

## Patricia A. Whitefield, 71

Patricia A. Whitefield, 71, of Libby, died Saturday, Aug. 2, 2008, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital from natural causes.

Survivors include three daughters, Debra Maus of Florida, Lynn Borley of Canada, and Diane Jeffers of California.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 8, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today, Aug. 6, and from 3 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 7. A reception will be afterward at the American Legion.

## Gwen May Whyte, 67

Gwen May Whyte, 67, passed away peacefully Thursday, Sept. 4, 2008, at her residence in Kila, after a short battle with cancer.



She was born to Alec and Christina King on June 8, 1941, in Kirkland Lake, Ontario.

She married Larry Edwin Whyte on July 16, 1959, in Whitby, Ontario. They moved to Covina, Calif., in 1960. She was the mother of four children and spent her time at home raising them. She loved to knit and read, and was quite a movie buff.

Gwen and Larry purchased property in Kila in 1987. They became full-time residents in 1994 when Larry retired from Southern California Edison.

They both soon became frequenters at the local auctions. Gwen became an avid collector and seller of antiques. She was also a loyal Lakers fan. You could find her glued to the television during the playoffs. She enjoyed watching them, especially when they were winning.

Gwen will be deeply missed by all those who knew and loved her.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Christina; and her sister, Jean.

She is survived by her husband, Larry Whyte, of Kila; three sons, Douglas Whyte and his wife, Lynn, of Kalispell, Donald Whyte of Fontana, Calif., and Wayne Whyte of Elsinore, Calif.; a daughter, Sherry Whyte, of Tracy, Calif.; her father, Alec King, of Keswick, Ontario; a sister, Rhoda Smith, and husband, Norris, of Keswick, Ontario; brothers, David King and wife, Georgina, of Havelock, Ontario, and Wayne King and wife, Judy, of Whitney, Ontario; grandchildren, Summer and Chase Stevens of Tracy, and Jessica, Daniel and Kathryn Whyte of Kalispell; as well as many nieces and nephews in Ontario.

Memorial services for Gwen will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, with Pastor Douglas Whyte officiating. There will be no visitation.

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

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

## Valencia Mae (Bohmer) Wieferich, 67

Valencia Mae (Bohmer) Wieferich, 67, of Gardnerville, Nev., and formerly of Creston, died of natural causes March 24, 2008, in Paris, Texas.

Survivors include her husband, James Wieferich,

of Alder; daughters, Shaun Novich of Gardnerville, and Paula Wieferich of Darrington, Wash; and son, Scott Wieferich, of Laurel.

A private service is pending in Twin Bridges.

## Edna Jane Wickersham, 47

Loving wife, mother and grandmother, Edna J. Wickersham passed peacefully in her sleep Oct. 29, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center with



family by her side. She was born Oct. 3, 1961, in Kindersley, Saskatchewan, to Patricia and Albert Layton.

Loved by all who knew her, Edna was an outdoor enthusiast with a love for animals of all shapes and sizes; she tried to live her life to the fullest. She fondly remembered hiking and camping in both the mountains of the West Coast and the deserts of the American Southwest, whitewater rafting numerous wild and scenic rivers, bungee jumping, horseback riding on the beaches of southern California, snorkeling along the coast of the Yucatan peninsula, ocean and river fishing, and other adventurous pursuits.

Working as a nuclear quality assurance specialist with the Stanford University-affiliated Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) of Palo Alto, Calif., until stricken with ALS, Edna's desire to enjoy her final days in a quieter environment brought her to the Northwest corner of the great state of Montana a few years ago. Here she found peace

in the friendliness of neighbors, the antics of her pets, the sense of community, and the abundant wildlife that constantly kept her entertained.

A noted author of several reference guides and the long-awaited reference book on Randall Made knives, an avid reader, crossword and Sudoku puzzle solver, and consummate board-game player, Edna was always graciously competitive.

Edna is survived by husband, Sheldon Wickersham, of Kalispell; parents, Patricia and Albert Layton, and brothers, Richard and Charles Layton, of Kindersley, Saskatchewan; brother, Lawrence Layton, of Vancouver, British Columbia; sister, Doris Vanderkooi, of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; son, Benjamin Moffatt, and grandson, Alexander, daughter, Rebecca Moffatt, and grandson, Memphis, of Whitehorse, Yukon Territory; and son, Matthew Moffatt, of Nanaimo, British Columbia.

Donations in Edna's name may be made to the Creston Volunteer Fire Department.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, at the Mountain View Mennonite Church, 795 Mennonite Church Road, in Kalispell.

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

## Frances E. Wilke, 75

Frances E. Wilke, a lifelong resident of Whitefish, died Monday, Sept. 29, 2008, at North Valley Hospital.

Survivors include her husband, Neal R. Wilke; sons,

Anthony Kastella, Steve Kastella and Kelly Wilke; and daughter, Suzan Kawulok.

Cremation has taken place, and no services will be held, at her request.

## Bridget Mae Wilkins, 86

Bridget Mae Wilkins, 86, died Feb. 7, 2008, at Mountain View Manor in Eureka.

She cooked in restaurants for many years and then worked in the lab for Twin City Foods until her retirement.

She is survived by her

sons, Charles Wilkins of Eureka, and Richard Wilkins of Stanwood, Wash.

A memorial service was held at Mountain View Manor, and her remains will be placed with those of her husband at Willamette National Cemetery in Oregon.

## Odin H. Wik, 87

Odin H. Wik, 87, formerly of Kalispell, died Jan. 10, 2008, in Renton, Wash., of natural causes.

Survivors include his son, Jeffrey Wik, of Renton.

No services are scheduled at this time.

## Michael Robert Willcut, 22

Michael Robert Willcut, or "Mikey Bob," as his mother called him, "was called up to heaven" to join his Grandpa Tom Taylor and Grandpa Roger Willcut on Saturday, June 14, 2008, when the car accident occurred. He was returning from what he loved best, spending time with good friends in the outdoors of Montana.



Mike was born Feb. 28, 1986, in Whitefish. He attended his first five years of school in Columbia Falls. In 1997, he and his family moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. He spent one year at Canfield Junior High School before he and his family moved to within a few miles of the Silverwood Theme Park. During his years at Garwood Elementary, Rathdrum Junior High School and Rathdrum High School, he played baseball and soccer.

He worked one summer at Silverwood. He loved doing anything out-of-doors, especially hunting and snowboarding. Soon after his 18th birthday, he moved back to Columbia Falls, where he lived with his grandparents Bill and Maryann Rhine. He sampled

several different occupations within the construction industry, where he met several of his best friends.

"Squeek," as he became known to his friends, met his best friend and future fiancée, Kayla Bullock. Together, they bought a camper trailer to live in that became party central for their large circle of friends. They jokingly referred to their beloved pet dog, Chica, as their kid.

Mike left behind his parents, Roger and Elizabeth Willcut; and his brothers, Colby, Caleb and Kenyon; his grandparents, Bill and Maryann Rhine, and Sandra Willcut; aunts and uncles, John and Suzette Taylor, Tom and Kristi Taylor, Scott and Kim Stratton, and Derek and Cindy Willcut; along with numerous cousins.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 21, at Marantette Park on the south end of Nucleus Avenue in Columbia Falls.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in Mike's memory to help cover Kayla's medical expenses would be appreciated. Please send any donation or card to the following address: Kayla Bullock, c/o Liz Willcut, 1160 Fourth Ave. WN, Columbia Falls, MT 59912; phone: 897-2449.

## Anthony 'Tony' Ray Williams, 48

Anthony "Tony" Ray Williams, 48, left us Sept. 19, 2008, "to ride the golden highways of Heaven" with his brother Dennis.

He was born in Whitefish in 1960 to Ronald (Keith) and Alta Williams. Tony was raised in Trego and attended Trego and Eureka schools. He joined the Army when he was 18 and served for three years. He then moved to the Los Angeles area, where he spent the past 30 years, most recently living in San Bernardino, Calif. He studied computer sciences at the community-college level and recently was working to complete his bachelor's degree in computer sciences.

He previously worked for Brothers Typewriters, Big Bear High School as a computer science teacher, and owned Village Computer Center in Big Bear. He briefly lived in Oregon and worked for Harry and David's of Medford. He



was most recently a computer analyst for the Superior Court of San Bernardino.

Tony attended the Golden Valley Church in San Bernardino. He was a member of the Patriot Guard and the Left Coast Motorcycle clubs, Inland Empire Golf Association, and the San Bernardino Co. Twilight League. He was also a yearly participant in the BAD (Bikers Against Diabetes) ride.

Tony was preceded in death by his brother, Dennis Williams, in January 2007; and his grandparents.

He is survived by his wife, Cheryl; their twin children, Trevor and Alexandra, 4 years of age; his son, Dustin, 20, by a previous marriage; parents, Keith and Alta; brother, Larry, and wife, Cindy; sisters, Rhonda, Krystina, Shauna, Cecelia, Sonia, Anna, and Sara Williams; his ex-wife, Joan, and her sons, Andre and Bryan Bergeron.

Family and friends are invited to share in a celebration of Tony's life at a potluck luncheon at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 19, at the Trego Community Center.

## James Oliver 'Jim' Williams, 78

James Oliver "Jim" Williams, 78, of Kalispell, formerly of Mountain Run Road in DuBois, Pa., died Saturday, May 3, 2008, at the home of his daughter in Kalispell. Jim was born April 19, 1930, in Clear Run, Pa., to the late John and Mandain (Detrich) Williams.

Jim married Betty Louise McDonald on Oct. 19, 1950. Betty preceded him in death March 17, 2004.

Jim enlisted in the U.S. Navy on April 21, 1948, and received an honorable discharge April 19, 1951. He then re-enlisted April 20, 1951, and received a general discharge under honorable conditions Nov. 18, 1954, while recovering from injuries at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Newport, R.I. Jim proudly served his country on board the USS Dayton and the USS Sturtevant.

Jim found his passion in life for recycling scrap metals at the tender age of 4. And that is what he was doing at the time of his death.

Jim was an underground coal miner and a heavy-equipment mechanic.

He was a life member of the North American Hunting Club, belonged to the National Rifle Association, and was an avid supporter of the Disabled American Veterans.

He was preceded in death

by five brothers, John, Marvin, Tom, Frank and Sampson Williams; and two sisters, Genevieve (Williams) Case and Rachael (Williams) Markel; one son, James David Williams; one daughter, Linda Louise (Williams) Leshock; one grandson, Joshua Adam Leshock; and one great-grandson, Timothy Christopher Kutch.

He is survived by his daughter, Laura S. Williams, of Kalispell; and his son, Dale H. Williams, of DuBois; three grandsons, Christopher J. Ballet of DuBois, Daniel A. Kutch Jr. of Kalispell, and Sheridan L. Williams of DuBois; four granddaughters, Jamie L. (Williams) Marks of Hephzibah, Ga., Mandain S. Kutch and Sarah S. (Kutch) Sanford of Kalispell, and Ashley Z. Williams of Virginia; 14 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews, nieces, cousins and lifelong friends. He also is survived by a brother, George, of DuBois; and a sister, Maude Williams, of Divide, Colo.

Jim requested there be no public viewing and no public funeral services. He wished that memorial donations be made to the Disabled American Veterans.

Graveside services will be held at a later date at Greenwood Cemetery in Clear Run.

## Korbyn Eva May Williams, 19 months



Korbyn Eva May Williams, 19 months, "left this world and joined her uncle, Brad, in heaven" on March 5, 2008, in Kalispell. She was born July 27, 2006, in Kalispell.

Korbyn is survived by her parents, Almee Williams and Raymond Ramos, both of Kalispell, and her big brother, Tommy Williams, of Kalispell.

Her maternal surviving family includes grandparents, Steve Williams of Kila, and Lonnie and Carla Hayek of Somers; great-grandparents, Patty and James Williams of Spokane, Norm and Bunnie Miller of Kalispell, and Tom and Peg Hayek of Somers; uncle, James Williams, of Somers; aunt, little Heather Hayek, of Somers, and special aunt, Josie Fleck, of Kalispell; great-uncles, Kenny Williams and Christopher Williams, both of Spokane, Rusty and Barb Hayek of Kalispell, and Doug and Mel Hayek of Somers; great-aunts, Kathy and Howard Feek, Melanie Williams and LaVita Williams, all of Spokane, Sharyle and Jerry Miller of Rollins, Cindy and Fully Regnier of Kalispell, Wendy and Steve Reiter of Bonney Lake, Wash., Beci and Hodari Daven-

port of Milton, Wash., Heather and Sam Robbins of Helena, and Wendy and Bobby Kienas of Somers; and way too many special cousins, aunts, uncles and extended family to mention.

Paternal surviving family includes grandparents, Hermenejildo Ramos Acosta and Mariana Carrillo Michel, both of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; and aunts, Luez Maria Ramos, Azacenta Ramos, Luzmaria Rau and Carles Ramos, all of Puerto Vallarta.

Korbyn was preceded in death by a very, very special uncle, Bradley Williams; and many other family members.

Great things come in small packages. Sweet baby girl Korbyn Eva May Williams was only here for a short time but left little footprints on the hearts of everyone who knew her. She was mommy's little "turdlette" and daddy's little "mi hija," and truly the apple of her families' eye.

To know her was to love her. Beautiful dark eyes, dark hair and amazing little smile.

"Algún día te tendremos otra vez en nuestros brazos, niñita."

"Someday we will hold you again, baby girl."

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Monday, March 10, at the Riverside Vineyard Church on West Reserve Drive in Kalispell. A luncheon will be afterward at the church.

## Dennis 'Mike' Willcut, 62

Mike Willcut, 62, died April 15, 2008, at his home, with his devoted wife of 42 years at his side. He was born in 1945 in Fargo, N.D., to John and Barbara Willcut. He and his large family moved often in his youth, until they settled in Kalispell. There he met his wife, Rita Karen Fishel.

Mike was proud to have worked hard to provide for his family in the logging and timber industry. He did many different jobs, including sawyer, truck driver, skidder operator or "whatever needed done."

He was always extremely proud of the home that he and his wife built in the North Fork and where they raised their family. Being a family man, Mike was very proud of his children and grandchildren, and rarely missed any of their events.

After his brother and best friend, Roger, passed away, he was somewhat at a loss until he was introduced to Black Powder Rendezvous, and that community of people readily accepted him and he fell right in. He subsequently introduced his children, grandchildren, brother John, and sister Mary to Rendezvous, and they made many memories together.

Because of Mike's long illness, he was faced with many challenges, and always faced

them with a smile and good sense of humor. He was quick to laugh with others and quicker to laugh at himself. As his disease progressed, his speech often became difficult, but his friends at Rendezvous took to calling him "Smoothtalker" — a moniker that stuck and always brought a smile to his face.

Preceding Mike in death were his parents, John Willcut and Barbara Cornelius; and his best friend and brother, Roger Willcut.

He is survived by his wife, Karen Willcut, of Columbia Falls; daughter, Stacia and Dean Thompson of Columbia Falls; son, Travis and Vicki Willcut of Kalispell; grandchildren, Samantha McDonald, Tyler Thompson, Scout and Bridger Willcut; brothers, Jim and Twila Willcut, Tim and Dolly Willcut, and John and Debbie Willcut; and sisters, Barbara Crowell, Sharon Burns, Mary and Dan Jensen, and Sandy Willcut. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Mike blessed and inspired all who met and knew him. Honoring Mike's wishes, there will not be a funeral, but an event celebrating his life will be held at a later date to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, you may make donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 50, Memphis, TN 38101-9929.

## Loretta Mae Dinger Williams, 88

Loretta Mae Dinger Williams, 88, of Kalispell, passed away Thursday, April 24, 2008, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell, of natural causes.



Loretta was born March 30, 1920, in Tyler, to Robert and Katherine (Yunker) Dinger. At a young age, she moved from Montana to Worland, Wyo. Her father worked at a variety of trades, including carpentry and the sugar factory. Her mother played piano and her father played the violin, and together the music they played led to much happiness and many friends. They would push back the furniture and hold dances in their home. Loretta had two older brothers, Clifford and Freddie, and two sisters, Beatrice and Doris.

Loretta married Frank Williams on April 22, 1939, in Thermopolis, Wyo., attended by Martin and Anita Sporn. Loretta and Frank met at dances in Ten Sleep and spent most of their early years there. They also lived in Lewiston, Somers and Helena. Frank worked in the woods for other people and also for himself; and Loretta cooked for the help and for her family, and also in several restaurants.

Camping and fishing were important to all the family, and love of outdoor activities was passed down to their grandchildren, whom Loretta loved to spend time with. She was a

loving, kind and caring mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend.

Loretta was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Frank; her brothers, Clifford and Freddie; and her sister, Doris Swanson.

She is survived by her daughter, Darlene Jump-Rauthe, and her husband, Dick Hatton, of Kalispell; son, Frankie Robert Williams, and his wife, Rose, of Lewiston; and daughter, Bonita Lee Gilroy, and her husband, Art, of Moccasin; a sister, Beatrice "Sis" Neumann; 11 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; eight great-great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; sisters-in-law, Cordice Dinger and Edith Dinger; brother-in-law, Ervin Swanson; and a large extended family and many friends.

"She was loved by many who will cherish the memories created, as we all were touched by her loving presence."

Funeral services will be held 2 p.m. Monday, April 28, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel, with burial taking place at Glacier Memorial Gardens following the service. Visitation will begin at 1 p.m. prior to the chapel service Monday.

The family suggests that donations be made to Human Therapy on Horseback, P.O. Box 5565, Kalispell, MT 59903; or to Immanuel Lutheran Home at 183 Crestline Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

## James L. Willman, 53

James L. Willman, 53, of Libby, died Saturday, July 12, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He worked at J. Neils Lumber Company, then for Champion International and Stimson Lumber Co. until the mill closed down. After the mill closed, he went into full-time taxidermy, working at Phil Soucy Studios and opening The Trappers Taxidermy.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Willman, of Libby; daughters, Sarah Crace and Hannah Swanson, both of Libby; and his mother, Frances Willman.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, July 17, at the Libby Christian Church. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 16, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## Bonnie Anne (Caveny) Wilson, 75

Bonnie Anne (Caveny) Wilson passed away March 10, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.



She was born to Marshall and Mary (Huddleston) Caveny on Oct. 31, 1932, in Stavely, Alberta, on her grandparents' family farm. She moved to Twin Butte, Alberta, as a small child. Bonnie and her sister rode their horses over hills and through rivers and streams to get to school at Twin Butte, in all kinds of weather.

When Bonnie was 17 she moved to Kalispell. In 1952, she married Kenneth M. Wilson in Kalispell, later divorcing him.

Bonnie became an American citizen on Jan. 31, 1980.

She went to work cleaning peoples' homes and offices until 25 years ago. She then went to work at the Kalispell Grande Hotel, and worked until the beginning of 2008, when her back gave out.

Bonnie had planned never to retire, and was looking forward after physical therapy to

going back to work. She had been a member of Eagles 234 of Kalispell for the past 33 years, and was getting ready to go to the Eagles when the stroke hit her.

Bonnie loved to embroider beautiful pillow cases for family and friends, and before she moved to Glacier Manor, she grew beautiful flower gardens. She was also a die-hard New York Yankees fan.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Mel and Rod Caveny; her sister, Mary Lou Munter; and a son, Keith Wilson.

Bonnie is survived by her daughter, Kathe Hedges, and husband, Scott, of Bigfork; son, Kevin Wilson, of Kalispell; sister, Betty Carlson, of Mountain View, Alberta; granddaughters, Angie Griswold of Lewiston, Idaho, Amanda Buckley (Jesse) of Bremerton, Wash., and Tedi Ledford of Hamilton; and great-grandchildren, Gabrielle Griswold of Lewiston, and Caleb, Micheal and Makalu Ledford of Hamilton.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, March 14, at the United Methodist Church, 312 Second Ave. E., in Kalispell.

## Claire Louise Wilson, 62

Claire Louise Wilson, 62, passed away Feb. 10, 2008, after a courageous 13-year battle with brain tumors. At the time of her death, she was surrounded by her beloved family and pets at her ranch in Bigfork.



Claire was born June 5, 1945, in Johnstown, Pa., and moved to Phoenix with her family when she was 2 years old. She attended high school in Flagstaff, Ariz., and graduated from Northern Arizona University in 1965.

That same year, she married her high school sweetheart, Larry Wilson. Their sons Mark and Brian were born in 1968 and 1973. Claire and Larry raised their family in Arizona until moving to Whitefish in 1984. Since 1992, they have lived in Bigfork, where Claire had a tremendous passion for raising cutting horses at her River Bend Ranch.

Claire was an advisory board member of the Montana Land Reliance. She loved Montana and had a special fondness for the grizzly bears. She so appreciated the Montana Land Reliance for its efforts in protecting the open spaces and key animal habitat. Claire was a devoted animal advocate, and with her donation to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, she made possible the Charlotte Edkins Animal Adoption Center, named in honor of her mother, Charlotte Edkins.

Claire was also a former board member of the Maricopa County Humane Society in Arizona and a devoted supporter of the humane society in San Jose del Cabo, Mexico, where she lived in the winter. Her love for animals and her desire "to protect those who cannot protect themselves" is just one of her many legacies.

While it would be impossible for Claire to choose her "favorite" animal, for she loved them all, she had a particular soft spot for bears. She once hosted a sow

grizzly bear and her two cubs at her home in Bigfork to keep them out of trouble until it was time for them to go back into the mountains to den.

She adored nature and the outdoors. Claire loved sharing her favorite hiking trails in Glacier National Park with her family and friends and riding horses at her ranches. In the past few months, when she was no longer able to hike or ride, the view out her window of the beautiful mountains, deer, eagles and occasional bear, sustained her.

Claire is survived by her husband, Larry; son, Mark Wilson and his partner, Brandi Guild, as well as two grandchildren, Brooke and Casey Wilson of Bigfork; son, Brian Wilson and his partner, Charles Ramsey, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; sister, Carolyn Bower and her husband, Brad Bower, of Boise, Idaho; niece and nephews, Caitlin, Scott and Nick and his wife, Caitlin Revell; and father, Don Edkins and his wife, Connie. Claire also leaves behind her beloved dogs, Jennie, Sadie and Lucy.

Claire was preceded in death by her mother, Charlotte Edkins.

Claire's strong, yet gentle nature and sparkling blue eyes will be missed by those who knew and loved her. Her family will miss her so deeply, as will all the earth's creatures great and small.

The Wilson family wishes to thank the kind people from Kalispell Regional Medical Center for their dedication to keeping Claire comfortable during her final months. They also want to thank all of their friends who have so lovingly stood by them during this ordeal.

Everyone is welcome to help celebrate Claire's life 10 a.m. Feb. 27 at the River Bend Ranch in Bigfork.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to the Capital Fund Campaign of the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, 3499 U.S. 93 N., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Howard A. Wimbley, 86

Howard A. Wimbley, 86, of Eureka, died Saturday, March 22, 2008, at Mountain View Manor in Eureka from natural causes.

Survivors include his wife, Erna, of Eureka; and children, Kathy Wimbley of Fredrick, Md., Patricia Wimbley of Houston, Alice Davis

of Blacksburg, Va., Carolann Curry of Blue Ridge, Va., Kevin Wimbley of Eureka, and Mark Wimbley of Seattle.

Graveside Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 29, at Tobacco Valley Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. on Friday.

## Dale Witty, 72

Dale Witty, 72, of Buffalo, Wyo., passed away early Monday morning, July 14, 2008, at his home south of Buffalo, surrounded by his wife and children. A celebration of life for Dale will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, July 18, at the Johnson County Fairgrounds community building in Buffalo, with Pastor Marty Rostad officiating. A dinner will be served following the ceremony. A private family interment will take place in the Flathead Valley of Northwest Montana.

Donations may be made in Dale's name to the Dale Witty Memorial Fund, c/o Adams Funeral Home, 351 N. Adams Ave., Buffalo, WY 82834.

Dale Ivan Witty was born on April 25, 1936, in Oswego, to Teddy and Edith Witty. As a young boy he moved with his family to Columbia Falls, where he grew up and went to school, graduating from Columbia Falls High School in 1955.

After high school he worked for Al Green at the Philips 66 station in Columbia Falls. He was married on May 3, 1957, to Haroldeen "Deanie" Leighty and they made their home in Columbia Falls.

Dale went to work for Will Warner in 1963 as a log Sawyer, where he began his lifelong passion of logging. In 1969 a logging accident persuaded him to begin one of the first confined hog operations in the Flathead Valley. They raised hogs until 1975, when he started hauling gravel for Schellinger Construction.

In 1978 they moved to Trego, and Dale went back into the woods as a logging contractor.

In 1983 they moved to Sheridan, Wyo., where he was a woods boss for Bear Paw Logging. In 1987 Dale went to work for Buckingham Lumber as their primary logger.

They moved to Buffalo in 1995, and in 1999, Dale became an over-the-road trucker for Natrona Transfer and Storage. He retired in 2001, but continued his love of timbering by milling lumber for his friends and family. Dale continued living in Buffalo until the time of his death.

He was president of the Montana Pork Producers and was nominated for All-American Pork Producer in 1971. Dale was a 4-H leader, and a 1st Sgt. and nine-year member of the Montana National Guard. He taught gymnastics at the Trego School, was a member of the Old Time Fiddlers and was a member of the Spruce Beetles Band that played for many community events.

Dale loved spending time with his family and being in the woods. He led a very colorful and adventurous life, and will always be remembered for his way with a chain saw or a story, and for his endless devotion to his wife Deanie.

He is survived by his wife, Deanie; two sons, Mike Witty of Buffalo, and Monte and Kathleen Witty, also of Buffalo; and three daughters, Susan and George Schmidt of Whitefish, LeAnn and Stephen Wood of Oakley, Calif., and Carmen Witty and her fiancé, John Christian, of Clearmont, Wyo. Dale was also blessed with seven grandchildren.

## James 'Jim' C. Windorski, 66

James "Jim" C. Windorski, 66, died from liver disease Oct. 18, 2008, at Heritage Place in Kalispell. Jim was born Dec. 5, 1941, in Deerwood, Minn., to Loren and Lucille Morgan.



Jim was 3 years old when his father lost his life in World War II. Three years later his mother married Ken Windorski, who adopted Jim and his older brother Dick, and the family of four quickly added four more boys and became a family of eight.

Jim grew up in Deerwood-Crosby, Minn., but moved during his senior year to Climax, Colo., where he graduated from Max Schott High School in 1960. Jim was a gifted athlete and was the school's basketball star.

Jim enlisted in the Navy after high school to see the world, but his basketball prowess precluded that as his commander felt his skills were better used on the court. After his honorable discharge, Jim worked as a barber, an international investment representative (fulfilling his travel dreams), a car salesman, an underground copper miner and a smelter manager.

Jim graduated from the University of Arizona with bachelor's and master's degrees in science. After graduating, he held many different positions as a civil servant until eventually becoming the manager of ARCO's Anaconda Mining Company in Butte. He reluctantly oversaw the dismantling of the smelter in Anaconda, but was always proud that he helped save "the Stack."

He fell in love with Montana,

especially the Flathead Valley. He resigned his position with ARCO to avoid moving from Montana. He then founded a mining reclamation business, brokered heavy equipment, owned the Seven Gables Resort on Georgetown Lake, owned the Coppertown Bar and Hotel in Anaconda, purchased various rental properties, and co-owned an office products store in Colorado.

Jim purchased Cattlemen's Casino in the early '90s and was the sole owner until retiring two years ago. He was able to sell the business to his longtime manager, his oldest son, Jeff.

Jim loved the scenery around Flathead Lake. He loved the people and their respect for the "Montana" way of life and frequently referred to this part of the country as "God's Country."

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Ken and Lucille; and two brothers, Ron and Jerry.

He is survived by his wife of 11 years, Sheree "Red"; four children, Jeff and wife, Sandra, of Lakeside, Shelbe and husband, Adam, of Kansas City, Rob and fiancée, Emily, of Lakeside, and Cheryl and husband, Kyle, of Kalispell; and three brothers, Dick and wife, Jean, and Joel and wife, Marcie, of Tucson, and Tom of Leadville, Colo. Jim also had many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all of whom will miss "Grandpa Jimmy."

His memory will forever live in those he left behind, and we can only hope that we continue to make him proud to be our father, our grandfather, and our great-grandfather.

As per his wish, there will be no services. However, he did request to have his ashes spread in "a tributary of the Pacific."



## Richard 'Dick' Frank Wollin, 82

Richard "Dick" Frank Wollin, 82, beloved husband, father, retired educator and former Polson businessman, died Nov. 3, 2007, in Tucson, Ariz.,



as a result of complications after recent surgery.

Dick was born Oct. 4, 1925, in Miles City, the son of Richard Henry and Helen Fleming Wollin. After graduating as co-valedictorian from Flathead County High School in 1943, he attended Montana State University in Bozeman and subsequently graduated from Carleton College in Northfield, Minn., after serving as the youngest first lieutenant in the Army Corps of Engineers in Japan during World War II.

He played basketball and baseball at Carleton, graduating with a degree in mathematics. He earned his master's degree in guidance and counseling from the University of Michigan and his Ph.D. in guidance and counseling from the University of Wisconsin.

At Carleton, Dick met and married Sarah Anderson (Wollin) of Wyoming, Ohio, his wife of 57 years. They were married June 21, 1950. Their honeymoon was spent at Two Medicine Entrance Station in Glacier Park for the summer. Dick had been appointed as a seasonal ranger with Mike Mansfield's letter of recommendation for the summer of 1949, then returned the next summer with his new bride. Their home was a hard-sided tent; the refrigerator was a small stream nearby.

Dick had a lengthy career in education, primarily in Wisconsin and Minnesota, serving as a high-school teacher, basketball coach, a high-school principal, and college professor. He was hired at Southwest Minnesota State College in Marshall, Minn., to develop and oversee the Division of Education as its first chairman. He hired his staff based on their imaginative and innovative ideas, and when the college enrollment declined, he took a leave of absence rather than having to let go of his entrusted colleagues and friends. It was then that he saw to the creation of the first Minnesota Educational Cooperative Services Unit, becoming its regional director. After successfully expanding the Regional ESCU to a statewide service, Dick left to return to Montana.

After a stint as a co-owner of a commercial fish farm near Bozeman, Dick and Sarah

moved to Polson in 1981. They were partners in The Flagship (now First Resort) clothing store until their retirement in 1990.

During their time in Polson, Dick was active in the Chamber of Commerce (where he twice received the Citizen of the Year award), the Rotary Club, Mission Valley Leaders in Action, as president and supporter of the Flathead Lakers, and the Salish and Kootenai Development Council. Dick met with several Salish-Kootenai tribal leaders and another Polson businessman as a group to discuss ways to bring about what is now KwaTaqNuk Resort in Polson. He was also instrumental in bringing the Port Polson Princess into Polson as part of its initial ownership group.

Dick was passionate about Flathead Lake and maintaining its pristine water quality. Having worked with local, state, and national leaders to bring attention to water issues, he was awarded the first Flathead Basin Stewardship Award, and former Gov. Stan Stephens proclaimed May 4, 1992, "Richard 'Dick' F. Wollin Day, in recognition of outstanding service and unselfish devotion to the people of Montana and protection of our environment."

Dick was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, and friend. His kindness, caring, generosity and sense of humor will be greatly missed by all who knew him. The Polson community has lost a leader and ardent supporter in his passing. The Green Bay Packers football team has also lost a lifelong and avid fan.

His influence on all of us is summarized by one of his favorite passages: "The Teacher gives not of his wisdom, but rather of his faith and his lovingness" — Kahlil Gibran's "The Prophet."

He was preceded in death by his parents; and a sister, Joyce McCown, of San Jose, Calif.

Dick is survived by his wife, Sarah, of Polson and Green Valley, Ariz.; his son, Rick, of Colleyville, Texas; daughters, Ann of Kalispell and Cathy Christopherson of Sioux Falls, S.D.; six grandchildren; sister, Jean Wickersham, of San Jose; and by numerous nephews and nieces in Montana, Wyoming, Oregon, Virginia and California.

Cremation was arranged in Arizona, and a memorial service will be held in Polson in the summer to commemorate his life.

Memorials may be directed to the Glacier National Park Fund, P.O. Box 5600, Whitefish, MT 59937; the Flathead Lakers, P.O. Box 70, Polson, MT 59860; or to the charity of one's choice.

## Janet Lynn Coriell Womack, 54

Janet Lynn Coriell Womack passed away Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008, surrounded by her family, at her parent's home in Polson. She was born June 29, 1953, in Lima, Ohio, the daughter of Dr. Earl and Grace Coriell. The family moved to Polson in August of 1953, where Janet lived, through her graduation from Polson High School.

Janet is survived by her husband of 25 years, Wayne N. Womack; father, Dr. Earl Coriell; stepmother, Betty Coriell; sisters, Rita and Jim Chase, and Karen and Chip Vergeront; and brothers, Dr. Randy and Theresa Coriell, Brian and Tammy Beck, and Steve Beck.

Janet and Wayne were married in northern California in 1983, where they created and operated a small business. Upon the sale of the business they returned to Montana, to live on Big Mountain and operate Kristianna Mountain Homes together.

Janet was an avid skier turned snowboarder whose first ski experiences on Big Mountain were in the late 1950s. Janet was passionate about skiing/snowboarding, hiking, kayaking and camping, because of the friends she shared the time with. Early every morning



Janet could be seen leaving the house with one or more of her friends and their dogs, to go for a morning walk or snow shoe. Every evening

found her with friends, wine and stories of the day's great adventures.

A celebration of life will be held on Big Mountain at the Kristianna Condominiums at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29. A graveside service will be held at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, at the Lakeview Cemetery in Polson. A reception will follow at the Polson Golf Course Restaurant.

Janet's uncle, Dr. Louis Coriell, was the founder of the Coriell Institute of Medical Research. As a memorial to Janet, contributions can be made to this great institute in its critical work, c/o Coriell Institute of Medical Research, 463 Hadden Avenue, Camden, New Jersey 08103.

She is missed already.

A guest book may be signed and condolences sent to the family at [www.groganfuneralhome.com](http://www.groganfuneralhome.com)

## Doris Mae Wood, 79

Doris Mae Wood, 79, "fell asleep in death" Feb. 16, 2008, at Brendan House in Kalispell, with her family at her side. She was born Nov. 9, 1928, in Houston to Willis and Lily May Waterman.

She was baptized as one of Jehovah's witnesses in 1951 and engaged in the full time ministry for several years before health problems prevented it. She loved her God Jehovah very much, and looked forward to serving him forever in an earthly paradise.

"And he will wipe every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away." Revelation 21:4

From the time she was young she enjoyed gardening, growing flowers, and the out of doors.

Over the years many have experienced her hospitality and have come to know Jehovah God because of her self-sacrificing spirit.

She is survived by her husband, John; her brother, Raymond Waterman; children, Darwin Mitchell, Verla Telles, Mollie Telles and Darroll Mitchell; 10 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

She will be missed by her family and friends, and "we look forward to seeing her again in Paradise."

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 23, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 100 Valley View Court (across from the new high school). A pitch-in reception will follow at 4 p.m. at La Quinta Inn, (across from Wal-Mart) in Kalispell.

## Stephen B. Wood, 53

Former Kalispell resident Stephen B. Wood passed away of natural causes Jan. 2, 2008, in Cheyenne, Wyo. Cremation has taken place, and services will be announced at a later date.



He is survived by his parents, Diane and Barry Wood, of Kalispell; brothers, Brian of Whitefish, Craig and Karen, and Scott of Cheyenne, and Michael and Teri of Kalispell; and a sister, Mary, and Sean McRae, of Kalispell; nieces and nephews, Christian Wood, Angela Wilson, Elizabeth and Courtney Wood, Chris and Randee Wood, and Olivia, Maisy, and Henry McRae; and numerous aunts and uncles.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Carl and Primrose Wood, and Kerwood and Dorothy Burleigh.

Steve, known as Burleigh by his many friends, was born March 8, 1954, in Glendive. He resided in Glendive, Billings,

Denver and Great Falls as his parents were transferred. He attended school in Great Falls through the eighth grade and high school in Kalispell, graduating in 1972.

He enjoyed sports, participating in Little League, Babe Ruth, and American Legion baseball. He played varsity basketball all through high school.

After high school, he attended Oral Roberts University, where he played baseball, and Rocky Mountain College, where he played basketball and baseball.

After college, he first worked as a landman for J. Norsworthy in Billings and then other jobs to allow him to travel throughout the United States, which he enjoyed.

Steve was then employed as a management analyst by the Bureau of Land Management in Portland, and then Cheyenne, where he retired after 18 years of service on a disability.

His quick smile, outgoing personality and gift of gab led to many lasting friendships with people from all walks of life. He will be missed by all who knew him.

## Virginia Marion Wood, 77

Virginia Marion Wood, 77, died Monday, April 28, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She is survived by four sons, David, Ted, Jim and

Bob Carlat.

A private family service will be held Sunday, May 4.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Vernon C. Woodard, 83

Vernon C. Woodard, 83, a longtime resident of the Kalispell area, passed away of natural causes Sunday, Nov. 23, 2008, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.



He was born Sept. 4, 1926, in Fergus Falls, Minn. He grew up there and in the Kila area. He was educated in Fergus Falls.

Vernon served in the U.S. Army and was a veteran of World War II.

He retired from a career in engineering manufacturing.

Vernon liked to gamble and fish, most often with his friend, Wayne. The two were like

brothers to each other.

He also loved archery and often bow hunted, until it became too difficult for him to go out.

Everyone whose lives Vernon came in contact with was enlightened by him. He will be missed dearly by many, many friends.

Vernon is survived by his good friend, Wayne Whidden, of Kalispell.

Cremation has taken place with Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Vernon's ashes will be placed with his father's, Vernon S. Woodard, at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, in the Fireside Room of the Elms residential building, 330 Third Ave. W., in Kalispell.

## Rose Marie Woods, 87

Rose Marie Woods, 87, died Oct. 5, 2008, in Libby.

She had co-owned and operated the Dome Theatre and Libby Drive-in, retiring in 1972.

Rose is survived by five sons, Jerry Woods of Polson, Tom Woods of Butte, Tony and Dan Woods of Kalispell, and Mike Woods of Missoula; and four daughters, Carol Woods of Henderson,

Nev., Joanne Newman of Libby, Diane VanBuren of Kalispell, and Julie Komenda of Marion.

Mass of the Resurrection will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 10, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Libby. Visitation will be from 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9, at the Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home with parish vigil and rosary at 5 p.m.

## Evelyn Jane Wright, 84

Evelyn Jane Wright, 84, a longtime native of Great Falls, died Saturday, Nov. 1, 2008, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, with her family at her side.

A memorial service will held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Evelyn Jane is survived by her husband of 64 years, Clarence H. Wright; sons, Jim Wright and wife, Margaret, of Everett, Wash., Bob Wright and wife, Lisa, of Savage, Minn., and Steve Wright and wife, Kathy, of Columbia Falls; daughter, Margaret Winters, and husband, John, of Richland, Wash.; and 10 grandchildren.

She was born and raised in Great Falls and had moved to Columbia Falls in January 2008.

Her parents homesteaded a wheat ranch located on the Bootlegger Trail north of Great Falls and she spent her childhood years living on the ranch. During her childhood, she enjoyed riding her horse, Monkey, and training her fox terrier, Penny. After completing elementary school in a one-room school house, she moved to Great Falls and graduated



from Great Falls High School.

She attended the University of Montana and after college returned to Great Falls and worked for General Mills. She met

Clarence at a Gore Hill USO function and they were married in March 1944. She was a "stay-at-home" Mom, caring for her family.

She enjoyed working in her garden and sewing. She became an expert seamstress and made many clothes for her family and was well-known for raising many unusual varieties of day lilies. Her day lilies won many awards at the Montana State Fair and she provided advice to people interested in gardening and raising day lilies.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to Sunrise Presbyterian Church, 3809 Sixth Avenue South, Great Falls, MT 59405-3601; or the Montana Veterans Home, 400 Veterans Drive, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

## Jack Wrightson, 85

Jack Wrightson, 85, passed away Sunday, April 6, 2008, at home with his family after an extended illness. He was born July 8, 1922, to Stuart and Grace Hasking Wrightson in Meaderville in Butte.

Jack attended grades one through 12 in Butte and graduated from Butte High School in 1940.

He enlisted in the Navy in 1943 and served in the Pacific Rim during World War II on the sub tender, USS Proteus, as a deep-sea diver. He was proud to have served on the U.S. sub tender that captured the largest sub in the Japanese Navy, and was one of the ships that escorted the Missouri into Tokyo Bay for the signing of the peace treaty ending W.W.II. Jack's unit was then assigned to Tokyo to patrol the caves where Japanese ammunition was hidden.

After returning to Butte, he married and attended several colleges before settling at the University of Montana in Missoula, where he received his teaching credentials in counseling and school psychology. His first teaching job was in Drummond, where he ended up as school superintendent for the second half of the school year.

Having a family to support, Jack temporarily left education and returned to Butte with his wife and daughter, Fern, where he worked as a personnel manager for Stafford Chemical Company. He traveled for Stafford all over the United States.

The call of teaching was stronger, and Jack once again left Butte and returned to the University of Montana, where he received a Master's Degree in education and administration with an endorsement in special services. His third child, Jay, was born during this time.

Jack's career in education

continued in Troy, where he was principal of Walter F. Morrison School, and then in Columbia Falls where he was a "Jack" of all trades serving as principal of the Canyon schools, supervisor of special services for grades one through 12, supervisor of the school district transportation program, and head of his favorite ladies known as "the hot lunch bunch."

Jack retired in 1985, with the dream of being a man of leisure and golf. His love of education followed him into retirement, where he continued to volunteer to work with children in the schools.

Jack was preceded in death by his mother, Grace; beloved stepfather, Charlie; infant sister, Fern; and son, Jay.

Survivors include his wife, Sandra; and his children and stepchildren, Fern Hanley, Jess Wrightson, Jan Osier and Marty, Lisa Brown and David, Michael Lee and Terri, and Leslie Coyne and John. He will be remembered by his 16 grandchildren, Chris and Carrie, Tyler, Stephanie and Mike, Jennifer, Timothy, Lisa Marie, Jesse, Brianna, Kelly, Kayla, Katie, Rosie, Abby, Jacob, and Riley; and four great-grandchildren, Keianna, Audrey, Ikarus and Halle. They will remember him as their Grandpa Jack, whom they loved for his humor, love of learning, and love of children.

At Jack's request, no services will be held. Following cremation, there will be a family burial.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the newly formed Boys and Girls Club at P.O. Box 7475, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is in charge of the arrangements.

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