

## Clyde E. 'Pete' Peterson, 61

Clyde E. "Pete" Peterson, 61, a longtime resident of the Flathead Valley, passed away Friday, Aug. 15, 2008, at his home in Whitefish.

Pete was born May 16, 1947, in Lehi, Utah, to Glen and Beverlee Peterson. He was the oldest of five children. Pete was raised in the Utah Valley, where he enjoyed the outdoors. He was involved with the Boy Scouts of America and received the Eagle Scout honor. As a member of the Latter-day Saints church, Pete served as a missionary in the Northern States Mission.

He later joined the Marine Corps and served in Vietnam, where he earned two Purple Hearts and many prestigious decorations for his bravery.

He attended Utah State University and Southern Illinois University, where he received his degree in psychology, sociology and mortuary science.

He married Janet Lynn Thompson in 1973 in Makanda, Ill.

Pete was a sportsman and outdoor enthusiast, spending his free time hunting, fishing and camping with his family.

He was an avid reader and a wealth of information unto himself. His love for knowledge and personal growth astounded everyone around him, and he derived much of it from the Gospel that guided his life.

As a mortician, he used his education in psychology and

experience as a missionary to help the bereaved through the grieving process. He honored this position for more than 30 years, most of which was in the Flathead Valley.

He was preceded in death by the love of his life, Janet Lynn Thompson; and his father, Glen J. Peterson.

Pete is survived by his daughter, Penny, and her husband, Blaine Decker, of Colorado; son, Kuger Peterson, and his fiancée, Tiffany Kilgore, of Los Angeles; his mother, Beverlee (Tripp) Peterson, of American Fork, Utah; brother, Pierce Peterson, and his wife, Ruth, of Elko, Nev.; brother, Deeth Peterson, of Spring Creek, Nev.; sister, Tish Smith, and husband, Tom, of Island Park, Idaho; foster brother, Chuck Tortice, and wife, Virgie, of Whiteriver, Ariz.; and by many other nieces, nephews and family members, and by a host of friends who will miss him dearly.

A funeral service will be held at noon Saturday, Aug. 23, at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish, with the elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints officiating. Burial will be afterward in Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls, with military graveside rites by the United Veterans of the Flathead and the Montana National Guard.

Arrangements are under the direction of Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

## Gregory Michael Peterson, 55

Gregory Michael Peterson, 55, passed away Tuesday, April 29, 2008, at his home in Columbia Falls. He was born Dec. 2, 1952, in Shelby to Norman Oscar and Emma Lucille (Luckenbill) Peterson.

He received his early education in Shelby, graduating in 1970.

He enlisted in the Navy, and after 22 1/2 years of service he retired as a chief petty officer in 1994. When he returned to the Flathead Valley, he worked at Stoltz Lumber as a millwright.

Greg married Beatrix Peterson on Jan. 1, 1987.

Greg loved the mountains in Montana and loved hunting deer and elk. He also enjoyed auto mechanics and fixing up things around the home. His hobbies were woodworking, and riding motorcycles, especially Harley Davidsons.

His wife, Bea, and his three boys meant the world to him. He was a devoted family man who put others first. He touched

the lives of many throughout his life.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and one brother, David Olson.

He is now survived by his wife, Bea Peterson, of Columbia Falls; and his three sons, Phillip, Jan and Eric. He is also survived by his two sisters, Dorothy Younginger and husband, Murry, of Irmo, S.C., and Patricia Hofland and husband, Moe, of Anacortes, Wash.; one brother, Jon Peterson, of Shelby; and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

Graveside services for Greg Michael Peterson will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, May 2, at Glacier Memorial Gardens, with viewing from 3 to 6 p.m. Thursday, May 1, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral chapel.

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

## Jenny Lou Peterson, 39

Jenny Lou Peterson, 39, died Thursday, April 10, 2008, in Libby.

Survivors include two children, Stephanie Marie Fairbrother, and Gunner Wayne Fairbrother, both of Libby; and her father, James

Leo Peterson, of Libby.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, at the Troy Church of God in Troy.

Local arrangements are by Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Libby.

## Sandra L. 'Sandy' Peterson, 66

Sandra L. "Sandy" Peterson, 66, a longtime resident of Libby, died Jan. 17, 2008, at Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

She had owned and operated Sandy's Barber Shop until her retirement.

She is survived by her children, Robert Taylor of Kalispell, Shannon Drapeau of Bonners Ferry, Idaho,

and Shelly DeHaven of McCall, Idaho.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Joe Slaughter officiating; interment services will follow at the City of Libby Cemetery. Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today and until noon Thursday.

## William S. 'Bill' Peterson, 84

William S. "Bill" Peterson died peacefully of heart failure Sunday Dec. 14, 2008, at his home in Kalispell. He was born on Jan. 31, 1924, in Detroit Lakes, Minn., the youngest of seven children of Harry and Theresa "Tracy" Peterson.

Bill grew up in Detroit Lakes, where he graduated from high school. He attended the University of Minnesota prior to joining the army during World War II. He served in the Philippines during the war.

In 1955, Bill moved to Kalispell to start Glacier Memorial Gardens, which he owned and operated until he retired in 1997. Bill also owned and operated a lawn sprinkler business right up to his death.

Bill was a member of the Eagles, Elks, Shriners and the Masonic Temple. He was also given a lifetime membership to Buffalo Hill Golf Course for his volunteer service in building the championship course.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his four brothers, Harry "Fats," Bud, Leonard and



Sid, two sisters, Lila and May; and one granddaughter, Casey Lynn Kassner.

Bill is survived by his wife, Betty of Kalispell, and their eight adult children, John W. Peterson and his wife, Elaine, of Kalispell; Sandra McMahon and her husband, Mike, of Granbury, Texas; James A. Peterson and his wife, Sue, of Tualatin, Ore.; Bill Peden and Denny Lincoln of Kalispell; Tammy Kassner of Anchorage, Alaska; Timmy Peden and his wife, Patty, of Piedmont, Calif.; Vickie Dickerson of Mesa, Ariz.; and Tommy Rushford of Helena; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Viewing will be from noon to 3 p.m. today, Dec. 17, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Entombment will be at 3:30 p.m. today at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

A memorial service will be scheduled in the spring when friends and family can get together to share memories and stories of Bill.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Shriners Children's Hospital would be appreciated.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family. To sign Bill's guest book, please go to [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com).

## David L. Pharr, 55

David L. Pharr, 55, a longtime resident of Kalispell, died Friday, May 30, 2008, at Libby Care Center in Libby.

Survivors include his children, Isaiah Pharr, Jer-

emiah Pharr and Freedom Ash, all of Kalispell.

Private family services are being held.

Arrangements are by Nelson and Vial Funeral Home and Crematory in Libby.

## Ruth Katherine Phelps, 82

Ruth Katherine Phelps, 82, of Hungry Horse passed away Thursday, April 10, 2008, at her home, surrounded by family and friends. She

was born Jan. 16, 1926, in Kona-wa, Okla., to Leonard and Dora (Keller) Lemons.

On June 13, 1943, Ruth married the love of her life, Arthur F. "Whitey" Phelps. After many years of traveling the world, they made their retirement home in Hungry Horse. Ruth was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend to all whom she met.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents; and her brothers, Leo, Alonzo and Junior.

She is survived by her husband, Arthur; her daughters,



Carolyn Phelps, Kathy Phelps and Linda Hanson and her husband, John; her son, Dale Phelps; and grandchildren, Sonya Nordahl, Kara Erickson, Travis Herron, Shannon Phelps, Rhonda Tallman, and her husband, Lonny, Dustin Phelps and Tiffany Hanson. She also is survived by great-grandchildren, Kaileen Alvarez, Josh Erickson, Leilani Herron and Cameron Tallman.

A memorial celebration for Ruth will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at The Church of Christ, 1203 W. Second Ave., in Columbia Falls, with a luncheon after the service.

The family suggests that contributions be made to a children's charity of your 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.

## F. Joan Phillips, 75

F. Joan Phillips passed away Oct. 29, 2008. She was born Frances Joan Bartlett on Aug. 8, 1933, to Jerome (Floyd) and Vivian Bartlett in Challis,

Idaho. She grew up in Challis, Mackay, and Gibbonsville, Idaho, and graduated from Salmon High School, Class of 1952.

Joan married Robert Gruber later that year. They traveled in Idaho and Montana on road construction and lived in Cut Bank for several years. They were blessed with four children Terri, Cathy, Roger and Jeff. In 1964, the family settled in Libby. They later were divorced.

Joan married Brad Phillips in 1979. They enjoyed many years of skiing, backpacking and traveling. She especially loved hiking in the Cabinet Mountains with her husband and friends. She also enjoyed picking huckleberries, visiting lookout towers, and time with friends.

She worked at Cut Bank Memorial Hospital, General Telephone Company, Libby Public Schools, and St. Regis Paper Company. Volunteer activities



included St. John's Lutheran Hospital Auxiliary and St. Joseph's Parish Altar Society.

She was preceded in death by her mother; father; stepfather, Nick Kaiser; brother, Leslie Floyd; and sister, Winifred.

Survivors include her husband, E. Bradley Phillips; children, Terri Gruber of Spokane, Cathy and Jim Anderson of Boise, Idaho, Roger Gruber of Havre, and Jeff and Doreen Gruber of Libby; stepchildren, Greg and Carol Phillips of Kalispell, Byron and Linda Phillips of Libby, and Dale Phillips of Omak, Wash.; nephews, Edward and Lorraine Hayes of Salmon, Idaho, Bart and Brenda Hayes, and Larry and Kate Hayes; niece, Roberta Joan Barrett; and 14 grandchildren.

Mass of the Resurrection will be officiated by Father Josef Perehubka at 11 a.m. Nov. 4, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Libby. A rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. Nov. 3 at Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

Memorials may be made to the Betty Ford Center, 39000 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270.

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

## Warren 'Rocky' Leighton Phillips, 81

Warren "Rocky" Leighton Phillips, 81, formerly of the Mountain Brook and Creston areas, died July 30, 2008, at his home in Pioneer, Calif.

He had been a water-conservation specialist for the Santa Clara Valley Water District for 30 years, retiring in 1988.

He is survived by his wife, Joan; daughter, Lori Hoover; and sons, Wayne and Warren.

Condolences may be sent to the family by e-mail at [tenn@volcano.net](mailto:tenn@volcano.net); or by mail to P.O. Box 1103, Pioneer, CA 95666, c/c Leslye Simas.

## Dennis Joseph Pickavance, 81

Dennis Joseph Pickavance, 81, passed away Monday, July 14, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. Dennis was born Aug. 10, 1926, in Charleston, W.Va., to Joseph and Ethel (Wilson) Pickavance.



Dennis attended Catholic schools in Charleston, where he graduated from Sacred Heart High School. He was a basketball, football and track star. Dennis also served as an altar boy for all the years he was in school.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy during his junior year of college at the University of Pittsburgh and served from 1944 to 1946. After being discharged from the Navy, he returned home and finished his education.

After he attended the university for one year, he married his first wife, Helen Jean Robinson. They had five children and later divorced. He then met and married Louwania Jarrell, and together they had three more children.

Dennis was a glass cutter for Libby-Owens Ford for 15 years and then became a business owner in Charleston. The family then moved to Florida in 1962, where he was a home builder and general contractor in the West Palm Beach and Port Orange areas.

In 1978, he moved his family to Montana and fell in love with the state. He was retired until

2000, when he purchased North Shore Lanes in Bigfork. In early 2008, he and his family started construction of the new bowling center in Bigfork to replace North Shore Lanes. The new center will carry his name.

Other than his love for his family, his second love was being a high school basketball official for 42 years. He had a deep-seeded appreciation for each and every player.

Dennis enjoyed playing golf and fast-pitch softball.

Dennis was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Louwania, at the family home in Bigfork; children, Deborah, Dennis II, Duane, Dale, Denise, Chenna, Diane and David; 23 grandchildren, Eric, Shawn, Amanda, Joey, Timmy, Jennifer, Bryan, Dennis, Tracy, Michelle, Lisa, Dale II, Chrissie, Chase, Ashley, Austin, Matthew, Jessika, Darren, Katelynne, Ryan, Kyle and Jordan; and 10 great-grandchildren.

A wake service will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, July 18, at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church in Bigfork, with Deacon Fred Topp officiating. Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 19, at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, with the Rev. Dan Wetzler as celebrant. Entombment will be at Glacier Memorial Gardens after Mass.

Memorials may be made to the Creston or Bigfork QRUs.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family. To send condolences and sign the online guest book, please go to [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com)

## Alvene Pickel, 92

Alvene Pickel, 92, died Sunday, Dec. 21, 2008, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She is survived by her sons, Duane Pickel of Yuma,

Ariz., and Frank Pickel of Sacramento, Calif.

Local arrangements are by Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

Services are pending.

## Jerald D. 'Jerry' Pierce, 68

Jerald D. "Jerry" Pierce, 68, passed away at his residence in Hungry Horse on Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2008. Jerry was born Nov. 17, 1939, in Bowman, N.D., the son of Richard and Leona (Heuther) Pierce. Jerry was raised in Bowman and at the age of 15, moved with his family to Hardin, where he graduated from high school.

He met Florence Steinmetz while in school and married her in the Baptist church in Hardin in 1961. They moved to the Flathead Valley in 1966.

Jerry was an honorably discharged U.S. Army Veteran.

For the past 20 years he worked for TNT Springs.

A wonderful husband, father, and grandfather, Jerry also loved his football, especially the Dallas Cowboys. He also enjoyed collecting coins.

Jerry was a real people person, making friends wherever he was.

He was preceded in death by



a sister, Colleen Pierce; and his parents.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Florence, of Hungry Horse; daughters, Lisa Croach

and Larry of Spokane, and Amy Kuper of Hungry Horse; brothers, Kenneth Pierce of Billings, Delno Pierce and Julie of Missoula, and Randy Pierce of Hardin; and grandchildren, Jacob Sanders and Garrett Hixson of Spokane, and Kevin Kuper of Hungry Horse.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 15, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to Home Options Hospice, 171 Commons Way, Ste. 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

## Fred Plummer, 88

Fred Plummer, 88, passed away at Waterford Nursing Home in Spokane, on Dec. 6, 2008. Fred was born in Creston on April 25, 1920, to William and Laura Plummer.



He was preceded in death by his wife, Kathryn; sisters, Betty and Kathleen; brothers, Ellison, Lawrence and Edward.

Fred is survived by his brothers, William and Ted; his children, Ron, Patrick, and Krystel and her husband Michael; his five grandchildren, Wendy, Shelle, Darren, Matthew and Makenzie; and three great-grandchildren, Brandon, Zachary and Alexa.

He graduated from St. Matthew's High School in Kalispell and then attended Montana State University.

On Dec. 11, 1941, Fred married Kathryn D. Puchalla in Seattle, and they had three children, Ron, Patrick and Krystel. Soon after getting mar-

ried, Fred was drafted into the U.S. Army. He fought in both World War II and Korea and was awarded the Purple Heart, Silver Star and other meritorious citations.

Fred was extremely intelligent and attained the rank of captain prior to leaving the military. After his Army service, Fred began his business life in Glasgow as a sales representative for New York Life Insurance. He was later transferred to Kalispell.

In 1954 he cofounded the Big Mountain TV Cable Company in Whitefish. In 1956 he founded Montana Microwave and then expanded their enterprise to Missoula TV Cable Co. These businesses were sold in 1960.

After five years of gentleman ranching at his Gold Creek Ranch and owning Triangle Realty, Fred purchased Hillside Manor Nursing Home. Then in 1976, Fred with his sons, Ron and Patrick, also purchased Community Nursing and Rehab nursing facility. These two businesses were sold in 1981. Fred and Katy retired to Polson and kept a winter home in

Olympia, Wash.

In his retirement years, Fred was extremely active in his hobbies of golfing, fishing, hunting, horseback riding and gardening. He also belonged to the Century Club, Missoula Mavericks, Missoula Country Club, Polson G.C. Lions, Kiwanis, Elks and American Legion.

In 1998, Fred purchased a condominium in Lake Havasu City, Ariz., where he wintered with his many friends. Most were members of London Bridge G.C. where many mulligan were in play. As many of you know, Fred was a great and avid Grizzly fan. Go Griz!

Memorial services will be a funeral Mass at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 5, at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church with a reception at Missoula Country Club at noon.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Fred's name to the charity of your choice. You may also choose to donate to the B.P.O. Elks Children's Fund or your local Hospice.

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

## Adam Peter Podufal, 25

Adam Peter Podufal, 25, also known as "AP" and Pod, drowned Saturday, Aug. 23, 2008, while swimming in his favorite cut-throat fishing spot known as Devil's Elbow, which is located on the North Fork of the Flathead River in Hungry Horse. Adam worked for the U.S. Forest Service based at the Hungry Horse Ranger Station.



According to Ryan O'Shaughnessy, his friend and co-worker who was with him at the time, Adam's last words were spoken while treading the rapids in the crystal clear glacier waters. Adam said, "You know Ryan, I really love it out here!" "It was at that time that the good Lord decided to bring Adam home; home where God the Father, Papa Peter, Nana, Papa, Grampa Roy and Uncle Rick are welcoming him with loving arms."

Adam had fished for steelhead in Elk Creek in Girard, Pa., since he could walk. There were many days that he would leave at 6 a.m. and return just before dark. It was a joy to watch him work his magic with the fly rod or spin cast. And he sure could catch the fish!

Adam also played baseball, basketball and football at Girard High School, graduating in 2001. However, not only was he a natural at sports, he was also very smart. He loved to play chess

and became very good at the game.

Adam also attended Allegheny College and Edinboro University. He was an avid Pittsburgh Steelers fan and in 2006, his dream came true when he was able to attend Super Bowl XL in Detroit and watch the Steelers win.

The best attribute of Adam was his infectious personality. He loved people and they, in turn, loved him back.

Adam's many friends and family will miss him dearly. He was only with us a short time but memories of him will last forever! "We love you Adam!"

Adam was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Peter Podufal; his maternal grandparents, Robert and Theodora Brown; and his stepgrandfather, Roy Barns.

He is survived by his parents, Joseph A. and Debra Jean Brown Podufal, of Girard; a sister, Devon R. Podufal, also of Girard; his maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Podufal Barns, of Erie, Pa.; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Friends may call from 3 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 28, at the Burton Funeral Home, 525 Main Street East, Girard, PA 16417. Friends are also invited to attend services at 6:30 p.m. Thursday evening in Burton's All Faiths Chapel, with the Rev. Derek Sanford of Grace Baptist Church, Erie, officiating.

Memorials may be made to 3 CU, c/o Burton Funeral Home. You may send flowers and condolences at [www.burtonfuneralhome.com](http://www.burtonfuneralhome.com).

## Dorothy (Holcomb) Poe, 62

Dorothy (Holcomb) Poe, 62, of Port Angeles, Wash., formerly of Columbia Falls and Kalispell, died at her home July 25, 2008.

She is survived by her sons, Robert Poe of Bremerton, Wash., and Howard Poe

of Hanford, Calif.

There will be a remembrance in Kalispell at a later date to be announced.

Drennan-Ford Funeral home of Port Angeles handled the funeral arrangements.

## Darlene Marie Poirier, 73

Darlene Marie Poirier, 73, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, also a long-time resident of Bigfork and Hot Springs, "went to sleep May 20, 2008, surrounded



by her family, and woke up in Heaven." She was born in Kalispell, on Oct. 13, 1934, to William and Suzie Ehret. Her childhood days were spent in Kalispell where she spent a lot of time with her cousins, the Kellys and the Fagerlands. She spoke fondly of Bernice and her family and retained a long friendship until Bernice's passing.

A gypsy in her own right, her family often spoke of the many lives she lived and the wonderful friendships she made along the way. Darlene spent time in California when she was younger with her father. She traveled to Florida and New York, then back to Montana and her mountains, living in Kalispell until she moved to Hot Springs, then to Chatteroy, Wash., and then spent time in Seattle and over to Sunburst. She relocated to Bigfork, where she made her home for 18 years.

After the death of her long-time companion and best friend, James Baker, she moved to Idaho to live with her daughter, Yvonne. Darlene would travel back to Montana for the summers to spend time with her son, John.

A friend to all, a mother to most, she was preceded in death by her son, William Clifford; and longtime companion, James Baker.

Darlene is survived by Lew, Steven, Debra, Yvonne, John, Cris, Todd, Linda and Randy.

Darlene was a member of the Back Country Horseman and volunteered with the Family Forestry Expo and was a member of the Moose Lodge in Kalispell. She was also an Eagles member who loved hunting, fishing, camping, horseback

riding, playing cards, boating, reading, dancing and having drinks on Thursday afternoons with the girls in Bigfork when she was visiting.

Although time with her many friends was important, family was at the top of the list, but all of her friends were family and her tree-trimming and dirty Santa parties were always fun.

She loved the Sanders County Fair and was planning to attend this year so she could see all her friends and play bingo.

Darlene loved to cook and eat and was not afraid to try anything. Jan, Donald, Roy and Lola and countless others were lifelong pals.

Her family grew and grew to more than 20 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and two on the way. She also has a brother, William, in Arizona. She loved Cabo, Queenie, Chandler and Boone — the family pets whom she spent countless hours talking and playing with. She loved to go to the karaoke shows with Yvonne and Todd, and enjoyed all of the singers who always sang what she wanted to hear and sat and visited her, even at home. No matter what age, she was timeless and enjoyed visiting and mothering up to anyone she met, including the North Idaho Hospice members.

To the newest members of her extended family — Liz, Joanie and Sally, and all the rest — thank you!

Darlene would appreciate any donations to be made in her honor to North Idaho Hospice. There have been two memorial services scheduled for Darlene. The first one was held May 29 at the Hayden Eagles. The second will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 7, at the Kalispell Moose Lodge. "So come celebrate her life with us. 'Life is for living and I lived mine fine.'"

Yates Funeral Home has been entrusted with the care of final arrangements.

Please visit Darlene's online memorial and sign her guest book at [www.yatesfuneral-homes.com](http://www.yatesfuneral-homes.com).

## Helen Mae Pokornoski, 90

Helen Mae Pokornoski, 90, passed away on Friday, Aug. 15, 2008, at Brendan House in Kalispell. Helen was born May 25, 1918, to Jacob and Marie (Tieszen) Tiahrt in Dolton, S.D., a small farming community near Sioux Falls.

Helen's family farmed and worked very hard. Helen was driving horses at a very early age. She completed high school in Marion, S.D., and then attended a community college, where she studied bookkeeping.

In 1948, she married Joe Pokornoski; they ran Kalispell Neon Sign Company and later moved to Creston, where they bought and farmed 40 acres while raising their two daughters, Mary Louise and Jane Ann.

Helen enjoyed a long and productive work life after her children were grown. She worked in central processing at Kalispell Regional Hospital for 17 years before she retired. While working, she fulfilled a lifelong dream to travel, enjoying trips to Germany, Norway,

Sweden, Denmark, Italy, and South America. Her other interests included crafting and gardening. Her grandkids were her most important treasures.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband, Joe Pokornoski; and a brother, Harry Tiahrt.

She is survived by two daughters, Mary Smith and her husband, Bob, of Ronan, and Jane Gronley, of Kalispell; six grandchildren, Rob Smith and his wife, Shelah, Ryan Smith and his wife, Katey, Teresa Sohr and her husband, Clint, Travis Gronley and his wife, April, Ben Gronley and his wife, Kara, and Ashley Gronley and her friend, Shawn Finch; and five great-grandchildren, Hallie Sohr, Sarina Smith, Emma Smith, Quindy Gronley, and Tyler Gronley.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date.

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

## Betty Jean Pollard, 79

Betty Jean Pollard, 79, passed away May 20, 2008, at her home in Spokane Valley, Wash., from lung cancer.

Betty was born Nov. 16, 1928, to Arnold and Bertha Wuest in Malta.

Betty is survived by husband, Bill Jeffries, of Spokane; son, Timothy Noble, and his wife, Brenda, of Libby; daughter, Penny VanDort, and her husband, Jon, of Kalispell; and numerous stepchildren, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Betty also is



survived by her brother, Walter Wuest, of Libby; one niece; one nephew; and many very special friends too numerous to name.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents; one brother and sister-in-law; and three husbands.

Cremation has taken place, and her ashes will be taken to Montana.

A celebration of Betty's life will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. June 14 at Shan and Barb Bush's house in Spokane Valley.

Memorials may be made in Betty's name to Hospice of Spokane, P.O. Box 2215, Spokane, WA 99210-2215, or The Cancer Society.

## Mary Poole, 100

Mary Poole, 100, died Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2008, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital from natural causes.

She had owned and operated the Putt Putt in Libby and worked for St. Joseph's Parish for many years.

Survivors include one daughter, Mary Ann Katz, of

Libby.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Libby. Visitation will be from 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, at Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby, with a rosary at 7 p.m.



## Elizabeth Joan Pope, 75

Elizabeth Joan Pope, 75, of St. Ignatius, died Monday, Dec. 1, 2008, at St. Luke Community Hospital in Ronan, of natural causes.

Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, in the St. Thomas Catholic

Church in Helmville. Urn interment will follow at the Helmville Cemetery.

Shrider-Thompson Funeral and Cremation Services of Ronan is assisting with arrangements.

## Frederick Lloyd Posey, 88

Frederick Lloyd Posey was born on Sept. 2, 1919; the fourth child to James Posey and Agnes Belle Roberts in Fargo, N.D. At age 3 Fred and his family moved to Idaho where he grew up and went to school. While in high school, he participated in all sports and was the editor of the school paper during his junior and senior years. He also acted in several school plays. Fred graduated from Bonners Ferry High School in 1938.

In 1939, he enrolled in the University of Idaho. While there he was named to the Pershing Rifles in the R.O.T.C. He was also a member of the Idaho boxing squad that won the U.S. championship in 1940.

In the fall of 1940, he and his brother, Robert, were part of a group of young men who organized Battery "B" of the 148 F.A. which was sent overseas to reinforce General MacArthur in November 1940. They left Hawaii for Manila one week before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. They were in war from then on.

Fred's war record includes seven beachhead landings in New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, and three Philippine Islands. He was awarded the Purple Heart and was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans.

In 1945, Fred returned home after being dishonorably discharged and moved to Whitefish where he met, fell in love with, and married Frances LeBlanc in 1946. They had two lovely children, Cheryl Anne and F. Bruce. Their marriage had lasted 61 years at the time of Fred's death.

In 1946, Fred entered the University of Montana. He graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in education in 1949. He later went back to the U of M where he received a master's degree in counseling and guidance, and still later to earn his degree in administration.

Fred taught school in Cut

Bank, Darby, Livingston, and Kalispell. In 1959, he was promoted to the principalship of the Charles Russell and Edgerton schools in Kalispell, a position he held until he retired in 1981, 22 years later.

After retirement, he and Frances took many interesting tours that took them to Alaska, Hawaii, Disneyland, Disneyworld, and almost every state in the U.S. They also traveled to England, Scotland, Wales, the Bahamas, and their favorite trip, the Panama Canal.

A bout with cancer caused Fred and Frances to move to Billings in 1997. Fred recovered from cancer and 11 years later, on Feb. 10, 2008, he died from heart problems at the age of 88.

During his lifetime Fred was an active member in Lions for 45 years. He also enjoyed singing for many years in the Flathead Valley Aires Chorus. He was also a longtime member of the Presbyterian church of Kalispell, where he held the positions of deacon and elder. He loved his children and spent many happy hours with them in Scouts and going fishing and hunting.

Fred is survived by his wife, Frances; two children, Cheryl Anne Johnson (Dennis) of Fort Collins, Colo., and F. Bruce Posey (Janice) of Billings; and his sister, Agnes Galland, of Billings. They also have three grandchildren, Tyler Johnson of Crested Butte, Colo., Jael Johnson of Fort Collins, and Caleb Posey of Billings.

Fred was preceded in death by his brother, Robert Posey (Helen) of Eugene, Ore., and his sister, Helen Leopold, of Kennewick, Wash.

Fred's greatest aim in life was to make other people happy.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial services will be 3 p.m. Friday at Michelotti-Sawyers Mortuary. Memorials may be made to Big Sky Hospice or the Lion's Club.

## John Fleming Prather, 61

John Fleming Prather died Sept. 11, 2008, at his home in Kalispell. He was 61 years old. John was born Dec. 12, 1947, in Jacksonville, Fla., to Walter and Virginia Prather.

He lived in Florida for most of his childhood until he enlisted in the Navy on May 24, 1966. He was a decorated Vietnam veteran and was honorably discharged Jan. 30, 1970.

John soon married Laurie Harbin in 1971. In 1975, they moved to Kalispell and had their first daughter, Mechelle LaMee, in 1979. In 1982, Stephanie Renee was born in Oregon.

John loved the Flathead Valley and the beauty that surrounded him. He was an avid hunter, fisherman and a competitive sailboat racer. John worked in mortgage banking for many years until he found his love for designing log homes. His skillful artistry created many of the beautiful log homes

surrounding Flathead and Whitefish Lakes.

John was preceded in death by his father, Walter Witty Prather.

He is survived by his mother, Virginia Prather, his brother, Walter Prather, and sister, Patrice Levin, all of Florida; his daughters, Mechelle Prather and fiancé, Gary Thomson, of Kalispell, and Stephanie Urdahl and husband, Johnny, of Altamonte Springs, Fla.; and his grandchildren, Logan Bowers and Brynn Urdahl. John had an extended family that he considered his own children, Aaron and Nichomi Dodds of Kalispell, and their children, whom John loved as much as his own grandchildren, Alura, Rannon and Triniti Dodds.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Sept. 20 at The Assembly of God Church in Columbia Falls. Anyone wishing to send flowers please send to the church in care of John.

## Frances Marie Preuit, 89

Frances Marie Preuit, 89, passed away Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork.

Frances was born March 25, 1919, in Cheyenne, Wyo., to Frank and Anna (Bolhkin) Wilkinson. She was raised in Wyoming, where she attended schools.

Frances married Donald E. Preuit on July 25, 1940, in Kimball, Neb. Frances lived for several years in Saratoga, Wyo., where she worked as a cook for the ranch hands. She also lived in Colorado, and then moved to Montana in 1962. She and her husband, Don, worked on ranches



near Gold Creek and Deer Lodge. They retired in Kalispell in 1982.

She enjoyed playing bingo, gardening, cooking and fishing.

Frances was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Don; two sisters; four brothers; and two grandsons, Ron and Kurtiss Gabehart.

She is survived by her three daughters, Louise Wilson of Helena, Sharon Gabehart of Kiowa, Colo., and Rose Thomas of Plumas Lake, Calif.; one son, Don Preuit, of Olalla, Wash.; 12 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Urn burial will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 29, at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

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

## Ray G. Price, 74

Ray G. Price, 74, a Whitefish resident, passed away from natural causes on Monday, March 17, 2008, at the North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.



Ray was born Oct. 20, 1933, in Gary, Ind., the son of Ray G. and Kathrine Travers Price. Ray attended schools in Cincinnati and Minneapolis. After a year at the University of Minnesota, he joined the U.S. Navy. After his tour of duty as an electrician's mate on several aircraft carriers, he attended Antioch College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, and graduated in 1960.

He sold books and book accessories for several different publishing companies. After retiring in 1986, he went into the RV repair business in San Antonio. He retired from that job and wintered in Brownsville, Texas, and spent the summers in Northwest Montana near Glacier Park.

He married Gretchen Price in the late 1950s and later divorced.

Ray was a communicant, a Eucharistic Visitor, a member of the Altar Guild, and a mem-

ber of the Vestry of All Saints Episcopal Church of Whitefish-Columbia Falls. He also was a companion to the Anamchara Fellowship, a Celtic spiritual community dedicated to simplicity, fidelity, and obedience. In addition, Ray enjoyed retreats with the Benedictine monks at St. John's Abby in Collegeville, Minn.

Ray is survived by his wife, Helen, to whom he was married for 28 years in Whitefish; a sister, Roberta (Price) Mays and husband John in Minneapolis; daughters, Dana Hols and husband Larry, and Alison Preuninger in Hughes Springs, Texas; and a daughter-in-law, Stephanie Scott Boyd, of Springfield, Mo. He is also survived by five grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, and many other family and friends.

Memorial services will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, April 7, at the All Saints Episcopal Church on 2048 Conn Rd., in Columbia Falls, with Rev. Bradley Wirth officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to either the Martin City Food Pantry or to the All Saints Church building fund.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

## Ethel Irene Prichard, 76

Ethel Irene Prichard, 76, passed away peacefully after a long battle with diabetes, Wednesday April 9, 2008, at Heritage Place with her daughters Nancy, Karen and Gail, granddaughter Jackquyynn, son-in-law Fred, and sister Gertrude by her side. She was born in Great Falls on Feb. 14, 1932.

Ethel was raised in Kalispell where she met and married her husband Bernard Kraft. Together they had five wonderful children. Ethel and Barney opened the pizza oven "Barney's Corner" located in Moose's Saloon, working side by side for many years.

Ethel loved the outdoors. She spent many years hunting, fishing and camping. She enjoyed picking huckleberries and mushrooms, bowling and reading, and she especially enjoyed spending time playing games with family and friends.

In 1975 Ethel married Orval Prichard and together they enjoyed 33 years of marriage and took great pleasure in the company of the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ethel is survived by her daughters, Nancy Kreber and husband Tom, Karen Ortega and husband, Rudolph, and Gail Jensen and husband,



Fred; six grandchildren, Lola Craft, Jackquyynn Ward, Christopher Ortega, Rudolph Ortega, Daniel Jensen and Jamie Bell;

and five great-granddaughters, Christine, Ryan, Courtney, Ryleigh and Kinsey. She is also survived by her brothers, Bob Keck and wife, Linda Jean, and Joe Keck; four sisters, Helen Gryde and husband, Wayne, Gertrude Seliger and husband, Bob, Linda Bucher and husband, Ed, and Doris King and husband, Scott.

Ethel was preceded in death by her parents, George and Ethel Keck; her first husband, Bernard Kraft; sons, Danny and David Kraft; brothers, George and John Keck; and her second husband, Orval Prichard.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday April, 16, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls, followed by gravesides services at Fairview Cemetery.

A potluck gathering will be held in the basement of the Eagles, 1640 U.S. 2 W., Columbia Falls, following graveside services.

## Orval Dale Prichard, 74

Orval Dale Prichard, 74, died unexpectedly Tuesday, March 18, 2008. He was born in Fairview on Aug. 21, 1933.



Orval is survived by his beloved wife of 33 years, Ethel Prichard; his brothers, Kenneth, Forrest and wife Vera, and Richard and wife Betty; his sisters, Hattie McCracken, and Donna Lidstrom and husband Dewayne; his daughters, Nancy Kreber and husband Tom, Karen Ortega and husband Rudolph, and Gail and husband Fred; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death

by his parents, Dale and Nellie Prichard; his brother, Darrell Prichard; sister, Virgie Lou Walz; brother-in-law, Ralph Walz; and brother-in-law Fred McCracken.

Orval worked as a heavy equipment operator and mechanic for most of his life. He always had a story to tell of times back when he was younger.

He enjoyed fishing, camping and meeting all his friends at the Nite Owl daily.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 22, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls, followed by graveside services at Fairview Cemetery.

A potluck gathering will be at Orval and Ethel's home following the graveside service.

## Victor J. Proulx, 75

Victor J. Proulx of Kalispell passed away of a quickly advanced lymphoma May 16, 2008,



at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. A third generation Montanan, he was born Dec. 17, 1932, to Victor Sr. and Bertha Proulx in Choteau.

His school years were in Helena at St. Mary's grade school and Helena High.

Victor joined the U.S. Navy, serving in the Korean War; his ship participated in the Pusan landing. Upon his honorable discharge he returned to Helena, attended Carroll College, and married Julie Holmes, and to this union four children were born. They later were divorced, but he maintained a cordial relationship with her and her family.

His life work was a combination of careers, first as an entrepreneur operating restaurants, bars, and supper clubs in California and Montana, and then in his naval training of heating, sheet metal, and refrigeration trades. He worked in the San Francisco Bay area and in Valdez, Alaska, on commercial sheet-metal jobs. He retired from the Sheet Metal Workers Union after he was injured in a job-related accident. After his recovery, he finished his schooling as an optician and worked at that until his retirement.

It was in the Bay area where he met and married Loretta Nesbitt.

Upon retiring, he and Loretta moved to Kalispell, where

they enjoyed meeting and making many new friends. Vic's engaging personality quickly endeared him to many — "strangers are people you haven't met yet." His generosity, many stories, jokes, and unsolicited advice will be sorely missed by his friends and family.

He is survived by his daughters, Victoria and Steve Lohman of Carmel, Calif., and Elizabeth and Frank DeMaree of West Port, Wash.; son, Daniel, of Spokane; stepson, Frank Fumano of California; grandchildren, Jaela, Juliette, Paris, Joselyn, Harrison and Joseph; sisters, Blanche of Anaconda, and Roberta Warf of Conway, Pa.; brothers, Ron and wife, Nadean, of Swan Lake, and Richard and wife, Pat, of Helena; numerous nieces and nephews, including his closest, Dawn and Curtis Lembke, of Kalispell; as well as many loving cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by a son, Joseph; wives, Loretta and Julie; brother, Robert; and his mother and father.

Vic was a member of St. Matthews, the Elks and the International Sheet Metal Workers Union. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Matthews Catholic Church, with a reception afterward. Urn burial will be in Helena at the Resurrection Cemetery.

The family wishes to thank the nurses and staff of Kalispell Regional Medical Center and Hospice for their professional and compassionate care. Memorials may be made to the giver's choice.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Victor's family.

## Sean Michael Purcell, 26

Sean Michael Purcell, 26, passed away on Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008, as the result of a motor vehicle accident near Ferndale. He was the adored and loving son, born in Kalispell, on Jan. 15, 1982, to Dan and Pam (Morton) Purcell.



Sean attended Bigfork Elementary and Bigfork High School, graduating in 2000. He went on to attend Carroll College, Flathead Valley Community College and the University of Montana in Missoula.

At the time of Sean's death, he was employed as a builder for Calaway Construction Inc., of Bigfork. He was a hard worker and thoroughly enjoyed his trade.

Sean participated in football, basketball, golf and baseball through his school years. He was selected to the Montana High School All Star-Football Team that traveled to Australia and participated in the "Down Under Bowl" in 2000. That same year, he attended Carroll College on a football scholarship and played one year for the Saints. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fishing, rafting, hunting and camping with his life-long buddies.

Sean was kind, gentle and had a heart of gold. He was always willing to help others. He had

a wonderful smile that lit up everyone. He will be sorely missed.

"Thanks for the wonderful memories, Sean-man."

Sean was preceded in death by his great-grandparents, Paul and Mattie Morton; grandparents, Francis and Frances Purcell; uncles, Gary Morton and Mike Purcell; and aunt, Maureen Purcell.

He is survived by his parents, Dan and Pam Purcell, of Bigfork; one sister, Amy Campbell, and husband, Seth, and nephew, Grady Campbell, all of Liberty Lake, Wash.; maternal grandparents, Dee and LaVera Morton, of Bigfork; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Funeral services for Sean will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 3, at the Crossroads Christian Fellowship Church on Highway 35, north of Bigfork, with Pastor Jim Holman officiating. There will be no visitation.

The family suggests that memorial donations be made to the Bigfork Ambulance/QRU, P.O. Box 2020, Bigfork, MT 59911; or the Ferndale Rural Fire District, 100 Ferndale Drive, Bigfork, MT 59911.

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

## Mabel A. Putnam, 91

Mabel A. Putnam passed away Feb. 23, 2008, at Robert Lee Care Center in Robert Lee, Texas, which had been her residence for the past 2 1/2 years. She was born Aug. 5, 1916, in Chinook, to Albert and Florence Prosser.

Mabel was united in marriage to Clarence Putnam on Dec. 21, 1934. They were married for 18 years before adopting their daughter, DeAnna, on Feb. 12, 1952.

Mabel is survived by her daughter, DeAnna, and Marty Pedrick, of San Angelo, Texas. She also is survived by a stepbrother, Jim Overcast, of Scappoose, Ore.; and several nieces, nephews and friends.

Mabel was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers; one sister; and her husband of 70 years, Clarence "Bud" Putnam.

Her family would like to thank Dr. Gary Nussey for all his care, and also Robert Lee Care Center for all their love and care.

"Mama, you are home now with Daddy; enjoy yourself walking the streets of heaven together."

Visitation will be from 7 to 9 p.m. March 3, at Bunker's Garden Chapel, 33 N. Centennial Way, in Mesa, Ariz. Graveside funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. March 4 at Mountain View Memorial Gardens in Mesa.

## Shirley Jeanne Putman, 88

Shirley Jeanne Putman, 88 passed away Sept. 28, 2008, in Kalispell. She was born in St. Paul, Minn., on Nov. 27, 1919, to Grace (Tewkesbury) and Shirley Montrose Crosse, the eldest child and only daughter of seven children. She grew up in Detroit, where she met her husband James D. Putman while he was in training with the United States Navy during World War II.

Shirley and Jim married in Chicago on Sept. 1, 1945, and settled in Grants Pass, Ore., where Jim began employment with Pacific Power and Light Company. The Putmans also resided for 16 years in Worland, Wyo., retired to Sequim, Wash., and later to Apache Junction, Ariz. Her husband Jim preceded Shirley in death in July 1997.

Shirley was a dedicated and loving wife and parent, homemaker, community volunteer, and avid reader, and was known for her lively and humorous wit and conversation. She enjoyed reading, camping, horseback riding, snowmobiling, and spending time with

family and pets.

Surviving are three children, Linda Putman and James, and Ellen Putman, of Kalispell, and David and Merrie Putman of Florence; six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren of Salem, Ore., Columbia Falls, and Lakewood, Wash.

A private family service will take place in the Bitterroot Mountains where her remains will be scattered and joined with those of her husband of nearly 52 years.