

## George L. Bolta, 79

George L. Bolta, a Navy veteran and retired railroad engineer, died at his son's home in Boise, Idaho, of natural causes, on Dec. 13, 2009. George was born to George and Anna Bolta on July 19, 1930. He attended school in Havre and Gonzaga Prep School.

After serving in the U.S. Navy, he went to work for the Great Northern Railroad and worked for them for 40 years as a fireman/engineer, until his retirement in 1992.

He is survived by Mary, his wife of 38 years; by his children, Cynthia Kaleva of



Choteau, Debra VanDe Reit of Fairfield, Mary Junck of Havre, George Bolta of Mill Creek, Wash., and Elena Jarman of Havre; and by Mary's children, Kathleen Thompson of Golden Valley, Minn., Carol McPherson of Evanston, Ill., Richard McPherson of Lewistown, Stacey Carrigan of Havre and Don McPherson of Boise, Idaho; 27 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; and by his sisters, Ann McLain of Havre, Keva Symes of Hot Springs and Elena Clontz of Havre.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers.

At his request, a memorial will be held at his home in Pinnacle, in the spring, with burial in Highland Cemetery in Havre.

## Gilbert Hugh Bonar, 92

Gilbert Hugh Bonar, 92, died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2009 at his home in Bigfork.

He is survived by three sons, Mick Bonar of Bigfork, Howard Bonar of Edmonds, Wash., and Jerry Bonar of Hillsboro,

Ore.; and a daughter, Susie Bonar, of Granite Falls, Wash.

There are no services planned at this time.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Arla J. Bondurant, 55

Arla J. Bondurant, 55, died Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She is survived by her mother Charlotte Strong of Longview, Wash.; daughter Christine Bon-

durant of Kalispell; and son Mik Bondurant of Mead, Wash.

Memorial services will be held in the spring.

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

## Barbara Eckelberry Borchert, 83

Barbara Eckelberry Borchert, 83, formerly of Kalispell, died Friday, Feb. 20, 2009, at her home in Oakhurst, N.J.

Services were held Feb. 23 at Hoffman Funeral Home in Long Branch, N.J. Interment was at Monmouth Memorial Park, Tinton Falls, N.J.

## Kathleen Klingler Bonny, 58

Kathleen Klingler Bonny passed away Oct. 30, 2009, in Layton, Utah. She was born on May 19, 1951, in Kalispell, to Fredrick and Arzella Smith Klingler.

She attended Flathead Valley Community College, Brigham Young University and Weber State.

Kathleen loved her nursing career, and she took care of many of her school teachers over the years. She loved and



collected frogs and loved her grandchildren.

She is survived by sons, Caleb and Jacob Bonny; nine grandchildren; and sisters, Linda Muhlestein and Cheryl Brown.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sister, Marlene Kay Klingler.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, at Chapel Park Ward, 125 S. Chapel St., in Layton, Utah. A memorial service will also be held in Kalispell at a later date.

Services are under the direction of Myers Mortuary of Layton. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.myers-mortuary.com](http://www.myers-mortuary.com).

## William C.G. Booker

William C.G. Booker of Polson "was taken home by God mercifully and lovingly" on Sunday, March 1, 2009, in Kalispell.

Bill was a gentle, romantic, wonderful man with tremendous courage and compassion. He was born in 1937, and was an excellent and conscientious executive recruiter for many years, forming his own firm in 1985. Before failing vision and Alzheimer's took their tolls, he loved hiking, growing flowers, dining out, and he excelled at word games.

His real passion was helping others — he particularly took on causes that protected children and abused women. He loved Jesus and served Him faithfully throughout his life.

"Bill may be absent from the



body but he is present with the Lord."

He loved his family with all his heart and was loved by them.

He is survived by his wife, Suzanne, of Polson; stepson, John, and Alison Manning, and their children, Grace and Austin, of San Diego; as well as a sister-in-law, Luci Booker, and nephews, Steve and Scott Booker, in Texas.

A visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, March 6, in the Grogan Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 7, at the funeral home, with the Rev. John Payne officiating. Interment will be held at Lakeview Cemetery. A reception will be after the funeral service at the funeral home before interment is held in the cemetery.

If you wish to make a donation in Bill's memory, any organization that helps women and/or children would be most in keeping with Bill's life.

## Edward R. Bott, 82

Edward R. Bott, 82, a World War II veteran of the South Pacific and Korea, died Sunday, Feb. 8, 2009, at his home in Columbia Falls.



He was born April 20, 1926, at Forsyth, to John Edward and Frances Bott. Ed married Beatrice M. Hobbs on Sept. 19, 1948, in Miles City.

Ed was a family man and spent most of his life living out the motto, "Work hard and play hard"; those who knew him could always count on a prank or joke.

Ed enjoyed family activities, fishing, camping, mechanics and tinkering; he was always there for any need for family and dear friends and if it was broke, he could fix it.

Ed had been a farmer and machinist in Rosebud, and moved to Columbia Falls in 1963 where he worked as a machinist and mechanic for Superior Lumber, Will Warner, and

retired from Canyon Logging. Ed was a lifetime member of the IOOF and VFW, as well as a member of the Eagles (Kalispell Chapter) and the Moose Lodge in Whitefish.

Surviving him are his wife, Beatrice; his children, Cathy Bott of Kalispell, Ray Bott of Kalispell, and Donna DiTunno of Orofino, Idaho; his grandchildren, Haven Bott, Amanda Bott and Vincent DiTunno; three great-grandchildren, Mikayla Thomas, Hailey Thomas and Javien Mata; a brother, Willie Bott, of Rosebud; and sister, Lilly Smith, of Missoula; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Monday, Feb. 16, at All Saints Episcopal Church, 2048 Conn Road, in Columbia Falls, with the Rev. Carolyn Kuhr officiating.

Arrangements are by Columbia Mortuary.

Memorials may be made to Flathead Industries, 66 Fourth Ave. N., Kalispell, MT 59801; or to All Saints Episcopal Church, c/o P.O. Box 1923, Whitefish, MT 59937; or a charity of the donor's choice.

## Lollie Sue Boushie, 55

Lollie Sue Boushie, 55, died Jan. 14, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. She was born April 10, 1953, in Browning, to Frank and Mary Jane (Crosswhite) Boushie.

Lollie was raised and lived in the Martin City area most of her life. She went to California for a few years and while there worked as a supervisor for an electronic plant. She also worked for Plessee Micro Science.

When she moved back to the Flathead Valley she worked as a cook and bartender in several different places. In 1982, Lollie won the Bartending Award, taking first place while she was working at the Log Cabin Bar.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and her first husband, Rick Stratton.

She is survived by one



brother, Frank Boushie, of Nordland, Wash.; three sisters, Chick Boushie of Portland, Mona Gulbranson of Martin City, and Gigi Tallent of Kalispell;

also a son, Robert LaRocque, of Wadena, Minn.; with many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A rosary will be said at 3 p.m. today, Jan. 16, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, followed with a celebration of life and potluck at 6 p.m. at the Dam Town Tavern in Hungry Horse.

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

## Karen A. Smith Bott, 53

Karen A. Smith Bott, 53, died Saturday, Nov. 28, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

Her request was to be

cremated, and a memorial service will be held at a later date.

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

## Cheryl Ann Bracken, 58

Cheryl Ann Bracken, 58, died Sunday, Feb. 8, 2009, at her home in Columbia Falls. She was born at Chelsea, Mass., to James Lewkowicz and Blanche (Sil-



man) Lewkowicz on May 3, 1950. She and her husband Jack Runge had currently owned and operated Town & Country Kennels in Columbia Falls.

Cheryl was raised and educated at Arlington, Mass., and she and her husband had resided on Cape Cod for a number of years; after traveling throughout America, they came to the north Flathead Valley in 1991, where they had resided at Columbia Falls.

A person who valued relationships, Cheryl enjoyed making and spending time with friends, and her great love of animals

made her a tireless advocate for animals of every kind.

As an excellent photographer, Cheryl greatly enjoyed photographic art; her love of the Montana outdoors produced a great enjoyment of hiking, boating, swimming and skiing. All who knew her will greatly miss her, most especially her favorite dogs Drummer and Sonny.

Survivors include her husband, Jack Runge; a brother, James Lewkowicz, and wife, Claire, and daughter, Katherine, of Arlington, Mass.; stepdaughters, Danielle Nelson of Connecticut, and Melissa Gierach of Wisconsin; as well as a host of good friends.

Services will be at 3:30 p.m. Friday at the Columbia Mortuary chapel, with Father John Miller officiating. Visitation and viewing will be Friday from 9 a.m. until service time.

Memorials in Cheryl's memory may be made to any local chapter of the Humane Society.

## Roberta C. Griner Boswell, 60

Roberta C. Griner Boswell, 60, of Troy, died May 4, 2009, at her home in Troy.

She is survived by her children, Brenda Goe and TJ Boswell, of Troy.

Services will be at 3

p.m. Friday, May 8, at the Troy Community Baptist Church.

Friends and family may call from 1 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 7, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## Georgia Elizabeth Dianne Bradford

Georgia Elizabeth Dianne Bradford, 3 months, of Great Falls, died on Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2009, at a local hospital of sudden infant death syndrome.



A funeral service was held on Aug. 29 at Praise Tabernacle United Pentecostal Church, with a burial afterward at Highland Cemetery. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Georgia was born on May 15, 2009, in Great Falls, to Tre Bradford and Casey Ayers.

She was quick to learn, high-spirited, energetic, and playful. She loved to go camping with her family. Georgia tried her best to talk and stand up. Although

she was little, she was the boss in the house and God's special gift to her family.

Georgia loved taking baths, her jumpy jungle and watching Seinfeld with her daddy.

Survivors include her parents, Tre Bradford and Casey Ayers, and sister, Tahjae J. Bradford, all of Great Falls; grandparents, Dianne and Bob Meinhardt of Great Falls and Bigfork, Don Ayers of Billings, and Larry and VaLaida Bradford of Fayetteville, N.C.; great-grandparents, Judy Hubbard of Great Falls, and Mr. and Mrs. Pompey of Raleigh, N.C.; uncle, Lee, and Alicia Ayers, and aunt, Lauren Donohue, both of Great Falls; cousins, Logan, Alex and Abigale; and numerous extended family.

Condolences may be left for the family at [www.schniderfuneralhome.com](http://www.schniderfuneralhome.com).

## Charles 'Chuck' Otho Breeding, 86

Charles "Chuck" Otho Breeding, 86, passed away Thursday, April 23, 2009. Chuck was born on May 14, 1922, one of four children, to Charlie and Annie (Cutbirth) Breeding in Breckenridge, Texas.



Chuck worked in the oil fields and construction for a good portion of his life. He worked as a dozer operator and truck driver for Buddy Lawrence Construction, which took him to North and South Dakota in the early '60s. He later worked for Zook Brothers Construction and Heinz Construction on the new highway above Libby Dam, and then as a batch plant operator during the construction of the dam.

After the dam was built, he went to work for Nelson Brothers Logging. He ran a skidder and dozer for Nelson Brothers for a number of years before purchasing his first Peterbilt cab-over truck with a self-loader. He hauled for a number of local loggers before retiring in 1985.

Chuck met and married Mary Alice (Shorty) in Texas. They had two sons, Charles Jr. and Troy Dean, before divorcing.

Chuck met his wife, Pat, when he worked in the oil

fields near Baker. They married in 1963 and moved to North and South Dakota, and finally back to Montana before arriving in Libby in 1965 with their three daughters. Pat passed away in September 1983.

He met and married Wanda Smith on March 21, 1985. After retiring from logging, he and Wanda ran the Town Pump in Kalispell for a short time before deciding to officially retire. They then spent a number of years fishing and camping with a camping club in Kalispell, and then later with good friends in the Libby area.

His parents, his brother Roy, sister Velma and her husband Fred, his sons, Charles Jr., and Troy Dean, and his second wife, Pat, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Wanda, at their Libby home; his brother, Earl, of Odessa, Texas; his three daughters, Charlene and Marty Williamson of Troy, Susan and John Ague of Libby, and Elna and Dennis Rooney of Libby; three stepchildren, Danny and Lori Neff of Lewistown, Gary Neff of Kalispell, and Cathy and Dan Campos of Libby; as well as 16 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Chuck will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 2, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## Hazel Brann, 90

Hazel Brann, 90, died Monday, Sept. 21, 2009, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She is survived by her son, Frank Brann, of Bigfork; and daughter, Aleth

Koch of Missoula.

Per her request, she will be cremated.

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

## Robert Bradley, 82

Robert Bradley, 82, of Eureka, died of natural causes Saturday, May 30, 2009, at his home.

Private family services

will be held.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka.

## Neil David Brewer, 43

Neil David Brewer, 43, passed away Wednesday, March 4, 2009, at his home in Kalispell. Neil was born Oct. 30, 1965, in Kalispell to Maxine and David Brewer.

Neil married Karen M. Knapik in 1996 in Kalispell.

He worked as a logging truck driver for many years.

Neil was a proud member of the West Valley Fire and Rescue.

He is survived by his wife of 13 years, Karen M. Brewer; his children, Nathaniel, Joshua, Samuel and Mike; and his parents, Maxine Domgard, and

David and Shirley Brewer.

Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 7, at Easthaven Baptist Church, with the Rev. Daniel Lambert officiating. A reception will be after the service at the West Valley Fire Hall on Farm to Market Road.

Donations are requested to the Brewer Memorial Fund in care of the Park Side Credit Union.

You can go to [www.buffalo-hillfh.com](http://www.buffalo-hillfh.com) to sign Neil's book or leave personal messages for his family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Michael Paul Britton, 84

Michael Paul Britton died at home Thursday, Sept. 10, 2009, of complications from a long battle with Parkinsonism.



Mike was born in Wall, S.D., on June 2, 1925, to George Francis and Helma Haglin Britton, the youngest of seven brothers and sisters. He spent his boyhood at the family orchard on the east shore of Flathead Lake at Yellow Bay. At age 17, he enlisted in the Navy. He served in the South Pacific on PT Boat 105 for three years during World War II.

After the Navy, he returned home and married his childhood sweetheart, Mary Catherine "Pat" Paterson. They moved to Bozeman where Mike earned a Bachelor of Science degree in entomology and a Master of Science degree in botany. While they were in Bozeman, their two daughters, Barbara and Beverly, arrived, adding fatherhood to Mike's busy schedule of college and working. During the years he spent working on his master's thesis, he was a range management specialist for the Soil Conservation Service in Dillon, working with ranchers to improve their rangeland.

Mike was offered a graduate position at Purdue University, so the family moved to Indiana. He received a Ph.D. in plant pathology, and then became a professor at the University of Illinois. He enjoyed both teaching and traveling around the state, advising farmers and golf course managers about plant disease problems. One of his special joys was mentoring his many graduate students.

In 1969 he and Pat moved back to Kalispell, where he taught botany at Flathead Valley Community College. After Pat died in 1973, Mike met Kathy Streb Delk and fell deeply in love for a second time. They were married in 1974. In 1980, Mike started his own consulting business, BioWest, assessing environ-

mental impacts on native vegetation.

During these years he was very active in St. Matthew's Catholic Church, serving in social and parish ministry. He and Kathy helped to start Windsong, a peace and social justice group. He was passionate about politics and loved to talk about what was happening in our country and state. Mike was called to be ordained as a permanent deacon in 1987, and served until he was forced to quit for health reasons at age 78. He said being called to serve as a deacon was a tremendous joy.

Mike was a gentle man, full of strength and adventure. He was a lifetime scholar, always looking for something new to master. He loved wilderness and outdoor activities — skiing, sailing, hiking, camping and biking, and sharing his love and skills with Kathy, his children, his five grandchildren, and his four great-grandchildren. Mike was a teacher all his life, teaching not only academically, but also spiritually. He taught cross-country skiing into his late 70s. His love of trees and plants continued all his life, reflected in their huge, productive garden and orchard. Mike didn't necessarily stop to "smell the roses," but he stopped often enough to teach something about plants and their uses. Tolerance, patience, compassion, kindness, humility, forgiveness, teaching and singing were part of Mike's life, which he taught by word and example. He always said, "Trust God and love people."

"As we write this obituary, Mike is lifting his glass of wine in toast to all his loved friends, family and a life well lived."

The funeral Mass will be held at 12:10 p.m. Monday, Sept. 14, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Kalispell.

In lieu of food or flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Home Options Hospice.

You are invited to send condolences to the family at [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com). Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Dorothy M. Broder

Dorothy M. Broder, 81, of Libby, died Friday Oct. 16, 2009, from natural causes at St. John's Lutheran Hospital.

She had worked as a manicurist and a caregiver.

Survivors include her children Annette Chain of Troy, Joseph Demski of

Libby, Richard Demski of Libby, Thomas Demski of Michigan and Phyllis Bassett of Georgia.

Services will be 7 p.m. Tuesday Oct. 20, 2009, at Troy Christian Fellowship Church in Troy. Local arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## Margaret Ann Bronder, 55

Margaret "Maggie" Ann Bronder passed away May 9, 2009, at home with family, after a courageous 18-year battle with cancer. She was born Jan. 31, 1954, in Polson. Her parents are Dr. Donald C. Scott and Betty Ann Sias Scott.



Margaret's life would seem too short to many, but those who were touched by her understand that the quality of existence far exceeds the quantity of time which one lives. Her wonderful spirit will be carried on in her many interests by her family such as horses, gardening, painting, reading, snowshoeing, caring for those she loved, and enjoying the serenity and beauty in life.

She lived in Great Falls and Spokane, where she finished high school. She was a 1976 graduate of Eastern Washington University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in education. She taught school in Chinook from 1976 to 1978, in Whitefish from 1979 to 1985 at Muldown Elementary School, and at Cross Currents Christian School from 1989 to 1991.

In November 1977, she

married Theodore "Ted" J. Bronder, to whom she was married for 31 years. He was the love of her life. Together they had two beautiful daughters, A'Lisa Ann Bronder of San Diego, and Katharine Christine Bronder of Dillon.

She is survived by her husband, Ted; their two daughters, A'Lisa and Katie; a brother, Byron and Linnea Scott, and their son, Leif, of Rochester, Minn.; along with many cousins and an uncle.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, May 15, at Christ Lutheran Church, 5150 River Lakes Parkway, in Whitefish, with John Bent officiating.

She gave her support to various charities because she believed in helping those less fortunate: The Covenant House, which provides shelter for abused and abandoned children; St. Jude's, a cancer research hospital for children; World Vision; Unicef; the Montana Food Bank; along with numerous others. For those who wish to contribute a memorial, the family suggests a contribution to any of the above listed charities.

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

## Kathy Marie Bronakowski, 51

Kathy Marie Bronakowski, 51, died Friday, April 24, 2009, at her residence after fighting a long four-year battle with cancer.



She was born Dec. 16, 1957, in Jackson, Mich., to Mildred and (the late) Howard Young.

She lived most of her life in Michigan until starting a new adventure and moving to Montana in the late 1990s. It was love at first sight for her, and she knew this was the place she would spend the rest of her life.

Kathy was a great woman with a big heart. She always knew how to make you smile and was never afraid to help a friend in need. She enjoyed going camping, having barbecues, and being around people she loved and cared about. She loved the outdoors whether it was working in the yard or play-

ing with her grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Jeff Moore; and also her father, Howard Young.

Kathy is survived by her daughter, Nikki Witts, and husband, Frank Witts, of Kalispell; son, Christopher Young, of Michigan; brothers, Gary Young of Michigan, and Wesley Young of Florida; and her sister, Nancy Rowley, of Michigan. Grandchildren are Jada and Caiyou Witts of Kalispell, and Jazzlynd, Christopher, Anthony, Danny, Alissa, and Shawn Young, all of Michigan.

A memorial service along with a potluck will be held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 28, at the Moose Lodge in Evergreen.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to hospice, or you can make a donation to The Relay For Life American Cancer Society at <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/nikki.witts>. Her family will be walking in July 2009 in honor of her.

## Aaron D. Brossman Sr., 69

Aaron D. Brossman Sr., 69, a longtime Libby resident, died Monday, Sept. 7, 2009, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital from natural causes.

He worked as a painter.

Survivors include his children, Ray, Rod and Randy Brossman, all of Libby, Rick Brossman of Brighton, Colo., Aaron

Brossman of Columbia Falls, and Angela Goucher of Rathdrum, Idaho.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Libby Christian Church, 100 Kootenai River Road. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11, at Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## Byron C. Brown, 84

Byron C. Brown, 84, of Hungry Horse died Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

He had worked as an auto body repairman and mechanic for many years.

Survivors include his children, Charlotte McClain,

Byron C. Brown Jr., and Harry Brown.

A celebration of life will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Dam Town Tavern in Hungry Horse.

Arrangements are with Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

## Connie M. (Gove) Brown, 42

Connie M. (Gove) Brown of Kalispell passed away Oct. 1, 2009, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. She was 42 years young.



Connie was born Oct. 28, 1966, in Kalispell, to Richard and Shirley Gove. Connie lived her life in the Flathead Valley close to the family she loved and the beautiful outdoors of Montana. She was married to the love of her life, Eric Brown, and they had two beautiful children, Joey and Charissa Brown.

Connie worked at Nickel Charlies for many years and was well known for her sense of humor, beautiful glowing eyes and contagious smile. Anyone who knew Connie, loved Connie.

Connie was preceded in death by her father, Richard F. Gove Sr., who passed away Nov. 16, 2007.

She is survived by her husband, Eric Brown; her children, Joey and Charissa Brown; her mother, Shirley Gove; and her brothers and sisters, Bruce and Vickie Gove, Rick Gove, Don Gove, Gary and Susan Gove, Linda Gove, Tammy and Dennis

Munroe, and Danette and Dave Gildart, all living in the Flathead Valley; also numerous nephews, nieces, family and friends throughout the valley that she truly loved. She also leaves behind her best friend and dog, Pepsi.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6, at Easthaven Baptist Church (on Whitefish Stage Road), with a potluck luncheon directly following at the church. A burial will follow the luncheon at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Memorial donations will be accepted at the church at the time of service or may be sent to Eric Brown, 1235 Fourth Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901.

"We want to share a heartfelt thank you to all the wonderful friends and family who helped in her time of need and shared in her battle for life."

"We're going to miss you, 'Downtown Connie Brown Trout.' You are our angel ... fly home to Poo Bear, Connie!"

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

## Betty Fay DeVall Brown, 86

On Friday, Nov. 6, 2009, at the age of 86, Betty Fay Brown "peacefully passed into eternity" at her home on Whitefish Lake



in Whitefish. Her son, Dr. Richard Brown, and her daughter, Gail Blakeley, held her in their arms "as the Lord opened heaven's gate to receive her spirit in perfect time, according to His will."

Betty was born (Oct. 19, 1923), raised, and lived her entire life in Whitefish. She was proud of her Whitefish roots and appreciated her hometown's beauty and the quality of life it offered. She sported a "Whitefish Native" license plate holder on her Subaru, advertising what few residents of the area can honestly claim, a long-term and historic tie to the community she loved.

One of eight children, Betty was the youngest child. She attended grade school and high school in Whitefish. Summer days would find her and her siblings walking the boardwalk through downtown on their way to the lake, where they would spend all day swimming. Hiking west down the railroad tracks to Beaver Bay, she and her brothers and sister would pick and sell huckleberries to earn money for school clothes. A gallon of berries fetched a dollar. A dollar bought three cotton dresses from J.C. Penney.

It must have been her beautiful red hair that first caught Glen Brown's eye. Barely 18, she married Glen on Dec. 25, 1941. Times were tough; economic depression and war gripped the country. Rather than go to war, Glen was given a deferment to raise hogs and farm with the help of his new bride Betty. Leaving the relative comforts of "city" life in Whitefish and being more than a bit naive, she found herself thrust into domestic action. A novice cook, she toiled over a blazing hot wood cook stove, preparing hearty meals for hard-working men and her family. No indoor plumbing meant the outhouse was the only bathroom option, even at 20 below zero.

Betty bore her first child, a boy, Richard Brown, within a year of being married. A daughter, Gail Brown, soon followed. She and Glen farmed the Henry Good Ranch on Whitefish Stage Road from 1943 through 1951.

From '51 through '55, Betty owned and managed Bonnie's Dress Shop on Central Avenue in Whitefish. Her third and final child, Robert Brown, was born in 1954 while she was still working her dress shop. After selling the business in 1955, she worked at the Toggery for a couple years.

Betty tagged and graded trees for her husband in their Brown Brothers Christmas Trees yard, shipping as many as 49 rail loads of trees in a single season to different parts of the country.

Having honed her cooking skills on the farm, she found courage to sell cookies and coffee cakes at the Whitefish Farm Women's Market to earn "pin money." Her baked goods were a big hit, and so she found one of her life's callings, to be a cook and baker.

Aside from her duties as a wife and mother, Betty enjoyed an active social life. For 43 years she played on a women's golf team in Whitefish. She also loved her bowling team buddies. She was a lifetime active member of the Whitefish Methodist Church and dearly loved her church family. A member of the Moose Lodge, she enjoyed the camaraderie of friends and lodge events.

She found great joy in blessing others with her culinary creations. You'd see her bringing walnut fudge to the voting precinct workers or dropping a peanut butter chocolate cream pie by the hair salon where she'd get her hair done. Late summer was Transparent Apple and huckleberry season, so you might get lucky and have one of Betty's pies show up at your door. She'd frequently say, "Just leave me in my kitchen and I'll be happy."

Betty leaves behind a family that loved her deeply, mourns her passing with great sorrow and remembers the joy, provision and sincere caring that characterized her love of family. Preceded in death by her husband and youngest son, she's survived by her oldest son, Dr. Richard Brown, and his wife, Margy; daughter, Gail Blakeley; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren; brother, William DeVall, and his wife, Eva; sister-in-law, Clara DeVall; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Betty's legacy is one of great love and care for family. Her children and grandchildren were her world, a focus of constant concern, interest, support and provision. Her beautiful yet modest lake home with her residing there was a mooring point for us all, a seemingly constant safe harbor in the ever-shifting sands of life. She and her home were a place of natural beauty, peace, rest, fun, encouragement, sage advice and togetherness. We remember Betty Fay Brown, our mother, our grandmother, our friend as a generous giver of self. "Oh, how we will miss you more than mere words could ever describe!"

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 28, at the United Methodist Church of Whitefish, with a reception to follow at the Whitefish Moose Lodge.

Betty requested that donations be made to Wings, a cancer support group that helps cancer patients and their families cover the cost of cancer treatment-related travel expenses. Donations can be made in care of Wings Regional Cancer Support, P.O. Box 7852, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Austin Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

## Don Lowell Brown, 92

Don Lowell Brown, 92, beloved husband of the late Esther Svennungsen Brown, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and child of God, passed away with grace in the presence of his family on Friday, May 1, 2009.



Don was born in Nelson, Wis., on Jan. 18, 1917, just across the Mississippi River from his grandfather's farm near Wabasha, Minn. His parents were Walter Scott Brown and Ethel Giebel Brown (Svennungsen). Walter Scott died when Don was 4 years old, and Ethel and her young son Don moved to Big Sandy to live with Ethel's parents, Edmund and Rose (Butler) Giebel. Grandpa and Grandma Giebel's strict, yet loving guidance molded Don and (later) his children.

Don was both a leader and a servant. His life was devoted to serving his family and the state of Montana. As a boy and young man, he drove cattle and wrangled horses in the Bears Paw Mountains and Missouri Breaks. He learned to fly airplanes at the age of 15 with the help of his Uncle Walter Giebel.

He was a standout athlete for the Big Sandy Pioneers. After high school graduation in 1935, he attended Northern Montana College in Havre, and then transferred to Montana State College in Bozeman, graduating with a degree in zoology in 1940.

Don and Esther were married in Big Sandy on Aug. 17, 1940, by Esther's father, the Rev. David Svennungsen. Her mother, Kari Svennungsen, was the organist and Don's mother, Ethel Svennungsen, sang at the wedding.

In 1941, Don was hired as a game warden with the Montana Department of Fish and Game. On Dec. 7, 1942, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps. He received his basic training at Fort Douglas, Utah. His flight training continued as a cadet at Plentywood. However, upon completing cadet flight training, Don discovered he was color-blind, so he was ineligible to fly fighters or bombers. He was assigned duty as a remote control turret mechanic 960 and became a gunnery and bombing instructor, serving in Texas and Colorado. He was awarded an American Theater Ribbon and a World War II Victory Medal. Don also served as a staff sergeant in the U.S.

Air Force from August 1950 to April 1951 at Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., during the Korean Conflict.

After WWII, Don returned to Montana and his job with the Montana Department of Fish and Game. He was assigned as a game biologist for all of eastern Montana. In 1947, he persuaded the Fish and Game Commission to authorize the purchase of a Piper Super Cub airplane to conduct game census work, and thus he became Montana's first flying biologist.

Years later, as the department's deputy director, Don persuaded the F&G Commission to authorize the purchase of a helicopter. He and chief pilot Cliff Higgins took rotor craft training in Fort Worth, Texas, and returned to Montana in a new Bell helicopter in 1962. The two types of aircraft greatly facilitated game census work, fish stocking in inaccessible wilderness lakes, and fish and game law enforcement.

During Don's career, he served as a game warden, biologist, district supervisor, chief of law enforcement, deputy director, regional supervisor, department director and chief of planning. In 1979, he was appointed the Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan leader for the Grizzly Bear Recovery Project that encompassed Washington, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. He retired in 1981, after 40 years of service. In his retirement years, he continued to fly his own aircraft well into his 70s. Don was an avid outdoorsman, a Silver Life Master in the American Contract Bridge League, a long-time member of the Helena Regional Airport Board, and of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church.

Don and Esther raised their family all over Montana — Big Sandy, Harlowton, Roundup, Lewistown, Great Falls, Helena, Kalispell and Bozeman.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, Esther, in 2001.

He is survived by their four children, Bonnie Wallem and Jerry of Kalispell, Scott Brown and Nedra of Helena, Marsha Paulson and Daryl of Bozeman, and Judy McKenna and Jim of Bozeman; nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother, Lowell Svennungsen, of Connecticut; and over 40 first cousins and their families.

Don's last several years were spent fishing and hunting with friends and family and living at Hunters Pointe Retirement Community in Helena. The family wishes to express its deepest appreciation to the many loving, supportive people at Hunters Pointe, residents and managers alike.

Viewing is set from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 7, at the Retz Funeral Home Chapel. A funeral service celebrating Don's life is scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, May 8, at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, with a brunch to follow the service at the church. Burial will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the Big Sandy Cemetery, Big Sandy.

Memorials in Don's name are suggested to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, or to a charity of the donor's choice.

To offer condolences to Don's family or to share a memory of Don, please visit [www.MeM.com](http://www.MeM.com). Arrangements are under the care of Retz Funeral Home in Helena.

"Dad, thank you for giving all your children and their families the gift of love. You done good!"

## Donald G. Brown, 70

Donald G. Brown, 70, passed away from cancer Monday, Nov. 30, 2009, at The Heritage House in Kalispell, after a short illness.



Don was born April 5, 1939, in Libby to Clarence and Lois (Driear) Brown. He graduated from Libby High School in 1957, and served in the Army Reserves at Fort Leonardwood, Mo., for six months.

He was married to Marlys (Barr) Brown for 25 years. Three children were born from their marriage. During this time, Don worked at J. Neils Lumber Co. for a short period of time before purchasing a dump truck and loader. He later sold them and bought a logging truck. Brown Heavy Hauling was established and he built a shop north on Highway 37 where he managed his business of hauling logs and moving heavy equipment.

Don and Marlys' marriage was dissolved in 1984. Don moved to Kalispell and later married Betty Schneider. They purchased the Central School and built the Pro Clean Carwash. Don had several ventures during this time including driving truck for Roger Claridge.

Betty passed away in November 1998. Don moved

back to Libby and started up a paving business which he ran for several years. Three years ago he bought Happy's Inn and he and Maxine have been running that business while remodeling.

Don is survived by his special friend and partner, Maxine Domgard; his son, James Brown, and his wife, Terrie, of Moses Lake, Wash.; his daughter, Judy Mavis, and her husband, Dennis, of Hungry Horse; his son, Ron Brown, of Dundee, Ore.; his brother, Robert Brown, of Kalispell; and three grandchildren, Cory McReynolds of Columbia Falls, and Shannon McReynolds and Melissa McReynolds of Kalispell. Other family members are stepson, Sam Schneider, of Soap Lake, Wash.; stepdaughters, Linda Blankenship and Penny Scott, of Great Falls; Gail Decker of Kalispell; Faith Brewer, Neil and Karen Brewer, Bill and Phyllis Lynch, Glen and Pat Koski, and Jack and Beth Lynch, all of Kalispell; and all of his many great friends in the Libby and Kalispell areas.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family. You are invited to go to [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to view Don's guest book, offer condolences and share memories.

Don's wishes were to be cremated. A celebration of his life will be held at noon on Friday, Dec. 4, at the Kalispell Moose Lodge.

## Velma Louise Brown, 91

Velma Louise Brown, 91, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 6, 2009, at Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born on April 5, 1918, at Fort Wordon Army Base in Port Townsend, Wash., the oldest of three children of Claude and Estella Mae (Dunn) Atkinson.

Velma traveled extensively during her childhood years across the U.S. with her parents. During those years she lived in Washington, Kansas, Oklahoma, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.

She enjoyed gardening, canning, cooking, crocheting, knitting and was an accomplished seamstress.

On June 11, 1944, she married Louis Ethan Brown in Newport, Wash. Together they raised seven children.

Velma worked for nine years at Bill Fewkes General Store in Rexford, and as a cook at Muldown Elementary School for many years after moving to Whitefish in 1968. She was loved and respected for her kindness and caring ways by all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Louis E. Brown; two sons, Danny Lee Brown and Stephen C. Brown; one daughter, Nancy Mae Paden; two grandsons, Kenneth Eugene Brown and Jonathan Leo Brown; one granddaughter, Patricia Jeanne Franks; one great-grandson, Robert Anthony Stevens; one brother, Donald Atkinson; and one sister, Anita Welter.

She is survived by two sons, Louis Brown Jr., and Nora of Kalispell, and Jim N. Brown and Peggy of Rexford; two daughters, Patricia L. Stevens of Eureka, and Susan Reed and Michael of Kalispell, 16 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 1 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10, at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. There will also be visitation from 11:30 a.m. until time of service at 1 p.m. on Friday at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Eureka, with Rev. Christopher Tabbert officiating. Burial will follow at Tobacco Valley Cemetery.

Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish is assisting the family with arrangements.

## Delia Burow, 100

Delia Burow, 100, a longtime resident of the North Valley, died Friday, Oct. 2, 2009, in Whitefish.

She is survived by her children, Jean Bauer and Ronald Burow, both of Kalispell, and Katherine

Graham of Whitefish.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Austin Funeral Home, with rite of interment following at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Friends may call at Austin Funeral Home from 1 to 8 p.m. Monday.

## Martha May Buzzell, 97

Martha May Buzzell "entered into rest" on Aug. 15, 2009, and this earth lost a very special soul. Martha was born April 20, 1912, in Cottonwood, north of Havre, to William and Cora Staples. She married Curtis Jay Buzzell, March 28, 1931.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Keith and Arthur.

She is survived by daughters, Luann Copeland of Helena, and Joyce Jensen and Ralph of Valley, Wash.; daughter-in-law, Carol Buzzell, of Kalispell; and two sons, Bill Buzzell of Big Sky, and DeWayne Buzzell and Janice of Spokane. She had 17 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren, and



numerous great-great-grandchildren.

She was raised on the family homestead, managed a hotel in Glasgow, later moved to Coram where she owned grocery stores, worked in the post office, and worked as a cook. Martha was active in the development of the Coram Water Department, and was a member of the Coram Community Church and Ladies Aid. She enjoyed gardening and her dog Skippy.

Martha enjoyed seeing the ocean and Disneyland with some of her grandchildren.

A special thanks to the staff of Wel-Life Assisted Living, Kalispell, and to Barbara Glass, her first grandchild, who was always there to take care of her and be her friend.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Call the mortuary for the time of visitation.

## Pauline F. Bruch, 65

Former Kalispell resident Pauline F. Bruch, 65, died May 13, 2009, at home in Phoenix.

A service will be held Saturday, May 30, at Valley Victory Church, 315 E. Evergreen Dr., in Kalispell, starting between 12:30 and 1 p.m. Burial will take place at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Pauline was born Jan. 17, 1944, into the family of Gerald E. Bruch and Amelda L. Bruch on a small farm in Opheim.

At the young age of 18, Pauline married and gave birth to three children.



Pauline worked in the hospitality industry for most of her adult life. She won many awards for her ability to get things done efficiently.

Pauline was an avid reader and enjoyed watching basketball and game shows. She enjoyed the fellowship of her church and friends.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Deb Lee, of Las Vegas; son, Richard Lee, of Phoenix; daughter, Cathie Lee, of Phoenix; brother and sister-in-law, Marvin and Joyce Bruch; and sister and brother-in-law, Lucille and Dave Houtz.

Pauline dedicated her life to her children and grandchildren.

## Velva Elgin Bruyer, 93

Velva Elgin Bruyer, 93, passed away on Wednesday, July 22, 2009, at her home in Kalispell.



Velva was born on March 25, 1916, in a sod cabin on the banks of the Little Powder River in the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation in Rosebud County, near the town of Ashland. As a young child in school, she lived in Denver. When she was in the eighth grade, the family moved to Miles City. Velva graduated with honors from high school in 1932. She received a National Honor Society pin her senior year, at the age of 16.

After graduation, Velva worked for the government in Miles City, where the cattle were shipped out by rail.

Velva married Russell Elgin on Nov. 24, 1934, in Miles City. They moved to Fort Peck to work on the dam. Her children, Don, Carole and Jim, were born in Fort Peck. They left Fort Peck and moved to the Flathead Valley where they settled. Daughter Linda was born in Kalispell.

Velva went to work as a secretary at the I.B.E.W. and was a member of their union for 50-plus years. She then became a legal secretary for several attorneys, until she retired in 1974.

Russell passed away on July 5, 1968; they had been married for 34 years.

Velva married George Bruyer in 1973 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Velva and George were raising his six children, when he passed away on Aug. 13, 1976. She continued raising Richard and Leola and adopted them in 1980. During World War II, Kalispell thought planes could come

into the U.S. under the radar from the North, so they built a tower on Buffalo Hill that was manned by volunteers. Velva and her sister Beverly had the midnight to 2 a.m. shift once a week. After the war, they both were awarded silver wings for doing their part in the war.

Velva received a Presidential Party name tag when President Harry Truman dedicated the Hungry Horse Dam in 1948.

Velva was an accomplished artist, poet, writer and seamstress. She was one of the first Hospice volunteers in the valley. In later years she belonged to Bible study groups and formed many friendships which have lasted until her passing.

She was preceded in death by her parents; both her husbands, Russell Elgin and George Bruyer; a sister, Beverly Triplett; son, Donald Elgin; grandson, Steven Hummel; and stepson, Phillip Bruyer.

Velva is survived by her daughter, Carole Custer; son, James Elgin; daughter, Linda Hummel; son, Richard Bruyer; daughter, Leola Graf; stepchildren, George, Clair and Tom; daughter-in-law, Roberta Elgin; sister, Audrey Kiser; brother, James Daly; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday, July 26, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian burial will be at 11 a.m. Monday, July 27, at Risen Christ Parish, with Rev. Rudy Bullman officiating. Burial will follow the service at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

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

## Merle Theodore 'Ted' Bryant, 79

Merle Theodore "Ted" Bryant, 79, passed away March 3, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, after a brief illness.

Merle was a retired printer. He is survived by his wife, R. Judy Bryant; sisters, Helen Collins, Margaret Schoenfeld and

Winnie Ritter; stepsons, William J. Burns III and Terry R. Burns; and grandson, William T. Bryant.

Cremation has taken place. Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 7, at Northridge Lutheran Church, 323 Northridge Drive, in Kalispell.

## Robert Lynn Knight Byrd, 35

Robert "Rob" Lynn Knight Byrd, 35, passed away Jan. 5, 2009, in Kalispell because of a

traumatic brain injury. He was born July 14, 1973, in Libby and graduated from Libby High School.

In 2000, he married Laurie Kim Martin.

Robert had worked for Pat



Hanley Logging and Roberts Logging, and owned and operated Byrd's Lawn and Tree Care.

He enjoyed logging, snow machining, hunting and fishing.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Robert Lynn Knight.

Rob is survived by his wife, Laurie Byrd, of Kalispell; parents, Jim and Debbie Byrd, of Libby; children, Jasmine Byrd, Kyle Yankee, Rylie Yankee, Aubrey Byrd, Tayshia Byrd, Madison Byrd and Gavin Byrd; sister, Nandy LeCroix, of Missouri;

brothers, James Byrd of Columbia Falls, and John Byrd of Libby; and grandparents, Marge Knight of Libby, Anna Byrd of Boise, Idaho, and Jim and Onie Byrd of Vernal, Utah.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at Faith Covenant Church, 611 Third Ave. E., in Kalispell. Burial will be at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the Robert Byrd Benefit Account at First Interstate Bank, 2 Main St., P.O. Box 7130, Kalispell, MT 59904-0130.

## Betty L. Buck, 66

Betty L. Buck, 66, of Columbia Falls, passed away on Monday, Sept. 28, 2009, at her home in Columbia Falls.



Betty was born in Cass Lake, Minn., on Sept. 19, 1943. She was the fifth child of Clarence and Agnes Graham.

In 1959, she met the love of her life, Stanley Buck, and they married on March 11, 1960. They had 49 wonderful years together.

Betty and Stan had two children, Faith, and Dale (deceased). Because she only raised one child did not mean she didn't have children around her at all times. She had 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Along with her grandchildren, she taught Head Start for many years and taught the nursery age kids in Vacation Bible School for more

than 10 years. She loved children.

She was preceded in death by her son, Dale; sister, June; and brother, Richard.

Betty is survived by her husband, Stanley, of Columbia Falls; daughter, Faith, and Dean Calderwood, of Columbia Falls; brother, Louis, of Minnesota; sisters, Pat of Columbia Falls, and Babe of Minnesota; 10 grandchildren, Kelly, Lauri, Eric, Brittany, Jacob, Emily, Chris, Jenny, Trish and Brian; 11 great-grandchildren, Avari, Abi, Alex, Todd, Chloe, Emma, Charlie, Lanie, Mary, Cindy and Ben; as well as her mother-in-law, Lorna Buck, of Columbia Falls.

A visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. today, Oct. 1, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 2, at the First Baptist Church in Columbia Falls, with Pastor Jerry Buchanan officiating. Burial will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

## Cameron Buck, 3 months

Cameron Buck, 3 months, died suddenly on July 14, 2009, at his residence.

Funeral services will

be held at 1 p.m. Friday, July 17, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

## Marian Jane Bucholz, 92

Marian Jane Bucholz, 92, passed away on Friday, Dec. 25, 2009, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell. She was born on May 21, 1917, in Havre, to Joseph and Jennie (Miller) Hewitson.

Marian graduated from Flathead High School in 1939. She graduated from St. Patrick in Missoula with a degree in nursing.

Marian was married to Arvade H. Bucholz on March 15, 1945, in California; they were happily married for 50 years.

She worked for Peralta Hospital in California as both day and night supervisor.

Marian loved volunteering

with RSVP; she volunteered so much time she received a certificate from President George W. Bush. Marian loved traveling. She traveled all over the world with her husband Arvade, who worked for Pan American. She wrote her own biography of her travels. She loved reading and was a self-taught gourmet cook.

There are no services planned at this time.

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

## Borghild 'Borgie' Rondina (Fladmark) Buck, 97

Borghild "Borgie" Rondina (Fladmark) Buck, 97, passed away of natural causes Sunday, Feb. 22, 2009, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.



She was born March 10, 1911, in Minot, N.D., to Syver Nelson and Bertha (Ellingson) Fladmark.

Borgie graduated from Flathead County High School in Kalispell. During her early years, Borgie worked at Many Glacier, located in Glacier National Park. Her dream came true when she graduated from the American Beauty Culture School, Associated, in March 1941. She became a member of Kappa Delta Chi, an affiliation with Townsend Beauty School.

Much to everyone's surprise at the annual Fourth of July picnic in 1949, Borgie and her beau Marion (her sister Freda's brother-in-law) announced that they had run off to Coeur d'Alene and gotten married on July 2. They spent most of their years together in the Flathead Valley. She was a great wife and companion to Marion. They went on many fishing and camping trips, which she thoroughly enjoyed.

They were never blessed with any children of their own, so Borgie's nieces and nephews became her children. She was always there to help her sister Freda with her children and treated them like they were her own.

She was a beauty operator at Pearl's Beauty Nook in Kalispell for many years. She thoroughly enjoyed working with her clients and co-workers. After retirement, she would meet lady friends and family at Sykes' for lunch almost every day until she was no longer able to go.

She loved raising flowers, crocheting, knitting and making wedding cakes and Christmas cookies for everyone around her, even though she was never able to enjoy the fruits of her

labor, due to a sugar allergy. Her last knitting project during the winter of 2006-07 was a Christmas stocking for her great-great-niece, Kinzey, so she would have one to match the other great-great-nieces and nephews. Things always had to be perfect, and if it wasn't right, she would redo it until she got it right.

Borgie was preceded in death by her husband, Marion Buck; her parents; two brothers; two sisters; a great-nephew in infancy; and a niece, Marie Carda.

She is survived by three nephews, Berl Buck and wife, Nyla, of Columbia Falls, Clinton Buck and wife, Thora, of Sandpoint, Idaho, Bruce Fladmark of Kalispell; and Chuck Carda, husband of her niece, Marie, also of Kalispell; six great-nephews, Kurt Carda of Kalispell, Forest "Frosty" Buck and wife, Colleen, of Columbia Falls, Lowell Buck and wife, Nancy, of Seaward, Alaska, Kelly Buck and wife, Julie, of Post Falls, Idaho, Eric Buck and wife, Sarah, of Sandpoint, and Eric Fladmark of Kalispell; two great-nieces, Kristi (Carda) Davis and husband, Gene, of Kalispell, and Annalynn Kuper of Shepherd; three great-stepnieces, Teresa Bradley, Rebecca Resner and Dawna Erlewine; along with other nieces and nephews too numerous to mention.

Funeral services for Borgie will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral chapel, with Pastor Tim Bartholomew officiating. Visitation will take place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. Interment will follow services at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

The family suggest memorials be made to your favorite charity.

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

## Milton Andrew Buck, 88

Milton Andrew Buck, 88, passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2009, at Valley Hospital in Las Vegas. He was born on Feb. 14, 1921, in Havre, the son of Wesley and Mary Jane (Gloer) Buck.

Milton joined the Army and served as a medic during the Second World War in the European Theatre.

He met his wife of 63 years, Helen Bulla, through her uncle Russell who he befriended in the war. Milton and Helen were married April 20, 1946, in Decatur, Ill., and settled in Kalispell where they raised their two children.

Milton worked in the sawmill industry for over 43 years in the Flathead Valley. At the time of his death he and Helen were residing in Las Vegas.

He was preceded in death by four brothers and two sisters; and numerous relatives.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Buck, of Las Vegas; a daughter, Jane Jimeno, and husband, Gerald, of Libby; a son, Michael Buck, and wife, Kelly, of Seattle; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; one brother, Cliff Buck, of California; and a sister, Mary Beth, of Polson.

Funeral services for Milton will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11, at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens with military honors. Visitation will be from noon to 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10, at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Milton's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to view Milton's guestbook, offer condolences and share memories.

## Merlin B. Buhl, 83

Merlin B. Buhl "passed from this life into eternity" Saturday, Feb. 14, 2009, at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane. He was born on Feb. 18, 1925, in Butte, to Fred and Mae (Hills) Buhl.

He served his country both in World War II and Korea, teaching electronics and radar. During his station in Denver, he met the love of his life, Eula Scarratt. They were married on Feb. 22, 1951, and they would have been married 58 years.

He spent 15 years at Rocky Mountain Laboratories in Hamilton, helping with cancer research. He drove a school bus for Superior, Corvallis and Stevensville for 30 years.

He was a born and bred Butte boy right from the Great Depression, and was just full of "good ol' Butte" stories. He loved to hunt and fish and was blessed with the ability to cook and bake. He loved all things about home life, but "don't ask him to dust."

He was the best as a help-

mate, and lived for the fellowship of his church and the yearly church conventions. He lived a very full and satisfying life.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Mae; brothers, Orris Buhl, Kenneth Buhl; sister, Thelma Cloud; and a granddaughter, Kassandra Buhl.

Survivors include his wife, Eula Buhl, of Troy; four children, Leanna Faye Smith and husband Lary, Mary Alice Buhl, Urie Wayne Buhl and wife Michelle, and Merlin B. Buhl Jr. and wife Sheri; sisters, Gladys Jimeno of Corvallis, and Mertis Thomas of Portland; two brothers, Orphus Buhl of Kellogg, Idaho, and Orril Buhl of Corvallis; 11 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; many loving nieces and nephews; and numerous close and faithful friends.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby. Viewing will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, at the funeral home.

## Fred W. 'Buck' Buchanan, 72

Fred W. "Buck" Buchanan, 72, passed away on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, at his residence in Kalispell. He was born on March 16, 1937, in Renton, Wash., the son of Joseph Paul and Violet (Avoledo) Buchanan.

He was raised in Renton and attended schools, completing the 11th grade, and then entered the U.S. Marines.

On Aug. 8, 1961, he married Dolores Frances Kitzmiller at Bigfork.

He worked as a logger and long-haul trucker. He was an avid outdoorsman — he loved to hunt and fish. He later became one of the early outfitters and guides in the Swan Range. His license number was No. 10. He was an outfitter for over 30 years and 20 years with the Flathead Lake Lodge, fishing on Flathead Lake.

He owned numerous long-haul trucks, hauling for Kalispell Pole and Timber, was a self-employed logger



and also worked for Tim Metcalf Logging.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dolores, in 2003.

He is survived by his son, Fred L. Buchanan, and his wife, Karen, of Kalispell; two granddaughters, Hannah Buchanan of Lawton, Okla., and Christina Vallindras and husband, Keith, of Butte; four grandsons, Tyler Buchanan of Lawton, Jason Schaeffer and wife, Stephanie, of Altus, Okla., and Daniel and Joseph Schaeffer, both of Kalispell; and six great-grandchildren and a seventh due in October 2009.

Graveside services for Fred will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 9, at Glacier Memorial Gardens, with Pastor Jim Holman officiating.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to Smith Valley Volunteer Fire Department, 3496 U.S. Highway 2 West, Kalispell, MT 59901; or to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

## Ellen Arlene Bullard, 89

Ellen Arlene Bullard, 89, died on Saturday, May 16, 2009, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She was born on Sept. 16, 1919, at Pleasanton, Kan., the daughter of Thomas and Ethel (Troy) Davison. She attended schools in Kansas and Missouri and graduated from Ottawa High School in Ottawa, Ill.

Ellen married Albin Sheme on Jan. 18, 1941, and they had three children, Richard, Sherry and Thomas. They relocated to Hayden, Colo., in 1949 and they owned and operated Hayden Lumber for 12 years. Al passed away on Oct. 3, 1969.

She later met and married Eugene Bullard on Nov. 29, 1974, and Eugene passed away on March 5, 1995.

Ellen was employed at the Yampa Valley National Bank, until her retirement in 1984.

She was a member of the United Church of Christ and



the Order of Eastern Star. Following her retirement, she was a volunteer at The Haven, an assisted living community.

Ellen lived with her daughter in Kalispell for the past two years.

She was preceded in death by her husbands; and a son, Thomas.

She is survived by her son, Richard Sheme, and his wife, Stephanie, of Castle Rock, Colo.; and daughter, Sherry Sheme, of Kalispell; two grandchildren, Mianon and Quenton Sheme; two stepchildren, Calvin Bullard, his wife, Denise, and Marilyn Long, all of Utah; and six stepgrandchildren; Josh and Evan Bullard, Jeff and Greg Carter, Jada Stubbs and Sara Johnson.

A memorial service for Ellen will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26, at the Congregational United Church of Christ in Hayden.

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

## Donald Robert Burns Sr., 78

Donald Robert Burns Sr., 78, passed away peacefully from this life surrounded by his family on June 3, 2009, at Heritage Place in Kalispell, after a long illness at home. Donald was born March 12, 1931, in Springfield, Ill., along with his twin brother Dale.



Don lived and attended schools in Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas as his mother and stepfather advanced to better jobs; his best childhood memories were from Maxwell, Mo. His mother took him and his brother to many Cardinals baseball games in St. Louis, and he was a fervent lifetime fan. He loved watching the Green Bay Packers football games also.

Don joined the U.S. Navy as a gunners mate in May 1948, in Kansas City, Mo.; he served in ordnance and missile systems. Later he served aboard the USS Albaney, USS Elokomin, USS Antares, and many other ships, at sea for months at a time and visiting ports around the world. He was stationed in Tennessee, Massachusetts, Virginia, Michigan and California at various times, with his family living at or near his duty station while he was getting specialized training on shore or was out to sea. He earned four Good Conduct Awards (one was for European occupations) and two National Defense Service Medals during his 23-year Navy career. He retired from the Navy as chief petty officer in June 1971, and moved to Kalispell with his family.

Donald and Myrtle Edith Cameron were married in Tennessee in 1951; Myrtle died suddenly in 1990, after 39 years of marriage, in Kalispell. Three children were born of this union: Donald Jr., Wayne, and Donna Lee. Don worked in trails/signs/building maintenance for the USDA-Forest Service at Columbia Falls Ranger Station and Big Creek Work Center (Glacier View Ranger District) from 1972 to 1983. He and Myrtle moved to Florida for a few months, then moved to Spokane to manage an apartment complex in 1984.

He sold telephone systems in the Flathead after moving back to Kalispell, and then worked at Semitool from 1989 until he fully retired in 2001. He had finished high school in the Navy and went on to take several credited courses at Flathead Valley Community College here — mostly history and Indian culture classes, plus a course in Japanese language.

Don loved eastern Montana and traveled Custer Battlefield, Fort Peck dam and reservoir, Glasgow, Charlie Russell Game Preserve, the Chief Joseph Memorial at Bears Paw Mountains, Fort Benton, the Lewis and Clark Trails Pompey's Pillar, and all other historical sites in between. He was an avid reader of early west settlements and the Indian cultures involved in that historical period. He hunted deer locally, but also escaped to Valier, Chinook, Jordan, Roundup and Ovando whenever possible to hunt. His favorite area in western Montana was the Thompson River country — for camping and fishing.

Don's log home, fruit trees, vegetable and berry garden, lawn and woodworking shop filled a lot of his off-work time too.

Don and Norma LaVonne Brown "Coverdell/McLaughlin" were married Aug. 31, 1991, at the Little Brown Church in Bigfork. They enjoyed travel to Canada, the Pacific coast, Florida, Arizona, Nevada, national parks, Wyoming, and eastern Montana; she shared his love of early west history and Indian Culture, and music. A 10-day vacation to Disneyworld with a cruise to the Bahamas in 1999, then a Tucson, Ariz., visit to his 94-year-old stepfather in 1997, were special times.

He loved country western, classical, and popular music from the 1920s-1980s and playing his mandolin. Humphrey Bogart, Susan Hayward, John Wayne, Sophia Loren, Clint Eastwood and Sonja Henie were favorite celebrities; he never tired of watching old movies and westerns.

Donald was preceded in death by his wife, Myrtle; his parents, Edward Burns and Estelle Dorans; his stepfather, William Dorans; neph-

ew, David Burns; his grandparents; and many aunts and uncles in Illinois.

Don is survived by his wife, Norma; his twin brother, Dale and Doris Burns, of Sunnyvale, Calif.; his son, Don Jr. and Cindy Burns, of Boulder; his son, Wayne and Roberta Burns, of Lakeside; his daughter, Donna Lee and Tom Fuller, of Kalispell; widowed niece, Carlie Burns, and her two sets of twins, of Los Altos, Calif.; grandchildren, Justin Fuller and Amanda Ashland of Kentucky; Ryan Fuller and Trina of Kalispell; Janelle Fuller of Kalispell; Chelsea Burns of Kalispell; Tyler Burns of Lakeside; Donnie Burns and Elizabeth of Kalispell; and Kristie and Steve Youde of Portland; mother-in-law, Helen Coverdell, of Kalispell; stepchildren, Derrick McLaughlin and Cathy of Spokane; Eldon McLaughlin and Shelly of Spokane; and Sue Ellen and Doug Thorp of Kalispell; step-grandchildren, Christopher, Matthew and Brianna McLaughlin of Spokane; D.J. McLaughlin and Angela of Kalispell; Erica McLaughlin and Sean of Bozeman; Robert McLaughlin and Lindie of Virginia; Kevin McLaughlin and Marie of Spokane; Angie and Peter Adams of Tennessee; Lisa and Aaron Sanchez of Kennewick; and Craig Thorp of Kalispell. Don also leaves nine great-grandchildren, 13 step-grandchildren, and numerous relatives in Illinois.

A military honor guard and graveside service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 13, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. A celebration of Don's life and potluck will follow at 2 p.m. at Central Bible Church, 902 First Ave. E., in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Veterans Food Pantry, 1527 Montana 35 E., Kalispell, MT. "In memory of 'Chief' Donald R. Burns, CPO-U.S. Navy."

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for Don's ashes and family. To send condolences, please go to [www.buffalo-hillfh.com](http://www.buffalo-hillfh.com).

## Sheila (Mayo) Burhans, 73

Sheila (Mayo) Burhans, 73, formerly of Kalispell and Whitefish, passed away quietly on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009, in Eugene, Ore.



She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Martha Mayo.

Sheila is survived by her brother, Cyril Mayo, of Whitby, U.K.; and her two sons, Ian McElligott of Surrey, U.K., and Neil McElligott of Post Falls, Idaho; and many other cousins, nieces and nephews.

Sheila was a talented pia-

nist and was playing with local youth orchestras and choirs while still at school. She later became a professional theater pianist, playing for music stars of the time, going on to join entertainment parties, and visiting U.S. bases in Germany and the Middle East before settling in North America. She eventually moved to Florence, Ore., and became a leading light on the local music scene as a musical director and with Rotary Club until ill health curtailed her mobility.

Sheila will always be missed; never to be forgotten, our "Yorkshire Yank."

Memorials are suggested to Rotary International.

## Dusty Lee Burlingham, 20

Dusty Lee Burlingham, 20, died Jan. 21, 2009, in Kalispell. He was born Oct. 21, 1988, in Montrose, Colo., to Ethan and Gloria Burlingham.

He grew up in Elko, Nev., and attended Elko High School. He loved football and played football in high school. He was a beloved son, nephew, cousin and friend.

Dusty is survived by his parents, Ethan and Gloria Burlingham, of Elko; three brothers, Ethan H. Burlingham, Travis W. Burlingham, and Gabriel C. Burlingham, and one sister, Shannon Glory Burlingham,

all of Elko; aunts and uncles, Melody and Ed Flesch, Jolyn and Edward Hoeksma, and aunt, Ferrial Roloff; with many other aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives.

A memorial service for Dusty will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, March 22, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral chapel in Kalispell, with urn burial after services at the Fortine Cemetery in Fortine.

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

## Erna Elizabeth (Hansen) Burns, 99

Erna Elizabeth (Hansen) Burns, 99, died Wednesday, April 22, 2009, at the Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born Sept.



30, 1909, in Seattle, the daughter of George and Maren (Jensen) Hansen, immigrants from Denmark.

She moved with her mother to a homestead 50 miles north of Glasgow in April 1917, joining her father who had established a homestead there in 1915.

She grew up there with her two sisters, Dagny and Valborg, attending one-room elementary schools. She later attended and graduated from high school in Glasgow.

Erna lived with her parents until her marriage to William Russell Burns on June 14, 1932. After her marriage, she and her husband continued to live in Montana, moving to Kila in 1936 where they raised two sons, Rex and Lyle.

During that time, Erna was a housewife and part-time postmistress for the community

of Kila. Her husband worked for various lumber companies in the area. They remained in Kila for 36 years. After losing both sons in accidents, one in 1952 and the other in 1954, they moved to Arkansas, living there for 14 years near her husband's birthplace.

Upon her husband's passing, she moved to Kalispell in 1986, where she has resided since. Most recently she lived at Buffalo Terrace Assisted Living, Immanuel Lutheran Home, and for the past few months at Brendan House.

Her many friends and relatives will miss her.

She is survived by nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Erna will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 25, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, with Pastor Bob Thornton officiating. Visitation will be from noon to 6 p.m. today, April 24, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. Burial will be after services at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

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

## Leslie Arthur Burnell, 79

Leslie "Les" Arthur Burnell, 79, passed away in Marin County, Calif., on Feb. 2, 2009, after a long bout with lung cancer. He was born in Kalispell on June 5, 1929. He received his early schooling through Kalispell's public school system, which he often praised for having provided excellent groundwork for his further education.

As many others have done, he gave special emphasis to Flathead County High School's Dorothy Schoknecht for having been his most outstanding and influential teacher.

Although Les had made his home in Cupertino, Calif., for the past 45 years, he never forgot his Kalispell roots. He honored those by supporting the Museum at Central School and the Northwest Montana Historical Society with his lifetime membership there.

Les graduated from the University of Washington in Seattle with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineer-

ing and later earned his master's in the same field from Santa Clara University. Most of his working life was spent in Silicon Valley's Sylvania and GTE corporations as project manager for the development of military defense communications systems. While there he was awarded GTE's prestigious Warner award for his invention of the Magic Mast Communication System for military purposes.

Les is survived by sons, Bob Burnell of Eugene, Ore., and Alex Burnell of Petaluma, Calif.; daughter, Jan Panter, of Eugene; and a stepson, Chris Skogland, of Napa, Calif. His sister, Lucille "Pee Wee" Graham, of Kalispell and brother, Harry Burnell, of San Francisco, also survive him; as well as two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Memorials in Les' name may be made to the Dorothy Schoknecht Gallery, in care of the Museum at Central School, 124 Second Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901.

## Carrol Gene 'Bud' Burroughs, 79

Carrol Gene "Bud" Burroughs, 79, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.



Bud was born on Feb. 12, 1930, in St. Louis, to Bertha Burroughs. Bud's mother Bertha passed away shortly after his birth, and he was raised by his maternal family in Fairfield, Ill. He moved to Bakersfield, Calif., when he was 17 years old.

Bud enlisted in the U.S. Army when he was 18, and made a career in the military. He served in Germany, where he met and married Alfrieda. They had a son, Charles, who now resides in California.

Bud later got divorced, and married Bonnie; they were married for 28 years, when Bonnie passed away. He moved to Montana, and married Delores; they were married for two years, when she passed away.

He worked for United Airlines and Chevron Oil.

after he retired from the U.S. Army. He loved electronics.

Bud's health began to decline, so he moved into Greenwood Assisted Living, where he was well cared for by Dennis Rasmussen and their staff. Because he needed nursing care, he moved into Heritage Place for a short while.

He shared his hope of Jehovah with all interested people for many years. He "went to sleep in death" Nov. 17, at 8 p.m. from congestive heart failure.

He is survived by his cousin, Betty Desjardins, and her husband, John, of Kalispell; a second cousin, Jim Vastbinder, and his wife, Sam, and their three children, Hunter, Calder and Lily, all of Kalispell; cousin, Barbara Poppe, in Illinois; and many friends, old and new.

Bud had requested that he be cremated, and that no services were to be held. His ashes will be placed in the Pacific Ocean near his departed wife.

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