

## Arnold H. 'Jake' Jacobson, 85

Arnold H. "Jake" Jacobson, 85, passed away Thursday, April 10, 2008, at Hillside Manor.



He was born May 19, 1922, in Creston, to Bertina and Ernest Jacobson. He attended grade school in Somers and graduated from Flathead County High School.

Arnold served in the U.S. Army for three and a half years during World War II and was honorably discharged.

He married Blanche M. Martin on May 28, 1950.

He is survived by his wife, Blanche; two daughters, Mary Hillstrom and Richard, and Patricia VanSickle and Peter; one son, Bob and Janelle; as well as his sisters, Sylvia McKenzie and Celia Meadows; and his brother, Raymond Jensen.

He has four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Jake was an intelligent, kind and compassionate man. A devoted husband, father, grandfather and friend, he loved Flathead Lake, fishing and water sports.

He worked in the lumber industry all of his life and retired from Champion International in 1984.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Missoula, and was honored to be worshipful master of a local Masonic Lodge.

A memorial service, officiated by the Rev. Curtis Privette, will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 17, at the First Baptist Church, 308 W. Pine St. in Missoula, with a luncheon to follow in the church parlor.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Missoula Food Bank or the Animal Shelter of Western Montana.

## Walter 'Tag' Jamison, 89

Walter "Tag" Jamison, 89, of Troy died from natural causes Jan. 12, 2008, at his home in Troy.

He was born Jan. 31, 1918, in Thompson Falls to George and Zella Brown Jamison.

Services will be at 11 a.m.

Jan. 19 at the Church of God in Troy. Local arrangements are by the Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Libby. A reception sponsored by the VFW Ladies Auxiliary will be held afterward at the church.

## Geraldine Rae 'Geri' (Weaver) Jammaron, 79

Geraldine Rae "Geri" (Weaver) Jammaron, 79, passed away Wednesday, April 2, 2008, in Kalispell. Geri was born in Portland on Dec. 4, 1928, the daughter of Gerald R. and Pauline M. (Teasley) Weaver.

She was raised in the Portland area and received her bachelor's degree in education there.

In 1947, she married Theodore H. Johnson in Portland.

Geri primarily worked as a furrier and designer. She also appreciated art, music and literature.

She was a member of the DAR.

Her granddaughters fondly

remember how Geri taught them to parallel park.

Geri is survived by three daughters, Barbara Johnson of Marion, Karen Johnson of Portland, and Christine Wheeler of Everett, Wash.; two sisters, Martha Coombs of King City, Ore., and Patricia Dorr of Lake Oswego, Ore.; three grandchildren, Julie Brazzil of Portland, Cheryl Jones of Spokane, and Susan Hovey of Seattle; and two great-grandchildren, Aili Anne Jones and Halle Elizabeth Jones.

Private family services will be held at a later date.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## James 'Jim' Jeffries, 68

James "Jim" Jeffries, 68, passed away on Friday, Feb. 15, 2008, at his residence in Kalispell. He was born on July 14, 1939, in Olympia, Wash., to the late Jack and Helen (Carlson) Jeffries.

Jim attended school in Sonoma, Calif., where he joined and served in the Navy from 1956 to 1960. He served aboard the USS Princeton LPH-5.

Jim married Carol Ridgway in 1971 in Helena. He lived and worked as a loader operator at various jobs in the timber industry, in and around the Flathead Valley. In 2001, Jim had to retire due to medical reasons.

Jim is survived by his wife, Carol Jeffries, of Kalispell; three sons, Jim Jeffries Jr. of Shelby, Jody Jeffries and wife, Paula, of Portsmouth, Va., and Jeremy Jeffries and wife, Garnet, of Kalispell; five daughters, Julie Flintoff and husband, Eric, of Tacoma, Wash., Jolene Flintoff of Tacoma, Wash., Kelly Jeffries of Billings, Allison Jeffries and Theresa Jeffries, both of



Kalispell; seven grandchildren and one great-grandson; two sisters, Gerry Cleaver of Port Ludlow, Wash., and Jan Wetzsteon of Paulsboro, Wash.; as well as numer-

ous other family members and friends.

Memorial services for Jim will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 21, in the Johnson Mortuary Chapel with Pastor Clint Theline of Faith Baptist Church officiating. A celebration of his life will follow the funeral at the Eagles in Kalispell.

The family suggests memorial gifts be given to CASA for Kids, 1203 U.S. 2 W., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Jim's family. You are invited to visit [www.johnsonmortuary.com](http://www.johnsonmortuary.com) to offer condolences and sign Jim's guest book.

## Judy Jeniker, 67

Judy Jeniker of Lakeside, 67, passed away Thursday, Feb. 7, 2008, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born July 13, 1940, in Butte, to Jack and Violet

(Mattson) Hihnala. Judy's education included the Grant School Washington School, Butte High School 1958, and college at Montana State College (now MSU), graduating there in 1963. Her degree and early chosen profession was that of a bacteriologist.

After brief post-graduate work at MSU, she took a position as research microbiologist with the Extractive Metallurgical Research Division. The division at that time was based in Anaconda, so Judy lived in that city for some three years. In about 1967, the division relocated to Tucson, where she lived briefly. Then, on Dec. 5, 1967, she married Frank Jeniker, a research engineer who also was employed in the same division.

Frank and Judy moved to Walnut Creek, Calif., where Anaconda Company had become partners in an alumina consortium. This project culminated in a huge alumina refinery in Jamaica, necessitating Frank and Judy to move there, where they lived for some five years.

In 1973, they repatriated back to the United States, moving to the Flathead Valley. Since that time they have resided north of Lakeside on the west side of Flathead Lake.

In about 1978, Judy took a job with the Montana State Department of Natural Resources. She became most proficient in the knowledge of water law and the processing of such claims. The Kalispell office had jurisdiction over the four counties of Northwestern Montana. In addition, she spent some of her new career in the Bitterroot Valley and the state offices in Helena.

Judy was widely respected for her special skills in handling the public in this often contentious area and for her special knowledge. Lawyers, judges, Realtors and clients will remember her for these talents.

Judy, despite having made numerous friends and associations, always harbored a deep love for her background and heritage in Butte and Finntown. Her personality was marked by the Finnish characteristics known as "sisu," meaning a fierce independence and spirit. She was an avid Bobcat fan.



In the Flathead, Judy had numerous connections with the Flathead Democratic women's groups, other groups aligned with women's and minority rights, and similar causes. Often she and Frank attended meetings of groups dedicated to freedom of thought and expression, individual rights, etc. She ran for the Montana Senate local seat in the 1980s.

Judy accompanied Frank in their several visits to his relatives in Vienna, the Alps, Slovenia and the nearby Venice, Dalmatian Coast, Dubrovnik, and the Adriatic Sea. She was readily adopted by Frank's relatives still living in those areas. She liked to

travel extensively, particularly to Seattle.

Judy was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Lorna; brother-in-law, Don Gilbert; and sister-in-law, Lorraine Jeniker.

Judy is survived by her husband of 40 years, Frank Jeniker, of Lakeside; one sister, Sharon Gilbert, of Butte; four brothers, Jack Hihnala and his wife, Bev, of Helena; Leonard Hihnala of Butte; David Hihnala of Rochester, Minn.; and Larry Hihnala of Las Vegas; and brother-in-law, Charles Jeniker, and his wife, Barbara, of Butte. She also has numerous nieces and nephews in Washington, Billings and New York, with some relatives who still live in the area of Roberts and Red Lodge, where her grandparents first homesteaded.

A private memorial of life celebration will be scheduled later, probably on some sunny day in Butte or in the Flathead Valley.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Home Options Hospice at 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901, or to the charity of your choice.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Judy's family. You are invited to go to [www.johnsonmortuary.com](http://www.johnsonmortuary.com) to offer condolences and sign Judy's guest book.

## Roshae Marie Hales Jenne, 22

Roshae Marie Hales Jenne, 22, died April 13, 2008, as a result of complications from cystic fibrosis and influenza.

Roshae is survived by her husband, Dustin, of Fairch-

ild, Wash.; and her parents, Tami and Troy Hales, of Troy.

Arrangements are being made by Nelson and Vial Funeral Home for burial at Milnor Lake Cemetery.

## Paul J. Jennum, 53

Paul J. Jennum, 53, passed away of a heart attack June 20, 2008, in California. He was born to James and Beatrice Jennum in Rollette, N.D., on Feb. 6, 1955.

Paul went to school in Kalispell, was president of FFA, and graduated in 1973 from Flathead High School.

In the fall of 1973 he joined the Navy. He spent most of his military career in San Diego, where he lived at the time of his death. He retired as a senior chief from the U.S. Navy.

He was a loving husband and he adored his family. He lived to take care of his family and go riding in the desert on his Yamaha Banshee. You could catch him on the highest dunes and deepest bowls at Glamis or back at camp getting the bikes ready for the kids to ride, a cigarette always lit.

You could count on Paul to do any repairs to your bikes, no matter what time of the day. He honed his mechanical skills as an aviation electrician's mate, working on F-14s in the U.S.

Navy.

He is survived by his loving wife, Rosie Jennum, and his family, Roger, Jennifer, Savana, Sabrinah, Robert, Alexandra, Nicolas, Christian, Stasia, Ross Holdman, Danna, Chris, Gabe, Ethan Fore and Jacob Thompson, all of California; sisters, Janice and Lester Brininger of Kalispell, Linda and Rick Hurst of Makelumne Hill, Calif., Monica and Vernon Stenhaus of Glendo, Wyo., Jennifer and Larry Wilke of Columbia Falls, Roxy and Donald Didrickson of Sitka, Alaska, Roberta and Paul Miller of Kalispell, and Wanda Jennum of Sitka; brother, Mark and Carol Jennum, of Kalispell; and numerous nieces, nephews and great-nieces and -nephews.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents, brother and sister.

He was buried July 7 at Rosecrans National Cemetery in California.

He was a wonderful dad and grandpa. "We're going to miss you, Paul."

## Calvin K. Johnson, 74

Calvin K. Johnson, 74, passed away on Thursday, May 22, 2008, at his residence in Lakeside. He was born June 19, 1933, in Hoquiam, Wash., to Calvin A. and Klea Sadie (Sinclair) Johnson.

Calvin moved with his family to Pacific Beach, Wash., where he received his early education and attended one year at Washington State University. He met Schell Bennett in Brookings, Ore., and after a two-year courtship they were married July 16, 1954, in Denver, where Calvin was stationed with the U.S. Air Force.

Calvin enlisted in the Air Force on Nov. 18, 1953, and separated Aug. 9, 1957, after honorably serving his country.

The couple moved back to Brookings, where they raised their two sons. From 1970 to 1993, the family moved with Calvin's job to Coquille, Ore., Myrtle Creek, Ore., Missoula, and to Port Angeles, Wash., before retiring in Lakeside.

Calvin always loved the out-

doors — to hunt, fish, and in the early years, dig for clams. He was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving in many positions throughout the years.

Calvin was preceded in death by his parents; and a brother, Raymond.

He is survived by his wife, Schell Johnson, of Lakeside; two sons, Randall Johnson of Kalispell, and Kevin Johnson of Frenchtown; a sister, Maxine Hearing, of Bellevue, Wash.; and two nieces, two nephews and one granddaughter.

Graveside services for Calvin will be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday, May 27, at the Lakeview Cemetery in Polson. Military honors will be by the American Legion and VFW Veterans Honor Guard.

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

## David Edward Johnson, 77

David Edward Johnson, 77, of Columbia Falls passed away Tuesday, June 3, 2008, at Healthcenter Northwest in Kalispell. He was born Aug. 8, 1930, in Kalispell, the son of James Homer and Velda Lucy (Funk) Johnson.



He attended schools in Kalispell and graduated from Flathead High School in 1949.

He was married to Norma Lee Eckelberry on May 16, 1951, in Columbia Falls, and had been happily married for 57 years.

He went to auto mechanic school in Salt Lake City and worked at the Chevrolet Garage in Kalispell until he started logging in the mid-1950s hauling logs and grain. He also ran a service station in Thompson Falls with Bud Derrickson until being forced into early retirement.

He really enjoyed being with family and friends. A happy day in our lives was in 1961, when our son, Corey, arrived. Truck-

ing and work ethics carried from father to son.

He was a veteran of the Korean War.

He was a former member of Trinity Lutheran Church and was a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Velda and Homer Huggins.

He is survived by his wife, Norma Johnson, son, Corey Johnson, and his wife, Janis, two grandchildren, Brett Wagner and Shauna Calhoun, and two great-grandchildren, Kendyl and Reegen, out of whom he got a great kick, all residing in Flathead County.

Private memorial services were held by the family.

The family requests in lieu of flowers that donations be made to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 640 Seventh St., Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

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

## Harold William Johnson, 86

Harold William Johnson, 86, passed away Wednesday, June 18, 2008, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. He was born March 3, 1922, in



Kalispell, the son of Kauvin B. and Johanna (Peterson) Johnson.

He was raised on a farm near Bigfork and graduated from Bigfork High School in 1941.

He served in the U.S. Army from Nov. 19, 1942, to Feb. 1, 1946, in the 13th Armored Division and 153rd Armored Signal Company.

He married Luella Heuscher on May 26, 1946.

He began an electrical apprenticeship in 1947 and was a member of IBEW Local 765. He maintained a home in Kalispell as his work took him to four states — Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. He retired in March 1984 at 62

years of age. He became a resident of the Montana Veterans Home in February 2001.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Luella, in 1975; and two daughters at childbirth.

He is survived by his daughters, Darlene Schilling and Delores Hanson, both of Kalispell; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and four sisters.

Funeral services for Harold will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, June 23, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral chapel. Burial will be after services at Glacier Memorial Gardens, with military honors. There will be a reception after the graveside services at Valley Victory Church, 3152 Evergreen Drive, in Kalispell. Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

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

## Keith A. Johnson, 79

Keith A. Johnson died July 10, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, surrounded by family, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born in Polson on Oct. 17, 1928, to H. Irving and Ethel Mallory Johnson.



He married Blanche Shodo Johnson on a beautiful, snowy Christmas Eve in 1949.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Blanche. Born to this union were four children, Paul and Joan of Whitefish; Kevin and Jane, and their daughters, Kristin and Lisa, of Butte; Rod and Cindy, and their sons, Erik and Andrew, of Polson; Lauren and Pete Quien of Kalispell, and their children, Keith Allen and Cara, and their daughters, Kyla and Lena, of Denver; Nicole and Brian Piercy, and their daughter, Sage, of Kalispell; and Jennifer Quien and her son, Oliver, of Kalispell. Also surviving him are a sister, Kay and Ted Witham, of Polson; sisters-in-law, Arlene Johnson, of Clarkston, Wash., and Edith Connerly and Jo Blackburn, of Maple Valley, Wash.; brother-in-law, Leslie and Elva Shodo, of Denver; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Keith was a lifelong resident of Polson. His career began at the Security State Bank, which had been established by his paternal grandfather, J.A. Johnson, and his partner in 1910. Keith retired after 30 years and became owner and manager of

Lake County Abstract Co.

He was past exalted ruler of the Polson Elks, an active member of Polson Jaycees, supporter of Lake County 4-H and Junior Fair, and a lifelong member of Polson Presbyterian Church.

During his tenure on the Polson school board, the properties for Polson High School, Polson Middle School and Cherry Valley Elementary were purchased.

After his retirement, he and Blanche enjoyed their winter homes in Yuma, Ariz., and later in Waldport, Ore.

He loved living in Polson and appreciated the beauty that surrounds us here. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, boating and gatherings at the cabin at Dayton, but more than that, he treasured the companionship of family and friends. Keith cared deeply about and was cherished by his wife, children, grandchildren, sister, extended family and friends. His loss cannot be measured.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 15, at the Polson Community Church, 1814 First St. E., in Polson, with the Rev. Richard Widerholdt officiating. A reception will be after services in the hall of the church.

The family suggests contributions may be made in Keith's memory to the Cheerful Hearts cancer support group in Polson or any local charitable organization of their choice.

Arrangements and cremation are under the direction of Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory. Condolences can be made to the family at [www.groganfuneralhome.com](http://www.groganfuneralhome.com).

## Roger Scott Johnson, 47

Roger Scott Johnson, 47, of Polson, died unexpectedly on Saturday, Aug. 30, 2008.

He died doing what he loved most, spending time with his family at their cabin in the Thompson River Valley. Roger was an avid outdoorsman whose passions included his family and friends while hunting, fishing and enjoying the great outdoors.

Roger is survived by his wife of 24 years, Kelly; daughter, Kristin, and her fiancé, Justin; son, Ross; parents, Elliot and

Hattie; sister, Josie; brother, Brian, and his wife, Julie, and their children, Cassandra and Boone; as well as many extended family members and lifelong friends.

There will be no memorial services held. Instead, at his request, those who wish to celebrate his life should take the opportunity to spend a joyful day with their families.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.groganfuneralhome.com](http://www.groganfuneralhome.com)

## Lester Reinold Johnson, 96

Lester Reinold Johnson, 96, died of natural causes at the Northern Rockies Medical Center on Nov. 19, 2008, surrounded by his loving family. Cremation has taken place and a celebration of his life will be held next summer.

Lester was born April 27, 1912, on a ranch outside of Tiger Butte. He was the oldest son of Hugo Reinold and Elizabeth Dee (Howard) Johnson and had three siblings, a brother, Leonard Clarence, and sisters, Margaret Dee (Fontaine) Canoy and Ethel Bernice (Winslow). Lester grew up on the family farm in the Red Butte area and attended elementary school at the Red Butte School. He attended high school in Great Falls.

In 1935, he married Ruth Kathryn (Colognes) at the Red Butte Church. Lester met Ruth at a country dance and box social at Pleasant View Hall. Ruth was the absolute love of his life and they were married for 73 wonderful years.

In his 96 years he worked a variety of jobs. Lester was known as a man of high integrity and his hard work helped shape the Montana landscape. As a young man, Lester delivered milk with a team and wagon in the Eden Country south of Great Falls. He farmed and worked on road-building jobs using a team of horses.

Lester worked at the 7-UP Gold Mine near Lincoln and at the Emma Mine in Butte. He worked on the Fort Peck Dam, then later on operated a sawmill at Logging Creek, south of Great Falls.

Lester went to Alaska on a Liberty ship as a civilian during World War II to work at Shemya building airplane runways. He also worked in the Northwest Territories helping to build the Alcan Highway. His address while there was: Joe Graves Cat Train, Whitehorse, Northwest Territories.

After the death of his father in 1944, Lester returned to the family farm to help his mother.

In 1946, Lester and Ruth, along with their children, moved to the Browning area where he ranched with his cousin, Fred Johnson. He ranched for several years and was an expert horseman.

In 1953, Lester and his family moved to St. Mary (next to Glacier Park) to open their own business, Johnson's of St. Mary. They have operated a very successful cafe and campground for the past 58 years.



In 1955, Lester had the contract to provide tents, showers and food for the seismograph crew at Badger Cabin. Lester hauled all of the supplies from Rising

Wolf Ranch with a team and wagon. He also worked as a big game outfitter and guide.

He had a passion for cooking, whether in the restaurant or in hunting camp. He was a gifted storyteller and humorist and often enjoyed sharing stories with the many visitors at Johnson's Cafe and Campground.

Lester was a Justice of the Peace for Glacier Country in the 1970s. He was a lifelong Methodist and was instrumental in getting the Methodist Church built at Babb, plus served on several local and state church boards. For over 50 years, he would make about 500 popcorn balls for the church Christmas programs, much to the delight of everyone.

Lester really did see the sun come up in one era delivering milk with a team and wagon, and the sun set in another era chasing bears though his campground on his electric golf cart. When asked by one of his grandchildren what was the biggest change he had ever seen in his long life, he replied, "electricity." Lester was a giant of a man and will be missed by all who knew him.

Children include Hugo Johnson and Melvina, Elizabeth Dee and Jack Ray, Lester Reinhold Johnson Jr., and Mary Margaret, Margy Johnson and Kristin Johnson St. Goddard. After the death of their mother, Lester and Ruth raised their two nephews, Eldon Clark Fontaine and Carol, and Leonard Jay Fontaine and Kathleen.

Grandchildren are Roxanne Johnson, Ronald Johnson, Gary Johnson, Hugo Johnson Jr., Jackie Conway, Tammi Ray, Sandy Jo Wilcox, John Wesley Ray, Lester Reinold Johnson III, Matthew Johnson, Wade Pitts, Nathan Johnson St. Goddard and Kyle Johnson St. Goddard.

Lester was preceded in death by his parents; siblings; and two of his children, Lester Reinold Johnson "Randy" and Elizabeth Dee Ray "Dee Dee."

In remembrance of Lester, donations may be sent to Glide's Club Seattle, 1400 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122.

## Sherman Clarence Johnson, 88

Sherman Clarence Johnson, 88, a longtime resident of Kalispell and Whitefish, passed away suddenly on Jan. 31, 2008, in Yuma, Ariz.

Sherman is survived by his son, Sherman Lee Johnson of Reardon, Wash.; five siblings, Ronald and Paul Johnson, Fern Fergusson, Esther Hunter and Wanda Brownell; his sister-in-law, Lucille Koser of Kalispell; and many nieces and nephews in Montana and Washington.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 46 years, Beatrice (in 1999), two brothers and one sister.

Sherman was born March 5, 1919, in McIntosh, Minn., and raised in a family of nine children. He moved to Grand Forks, N.D., where he graduated from high school.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army prior to World War II and served in the Army Transportation Corp. He said ironically that he had more sea time than his three brothers combined, all of whom were in the Navy. Many of those sea miles were during the height of the German submarine attacks on allied shipping in the North Sea and Sherman had many stories about surviving those dangerous passages.

After the war, he attended college in Missoula and graduated with a degree in business administration. He moved to Whitefish, and in 1953, married

Beatrice Tande.

He was employed briefly by Nelson Hardware in Whitefish and then went to work for Anaconda Aluminum in Columbia Falls from 1955 until his retirement. He held several positions at the aluminum plant, the last being construction manager for the newest pot lines. Following his retirement from Anaconda Aluminum he worked for Puget Sound Power & Light as construction project superintendent for the Colstrip coal generating plants 1 through 4. After his second retirement, he purchased a home in Kalispell and later a winter home in Yuma.

Sherman was an active member of the Whitefish community where he served on the school board for several years and was also a Little League baseball coach for many seasons. His family will always cherish the memories of the many camping and fishing trips that they shared with him to Bowman and Kintla lakes. He was a caring father, uncle, brother and friend and his selfless acts of kindness and family devotion will be treasured.

Sherman was an avid reader his entire life and will always be remembered for his sharp mind and wit. He will be greatly missed by his family and many, many friends. There is no memorial service planned at this time.

## Virginia Marie Johnson, 85

Virginia passed peacefully "to be with her Lord and angels" on March 9, 2008. She was surrounded by family.



Virginia was born May 31, 1922, to Bert and Louise Johns, the second of six daughters. Virginia was raised and lived most of her life in Missoula. She went to Willard Grade School and Missoula County High School.

She had a wonderful life growing up in Missoula with her large, extended Lebanese family of aunts, uncles and cousins. Her family life was filled with great Lebanese food, music, laughter and dancing. Virginia continued to have a great love of music, especially jazz and dancing, most notably jitter-bugging.

Virginia worked for the Civil Service during World War II at Fort Missoula and in California, with her lifelong best friend, Jeanne Beaulieu Tardiff. When she came home on leave from California, she fell in love with the boy next door. Virginia and Nestor were married May 7, 1951. They lived in Missoula and raised their five children, Greg, Louann, Elaine, Marcelle and Mark. She felt blessed to be a stay-at-home mom for years. Virginia loved babies throughout her lifetime and could give a blow-by-blow description of their every nuance.

Virginia went back to work when the kids were older, in retail clothing and sold Avon. She then worked at Jack & Jill Nursery for years as the secretary and office manager. She was affectionately known as "Johnson" to the children.

Virginia retired and enjoyed traveling to see her children, grandchildren, family and friends. She loved to bake and have big get-togethers.

Virginia's all time favorite leisure activity was shopping at Herberger's. She became such

a frequent shopper that they offered her a job. She chose to volunteer as her health became too unpredictable. The day before she passed, she asked her daughter, Elaine, "Do you think you could take me to Herberger's today?"

Virginia was a sweet, gentle, nurturing soul. She had an undaunted spirit of optimism. All who knew Virginia felt a deep connection and love.

Virginia was a life-long member of St. Anthony Parish, volunteering with the Alter Society. She was also the matriarch of "The Fun-Du Club."

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bert and Louise Johns; sisters, Eva Khoury, Jackie Ward and Angie Bryson; and best friend, Jeanne Beaulieu Tardiff.

She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Nestor; sisters, Adeline Briscoe and Dody Elliott; her children, Greg and Lynn Johnson of Kalispell, Louann and Jim Convey of Denver, Elaine Johnson and Franz Barthel of Kalispell, Marcelle and Robert Taft of Seattle, and Mark and Debbie Johnson of Missoula; grandchildren, Robert Aaron, Angela Marie, Katie, Nicole Marie, Amanda Marie, Wyatt and Logan Marie; great-grandchildren, Brooklyn, Halee-Ann, Arriana and Grace; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 13, at Garden City Funeral Home in Missoula. A vigil service will begin at 7 p.m.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 14, at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Missoula. A reception will follow the Mass in the Parish Center. Interment will follow the reception in New St. Mary's Cemetery at 4:30 p.m.

Donations can be made in Virginia's name to either Teen Challenge, St. Anthony's, or Watson's Children's Shelter.

## Bettie Lucille Jones, 76

Bettie Lucille Jones, 76, passed away Monday, May 12, 2008, in Columbia Falls. Bettie was born June 3, 1931, in Sedalia, Mo., and lived there through high school graduation.



Primarily a homemaker, Bettie had worked as a soda fountain manager, pharmacist's assistant, and as a tree nursery assistant.

She enjoyed bowling in local bowling leagues, was a church song leader, and assisted with various community drives.

Bettie also enjoyed being an RV enthusiast, doing crafts, sewing, camping, fishing and hiking. She just loved the outdoors and the Arizona desert.

She was preceded in death by

her parents, Charles W. Gamber and Della Lucille (Buckley) Gamber.

She is survived by her husband, Allan, of Columbia Falls; sons, Stephen Esle Lemens of Sunrise Beach, Mo., Gary D. Lemens of Dresden, Mo., and Ronald G. Lemens of Versailles, Mo.; sisters, Adaline Vannoy of Sedalia, Mo., Sue Roxstrom of Maple Valley, Wash., and Laura Mae Moon of Hughesville, Mo.; brothers, Charles W. Gamber of Missouri, and David R. Gamber of Broomfield, Colo.; grandchildren, Veronica, Amanda, Mathew, Nicole and Shannon, all of Missouri; and great-grandchildren, Brett, Blake, Breighton, Ethan, Brennan, Izabell Savannah and Layther Vance.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. today, May 14, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Grace Mjolsness Johnston, 100

Grace Mjolsness Johnston, 100, died of natural causes on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008, at the Riverside Health Care Center in Missoula.



She was born on Feb. 4, 1907 in Nahma, Mich., the first child of Asa and Ina Curtis. The family moved to Astoria, Ore., then to a home-stead near Fortine. She attended high school in Eureka, and received a two-year degree from Montana State Normal College in Dillon. Later she graduated from the University of Montana in Missoula.

She married Joe Mjolsness in 1933 and lived in Highwood, Power and Cut Bank.

Before her marriage, she taught in several one-room country schools. After World War II, she taught at Wildard then Jefferson schools in Missoula. She retired in 1970 having taught for a total of 32 years.

In 1982, she married Carl Johnston and moved to Thompson Falls, where she was active in the Community Congregational Church.

She was a member of the Thompson Falls Woman's Club, Homemakers, Western Montana Retired Teachers, Delta Kappa Gamma and a bridge club.

After Carl's death in 1989, she moved to Clark Fork River in Missoula. There she continued to play bridge and pinochle. She also knitted baby caps for newborns at Community Hospital, grew flowers and vegetables on her balcony, and was an avid reader.

Grace loved to explore the world and traveled to many countries in Europe and Asia as well as Mexico, Alaska and Hawaii.

Grace was much loved and has been an inspiration and a role model for many people. When asked the secret of her longevity, here's what she said: "You need good genes in the beginning, then you have to think about your vitamins and daily exercise and eat well; take good care of yourself. But most important is your attitude. We are all God's children going down the same road and we need to be good to each other, do what we can, appreciate what we have. And that's all I know about what it takes to be an old, old, old, old woman."

Grace was preceded in death by her parents; an infant son; her husband, Carl, and granddaughter, Tracy Bond.

She is survived by her sister, Ruth Pomeroy, of Kalispell; daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Loren Smith, of Portland; grandson and wife, Greg and Ellen Bond, of Meridian, Idaho; great-grandson, Bryan Bond, of Meridian; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2, at the Clark Fork Riverside, 301 W. Front Street, Missoula, with Dan Cravy officiating. An inurnment will be held in the Spring at the Fortine Cemetery in Fortine.

The family suggests that memorials may be made to either the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Garden City Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements.

## Clarice E. Jones, 84

Clarice E. Jones, 84, died Wednesday, July 2, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. Memorial services will

be held at a later date in Oregon.

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

## Jeweldeen Claire 'Jude' Joyce, 52

"Our Jude left us to be with her Lord" on April 23, 2008, in Hot Springs. She was born in Palmer, Alaska, on June 21, 1955, to Marlys (Hoeldt) and Frank Cornelius.



Jude was loved and will be missed by many. She always be remembered for her generosity and loving nature.

Jude enjoyed the outdoors, camping and fishing, working in her garden, and cooking.

She delighted in unexpected company who were made welcome in her home. She liked to give thoughtful gifts and cards for no special reason or occasion.

Jude was preceded in death by her beloved nephew, Kyle Hickok, on April 21, 2008; a sis-

ter, Elizabeth Hoeldt; her dad, Ken Hoeldt, and two special aunts, Lorraine Hardinger and Sherri Iversen.

She is survived by her mother, Marlys Hoeldt; her husband, Denny Joyce; her son, Christopher Studeny; two grandsons, Tristen and Austin; brothers, Russell Hoeldt and sister-in-law and close friend, Brenda DeShaw, and Layne Hoeldt and special friend "Kat"; sisters, Diane Nelson, Laurel Shepard, Kelly Bigoness and husband, Nick, and Lisa Vassar and Wayne Hickok; close childhood friends, Danny, Vance, Evelyn (Hayes) McRea and husband, Tim, and John Burgess — Jude thought of them as family; and a close extended family of much-loved nieces, nephews and cousins.

A memorial will be held at 4 p.m. May 13 at the Senior Citizens Center in Charlo, with a potluck reception afterward.

## Clifford E. Jones, 96

Clifford E. Jones, 96, passed away Thursday, June 19, 2008, at Colonial Manor in Whitefish.

Clifford was born Aug. 8, 1911, in Garden City, Kan., to David and Verna Jones.

At an early age he moved to Billings, and graduated in 1932 from Billings High School where he was captain of both the football and basketball teams during his senior year. After graduation he attended the University of Montana.

Clifford married Dorothy Cooper from Billings on Aug. 30, 1941. They lived in Glasgow, then moved to Havre and finally to Harlowton in 1948 where Clifford was area manager for Mountain States Tel. & Tel. He retired in 1973.

A dedicated community member, Clifford served on the Harlowton City Council and was assistant fire chief of the local Fire Department. He organized and coached Little League baseball teams. He was also a member of the Black Horse Patrol, the Masonic Lodge and president of the Kiwanis Club.

Cliff enjoyed the outdoors and



was an avid and talented trout fisherman, hunter and golfer.

Clifford and Dorothy moved to Escondido, Calif., in 1981 and later to Camarillo,

Calif. They returned to Billings in 2000 and then moved to Whitefish, in 2004.

Clifford was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Fred and Roland; and sisters, Virginia and Lenore.

Clifford is survived by his wife, Dorothy; son, William D., and daughter-in-law, Clemence, of Columbia Falls; grandson, Austen of Torrance, Calif.; granddaughter, Darcy, of New York, N.Y.; and brother-in-law, John Cooper, of Big Timber.

Clifford was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Billings.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 28, at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Billings.

## Sherry Lee (Combs) Jones, 63

Sherry Lee (Combs) Jones, 63, passed away on Tuesday afternoon, March 11, 2008, after a short battle with a stroke and stomach cancer.



"Mom" was born on April 13, 1944, in Hot Springs, to Cecil E. and Fredricka E. Combs. She was the oldest of seven children. She was married to Mervin McQueen in 1963, and they had four boys, Cecil, Michael, Kevin and Chris. They divorced in 1969. She met and married George Jones in 1973 and they had two children, Candy and Craig Jones.

Mom was known to many of us as "Big Momma." She was an excellent mother, sister, aunt and grandma, too. Mom loved the outdoors, "storm chasing," camping, running her G.A. meetings and meeting new people.

Mom was preceded in death

by an infant brother, Douglas; her parents, Cecil E. and Fredricka E. Combs; a sister, Darlene Walter; a nephew, Douglas Walter; her ex-husband, Mervin McQueen; an ex-brother-in-law, John Holyoak; and her husband, George Jones, whom she was widowed by in 1991.

Mom is survived by her children, Candy and Craig, of Kalispell, Mike of Colorado, and Chris of Texas; her sisters, Cecelia Stap of Marion, Carleen Hutchison and Faye Kerzman of Kalispell, and Diane Bowersox of Washington. She also leaves behind her grandchildren, Nicole, Caitlyn, Ashley and Abby, all of Kalispell; and many nieces, nephews, and other family and friends.

"Mom, you may be gone, but you'll never be forgotten!"

No visitation. Cremation has already taken place. Burial will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, March 21, at Fairview Cemetery.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family. Cards may be mailed to: 294 Two Mile Dr., Apt. C, Kalispell, MT 59901.

## Thomas Michael Jones, 52

At the age of 52, Thomas Michael Jones of Polson died of natural causes at his home on Sept. 1, 2008. Tom was born to Jim and Clara (Kubas) Jones on Oct. 28,



1955, in Glendive. The family moved to Polson in the late '50s.

Growing up, Tom went through the Polson school system, graduating from Polson High School in 1973. Along with his schoolwork, Tom excelled in football, wrestling and baseball. He later went on to the Great Falls Business College and Flathead Valley Community College studying business administration curriculum.

After returning home to work in the family business, Tom met his wife Rosanne in Polson. They were married on Aug. 18, 1978, at the Immaculate Conception Church in Polson. They have one son, Michael. After living at a home in Pablo for 12 years, he and the family moved into town to a house near the golf course.

In Polson, the family owned and operated the Pondera Bar and Restaurant. As with all family businesses, Tom grew up working in the business and later helped take over operating the family business. The bar and restaurant was owned and operated in the Jones family for 37 years.

After his time working in the bar and restaurant business, Tom was a casino manager for the Town Pump organization for four years. He opened and managed casinos in Whitefish, Ronan and Polson.

Tom recently made a career change to become a mortician, in his late 40s. In 2004, he started working at Grogan Funeral Home in Polson while going through school online full-time during his nights and weekends. He graduated from the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science, and most recently became fully licensed through

the state on April 15, as a mortician. Although Tom grew up in the bar and restaurant business, this profession seemed to suit him perfectly. Along with his incredible network of friends and family, his kind demeanor and overall character made him a perfect fit for his newfound passion.

Tom had many passions including sports (including coaching and officiating), cooking, traveling, hunting, and being with friends and family. He genuinely loved people, and as a mortician, he felt that helping a family through this trying time was the "last kind thing he could do for the person and their family." His easygoing manner and contagious smile will be missed.

Tom was a member of the Polson City Council, Ward II, served as a fireman in the Polson Volunteer Fire Department, was a member of the Parish Council and Finance Council at Immaculate Conception Church, was a member of the Knights of Columbus, where he has held all offices at the local level and has served also at the state level, and was a Fourth Degree Knight.

He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Rosanne (Pfeifer), of Polson; their son, Michael, of Breda, Netherlands; a brother, James, and wife, Debbie, of Polson; a sister, Karen Woods, and Randy Gunderson, of Missoula; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, in-laws and many close friends.

His mother and father preceded him in death.

Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today, Sept. 4, at Grogan Funeral Home. A vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. Mass of Christian burial will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 5, with burial to follow at the Lakeview Cemetery in Polson. A reception will be afterward at the church.

Condolences may be sent or a guest book may be signed at [www.groganfuneralhome.com](http://www.groganfuneralhome.com).

Memorials may be made to the donor's choice.