

Helen M. Kaeding, 88

Helen M. Kaeding, 88, passed away peacefully Friday, Jan. 30, 2009, at her home with her family with her.



"She was ready to go to Heaven to be with her Lord."

Helen was born Aug. 4, 1920, in Coburg, Ore., to Lawrence and Lena Christopherson. The family moved to Whitefish before Helen was 1 year old.

Their mother passed away when Helen and her sister June were very young. Their father was ill, so Helen and June went to live with Art and Edith Papendick. Helen attended Kuhns school and Flathead County High School, graduating in 1939.

On Dec. 25, 1939, she married Carl Vogler in Kalispell. They farmed west of Kalispell and in November 1945, they adopted Carole. In May 1963, Carl passed away suddenly.

She then married Leonard Kaeding in 1965. Leonard passed away in October 1996.

Helen was a longtime member of Trinity Lutheran Evangelical Church and was involved in church activities. She was a 4-H leader and was a member of the Weavers Club. She demonstrated her spinning and weaving for schools in the valley.

Helen enjoyed traveling, and had many stories about the time she and Leonard traveled to Alaska. A very high point in her life was a trip to the Holy Land with her church group.

She told us about her adventure riding a camel, a great time for her.

She continued living on the farm until she moved to a home on Sunburst Court, later moving to Westview Drive.

In 2006, she moved in with her daughter Carole.

Helen is preceded in death by her parents, Lawrence and Lena Christopherson, Art and Edith Papendick and Gilman Sagen; husbands, Carl Vogler and Leonard Kaeding; sister, June Brosten; and brother-in-law, Pete Brosten.

She is survived by her daughter, Carole, and husband, Robert McAtee; five grandchildren, Robert McMannamy, Shane, Jeff and wife-to-be, (Brandi) McAtee, Pamela McMannamy, and David and wife, Heidi McAtee; six great-grandchildren Darin Owens, Austin, Kyrstin, Brady, Parker and Cooper McAtee; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation for Helen will be from 2 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Funeral services for Helen will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, at Trinity Lutheran Evangelical Church. Burial will be afterward at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery.

The family requests memorial contributions to be made to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901, in Helen's memory.

Friends are encouraged to visit our Web site at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave condolences for the family.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

David Kao, 28

David Kao, 28, of Whitefish, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Sept. 24, 2009, at Washington Medical



Center as a result of injuries sustained in an Aug. 8th automobile accident. He was born in Whitefish on Nov. 23, 1980, to Steph and Mike Kao. David attended Whitefish High and happily remained in his hometown after school.

David was a true Montana guy who enjoyed all things outdoors; he spent his free time camping, fishing, hunting and riding ATVs. He was just as happy in his grandpa's shop and was always willing to help a friend or family member with any project. The evidence of this could be seen in his grandfather's neatly groomed yard.

All those who had the pleasure of knowing David loved having him around and his social nature provided many memorable experiences for those closest to him. David's

wild spirit and strong determination to hold onto youth, fun and freedom leave both humorous and heart-wrenching memories for those who knew him well.

David worked as a driver for Grizzly Security and seemed to connect with all the customers he would visit on his route. The family is appreciative of all the cards and well wishes received from those people during his last days.

David is survived by his parents, Mike and LaRee Kao, and Ed and Steph Boschee; grandparents, Glen and Connie Kao, Gladys Jensen, and Larry and Marilyn Jensen; siblings, Jennifer and Cody Watson, and LaChelle and Ken Freeland; nieces, Victoria and Isabelle; his best friend, Jim Thompson; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. He also leaves behind his infamous dog Rowdy.

A celebration of his life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, in his grandfather's shop at 1569 East Edgewood Drive. For more information, call Jennifer at 261-6789.

Bruce A. Kapron, 40

Bruce A. Kapron, 40, died at his Kalispell residence on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009.

Arrangements are pending at this time. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Michael S. Kair, 24

Michael S. Kair, 24, died Friday, July 31, 2009, at his home in Libby from natural causes. Michael was born Nov. 10, 1984, in Libby, to Scott and Susan LeiVan Kair.



He grew up and attended school in Libby, graduating with the class of 2004. Michael was an intelligent young man who was goal-oriented. He wished to further his education in computers and even go to law school.

Michael enjoyed fishing, hunting, camping, watching movies and his family. He had a big heart, as well as a great outlook on life. Michael was a Christian and loved the Lord.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Diane Spencer; and great-granddad, Morriss Kair.

Survivors include his wife, Nichole Beaulieu Kair, of Libby; parents, Scott Kair and Susan Kair, both of Libby; brothers, Shane Kair of Kalispell, and Jamie and Chance Kair, both of Libby; grandparents, Marilyn Kair, Mike Kair and Phil Spencer, all of Libby; great-grandmother, Edith Kair, of Libby; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

On Aug. 16, following the Sunday services, there will be a reception for Michael followed by memorial services at 2:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Libby.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

Fred M. Karper, 79

Fred M. Karper, 79, of Columbia Falls, formerly of Shippensburg, Pa., "went to be with the Lord" on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009.

Born April 15, 1930, he was a member of the Fellowship Alliance Church in Columbia Falls. He was also a long-time member, Sunday School teacher, and lay leader of the Prince Street United Brethren church in Shippensburg.

He was retired from Frey & Karper Trucking and served as the Southampton Township Supervisor in Pennsylvania.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dorothy (Reath) Karper; one son, Douglas, and wife, Colleen; four daughters, Cheryl and Kevin Keller, and Pam and Ed Albrite, all of Columbia Falls, Marge and Jeff Kunklman of Shippensburg, and

Bev Karper of Key West, Fla.; 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

His parents, Luther and Alice Karper, along with eight brothers and six sisters, preceded him in death.

Friends and family are welcome from 6 to 8 p.m. today, Sept. 15, at Columbia Mortuary. Services will be at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 16, at Fellowship Alliance Church in Columbia Falls.

We cherish everyone's love and support over the years and through his recent illness.

Because of his love to serve others in the Lord, donations in his memory can be made to the benevolent fund at Fellowship Alliance Church, 1025 Seventh Ave. W., Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

Orris A.H. Kastella, 83

Orris A.H. Kastella, 83, passed away Jan. 15, 2009, in Whitefish.

He was born Sept. 25, 1925, in Whitefish, the second son of Anton and Dagny Kastella. Orris' father passed away in 1933, leaving his wife to raise their five children.

As the children grew they helped supplement their financial needs by doing odd jobs, building bicycles to sell, raising rabbits, selling seeds door-to-door and delivering newspapers twice a day.

Several summers, the boys traveled to Minnesota by train to work on an uncle's farm. Hearing the words "back to school" were words Orris did not want to hear or read, even in his later years!

In 1942, Orris worked on the section gang during the summer for the Great Northern Railroad. In 1943, he worked as a callboy to alert the train crews to their schedules.

In July 1944, he was inducted into the U.S. Army and served in New Guinea and the Philippines until his honorable discharge in August 1946.

Orris returned to Whitefish and was employed by the railroad, working in the yard office and the baggage room until his retirement in 1985. He also worked for Rocky Mountain Transportation.



Orris married Fern Jensen on June 27, 1953. They were blessed with three sons who grew up in Whitefish — Douglas, Jeffrey and Joseph.

Orris enjoyed biking, hiking, camping, skiing, flying and delivering Meals-on-Wheels. He really liked train rides, yard sales, attending pancake breakfasts, harvest dinners and chatting with friends.

He attended church as often as he could and put all his trust in the Lord.

Orris was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Norman and Melvin; and sisters, Esther and Irma.

He is survived by his wife, Fern; half sister, Ruby Osmon, in Austin, Minn.; three sons, Douglas and wife, Jennifer, Jeffrey and wife, Cynthia, and Joseph and wife, Susan; grandchildren, Heidi, Kyle, Ryan and Serena; stepgrandchildren, Melissa, Robert and Dale; great-grandchildren, Breyenne and Breyden; stepgreat-grandchildren, Taylor, Zachary and Melanie; sisters-in-law, Ettie Kastele and Helen Harris; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on July 2 at Christ Lutheran Church, 5150 River Lakes Parkway in Whitefish, with Pastor John Bent officiating. A lunch will be served.

Friends and families are invited to join the family for the graveside service at 2 p.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. We will meet there.

Sadie (Miller) Kauffman, 96

Sadie (Miller) Kauffman, 96, of Kalispell,

formerly of Condon, "went to be with her Lord and

Savior, Jesus Christ" on Dec. 28, 2009. She was born Nov. 15, 1913, to Daniel F. and Sarah (Coblentz) Miller in Bloomfield.

On Sept. 22, 1940, she married Reuben S. Kauffman of Creston. In 1947 they moved to the Swan Valley where she resided until 2004. She then moved to Kalispell where she resided first at Prestige Assisted Living and later at Immanuel Lutheran Home.

She was a devoted wife and mother. She loved children and after raising her own, babysat for many neighbor children over the years. For a time she worked for the U.S. Forest Service planting trees in the summer months.

Besides cooking, baking and sewing, she liked to take pictures and was known far and wide for the buggy-rim rugs she made.

She was a devout Christian and for more than 30 years she and her husband traveled the 60 miles to Creston to attend Sunday school and worship services at Mountain View Mennonite Church.

The family also wishes to thank the staff at Immanuel Lutheran Home for the



wonderful care they gave our mother during the last months of her life.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Reuben S. Kauffman; daughter, Gwendlyn Kauffman; infant son, Jere; her parents; five brothers and six sisters.

She is survived by one brother, Nathan Miller, and his wife, Kathryn, of Sidney; son-in-law, Paul Kauffman, of Wolford, N.D.; two sons, Lowell and his wife, Pauline of Missoula, and Nathan and his wife, Fern, of Condon; two daughters, Myrene Iverson and her husband, Jerry, of Long Lake, Minn., and Carol Kauffman and her husband, Dennis, of Lebanon Pa.; 19 grandchildren and 43 great-grandchildren.

There will be a memorial service for Sadie at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 8, at Mountain View Mennonite Church in Creston. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 7, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell. Interment will be at the Creston Cemetery. A private family burial service will take place prior to the memorial service.

The family suggests memorials be made to Mennonite Central Committee or Gideons Bible Society.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Sadie's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Sadie's guest book, offer condolences and share memories.

John Richard 'Dick' Kavanagh, 88,

John Richard "Dick" Kavanagh, 88, died Thursday, Sept. 3, 2009, at a Spokane hospital.

Locally, he had worked as the preliminary surveying engineer for the Hungry Horse Dam where he was employed by the Bureau of Reclamation.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia; and six children, Gary Kavanagh, Dave Kavanagh and

Diane Stocks, all of Spokane, Greg Kavanagh of Pasco, Wash., Jan Schrag of Walla Walla, Wash., and Doug Kavanagh of Vancouver, Wash.

Memorial Mass was held Sept. 8 at Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral of Spokane. Interment with military honors was held at 1:30 p.m. at the Immaculate Heart Retreat Center Cemetery in Spokane.

Edna B. Kelch, 91

Edna B. Kelch, 91, passed away on Sunday, Nov. 22, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. She was born on April 10, 1918, in Galata, the daughter of Martin and Bertha (Wollan) Dukleth.



As a small child her family moved to the Badrock area south of Columbia Falls. She attended grade school at Badrock and Columbia Falls, until her senior year in high school when the family moved to their log house at the entrance of Tally Lake. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1937.

Edna met and married Everett Kelch in the summer of 1937. Together they built a home near her parents and farmed and cleared the land. They had their first three children, Ellen, Larry Dean and John.

World War II began and the family moved to Seattle to work, making things for the war effort. Their son John passed away at nine months, so Edna put their two children in daycare and went to work as a drill press operator.

After the war, the family moved back to the Flathead to their home in the Bissell community. Edna and Everett had three more children, Lloyd, Sherry and Robert "Bob."

The family farmed, milking cows and sold the cream to the Equity supply as ice cream. They fed the milk to the calves and pigs. In the fall of each year they would cut Christmas trees. Edna baked bread, cakes, cookies and pies and enjoyed cooking large dinners. She also canned fruit and had a large garden every year.

We were always fishing and she loved the fresh trout. Edna was always proud of the fact her children all graduated from high school.

In 1969, she and Everett divorced and she went to

work at the Viking Lodge in Whitefish as a housekeeper for about 15 years. She later went to work at the Snowline Tree Company, where she made wreaths and Christmas rope.

While working at the Viking, she also started a love for china painting and made many plates, dishes and cups.

She stayed on the farm where she fed the cows in the winter and cut hay in the summer. Edna sold the farm in 1992 and moved to Lake Blaine to be near her daughter, Sherry. She kept her garden and also had a flower garden.

She belonged to the Stillwater Grange, Bissell Home Demonstration Group and also volunteered with 4-H projects.

She loved to have you come for a visit for a short time and then she'd say, "You go home now and take that dog with you."

Edna moved to Renaissance Assisted Living in October 2009.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Owen "Bud" Dukleth and William "Bill" Dukleth, and their wives; one grandson, Owen Madsen; three sons, Larry Dean Kelch and Robert "Bob" Kelch, and infant son, John Kelch; and son-in-law, Dave Creighton.

She is survived by two daughters, Ellen Creighton, and Sherry Madsen and husband, Gerald, both of Kalispell; son, Lloyd Kelch, and wife, Marcia, of Columbia Falls; daughter-in-law, Evelyn Kelch, of Polson; 17 grandchildren, 48 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services for Edna will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 27, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel, with Pastor Tim Bartholomew officiating. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Edna's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Edna's guest book, offer condolences and share memories.

Allen R. 'Ray' Kelly, 88

Allen R. "Ray" Kelly, 88, of Libby died Oct. 16, 2009, in Libby from natural causes.

He is survived by sons Alan Kelly of Libby, Doug Kelly of Atlanta and Mike

Kelly of Rathdrum, Idaho. Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, at the Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home Chapel, 422 W. Second St. in Libby.

Christopher Shane Kelly, 38

Christopher Shane Kelly, 38, of Kila, died as the result of injuries received in a vehicle accident on U.S. 93 near Olney on Sunday, Oct. 4, 2009.

Surviving him are his daughter, Hailey Rae Kelly, and mother, Betty Kelly, of Kila.

Private arrangements are by Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

Thomas Leroy Kelly, 45

Thomas Leroy Kelly, 45, of Creston, passed away on Thursday, April 30, 2009, in his home after a long battle with ALS, (Lou Gehrig's Disease). Thomas was born July 15, 1963, in Yakima, Wash., to Herbert and Marjorie Kelly. He moved to Eatonville, Wash., at the age of 15 and graduated from Eatonville High School.



Tom worked at Kaiser Aluminum Factory in Tacoma, Wash., along with his father for 11 years and spent the next four years in the construction and carpentry business.

He met his current wife Bobbie while building hotels in Las Vegas; after a short courtship they married and relocated to Kalispell. He had dreamed of living in the Flathead Valley since the age of 19 when he was on a crew planting trees to reforest near Libby.

Tom held several jobs after relocating to Kalispell, starting at Glacier Nursery in Creston. He then met Myron Mast and worked on the family ranch near Creston for four years, where the family still lives. His final job was at Tree Image Custom Cabinet Shop in Kalispell. He worked there until 2005, when his disease progressed to the point where he was not able to hold on to the

tools used in his trade.

Tom loved the outdoors and was always able to find something to do outside, winter or summer. His favorite pastimes included snowmobiling, hunting, ice fishing and camping.

Many of his friends remember his love for entertaining his friends at outdoor cookouts where he served his famous barbecue beef brisket. He loved spending time with his family and especially loved teaching his boys how to hunt and enjoy the outdoors.

Thomas was preceded in death by his father, Herbert G. Kelly, of Kila.

He is survived by his wife, Bobbie, of Creston; four children, Michael Glenn Kelly and John Cagle of Creston, Jodi Kelly of Eatonville, and David Kelly of Virginia Beach, Va.; and two grandchildren, Nicolas and Christian, of Eatonville. He is also survived by his mother, Marjorie Kemper, of Yakima; two sisters, Tina Simpson and husband, Donny, of Creston, and Cindy Meador and husband, John, of Kila; four brothers, George Kelly, and Bruce, Brian and Jimmy Kemper, all of Yakima; also many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Friends and family may pay their respects from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at Buffalo Hill Chapel. An informal celebration of his life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Flathead County Fairgrounds Expo Building, 265 N. Meridian Road.

James E. Kelso, 78

James E. Kelso, 78, of Troy, died June 21, 2009, at Libby Care Center.

He worked in the timber industry and drove a logging truck.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy Kelso; daughters, Bonnie Kelso, Donna Montgomery, Joan Nickelson, Kim Kelso, Connie

Kelso and Jean Hartley; and sons, Roy and Mark Kelso.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, June 29, at Troy Community Baptist Church. Interment will be at 4 p.m. at Grand View Cemetery in Bonners Ferry, Idaho.

Robert William Kemler, 82

Robert William Kemler, 82, passed away March 3, 2009, at his home in Lakeside. He was born May 31, 1926, in Canandaigua, N.Y., to William F. and Anna E. (Durnin) Kemler.

He grew up and went to Brighton High School in Rochester, N.Y., and then to State Ranger School, graduating in 1948. He went to Forestry School at the University of Montana in Missoula and graduated in 1953. He was a die-hard Griz fan. His son will continue that tradition.

After a 28-year career with the Federal Highway Administration in Montana, New York and Minnesota, he then retired to the Flathead Valley, living on Flathead Lake.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Kemler, of Lakeside; and his only son, Steven W. Kemler, and significant other, Kelly Susen, of Missoula.

Memorial services for Robert Kemler will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 6, at the Lakeside Chapel, with Pastor Dennis Reese officiating. There will be no visitation.

The family suggests memorials be given to the Lakeside Chapel, P.O. Box 162, Lakeside, MT 59922.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Robert's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and sign Robert's guest book.

Russell Glenn 'R. Glenn' Kennedy, 86

Russell Glenn "R. Glenn" Kennedy passed on Nov. 14, 2009, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, with family at his side. He was two days shy of his 87th birthday.

R. Glenn was born Nov. 16, 1922, in Anaconda, to Frank Leiter and Naomi Gould Kennedy. He had four brothers and one sister. He graduated from Anaconda High School in 1941, having become an Eagle Scout. R. Glenn lived by The Scout Law his entire life — trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

After high school, he worked in the drafting department at the Anaconda Copper Mining smelter before enrolling at the then Montana State College in Bozeman.

His education was interrupted by military service in World War II. R. Glenn served in the intelligence section of Regimental Headquarters of the Seventh Cavalry in the Pacific Theater, achieving the rank of master sergeant. After the war ended, he remained in the reserve for three years. He finished his college degree in 1949 after he met Betty Jean Terry. They were married on June 13, 1948, in Missoula.

R. Glenn and Betty had three children, Merry Kay of Fallon, Nev., Terry Glenn of Livingston, and Daniel Frank of Wasilla, Alaska. R. Glenn and Betty have seven grandchildren, Brenda, Rebecca, Naomi, Lindsay, David,



Rachel and Teresa; and one great-grandson, Lucas.

R. Glenn taught school in Wilsall and Fort Benton before moving to Columbia Falls in 1955 to take a job with the Anaconda Aluminum plant. He was a supervisor for most of his career and then a superintendent before retiring in 1984.

First and foremost, R. Glenn Kennedy was a family man. He attended every event his children participated in. He enjoyed taking his family camping and imparted much knowledge of the outdoors to his two sons, taking them hunting, fishing and hiking up Teakettle and Columbia mountains. He was an accomplished carpenter.

R. Glenn served on the Columbia Falls school board, was a Cub Scout Cub Master, a member of Toastmasters and a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

He is survived by his wife, Betty, the immediate family; and one brother, Kenneth "Buzz" Kennedy, of Seattle.

The Kennedy family extends a special thank you to the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls for the extraordinary care of R. Glenn during his three-year illness. The staff became part of the family.

R. Glenn's remains have been cremated. Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Dec. 5, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls, with Pastor Peter Erickson officiating. A reception will follow. Friends are encouraged to attend.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to First Best Place Task Force at www.firstbestplace.org.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is assisting the family.

Sheila O. Kenelty, 60

Sheila O. Kenelty, 60, a lifelong resident of Libby, died of cancer Wednesday, July 1, 2009.

She had worked as the bookkeeper for Decker Logging for 31 years.

Survivors include her husband, Keith Kenelty, of Libby; sons, Kevin Kenelty of Poblar, and Darrin

Kenelty of Kalispell; and mother, Margaret Decker of Libby.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 8, at the Libby Christian Church in Libby.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

Michael Paul Ketcher, 58

"Michael was our friend!"

Wherever there was music, fun, a gathering in support of art, peace or an environmental cause, Michael was there with his indomitable smile. He was a lifetime athlete and he never stopped moving; never stopped spreading cheer. He clearly chose the path for his departure — he was running in Woodland Park, across the street from his home on March 16, 2009, when he went down and never regained consciousness.

Michael was born June 19, 1950, in Nevada, Iowa, where he was also raised, and he went back to visit every year. While growing up, he and his beloved brothers, Rick and Dave, spent many happy summers with Mom and Dad, Dick and Dorothy Ketcher, at their cabin on Lake Superior, near Grand Marais, Minn. The boys continued to reunite at the cabin every autumn and it is there that Michael will finally come to rest.

After high school graduation, Michael attended the University of Montana, where he completed his degree in political science, with concentration in African-American studies. One of the most satisfying moments in Michael's life was when Barack Obama was finally elected president.

Michael played a season of football for The Grizzlies and he was a life-long Grizzly fan. If the Grizzlies made it to Chattanooga, Michael was there to cheer them on. If there was a Blues Cruise to be gone on, Michael was on board dancing. If there was a Burning Man celebration in the desert, Michael was there with bells on. If there was a New Year's celebration at Red's, Michael was everywhere, sharing hugs.

Upon graduation from college, Michael toured the United States and Canada, looking for a place to celebrate life in the outdoors. He finally chose the Flathead Valley on the Swan River.



And then the fun began for all of us! Michael built a miniature golf course in his front yard, where everybody came to play. When

he finally established "a work career" in neon art, he lit up Montana, and he celebrated by wrapping the house in neon for Halloween parties to which everyone was invited. Later he bought a house next to Woodland Park where he established his base camp — his last best place!

He was a relentless world traveler, a runner, a hiker, a biker and a rafter. He loved Glacier National Park and floating all of Montana's great rivers with friends.

School children and neighbors all over the east side of Kalispell enjoyed the daily treat of watching Uncle Mike walk by with his beloved dogs Willy and Babe. Michael never knocked when visiting, but we always enjoyed the tapping of doggie claws in the entry way and a friendly "Yo!" in greeting. We will all miss Michael immensely!

Michael is survived by his loving brothers, Rick and Dave, his nieces, Dana, Sara and Janelle, all of us, and the great Montana outdoors.

Let the tears flow, gather the memories, put on a smile, and come celebrate Michael's life with us at 6 p.m. on Friday evening at The Montessori School, 349 Willow Glen Drive. Bring a little potluck and wear some flowers in your hair.

You can remember Mike with a contribution to The Sam Bibler Commemorative Trails Project, P.O. Box 515, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Friends are encouraged to visit www.buffalohillfh.com to leave condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Avis Vivian Keyes, 96

Avis Vivian Keyes, 96, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2009, at Brendan House in Kalispell, from complications after



a stroke. Avis was born April 3, 1912, in rural Hopkins, Mich. She was raised in the Hopkins area and graduated from Shelbyville High School in Shelbyville.

In 1932, she married Royal Francis Keyes in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Avis worked as a child care professional, live-in nanny, wife and mother. She was active with the First Baptist Church of Oak Park, Ill., with their Bible classes, and was a member and officer of Women's Circle and the Gamma Nu Sunday school, all for more than 70 years.

Her charity work involved the American Red Cross, March of Dimes, Paralyzed Veteran's of America, and ministering to nursing homes and shut-ins from church.

Avis enjoyed all aspects of nature and wildlife, dress design fashion trends, classical music, all aspects of scientific research, space exploration, extensive journal writing with prolific illustrations, and was an exhibiting visual artist.

Avis was preceded in death by her parents, John and Julia Olson; husband, Royal Francis Keyes; brother, Archie; and sisters, Eleanor, Judith, Irene, Lillian and Carol Olson.

She is survived by her children, Spencer Alan Keyes, Sherryl Ann Keyes, Carolyn Marie Keyes, Carl Douglas Keyes and Michael David Keyes; two grandchildren, Eric Malcom Pollard and Nathan Keyes Cheng; and two great-grandchildren, Oscar and Desmond Cheng.

Memorial contributions may be made to the First Baptist Church of Oak Park, 820 Ontario, Oak Park, IL 60302. Friends are encouraged to visit the Web site at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

James C. King, 82

James C. King, 82, passed away May 18, 2009, at his home in Kalispell, due to cancer. He was born March 26, 1927, in Wolfe City, Texas.

He joined the U.S. Navy in 1944 and served for 23 years, prior to his retirement.

He is survived by his wife

of 30 years, Priscilla King; and a sister, Pauline Rios, of California.

Cremation has taken place. Per his request, no services will be held.

Memorial donations are requested to Home Options Hospice.

Lois Nancy Bally King, 94

Lois Nancy Bally King, 94, passed away on July 14, 2009, at the Weatherly Inn in Kent, Wash. Born Jan. 15, 1915, Lois was the youngest of three daughters born to Walter and Barbara Bally in Kalispell. She graduated from Flathead County High School.

She met and later married her husband, Harry King, when he visited his cousin one summer. They had four children, eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Harry and Lois lived in McGill, Nev., for many years, later moving to Elko, Nev., Palm Springs, Calif., Las Vegas and Boulder City, Nev., where he passed away. Lois then moved to Fernley, Nev., and Reno, Nev., before coming to live with her daughter in Covington, Wash.

She loved visiting with family and friends, growing lilacs and irises, tending the flowers in her yard,

and especially watching the birds that came to her feeders.

Surviving Lois are her sons, Robert and Betty King of Frisco, Texas, and John and Pat King of Carson City, Nev.; daughter, Janet Johnson, of Covington; grandchildren, Cheryl Haughey, Carol and Steve Gaddis, John C. and Marji King, David and Deana Lyon, Michael and Michelle Lyon, Scot and Angela Johnson, and Brad and Emely Johnson; great-grandchildren, Aidan Haughey, Alison Haughey, Rebecca King, Jessica Lyon, Brandon Lyon, Cameron Johnson, Faith Johnson, Mariah Weems and Joseph Johnson.

Lois was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Cameron King; daughter, Sandra Lyon; grandchild, Robert King; and her parents and sisters.

She will be laid to rest with her husband in East Ely, Nev.

Nellie Chandler King, 76

Nellie Chandler King, 76, a resident of Columbia Falls, died Saturday at her home.

She had worked as a certified nurses assistant at Colonial Manor in Whitefish and later as a bookkeeper in the area.

Surviving her are three sons, Sonny and Randy King, both of Columbia Falls, and Greg King Allentown, Pa.

Services and interment will be in Alabama at a later date. Local arrangements are by Columbia Mortuary.

Harold John King Jr., 63

Harold John King Jr., 63, "went with the Lord" Oct. 11, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center due to myocardial infarction. He was born Dec. 11, 1945, in Fort Wayne, Ind.

He graduated in 1963 from South Side High School in Fort Wayne. He also attended Flathead Valley Community College, graduating with high honors.

Harold served in the Army National Guard from September 1965 to September 1971.

Harold was a sheriff's deputy in Fort Wayne, and later served as sheriff's deputy in Kalispell. After retirement, he went to work at Kalispell Junior High School as a crossing guard/monitor.

His hobbies and interests included fishing, hunting, music, and building various

collections. Harold also loved worshipping the Lord.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Ruby DeLois Smith, and father, Harold John King.

Harold is survived by his children, Julie Kelley of Grabill, Ind., Heather King, Melissa King and Suzanne King, all of Kalispell; stepdaughters, Barbie Swaim and Lori Miller, both of Leo, Ind.; sister, Karen Hedges, of Redmond, Ore.; grandchildren, Nik Kelly and McKenna Kelley of Grabill, and Haylee Burden and Aden Laisuthrukklai, of Kalispell; nieces and nephews, Rachael Hedges and Abby Hedges of Redmond, and Carla Crane and Zack Crane of Hailey, Idaho.

Burial has taken place at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 22, at Family Life Christian Church, located at 1075 Foy's Lake Road, in Kalispell.

Mary Alice Kinshella, 87

Mary Alice Kinshella, 87, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2009, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. Mary was born Dec. 9, 1922, in Great Falls, to Andrew and Anna Ella (Conrad) Evertt. She was raised in the Flathead Valley and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1943.

In 1944, she married Dennis Kinshella in Libby. They had 45 wonderful years together before Dennis passed away.

Mary worked at Montgomery Wards, Ben Franklin and finally Safeway Food Stores, where she retired.

Mary loved the Flathead Valley! She would enjoy taking rides around the valley and tell you who had homesteaded where. Being a lifelong resident, she knew almost everyone in the valley at one point. Mary just enjoyed life and had a wonderful sense of humor. She was a great joy to be around.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Dennis.



She is survived by her daughters, Gloria Rose of Oklahoma City, and Terry Johnston of Kalispell; sister, Virginia

Schmitt; and grandchildren, Kim Briggs, Kevin Rose, Michelle Mitchell, Jackie Monda and Andrea Johnston.

Visitation for Mary will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 20, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 21, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. A reception will follow the services at the Eagles Lodge.

The family requests memorial contributions be made to Home Options Hospice.

Friends are encouraged to visit www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Ann E. (Toothman) Kirby, 91

Ann E. (Toothman) Kirby, 91, of Whitefish, formerly of Overland Park, Kan., died Nov. 3, 2009, at her daughter's home in Whitefish.

She is survived by her husband, Robert M. Kirby; daughter, Peggy Kirby; and two sons, Michael of Auburn, Kan., and Patrick of Denver.

Cremation has taken place with Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

A Mass for her intention will be said at 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21, at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Whitefish.

Her cremated remains will be interred in the spring in Overland Park.

Tyler Morggan Kirkedahl, 16

Tyler Morggan Kirkedahl, 16, passed away on Sept. 12, 2009, at his home in Trego. He was born June 22, 1993, in Whitefish, the son of Scott and Melani Kirkedahl. He grew up in Trego, attended Trego Elementary School and Eureka High School.

He was active in basketball, wrestling, and football in grade school. His hobbies included playing on the computer, phone texting and hanging out with his friends. He loved the outdoors and his brothers and sister.

Survivors include his parents, Scott and Melani Kirkedahl, of Trego; a sister, Ashley Kirkedahl, and her

children, Raylee and Madilyn Johnson; two brothers, Xenie Kirkedahl and Randy Kirkedahl; his grandmothers, Jan Rieben and Joanne Shupert; great-grandmother, Helen Phelps; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18, at the Chapel of Praise Church, 6474 U.S. 93 S. in Eureka, with a reception to follow.

Memorials may be made to the Scott Kirkedahl Family of Trego, c/o Glacier Bank, the Tyler Kirkedahl Memorial Account. Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka.

James Henry Klein, 88

James Henry Klein died Sunday, March 8, 2009, at Brendan House in Kalispell, after a brief illness.

Jim was born in Boston on Oct. 12, 1920, the son of Maree and August Klein. The oldest of five children, he lived a long, happy and adventurous life, and had an insatiable curiosity and perpetual optimism. He loved skiing, sailing, hiking, camping, tennis, gardening, birding, collecting stamps and coins, and spending time with his family.

Jim was raised with his three brothers and a sister in Newton, Mass. He joined the Boy Scouts as a Cub Scout, ultimately earning the rank of Eagle Scout, being one of the first Scouts in America to go from Cub Scout to Eagle Scout.

After graduation from Newton High School, he attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, graduating with a bachelor's and master's degree in 1942, and a doctorate in chemical engineering in 1950. While in college, he competed nationally in slalom and downhill skiing.

An avid pilot, Jim flew sailplanes for years, taking part in long-distance soaring competitions, and occasionally landing in cow pastures, corn fields, and once in a high-security government compound where it took some fast talking to get both him and his sailplane out of the facility.

On Dec. 16, 1954, Jim married the love of his life, Betty Brown. They raised their four children, Lyndi, Cissy, Rick and Alison, in Littleton, Colo. As a family, they hiked, fished and camped all across the state, and spent summer weekends sailing, and winter weekends on the ski slopes. He was one of the principal developers of Keystone Ski Area in Summit County, Colo., and his extended family all ski hard and fast because of his love of skiing.

Music was an integral part of Jim's life. He played the piano and guitar and knew hundreds of folk songs. He instilled in his children the same love of music, and the entire family sings songs in tight harmony at every opportunity. His love of travel began with his trip to the



1937 Boy Scout World Jamboree in Bloemendaal, The Netherlands. Jim and Betty traveled throughout the world, enjoying trips to Kenya, Yugoslavia, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Mexico, all across Europe, and 49 of the 50 states. In 1981, they moved from Littleton to Breckenridge, Colo.; in 1993, they moved to Kalispell. For the past 25 years, they enjoyed building and spending time at their second home in Hope Town, Abaco, Bahamas.

In celebration of his 85th birthday, Jim made a tandem sky dive, with the challenge to his children to do the same on their next milestone birthdays.

Professionally, Jim was involved in cutting-edge research and development. During the war years, he worked for the Union Oil Company. Subsequently, he worked for the Institute of Inventive Research and Stanley Aviation, before starting his own company, Klein Aerospace, where he worked primarily as a consultant in the aerospace and nuclear fields for companies including Sandia Labs, Martin Marietta, and Los Alamos National Laboratory. He was a Toastmaster and a lifelong member of Rotary International.

He is survived by Betty, his beloved wife of 54 years; and their children, Lyndi and Dave Tyrrell of Breckenridge; Cissy and Mitch Booth of Somers; Rick and Dorothea Klein of Chester, N.J.; and Alison Klein and Matt Thompson of Somers; four grandchildren, Carson Booth and Megan "Petie" Booth of Somers, and Katrina Klein and Sara Klein of Chester; two brothers, Gus Klein of Woodside, Calif., and John and Linda Klein of Cupertino, Calif.; sister-in-law, Isobel and John Hernandez of Las Cruces, N.M.; brother-in-law, Sherburne and Marianne Brown, of Moraga, Calif.; and numerous nieces and nephews, and their spouses and children.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Frederic; his sister, Maree; and his sister-in-law, Abigail.

The family suggests memorial contributions be sent to the American Heart Association.

Jim's wishes were for no services to be held. A celebration of his life will take place at a later date.

Richard 'Dick' Kling, 63

Richard "Dick" Kling, 63, died Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009.

He is survived by his children, Amy Sorvillo of Oberstaufenbach, Germany, Bryan Kling of Ronan, and Lisa Kolenda of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service and potluck celebration of life will be held at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8, at the Swan River Hall. Those attending are invited to jam with local musicians.

Marjorie Joan Scott Knight, 87

Marjorie Joan Scott Knight, 87, died Sunday, Jan. 11, 2009, at St. John Lutheran Hospital in Libby.

Survivors include her daughters, Carolyn Nannett Schull, Rosalie M. Wurz, and Deborah J. Byrd, all of Libby.

Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16, at the Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home. Services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, at the funeral home. A reception will be afterward at the Ben and Rosalie Wurz residence, 63 Timberlane.

Elmer 'Budd' Knopfle, 63

Elmer "Budd" Knopfle died July 21, 2009, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. He was born on July 3, 1946, in Whitefish, to Edwin and Jeannie Knopfle.

Budd graduated from Whitefish High School. He had five additional years of schooling at the University of Honduras, University of Montana, University of California-Berkeley, and Flathead Valley Community College, majoring in psychology and sociology. He went to Central America in 1965, returning to the U.S. when drafted into the Army.

He entered the U.S. Army, Nov. 10, 1966, as a radio operator and was honorably discharged Nov. 8, 1968. He served one year in Vietnam. He earned a combat infantryman badge, Vietnam Service Medal and Vietnamese Campaign Medal, and an overseas

service badge.

He moved back to Central America later and farmed for a number of years and did some weaving, traveled around Asia, returning to Montana in 1988. From 1988 to 1999, he worked for Human Resources in Kalispell in the homeless program.

He had a stroke in 1999 and entered the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, on July 20, 1999. He was very well-liked and will be missed very much.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister.

Survivors include Lowell and Ellen Mae Knopfle of Kalispell and Betty Knopfle Shultz of Rexford, and other relatives around the state.

Budd requested no services but wished to have his ashes spread on the Flathead River.

"We will miss you, Budd."

Leonard Lyle Knudsen, 65

Leonard Lyle Knudsen, 65, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2009, at his home in Coram. Lyle was born on Aug. 1, 1943, in Oakland, Calif., to Lyle M. and Elizabeth (Lee) Knudsen. He was raised in Montana, where he graduated from high school.

He married Mary Lynn Hankins in Helena, in 1966. Leonard went to work for the Burlington Northern Railroad, where he received specialized training in order to do his job. He retired from the railroad after 25 years, where he had worked up to the position of yardmaster.

Leonard's hobbies included cars, hunting and racing.

Leonard was a very strong polio, who had lived with polio for 61 years.

Leonard was preceded in death by his father, Lyle M. Knudsen; mother, Elizabeth Lee Anderson; brother, Milton,

and wife, Sandy Knudsen; and brother, Michael W. Anderson.

He is survived by his son, Darrin Knudsen, and his wife, Crystal; daughter, Kerry Walter, and husband, Trevor; son, David, and wife, Tiffany Knudsen; siblings, Betty Jean and Charles Notbohm, Virginia Brazill, William and wife, Stanley Knudsen, Peggy and Ken Carmack, John Knudsen and Daniel Anderson; grandchildren, Joseph Knudsen, Garrett, Robert and Samuel Walter, Travis Heitmann and Sareece Heitmann.

A private family service will be held now, and a celebration of Leonard's life will be held for the public in the late spring or early summer.

You are invited to go to www.buffalohillfh.com to leave your condolences and sign Leonard's memorial book.

Sheridan V. Knutson, 63

Sheridan V. Knutson, 63, died Dec. 1, 2009, at his home in Columbia Falls of a very short illness.

Sheridan was born on Nov. 21, 1946, in Oakland, Calif., to Vern and Verna Knutson.

He graduated from Flathead High School and served for six years in the Guards. In his later years he attended the University of Montana where he played in the Jazz band and was a big fan of the Grizzlies.

Sheridan was a lover of jazz music and brass instruments. He recently discovered his interest in gardening, growing strawberries, peppers and potatoes. He loved being in the great outdoors, watching the sunset, picking huckleberries, and camping with his grandchildren. From day one of being



a grandpa, he is known to his grandkids as "Papa Duck" because of his Donald Duck voice. We will all miss eating Whoppers, drinking rootbeer floats and especially Christmas time with Papa. He will be missed every single day.

He is survived by his sister, Fay McMannamy, and Steve Sheppard, of Kalispell; his daughter, Kim Role, and Mark Role, of Columbia Falls; daughter, Dustyne Salminen, and Shane Salminen, of Eureka, and Teri Hill and Gene Hill of Whitefish; and his grandchildren, Kortney, Garrett, James and Avery Role, Tanner and Colter Salminen, and Rusty, Jesse and Cody Hill.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Vern and Verna.

His funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, at the Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, with a military graveside service to follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A celebration of his life will be at 4 p.m. at the VFW in Kalispell.

Cynthia Marie Kobylenski, 52

Our beloved Cynthia Marie Kobylenski passed away Sunday, Aug. 9, 2009.



How does one begin to describe the life force of Cindy? To begin, Cindy was born May 30, 1957, in Riverhead, N.Y., to Helen and Frank Ruskowski.

She attended NYU Polytechnic in Brooklyn, where she received her master's degree in electrical engineering. Her degree culminated into a job at Hazelteen Corp., where she was an aeronautical antenna development engineer and taught as an adjunct professor at NYU Poly for electrical engineering.

Cindy lived and worked in New York until she and her future husband, Len, married on May 10, 1986. After their wedding, Cindy moved to Montana where they grew, with great flourish and ingenuity, Mission Mountains Mercantile.

Through the store, Cindy's cooking and creative genius soared, bringing delicacies previously unknown to the valley. After building the successful mercantile, Len and Cindy started Swan River Valley Real Estate, which expanded across western Montana.

Her love for children and the community was exhibited through her dedication to Swan Valley Elementary, where she served as a school

board trustee for 10 years, a track and soccer coach and a devoted mother.

Life for Cindy was made even better by obsessive downhill skiing, boasting 1.2 million vertical feet just this last year at Big Mountain with her other ski bums. She was a pedal-to-the-metal wave runner, avid snowmobiler and a gourmet chef who loved entertaining.

Cindy's love for life extended to all of her family and friends for whom she would donate time and her vast energy and love. Most of all, however, she prided herself in being the No. 1 fan of her children.

She is survived by husband, Len Kobylenski; daughter, Basia, and son, Lenny, both current students at Montana State University; parents, Helen and Frank Ruskowski; siblings, Frank and Susan; and Len's parents, Leonard I. and Anelia.

There will be a funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 15, at Our Lady of Swan Valley. Shortly after the service there will be a celebration of Cindy's life at Tori and Ronnie Matthews' residence. For more information, please contact Dawn Bishop at 754-2444 or Lucinda Heekin at 754-2448.

Donations may be made in Cindy's name to the Condon GRU.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Cindy's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Cindy's guest book, offer condolences and share memories

Patricia Jean Konken, 50

Patricia Jean Konken, 50, passed away on Dec. 21, 2009, in Kalispell. Patricia was born on April 5, 1959, in Browning, to Thomas and Dorothy Flickinger Hewitt.

She lived in Conrad until 1962, when they moved to Kalispell. She attended schools in the Flathead Valley, graduating from Flathead High School in 1978.

Patricia worked for the Forest Service in the Yaak Country after graduating from high school, then worked for Imperial Laundry, Kalispell Regional Medical Center, and worked home health care for Intrepid U.S.A.

Patricia married Ronald Konken at the White Oak Lodge in Somers on July 2, 1988.

Patricia loved the outdoors, camping, fishing, going to the lake, loved to

lots of people, liked shopping for her grandchildren and playing cards.

She was preceded in death by her father, Thomas Hewitt; and a sister, Rita Kellenberger. She is survived by her husband, Ronald Neil Konken; mother, Dorothy Hewitt; children, Alicia Hewitt and Maria Konken; grandchildren, Abby and Gabby Weber; brother, Michael Hewitt; a nephew, Joel Hewitt; and niece, Jessica Horner.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 30, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, with urn burial to follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

You are invited to go to www.buffalohillfh.com to leave condolences and sign Patricia's book. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family

Roland Franklin Koons, 79

Roland Franklin Koons, 79, died on Thursday, July 2, 2009, due to leukemia.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Thurs-

day, July 9, at Canyon Baptist Church.

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

Mitchell Allen Kopczyk, 50

Mitchell Allen Kopczyk, 50, passed away on Saturday, May 23, 2009, near Bigfork, as the result of a motor vehicle accident. He was born on Nov. 4, 1958, in Elyria, Ohio, to John and Carmela (DiMichele) Kopczyk.

Mitchell received his early education in Elyria, but graduated from Midview High School in Grafton, Ohio. He went right to work for Harshaw Chemical Company shortly after high school.

He met and married Carolyn Kolodey in February 1979 in Fairview Park, Ohio; they later divorced. Mitchell eventually moved to Charlo, where he started a farm implements company. He made his way to Bigfork in 2001 and opened the Montana Artisans Center where he created custom Southwestern style furniture that was sold all over the world.

Mitchell was a self-made man, working for himself



and making his own. His passions included fast cars, motorcycles and the friends he made all over the country. He was a member of the Montana Legends and had many brothers at heart.

Mitchell was preceded in death by his parents; and is survived by his son, Bradley John Kopczyk; as well as two brothers, Jaime and Robert Kopczyk.

Memorial services for Mitchell will be in conjunction with those of Richard Fliehler at 2 p.m. on Friday, May 29, at the Crossroad Christian Fellowship in Bigfork. Friends and family are invited to the Rocky Mountain Roadhouse for a potluck gathering at 4 p.m.

A benevolent fund has been set up in Mitchell's name at Flathead Bank, 800 Grand Ave., Bigfork, MT 59911.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Mitchell's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and sign Mitchell's guest book.

Daniel John Korn Jr., 84

Daniel John Korn Jr. passed away Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell



after spending all but five days in recent months at his family home in Kalispell.

Dan Jr. was born in Kalispell July 19, 1925, the eldest son of Daniel John Korn Sr. and Flora Hammitt Korn. He attended Kalispell schools, graduating from Flathead County High School in 1943.

During World War II he served as a staff sergeant with the U.S. Army 104th Timberwolf Infantry Division as they fought their way east of Kulm, Germany toward Berlin and received the Purple Heart during that campaign.

Following his discharge from the U.S. Army, he attended the then Montana State University at Missoula and graduated in business administration. Dan played as a tight end for the Grizzly football team, joined Sigma Nu fraternity, drove his enviable "dream boat" (a light green Buick convertible with red leather interior which inadvertently led him to his career occupation), and found the love of his life, Marilynne Kitto. They were married Aug. 26, 1950.

Following college Dan Jr. worked for Suhr Buick in Great Falls, then joined Johns Buick in Kalispell and eventually purchased the business to become Korn Buick for the following 35 years. Dan earned the Montana Automobile Dealers Association award as the Car Dealer of the Year in 1988 and also received national recognition with the Time Magazine's Quality Dealer Award in 1989. Both awards recognized his business reputation in the community and his leadership qualities within his automotive peers.

Dan invested himself in this community in other ways as well. He faithfully served as a director of the Salvation Army for some 40 years, he served several terms as a director of First Interstate Bank, he was a 55-year member of Rotary International and Kalispell Rotary's president in 1957, and later president of the Rotary Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park Association. He actively participated in the Flathead's various youth activity programs, both within school and outside school, and more recently received the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce Great Chief Award in 2001, recognizing his admirable character traits and the body of his community service. On a state level, he was very active in the promotion of Grizzly athletics at the U of M, and having earned his Eagle Scout award as a youth, he continued to serve the Boy Scouts of America in various community and state capacities all of his adult life and was recognized for that service with the Silver Beaver Award in 2002.

Dan has always been a gentleman's gentleman. His family, friends, and even his acquaintances were always recognized by name and treated as individuals that merited both his personal acknowledgement and attention. Perhaps the hallmark of Dan's life, both public and private, was his commitment to longtime quality relationships that included integrity, trustworthiness, responsibility, humor, and doing what was in the best interest of others. His belief in Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and Lord and his worship and prayer life both guided and supported this attitude.

Dan Jr. was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Marilynne; and his sister, Kay Walterskirchen.

He is survived by his children, Danlyne and husband, Kenneth Smith, Kimberly and husband, Steve Morgan, Lyndan and husband, Gene Langstaff, and Dan "D.J." Korn; also, 15 grandchildren, Erin and husband, Greg Doyon, Amy and husband, William Jackson, Laura Smith, Kenneth Smith Jr., Jason Morgan and wife, Brechta, Stephanie Morgan and fiance, Luke Thomp-

son, Daniel Langstaff, Katie Langstaff, Kristen Langstaff, Austin Langstaff, Karissa Langstaff, Kaleigh Langstaff, Jordan Korn, Aubrey Korn, and Braydan Korn; and great-grandchildren, Nathaniel Doyon, Hannah Doyon, Emilia Doyon, Elizabeth Doyon, Ean Morgan, and Selah Morgan. Also surviving are Dan's brother, Dr. James Korn, and wife, Norah; and many cousins, nieces and nephews; and a great host of very close friends. The void of Dan's wonderful influence, guidance and support will be helped by wonderful family memories and close contact with all his longtime friends.

The family suggests memorial contributions in Dan's name be sent to Rotary International Foundation, c/o Rotary, P.O. Box 481, Kalispell, MT 59903; Salvation Army, P.O. Box 8357, Kalispell, MT 59904; University of Montana Grizzly Athletics, c/o Adams Event Center, Missoula, MT 59812; or Montana Council No. 315, Boy Scouts of America, 820 17th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405. Condolences may be mailed to 1125 First Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Memorial services will be held at 12:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19, at the Christian Center in Kalispell. A reception at the church will follow the service. Private family inurnment will be held later in the family plot at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

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

Richard V. (Dick) Kovash, 76

Richard V. (Dick) Kovash, 76, of Missoula passed away peacefully at home Thursday, March 26, 2009, after a long battle with cancer.



Dick was born Oct. 27, 1932, on his grandparents' farm in the Czechoslovakian community of New Hradec, N.D., the eighth of 10 children of Charles Frank Kovash and Anna (Kostelecky) Kovash.

Dick graduated from high school in Taylor, N.D., in 1951. He was active in wrestling, basketball, football and track. Dick attended Dakota Business College in Fargo, N.D., before enlisting in the U. S. Army during the Korean War, with active duty in Korea 1952-1954 as Sgt. First Class and an honorable discharge from the Army Reserves in 1961.

In 1959, he married Dorothy Tween in Fargo, where his children were born — Roxanne in 1960 (delivered at home by Dick) and Richard Dale (Rich) in 1961.

Later, as a single father with two young children in Billings, he balanced home and work responsibilities, and became a great cook. Dick and his children have many comical hunting stories. He was stricken with Guillain-Barré Syndrome, resulting in paralysis of his legs, and relearned to walk. They moved to Missoula in 1976.

Dick married Marlene Wilson Yost on June 8, 1980, gaining four stepdaughters: Sanna, Kelly, Robin and Penny Yost.

Dick and Marlene celebrated 29 years of marriage. His career was in sales, with various positions and self-employment in Billings and Missoula. In 1985, Dick established Uni Chem Inc. as owner/operator, selling and distributing automotive and industrial chemicals. In 1988, son Rich joined Uni Chem in sales, and the small business successfully expanded to cover all of Western Montana. Dick continued in the business

until shortly before his death.

Dick was a well-loved fun-loving, hard-working, generous, jovial and loyal family man. The family lake cabin was a favorite place for watching wildlife, pontooning, fishing, relaxing and enjoying the beauty of Flathead Lake. He enjoyed woodworking and annual Kovash reunions, loved sports (especially UM Grizzly football) and took pride in having spotless and shiny vehicles.

Granddaughter Kylene of Helena summed him up pretty well in an early grade school interview report: "My grandpa's name is Dick. He has glasses, gray hair, brown eyes and he is old. He was born in Dickson, N. D. in 1932. Married to Marlene. He likes visiting us on our birthdays. He has four brothers and four sisters. He is a salesman. He lives in Missoula and moved four times. He lives in a brown house. He likes animals, sports, steak, his job and playing computer games."

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Bruno and Victor; and stepgrandson, Samuel Chriske.

He is survived by his loving wife, Marlene; daughter, Roxanne LaRoque (Kurt); son, Rich Kovash (Rochelle Ober); stepchildren, Sanna Yost (Julie Chriske), Kelly Harper, Robin Pederson (Mark) and Penny Yost (Michael Adams); brothers, Laudie and Robert (Bob); sisters, Martha Adcock (Raymond), Lillian Sadowsky (Alfred), Arlene Lee (Russell), Marietta Davis (Clifford); sisters-in-law, Irene Kovash, Blanche Kovash and Lenore Marshall; 10 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren; and one very special dog, Griz.

A celebration of life service, followed by lunch, will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, April 3, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Missoula. The family will hold an interment gathering at Lakeside Cemetery in Polson at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be given in Dick's name to Partners Hospice or a charity of the donors' choice.

ing of Pearl Harbor. He became involved with the American Legion and served as commander of the Sweet Grass Post No. 73, and in 1982 he served as state commander.

Joe taught voc-ag in various schools in Montana back before World War II and after. He came to the Sunburst area to teach a Veteran-of-War continuing education program. But, farming was in his blood and he bought a farm east of Sunburst in 1959. He retired in 1975, living in Sunburst, then moved to Conrad in 1997.

Joe will be remembered as having a great sense of humor and for his favorite trick of weaving a tale, which the listener would believe until with a twinkle in his eye, they knew they had been had. His family, friends and caregivers will miss his stories, poems, and sharing his knowledge of nature.

Joseph W. Krall, 94

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Tom, Charles and James; sisters, Elizabeth, Nettie, Rose and Agnes; and his son-in-law, Bill Karst.

He loved hunting, fishing, camping, bird-watching and being outdoors. He and his wife took several trips in their RV, including to Alaska. Most of all, he loved sharing these pursuits, patiently untangling his children's fishing lines from the bushes. He helped local boys by taking them on trips to the Bob Marshall Wilderness and teaching them his trapping skills.

He was especially proud of having participated in programs from Montana State University, in which he helped study the wolves in Yellowstone as well as other studies of wildlife and dinosaur digs.

He served with the U.S. Army as first lieutenant stationed in Hawaii shortly after the bomb-

the eighth child in a family of 11 to Joseph F. and Mary (Kolar) Krall, in Bear Springs, where the family homesteaded. He graduated from grade school and high school in Lewistown. He attended Montana State University on a football scholarship, graduating with a degree in vocational agriculture in 1939.

While attending college he met the love of his life, Harriet McArdle, of Butte. They married Aug. 24, 1939.

Harriet, his wife of 69 years, survives him as do his daughters, Harriet Karst of Sunburst, and Cara and Ron Copenhaver of Menifee, Calif.; granddaughters, Teresa Karst of Kalispell, and Leza and Rob Curtis of Alta Loma, Calif.; and one great-grandson, Robert Curtis. Joe also is survived by sisters, Emily Schelly, Barbara Weir and Louise Coan; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.



Joseph W. Krall, 94, long-time farmer and teacher from Conrad/Sunburst, passed away from natural causes Jan. 5, 2009, at the Pondera Medical Center in Conrad.

Visitation is today, Jan. 8, after 4 p.m. with a rosary service set for 6 p.m. at the Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Funeral Mass will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 9, at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. Burial with military honors will be afterward in the Sunburst Cemetery. Whitted Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements. Condolences for the family may be sent to www.whittedfuneralchapel.com. Joe was born Feb. 21, 1914,

Duane Reuben Knutson, 62

Duane Reuben Knutson, 62, passed away Wednesday, July 29, 2009, at HealthCenter Northwest in Kalispell. He was born on July 30, 1946, in Havre, to Donald and Helen (Johnson) Knutson.



He was baptized at the American Lutheran Church in Hogeland, confirmed at Faith Lutheran Church in Great Falls, and was a life-long member of Faith Lutheran. He had also attended church regularly at Faith Free, and the Assembly of God Church in Kalispell, since moving to Kalispell.

Duane graduated from Great Falls High School in 1964, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., in 1968, and his master's degree from the University of Montana in 1991.

Duane taught school in the Great Falls School District for 31 years, bringing his passion for history to life for his students. He taught one year at Great Falls High School and taught at North Middle School from the date it opened in 1970 through 2000, when he retired from teaching.

Upon retiring, Duane moved to Kalispell, where he spent time volunteering at Youth Court and the Juvenile Detention Center and various other charitable organizations and continued to be actively involved within the community.

Duane loved his parents and was deeply devoted to them and his entire family, just as they loved him and were keenly aware of what a special man he was. Duane was blessed with a large, yet extremely close-

knit group of incredible friends in Kalispell whose company and countless adventures together he greatly cherished.

Duane's hobbies included music and playing the piano, traveling, hiking, reading and enjoying every moment spent with his family and many friends. His ever-present positive outlook and love of life, his quick smile, the twinkle in his eye, his selflessness and his passion for giving of himself have undoubtedly touched most of us who are here today in some special way.

Duane will be sorely missed and never forgotten.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Don Knutson (Joanne).

Duane is survived by his parents, Donald and Helen Knutson, of Great Falls; his two brothers, Dick and Martha Knutson of Minneapolis, and Dee and Janet Knutson of Great Falls; and his sister, Diane, and Rodger Knutson-Gilmor, also of Great Falls. Other survivors include nieces, Karen and Keith Wain, and Kendal Knutson; and nephews, Jeff Knutson, Jon Knutson and Jennifer, Josh and Tasha Knutson, Marc Knutson, Kolter Knutson, Zach Gilmor and Nathan Gilmor; and grandnephews, Matthew Dahl and Keigan Knutson, and Kyler Knutson and Soren Wain; and grandniece, Carolyne Knutson.

A celebration of life service will be at 2 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 3, at Faith Lutheran Church, 3125 Fifth Ave. S., in Great Falls.

The family suggests memorials be sent to Faith Lutheran Church or to a charitable organization of choice.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Duane's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and sign Duane's guest book.

F. Burnette Kuchenbrod, 94

Florence Burnette (Brinkerhoff) Kuchenbrod, 94, passed away peacefully on Friday, June 5, 2009, at the Whitefish Care and Rehabilitation Center in Whitefish, where she had been cared for with loyalty and devotion for the past three years.

Burnette was born on Jan. 7, 1915, in Denver, the eldest of three children of Clarence and Alice Brinkerhoff. At age 16, Burnette and her siblings were cared for by their beloved Aunt Nell in Denver following the death of their father.

Burnette married Roy E. Kuchenbrod on Nov. 2, 1935, in Denver. They had two sons, Ronald and Robert. In 1947, they transferred with AT&T from Denver to Helena where Burnette lived until moving to Whitefish in 2006. Until that time she remained in her home as a homemaker and loving wife, mother and grandmother.

She was active in many areas in her life. She was an avid fan of the Denver Broncos and didn't miss watching a game. Bowling on her league team was a passion of hers. She was an involved member of the St. Paul's United Methodist Church, participating in D-Day activities and attending Ladies Bible Study groups. She was a member of Eastern Star for over 70 years. She was skilled at knitting, needlepoint and cross-stitch, and was an ardent reader.

Survivors include her sons, Ron and wife, Pat Kuchenbrod, of Whitefish, and Bob and wife, Sandy Kuchenbrod, of Helena. Surviving grandchildren include Karen and Doug Umbaugh of Missoula, Janet and Scott Espeseth of Kalispell, Mike Kuchenbrod of California, Brink and Anne Blanche Kuchenbrod of Missoula, Kim and Larry Stefonic of Bozeman, and Krista and Derek Schulz of Whitefish. She is also survived by 12 great-grandchildren, Kelly, J.J., Marlow, Allie, Lauren, Millie, Ty, Griffin, Tait, Anneke, Sky and Sage; along with several nieces and other extended family members.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Roy; parents; sister, Eleanor Frank; brother, Dave Brinkerhoff; and numerous aunts and uncles.

"Grandma Net" will be remembered for her wisdom and good common sense. She approached each day with the motto "Life is what happens when you are making other plans." Her family all miss her dearly.

Burnette's family will have a private gathering in her honor.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing to express their condolences are requested to donate to the Bridges Autism Advocacy Group at 875 North Main, Kalispell, MT 59901 in her memory.

Joseph Albert Kunda, infant

Joseph Albert Kunda died Friday, Jan. 23, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

He is survived by his parents, Jesse and Emma Susan

(Zierow) Kunda.

Private graveside services will be held in C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.