

## Clayton David Blumer, 80

Clayton David Blumer, 80, "went home to be with his Lord and Savior" on April 29, 2008. He was born Oct. 22, 1927, to John and Francis Blumer in Glentana. He spent his childhood in Kalispell.



After attending school he moved to Portland, where he worked in the shipyards until he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and served in China during World War II.

After his military commitment, Clayton returned to Montana and was working in the construction field, where he met and married his wife, Emma Jean Rowe, in 1949. Together they had two sons and a daughter, and eventually made Fort Benton their home.

In 1950, Clayton started his plumbing career and owned Fort Benton Plumbing and Heating for 27 years. In 1977, Clayton and Jean moved to Hayden Lake, Idaho, where he continued with his plumbing and heating expertise until his retirement in 1996.

He always put his family first, and was an extremely devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather and was loved very much.

Throughout his lifetime Clayton made many lifelong friends and he enjoyed boating and bicycling. He especially loved children and was always willing to go the extra mile to help others. He exemplified his strong family values and love of life, which he passed on to

his children and the people who surrounded him.

Clayton was a very kind and gentle man, who through his values and wisdom, built lasting bonds and a loving foundation for future generations. He will always be remembered as "everybody's dad" and the one person who made sure no child was left behind. His life's journey has taken him to a higher place and he will truly be missed.

Clayton was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Jonathan; son, Michael; granddaughter, Kelsey Hanson; son, Rick; and granddaughter, Tiffany Reindel.

He is survived by his wife, Jean, of Hayden Lake; daughter and son-in-law, Kay and Frank Rollins, and grandson, Brandon, of St. Ignatius; daughter-in-law, Linda Blumer, of Hayden Lake; grandson, Chad Blumer, and his wife, Bobbie, and granddaughter, Makenzie, of Rapid City, S.D.; grandson-in-law, Aaron Reindel, and great-grandson, Aedan Reindel, of Coeur d'Alene; and grandson-in-law, Jake Hanson, of Charlo. Also surviving are Anil and Jasmine Mehta; his brothers and sisters-in-law, Ben and Peggy, Eldon and Ellen, Larry and Rose, Harold and Claudia, and Dick and Annette; his sister, Blanche; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and life-long friends.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 10, at Riverside Cemetery in Fort Benton.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Clayton's memory may be made to Pinehaven Children's Ranch, P.O. Box 940, St. Ignatius, MT 59865.

## Karen Boe, 55

Karen Boe, 55, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 27, 2008, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She was born on Jan. 21, 1953, in Missoula, the daughter of Kenneth N. and Lorraine (Owens) Boe. She had a sister and two older brothers.

Karen lived for many years in Boulder and moved to Kalispell in 1976.

She worked at Flathead Industries and made many friends there and in the Flathead community.

Karen had a wonderful sense of humor, loved music, dancing and being with other people. And she loved her red shoes!

She came to live at the

Immanuel Lutheran Home, where she was dearly loved, on Aug. 10, 2006. Her very special friends include Jim Hursley, Andrea Davidson and Pat Grant.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her brother, Owen Boe, and his wife, Donna, of Camas, Wash.

There are no services planned at this time for Karen. There will be a memorial service in the spring of 2009.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Karen's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Karen's guest book.

## Mabel E. Boe, 84

Mabel E. Boe, 84, of Kalispell, died of cancer Wednesday, April 23, 2008, in Kalispell, surrounded by her loving family and friends, and the caring staff of Immanuel Lutheran Home.



Mabel Eloise Poor was born Feb. 24, 1924, to her beloved "Mama," Della Ida Ella (Anderson) Poor, and father, Velluvius Collins Poor, in Littlefork, Minn. After her ailing father left home, 4-year-old Mabel and her six brothers and sisters were raised by their mother. They lived in desperate poverty, often having only stale bread, moistened with water or lard, to eat. The girls' jumpers were fashioned from old World War I uniforms. But the family was able to stay together, with the older ones working to help support them all.

Mabel graduated from high school in Littlefork. Her mother was very proud of her, as she was the only one of the children to do so. Mabel valued education and encouraged others to get a good education and to support the local schools and Flathead Valley Community College.

As the Great Depression finally ended, the Poor family began moving west, many settling in the Flathead. All were self-sufficient and industrious. Mabel remained thrifty her whole life but was always generous to those in need.

Shortly after moving to Kalispell while working at the Norden Hotel, 19-year-old Mabel was introduced to a "real steady, hard-working guy," a woodworker named Henry "Hank" Boe. He took her to a movie that same night. Mabel married Hank on April 28, 1943. He was a sawyer and operated Hank's Garage on what is now Center Street in Kalispell. They had three children, Beverly, Paul (who died in infancy) and Douglas. Hank died in 1972. Mabel was a homemaker while the children were young. As the children became more independent, she worked as a waitress at the B & B. She eventually started up and managed the food services at Buffalo Hill Golf Course. She held this position for many happy years. She loved golfing and shot a hole in one in 1980. She was awarded a lifetime membership at the golf course when she retired. Mabel really felt at home in the "clubhouse" and made many lifelong friends there.

Mabel loved socializing and

was often employed to host parties and society events. Her leisure time and retirement were spent with her closeknit Poor family and her many dear friends, joking, dancing, playing cards and attending music jam sessions several times a week. She attended school and community concerts of band, orchestral and choral music. She enjoyed classical, folk, old-time country music, jazz, swing rock and roll, accordion and fiddle music. Most of all, she loved people, music and dancing.

She belonged to a home demonstration club, PTA and women's bowling league in the early years. She was a member of the Eagles, Buffalo Hill Golf Course, Jazz Society and several card-playing groups. She also traveled all over the west, parts of the south, and Alaska and Hawaii.

Mabel attended Sunday school at the Littlefork Baptist Church every Sunday through her childhood and high school. While her children were growing up, she was active in the Salvation Army. In later life, Mabel was baptized in the Lutheran Church.

Everyone loved to be around Mabel. She was kind-hearted, gentle and so quick to smile. She'd often laugh so hard that the tears would flow.

Mabel Boe was preceded in death by her husband, Hank; her infant son, Paul; her dear grandson, Paul Michael Boe Mosby; her brothers, Chancy, Val and Jesse Poor; and sisters, Ada Jaquith and Della Robinson.

She is survived by her older sister, Viola Johnson, of Harlowton; daughter, Beverly Boe, and husband, David Mosby, granddaughter, Taylor Torgerson, and husband, Rob Torgerson, all of Kalispell; son, Douglas Boe, and wife, Lou Ann Carver, and grandson, Ryan Boe, all of Spokane.

Funeral services will be held 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 29, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home Chapel, with burial following at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Reception will follow at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Children's Transportation Fund of the Flathead Shrine Club, P.O. Box 762, Kalispell, MT 59903, or the Paul Boe Mosby Memorial Scholarship Fund at FVCC, 777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Mabel's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and to sign Mabel's guest book.

## David Mathias Bohmer, 65

David Mathias Bohmer, 65, died of natural causes Feb. 12, 2008, in his home near Columbia Falls. Dave was born to Cyril J. and Violet (Johnson) Bohmer on Dec. 26, 1942, in Parshall, N.D., the only child in the family born at home.

Dave graduated high school in Circle in 1960 and attended Eastern Montana College and Northern Montana College. He joined the U.S. Army in 1964 and was assigned to a special unit that traveled with President Johnson, setting up communications throughout Southeast Asia. He was honorably discharged in 1967, receiving the Presidential Service Badge and Certificate, Good Conduct Medal, as well as the National Defense Service Medal.

Dave married Susan Rowe in 1969 and their son Mathias Jacob was born in 1971. Dave and Sue were later divorced. Dave spent many years working in Columbia Falls before moving to Twin Bridges, where he worked several years for the Winston Rod Company until retiring in 2005. He then moved back to Columbia Falls to help build his "Grandpa's little cabin in the woods," where he was delighted to participate in the daily lives of his son and daughter-in-law and their girls.

Dave was a very intelligent man and was interested in everything. He enjoyed talking about nearly any subject, made friends wherever he went, and was always willing to lend a hand. He often visited his

extended family and was a fun travel companion, content to be "just along for the ride." Dave liked to golf, fish, camp, read history, watch football, work on his cabin and, most of all, be with his granddaughters. He was especially tickled by the sledding and hot cocoa parties they shared. He was very proud of them and their parents and was grateful to be so near them.

Survivors include son Matt, daughter-in-law Ann, granddaughters Jackie and Darcy Bohmer and stepson Michael Rowe, from Columbia Falls; brother and sister-in-law, Charles and Patricia Bohmer, from Cody, Wyo.; sister, Valencia Wieferich, from Gardnerville, Nev.; sister and brother-in-law, Pamela and James Ondracek, from Minot, N.D.; sister-in-law, Susan Bohmer, from Shelby; brother-in-law, James Wieferich, from Twin Bridges; nieces, Shaun Novich, Paula Wieferich, Kari Kiersti, Katelyn Bohmer and Chloe Ondracek; nephews, Scott Wieferich, Neil Bohmer and Lucas Bohmer; grandnieces, Kayla, Korrin, and Kassie Wieferich, and Stefani and Dafani Bohmer; grandnephews, Don Novich and Buddy Williams; and great grandniece, KayDan Iberra.

David was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Michael J. Bohmer.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. March 7 at the United Methodist Church in Columbia Falls.

## Janet E. (Charles) Small Bolton, 83

Janet "Jan" Evelyn Bolton, 83, formerly of Kalispell, passed away June 21, 2008, after a brave battle with rheumatoid arthritis in Tallahassee, Fla., with daughter Sharon and family beside her.



Janet was born Oct. 9, 1924, in Cleveland to Dwight M. and C. Virginia Charles. She attended school in Cleveland, graduating in 1942. Summers, growing up, she spent with her grandparents in her beloved Stowe, Vt. Janet attended Huron Road Hospital School of Nursing, enlisting in the U.S. Navy Waves in May 1945. She earned the rank of Hospital Corpsman First Class, leaving the Waves in 1946.

Janet married J. Milton Small of Kalispell in 1946. They made their home in Kalispell, raising their children, David, Sharon and Lynette, on the family potato farm. They divorced in 1961. Janet, with her daughters, moved to Cleveland, marrying Donald G. Bolton in 1963, divorcing after a couple of years.

Janet worked and raised her daughters in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. After their graduation she lived close to her children, eventually settling in Kalispell by daughter Lynette, and enjoyed helping raise her grandchildren. Jan moved to Tallahassee in 2006, by daughter Sharon.

Janet was a life member of the First Presbyterian Church and secretary of Flathead Shrine Circus for 15 years. She was a dedicated 50-year member of each of the following: Adah Chapter No. 17, OES and a Past Matron; Chief Ignace Chapter, DAR and Daughters of the Nile. She was past president of all the Past Matron's clubs where she lived.

Jan's love of gardening and her flowers were surpassed only by her love for her family. Her

grandchildren were her greatest joy. Mom was our genealogist, tirelessly researching our family history. Her genealogy "story" will be preserved in the Historical Society in Stowe. She taught us to appreciate the beauty of our world and the heritage we came from.

Her friends and family always will remember her smile and delightful laugh, bright red clothes, African violets, hand-made dishcloths, Christmas fudge and famous clam dip. She touched many lives, giving of herself and her time. Mom loved life and she truly will be missed and always loved. "Take care of God's garden now, Mom."

Janet was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her three children, Dr. David Small and Debbie, of Springfield, Mo., Sharon Graham and Larry, of Tallahassee, and Lynette Thomas and Bob, of Kalispell; grandchildren, Jim Small and Jeana, of Reno, Nev.; Amber Hernandez and Julian, Heather Mudd and Keith, Erin Graham and Duncan Graham, all of Tallahassee; and Brooke Logan and Justin, Kyle Thomas and Colby Thomas and Erin, all of Helena; great-grandchildren, Quinn and Josiah; also sister, Marjorie Brainard, and Cliff; brother, Dean Charles, and Joyce; along with many relatives and friends.

A celebration of Janet will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, at the First Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. Marvin Northcutt officiating. Graveside services will be held prior to the service at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, at Glacier Memorial Gardens, with OES services. In Janet's honor, please wear bright colors.

The family suggests memorials to: Chief Ignace DAR Scholarship, 113 Fairway Blvd., Kalispell; ESTARL of OES, c/o Doris Anderson, 824 Eighth Ave. E., Kalispell; or MSU Bozeman College of Engineering Scholarship Fund.

## Bonnie Jo Bondeson, 72

Bonnie Jo Bondeson, 72, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. She was born on March 24, 1936, in Three Forks to Raymond and Fernetta (McDonald) Haas.

Bonnie received her early education in Three Forks before moving with her family to Townsend.

She met Tom Holling and the couple were married on May 23, 1952, in Butte. The couple started their family and lived in Butte for two years before moving back to Townsend. The couple divorced in 1961 and Bonnie remained in Townsend until 1971, when she moved to Kalispell.

Upon arriving in Kalispell, Bonnie started a day care center, which she operated until 1986.

Bonnie met Erle Bondeson in Kalispell and they were married in 1978. Erle passed away in 1991.

Bonnie loved the outdoors — camping, hunting and fishing. Her property on the Middle Thompson Lake was truly her getaway.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her husband; and her parents.



She is survived by two daughters, Carol Duval and husband, Jim, of Columbia Falls, and Cathy Bauer and husband, John, of Kalispell; and

two sons, Thomas Holling and wife, Pam, of Kalispell, and Danny Holling of Eureka; three sisters, Donna Brents, Jerry Young and husband, Dave, and Lila Ankerich and husband, Ranny; one brother, Robert Haas, and wife, Mary; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, along with several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Bonnie will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 22, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral chapel. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., today, Nov. 21, in the funeral home. Burial will be in Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Bonnie's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneral-home.com](http://www.jgfuneral-home.com) to offer condolences and sign Bonnie's guest book.

## Stephen A. Bonnet, 41

Stephen A. Bonnet, 41, died Monday, July 14, 2008, at his home in Somers.

Arrangements are pending with Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory.



## Raymond 'Ray' Lorenzo Bonney, 65

Raymond "Ray" Lorenzo Bonney, 65, died of natural causes on Thursday Aug. 28, 2008, at Bonners Ferry, Idaho. Raymond was born June 5, 1943, in Kalispell, to Virgil R. and Mildred E. Bonney (Rhine). The family lived in Coram at the time and later moved to Whitefish after his dad became ill with cancer.



After his father passed away, the family moved to the Hamilton area for two years and then to a logging camp near Missoula. (His mother had married Erik Straarup in 1950.) They then moved to Happy's Inn to Zadra Logging Camp. He attended the Little Red Schoolhouse at Happy's Inn and then Libby High School.

Ray had lived at Carol Robert's home on Idaho Street before moving to an assisted living facility in Bonners Ferry. In spite of his many disabilities, Ray had a very upbeat personality and loved to visit with friends and acquaintances alike, especially when it was sunny and hot and he could sit out in

the sun. Rain and snow didn't keep him home for long. He ran around town in his electric wheelchair with flags flying and he loved eating in the restaurants and shopping. He enjoyed taking pictures of birds and flowers and feeding the neighborhood squirrels.

Raymond is survived by his sister, Phyllis Hogue, and husband, Emery, of Libby; two nephews, Darryl Hogue and Kathy of Morrison, Ill., and their four children, and Daniel Hogue and Sabin and their son of Yakima, Wash. He is also survived by one half brother, Lee Rhine and Marinell, of American Falls, Idaho, and their four children and families; and one sister-in-law, Joan Persicke, of St. James, Mo., and her six children and grandchildren. He also has many cousins in the Kalispell and Whitefish areas.

Ray was preceded in death by his nephew, Dean Hogue, in 1995; his half brother, Robert Persicke, in 2005; and mother and stepfather, Mildred and Erik Straarup.

Services will be at 11 a.m. today, Sept. 4, at the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Libby.

Schnackenburg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby is in charge of arrangements.

## Veronica Mary (Austin) Rowe Born, 75

Veronica Mary (Austin) Rowe Born was born Jan. 12, 1933, to Lawrence and Florence Austin in Leola, S.D.



Veronica passed away on April 27, 2008, in Kalispell.

Veronica married her first husband, A.J. "Bud" Rowe, on Oct. 18, 1949. They moved to Montana and traveled the state, raising their six children in many towns following Bud's job in highway construction, and settled in Columbia Falls in 1965. They later divorced.

Veronica worked for many years at the Canyon Bar and Columbia Bar in Columbia Falls.

She married Charles Born and lived in Billings for many years. They later divorced, but, remained friends.

Veronica was a past officer of Columbia Falls Women's Bowling Association, winning many local and state awards. She was an avid fisherman, enjoying many weekends camping and fishing with family until her health forced her to stop.

She was preceded in death by

her parents; sister, Charlotte Schlosser; and brothers, Leslie, Robert and Loren Austin.

She is survived by daughters, Susan Conklin and Kim of Columbia Falls, Carol Hagen and Duane of Columbia Falls, Mary Levitt and Lon of Kalispell, and Veronica "Jody" Bury of Kalispell; sons, Alvin "Jim" Rowe of Great Falls, and Sam Rowe and Phyllis of Kalispell; 12 grandchildren, Michael Rowe and Darlene, Matt Bohmer and Ann, Sam Hagen and Shari, Jenny Davis and Michael, Kelci Warf and John, Michael Levitt, Nicole Recer and Chad, Patrick Levitt and Cindy, Ryan Rowe and Kara, Danielle Rogers and Brian, John DeVera and Danielle, and James DeVera; 17 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Geraldine Bingen and Sandford of Colome, S.D., and RoseAnn Uribe and Al of Billings; and one brother, Arlon Austin of Billings.

A rosary will be said at 7 p.m. today, April 30, at Columbia Mortuary.

Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, May 1, at St. Richard's Catholic Church.

## George Wallace 'Wally' Boss Jr.

George Wallace "Wally" Boss Jr., of Bigfork died Sunday, Oct. 5, 2008. He went fishing on Flathead Lake that evening and was found drowned the next morning.



He is survived by his fiancée, Susanna Cummings, and their 6-month old baby, Ryder Wallace Boss, of Bigfork; his mother and stepfather, LaRue and Norm Lebel, of Bigfork; his father and stepmother, George and Josephine Boss, of Temecula, Calif.; his sister and her family, Tami, Ralph, Jordan, Ryan and Dalton Ertz of Palmer, Alaska; and many other precious extended family members and friends.

Wally grew up just outside of Los Angeles. He graduated from Miraleste High School in Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif., in 1982.

After school, he went on to work in the construction industry, specializing in framing and concrete tilt-ups. His desire for perfection gained him a reputation as a skilled craftsman among his peers. In his late 20s, Wally ventured north to Alaska and began working two-week-on, two-week-off shifts at the "North Slope" oil fields in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska. Enduring severe work conditions, often in sub-zero temperatures, he worked on multiple construction and pipeline-related projects on the slope.

In March 1999, he married Nicole Kleinschmidt, daughter of Merrie Schweigert of Morton, Ill., and Neil Kleinschmidt of

Canton, Ill. They were married seven years.

He eventually was hired by British Petroleum as a pipeline operator and continued to work on the North Slope for more than 10 years.

Wally lived a full, adventurous life. He had a great love for all of God's creations – the fish in the sea, the animals in the forest, the birds in the sky. His greatest love of nature was the ocean. He felt great peace in the water. He learned to surf as a young boy and spent his whole life traveling to and surfing at many beaches throughout the world, including the shorelines of California, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, Fiji, Mexico, Indonesia, Honduras, Cayman Islands, Samoa and even Alaska. He also had a great passion for raising macaws and other birds. Wally also loved snowboarding, wakeboarding, motorcycle riding, snow machining, windsurfing, jet-skiing, boating, fishing, skydiving, and just hanging out with his friends.

One of his greatest joys in life was his new baby boy, Ryder Wallace.

"Just imagine, Wally is now in Heaven riding his perfect wave." He will be greatly missed!

Wally was preceded in death by his grandparents; and his sister, Kimberly LaRue Halverson.

A celebration of Wally's life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Crossroads Community Church in Bigfork, with Pastor Jonathon Curtiss officiating.

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

## Edith L. Bothman, 79

Edith L. Bothman, 79, of Libby, died July 16, 2008.

She worked at Libby Floral and Gift as a bookkeeper.

She is survived by her husband, Louis, of Libby; daughter, Louella Grady, of

Veradale, Wash.; sons, Larry and Lee, of Libby; and her adopted daughter, Penny Ray, of Libby.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, July 22, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home.

## Henry Paul Boyle, 75

Henry Paul Boyle, also known as Monikopi, meaning Young Man Who Knows Many Things, a name given to him by Tom Dog Taking Gun when Hen-

ry was an infant, died in Great Falls on Friday, Sept. 19, 2008. He was 75 years of age.

Henry died of complications from 20 years of breathing the smoke from smoldering tobacco and paper, 32 years of drinking alcohol in many forms, and a lifetime of consuming caffeine in coffee, tea and chocolate, which contributed to his death from chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

Henry was a member of the Blackfeet (Pekuni) Tribue of Browning, born in the Indian Health Service Hospital at the Cut Bank Creek Indian Boarding School at 10:30 a.m. July 9, 1933.

He was a past member of the Moose Lodge, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Fleet Reserve, and the American Legion.

Henry was also an active member of Alcoholics Anonymous and Co-Dependents Anonymous, and in later years, the Great Falls Writers Group and Blackfeet Warrior Society. He served on the vestry of the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation. He also left his legacy in many places as a published author of the written word.

He was with the U.S. Navy for



26 years, serving on two aircraft carriers, USS Yorktown and the USS Kitty Hawk, in the waters off Korea and Vietnam during those two undeclared wars.

Henry called the carriers Ticonderoga, Ranger, Kearsarge, Independence, and Forrestal, as well as the foregoing two, his homes away from home at different periods of his life. He retired as an aviation ordnance-man chief petty officer.

Henry Paul is survived by his wife, Marcia Louise Lauzon, of Great Falls; daughter, Jennifer Kathleen LaPier, of East Glacier Park; stepdaughter, Elizabeth Schalk Aronoff, of Missoula; stepson, Kenneth Charles Schalk, of Worcester, Mass.; sisters and brothers, Shirley Gobert of Browning, Deanna Williams of Oak Harbor, Wash., Harvey Boyle of Grants Pass, Ore., Marvin Boyle of Anacortes, Wash., and Patricia Morgenthaler of Roseburg, Ore.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Frank; his mother, Frances; and his sister, Muriel Lorraine LaPier.

Cremation has taken place. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, at Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, 600 Third Ave. N., in Great Falls. A reception will be afterward for family and friends in the church parish hall. Inurnment will be afterward at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the YCWA Mercy Home, 220 Second St. N., Great Falls, MT 59401.



## Feleshia LeeAnn Brabham, 22

Feleshia LeeAnn Brabham, 22, was taken from us much too soon when she passed away from injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident Saturday, Nov. 22, 2008. Feleshia was born March 14, 1986, in Coquille, Ore.



She moved with her family to Bigfork when she was 4, and spent all her growing-up years in the Flathead Valley. She attended elementary schools in Bigfork before moving to the Kalispell area, where she met and married her high-school sweetheart, Trent.

Feleshia and her new family later moved to Chino Valley, Ariz., where she worked with her dad at the Chino Valley Funeral Home.

Feleshia grew up to be an amazing woman, full of laughter, a great sense of humor, and full of life. She always had a smile on her face and always had a positive attitude regardless of the circumstances around her. All who knew Feleshia and those who she helped at the funeral home knew she had a big heart and was willing to do anything for anybody, and was always there when someone needed her.

Feleshia was very family-oriented and believed that family was everything, especially her children and her husband.

She was a loving wife, mother, daughter, granddaughter, aunt and cousin who loved planning big dinners and events with her family. Feleshia was a very precious gem who was extremely loved and who will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Feleshia is survived by her husband, Trent Brabham, of Prescott Valley, Ariz.; daughters, Alexia and Makayla; father and stepmother, Jayson and Darla Watkins, of Chino Valley, Ariz.; mother, Shawna-ree Duncan, of Chino Valley; father and mother-in-law, Joe and Paulina Brabham, and Rita and Dale Elgaen of Chino Valley; brother, Jayson Watkins, sister, Kayla Watkins, stepbrothers, Donald, and Richard and his wife, Alecsis, and stepsister, Tasha, and husband, Joey, all of Chino Valley; brothers-in-law, Chance Brabham and Thor Elgaen; great-grandmother, Mary Ash; grandparents, Paul and Diana Watkins, Mike and Rose Culbertson, and Lenore Marhing; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

An education fund for the children has been established. For information, call Heritage Memory Mortuary at (928) 445-1881.

Visitation will be from 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 28, in the Chino Valley Funeral Home chapel. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 29, in the funeral home chapel.

Chino Valley Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Betty J. Braun, 86

Betty J. Braun, 86, died Thursday, Oct. 23, 2008, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She is survived by her

daughter, Sue Haugan, of Kalispell; and son, John Maunder, of Hayward, Calif.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Janet E. Breaux, 65

Janet E. Breaux, 65, "was called home to be with her Lord and Savior" on Feb. 16, 2008, after a long struggle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease).



She passed quietly with courage, faith and no fear, as she knew the Lord's mighty hand was on her.

Mom was born Feb. 21, 1942, to Harold and Violet Swor in Coulee Dam, Wash. She was the middle child of three daughters; her sisters are Carol Dettmann and Linda Smith. She had two children: a son, Glen Kinsey, and a daughter, Shannon Hatico. She also raised and mentored many stepchildren and foster children, whom she called her own.

Mom was a caregiver who took care of and helped anyone, stranger or friend, who was in need. The lives she touched will forever be changed. "Her legacy she left with us will be left in our hearts, until we are reunited with her in paradise."

She will be missed but never forgotten, and she showed kindness and unconditional love to everyone around her. She raised

not only my brother and myself, but several stepchildren and foster children. She gave whatever she could give to those in need, never expecting anything in return.

She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, showing unconditional love and tolerance. Mom loved the outdoors and the simple life, never asking for anything but always giving to all. She was outspoken and truthful and lived her life by the greatest commandment of all — "Love others as I have loved you."

"We will not say good-bye as you are with us always in our hearts and memories; for we will see you soon in the clouds and just beyond the moon."

We love you always and may your legacy live with us and through us forever.

She is survived by her husband, Giles Breaux; son, Glen Kinsey; daughter, Shannon Hatico; sisters, Linda Smith and Carol Dettmann; granddaughters, Tashina Boyd, Shandara Shields and Destiny Kinsey; grandsons, Trinity Hatico and Jarrod Kinsey; two great-grandchildren; many nephews and nieces, stepchildren, stepgrandchildren and foster children.

## Karen B. Breckon, 64

Karen B. Breckon, 64, of Whitefish passed away Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2008, at Colonial Manor in Whitefish, after a long illness. Karen was born in Merced, Calif., while her parents, Connie and Harry Boetcher, were serving in the Army Air Corps. The family lived in Merced and Asheville, N.C., before moving to Great Falls, where the family owned and operated the Petite Shoppe.

Karen attended Great Falls schools and graduated with honors from Great Falls High School in 1962. She was an American Field Service exchange student to Italy during the first semester of her senior year. Karen was an active Girl Scout through high school and was selected as one of the Big Sky Girl Scout Council's representatives to the 1959 Girl Scout Roundup.

She received a full scholarship to Northwestern University, graduating in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science degree.

She worked in real estate in

Wisconsin before moving to Portland and then Seattle, where she worked for various companies as an accountant.

Vacations were usually spent at the family home on Swan Lake. She enjoyed sailing, canoeing, hiking and any time spent in Glacier National Park. She was also able to return to Italy and traveled to Germany and the British Isles. After her retirement, Karen returned to Montana and settled in Whitefish in 2007.

Karen is survived by her daughter, Deborah Breckon, of Kalispell; and her sister, Carol Edgar, of Bigfork.

Her son, Colin Breckon, preceded her in death.

There will be a small family service on Swan Lake next summer to celebrate Karen's life.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Karen's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneral-home.com](http://www.jgfuneral-home.com) to offer condolences and sign Karen's guest book.

## Brian Edward Brekke, 30

Brian Edward Brekke, 30, passed away Sunday, Dec. 7, 2008, in Tempe, Ariz. He was born Oct. 12, 1978, in Kalispell, the son of John and Nancy Brekke.



Brian's first years were spent in the Swan Valley before moving to the Wilderness Treatment Center. He attended Marion school through the eighth grade and then graduated from Flathead High School in 1996. Brian was very active in many sports and was a member of the Honor Society and was vice president of his class. He spent the next four years at Montana State University and joined the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, holding many leadership positions in this organization. Brian graduated with a psychology degree, which sealed his future in the "helping field."

Brian started his career as a wilderness instructor for Wilderness Treatment Center, where he would spend 100 days a year backpacking in the Bob Marshall Wilderness and winter skiing in the Badger Two Medicine while counseling at-risk youths on the joys of the outdoors and sobriety. He then became a licensed addiction counselor and continued working at Wilderness Treatment Center until 2004.

At age 26, Brian followed his dream and became a founding member of Sober College in Woodland Hills, Calif., and ultimately took the position as president. As that program became successful, he wanted to do more and this drive helped him to develop Sober College University, a school dedicated to helping at-risk youths build successful futures.

Brian's true passion beyond helping others included sky-diving. He had more than 950

jumps and though the risk in this sport is great, and the potential for an accident is there, thankfully Brian passed peacefully in his sleep of natural causes after a weekend with his close friends in Phoenix.

Brian loved people more than anyone we ever knew and never met a stranger. He had unlimited energy, living every day to the fullest. Brian has many friends from all around the world and truly made a difference in the lives of everyone who were fortunate enough to know him. The outpouring of support from so many has shown us his true legacy as a special friend, son and brother.

We want to thank everyone for their love and support getting us through this most difficult time. He was taken from us much too soon and wanted to do so much more. Brian was treasured by all who knew him and touched the lives of so many young people through the continued love for his work. Our lives have been forever changed and our loss is beyond words.

Brian is survived by his parents, John and Nancy Brekke; his brothers, Matt and Robby; and his grandma, Barbara Fuller; and many aunts, uncles and cousins who will miss him dearly.

Funeral services will be held at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at Stillwater Free Lutheran Church. Graveside services will be afterward at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A gathering of friends will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Red Lion Hotel in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please choose a charity of your choice or any organization that helps young people and will continue the work and passion of our beloved Brian.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Brian's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneral-home.com](http://www.jgfuneral-home.com) to offer condolences and sign Brian's guest book.

## Ruth Wilberg Brekke, 86

Ruth Wilberg Brekke, 86, died peacefully of natural causes Thursday, Oct. 23, 2008, at Heritage Place in Kalispell. She was born June 24, 1922, to Victor and Elsie (Phelps) Wilberg in Grand Forks, N.D.



She spent the Depression years on their homestead south of Redstone. These times were fond memories for Ruth, and she often spoke of the fun she had with her cousins and neighbors.

The family then moved to Dillon and then to Great Falls, where Ruth graduated from high school. It was in Great Falls where she met and married Ralph Brekke in 1941.

When Ralph was drafted into World War II, Ruth moved back to the farm and drove the tractor and helped farm. When the war was over, Ruth remembered dancing in the living room because Ralph got full-time work with Montana Power. They lived in Great Falls, Conrad, Chinook and then in Helena. Ruth still considers Chinook her hometown, as this is where they made so many close and longtime friends.

Ruth worked for J.C. Penney Co., Herda's Drug and the

Blaine County Treasurer before moving to Helena, where she worked for the Department of Revenue until retirement. After retiring, they spent winters in Arizona and did a lot of wonderful trips both in the U.S. and abroad.

Ruth was a lifelong member of the Chinook Presbyterian Church.

Ruth was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph Brekke; her parents, Victor and Elsie Wilberg; and her brothers, Vernon Wilberg and baby, Harris Wilberg.

She is survived by two daughters, Barbara Clothier and husband, Rex, of Thermopolis, Wyo., and Virginia Solberg and husband, Harold, of Malta; two sons, Robert Brekke and wife, Pam, of Olney, Md., and John Brekke and wife, Nancy, of Kalispell; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Private graveside services for Ruth Brekke will be at Fort Harrison in Helena at a later date.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to the Chinook Presbyterian Church, 437 Indiana Ave., Chinook, MT 59523; or to the charity of the donor's choice.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Ruth's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Ruth's guest book.

## Rex Eugene Breneman, 89

Rex Eugene Breneman, 89, long-time resident of Coram, passed away on Friday, March 14, 2008, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.



Rex was born in Salina, Kan., on Aug. 21, 1918, to Arthur and Pearl (Richards) Breneman. The youngest of three children, he grew up in the sand hills of Nebraska and graduated from the eighth grade. During the Depression, he left home seeking work and opportunity. Rex laughed and claimed he had ridden 40,000 miles on freight trains before he was 21.

In April of 1941, Rex enlisted in the U.S. Army. He first served in Quartermasters as a cook and baker. At the start of World War II, he desired to join the U.S. Army Air Corps and applied to enter as a cadet. Having only an eighth-grade education, Rex was told he could not pass the cadet school entry test. This challenged him to read the dictionary, encyclopedia, almanac and other books. Rex succeeded in entering the cadet school. Upon graduation, he was awarded the rank of first lieutenant, navigator and bombardier. He flew more than 70 missions in the South Pacific and Korea. During this time he was awarded 13 medals, some with oak leaf clusters, and the Distinguished Flying Cross. He never elaborated on any of them.

In October of 1941, he married Rosemary Hanley and they had a daughter, Rexine Rose. This war-time marriage ended in divorce.

Following WWII, Rex settled in the Centennial Valley of Monida, where he worked and trapped at the Sam and Lyz Breneman ranch. This was a special time for him.

During the construction of the Hungry Horse Dam, he moved to Coram and built a service station, "Breneman's Union," later called "Coram Truck Stop." This work was interrupted when, as a reserve officer, Rex was called back to military service for the Korean conflict. After the Korean War, Rex came back to Coram to run his truck stop.

He met and courted Iola Soderstrom of Kalispell. Rex built a home near Coram for Iola and her daughter, Rhonda. Rex and Iola were married on Jan. 23, 1960, in Libby. They worked side-by-side at the Coram station — catering to loggers, truckers and the local community. In 1968, they sold the business to the Union Oil distributors.

Rex became friends with two artists, Ace Powell and Bob Sriver, which led to his love

for Western art and Western Americana. He enjoyed the challenges of swapping and trading art and land. He was known for his knowledge of art and history and his character of honesty, generosity, dependability and independence. He authored the book, "Ace Powell in Bronze."

With his passing, Rex took with him a huge library of knowledge. Life for him was a continual education. From the challenge of self-education enabling him to enter and complete the Army Air Corps Cadet school, Rex realized the rewards of reading. He did not read fiction, but was an avid reader of nonfiction and particularly history until his death. He also loved to fly fish, picnic and bird hunt. Rex was always ready for a cribbage game and his skill was a challenge to all opponents.

Our lives are made up of bits and pieces of those around us. Rex was a unique person and many hold special memories of him. He never shied away from hard work and strong opinions. One thing for sure, you could always depend on him to be "Rex."

Rex was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Louis Breneman; his brother-in-law, Art Johnson; his mother-in-law, Ruth Guinard; and his granddaughter, LeAnna Burich.

Rex is survived by his beloved wife, partner and constant companion, Iola, of Coram; two daughters, Rexine Howell and husband Bill of Texas, and Rhonda Bell and husband John of Oregon; sister Nedra Johnson, and family in Nebraska; sister-in-law, Pauline Breneman, and family in Kansas; five grandchildren, Lawrence Howell, BeLinda Shirley, KaSandra Verett and husband Don of Texas, Jacob Bell and wife Jaime of Colorado, and Clinton Bell and wife Christina of Washington; six great-grandchildren, Julia and Jessica Burich; Byron and Jacob Verett; and Zane and Henry Shirley, of Texas. He is also survived by a sister-in-law, Edna Carter, husband Ron, and niece, Ruth Skaggs, of Kalispell; nephew, Don Tomfohr, wife Jan and their families in Oregon; and nephew, Cory Baker.

Rex is remembered by long-term fishing, hunting and cribbage partners, Dr. William Noble, Bud James and Mike Massa and their families; Paul Masa; the art community; and many friends in both the U.S. and Canada.

There will be no service at this time. The family will gather this summer for urn burial and a time of remembrances.

Memorials may be given to the Canyon QRU, Box 130383, Coram, MT 59913; the Coram/West Glacier Fire Department, P.O. Box 188, Coram, MT 59913; or the charity of choice.

## Eddie C. Britt, 79

Eddie C. Britt, 79, of Eureka died Wednesday, June 25, 2008, at the Libby Care Center from natural causes.

Graveside services will be

at 1 p.m. Monday, June 30, at the Tobacco Valley Cemetery in Eureka.

Local arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home.

## Clara May Brodniak, 93

Clara May Brodniak, 93, passed away on April 18, 2008, at the Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born on Jan. 5, 1915, in Missoula to Ira and Adelaide Salisbury. She was one of nine children.

Clara received her early education in St. Ignatius, where her family moved to farm and ranch.

She married Edward Anthony Brodniak in 1934. Together they raised four sons. The family moved to Kalispell in 1951.

Clara enjoyed her vegetable gardens, canning and growing flowers. She also enjoyed paint-

ing by number for a time, and playing around with decorating clothing with paints and beads.

Clara was preceded in death by all of her siblings, her husband, and three sons.

She is survived by her son, Robert Brodniak, of Jacksonville, N.C.

No services are planned for Clara at this time.

Johnson - Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Clara's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Clara's guest book.

## Sylvia Krona Bronson, 73

Sylvia Krona Bronson, 73, "released her earthly ties" on the afternoon of Tuesday, Dec. 30, 2008, "and entered the arms of Jesus. Sylvia rejoins her mother, Edna Krona, and father, Ralph Krona, as well as her loving brother-in-law, Chuck Bronson."

Sylvia leaves behind her ever-loving husband, Lee; her sister, Debra Burke; and her brother, *Ed Krona. Sylvia also leaves* behind her daughter, Denise; sons, Randy and Tyler; son-in-law, Ryan; daughter-in-law, Lori; and longtime friend and sister-in-law, Bobette Tucheck. Sylvia is loved and missed by her grandchildren, Carly, Kayla, and Krista Bronson, and Chris and Elizabeth Spangler.

Sylvia was born in Kalispell on Oct. 3, 1935, and spent her childhood between Troy and Great Falls until her father, Ralph, was promoted to road master with the Great Northern Railroad in Whitefish, where Sylvia attended and graduated from high school.

Sylvia fell in love with her

future husband, Lee, in 1952, when Lee found the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. They were married on the evening of July 8, 1956.

Sylvia and Lee moved to Spokane in 1964 where Sylvia worked for the Spokane School District as a special education secretary for 22 years.

Sylvia and Lee shared 52-plus joyous and loving years at each *other's side, including Sylvia's* stay at St. Joseph Care Center.

Sylvia's entire family would like to express their deep appreciation to the entire staff at St. Joseph Care Center in Spokane for their loving kindness and the gentle care they provided to Sylvia over the last four months.

A memorial and celebration of Sylvia's life will be held at 10 a.m. Jan. 17 at St. Steven's Episcopal Church in Spokane.

In lieu of flowers, Sylvia's family requests donations be made to The Alzheimer's Association Inland Northwest Chapter, 910 W. Fifth Ave., Spokane, WA 99204.



## Thomas Sager Brooks, 65

Thomas Sager Brooks, 65, of Northbend, Ore., "went to be with his Lord and Savior" on March 5, 2008, following a brief battle with lung cancer. Tom was born on Nov. 25, 1942, in Spokane and moved to Kalispell as an infant. He attended Kalispell schools and graduated from Flathead High School in 1960.

Tom met Patricia A. Franzen and they married on Aug. 17, 1963.

He served six years in the Army National Guard and worked for the Coca-Cola Company, retiring after 37 years.

He enjoyed fishing, bowling, reading, playing games, doing crossword and sudoku puzzles, spending time with his family, and helping others.

He became a Christian in 1972 when he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal savior. During his journey serving the Lord, he has been a deacon and a Bible teacher. He was a volunteer for a few years as a big brother for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Tom and Pat moved to Northbend in 1985 and helped build and start a church. During the last three years, Tom and Pat have been South Coast Hospice volunteers. Tom's love for the Lord has been evident throughout his life, and he shared that love with everyone he came into contact with. He had a wonderful sense of humor; and you knew if he teased you that he liked you. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather.



brother and friend. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ila Brooks Gibney and

Kenneth V. Brooks; an infant brother, Robert Millard Brooks; aunt, Velma Olson; uncle, Ed Sager; and grandparents, Millard and Leona Sager.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia, two daughters, Kim Peterson and husband, Jim, of Northbend, and Patricia Hickey and husband, Robert, of Kalispell; brother, Kenneth Edwin Brooks, of Kalispell; sister, Patsee Parker, and husband, Rex, of Waldport, Ore.; five grandchildren, Pamela Peterson of Northbend, Craig Peterson, U.S. Air Force, Christina Hickey of Kalispell, Robert Thomas Hickey, U.S. Marine Corps, and wife, Michelle, and Tyler Hickey and wife, Jessica, of Kalispell; one great-grandson; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. March 22 at South Coast Hospice, 1620 Thompson Road, Coos Bay, OR 97420.

The family wishes all donations and gifts to be made to South Coast Hospice Care, 1620 Thompson Road, Coos Bay OR 97420.

## Ernest G. Brooner, 84

Ernest G. Brooner, 84, a long-time resident of the Flathead Valley, passed away Thursday, April 10, 2008. Ernie was born March 2, 1924, in Kalispell, the son of Ernest D. and Mabel Louise (Jewell) Brooner.

He graduated from Flathead County High School in 1941, and entered the U.S. Navy immediately after the Pearl Harbor attack. An early amateur-radio enthusiast, Ernie was trained by the Navy as a radio, radar, and sonar operator, serving four years in fleet communications and on the submarines Grouper and Runner during World War II.

After the war, he married Carlene Wilke of Kalispell, and began a career centered on communications, electronics and information technology. This included work in radio and television, on major defense programs including the DEW Line (Distant Early Warning radar network) and in the construction of major AUTODIN communications installations in Alaska and Vietnam. His assignments included extensive service in Taiwan, Japan, Thailand, Vietnam and Alaska.

In the 1970s, he returned to Montana, managing radio operations for the state forestry, modernizing the network for remote operations and introducing solar powered transmission sites, while building his own

home in the Lakeside area.

An early pioneer in computers as well as radio, Ernie was a partner in Comlabs Inc., the first micro- and personal-computer business in the valley, and after study at Flathead Valley Community College, he served as an instructor there in computer science. He authored or co-authored four books on related topics in the early 1980s.

Ernie was preceded in death by his parents; and a sister, Jewell Shannon.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Carlene; their children, Karen L. Borsato of Quesnel, British Columbia, Barbara J. Brooner of Seattle, and Ernest C. Brooner of Reston, Va.; his grandchildren, Victor Schut of the Netherlands, and Sunshine Borsato of Quesnel; great-grandchildren, Sarah, Emma and Rome; a sister, Jean A. Tyler, of Salt Lake City; and many nieces and nephews.

For those who would like to stop by, an informal get-together with family will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Monday, April 14, at the Best Western White Oak Hotel, at the junction of U.S. 9 and Montana 82. No flowers, please.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Ernie's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfunera.com](http://www.jgfunera.com) to offer condolence and to sign Ernie's guest book.

## Micheal Apollo Brown, infant

Micheal Apollo Brown, infant son of Jason and Aileen Wessels Brown of Shelbyville, Ky., passed away Sunday, Nov. 2, 2008, at the Jewish Hospital in Shelbyville.

He is also survived by his sisters, Deanna Orion Wessels and Cassiopea Brigid Wessels, both of Shelbyville; his brother, Jason Phoenix Brown, of Shelbyville; his half sister, Tabitha Finley, of Montana; his grandparents, Rick and Claudia Brown of Shelbyville, Michael and Beatrice Wessels of Kalispell, and Scott and Wendy Ohlrich of Kalispell; his great-grandparents, Raul and Brigida Valadez of LaPuente, Calif., Leroy and Charlotte Jarett of Spokane, Michael and Cherry Wessels of Montana, and Joe Brown of Bossier City, La.

Funeral services will be at 1

p.m. Thursday at the Shannon Funeral Home in Shelbyville, with Pastor David Roach officiating. Visitation will be from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to The Kentucky Chapter of the March of Dimes, 4802 Sherburn Lane, Suite No. 103, Louisville, KY 40207.

## Magdelyn Marie Brown, 90

Magdelyn Marie Brown, 90, died Saturday, May 10, 2008, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

At her request, there will be no memorial service. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Turner Dale Brown, 87

Turner Dale Brown, 87, died on Wednesday Jan. 23, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

He was very proud of the fact that he served with the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II as a paratrooper in the South Pacific.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth "Betty" Brown.

His desire was to be cremated and no services be held.

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

## Alice G. Brown, 83

Alice G. Brown, 83, passed away June 4, 2008, at Edgewood Vista in Kalispell.

She was born Feb. 23, 1925, in Houston, the daughter of Eli and Oma (Evans) Cotton.

She later moved to California with her family, and met and married John H. Brown.

When her husband passed away, she moved to Kalispell to be close to her son.

Alice is survived by her son, Bud Lee, and his wife, Patti, of Kalispell; her daughter, Carol Goodney, and husband, Tom, of Bend, Ore.; and numerous

grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

There are no services scheduled at this time.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made either to Edgewood Vista, 141 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901; or to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Way, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Alice's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Alice's guest book.

## Phillip L. Bruyer, 53

Phillip L. "Phil" Bruyer, 53, passed away on May 15, 2008, at his Billings home from carcinoma of the esophagus. He was born on July 23, 1954, to George W. and Phyllis L. (Dalager) Bruyer, in Kalispell.

He grew up in the Flathead area, on a dairy farm. During the Vietnam War he joined the U. S. Navy and was stationed at Subic Bay.

Phil worked as a roofer until he was injured on a Kalispell job site. After that he worked as a mechanic, welder, metal fabricator, and auto body paint and restoration, the later resulting in his battle with carcinoma. On the surface, he did not appear to be a perfectionist, but heaven help you if you got dust or fuzz on his paint jobs!

From the time he could walk, Phil either had a wrench, a hammer, or a fishing pole in his hand. On his last day on Earth, he put down the wrench and hammer, and went fishing with his brother, Arn, and his brother-in-law, Kenny, on the Stillwater near Absarokee.

Phil was preceded in death by his father and his stepfather, John Savka Jr. Also preceding him were his maternal grandfather and namesake, Phillip Dal-

ager; his maternal grandmother, Leola Ritter, and her husband, Walter; as well as his paternal grandparents, Elmer and Clara Bruyer.

Surviving Phil are his mother, Phyllis L. Savka of Roundup; brothers, Arnold Bruyer and Carol Walters, and families of Bigfork; Tom Bruyer and twins, David and Dana, of Kalispell; Richard Bruyer and family of Kalispell; sisters, Claire and Kenny Downing and family of American Fork, Utah, and Leola Bruyer of San Diego. Also surviving are his uncles, Leroy Dalager and family of Kalispell, and Wilbur Ritter of Missoula; and numerous other aunts and uncles and their families.

Phil's remains will be scattered at his favorite fishing spots: Wolf Creek near Trego, where he learned to fish while visiting his grandparents, the Ritters; Star Meadows in the Flathead area; and the Stillwater River near Absarokee and near Kalispell.

At Phil's request no funeral services were held. Later this summer, remembrances of his life will be held for his family, friends, and fishing and working buddies.

## Cale Thomas Brown, 27

Cale Thomas Brown, a life-long resident of Flathead County, died Saturday, July 19, 2008, in a highway accident. Cale was born March 15, 1981, in Whitefish and graduated in 1999 from Columbia Falls High School.

He was employed for nine years at Kalispell Art Casting. In addition to this work, Cale was an independent artist. His paintings and sculptures have been on display at various Montana businesses and galleries.

Cale is survived by many, many close friends; by his parents, Thomas E. and Anne E. Brown, of York, Pa.; his maternal grandparents, Carle F. and Joyce Greenwalt O'Neil, of Columbia Falls; his paternal grandfather, Julius Brown Sr., of Dillworth, Minn.; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

In lieu of a funeral service, a gathering of friends and family will celebrate his life at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 26, at 310 Weaver Lane, at Lake Blaine.

## Ruth Lucille Bryan, 96



"Ruth Lucille Bryan went quietly to be with her Lord and savior Jesus Christ" on Friday, May 30, 2008, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

Ruth was brought to Columbia Falls in October 2004 to live with her only child, Ron, after the death of her husband, Kenneth. They were married almost 75 years before his death in Wichita, Kan.

Ruth was born Feb. 11, 1912, in Agra, Kan., to Virgil and Ada Hodson. She graduated with honors from high school in Emporia, Kan., and soon after married Kenneth Bryan, a teacher, during the Depression in 1930. She taught school for a short time before both went to work in the "war plants" during World War II.

She was the youngest of three brothers and two sisters; all have preceded her in glory.

Her greatest love beside her family was playing the piano and organ at various churches she attended, as well as for weddings, and funerals. She was self-taught and often played for soloists and choirs in churches serving her Lord for more than 70 years. When she was moved from Kansas to Montana, she brought her precious piano with her and continued to play most of the time without music in front of her.

Because of ill health, she was moved in 2006 into Heritage Place in Kalispell, yet continued to play for a short time.

Ruth had a heart of gold, showing kindness to all she came in contact with, and always with a smile. She will be missed by all who knew her, "yet she is now without pain in her heavenly home."

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 3, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls, with the Rev. Jerry Buchanan officiating. Burial will be afterward at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

## Wayne A. Bryant, 61

Wayne A. Bryant, 61, of Eureka, died Oct. 24, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center due to complications from cancer.

He is survived by his wife, Rebecca; son, Wayne Jr., of Kansas City, Mo.; daughter, Shawneen Goladay, of Lincoln; and his mother, Mary

(Pooler) Bryant.

He had been employed at the aluminum plant as a crane operator, a logger and a contractor, and later he worked the oil fields as a well puller.

Private graveside services will be held on Saturday, Nov. 1.

## Richard Douglas Buchanan, M.D., 75

Richard Douglas Buchanan, M.D., 75, known always as "Mickey," passed away Thursday, May 22, 2008, at his home. He was born July 21, 1932, in Porterville, Calif., the offspring of Scots-Irish pioneers of California's Great Central Valley. The family roots traced to pre-Revolutionary times; in Lancaster County, Pa., his great-grandfather came west in 1864 via the Halliday Stage and could conceivably have been on the same coach with the Irish patriot Thomas Francis Meagher, who became the first territorial governor of Montana.

Mickey graduated from Porterville Union High School in 1950 and then matriculated at the University of Oregon. After one year, he transferred to the University of California at Berkeley and then received his M.D. from the University of California Medical School in San Francisco in 1957. While in college, he spent three summers working in the salmon industry in Prince William Sound, Alaska, and three summers working for the U.S. Forest Service in Sequoia National Forest. He spent 10 days each year backpacking in the High Sierras.

He began skiing in 1948, and in 1949 and 1950 skied with War-

ren Miller at Mammoth Lakes when they only had rope tows. By 1958, he completed his goal of skiing every major ski resort in the United States and Canada. He interned in Burlington, Vt., to help accomplish this.

He then had two years of sea duty with the U.S. Navy as a medical officer with the Destroyer Force/Atlantic, home port at Newport, R.I.

After two years of general practice residency at Sonoma County Hospital in Santa Rosa, Calif., he began a solo practice of medicine in Columbia Falls in July 1962. He was quick to point out the greatest thing he ever did for his family was to move them out of California. In 1967, he built a new office at Nucleus and First Street. He had full privileges at Whitefish Hospital and Kalispell General Hospital. He described himself as the last of the general practitioners and the first of the board-certified family physicians. In 1979, after five hip replacements, he quit working. At the time, he was the chief of staff of the new North Valley Hospital.

On Sept. 13, 1957, he married Jeannette Sanborn. After 27 years, they divorced. The couple

had four daughters, Lorretta of Robards, Ky., Jessica of Port Townsend, Wash., Cynthia of Phoenix, and Lynda of Sweetgrass. They also had nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Dr. Buchanan was on the board of directors of the Kalispell Ski Club, Flathead Valley Community College, Columbia Falls Chamber of Commerce, Montana Academy of General Practice,

and the Montana Foundation for Medical Care. He was the first president of the Columbia Falls A.F.S. foreign student exchange program and a vestryman at St. Matthews Episcopal Church. He celebrated 25 years of recovery in Alcoholics Anonymous on Feb. 16, 2006.

Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish was in charge of local arrangements. No services are planned.

## Clifford J. Bucher, 80

Clifford J. Bucher, 80, of Polson, an Army veteran who was born and educated in the Ferdig and Oilmont area, passed away at his home in Polson on Monday, Nov. 3, 2008, of natural causes.

He owned and operated C&L Plumbing & Heating in Libby for many years, then owned and operated Little Joe's in the Troy area. He then traveled to Malta to work for a water drilling company and returned to the Flathead Valley to retire.

Cliff is survived by sisters, Hazel Granger of Glasgow and Mildred Mitchell of Billings; stepsons, Kevin and Tina Dupuis, and Todd and Sally Dupuis, of Polson; nephews, Steve and Carol Bucher of Cut Bank, Doug and Lisa Bucher of Visalia, Calif.,

and Kelly Mitchell of North Highland, Calif.; nieces, Dale and Charles Durr of Choteau, Lynn and Ken Gilbert of Glasgow, Kathy and Vic Lopez of Broken Arrow, Okla., and Ginny Mitchell of Billings; grandchildren, Christina and Terrance Mock, Mathew Dernell, Michael Lochner and Jazmyne Dupuis; and numerous great-nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Stephen Bucher; his mother, Helen Hall; and a brother, Patrick Bucher.

There will be a memorial service at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, in the social quarters of the Polson VFW, 423 Main, Polson.

All memorials will be given to the VFW Lodge in Polson.

## Sister Joyce Mary Buckler, 76

Sister Joyce Mary Buckler, 76, died Thursday, June 19, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. Funeral services are pend-

ing in St. Louis. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is taking care of the arrangements.

## Travis Chase Bunnell, infant

Travis Chase Bunnell, infant son of Chad and Brandi Bunnell, passed away unexpectedly of unknown causes, Sunday, Jan. 6, 2008, at his home in Billings.

He was born Oct. 13, 2007, in Billings.

He is survived by his parents; brothers, Kelly, Theodore Joseph and Allen; sister, Haley; grandparents, Max and Susan Cleverley of Shelby, Ted Bunnell of Billings, and Mary and



Hugh Graham of Billings; great-grandparents, Allen and Lorraine Baese of Bigfork; numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Cindi Due.

"Our lovable little boy Travis is now in Heaven and in God's hands we trust, sharing his bright blue eyes and his beautiful big smile with others, we know that also passed along. He's now our angel in Heaven. Now it's time for him to rest in peace."

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, at Dahl Funeral Chapel in Billings. Burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery in Billings.



## Joseph "Joey" Howke, Schlinger, Foster, Buck, 23

Joseph "Joey" Howke, Schlinger, Foster, Buck, 23, passed away on Thursday, June 19, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. He was born Feb. 21, 1985, in Kalispell.

Joey lived in the foster home of Kenneth and Jessie Schlinger for the first 12 years of his life, where he was lucky enough to gain some foster brothers and sisters — namely, Anna, Rebecca, Bonnie, Merisha, Kenneth Jr., Jeff, Brendon, Lynette, Samantha, Norma, Raven and John.

After losing his foster mom and dad he became the foster son of a young man by the name of Ron Foster, which then gave him two more brothers and a sister, Tarin, Mitchel and Blake, for the next four years.

Later, due to unforeseen circumstances, he became the foster son to his nurse, Nyla Buck, and her loving husband Berl, where he has been for the past seven years. This gave him two more foster brothers and four more foster sisters — namely, Forrest, Lowel, Teresa, Rebecca, Dawna and Annalynn.

All of these families gave Joey their total loving care and he loved each and every one of these foster families with all his heart.

During these years he had lots of skilled nurses caring for him. He could name two very special ones besides Nyla. They were Louise and Betty. He also received special respite care by Kate, Charlotte, Anita, Debra and Linda, all who gave gentle, loving care to him.

He thoroughly loved his therapy with special therapists, Leslie and Julie. Dr. Wilder and his wonderful staff looked after him and help make his time on Earth a better place.

Thanks to Home Solutions,



Randy Kenyon CEC, and Noreco they were always there with all the things needed for my support and care.

When Nightingale Nursing and Ron Foster brought Nyla Buck on board and Outreach Alliance Services, Joey was able to continue his nursing care after turning 21 years old. Joey's foster brother Forrest "Frosty" took over guardianship of Joey so he could continue to live in a home he loved so much.

One of the things he enjoyed was talking on the phone, especially to one of his favorite special ladies, Gail. He also loved music and dancing with sing-alongs with his uncles, Louie and Jay, who played their guitars and sang to him.

Because of USANA helping his mom and dad, Joey was given the best quality of life possible for his special health circumstances. Joey brought love and joy to all who cared for him and he will be missed so very much.

He is survived by his foster parents, Berl and Nyla Buck, of Columbia Falls, and many others foster family and friends.

Memorial services for Joey will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 26, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, on 1780 Talbot Road in Columbia Falls. There is no visitation.

Johnson - Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Joey's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Joey's guest book.

## Thornton Valentine 'Curly' Bunner, 88

Thornton Valentine "Curly" Bunner, 88, passed away at his home in Whitefish, Wednesday Morning, Sept. 17, 2008, of natural causes, "and is now with his Lord and Savior."

Curly was born Dec. 27, 1919, in Eureka, to Jenny and Frank Bunner. He had one sister and many step-siblings. He was raised in Eureka and Stryker, and received his education there.

Curly enlisted in the Navy in 1938 and, while home on leave, married Ardith Adina Creon on July 14, 1944. Together they raised four children. The family enjoyed Navy life and was stationed in Japan, California; in Helena for recruiting; and Guam. Curly was on Midway island a year also. He was finally stationed in Virginia where he retired from the Navy June 15, 1959. He then went to work for the Department of the Navy, Office of Naval Intelligence in the Pentagon, and was there until 1975.

He and Adina returned home to Whitefish where he built their dream log home, their "Dunrovan."

He was a Pearl Harbor survivor and had "Pearl Harbor Survivor 001" plates proudly on his pick up.

Curly was an avid fisherman,



huckleberry picker and hunter. He loved the outdoors. When he could no longer be in the great outdoors, he loved enjoying the hummingbirds at his kitchen window and the deer, bear and moose at his back door.

He made friends all over the world and enjoyed attending Pearl Harbor survivors reunions until he could no longer attend.

Curly is survived by his loving bride of 64 years, Adina, of Whitefish; daughter, Patricia Kay, and family, of New York; son, Ronald Bunner, of Whitefish; daughter, Nadina Jeanne Bentley, and husband, Terry, and family, of Virginia; and daughter, Cher McLean, and husband, Tim, of Kalispell; eleven grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his mother, father, sister, and a grandson, Patrick Kay.

Curly has been cremated and a memorial will be held on Saturday, Oct. 25, after the family arrives. There will be a memorial notice at a later date.

## Thomas Marshall Burgess, 79

Thomas Marshall Burgess, 79, passed away peacefully Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2008, at his home in Kalispell.

The oldest of four children,

Thomas was born in Spokane on June 25, 1929, to Helen Mary (Kraut) and Marshall Phillip Burgess. He attended St. Patrick's grade school, afterward attending Gonzaga High School and Spokane Trade School simultaneously. He graduated in 1947 and subsequently attended Gonzaga University.

Thomas met Florence Virginia Smoot at the Catholic Excelsior Club, where Thomas was playing the fiddle. They were married Jan. 2, 1954, at St. Augustine's Catholic Church, and made their home in the Spokane Valley for the next 17 years. They moved to Kalispell in 1971. Tom and Florence were married for 54 years.

Thomas enlisted in the Army National Guard after high school. He attained the rank of master sergeant, then became a commissioned officer and was honorably discharged as a captain.

Thomas was a world-renowned custom rifle-maker, building his first operating gun from scrap wood and metal at the age of 13. He began employment while still in high school at the Columbia Gun Company.

While pioneering a business in custom rifle-making, he also successively worked in the machine trade at Columbia Electric and Wilson and Sprow, repaired guns at Spokane Sporting Goods, and was a tool and dye maker at Comet Truck Trailer Manufacturing. From 1966 onwards he devoted himself entirely to custom rifle building. His work has been featured in the American Rifleman, Gun Digest, and numerous other books and publications. According to the late Jack



O'Conner, former editor of Outdoor Life magazine, one of the rifles built by Burgess (owned by a prince of Iran) probably has killed more big game throughout the world than any other rifle. Thomas's love of his craft was such that he always put perfection in what he was doing ahead of any monetary consideration — often building rifles for much less than their actual worth. His business brought him into contact with important people from around the world, enabling Thomas to become a valued mentor to many. He was known by his peers as a man completely devoted to his craft. They have said that, "While they didn't know if he is 'the best,' there are none better."

The legacy Thomas leaves to his family is by his example: an abiding love of timeless values and beauty, the pursuit of excellence, love of country, a passion for music, generosity and caring for all (especially for the neglected), the ability to see beyond appearances, and his love for God and the Roman Catholic faith.

Thomas is survived by his wife, Florence; brothers, Bill and Pat; his sister, Phyllis; children, Michael, Kathy and Martin, Jack, Patricia and Marshall, Bill and Chris; and 19 grandchildren.

Visitation will be from noon to 3 p.m. today, Aug. 10, with a rosary at 7:30 p.m. at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. A sung Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 11, in the Buffalo Hill funeral chapel, with Father Dennis McDonald officiating. Burial will take place at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery with military grave-side honors. A reception will be afterward at the Burgess family home.

Memorials may be made in his name to Grace Hospice.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family. You are invited to go to [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave a condolence or sign Thomas's guest book.

## Stanley Dean Burk, 57

Stanley Dean Burk enjoyed 57 wonderful years with his family and friends. Stan passed away peacefully Thursday morning, July 31, 2008, at his



home after a courageous battle with cancer. Stan was born March 15, 1951, in Whitefish, to Al and Vera Burk.

Stan joined the U.S. National Coast Guard and was stationed in Bayfield, Wis., which is where he met his beloved wife, Roxy. They were married Nov. 23, 1974, in Bayfield, and then moved back to the Flathead Valley to start their lives together.

Stan was an avid trapper, hunter and fisherman. He also loved to shoot winter league at the trap club, and was generous enough to sponsor two teams four years in a row. Stan enjoyed passing these passions on to his two sons, Ryan and Eric. Stan also enjoyed coaching baseball and watching his sons excel in sports.

Stan worked at Plum Creek for more than 25 years, and was successful enough to start his own business. In 2003, Stan accomplished his dream for a family business, Burk and Sons Electric.

In 2004, Stan, his sons, and many friends started building his dream cabin in Radnor, his favorite place to get away. Sadly, Stan was diagnosed with bladder cancer in 2006.

Stan fought this battle valiantly for two years before the cancer finally won, but not before Stan was able to proudly watch his two sons get married and start their adult lives.

Stan was preceded in death by his father, Al; and brother, Steve; as well as numerous aunts and uncles.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Roxy; his mother, Vera; sister, Patsy, and husband, Ron Anderson; two sons, Ryan and wife, Jenny, and Eric and wife, Laci; niece, Lena, and husband, Ben Havron; and nephew, Andy Anderson. He is also survived by his favorite uncle, Gib Burk; as well as several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Stan had an enormous heart and was a great friend to so many in this community. Stan touched too many people's lives to list everyone, but one of his greatest gifts in life were all of his friends. He treasured every moment that he spent with them, especially at the end. Stan will be missed dearly by his family and friends. His dedication and self-sacrifice to his family, especially his children, was his greatest triumph.

Please join his family and friends as we celebrate his life at 3 p.m. Sunday, at the Whitefish Moose Lodge.

The family requests that memorials be made to the Stan Burk Benefit, P.O. Box 4902, Whitefish, MT 59937. The proceeds will go toward a memorial in honor of Stan.

## James Frederick Burke, 65

James Frederick Burke, 65, of Columbia Falls passed away Monday, Nov. 25, 2008, at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane. He was born on July 16, 1943, in Wheeling, W.Va., the son of William and Beryvl (Estep) Burke.



He was a 1961 graduate of Moundsville High School in Moundsville, W.Va. After graduating high school, Jim served in the United States Air Force for eight years.

He was later employed for 20 years at Canyon Logging in Columbia Falls. In 1986, he became the owner and operator of James Burke Trucking, which allowed him to work every day in the mountains he loved. As he approached his retirement years, he worked for Flathead County Eagle Transit, where he spent many enjoyable hours transporting senior citizens around the area. During this time, and after retirement, he also was employed by School District No. 6 as a bus driver.

Jim was known for his quick wit and sense of humor. His generous heart and easy smile made him loved by all who knew him. He loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren, who held a very special place in his heart. His spare time was spent cursing the Montana weather and its effects on his very large and productive garden, attempting to train his wayward dog, Jack, and caring for his prized chicken, Helga, and her feathered friends.

Jim also loved to spend time in the kitchen or at the barbecue grill, where he could indulge his passion for cooking and baking. He also enjoyed NASCAR, relaxing in his recliner doing crossword puzzles, and doing crazy things to make people laugh.

He was preceded in death by his father, William M. Burke II, and his oldest son, Trent Wil-

liam Burke.

Jim is survived by his mother, Beryvl Estep Burke, of Moundsville; his beloved wife of 46 years, Ruth Eleanor Burke, of Columbia Falls; two sons, James F. Burke Jr. of Columbia Falls, and Clint Burke and his fiancée Dawn Thompson, of Hungry Horse; two daughters, Shannon and Dean Orcutt, and Becky and Brendt Lynch, both of Holdrege, Neb.; brothers, William M. Burke III and Dianne of Montrose, Colo., and Ronald G. and Sally Burke of Moundsville; and sisters, Judy G. and Sharon J. Burke, of Moundsville. Jim will be lovingly remembered by his 13 grandchildren, Candice Burk of Charleston, S.C., Katie Hayes of Kalispell, Casey and Glenna Burke of Coram, Brent, Nicole and Jake Burke of Hungry Horse, Meghan, Tate and Paytor Orcutt of Holdrege, and Miranda, Gavin and Kamryn Lynch of Holdrege. Jim also was blessed with three great-grandchildren, Gwennyth Allyssa Taylor and Phelan Daniel Sinclair, daughter and son of Candice Burke, and Hayden Lee Fulmer, son of Meghan Orcutt.

Friends will be received from 1 to 5 p.m. today, Nov. 30, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church 640 Seventh St. W., in Columbia Falls, with Pastor Matthew Nelson officiating. Military graveside services and burial will take place at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

For those who desire, and in lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be sent to the American Heart Association or a charity of their choice.

"There are those you meet in life who can change yours just by their presence, whether it's for a moment or for years ... Jim Burke was one of those."

*This paid obituary is being run again at the request of the family.*

## Lois Fern Burrell, 84

Lois Fern Burrell, 84, passed away on Monday, Sept. 22, 2008, at the Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born on Jan. 12, 1924, in Pablo, to Levi and Lois (Freeman) Gleason.



She attended grade school at Ashley Creek and graduated from Flathead County High School in Kalispell.

She married Gerald F. Burrell on Oct. 3, 1945. They lived in Baltimore, where Kathleen was born, for six years, then moved back to Kalispell where the next three children were born — daughter Sharen, son Daniel and daughter Nancy.

She enjoyed knitting, crocheting, crossword puzzles, camping, fishing, gardening and especially rummage sales with her best friend Eunice. She attended the Nazarene Church.

Even through all her pain, she still had her smile and her sense of humor.

Lois was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Robert and Alvin "Rod" Gleason; sister, Vivian; and her twin sister, Doris; her daughter, Kathleen Wendland; and grandson, Jered Snook.

She is survived by her three children, Sharen Weaver and husband Ken, of Columbia Falls, Daniel Burrell of Billings, and Nancy Snook and husband Craig, of Evansville, Minn.; seven grandchildren, Jennifer, Chris, Jeff, Nathan, Kelsey, Brian and Leah; and seven great-grandchildren, Nicholas, Emma, Jenna, Patrick, Dillon, Aubrey and Jaden.

Memorial services for Lois will be held at 2 p.m. today, Sept. 24, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, with Pastor Ted Holmquist officiating. There will be a fellowship luncheon to follow at the Kalispell Nazarene Church.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Lois' family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Lois' guest book.



## Arthur M. Burch, 79

Arthur M. Burch, 79, passed away Thursday, May 29, 2008, at Heritage Place in Kalispell. He was born at the old hospital building in Kalispell on Dec. 14, 1928, to Arthur J. and Carrie (Anderson) Burch.



He attended Hedges, Central and Flathead High School.

In 1938, his father purchased the boat concession in Glacier Park, which operated on Two Medicine and Swift Current lakes. Working in the park during the summers became the high point of his year. Like any young man, he spent most of his time in the park occupied by hiking, fishing and boating.

After high school, Art attended college in Bozeman for one year, then moved to Missoula, where he completed his degree in business. During the summers he worked for his father on the boats at Two Medicine Lake.

After Art's graduation from college he went to work in Denver. While on a double date, he decided that Miss Billy Ann Hurley was the girl for him. Billy Ann reciprocated, and they were married in October 1953 in Billy Ann's hometown of Danville, Ill. The two spent some time in the Midwest, but Art always wanted to move back to Montana.

In 1954, he purchased the tour boat on Lake McDonald from the Glacier Park Transport Company. Art and Billy spent their summers at Lake McDonald and winters in Kalispell, while starting a family that eventually included Art Jr., Scott, Kathy and Susan. During the winter the family lived at various homes on the east side and they spent their summers near the Lake McDonald Lodge and later on Swiftcurrent Lake at Many Glacier.

Art spent his winters building tour boats that still operate on many lakes throughout the Rocky Mountain West. His shop in Evergreen was known locally as "the place where they build those big boats." He also brought his tour boats down from the park for major repairs. He was a very hard-working man and a good boss who was appreciated by all his employees, both in the boat shop and on the tour boats. His other businesses included

the first mini-storage in Flathead County and the first mini-storage in Calgary, Alberta.

Art's hobbies included goose hunting in Canada with his many friends. He taught all his children how to ski, ice skate, and shoot, but he never liked horses much. Billy Ann liked horses and she taught all the kids to ride, though Art hauled a lot of hay. Art did not have a lot of hobbies; he loved to work. After selling the boat company to his sons, he started another business building docks and ran that well into his 70s. It is still in operation at the boat shop in Evergreen.

Art and Billy Ann have four grandchildren who all live in Montana. One of them, Sandra, lives in the same east side area and has attended all the same schools as her grandfather.

Art's greatest achievement was the positive impact he had on hundreds of college students who worked for him in Glacier Park. Many of them have visited Art and Billy over the years, and they all said their summers spent in the park were the best summers of their lives.

Art was preceded in death by his parents; and a sister.

He is survived by his wife, Billy Ann, of Kalispell; his children, Art Burch Jr. and his wife, Susie, of Kalispell, Scott Burch and his wife, Barb, of Kalispell, Kathy Van Dyke and her husband, Lawrence, of Bozeman, and Susan Burch of Lakeside; four grandchildren, Cristina, Sandy, Sam and Sara Burch; nieces, Carrie Wick and husband, Dave, and Gena Wilson and husband, Mitch nephew, Mark VanArtsdale; and other nieces and nephews.

Memorial services for Art will be held at 3 p.m. Monday, June 2, at Epworth United Methodist Church, with Pastor Huston Green officiating. There will be no visitation. A private urn burial will be held at a later date.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to the Glacier Park Fund, P.O. Box 5600, Whitefish, MT 59937; Parkinson's Research Foundation, P.O. Box 20256, Sarasota, FL 34276; or to Epworth United Methodist Church, 329 2nd Avenue East, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Art's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Art's guest book.

## Sharon L. Burghduff, 60

Sharon L. Burghduff, 60, "went to be with her Lord" on Saturday, May 17, 2008, with her family by her side.



Sharon was born to Jake and Dorothy Nelson on Sept. 14, 1947. She lived her childhood in Columbia Falls. She graduated from high school, then attended beauty school.

She married George Johnsrud in September 1967. Two children were born out of that union, Raymond and Jason. They later divorced. She married Jerry Burghduff on Sept. 12, 1980. They were married until his passing in 2004.

For years, Sharon worked as a waitress at Mountain Shadows and Pines Café until she started doing hair again. Sharon had a beauty shop in her basement, A Cut Above, for 21 years. She quit doing hair in 2004 because of her health.

She loved to go camping and fishing with Jerry, her family, and her dogs, Brandy and Buffy. She loved the outdoors and the mountains.

Sharon was an awesome cook. She always had a meal and dessert ready. Everything was made from scratch. Her coldwater buns were the best! She loved family get-togethers and holidays, just so she could cook.

Sharon enjoyed doing ceram-

ics, and working in her flower beds and the garden at her apartment.

She loved her grandkids, Bailee Johnsrud, and Cody and Casey Burghduff. She enjoyed spending time with them. Little Bailee was a very bright spot in her life.

In the past few years, Sharon had accepted the Lord into her life. She was baptized into the Assembly of God Church.

Sharon is survived by her son, Jason Johnsrud, and grand daughter, Bailee; Deb Winter; Duane and Tammy Burghduff, and grandsons, Cody and Casey Burghduff; her mother, Dorothy Nelson, of Kalispell; her sister, Jackie, and husband, Don, of Michigan; her sister, Jill Nelson, of Whitefish; her brother, Gary Nelson, and friend, Jeff Drummond, of Whitefish; and her life-long friend, Bonnie Long. She also had lots of special cousins, nieces, nephews and friends, who have helped to brighten her days and helped with her care towards the end of her life. She also leaves behind her special dog, Mandy.

She will be missed by everyone.

Cremation has taken place. A service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, May 23, at the Assembly of God Church in Columbia Falls. At Sharon's request, donations may be sent to the American Lung Association, 825 Helena Ave., Helena, MT 59601.

Arrangements are with Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

## Travis Burke, 29

Travis Burke, 29, died Monday, Dec. 22, 2008, in Glendive.

Survivors include his parents, Sharon Tyler of

Kalispell, and Dale Burke of Columbia Falls.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial services are pending in the spring.

## Gertrude M. Burkdoll, 95

Gertrude M. Burkdoll, 95, died on Friday, Feb. 8, 2008, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

She is survived by her daughter, Shirley Baer, of Bigfork.

A memorial Mass will be held 10 a.m. on Tuesday,

Feb. 12, at Pope John II Catholic Church in Bigfork. There will be a rosary at 9:30 a.m.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for the family. An online guest book is available at [www.johnson-mortuary.com](http://www.johnson-mortuary.com).

## Edith Butters, 88

Edith Butters, 88, of Mead, Wash., formerly of Columbia Falls, died on Sunday, Dec. 14, 2008, at an extended care facility in Spokane due to natural causes.



Edith was born Jan. 20, 1920, in Birmingham, Ala., to Watson and Sallie Mae (Dunn) Pulliam. She graduated from high school in San Angelo, Texas, in 1937 and St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing in Birmingham in 1941.

Edith enlisted in the U.S. Army in January 1943. She met a handsome young man, who was wounded in the war and was a patient of hers at the time, Manly G. Butters.

The couple married in Fort Benning, Ga., on Dec. 8, 1944. Edith was discharged in September 1945, and they moved to Scobey. They then moved to Joplin, Hungry Horse for a short time, and then to Columbia Falls, where they spent the rest of their married life.

Edith worked as a nurse at the Kalispell County Hospital, Whitefish Hospital, Whitefish Clinic and the Columbia Falls Clinic, and she volunteered for many years at the school district administering vaccines and hear-

ing and vision exams.

She was a member of Eastern Star and the Columbia Falls United Methodist Church.

Edith so much enjoyed watching hummingbirds feeding and tending to her roses at her home in Columbia Falls. In her younger years, she enjoyed fishing trips with her family at Lake Ronan, sewing, golfing and square dancing with Doc.

Surviving Edith are her children, Barbara Fatzinger and husband, Harlan, of Mead, Jim Butters and wife, Mary, of Aloha, Ore., and Lynne James and husband, Dennis, of Great Falls; grandchildren, Greg Fatzinger and Brooke Smith, Jill and Kyle Schmahl, Beth and Chase Breckner, Jeffrey Butters, Jason Butters and Sara Hattorf, Jennifer and Josh Bergman, Susan Blackwell and Eric McClure, Adam and Jennifer Blackwell, and Tyler Blackwell and Hallie Torrey; and great-grandchildren, Collin and Courtney Breckner, Conner, Matthew and Hannah Schmahl, Nathan Jackson and Taylor McClure.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Doc, who passed away Dec. 23, 2002; her parents; and a sister, Merle.

No services will be held. Thornhill Valley Chapel in Spokane Valley is handling arrangements.

## Judy Burrese, 89

Judy Burrese, 89, a long-time Libby resident, died Monday, May 12, 2008, at a Spokane nursing home. She had been a waitress for many years at Henry's Restaurant in Libby, until her retirement.

She is survived by sons,

Tom Roy of Moyie Springs, Idaho, and Al Roy of Tyler, Texas.

Graveside services will be at 3:30 p.m. Friday at the City of Libby Cemetery under the direction of the Nelson and Vial Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Frederick Button, 78

Frederick Button, 78, died Monday, Jan. 21, 2008, in Kalispell.

He had been the resident golf pro at Buffalo Hill Golf

Course, and more recently, with Village Greens Golf Course.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Irene 'Pete' M. Button, 81

Irene "Pete" M. Button, 81, passed away Friday, Dec. 12, 2008, at Brendan House in Kalispell. Pete was born June 4, 1927, in Everett, Wash., to Jay and Margaret Peterson. She was raised in Everett and graduated high school there. Pete married Harvey Button in Everett in 1948.

Pete worked for the B & B



Restaurant for 15 years as a waitress and then became a homemaker.

She enjoyed golf and sewing. She is survived by her husband, Harvey, of Kalispell; son, Harvey "Punk" Button, and daughter, Diane Trout, both of Kalispell.

At Pete's request, there will be no services.

Friends are encouraged to visit the Web site at [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.