

## Louise Mackey, 79

A lifetime resident of the Flathead Valley, Louise Mackey passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009, at the home of her son Roy. She was born at the family home in Somers on Dec. 17, 1929, to Arthur E. and Cynthia (Noble) Richmond.

She attended schools in Somers and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1947.

On June 27, 1948, she married Donald W. Mackey in Missoula.

She enjoyed all types of needlework, reading, her flowers and mostly, her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband of nearly 60 years in April 2007; her parents; three brothers, Ed, Ron and Jack Richmond; and four sisters, Sarah Parocai, Fran Crook, Virginia Crook and Ruby Richmond.

She is survived by her daughter, Sue Waggener, and husband, Jim; two sons, Roy

Mackey, and Rod Mackey and wife, Amy; six grandchildren, Brad Waggener, Jaylyn Waggener, Jennifer Harrington-Ferguson, Angela Waggener, Christopher Mackey and Cynthia Mackey; several great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter; two brothers, Russ Richmond of Ypsilanti, Mich., and Frank Richmond of Hawthorne, Calif.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Louise and Don will be held at a later date.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

## Rebecca Evelyn Hegstad Maki, 77

Rebecca Evelyn Hegstad Maki, 77, died on Sunday, Sept. 6, 2009, at the Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She was born on Dec. 26, 1931, in Powers Lake, N.D., to George and Christine (Erickson) Hegstad.

Rebecca married Toivo Everett Maki on Nov. 20, 1950, in Fergus Falls, Minn. They raised 10 children. When the youngest was five, Rebecca went to work as a housekeeper at the Cut Bank Hospital where she remained for 20 years.

She was a member of the Cut Bank Senior Citizens Club. She loved babies, canning, cooking and gardening.

When she retired, Rebecca moved to Kalispell to be closer to more of her children. She attended Easthaven Baptist Church, and made the best homemade bread in the world. She also loved her flowers "and they loved her too."

Rebecca was preceded in death by her husband; four



sons, an infant, Victor Lee, Everett and Gerald; two sisters; and one brother.

She is survived by eight children, Elaine and Ralph Holmquist of Kalispell, Jeanne and Bruce Riley of Kalispell, Helga and Jim Stimson of Helena, Ella and Mark Hill of Kalispell, Marilyn Wilson of Fort Gibson, Okla., Linda and Ken Fielder of Kalispell, Nina and Daniel Carvajal of Logan, Utah, and Victor Allen and Kim Maki of Kalispell; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services for Rebecca will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 14, at Easthaven Baptist Church, with Pastor Daniel Lambert officiating. Burial will be at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 15, in the Crown Hill Cemetery in Cut Bank. Visitation will be at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home from 8 to 11 a.m. the day of the service, Monday, Sept. 14.

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

## Richard D. Mahaffay, 73

Richard D. Mahaffay, 73, died Friday, Sept. 4, 2009, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, Nadene, and son, Blane.

The family will hold a celebration of his life in South Dakota at a later date. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Ruth A. Mallette, 97

Ruth A. Mallette, 97, died Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2009, at her home in Troy. Her request was to be cremated and that

she be buried at the Troy Cemetery. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Charlotte M. Markus, 86

Charlotte M. Markus, 86, died Nov. 12, 2009, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She is survived by her daughter, Marilyn Moyer, of Bigfork; and son, Alan

Gianoli, of Columbia Falls.

Private interment will be in Whitefish Cemetery. Austin Funeral Home is taking care of the family.

## Rosanne Marozzo, 86

Rosanne Marozzo, 86, passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in



Kalispell. Rosanne was born on June 8, 1922, in Seattle, to Philip and Annie (Osterman) Mischkot. She attended Emerson Grade School and graduated from Butte High School in 1941. After high school, she attended business college.

She married Carmen A. Marozzo on July 28, 1942, at the Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Bremerton, Wash. They had been married for 63 years when Carmen passed away.

She worked as an overhead crane operator in the Bremerton shipyards during World War II, while he served his country in the U.S. Army-Pacific Theater, from 1943-1946.

Rosanne worked for the Fred Meyer B&B store in Kalispell for 32 years and retired in 1986.

She was a member of the Kalispell Senior Center exercise program for 20 years. She was a former exercise instructor and actively participated in exercise three times a week. She recently began learning tai chi and enjoyed playing many card and board games, including cribbage and pinochle.

Rosanne was also a member of the Heritage Club at the Three Rivers Bank. She enjoyed traveling, reading, the company

of her dog and baking cookies for all the boys in her family. Rosanne especially treasured time with friends and family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Carmen A. Marozzo; a daughter-in-law, Maria A. Marozzo; and a sister, Paulette Miller.

She is survived by a son, Robert C. Marozzo, of Libby; siblings, Phil Mischkot of Sherman, Texas, Hazel Hanel of Tacoma, Wash., Wilma Nicholson of Missoula, Frank Mischkot of Butte, and Jim Mischkot of Whitehall; grandchildren, Angela Marozzo of Post Falls, Idaho, James Marozzo of Libby, Jeffrey and Neili Marozzo of Moses Lake, Wash., Daniel Marozzo of Libby, and Michael Marozzo of Richland, Wash.; and great-grandchildren, Daysha, Dylan and Allyson Marozzo.

A celebration of Rosanne's life will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home; urn burial will follow the service at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

The family requests memorials in Rosanne's name be made to the Maria Marozzo Memorial Fund at P.O. Box 2215, Post Falls, ID 83877; or the Shodair Children's Hospital at P.O. Box 5539, Helena, MT 59604.

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

## Joe 'Jody' Marsh, 50

Jody passed away March 18, 2009, after a short but strong battle against cancer.

Jody was born Jan. 7, 1959, in Kalispell, to Jerry and Donna R. Marsh of Kalispell. Jody was the youngest of three children with two brothers, Fred and Lyle. He grew up with many aunts and uncles and cousins in the valley. He had a great childhood and would talk about the many things he did as a child. When he was very young he worked at his Dad's service station, The Rainbow Texaco in Kalispell. He met many people and formed an amazing bond with his family.

At age 17, Jody joined the Navy. He graduated high school while stationed in the Philippines. He did not serve during war time; however, he often shared many of his journeys



that the Navy provided for him. While his service in the Navy took him all around the world, he eventually returned to his native and beloved home, Montana.

While back home in Montana, Jody formed many lifelong friendships. He was a very kind and gentle man who loved and lived life to the fullest. He joined the Kalispell Jaycees in 1988 where he met his wife, Debbie. He served as the local chapter president later in his membership. Jody and Debbie traveled across the state, attending many Jaycee functions and meeting many new friends.

Jody found employment at the Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Hungry Horse Dam. He liked his job and the people he worked with. He often joked about being one of the Dam People who got all federal holidays off with pay.

Later, Jody and Debbie got married. He was her husband, soulmate and best friend.

Jody was an avid NASCAR

fan and would try to watch all of the races. He really did not have a favorite driver. He also loved cars, especially his 1940, all-original Dodge Business Coupe. He knew every make and model of cars, whether new or old. Whenever he would go he would recognize people by their vehicle. For many years he belonged to car clubs and would go to car shows and poker runs. Over the years he had other obligations that took him out of the clubs, but he still loved cars. On a recent trip, he visited a huge auto museum in Illinois. As we walked through the many warehouses of cars, he would know the car, tell me how many were made, the duration of the model and every fact about that vehicle.

After the diagnosis of his illness, Jody and Debbie took adventures that led them to many beautiful parts of the United States. His gentleness touched the hearts of everyone he met. He will be missed by all.

Jody was preceded in death by his dad, Jerry Marsh.

Jody is survived by his wife, Debbie, of Kalispell; his mother, Donna R. Marsh, of Kalispell; brothers, Fred Marsh and wife, Lynne, of Missoula, and Lyle Marsh of Kalispell; children, Jeri Ann Marsh and Richard Haven, of Kalispell, and children by marriage, Robert Stroh and Moriah of Colorado, Richard Stroh of Missoula, Matthew Stroh and Tizzy of Colorado, Elizabeth Thibert and Brandon of Kalispell, and Melissa Sesson; and many friends of children who briefly called our house home: grandchildren, Odette, Elijah and Alora Stroh, Mackenzie and Bailey Stroh, Trevor, Jacob, Cassidy and Makayla Stroh, Kaidin, Dilin and Xaidia Thibert, and Karmen taLena Danae; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Whether he was called Sweetheart, Joe, Jody, Dad or Papa Joe, he will always be loved and very much missed by us all.

No service is planned at this time, however, a celebration of life will follow at a later date not yet determined.

## John Thomas Marsh, 94

John Thomas Marsh, 94, formerly of Butte, died Friday, Aug. 7, 2009, at Holy Family Hospital in Spokane.

Survivors include his wife, Frances Marsh, of Spokane; son, Jonathon

Marsh, of Wisconsin; and daughters, Pamela Mandl of Kalispell, and Patricia Landreth of Spokane.

A celebration of life will be held in September at the Big Hole River near Butte.

## Derek Martin, 18

Derek Martin, 18, of Whitefish, passed away Dec. 10, 2009, near Columbia Falls. Derek's birth brought smiles to Eric and Lori Martin on Oct. 25, 1991, in Kalispell.



He was raised and educated in Whitefish. Derek was a senior at Whitefish High School, where he loved sharing the halls with his favorite physics teacher, his mom. Aside from being a student, Derek also worked with his dad at Western Building Center in Columbia Falls.

Derek enjoyed playing soccer and pursuing his love of the outdoors in hunting, fishing and four-wheeler riding with his dad. He loved spending days at the lake and the recent family trips to Hawaii trying snorkeling, surfing and deep-sea fishing. Some of Derek's favorite things were playing computer games with his brother Scott, his mom's sugar cookies and a can of Citrus Drop. When home, Derek loved spending quiet time with his and Scott's much-loved cats, Princess and Oliver.

Derek always had a smile

on his face and brightened every room he walked in to. Derek was always ready to challenge the family to a board game and lend a helping hand to anyone who needed it. Derek's life was cut far too short and his value may never be truly known. He will be missed every single day. He leaves everyone who knew him poorer in his absence.

He is survived by his parents, Eric and Lori, and his brother, Scott; his grandmothers, "Nana" Karen Martin and "Gram" Mamie Parpart; and his extended family of aunts, uncles and cousins, Steve and Shelley Martin, and children, Austin and Natasha; Bill and Leslie Bales, and son, Brian, and his wife, Nicolette; and daughter, BrieAnna, and her husband, Pa-Foday Jaiteh.

Services will be at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish.

Memorials in Derek's memory may be made to the Columbia Falls Food Bank, 82 Railroad St. E., Columbia Falls, MT 59912, where Derek recently helped his dad deliver food donations; and the Humane Society, 3499 U.S. Highway 93 N., Kalispell, MT 59901, for Derek's love of cats.

Arrangements are under the care of *Funeral Home*.

## Dolores 'Dolly' V. Martin-Mackaman, 88

Dolores "Dolly" V. Martin-Mackaman, 88, passed away Monday, Aug. 24, 2009, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. Dolly was born Aug. 5, 1921, in Wilmot, S.D., to Everett and Melinda Phillips. She was raised in Montana, near Columbia Falls with one brother, Jim Phillips, who is deceased.

Dolly had lived in Alaska for a brief time, as well as Enumclaw, Wash., and Hot Springs. She attended Flathead County High School and managed the coffee shop at Many Glacier Hotel for three summers.

She married Morris Martin in 1941. Morris preceded her in death.

Dolly was an avid bowler and enjoyed crocheting afghans for her family. She always enjoyed cooking and got along with children very well.

She was preceded in death by her father, Everett Phillips; and mother, Melinda Pettit.

Dolly is survived by two

sons, Robert and wife, Leona, and Ronald and wife, Lilli Ann; five grandchildren, Dean Martin of Youngsville, La., Lisa Sistrunk of Lafayette, La., Lynda Guillary of The Woodlands, Texas, and stepgrandsons, Francis Bickford of Chelsea, Ala., and Michael Bickford of Lafayette, La.; and 12 great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, 107 Cherry St., Ste. 305, Seattle, WA 98104; March of Dimes, Flathead County Chapter, P.O. Box 191, Kalispell, MT 59901; or to Home Options Hospice, 171 Commons Loop, Ste. 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 28, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Friends are encouraged to visit the Web site, [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com), to leave condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Dora E. Martin, 87

Dora E. Martin, of Star Meadow, west of Whitefish, "went to be with her Lord Jesus," Monday, Jan. 12, 2009, as the result of a sudden stroke while visiting her son, Michael, and his wife, Sandy, in Yakima, Wash.



Dora was born Sept. 4, 1921, in Kensal, N.D., to Ferdinand and Louise (Braasch) Wolsky. She graduated from Kensal High School and soon moved to Seattle, where she worked and stayed with her sister, Esther, and her husband, Cameron Vosper.

While in Seattle, Dora met Capt. Clarence S. Martin, M.D., and on March 13, 1946, they were married. They moved to Kensal and later to Medina, N.D., where they provided 36 years of medical service in Stutsman County. They retired to Star Meadow in the fall of 1984. Clarence

"Doc" died April 17, 2002. Dora remained at their Star Meadow home until her death.

Dora loved her Savior, family and church.

Dora was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence; her brother, Edward Wolsky; and her grandson, Aaron Martin.

Dora is survived by her four sons, Jonathan and Alice of Great Falls, Timothy and Irene of Whitefish, Michael and Sandy of Yakima, and Peter and Stacie of Scottsdale, Ariz.; and one daughter, Tamara Martin, of Butte; two sisters, Minna Stober of Renton, Wash., and Esther McCartney of Mesa, Ariz.; a brother, Ferdinand Wolsky, of Kent, Wash.; 12 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Dora's memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. July 10 at St. Peter Lutheran Church, 201 Wisconsin Ave., in Whitefish, with interment of her ashes at 3 p.m. in the family cemetery in Star Meadow.

Preferred memorials are requested to St. Peter Lutheran Church.

## Eleanora C. Martin, 67

Eleanora C. Martin, 67, of Libby died Friday, May 15, 2009 at St. John's Lutheran Hospital from natural causes.

Survivors include her husband Charles of Libby, son Calvin Martin

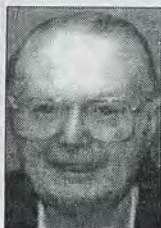
of Columbia Falls, and numerous other relatives.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## James A. Martin, 83

James A. Martin, 83, died Feb. 9, 2009, at home in Kalispell. He was born in Pontiac, Mich.

Jim is survived by his wife, Bertha S. Martin, whom he had been married to for 47 years. He has a brother, Stuart B. Martin, residing in Boston; a son, Michael J. Martin, residing in Michigan, and four



other children.

Jim was a World War II veteran.

He had worked in the banking industry for more than 40 years.

During his life he was active in figure skating and boating. Three times he piloted his own boat to the San Juan Islands, Wash., and Canada. He also played accordion and did some oil, acrylic and watercolor painting.

Cremation has taken place and no services are planned, per his request.

## Marlin 'Spike' Eric Martin, 70

Marlin "Spike" Eric Martin, 70, of Columbia Falls passed away Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, because of heart problems. He was born Nov. 23, 1938, in Glasgow.

He was the oldest of five children born to Arnot "Fuzzy" and Mabel (Moen) Martin.

Spike lived in Glasgow until 1950, when the family moved to Columbia Falls and settled in Half Moon. During his high-school years, he worked for Clifford Loftum as a service-station attendant and spent his summers working for Herman Lucke as a backpacker into the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Spike graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1957.

After graduation, Spike worked for Stoltze Lumber Company and married Karen Davidson on Nov. 10, 1962. In 1964, he started with the Anacanda Aluminum Company as a



brick mason. During this time, he also worked as a part-time police officer and served eight years with the National Guard in Whitefish as a sergeant. Spike retired from the aluminum plant in 1994.

Spike enjoyed working with his hands, and used his skills to build a family home on LaSalle and make many leather and woodworking projects.

Spike is survived by his wife, Karen, of Columbia Falls; his two sons, Eric with wife, Lori, and their sons, Scott and Derek, of Whitefish; and Steve with wife, Shelly, and their children, Austin and Natasha, of Columbia Falls; his sisters, Glenda Price of Fortine, Susan and Chuck Bengston of West Glacier, and Chris and Gene Dose of Denton; one brother, Roger Martin, of Columbia Falls; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, at the Columbia Mortuary.

Arrangements are with the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

## Signa Magna Mathison, 102

Signa Magna Mathison, 102, passed away on Monday, July 6, 2009, at the Heritage Place in Kalispell.



She was born on Sept. 22, 1906, in Aalen, Norway, to Peder and Ingeborg (Klaarvald) Granmoen.

Signa immigrated to the United States in August of 1912 with her parents, three sisters and four brothers. Three older brothers were already in the United States. The family settled in the Eastern Montana town of Lindsay. Signa and her siblings attended a one-room schoolhouse in nearby Deer Creek.

In 1927, she and her family moved to Missoula where they maintained their Norwegian ties by joining the Sons of Norway. It was through this connection that she met her future husband, Einar Mathison. They were married June 5, 1937, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Missoula.

Signa worked at several different jobs throughout her

life including the Thornton Hospital, Walterskirchen's Coffee Parlor Cafe on Higgins Avenue, MaxEllen's Beauty Shop, and finally, 30 years at Ella Kay's Beauty Shop with her dearest friend, Ella Kay Johnson.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her nine siblings; and her husband, Einar, with whom she celebrated 56 years of marriage.

She is survived by her son, Stephen Mathison and wife, Deanna, of Kalispell; two grandchildren, Rebecca Mathison of Kalispell, and Stephanie Mathison Bell and husband, Charles, of Honolulu; and one great-grandchild, Hannah Marie Bell.

Funeral services for Signa will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 13, at the St. Paul Lutheran Church, 202 Brooks St., in Missoula, with Pastor Chris Flohr officiating. There will be a reception following the services at the church. Interment will be at 1:30 p.m. at the Missoula Cemetery.

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

## Ruth Matteson, 84

Ruth Matteson of Columbia Falls died peacefully in her sleep Oct. 8, 2009, at Edgewood Vista, an Alzheimer's care facility in Evergreen. Ruth was surrounded by loved ones as she passed.

Ruth was born on Sept. 29, 1925, in Gillette, Wyo., to Olin and Bernice Thomas. She married Robert Matteson on Jan. 24, 1948, in Spokane. They moved to Columbia Falls in 1955 where they raised their six children and she lived for the next 54 years.

For years her gardens were admired by all and gardening was just one of her many hobbies. Other hobbies included knitting, sewing, and needlepoint. During her life in Columbia Falls, Ruth was a very active member of the United Methodist Church where she served all that needed her love and compassion.

Ruth was preceded in her

death by her husband, Robert.

She is survived by her six children, Gene and Heidi of Kingman, Ariz., Gerry and Ginny of Fircrest, Wash., Jeff and Josie of Mount Martha, Victoria, Australia, Janice and Jim of Stansbury Park, Utah, Jay and Susie of Kalispell, and Jon and Meg of Seattle. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

A visitation is scheduled for 1 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, at Columbia Mortuary. Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, at the United Methodist Church in Columbia Falls. Interment will follow immediately at Woodland Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Memorials may be made to Edgewood Vista, 141 Interstate Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901; or to a charity of the donor's choice.

## William Lawrence Matthews, 82

William Lawrence "Bill" Matthews, 82, passed away in La Palma, Calif., on Monday, Dec. 7, 2009. Bill was born in Manhattan, N.Y., on Dec. 27, 1926.



After Pearl Harbor was attacked Bill joined the Navy. He married his sweetheart, Catherina, and soon he was off to war in the Asian Pacific.

In 1945, in the Battle of Leyte Gulf, his ship was bombed by the Japanese. He lost hearing in one ear and caught shrapnel that could never be removed. Bill lost crewmates that day. Though his ship was not sunk it had to later be dismantled.

He is survived by his

wife, Cathy; and children, Jimmy, Diane, Nancy, Billy, Joey and Christopher, and many grandchildren. His two nieces, Sherry Iavicoli and Carolyn Lopez, reside here in Kalispell.

He was preceded in death by his two brothers, Edward and Pete.

He and his wife made several pilgrimages to the Pearl Harbor memorial site over the years. It perplexed Bill to know so many men and women of the Greatest Generation were dying off, and new generations would forget the price that was paid for our freedom and liberties.

He will be buried with full military honors presented by the U.S. Navy at 2 p.m. Dec. 11, at the Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside, Calif. Bill was a recipient of The Purple Heart medal.

## Lewis A. McBride, 96

On May 31, 2009, Lewis Andrew McBride, 96, passed away at the Pioneer Medical Center in Big Timber from congestive heart failure.

Louie was born May 1, 1913, in Rocky Ford, Colo., to James and Ethel McBride. He was third in a family of six children.

The family moved to Montana on Dec. 31, 1927.

In 1935, Louie married Leona Walker. They had one child, Marilyn. They later divorced. On Dec. 16, 1948, he married Eva Hutchins.

Louie farmed with his dad for many years as well as on his own place along the Yellowstone before moving to Two Dot in 1951 where he and his brother, Glen, bought a wheat and cattle ranch.

In 1965, Louie and Eva moved to Kalispell where they built and operated the

first coin-operated car wash. They later added a gas station to the business.

They retired in 1977 and wintered in Apache Junction, Ariz.

In 1996, he and Eva moved to Big Timber to be close to their family.

He is survived by his wife, Eva; daughter, Marilyn Talkington; three grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; as well as his nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers; and his sister.

A celebration of Louie's life will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, June 8, at the Boulder Valley Baptist Church in Big Timber.

Arrangements are by Stenberg Funeral Home in Big Timber.

## Roy W. 'Bill' McCaffree, 90

Roy W. "Bill" McCaffree, 90, passed away Sunday, Nov. 15, 2009, at Good Samaritan Mountain View Manor in Eureka.



Bill was born on March 18, 1919, in Starr Mine, Mont., to Roy and Verda McCaffree. He was the oldest of seven children. He was raised in Musselshell where he graduated from high school.

On Sept. 7, 1943, he married Virginia Hansen in Roundup. Bill and Virginia moved to Fort Riley, Kan., where Bill was stationed with the Army Cavalry as a technical sergeant during World War II. He earned an expert rifleman status and broke and trained horses to be used by the military for packing. After Bill's honorable discharge in 1945, they returned to Musselshell where they raised six children and ranched for 33 years.

During his years on the ranch he raised sheep, cattle and quarter horses, and enjoyed guiding for an outfitter in the Bob Marshall Wilderness for a few years in the fall. He served on the school boards in Musselshell and Roundup school districts. He also served as a county commissioner in Musselshell County for nine years.

In 1985, Bill and Virginia retired to Townsend where they lived for 20 years. Here he enjoyed raising horses, hunting and fishing. In August 2004, they moved to Columbia Falls where he spent much of his time gardening and sharing the fruits of his labor with his children

and grandchildren. He also enjoyed watching baseball, horse racing and Professional Bull Riders.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia, in 2006; brothers, Clyde and Glen; and sister, Agnes.

He is survived by brothers, Ed McCaffree of East Helena, and Dan McCaffree of Roundup; and sister, Doris Wertman, of Billings. Bill is also survived by sons, Ernie and Wendy McCaffree of Columbia Falls, and Marlin and Sue McCaffree of Shepherd; and daughters, Mona and Darwin Parker of Hot Springs, Karen and Bob Smith of Eureka, Dianna Ammerman of Anchorage, Alaska, and Lee and Billy Smith of Humble, Texas.

Also surviving are grandchildren, Lane and Emily McCaffree, and Shane McCaffree of Columbia Falls, Olivia and Karl Hennell of Kalispell, Kelly Parker of Hot Springs, Jim and Jacque Boyd of Richland, Wash., Kari and Jared Peak of Boise, Idaho, Billy and Sabrina Smith of Texas, Steve and Stacy Ammerman in Alaska, Justin and Rachel McCaffree of San Diego, and Quentin and Robin McCaffree of Billings. He also has five great-grandchildren.

A visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls. A dinner reception will follow at Bill's home, 1600 Riparian Dr., in Columbia Falls.

Memorials may be made to Friends of Musselshell School, Musselshell, MT 59059.

## Carol Lynn McCalla, 68

Carol Lynn McCalla, 68, passed away at her residence in Kalispell. She was born in Memphis, Tenn., on Nov. 20, 1940, the daughter of Lawrence Cody and Carolyn Elizabeth (Butin) McCalla.

She was raised in Memphis where she went to school. She moved to Kalispell in 1975 with her parents and sister.

Her whole life was centered around her Lord Jesus Christ, her Savior and Lord, "and she now resides with him."

She liked to watch birds and deer, doing things around the house, getting her hair fixed, going to dinner and enjoyed reading her Bible. She enjoyed her nephews very much.

She was preceded in death by

her parents.

She is survived by her sister, Mary Ellen Monforton, and her husband, Gerry, of Kalispell; and nephews, Matthew Monforton and wife, Damaris, and their children, Kimberly and Ethan, of Bozeman; Jason Monforton and his wife, Janell, and their children, Josh, Megan and Zack, of Denver; and Andrew and Daniel Monforton, of Kalispell.

Private family services for Carol will be held. There is no visitation.

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

## Francis J. McCarvel, 72

Francis J. McCarvel, 72, died Saturday, March 14, 2009, in Helena, from kidney failure. He was the son of Joseph H. and Ruth E. McCarvel of Anaconda.

He is survived by his children, Cynthia Thornquist and Greg, and their children, Halstyn, Kienan and McLain of Helena; Russell McCarvel and Jacki, and their children, Robert and Conor of Kalispell; Angela Boos and Tom, and their children, Jackson and Lauryn of Billings; Kevin McCarvel and his children, Bailey, Finian, Maggie and Tadhg of Kalispell; and his wife, Susan, of Havre.

He was born and raised in Anaconda and graduated from Anaconda Central. He attended Carroll College, Helena, then transferred to Rockhurst College, Kansas City, Mo., where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial relations. He went on to graduate from Gonzaga University School of Law in 1962.

He was a member of the Board of Montana, United States District Court, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He was proud to be an attorney, and represented the profession with integrity. While he practiced law in various Montana locations early in his career, in 1973 he settled in Glasgow, where he established a practice that lasted for over 25 years. In 2001, he moved to Helena, and finally retired in 2006.

He is also survived by his brother, Mark, of Bay Pointe, Calif.; and his five sisters,



Judy Harder of Hayes, Va., Susan Sherman of Addison, Texas, Linda Walters and Ken) of Bend, Ore., Kathleen Nims of Portland, and

Ruth Quigley and Pete of Las Vegas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

We will truly miss his wit and charm — which he exhibited to the very end of his life.

Always the teacher, he has donated his remains to medical research at Montana State University. Cremation will later take place and ashes placed in the family plot at Mount Olivet in Anaconda.

He was preceded in death by his son, Robert; his younger brother, Bill; and his parents, Joe and Ruth.

There will be a funeral Mass at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 21, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Helena. Following Mass, there will be an Irish celebration of his life at the Eagles Lodge. The family invites you to join them in creating a "sea of shamrocks" by wearing green to the service and/or celebration.

The family suggests donations be made to the Robert G. McCarvel Scholarship Fund at Montana State University-Billings, 1500 No. 30th Street, Billings, MT 59101; or the charity of your choice.

Retz Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

## Janet McConeghy, 97

Janet McConeghy, 97, died Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2009, at North Valley Hospital. Janet was born in Chicago on Feb. 12, 1912. She grew up, raised a family and lived in the Chicago area for most of her adult life before retiring to Florida with her husband.

After many enjoyable years in Florida she moved to Whitefish in September of 2003 to be close to her family.

Janet had many accomplishments in her life. She graduated from The Chicago University High School and Stephens College in Columbia, Mo., in 1933. Her most recent accomplishment was becoming a better bridge player.

Janet is survived by her son, Hugh, and daughter-in-law, Kay McVey, of Lake Geneva, Wis.; a daughter,



Leslie Smith, of Conroe, Texas; and a daughter and son-in-law, Joan and Bob Sadler, of Whitefish, and her granddaughter, Morgan Sadler, of Whitefish. She is also survived by other grandsons and great-grandchildren in the U.S. and Canada.

She enjoyed swimming, horseback riding, bridge, and interaction with people. She had a joyful life, a great attitude, and was, and will remain to be, an inspiration to us all.

A celebration of her life will be held at the Golden Agers in Whitefish on Saturday, Sept. 26. The family asks that all her friends join them for lunch from noon to 2 p.m. to honor Janet.

In lieu of flowers, any contributions should be made to the Golden Agers of Whitefish.

Janet and her twin sister, Betty, had loving families throughout their lives. They were fortunate to have each other and we were fortunate to have them.

## Verdella McCulloch, 100

Verdella McCulloch, 100, died on Thursday, Oct. 22, 2009, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. She was born March 3, 1909, in Ovid, Mich., to David and Cora Link.

Verdella moved from Michigan to Malta as a young child. During the time she lived in the Flathead Valley, she and her husband Al operated Art's Cafe/Robertson's Restaurant in Whitefish where she was known for her wonderful pies and pastries. She and Al also operated restaurants in Kevin, Shelby, Hungry Horse, Kalispell and Glasgow.

While living in Whitefish, she was Worthy Matron of Eastern Star and President of Toastmistress.

She was preceded in death by her three husbands, Al

Robertson, Burnett Smith and Robert McCulloch.

She is survived by her four children, Dennis and Peg Robertson, and Arlen and Jim Madole, all of Surprise, Ariz., David and Kathy Robertson of Somers, and Kathy and Joe Tonkovich of Medford, Ore. She also leaves 10 grandchildren.

Interment was private. Donations in her memory may be made to the North Valley Food Bank, 311 First St., Whitefish, MT 59937; or a favorite charity.

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

## Vern W. McConnell, 98

Vern W. McConnell, 98, passed away on Monday, Feb. 9, 2009, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. Vern was born Aug. 21, 1910, in Davenport, Iowa, to Ralph and Nette McConnell. He was raised in the Davenport area, where he finished high school in 1928. That summer he moved to Flandreau, S.D., where he accepted a job as a printer for the Flandreau Herald Newspaper.

In 1934, the Herald was consolidated with the Moody County Enterprise, where he continued working until semi-retirement in 1974. He remained part-time at the newspaper until 1985.

During those years he physically built the family home while working six days a week at the paper. After 10 years of living in the house, he hand-dug a basement to make room for the furnace, extra storage and washing machine. In 1950, in his spare time, he enlarged the kitchen, added two bedrooms and expanded the bathroom.

Vern lived in Flandreau until 2003, then moved to Buffalo Hill

Terrace in Kalispell. He loved Buffalo Hill Terrace and Montana, often commenting on the beauty of this area. He never tired of the scenic drives that Buffalo Hill provided.

Vern married Mae Hanson, the love of his life, in 1931. Mae passed away in 1991, in Flandreau.

Vern is survived by his son, Ron, and wife, Sheila, of Bellevue, Wash.; his daughter, Karen, and husband, Steve, of Bigfork and San Diego; six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. His granddaughter, Paulette Welch, and her husband, Dr. Mark Welch, reside in Bigfork with their children, Jacob, Cameron and Lauren.

Vern enjoyed traveling throughout the U.S., golfing and bird hunting. Services will be at 3:30 p.m. today, Feb. 11, at the Kalispell Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1375 U.S. 93 N., Kalispell.

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

## Marilyn (Young) McDannald, 71

Marilyn (Young) McDannald, 71, passed away Aug. 19, 2009, in Atlanta, after a short battle with cancer. Marilyn was born Aug. 8, 1938, in Kalispell, to Merlin and Mabel Young. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1956 and then attended Kinmin Business School in Spokane. After that Marilyn traveled to Atlanta and worked for Delta Airlines.

Marilyn married Frank C. McDannald in 1959 and had lived in the Atlanta area for 50 years. She was a co-owner

of Precision Measurements, a manufacturing business.

Marilyn enjoyed bridge, her flowers and yard, boating and traveling with her grandchildren.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her husband; parents; and one sister, Beverly.

Survivors include her daughters, Sharon Wood and Aimee Josey, and son, Cliff McDannald Jr., of Atlanta; also nine grandchildren; and one sister, Barbara Schlabs, of Lakeside.

A memorial service has taken place in Atlanta.



## Theodore 'Ted' Edward McDonald, 86

Theodore "Ted" Edward McDonald passed away at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls on Dec. 31, 2009, at



the age of 86, after a massive stroke Dec. 5. Born on Nov. 4, 1923, in Geysler, he attended Great Falls and Cascade schools where he ran track.

He enlisted in the Navy in 1945, trained at Farragut, Idaho, where he was a boxing champion, and served onboard the USS Concord, a light cruiser, in the radio-room.

After the service, he returned to Montana and worked for the Dairy Herd Improvement Association as a milk tester throughout Lewis and Clark counties.

He married Gloria Stuebe of Bigfork. They lived in Helena where son Lee was born in 1950, and Ted worked at East Helena Smelter, then Rocker Mine Framing Mill. They moved to Butte in 1952 where son Mark was born, then to Anaconda where

daughter Lynn Ann was born in 1954. The family moved to the Flathead where son Joe was born in 1960.

Ted worked at the Superior Mill until he was able to find work at the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant where he worked until he retired at age 62.

Ted enjoyed watching boxing matches and playing chess, with individuals and in tournaments, winning the Montana Chess tournament while his son Lee was Montana Junior Chess Champion.

Since his retirement, Ted and wife Gloria built a two-story house with help from family and a neighbor/contractor.

Ted is survived by his wife, Gloria, of Columbia Falls; three sons, Lee and Mark of Bellingham, Wash., and Joseph of Kalispell; and one daughter, Lynn Stone, of Petersburg, Alaska. He is also survived by sister, Kay Walrack, of Nevada.

A visitation will take place from 1 to 8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 4, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls, with a service during the visitation at 2 p.m., officiated by Rev. Darrell Newby.

He was very devoted to his faith and served on the Vestries of the Episcopal churches in each of his parishes.

Honors included an induction into the Montana Officials' Association Hall of Fame and the Montana High School Association Meritorious Service Award for service in student activities. He received the Old Pro Award at the 2000 Sports Awards Banquet in Missoula. He was also given the Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce George Award, which honors people who "didn't let George do it," — he did it himself.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Harry, Hugh and Joe McElwain; sister, Nina Nielsen; and grandson, Mike McElwain.

Frank is survived by his wife, Marjorie, in Missoula; children, Dan McElwain of Spokane, Marsha Vick of Polson, Janie Haight of Missoula, Mary Ann Sullivan of Butte, and Jim McElwain of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; and sons- and daughters-in-law, Jana McElwain, Bob Vick, Mike Haight, Dan Sullivan and Karen McElwain. Frank's grandchildren are Scott, Tim and Tara McElwain; Lindsay, Joey and Robbie Haight; Kelly Sullivan; Shannon Panisko; Maureen Anderson; and Hanna, Lizzi and Jerret McElwain. He also leaves 10 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 30, at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church in Missoula. A second memorial service will be at 1 p.m. on Sunday, May 31, at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 110 Sixth Ave. E., in Polson. Receptions will follow both services at the churches. Private burial services will be held in Polson at Lakeview Cemetery.

The family would be pleased for donations in Frank McElwain's name to be made to Special Olympics of Montana (SOMT) at P.O. Box 3507, Great Falls, MT 59403 (SOMT.org); or to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church at 110 Sixth Ave. E., Polson, MT 59860.

Messages may be sent to the family online by selecting "Garden City" at [www.missoulafuneralhomes.com](http://www.missoulafuneralhomes.com).

"Frank spent a couple of his last days with us at the finish line at Dornblaser Track visiting many friends, making new friends and cheering for and encouraging young people, just as he has done during his life. He will be missed."

## Frank C. McElwain, 86

Early Sunday morning, May 24, 2009, Frank Chaffee McElwain passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family. Those who have had the privilege to meet him know that the word "stranger" was not part of his vocabulary. He would strike up a conversation with people who crossed his path and was always willing to share "Montana" with each of them. This gracious man influenced so many individuals on this earth, and his legacy will continue to touch many.



Frank McElwain, 86, was born April 9, 1923, in Deer Lodge, to Lee and Johanna McElwain. He has always been proud of his roots as a "prison-city kiddie." He attended Powell County schools, spending summers working in the fields of Helmsville and Ovando.

He attended the University of Montana, but his studies were interrupted by World War II. Frank enlisted in the Navy and served as a sonar specialist.

On Aug. 25, 1945, 10 days after the end of World War II, Frank married Marjorie Harrison at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. This began a love story lasting more than six decades.

The couple returned to Montana, where Frank finished his degree in secondary math education, attending both Montana State College in Bozeman and the University of Montana. While teaching, Frank attended three years of summer school at UM and received a master's degree in mathematics.

Mr. McElwain's first teaching job brought the couple to Big Timber, where he taught and coached many Shepherders at Sweet Grass County High School. From there they moved to Kalispell, where Frank again taught math at Flathead High School and coached many Braves from 1952 to 1962.

The family, which now included five children, moved to Missoula where Frank again taught math at both Hellgate and Sentinel high schools, as well as coached football, basketball and track teams of both Spartans and Knights. He later was the athletic director of Missoula

County High Schools. Frank's last school position was as director of student activities for MCHS, which also included Seeley-Swan High School. In this job, he oversaw not only the schools' athletics but also the other school activities, including clubs, music, speech and debate and even cheerleading.

Frank did not stay retired very long before he went to work at Beach Transportation, where he worked with many of his good buddies. Frank was instrumental in expanding Beach Transportation from strictly school buses to the over-the-road charters that are now known as the Beachliners.

Frank was active as a member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. He was a charter member of the Southside Lions Club in Missoula and was also in the Masons. He was on the Missoula City Parks and Recreation board and a long-standing member of the Community Hospital advisory board. He was a member of the Montana Officials' Association. He was most recently a member of the Courthouse Gym "Old Men's" workout group and the Press Box Coffee Club.

## John R. McFadden, 85

John R. McFadden, 85, died Thursday, Oct. 29, 2009, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

A memorial service and urn burial will be held Saturday, Nov. 7, at Skyline Memorial Gardens in Portland, Ore.

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

## Joanne Karen McGarraugh, 66

Joanne Karen McGarraugh, 66, of Bigfork died Friday, July 24, 2009, at her home, after a long battle with cancer.



Joanne was born May 20, 1943, in Glasgow, to (the now late) Edward and Addie Johnson. She attended St. Raphael School through junior high, and graduated from Glasgow High School (where she enjoyed her position as a cheerleader) in 1961. She continued her education at Central Business College in Denver.

After working at Martin Marietta Corporation in Denver, Joanne subsequently found herself in Florida, North Dakota and California before settling down in Great Falls in 1964, where she worked for several years for Norwest Bank. In 1971 she began her career with the U.S. Treasury Department where she served as secretary for the chief of services at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

Joanne and Pat McGarraugh, an officer of Norwest Bank, were married in Great Falls on Feb. 10, 1972, where the couple continued to live for the next several years. While continuing to work, Joanne was active in the Junior League. In the mid-70s she transferred to U.S. Customs Service, where she later retired as chief import specialist.

In 1985, Pat was named president of Norwest Bank in Ottumwa, Iowa, and the couple moved. Always wanting to stay active, Joanne worked as a legal secretary along with serving on the YMCA Board and South East Iowa Symphony Board and volunteering for Iowa State Social Services.

The year 1991 saw Pat assuming the presidency of the bank in Oconto Falls, Wis. When Pat retired from Norwest in 1995, the couple returned to Great Falls, and after three years, moved to Bigfork where Joanne was able to continue her interest in plants, gardening and needlework. Pat and Joanne both loved hunting, fishing, skiing

and travel, and their retirement years have seen them share some wonderful experiences. They particularly liked to take off in the spring in their motor home with Chazer cat in tow. Joanne loved to shop for things from all over the Southwest to decorate her courtyard. Joanne has also maintained close contact with her wide circle of friends and valued her weekly "coffee group."

Joanne was diagnosed with cancer in 2005 and has fought the disease with quiet dignity and great determination for the past three years. During that time she has remained upbeat and able to continue, to a great extent, her active lifestyle.

The fifth of eight children, Joanne comes from a large family, and has maintained close contact with her two surviving brothers and four sisters. The group has frequent reunions and was fortunately able to get together in Bigfork just a few days ago.

Joanne is survived by her loving husband of 37 years, Pat McGarraugh; and stepdaughter, Susan Pacheco, and her husband, Kanoa, and their children, Martin and Michael. Joanne will also be greatly missed by her four sisters, Rita Olds and her husband, Bill, of Cascade, Sharon Mowbray and her husband, Steve, of Denver, Gail Langen and her husband, John, of Las Vegas, and Kim Stroumbos and her husband, Duff, also from Denver; as well as brothers, Duane Johnson and his wife, Kathy, of Houston, and Tom Johnson and his wife, Colleen, of Bozeman. Joanne is also survived by a great many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Aug. 3, at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, in Bigfork.

The family suggest donations be made to the American Cancer Society, 3550 Mullan Road, Suite 105, Missoula, MT 59808; or Sletten Cancer Center, 1117 29th St. S., Great Falls, MT 59405-5306.

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

## Willard G. McGillivray, 75

Willard G. McGillivray, 75, of Libby, died Sunday, Dec. 6, 2009, at his home in Libby from natural causes.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy McGillivray, of Libby; three sons, Don McGillivray, Mike McGillivray and Jim McGillivray, all of Seattle; a

daughter, Megan Ruf, of Spokane; and two stepchildren, Robbie Mastrandrea and Tony Mastrandrea, both of Spokane.

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Dec. 11, at Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## Archie Eugene 'Gene' McGlenn, 83

Archie Eugene "Gene" McGlenn, 83, passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2009, at his home in Kalispell.



Gene was born March 3, 1926, in Lewistown, to William Archie and Frances Josephine McGlenn. Gene started school in Ferdig, Mont. After the first grade the family moved to Glasgow, where he attended school through his freshman year. In 1941, his sophomore year was spent in Eureka. Gene finished his junior and senior years at Flathead County High School, where he graduated in 1944.

In June of 1944, he was inducted into the U.S. Navy. After boot camp at Farragut, Idaho, he reported to Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay. On Dec. 11, 1944, he was assigned to a new ship, the USS Pitt, APA 223, for commissioning and duty. He served in the South Pacific and took part in the invasion of Okinawa on April 1, 1945.

After the war ended, the ship was assigned to take occupation troops to Aomori and Nagoya, Japan. Their next assignment was "magic carpet duty," where he made five trips across the Pacific, returning troops home to the U.S. After being discharged from the Navy, Gene attended the University of Montana in Missoula, from 1946 until 1948.

On Sept. 1, 1947, Gene married Dorothy Gene Sherman. Dorothy was the girl next door, and they have remained married for 62 years. In 1948, they moved to Spokane, where he worked in a sporting goods store for a year. While they were living in Spokane, their son William Roger McGlynn was born.

They moved back to Kalispell, where their daughters Micki Jo and Darcy Gene were born. After five years working at the Pine Grove Bar, owned by his father, he entered the insurance business as a fire and

casualty agent.

He and Charles Powell bought the Conrad Casualty Co. After Powell's retirement, Gene merged Conrad Casualty Company with Kilpatrick Hansen agency to form Time Insurance Agency.

In 1960 Gene started Flathead Travel Service, which his wife Dorothy ran and built into a very fine business, and which his daughters, Micki Nonemacher and Darcy Lard, along with son, Roger McGlenn, run now.

Gene's second love was golf. He was Buffalo Hill Golf Course club champion five times, and won the Kalispell Labor Day Golf Tournament in 1957. He played in the Whitefish Fourth of July tournament 57 times consecutively, starting in 1950. Gene served on the Montana State Golf Association's board of directors for 30 years. He served as a sectional affairs committee man for the United States Golf Association for four years and served on the Golf Digest best golf courses rating panel for eight years.

He started the Alberta-Montana Junior cup matches in 1992; the perpetual trophy bears his name, along with his Alberta counterpart, McBride-McGlenn. In 1998 he was inducted into the Montana Golf Hall of Fame. He was the Montana Cup Captain for 13 years.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; daughters, Micki and Darcy; and a son, Roger; sister, Nancy, and husband, Ron Sloan; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family requests donations be made to the Museum at the Central School, 124 Second Ave. E., Kalispell, MT.

You are invited to go to [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave personal messages for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

A celebration of Gene's life will be held at a later date. Gene left written instructions that his celebration of life would not interfere with anyone's tee time.

## James L. McGrew, 65

James L. McGrew, 65, died Thursday, Nov. 19, 2009, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

He was a retired master sergeant with the U.S. Air Force.

His cremated remains will be laid to rest in Point Pleasant Cemetery in Pleasureville, Ky.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## James L. McIntosh, 72

James L. McIntosh, 72, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. He was born Nov. 9, 1936, to Charles J. and Vera A. (Domain) McIntosh. James grew up in Helena, where he also attended high school.



He was enlisted in the Navy in 1954 and 1955.

James married Florence Evelyn Powell in 1958.

He worked construction jobs

until moving to Kalispell, where he was employed at Pacific Produce. Afterward, he worked professionally as an artist until his interest turned toward helping others, and he started on his journey of being a chemical-dependency counselor. Later, he combined his CD counseling with Corrective Thinking in Chemical Dependency Services, which he owned and operated. He remained at this practice for more than 30 years until being forced to retire because of poor health.

James loved the outdoors and family car rides, and had a passion for artwork. He loved telling stories and jokes.

In 1995, James was baptized as

one of Jehovah's Witnesses. He was a friend of Bill W for 33 years.

James had a positive influence on many people's lives. He was a wealth of knowledge, advice and humor. He had a genuine interest in the welfare of others and will be missed by all.

James was preceded in death by his father, Charles James McIntosh; his mother, Vera Alicia Domain; and a sister, Lola Darlene.

He is survived by his loving wife, Florence; daughter, Laurel, and husband, Eric Ewing; son, Craig; daughter, Brenda, and husband, Larry Hall; daughter, April, and husband, Chris Coen; grandchildren, Sandra, Brianna, Chris-

topher, Courtney, Robin, Tawny, Colby and Grace; and many great-grandchildren, all living in Kalispell. He also is survived by his brother, John; sister, Mickey, and husband, Jim Cozzie; brother, Terry, and wife, Patty; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for James will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 1100 West Reserve Drive, Kalispell. A reception will be afterward in the Country Kitchen at the fairgrounds.

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

## Roberta (Dalke) McLaughlin, 96

Roberta (Dalke) McLaughlin, 96, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell, with her niece by her side. She was born on March 7, 1913, in Hot Springs, the daughter of John and Lyda (Dondanville) Bras.



She graduated from Missoula County High School in 1930. After graduation, she attended the University of Montana Western for a short time and then transferred to the University of Montana where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in education and taught school for a short time. After passing a civil service exam, Roberta went to work in the accounting division of the Forest Service in Missoula, where she worked for nine years.

While working in Missoula, she met and married Robert Dalke in 1941. Those were the war years, so they moved to Los Angeles and she continued to work for the Forest Service. After the war, she and Bob moved to Kalispell, where they bought and ran the Park Inn. Bob died in a drowning accident in the Bob Marshall Wilderness Area in 1959.

In 1963 Roberta married Harold McLaughlin. They lived in Kalispell and spent their winters in Hawaii.

Roberta loved the outdoors and was an avid golfer. She and Harold belonged to Montana Seniors and Western Seniors Golf Association, and Roberta was an active member of Buffalo Hill Golf Course until she was 90. They played in numerous tournaments every year until Harold's death in 1994. She also loved bridge, and played and won many hands of duplicate bridge.

She lovingly volunteered her time at the hospital, knitting many sweaters for babies born in Kalispell. She belonged to the hospital volunteers, G.O.C., Ladies Golf Association and many other local clubs.

Roberta traveled extensively, venturing off to North and South Africa, South and Central America, New Zealand, Australia and several trips through Europe. Hobbies fishing off the coast of Alaska with her dear friend Lil was also high of favorite trips.

Roberta loved hiking in Glacier Park, hunting and fishing with her husband Bob, who was an avid sportsman. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church for over 50 years, having served as a deacon.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, Robert Dalke and Harold McLaughlin; her beloved sister, Jean Marcure; and her parents.

She is survived by her sister, Pauline Albers, and her husband, Elmer, of Seattle; niece, Sharon Heaton, also of Seattle; Sharon's four children, Russell Heaton and wife, Julie, and their eight children of Kalispell, Rhonda, Shannon and Heather, and their families; nephew, Jack Marcure; and niece, Janice Payne, and her daughter, Kari Bentson, and her husband, Mark, and their two children, Abbey and Ryan, of Billings.

Private family services will be held at a later date. There will be a celebration of her life for family and friends at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 1, at her home at 759 N. Main in Kalispell.

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

## Mildred Lucille McLees, 70

Mildred Lucille McLees, 70, died Oct. 7, 2009, at her home in College Place, Wash.

A celebration of her life will be held in Kalispell the summer of 2010.

She worked in various careers, including cosmetology, sales, the Montana

State Patrol and banking.

She is survived by two daughters, Shelley Dawn McLendon of College Place, and Lorna Diane Smith of Kalispell; a son, Jeffrey Dean, of Kalispell; her mother of Issaquah, Wash.; and her former husband, Dean Smith, of Heron.

## Larry G. McMichael, 57

Larry G. McMichael, 57, died at home in Delta, Utah, on Feb. 15, 2009, after never totally recovering from a stroke he had two years previously. Born in Polson on Oct. 21, 1951, Larry grew up in Montana and graduated high school.

He served three years in the Army, serving in Korea, following college; then returned to Montana.

Larry met and married Sinclair "Sindy" Strait on July 1, 1977, in Billings, and joined an apprenticeship program to become an electrical lineman. After four years he became a journeyman lineman and worked throughout the state of Montana and surrounding areas.

Larry was pleased and thrilled with the birth of his children — daughter, Scire, in 1981; and son, Clinton, in 1984.

Line work in Montana is very seasonal, and in 1985, Larry went to work for the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.



At DWP, Larry went through various in-house schooling, worked different departments and was picked up as a foreman, but decided to transfer to distribution and bid an opening in the Delta, Utah, area for DWP, in 1995.

Larry loved to be outdoors and enjoyed driving around the West desert, patrolling the towers. He worked hard at everything he did. He had a wonderful laugh, and loved to make other people laugh with his stories and jokes.

Larry is survived by his wife, Sindy; children, Scire of Delta, and Clinton and Katrina of Salt Lake City; five grandchildren; his mother, Gloria McMichael, and grandmother, Myrtle Strodbeck, both of Kalispell; brothers, Wayne and Teri of Kalispell, Glenn and Karen of Draper, Utah, and Arlie of Glasgow; and sister, Janice, of Kalispell.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Brian.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Great Basin Museum, P.O. Box 550, Delta, UT 84624.

A memorial service will be planned in the near future.

## Robert Dale McMurren, 87

Robert Dale McMurren, loving husband of Irene McMurren, passed away on July 25, 2009, at 9:20 p.m. at his Bigfork ranch after a short battle with cancer.

Dale is survived by his wife, Irene McMurren; sister, Kathryn Hopp; son, Alec McMurren; daughter, Kay McMurren; and grandchildren, George, Kelly, and Matthew O'Connor, and Anna and Issac McMurren.

Dale was born in Salem, Iowa on Feb. 20, 1922, to



Robert Earl and Elsie (Thompson) McMurren. His stepmother is Gladys Carlisle McMurren.

He was a veteran of World War II and a retired businessman.

He loved Montana, hunting, riding, fishing, and a quick two-step.

Dale leaves many good friends. "We wish him many happy trails."

An open graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, July 31, at Lonepine Cemetery in Bigfork. A farewell celebration will be scheduled at a later date.

We invite you to go to [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave your loving regards or sign his book. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Alice Stewart McNall, 95

Alice Stewart McNall, 95, passed away Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2009, around 6:50 p.m., at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.



She was born the fifth of seven children, in Bengie, Wash., Adams County, to Forby and Josephine Stewart, on Sept. 19, 1914.

Theo "Mac" McNall and Alice were married Sept. 29, 1935, in Spokane. They had a daughter, Donna Jo, and a son, Theo Clyde Jr.

Both Mac and Alice loved family and being with friends. They moved to

southern California in 1952 and became avid water skiers.

Alice moved back to Montana after Mac died and settled in Columbia Falls. She enjoyed being a part of her church, Columbia Falls Senior Center, Klothes Kloset and her family. She leaves her two children, six grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson.

There will be a celebration of her life at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 25, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls. A reception will follow the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in Alice's name can be made to Our Savior's Lutheran Church, or to Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

## Jeanette Yankers McNamara, 44

Jeanette Yankers McNamara died at her home in Whitefish on Dec. 28, 2009.

Jeanette was born on Jan. 5, 1965, in Pressath, Bavaria, Germany, to Johanna Lore and Bill Yankers, and was the oldest of their three children.

She graduated from the Elly Heuss Academie in 1984 and worked for the U.S. Army at the Grafenwoehr Training Center as chief of the pay section.

It was there that she met the love of her life, Capt. Mike McNamara, and they were married at the KlosterKirche in Speinhshart, Germany, on Sept. 17, 1988. Their marriage was blessed with three loving children, Jamie, Christopher and Shannon.

Jeanette, Mike and the kids traveled extensively, visiting Russia, Egypt, Turkey, Poland, Romania and

all of Western Europe. Her sense of adventure and zest for life made these travels wonderful memories for them both.

Jeanette was the core of the family, caring for everyone, especially during her husband's often extended deployments. She loved raising their children.

When the family retired from the Army in 2006, they moved to Whitefish. Jeanette loved the forests and woodlands which reminded her so much of the Bavarian countryside of her youth. She especially treasured "her" woods behind the family home, her wildflowers and the lovely morels which she considered God's gift to her family.



Jeanette passionately enjoyed observing wildlife in Glacier National Park, especially the bears and moose. She also enjoyed their many family adventures, like camel safaris, diving in the Keys, and camping in Ireland and anywhere in the beautiful Montana backcountry.

She volunteered at various community activities, especially the Whitefish Figure Skating Club, where she spent many happy hours on the ice with her daughter Shannon.

Jeanette is survived by her husband, Mike, and her three children at the family home in Whitefish, as well as her mother and her brother, Oliver, and sister, Melanie,

in Germany.

Her wonderful life, though far too brief, leaves lasting memories of love, of family and kindness to all, which will live in our hearts forever.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Whitefish, with a reception to follow in the Parish Life Center. Friends may call at Austin Funeral Home beginning at 3 p.m. Friday; a parish vigil and rosary will follow at 7 p.m. Friday. An additional celebration of her life will take place at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 3, at the Whitefish United Methodist Church.

## John A. McNamara, 55

John A. McNamara, 55, died Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009, at his home in Whitefish.

He is survived by his wife, Wendy, of Whitefish; and sons, Jake of California, and Kilian of Whitefish.

A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21, at the family home, 747 N. Valley Drive, in Whitefish.

Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish is in charge of the arrangements.

## Kathleen P. McNulty, 87

Kathleen P. McNulty, 87, died Friday, Aug. 21, 2009, at the Whitefish Care and Rehabilitation Center in Whitefish.

She is survived locally by Tim McNulty of Kalispell.

She will be laid to rest next to her husband in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va.

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

## Angus Howard McPherson, 58

Angus Howard McPherson, 58, formerly of Kalispell, died in Missoula on July 9, 2009.

He had worked as a safety consultant, inspector and officer for the State of Montana and OSHA, and as a Workers' Compensation adminis-

trator for the University of Montana.

Angus is survived by his father, Angus; stepfather Jerry; and wife, Terry Coriell.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Aug. 8, at the Eagles Lodge, 2420 South Avenue West, Missoula.

## Laura 'Jo' Measure, 97

Laura "Jo" Measure, 97, died peacefully Wednesday evening Jan. 28, 2009, in the company of family at her residence in Kalispell. Laura Jo Forhan



was born the second child of (Great Northern) conductor William S. Forhan and the former telegrapher Hermine (Merker) Forhan in Whitefish on Feb. 9, 1911.

Within a few years the family moved to Paola Creek (this side of Essex), where the family ran the Mercantile while William was on the railroad. In those days, the highway (a dirt road) ended just past Columbia Falls, but Laura Jo often would venture up the tracks and down to the mouth of Park Creek (about four miles) for the "best" fishing. This was the beginning of a lifetime love of wild country.

The family moved to Fourth Avenue West in Kalispell, where Laura Jo attended the nearby primary and high schools. After graduation, she hiked into the present day Bob Marshall Wilderness with her favorite teacher, Grace Baldwin, and three friends and spent two months exploring the backcountry.

She received her bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Montana in 1933 and pursued graduate studies in biology at the university and at the Marine Biological Research Station in Wood's Hole, Mass.

The Depression and family finances brought her back to Montana, where she worked for the Department of Public Welfare as a social worker, one year in Anaconda and five years in Kalispell.

In 1940, she married Ambrose Measure, a local attorney. Both had played in the Flathead High Orchestra. Ambrose died in 2000.

Laura Jo is survived by their

four children, Loraine Measure of Bigfork, Dr. Edward Measure and his wife, Rorie, of Los Cruces, N.M., Susanne M. O'Connor of Kalispell, and Bruce Measure of Kalispell; eight grandchildren, Daren Bundrock, Steven Bundrock, Lori Bundrock, Scott O'Connor, Erin O'Connor, Buck Measure, Alex Measure and Eric Measure; five great-grandsons and one great-granddaughter; her sister, Margaret "Peg" Smith, of Kalispell; and her brother, Rudy Forhan, of Tucson, Ariz.; she also is survived by her very dear friend, Jeanette James, of Kalispell.

She maintained a lifelong love of learning, hiking, art, literature and crafts of all kinds. She was an accomplished seamstress, gardener and chef, and loved her cabin at Little Bitterroot Lake.

A gifted writer and storyteller, Laura Jo published a craft book and short stories, many after age 75.

"She deeply loved her friends and family and delighted in God's beautiful world and its people."

Laura Jo was preceded in death by her parents; four sisters, Midge and Sally Forhan, Florence Tetler, and Nelle Hartley; and two brothers, Ed and Buzz Forhan.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 2, at Risen Christ Catholic Church, 65 W. Evergreen Drive, in Kalispell, with Father Rudolph Bullman as celebrant. Visitation will be from noon to 2 p.m. today, Feb. 1, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. Burial will be after services at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

The family suggests memorials to the Glacier Natural History Society or Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Laura Jo's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer a condolence and sign Laura Jo's guestbook.

## Mary Ellen Doyle Mecchi, 85

Our beloved Mary, 85, "went to be with her Lord" on Jan. 5, 2009.

Born in Dodson, and raised in Whitefish, Mary was the sixth of 11 children born to Della Myrtle Manary Doyle and James Charles Doyle. Mary graduated from Whitefish High School in 1941.

While working in Seattle, she was introduced to Enzo "Mickey" Mecchi. They were married in Jackson Heights, N.Y., raised five children, and celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary Nov. 28, 2000.

Mary, Mickey and their five children lived in New York until they moved to Nesquehoning, Pa., in 1961. After Mickey's death in 2001, Mary lived in Allentown, Pa., before moving to Plano, Texas, in 2006.

While in Texas, Mary cultivated an active social calendar. She remained active in her faith, attending St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church and took the lead in preparing for the weekly services. She enjoyed her role as a hostess for her home, Waterford of Plano, as well as assisting the leader of the exercise classes.

She was a regular at the twice-weekly bingo games, and enjoyed the camaraderie of assembling community jigsaw puzzles. She looked forward to experiencing



new and exciting restaurants, but her favorite pastime was spending time with family and friends playing cards and games.

As a farmer's daughter, she cultivated a lifelong love for gardening and enjoyed sharing both her knowledge and the fruits of her labor with others.

She never failed to acknowledge a birthday, anniversary, graduation, or any other special event in the lives of those she loved and was always willing to help when called upon. Those closest to her enjoyed her smile and sweet laughter as well as her wise council.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Enzo "Mickey"; son, Roger; and daughter, Mary Anne Mecchi; grandson, Peter Mecchi; and three brothers, James, David and William Doyle.

She is survived by her three sons, Robert of Island Lake, Ill., Raymond of Bethlehem, Pa., and Michael of Allentown; seven grandchildren, Elizabeth Mecchi-Sanders of Rockwall, Texas, Marilu Mecchi (Sexton) Lee-Sue of Allen, Texas, Robert Mecchi II of Island Lake, Raymond Mecchi Jr., of Bethlehem, Jason Mecchi of Easton, Pa., Erin Mecchi of Allentown, and Elena Mecchi of Allentown; five great-grandchildren, Miranda Sexton of Allen, R. Ryan Mecchi of Island Lake, A. Dylan Mecchi of Island Lake, Terasita Mecchi of Island Lake, and Jacob Mecchi of Easton; seven surviving siblings, Stella Holyk of Hot Springs, Theresa Gano of

Polson, Barbara "Betty" Ahrens of Tacoma, Wash., Leonard Doyle of Whitefish, Frances "Frankie" Byrne of Kalispell, Agnes Palmer of Helena, and Patricia "Patsy" Chamberlain of Great Falls; and numerous nieces, nephews, friends and other loved ones.

Services will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday at the Bruce A. Nalesnik Funeral Home, 57 W. Center St., Nesquehoning, Pa., followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at noon at St.

Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church, Nesquehoning, with the Rev. Anthony Drouncheck officiating. Interment will be at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Nesquehoning.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the American Heart Association, where a fund has been set up in her memory (Mary Ellen Doyle Mecchi).

Services and arrangements are by the Bruce A. Nalesnik Funeral Home.

## Cornelius Alvin 'Conn' Meckler, 84

Cornelius Alvin "Conn" Meckler, passed away at the Columbia Falls Montana Veterans Home on Jan. 12, 2009. He was born Oct. 6, 1924, in Sidney.

He is survived by his daughter, Connie Fawcett, of Whitefish; son, Gerald Meckler, of Kalispell; brother, Joe Meckler, of Sparks, Nev.; grandson, Jason Fawcett, and Erin, of Seattle; nephews, Brett and Billy and Jimmy Michels; cousin, Dick Meckler, of Condon; special friend, Marg Lang, of Calgary, Alberta; and many other nieces and nephews and cousins.

Conn was an avid motor-

cyclist and snowmobiler and had many friends in the Missoula area. On his many trips by motorcycle, he was always accompanied by his faithful dog Beanzie.

As owner of Meckler's Unholstery, he was well-known for his skilled craftsmanship.

He was a member of the Eagles and much sought after by the ladies for his dancing skills.

A memorial service is being planned for Conn in Missoula for late May or early June and an announcement will precede this date once it has been arranged.

## Ruth A. Medina, 87

Ruth A. Medina died March 24, 2009, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell, after a courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease.



She was born Ruth Margie Anderson on Feb. 7, 1922, in Salem, Idaho, to Leonel and Hilda (Hokanson) Anderson. She was the seventh of eight children. She graduated from high school in Rigby, Idaho.

After graduation she moved to Bountiful, Utah, where she met John Dale Ashby. They married on Oct. 10, 1940, in the Salt Lake temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They had one child, Meridel Ruth. When World War II started, Dale joined the Army, and Ruth and Meridel moved to San Diego. Ruth and Dale were divorced June 11, 1946.

She married Manuel "Manny" V. Medina on Sept. 18, 1955, in Chula Vista, Calif. They had three children, Marla, Mark and Anthony "Tony".

Ruth was an exceptionally accomplished seamstress. She was pleased to make her daughter-in-law Sandra's and granddaughter Lara's wedding dresses. She had a talent for decorating her home and developed her talent as an artist while in her 60s. Ruth loved to go dancing and enjoyed music. She loved to travel and visit with family and friends, and was interested in learning new things. The most important aspect of Ruth's life was

always her family.

Ruth is survived by her daughter, Meridel Barden, of Kalispell, and Meridel's children, Summer and Ben Hawke of British Columbia, Brett and Leslie Barden of Vista, Calif., and Lara and Rob Mahar of Jupiter, Fla.; her son, Mark Medina, and his wife, Sandra, and their four children, Bradley, Emma, Hannah and Samuel, of Chula Vista; her son, Anthony "Tony" Davis, of Los Angeles; and her sister, Edith Lay, of Green Castle, Mo. She is also survived by her six great-grandchildren, Sierra, Rachel and Mackenzie Hawke, and Tsali, Yona and Sage Mahar; several nieces and nephews; and numerous loved ones in Manny's family.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents; her siblings, Mildred, Goldie, May, Howard, Vernon and Keith; as well as her daughter, Marla, who died July 20, 1962, in San Diego; her husband, Manny, who died July 25, 2000, in Chula Vista; and her son-in-law, Jim Barden, who died Feb. 1, 2004, in Kalispell.

There will be a memorial service for Ruth in Chula Vista at a later date and she will be buried in San Diego alongside her husband, Manny, and daughter, Marla.

The family expresses their heartfelt appreciation to the staff at Immanuel Lutheran, as well as to the nurses with Hospice for the warm and gentle care given to Ruth during her difficult years.

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

## Helen Jeanette Wood Mellem, 87

Helen Jeanette Wood Mellem, 87, died at her home in Libby on Oct. 8, 2009.

She is survived by five children, Douglas Mellem and Clarise Mellem Rowberry of Libby, Jerald Mellem of Havre, Peter Mellem of Fort Collins,

Colo., and Carol Mellem Addicott of Ray, N.D.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at Christ Lutheran Church in Libby.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## Billie D. Mende, 80

Our loving husband, father, grandfather, uncle and friend, Billie D. Mende, 80, passed away peacefully in his home,



Friday, Sept. 25, 2009. He was born March 4, 1929, in Terry, to Joseph and Lillian Mende. His mother died in childbirth so his aunt and uncle, Randy and Ervina Meek, lovingly raised him in Wibaux.

Growing up, he had several colorful years of interscholastic sports while playing with the American Legion baseball team of Miles City, during the summers of 1944 to 1946. Bill stamped himself as an outstanding football player at Wibaux High School and throughout Montana. He captained both the football and basketball teams for two years and was the top scorer for the District Four basketball champions. Bill was an outfielder for the Miles City team with a three-year batting average of .354. He also made an interscholastic sports record at Wibaux County High School and drew state and regional recognition in baseball.

He was offered spots with the White Sox, Dodgers, Cubs and New York Yankees, which eventually led to his signing up to play with the Yankees.

After attending college, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps. Before leaving for Korea, he married his high school sweetheart, Jane Owens. After returning from the war they moved around

Montana until they made their home in Kalispell, and had five children whom he centered his life around.

Bill worked as an engineer in the Forest Service and later for private companies. He had a passion for nature and the outdoors and his jobs enabled him to do what he loved.

Bill was a quiet, honorable, loving man. His life was his family and spending time with them was his greatest joy. He saw the good in everyone, loved animals and all who met him, loved him.

Bill is survived by his wife of 57 years, Jane; his brother, Gayle Mende, of Glendale, Calif.; and children, Jim and Maggie Mende of Peris, Calif., Randy and Debbie Mende of Oceanside, Calif., Mark and Sandra Mende of Pleasanton, Calif., Mike Mende and Doryl Thompson of Aliso Viejo, Calif., and Mike and Sandra Harp of Sterling, Alaska. He was adored by his grandchildren, Marcey, Rodney, Joe, Jimmy, Billie, John, Riley, Ryan and Tyler Mende, Kelly and Reese Pedersen, Kelly Smith and Ryder Harp; and great-grandchildren, Ryder and Haven Mende, and Paige Pedersen, Sydney and Joey Harp and Jude Smith.

Funeral services for Bill will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel. Burial will follow services at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery with full military honors.

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