She spent some time in a Catholic orphanage affiliated with a convent, then lived with her older sister. Bea met and married Gordon Marais in Great Britain while he was stationed there in the U.S. Army. They had two children and moved to the United States in 1947. They later divorced.

Bea lived in New York, California and finally in the Flathead Valley. She was in retail management and worked at Bullock's Wilshire in Los Angeles, a historical landmark that was

destroyed during the Rodney King riots.

Bea was known for her creative baskets, which were spotlighted in the L.A. Times newspaper. She enjoyed sewing and reading until her eyesight began to fall.

She was also very social and liked being with people. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Bea is survived by a daughter, Susan Trust, and husband, Ken, of Bigfork; and a son, Philip Marais, of Palos Verdes, Calif.; three grandchildren and one great-grandson.

No services are planned at this time.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Bea's family. You are invited to go to www.johnsonmortuary.com to offer condolences and sign Bea's guest book.

Pamela E. Maliniak, 45

Pamela E. Maliniak, 45, passed away Thursday, Aug. 9, 2007, at her Whitefish residence. Pamela was born June 6, 1962, in Fontana, Calif. She was raised in Bigfork.

Pamela married Mark Maliniak in Granada Hills, Calif., in 1989. They had 18 wonderful years together.

Pamela enjoyed fishing, camping, her grandchildren, friends and family.

She is survived by her father, Roy Renneberg, of Lacombe, Alberta; mother, Mar-

garet Renneberg, of Kalispell; daughters, Crystal Long of Flagstaff, Ariz., Kathryn and husband, Bobby Sands, of Fall Brook, Calif.; son, Matthew, and wife, Michele Long, of Port Hueneme, Calif.; brother, Don Renneberg; and grandchildren, Jonah, Mikah, Gavin, and Elijah.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Walter W. 'Walt' Mangels, 89

Walter W. "Walt" Mangels, 89, of Polson passed away from natural causes Tuesday, May 22, 2007, at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane. He was born July 31, 1917, in Polson.

Walt was preceded in death by his wife, Phyllis; two sisters, Nelda and Adella Christy; one brother, George; and a granddaughter, Teresa.

He is survived by three sons, W. Gilbert and Joanne Mangels of Polson, Arthur G. and Neil of Dillon, and Charles W. and Teresa of Polson; a sister, Thelma Sherba, of Colorado; and

several grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, May 28, at the Grogan Funeral Home in Polson. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 29, at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Polson, with the Rev. Aaron Stinnett officiating. Burial will be afterward at Lakeview Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Dogs for the Deaf, the Miracle of America Museum or Mount Calvary Lutheran Church.

Eileen Margaret Marino, 86

Eileen Margaret Marino, 86, died Tuesday, March 27, 2007, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She is survived by her son, Tom Marino, of Kalispell. Funeral services will be

held in Hawley, Pa., later this month, with burial in the Pine Grove Cemetery in Paupack, Pa.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring the family.

Glee Markiss, 78

Glee Markiss, 78, of Polson, died from natural causes Wednesday Aug. 1, 2007, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Grogan Funeral Home.

A full obituary will follow.

Gary Marko, 42

Gary Marko, 42, passed away at his home in Covington, Wash., on May 9, 2007, after an intense battle with cancer. He was born on July 25, 1964, in St. Charles, Mo. Gary graduated from high school in St. Charles and went to Florrisant Community College then attended the University of Texas.

He enjoyed his career as a quality assurance engineer for Leonard's Metal and Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company.

Those of us who knew and loved Gary will always remember his passion for life, love for his family and friends, riding his motorcycle and golf.

Gary Marko and Amy Lindlief were married in Kalispell on Aug. 1, 1998.

He is survived by his wife and best friend, Amy; his daughters, Madison, Morgan and Megan; his mother, Pauline Marko of St. Charles; and

brother, Marty; father- and mother-in-law, Art and Sandy Lindlief; sisters-in-law, Pennijo Tompkins and Kelly Sibley; brother-in-law, Lance Lindlief; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harold.

A memorial Service was held at Peace Lutheran Church on May 14 in Covington, Wash. A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. at Conrad Memorial Cemetery on Wednesday, May 16 followed by a reception.

The Marko family would like to thank all those who have offered their loving support during Gary's long illness.

Remembrances may be made out to The Marko Children Trust Fund, in care of Donna Brandmeyer - Account Representative, Oppenheimier Company, #1 North Brentwood, Suite 600, St Louis, MO 63105.

Ed Marks, 76

Ed Marks, 76, passed away Saturday, June 16, 2007, at the family home on Flathead Lake. He died of natural causes after a valiant struggle with serious chronic diseases. Ed was born Oct. 1, 1930, in Teigen, to Roy Marks and Nettie (Irvin) Marks. His family moved to rural Whitefish when he was 6 years old where he attended Whitefish and Kalispell schools.

After finishing school, Ed worked in various sawmill jobs before enlisting, in the U.S. Army in 1953. Ed's service in the Army included time in Japan after the Korean War. After his time in the service, Ed built a single truck lumber operation into a successful business, Ed Marks Trucking, Inc. He was also a distributor for Utah salt companies and supplied road salt to Montana Department of Transportation and Flathead County for several years.

He was on the board of directors of the Montana Motor Carriers Association for several years and also served as secretary/treasurer of the Hoo-Hoo Club. He was very active in the Boy Scouts of America as a den leader, troop chairman, was a western district chairman for the state of Montana, and was awarded the Silver Beaver award for his service. He was instrumental in the development of the Grizzly Base Camp at McGillivray Lake, obtaining the donations of materials and labor for its construction. All of these achievements bear witness to the fact that Ed was a hard and energetic worker all of his life.

Ed enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, and snowmobiling with family and friends. Throughout the years, he enjoyed and supported his children and grandchildren's games and activities. In the 1980's he discovered sailing and spent many enjoyable hours racing in his J24, the "Ghost." When his health was good, he was never happier than when he had more than one project going on to



help his children or friends. All of his friends, family and neighbors knew they could come to him for help, advice and tools. He was also an avid reader in his spare time, especially Louis L'Amour westerns.

Ed was married to Lois Petersen in Bethlehem Lutheran Church on Nov. 15, 1959. They were blessed with three children, Julie, Roger and Russell. They lived near Whitefish until 1965, when he built a new shop and home on U.S. 2 West of Kalispell. In 1988 they moved permanently to Flathead Lake. Retiring in 1998, Ed and Lois traveled throughout the lower 48 states and Alaska in their motor home and spent their last six winters at Lake Havasu on the Nevada-California border with their faithful companion, Tucker, the miniature Schnauzer. Ed was a loving and generous husband, father and grandfather, who will be greatly missed by family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Roy and Nettie Marks; his sisters, Marion Benson and Mable McFadden; and his in-laws; Ray and Martha Petersen, who were very dear to him.

He is survived by his wife, Lois, of 47 years; daughter, Julie and husband, Tim Wood, of Allen, Texas; sons, Roger and wife, Jodi Marks, of Spokane Valley, and Russell and wife, Rhonda Marks, of Kalispell; grandchildren, Andrew Wood of Allen, Zachary, Sydney, Zoey and Maddie Marks of Spokane Valley, and Tiffany and Tanner Marks of Kalispell; and several nieces, nephews and cousins. His passing is also grieved by his faithful companion, Tucker "The Wonder Dog".

A private memorial service will be held at a later date. The family suggests memorials or donations be made in Ed's name to the Lakeside/Somers Quick Response Unit, 125 Bills Rd, Lakeside, MT. 59922, telephone 844-2275.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Ed's family. You are invited to go to www.johnsonmortuary.com to offer condolences and sign Ed's guest book.

Carol Anne Marshall, 58

Carol Anne Marshall, 58, passed away Thursday night, May 24, 2007, at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, after a courageous two-year battle with cancer. Carol was born on Nov. 23, 1948, in Lynnwood, Calif., to Kenneth and Nancy Sopp.

She met Patrick Marshall in 1967 and they were married Dec. 20, 1969. Together they raised two sons in Fountain Valley, Calif., where she was a middle school teacher. Carol held degrees in history and English from Cal State-Los Angeles and was awarded a lifetime teaching credential. Carol taught for 18 years in California. She and Pat retired to Columbia Falls in 1993 making many new friends and enjoyed their life in the valley.

She was the strongest person we've ever known. She was caring and devoted to her family and friends; giving without ever expecting anything in return and always finding a way to bring happiness to others. She was a wonderful wife, an incredible mother and a loving grandmother who made each of



us a better person.

"We will always be thankful for the time we were able to share with her; she will live on in our hearts forever. With eternal love; Patrick, Steven and Brian."

She is survived by, Patrick Marshall, her husband of 37 years; son and daughter-in-law, Steven and Erica Marshall; son and daughter-in-law, Brian and Darcie Marshall; her mother, Nancy Sopp; brother and sister-in-law, Randy and Kitty Sopp; her three sisters, Terri Sopp-Rae, Laurie Brewer and Dana Hardin; brother, John Sopp; four granddaughters, Ava Marshall, Rylie Marshall, Caitlin Marshall and Alicia Perez; one grandson, Corey Clifford; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A small gathering will be held at the Marshall home for family and friends in Montana to remember Carol. A second gathering will occur in California for those who are unable to travel to Montana.

In lieu of flowers, a scholarship fund will be set up to be awarded to a local student or the family asks that donations be made to the American Cancer Society in Carol's name. If you wish to contribute to the scholarship fund, please send a donation to Nancy Osler at 1425 W. Reserve Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Richard Merwin Martell, Sr., 52

Richard Merwin Martell, Sr., 52, of Frenchtown, passed away at St. Patrick Hospital on Wednesday, March 14, 2007. He was born Feb. 4, 1955, in Scobey, the son of Forest and Elaine (Myhre) Martell.

He was raised and attended schools in Libby. He married Charlotte Peek on Oct. 25, 1975.

Richard enjoyed music, cars, trucks, motorcycles, racing and helping others. He'll be remembered as a character that was very funny and always able to make people laugh and smile.

He was preceded in death



by his maternal and paternal grandparents and a baby brother, Ronnie Martell.

His family includes his wife, Charlotte Martell, of Frenchtown; sons and their wives, Tracy Martell and wife, Korrina, Richard Jr., Shawn Martell and wife, Tiffany; daughter, Shilo Marie Martell; brothers, Alan Martell, and Lonnie Martell and his wife, Corey, and Larry Martell and wife, Shannon; sisters, Sue Graham and husband, Jeff, and Faith Volkenand and husband, Dean; seven grandchildren; many nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and -nephews.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 19, at Garden City Funeral Home with a reception to follow in Garden City's community room.

Ada Jean Martin, 62

Ada Jean Martin, 62, passed away June 9, 2007, after collapsing suddenly at her home in Bigfork.

Ada was born in Helena Nov. 9, 1944, to Elmer and Mary Josephine Olsen.

She attended school in Blossberg and Townsend.

Ada married Gene Martin, having two daughters with him, Terrie Rae and Paula.

She spent her last 18 years with her companion, Albert Muniz, of Bigfork.

Ada is survived by her daughters, Terrie Rae and husband Joe Geffert, and Paula Martin,

all of Clarksville, Tenn.; sisters, Annette Lee and Art Swisher of St. Anthony, Idaho, Donna Martin of Ridgecrest, Calif., and Mary Ann and Gordon Welch of Townsend; brothers, Roy and Bev Olsen of Greybull, Wyo., Gary and Lois Olsen of Winston, and Bill and Wanda Olsen of Three Forks; three grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews; and many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Cremation has taken place. A family memorial is planned for a later date in Townsend.

Kenneth Martin, 55

Kenneth Martin, 55, passed away Aug. 28, 2007, of natural causes, at the family home in Columbia Falls. He was born Oct. 30, 1951, at home, in Street-er, N.D., where he was raised and attended school. He graduated from the State School of Science in Wahpeton, N.D., with a degree in diesel mechanics.



On July 19, 1974, Kenneth married Catherine Boelke, in Jamestown, N.D.

From 1980 to 2000, he was employed as an ironworker with Columbia Falls Aluminum Co. After his retirement from CFAC he worked as a heavy equipment operator for T-Bend Construction.

Kenneth enjoyed camping, fishing, and spending time with

his grandchildren. His passion was riding his Harleys.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gilbert and Caroline (Graf) Martin; and his brothers, Eugene and Melvin.

Kenneth is survived by his former wife of 31 years, Catherine (Boelke) Martin, of Moscow, Idaho; children, Matthew and Kim Martin of Columbia Falls, Crista Martin of Columbia Falls, and Trisha and James Brower of Marion; a sister, Loretta, and James Schwalk; grandchildren, Coby, Malachi, McKayla, Tanner, Dustin and Sierra; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He also leaves behind his "grandpuppies" JD, Bedoe, Mel and Panda.

Cremation has taken place. A family gathering and barbecue will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 9, at the Martin residence. All family and friends are welcome.

Martha Loretta Mason, 89

Martha Loretta Mason, 89, of Whitefish, formerly of Eureka, died Wednesday March 28, 2007, at Colonial Manor in Whitefish.

She cooked at Lynn's Cafe for many years.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Mason, of Whitefish; and children, Dorothy Aemissegger, Harbert Brans-

come and Berdette Branscome, all of Eureka, David Branscome of Kalispell, and Joan Berley of Florida.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Monday, April 2, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Eureka.

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

Gene Harry Mason, 77

Gene Harry Mason, 77, passed away Friday, March 30, 2007, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. He was born Dec. 26, 1928, in Savannah, Ga., to Harry Lamar and Evelyn Brown. Evelyn later married J. Clark Mason, who raised Gene like his own son.



Gene moved with his family to Montana in the late 1940s. He married Beverly A. Meyers in Kalispell in 1949, and they divorced in 1968. Gene then married Beverly Vance on Sept. 30, 1968, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. They later divorced.

Gene worked for Kalispell Laundry before moving to Washington state, where he began a career in dry cleaning. He returned to the valley to assume a partnership in Service Cleaners. He started Masonized Dry Cleaners in 1963, operating it until he retired in 1990.

For many years, Gene played percussion with the Hungry Four, and he was a avid fan of the Atlanta Braves baseball team. However,

Gene's favorite place was his home on Echo Lake.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents, Clark and Evelyn Mason; and a great-grandson, Loic Rogers.

He is survived by five children, Patty Fisher and husband, Phil, of Kalispell, Pam Berry and husband, Buzz, of Kalispell, Paula Mattern and husband, Brian, of Columbia Falls, Cathy Weprek and husband, Ron, of Kalispell, and J. Clark Mason II and wife, Lisa, of Glendora, Calif.; grandchildren, Craig, Bradley, Courtney, Kelcy, Jennifer, Christina, Scott, Brian, Aaron, Ashley, Caitlin, Rylee, Ariel, Amber, Melanie, Justin, Mariah, Zane and Owen; as well as 16 great-grandchildren, including Indica, Kyro, Jesse and Leila. He also is survived by long-term friends, Beverly Mason and Sandra Parod.

Funeral services for Gene will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 14, in the Johnson Mortuary chapel, with Jerry Schrek officiating. Burial will be in C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. There will be no visitation.

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

Clara Emila Mathiason, 90

Clara Emila Mathiason, 90, died at her residence in Kila on Friday, Jan. 26, 2007.

She is survived by her daughters, C. Marcella Bartley of Mossy Rock, Wash., Marion Schoening of Bremerton, Wash.; two sons, Glen Mathiason of Marion,

Wash. and Roger Mathiason of Moses Lake.

Memorial Services are being planned for a later date. There will be no visitation.

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

Steve Matosich, 82

Family and friends will be remembering the life of Steve Matosich, who passed away on Independence Day, July 4, 2007, at the Montana Veteran's Home in Columbia Falls.



Services to honor his memory will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 7, at St. Peter's Catholic Church at 405 Alder Street in Anaconda, with a graveside service and early dinner afterwards.

A prayer service will be held at 6:30 p.m. today, July 6, at Longfellow Funeral Home in Anaconda.

Steve was born in Opportunity, on Aug. 29, 1924, to Matthew and Mary Matosich, one of 13 children. After graduating from Anaconda High School in 1943, he enlisted in the Army and served his country in World War II, receiving the Purple Heart for wounds sustained during the invasion of Okinawa, Japan.

After convalescing in California, Steve returned to Montana, and in 1948 married Shirley Nadeau, whom he had known since high school in Anaconda.

He graduated from the University of Montana with a B.A. in history and the social sciences in 1949, and he and Shirley moved to Grass Range, where he accepted his first teaching position.

Steve taught briefly in Lewistown before moving to Whitefish in 1952, after earning his master's degree from the University of Montana. Steve taught and was principal at the Whitefish Junior High School from 1952 to 1969, when he became principal of the newly constructed Granville Stuart School in Deer Lodge. While in Deer Lodge, he and Shirley began building their dream home on Swan Lake. Side-by-side they worked on the construction themselves, and then retired there in 1981.

Steve and Shirley were blessed with seven children. For years, they enjoyed trips to visit their children for

celebrations and good times together.

Throughout his life, Steve was active in a number of organizations, including the Knights of Columbus, Kiwanis, Elks, Jaycees, AARP, and the Montana Retired Teachers. He was passionately committed to positive changes in education.

Steve enjoyed playing the guitar and singing for special occasions. He loved dancing with his wife, so it was only natural that they became regulars at the Bigfork Inn, where they enjoyed the sounds of the Company Brass Band and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Over the years, they enjoyed many endearing relationships with neighbors, teachers, and fellow members of organizations.

Steve was an excellent horseshoe player and golfer. He had an active role in construction of the golf courses in Whitefish and Eagle Bend in Bigfork. He also was an avid fly fisherman, hunter, and outdoorsman, raising his children to love and respect nature.

Steve Matosich was an extraordinary man of integrity and a loving brother, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend. He led by example, teaching and inspiring wisdom in the many lives of those who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Steve was preceded in death by his infant daughter, Stephanie; his parents; sisters, Petra, Mae, Rose and Vera; brothers Pete, Ted, Mike, Matt, Jiggs and Eli.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley; sons, Steve, Michael and Andrew; daughters, Linda, Michele, Nanice and Paula; daughters-in-law, Debi Matosich and Bonnie Matosich; sons-in-law, Mike Crowley, Martin Sago and John Zimmerman; brother, Joe; sister, Velma Jean; 18 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Montana Veterans Home at 400 Veterans Drive in Columbia Falls, MT 59912, in memory of Steve M. Matosich.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home caring for the family.

Steven Craig Matthis, 48

Steven Craig Matthis, 48, passed away peacefully at home March 23, 2007, in Bozeman, with his family by his side after a long and difficult battle with MS. He was born in 1958 to Dell R. Matthis and Karen R. (Johnson) Matthis in Helena. Craig attended grades one through four in Helena and grades five through 12 in Bozeman.



Upon completion of high school, he had several jobs in the valley until he was employed by Tele-Communications Inc. (TCI) where he worked for 19 years as a cable technician.

Craig married Robin Elizabeth Tate September 18, 1979, in Bozeman. They later divorced. They have one daughter, Maria Lee Matthis.

Craig had many interests. He collected rocks, antiques, vin-

tage cars and coins. He was a beautiful skier starting out early in the Buddy Werner program at Bridger Bowl. He was an avid sportsman and loved Montana, particularly the Gallatin Valley and the Headwaters of the Missouri.

Craig is survived by his mother, Karen R. Matthis, of Bozeman; his daughter, Maria Lee Matthis; grandson, Mason Craig Del Grande, also of Bozeman; sister, Kay Suzanne Matthis, of Spokane; and brother, T. Scott Matthis, of Plains.

He was preceded in death by his father, Dell R. Matthis; grandparents, Elmer and Ruth Kenyon Johnson, and Frank and Rhena Matthis.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 28 at Dokken Nelson Funeral Home. Memorials may be made to Heart of the Valley, P.O. Box 11390, Bozeman, 59719 or to Bozeman Deaconess Hospice, 931 Highland Blvd. Suite 3200, Bozeman, 59715.

Willard A. Maughan, 88

Willard A. Maughan, 88, of Polson, died on Saturday, June 30, 2007, at Evergreen Health and Rehab Center from natural causes.

Visitation will be held from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on Friday, July 6, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in

Polson. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. in the church with Rev. Jim Nethercott officiating. Interment with military honors will follow at Lakeview Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Grogan Funeral Home in Polson.

Mary Anthony 'Toni' (O'Neill) Maurer, 74

Mary Anthony "Toni" (O'Neill) Maurer, passed away on Monday, July 16, 2007, after battling pancreatic cancer. Toni was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on March 9, 1933, to William C. O'Neill and Florence (O'Connor) O'Neill.



She graduated from Queens College, New York, in 1955, with a degree in political science. She was a member of Alpha Delta Pi national sorority.

Seeking adventure, she joined the Special Services, U.S. Army, as recreation director in 1956, stationed in Karlsruhe, Germany. While there, she met a handsome career Army officer in the Corps of Engineers, David Maurer. Their marriage on Aug. 31, 1957, was the beginning of 50 wonderful years together, living and traveling throughout the United States and all across the globe. Some of their happiest years were spent at West Point, N.Y., where Toni was a ski instructor and avid participant in the West Point Players.

In 1980, she earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Webster College, St. Louis.

Toni and Dave retired first to Claremont, Calif., in 1985, where she especially enjoyed her years of involvement with the Foothill Philharmonic. She also became a certified paralegal during this time.

In the summer of 2004, Toni and Dave relocated for the last time to the beautiful Flathead Valley. Toni immediately felt welcomed into the communities of Somers and Lakeside and was so very happy there. She became active in the CCW at Pope John Paul II Church and in the Lakeside Community Club.

She will be deeply missed and is remembered as a loving, devoted wife, mother, sister and friend.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband, David Maurer, of Somers; her son, Frederic W. Maurer of San Diego; her two daughters, Lisa M. Jibson of Ann Arbor, Mich., and Karen M. Proksch of Boone, Iowa; six grandchildren; David, Jonathan, Tara and William Jibson, and Morgan and Eric Proksch; her two sisters, Lori O'Neill and Timi O'Neill, both of New York; her brother, William O'Neill, of Arkansas; and four nephews.

Mass for Toni will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday, July 19, at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church in Bigfork.

Toni requested memorial contributions to the Pope John Paul II Capital Building Fund, P.O. Box 277, Bigfork, MT 59911.

Inurnment will be at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Toni's family. You are invited to go to www.johnsonmortuary.com to offer condolences and sign Toni's guest book.

Richard Mauzey

Graveside memorial services for Richard Mauzey, formerly of Bigfork and Kalispell, who died Nov. 2,

2006, in Burley, Idaho, will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Aug. 6, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

Sandra J. McBride, 65

Sandra J. McBride, 65, died Wednesday, April 4, 2007, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

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

Ruth E. McColley, 97

Ruth E. McColley (nee MacDonald), 97, passed away Aug. 25, 2007, in Littleton, Colo. She was born March 8, 1910, in Cohasset, Minn.

Ruth met David McColley in Gary, Ind., and they were married Aug. 31, 1935. David worked for Inland Steel Co., in East Chicago, Ind. They were married for 66 years.

David and Ruth moved to Lake of the Ozarks in 1955 and operated a resort for nine years before moving to Missoula, where they were part of a corporation that operated Lolo Hot Springs.

They later moved to Kalispell and managed the Elms, a senior apartment complex. An opportunity and challenge gave them the chance to go to Anchorage, Alaska, for three years before

returning to Kalispell to again manage the Elms Apartments.

Ruth was a devoted wife and mother. She had an interesting and fulfilling life.

She was preceded in death by her husband, David. "She is now reunited with him in Heaven."

Ruth is survived by their three children, Jean and John Heresz of Hobart, Ind., David and Pat McColley of Columbus, Ohio, and Peggy and Jay Flinders of Littleton; also many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 1, at the Glacier Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice.

Alice Jewel Pruett McCullough, 86

Alice Jewel Pruett McCullough was born on Feb. 28, 1920, in the Ozark Hills at Dogwood, Mo., to Alvah and Violet Mae Pruett. She was the second oldest of nine children.



She "left her earthly family to join her family in God's Kingdom" on Feb. 25, 2007, three days prior to her 87th birthday.

Alice married Olen McCullough June 24, 1940, in Dogwood. They divorced in 1961, but continued to care about each other's well being. They had three daughters, Jewel, Judy and Emma Mae, all born in Douglas County, Mo.

She is survived by her three daughters, Jewel Henneman and husband, Bob, Judy Timlick and husband, Dick, and Emma Mae Hodges, all of Kalispell; eight grandchildren, Cindy Steele (Mam Mam's little girl) and husband, Rod, Chris Nestegard and wife, Kim, Tim Nestegard, Ronnie Timlick and wife, Cheri, Adam, Abby and Matty Hodges, and Matthew Hodges and wife, Stacey; also 12 great-grandchildren, soon to be 13; sisters, Nadine Barker and Goldie Bryant; brothers, David Pruett, Bill and wife, Edna Pruett, and Aaron Pruett and wife, Bonnie, and sister-in-law, Evelyn Pruett.

Alice was preceded in death by her parents, Alvah and Violet Mae Pruett, an infant brother, Paul; and brother, Johnny; sister, Mary; sons-in-law, Gary Nestegard and Terry Hodges;

one great-grandson, Tyler Nestegard; and more loved ones.

Mother thrived and found joy in hard work, no matter how difficult and trying. She worked in cafes, as a caregiver in a nursing home in Kalispell, and 20 years at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in the laundry department, the last years serving as a team leader, until she retired. She was very proud of being an employee there.

She was a member of the Eagles Organization in Kalispell, again something she took great pride in and had many good times there with her friends and family.

She loved canning and gardening and fed her family well from the produce of the large garden she tended.

Alice was a longtime member of the Easthaven Baptist Church, and dearly loved her church family. She had no honorary degrees, or awards, but if she had it would have been something on this order, "No greater love for family was ever exhibited by any one person than our mother, Alice Jewel Pruett McCullough."

She loved the Ozark Hills of Missouri, and the mountains of Montana. She will forever be a part of each.

Funeral services will be at 12:30 p.m. Friday, March 2, at Easthaven Baptist Church, 2010 Whitefish Stage Road. Viewing will be from 11:30 a.m. to approximately 12:15 p.m. at the church. Interment will be after the service at Glacier Memorial Gardens. A meal after the interment will be held at the Easthaven Baptist Church.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Kyle David McCullugh, 16

Kyle David McCullugh, 16, of Kalispell passed away from injuries suffered in a vehicle-pedestrian accident near Plains on Saturday morning, March 3,



2007. He was born June 1, 1990, in Ronan to Leo David and Lisa M. (Stewart) McCullugh. He attended schools in Ronan, Pablo, Vaughn, Kalispell and Plains.

He most recently worked with Preston Mitchell as a mechanic and Sonny Miller as a carpet layer. Kyle had signed up for the U.S. Army and was planning on going to active duty at the age of 17.

He loved sports, video games, fishing and four-wheeling, the outdoors, dancing, singing and joking. He tried hard to be a comedian. Everyone who knew him loved him. He had a big heart, and five minutes after meeting him he left

an imprint on your heart.

His great-grandmothers, Mildred Lubitz and Bernice Shinnick, preceded him in death.

Kyle is survived by his parents, Leo, and his wife, Kimberly Calderaro, of Kalispell, and Lisa Bowden of Paradise; one sister, Amanda McCullugh, of Vaughn; stepbrothers, Steven Mace of Kalispell, and Kevin Mace of Texas; niece, Brooklyn Peterson, of Vaughn; grandparents, Joanne Simmes of Polson, Felix McCullugh of Ronan, and Jeannette and Gayle King of Paradise; great-grandfather, Jerry Shinnick, of Paradise; and numerous other relatives.

Memorials may be made to Big Brothers Big Sisters or Peer Court.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at Faith Lutheran Church, 410 Fifth Ave. SW, in Ronan, with the Rev. Rand Drollman officiating.

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

Wayne 'Mick' McGee, 66

Wayne "Mick" McGee, 66, "returned to our Heavenly Father," Sunday, July 29, 2007, at Brendan House in Kalispell.



He was born in Kalispell on Aug. 30, 1940, to Harry and Cleo McGee. He attended school in Montana, Texas and Louisiana, and later returned to Kalispell.

He worked construction and mining and was employed with Wein Air where he was a crew member on a pioneer flight into Northern Alaska on a jet powered cargo plane.

Mick had three children from a previous marriage.

On Sept. 3, 1971, he married the love of his life, Sharon Rasmussen Cotton.

He later worked with Washington Construction and was a member of the Operating Engineers Union. He transferred to Soda Springs, Idaho, in 1974. In 1981, he left Washington Construction and opened his own business, McGee's Radiator, in Soda Springs, Idaho. He retired in 2003 and he and his wife, Sharon, returned to make their home in Kalispell.

After retirement Mick decided he needed to keep busy and he was hired by Romona and worked for Bob and Linda at Tri-City Quick Stop. He enjoyed all the people he worked with and the customers who came in.

Mick loved animals and never passed a cat or dog without giving them special attention. He took the same care of his favorite houseplants. He loved

snow machining with friends in Soda Springs and card parties with friends and family. He was a "By Invitation Only" poker tournament player in Jackpot, Nev.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a stepfather, Bob Grenfell; and a daughter, Laura.

Mick is survived by his wife, Sharon McGee, of Kalispell; two sons, Mickey McGee and wife, Kathy, and Terry McGee, all of Las Vegas; three daughters, Mylissa McGee of Las Vegas, Susan Wilson and husband, Mike, of Fredericksburg, Texas, and Polebridge, and Linda Hulse and husband, Joseph, of Soda Springs, Idaho; two sisters, Diana Stoller and husband, Walt, of Somers, and Linda Werner and husband, Otto, of Arizona; a brother, Harry McGee, of Marysville; also a friend and father figure, Doug Wise of Kalispell; 11 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial Services for Wayne "Mick" McGee will be held at 2 p.m. Friday Aug. 3, in the Johnson Mortuary Chapel at 525 South Main Street, Kalispell, with an inurnment after at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. There will be no visitation.

Mick and his family were blessed by staff and volunteers of Hospice and suggests memorials be given to Home Options, Hospice; 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

You are invited to go to www.johnsonmortuary.com to offer condolences and sign Mick's guest book.

Charles 'Chuck' Robert McHenry, 78

Charles "Chuck" Robert McHenry, 78, of Kalispell passed away of congenital heart failure Thursday, Sept. 6, 2007, at Kalispell



Regional Medical Center. Chuck was a longtime and lifelong resident of Kalispell. He was born Aug. 10, 1929, in Kalispell to Georgianna (Smith) and Walter McHenry. He graduated from Flathead County High School in 1947.

Chuck was a salesperson for most of his life. He knew many people in the Flathead Valley and the surrounding area. He worked for the Gambles Company for 17 years in Kalispell and Worland, Wyo. He later bought the Gambles store in Cut Bank and lived there for five years. When he sold that store, he returned to Kalispell and sold trailers until he retired.

Chuck loved adventure and his family. He loved airplanes since his youth and had many adventures with flying ultra-

light airplanes. He enjoyed skiing until he began having health problems. Chuck spent many summer days at their family cabin on Flathead Lake since 1959, with his family and his grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and his sister, Mary Jo Ten Eyck.

Chuck is survived by his wife of 55 years, Geraldine (Mather-Hellman) McHenry, of the family home; his three children and their families, Genine and Chris Berard, and their daughters, Brittney, Brook and Morgan, of Post Falls, Idaho, Mitchell and Roxanne McHenry, and their boys, Wyatt and Orion, of Kalispell, and Jami and Tony Thompson, and their boys, Cole and Levi of Kalispell.

He was a wonderful loving husband, father and grandfather, and he will be greatly by his family and friends.

Private graveside services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. After the services, there will be a reception for family and close friends at 12:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge.

Lyle Delbert Willson McIsaac, 82

Lyle Delbert Willson McIsaac, 82, died Wednesday, April 25, 2007, at his home in Lower Lost Prairie.



He was born in Sumner, Ore., on July

8, 1924, the son of Delbert and Golda Mae (Davis) Willson.

Lyle was raised from the age of 3 by his mother and stepfather, Golda and Edward McIsaac. He graduated from Modesto High School in 1942.

He served in the Navy during World War II. Lyle married his first wife, Vivian McIsaac, in the late 1940s, and to this union came four sons, Edward, Charles, David and Richard McIsaac. He attended San Jose State College, receiving his Bachelor of Arts in 1950, and then received his Master of Science degree from Iowa State College in 1952.

Lyle married his current wife, Carolyn "K" Jean Schuetz, in October 1972 in Idaho Falls, Idaho, having a daughter, Stephanie. He pursued his career as a radiation chemist for 25 years with the Idaho National Engineering Laboratories in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Lyle also spent two

years with King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 1981 to 1983. He retired in 1984 to Lost Prairie.

His hobbies included skydiving and snow skiing (going out about three times last year). He was a voracious reader and an avid fly fisherman, and he loved being a skydiving pilot.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a son, Charles.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn McIsaac, of Lost Prairie; three sons, Edward, David and Richard McIsaac of Idaho; and one daughter, Stephanie McIsaac, and her fiancé, Jason Pollock, of Colorado; 17 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; a brother, Dewey McIsaac, of Washington; two nieces, Vicki and Pat; and a nephew, Robert, and their extended families, and not to mention his many wonderful friends.

The family will have their own gathering of family and friends at his residence Saturday, April 28, 2007, and suggests that, in lieu of flowers, a donation be made to the American Cancer Society, 3550 Mullan Road, Suite 105, Missoula, MT 59808.

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

George McGuire, 58

Legendary local musician George McGuire died of natural causes Jan. 15, 2007, at his home in Ferndale. George was born Feb. 9, 1948, in Compton, Calif. He graduated from Newport Harbor High School in Newport Beach, Calif.

He moved to Montana in 1980 and lived in several locations throughout the valley before settling in the Bigfork area, where he had resided since the early 1990s.

As a young guitar player in California, George and his band, Second Time, were signed by Capital Records and produced by Mike Curb. He recorded the score for the movie "Wild In the Streets" starring Richard Pryor. After California, George moved to Las Vegas, where he was offered the job of performing with Bill Medley and the Righteous Brothers. There he met Lee Ferrell and performed with Lee and other bands in the Las Vegas area for several years.

Upon arriving in Montana, George performed as a single act for a short time before others soon recognized his talent, and



he began performing throughout Montana with various bands. No matter where or with whom he performed, George's incredible musical ability was able to elevate the performance of every player around him.

Everyone who knew George had a story about time well spent. "We never knew where we were headed, but we knew the adventure would be worth it. We also knew that we would have at least one more story that we might or might not be able to tell our children or grandchildren."

Because he reached out to so many other musicians, friends and fans, there will be a void in the local music scene forever.

George is survived by his daughter, Cameo; grandsons, Anthony and Andrew McGuire; his sisters, Reenie Gassman and Carla Walsh; and brothers, Mike and Mark Robb, all of California. He also leaves behind his dogs, Hazel and Maggie.

Funeral arrangements are pending. A memorial is planned at 2 p.m. Jan. 28, at the Garden Bar in Bigfork. All are welcome.

A memorial fund has been established for Cameo, Anthony and Andrew. Please send donations in care of Mike McFarland, P.O. Box 2356, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Doreen McKnight, 83

Doreen McKnight, 83, passed away Thursday, Aug. 30, 2007, at the Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born Aug. 29, 1924, in Faith, S.D., the daughter of Ned and Erma (Choate) Andrews.

Doreen graduated in 1945 from St. Joseph Mercy School of Nursing in Mason City, Iowa. Soon after graduation, she moved to Seattle, where she began working on the maternity floor of the Swedish Hospital. Doreen was introduced to Jim McKnight by her sister, Mae, and they were married Sept. 5, 1948, in Spokane.

The couple moved to Kalispell, where Jim owned Glacier War Surplus, and they made their home and started a family. Doreen was active as a Boy Scout den mother and 4-H leader. She was also very involved in the Epworth United Methodist Church, including being a Sunday school teacher, participating in the women's circle, and as the chair of the fall bazaar. She enjoyed creating countless craft items that she donated to church events.

Some of Doreen's favorite activities were golfing with Jim and his friends, spending summers at their Flathead Lake cabin, playing cards, hand sewing and baking. She also enjoyed traveling, often visiting her family and friends. During



the past 15 years, Doreen and Jim spent their summers in Kalispell and winters in Palm Springs, Calif.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 58 years, Jim; parents; a brother, Bill; and sister, Merle.

She is survived by two sons, Jack McKnight and wife, Alice, of La Palma, Calif., and Tom McKnight of Victorville, Calif.; two daughters, Merle Vinson of Missoula, and Patty Heuschler and husband, Randy, of Billings; six grandchildren, Michele, Lyle, Darrell, Ginger, Shannon and Casey; and four great-grandchildren, Logan, Phoenix, Taylor and Makenzie; two brothers, Ted Andrews and wife, Louise, of California, and Jim Andrews and wife, Maria, of Minnesota; and three sisters, Evelyn Friese of South Dakota; Mae Andrews and Fran Wainwright, both of Washington.

Memorial services for Doreen will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 4, at Epworth United Methodist Church. There will be no visitation.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to Epworth United Methodist Church, 329 2nd Ave. E, Kalispell, MT 59901 or to the Inter-Mountain Children's Home, 500 S. Lamborn, Helena, MT 59601.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Doreen's family. You are invited to go to www.johnsonmortuary.com to offer condolences and sign Doreen's guest book.

William E. 'Bill' McKee

William Erwin McKee, 87, of Polson passed away peacefully Saturday, May 5, 2007, in Helena after a courageous battle with metastatic prostate cancer.



He was born Sept. 10, 1919, in a homestead shack on Charlie Creek near Andes, in Richland County. His parents were Harry O. McKee and Mona Holt McKee.

After completing the eighth grade in a one-room country school, Bill began working to help support his parents and four sisters. He worked on the construction of the Fort Peck dam and began his career with Buttrey Foods in Cut Bank as a potato bagger.

On Dec. 8, 1941, Bill joined the United States Coast Guard and was deployed to the Pacific Theater during World War II. Bill received an honorable discharge as a boatswain's mate, second class, on July 19, 1946.

Bill met Eleanor S. Jennings from Glasgow, who also was serving in the military as a WAVE, and they were married March 1, 1944. After the war, Bill and Eleanor returned to Cut Bank, where he resumed his 44-year career with Buttrey Foods. Bill was promoted to manager of the Fort Peck store in 1949 and managed stores in Conrad, Great Falls and Kalispell until his retirement in 1980.

After Eleanor's death in 1981, Bill met and married Avela Nelson in 1984. They spent the next 22 years celebrating weddings, graduations and accomplishments of their grandchildren, the births of great-grandchildren,

and traveling to visit family and friends, including a cruise around the world.

Bill was an avid golfer and outdoorsman. He loved to hike in Glacier Park and skied at Big Mountain and other ski areas across the Northwest. In their later years, Bill and Avela spent their winters in Palm Desert and summers in Whitefish, until relocating to Polson in 2000. Avela passed away on Nov. 26, 2006.

"Papa Kee" loved his family and took great delight in entertaining the younger ones as they grew up. The kids always looked forward to driving or riding in his golf cart. There were no family events that were too far away for Bill and Avela to attend.

During his life, Bill was involved in church and civic activities with the Presbyterian Church, Lions Club, Masonic Lodge and Order of the Eastern Star, and served on the board of directors of the Whitefish Golf Club.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; his two wives; and sisters, Olive Wildermuth, Jean Kline and Myrna Levitt.

Bill is survived by his sister, Melva Johnson, of Columbia Falls; son, Mike, and Jeanette McKee, of Hamilton; and daughter, Lynn McEachran, of Spokane; six grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial celebration of his life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 9, at the First Presbyterian Church in Whitefish. Inurnment of the ashes of both Bill and Avela will be held at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell immediately after the service.

The family requests that memorials be made to a charity of the donor's choice or local Hospice organization.

James 'Jim' Beacher McKnight, 84

James "Jim" Beacher McKnight, 84, died Friday, March 9, 2007, at his home surrounded by his wife of 58 years and his four children.



He was born on May 28, 1922, in Hilger, just outside of Lewistown, the son of the late Fred and Ada (Porter) McKnight. Jim graduated from Lewistown High School in 1940. He worked for McDonald-Douglas Aircraft in Long Beach, Calif., before entering the U.S. Navy in 1942.

After leaving the service in 1946, Jim attended Montana State University in Bozeman and then started Glacier War Surplus in Kalispell where he would travel to many cities and states. On one of Jim's trips he was introduced to Doreen Andrews and they were married on Sept. 5, 1948, in Spokane, Wash.

Jim started his insurance career with Farmers Insurance and became a district manager before starting his own agency, Tri-Co Insurance, in mid-1960, with three other agents. Tri-Co quickly became a major force in the commercial insurance arena and wrote more than 80 percent of the logging policies for Flathead, Lincoln and Lake Counties.

Jim retired in 1987, and appreciated his retirement years golfing, fishing and travel-

ing to places like Spain, Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong. For the last 15 years Jim and Doreen have enjoyed summers in Kalispell and the winters in Palm Springs, Calif., where they had a home on a golf course. He was a long time Mason, Shriner and Elk Club member.

He was preceded in death by his parents; five brothers, Otis, Evie, Clyde, Ernest and Les; and two sisters, Bessie and Edith.

He is survived by his wife, Doreen, of Kalispell; two sons, Jack McKnight and wife, Alice, of La Palma, Calif., and Thomas K. McKnight of Victorville, Calif.; two daughters, Merle Vinson of Missoula, and Patsy Heuscher and husband, Randy, of Billings; six grandchildren, Darrell, Ginger, Michele, Lyle, Shannon and Casey; four great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Norma Shaver and husband, Jim, of Garden Grove, Calif., and Floma Brown of the San Francisco area.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at Epworth United Methodist Church with Pastor Huston Green officiating. Private inurnment will be at a later date. Memorials may be sent to the Shriners Hospitals for Crippled children, P.O. Box 2472, Spokane, WA 99210, or to the American Cancer Society, 3550 Mullen Road, Suite 105, Missoula, MT 59808.

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

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Erwin Leigh McLaury, 76

Erwin Leigh McLaury, 76, died July 4, 2007, in Eureka. He worked as timber faller and ferrior.

He is survived by his wife, Jean; and his children, Mary Badley and Timothy Smith, both of Oregon, and David Smith, Ruth McLaury, Dale

McLaury, Robert McLaury, and Robin Lyda, all of Montana.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Monday at the Fortine Cemetery.

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

Sue McMurdo, 39

Memorial services for Wendy Sue McMurdo, 39, who died Dec. 25, 2006, will be held at 11 a.m. Feb. 23, at Austin

Funeral Home in Whitefish. A reception will follow at the VFW Club in Whitefish for family and friends.

Joyce V. McReynolds, 74

Joyce V. McReynolds, 74, died Wednesday, June 13, 2007, at her home in Libby.

Survivors include her husband, Charles; her children, Naomi Jeanne Giddis of Two Buttes, Colo., Charles D. "Charlie" McReynolds Jr., of Columbia Falls, and Joy Laverne

Maynard of St. Ignatius.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at the City of Libby Cemetery with the Rev. Darrell Newby officiating. Friends may call from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday and until 10 a.m. Monday at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home.

Brett Michael McPherson, 47



"Today we mourn the loss of Brett Michael McPherson, 47, beloved husband, father, son, brother, uncle and friend." He died tragically

while on vacation with his family in Hawaii, Jan. 7, 2007. Brett was born April 21, 1959, in Conrad, the son of John and Donna McPherson, the youngest of five children.

The family moved to Kalispell in 1963 where he graduated from Flathead High School in 1977. Brett attended Augustana College in South Dakota and the University of Montana, where he met his future wife, Jill Harryman. They were married June 20, 1981.

They began their 25 year marriage in Richland, Wash. Throughout his career, Brett worked for major construction companies across the country and in Canada and China. He was employed by Foster Design at ConocoPhillips in Billings at the time of his death.

Brett was passionate about his family, devoted to them and so proud of the accomplish-

ments of not only his own children, but also his nieces and nephews. An avid sportsman, Brett loved to golf and play baseball. He logged thousands of miles to cheer for any team with a McPherson on it.

Brett is survived by his beautiful wife, Jill; sons, Ryan John, 24, Christian William, 21; and daughter, Amanda Elise, 20; mother, Donna McPherson; brothers, Gerald, and Anthony and Nancy McPherson; sisters, Jan LaBonty, Lori and Mitch Borth; mother-in-law, Shirley Harryman; sister-in-law, Kim and Cyrus Lee; nieces and nephews, Shane and Jeremiah McPherson, Andre LaBonty and Megan LaBonty, and Elizabeth LaBonty, Caitlin and Austyn McPherson, Jessica, Carly and Cassandra Borth, and Kira, William and Anna Lee.

He was preceded in death by his father, John; nephew, Ian McPherson; and father-in-law, Bill Harryman.

Vigil services will be at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 14, and Funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 15, both at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Billings. Committal will be in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Arrangements are in the care of Dahl Funeral Chapel.

Pat McNulty, 65

Pat McNulty, 65, a long-time area resident, died Thursday, Aug. 30, 2007, at her home in Libby.

Survivors include her husband, Jim; sons, Steve McNulty of Libby, and Greg McNulty of Rathdrum, Idaho; and her mother, Evelyn

Anderson, of Troy.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Milnor Lake Cemetery with Rev. Gene Bushnell officiating. Friends may call at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday.

Mary C. Meeks, 80



Mary left this life, family and friends on Oct. 18, 2007. She departed this world from Brendan House where she had received care for the last few days of her life.

She was born in Helena on Oct. 17, 1927, to William and Corinne (Demers) Powers. Her father was a banker and Secretary of State for Montana. Her mother was a telegrapher and later became a supervisor for the State of Montana Liquor Control board.

Mary graduated from Helena High School and the University of Montana Northern in Havre. She also attended Montana State University and the University of Washington. She lived in the Tri-Cities, Wash., for many years, worked, and raised a family.

In 1977, she moved to New Jersey to marry the "love of her life," Harold. She worked for many years in Washington and New Jersey as an executive assistant. In New Jersey, she and her husband enjoyed countless years with friends and enjoyed the metropolitan lifestyle living outside of New York City.

However far her travels took her, her love of "Big Sky Country" always brought her back to Montana and upon retire-

ment, they moved and settled in Kalispell. They enjoyed many years of fun, family and friends.

Mary had a particular passion for all things green and Irish, gardening, Montana, baking and hosting family get-togethers with all the gala of a formal affair, and having her grandchildren around to share these passions.

She also had a love for animals and took in many Dobermans to share their life and home.

Mary leaves behind many who will remember her. She is survived by her husband, Harold T. Meeks; daughters, Georgianna and Jeffrey Morgan and Linda and Cole Soderquist; sons, Pat and Terri Thrapp, Mark and Sue Meeks, Garry Meeks and Dale Meeks; grandchildren, Lisa, JJ, Cori, David, Tami, Dakota, John, Jessica, AJ and Mike; and many great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Her sisters, Georgie Ross and Pat Huber also survive her.

Her mother and father; brother, James "Jim"; and sister, Margaret "Peggy"; preceded her in death. She will be remembered in the special memories and way of life she passed on to each one of us.

Mass in honor of her life will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, Oct. 26, at St. Matthew's, 602 South Main Street, in Kalispell.

Donations can be made in her name to the Ataxia or Alzheimer's Foundations.

Kramer-Jarvar and Stan Jarvar, and her children; his beloved nieces and nephews, Robert Joseph Kramer, his children, Ashley, Alexis, Autumn, Kyle and Isabel, of Cornell, Wis., Roy, Roy and Eunie Miller and Steve Thiessen of Portland, Garrett William Kramer; Minette Lee Kramer, Kendrick Ray Kramer and Mackenzie Aaron Kramer. He also leaves behind his buddy and best macaw bird friend of 29 years, Roy; and his friends and co-workers at Rex's Electronics.

Joint services for Steve and his mom, Eunice Small will be held at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 20, at the First Baptist Church of Whitefish, on U.S. 93 South, in Whitefish.

Steven Robert Melby, 57

Upon returning to the States, he served as a marksman instructor at Camp Pendleton, until his discharge.

Steve loved hunting, fishing, hiking, and living in the outdoors of Montana. He was happy with anything and everything about his adopted state, loving it more than most natives. His favorite pastime was camping out on his beloved Kootenai, enjoying the beauty that God created. He was loved by his nephews and nieces and enjoyed his time with them.

You could always tell when he was in the room, hearing his laugh before you even saw him. He got so much enjoyment out of life, that he lived his life to the fullest. Steve trained birds



Steven Robert Melby, 57, of Kalispell, died of a heart attack at his home on July 21, 2007.

Born March 23, 1950, to Robert Clark Ada Melby and Eunice (Snyder) Melby in Eau Claire, Wis., he attended school in Whitefish, graduating in 1968.

After high school, he attended Western Baptist Bible College in El Cerito, Calif., and Salem, Ore.

Steve served in the Marine Corps from 1972 until 1976, serving in Washington, D.C., and Morocco as embassy guard.

for 30 years, keeping and adopting his favorite one, a blue and gold macaw, Roy.

Steve was preceded by his beloved stepfather, William "Willie" Small; brother-in-law, Frederick R. Kramer; maternal grandparents, Dewey W. and Nora C. (Ross) Snyder; father, Robert Clark Ada Melby; paternal grandparents, Edwyn E. and Eleanor E. Melby; aunt and uncle, Rodger and Elaine Ker- nahan, and uncle Wayne William Snyder.

Steve will be missed by his entire family. He was survived by his mom and best friend, Eunice Small, who died on Sept. 11. He is now survived by his younger brother, Kenneth Melby; his sister, Barbara

Dillon Michael Melton, 2 months

Dillon Michael Melton, 2 months, passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2007, at the Community Medical Center in Missoula.

He was born on Aug. 15, 2007, in Whitefish, the son of Garrett Michael and Elizabeth LeAnn (Frisk) Melton.

He was a very happy and smiley baby and a great little brother to Joshua.

He is survived by his parents, Garrett and Liz Melton, and big brother, Joshua Melton, all of Bigfork; grandparents, Kim Lindsley and husband, Bob, of Kalispell; Bob Frisk of Bigfork; Mike Melton of Bigfork; and Dawn Jacobson and husband, Dan, of Whitefish; aunt, Mandy Humphrey, of Beaverton, Ore.; and uncles, Robert Giesler of Arizona, Thane Melton of Bigfork, and Nathan Bartz of Whitefish; and numerous cousins.

Funeral services for Dillon will be held 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 3, at the Bigfork Chapel Assembly of God Church in Bigfork, with Pastor Jim Holman officiating. There will be no visitation. Burial will follow in the Bigfork Community

Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to P.O. Box 455, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Dillon's family. You are invited to go to www.johnsonmortuary.com to offer condolences and sign Dillon's guest book.

Edra Meldrum, 90



Edra Meldrum, 90, passed away on Feb. 22, 2007, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center of natural causes. Edra was born on June 7, 1916, in Cardston, Alberta to Ada Jane and Duncan Leishman.

She worked as a telephone operator for three years, and worked as a cook during harvest and branding times.

Edra married Ray Meldrum on March 9, 1938. In 1955 Edra, Ray and family moved from Alberta to Columbia Falls, where Ray went to work at the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant for many years. In 1965, the family became naturalized citizens.

Edra enjoyed taking care of her family, cooking and canning

home grown vegetables from her garden. She was an avid reader and had a great sense of humor.

She will be deeply missed and always will be remembered as a loving and devoted wife, mother and friend.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father; her husband, Ray; five brothers; three sisters; and many nieces and nephews.

She is survived by a brother, Garth Leishman of Cardston, Alberta; a son, Gary; and a daughter, Darcee, both of Kalispell; many nephews and nieces; and sisters-in-law.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday Feb. 26, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral Services will start at 2 p.m. Interment will follow the services at C.E. Conrad Cemetery.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home caring for the family.

Joseph C. Merrifield, 73

Joseph C. Merrifield, 73, passed away Friday, Jan. 26, 2007, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, after losing his battle with lung cancer.

Joe was born July 8, 1933, in Cayuga, Ontario, Canada.

He worked for the Department of Transport Canada as a seaman on the Great Lakes from 1950 to 1954. In 1954, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. During his 20 years in the military, Joe traveled throughout the world. His first assignment was in Florida, where he met his wife. Joe was also stationed in Okinawa, Virginia, Germany, Greenland, Spain and finally Great Falls, where he retired in 1974. After he retired from the Air Force, Joe worked for the U.S. Postal Service and the Great Falls Tribune.

Joe moved to Columbia Falls in

1992, where he was a member of the Glacier Lanes Bowling League. He bowled there until his illness forced him to quit in 2006. Joe's lifelong hobby was stamp collecting. He collected stamps from all across the world. At the time of his death, he was working on stamps from the South Pacific islands.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty.

Joe is survived by his son, Joe Merrifield, of Salem, Ore.; and his daughter, Charlene Merrifield, and grandson, Josh, of Seattle.

Joe will be joining his wife in interment at Hillcrest Lawn Mausoleum in Great Falls.

No services are planned at this time. A private service will take place in April in Great Falls.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is taking care of the arrangements.

Terry Kim Metroke, 60

Terry Kim Metroke, 60, died Sunday, April 1, 2007, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. He was born July 11, 1946, in Oxford, N.J., the son of Charles and Geraldine (Schoonmaker) Metroke. Terry graduated from Washington High School in Washington, N.J., in 1965.

Terry married Marie Sanderlin on Sept. 20 1969, in Oxford, N.J., and went to work for M&M/Mars in Hackettown, N.J., for 17 years. He then went to work for 20 years for the Bigfork post office in Bigfork.

Terry liked to fish, hunt and camp with his family and friends. He was a member of the NRA of Bigfork and took interest in shooting at the Bigfork Gun Club.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Marie Metroke, of Bigfork; two daughters, Tammy Lauren Metroke and her daughter, Grace Hickey, of Lynn Haven, Fla., and Lori Lynn (Metroke) Severson and her children, Malin Severson and Ashley Severson, of Frederick, Md.; two brothers, Charles Metroke of Allentown, Pa., and Kevin Metroke of Banger, Pa.

Funeral services for Terry Kim Metroke will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, April 6, at Johnson Mortuary chapel. Visitation will be held from 1:30 p.m. until service time Friday, April 6. Cremation will be after services.

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