

Edna G. Skramstad, 85

Edna G. Skramstad, 85, passed away on Friday, Sept. 14, 2012, at Brendan House in Kalispell, in the presence of her daughter Sheryl.



She was born in Finley, N.D., on Dec. 16, 1926, to Gustav and Agnes (Anderson) Olson.

Edna attended a small country school and graduated from Cooperstown, N.D., high school. She attended Valley City teachers college in North Dakota. She then taught in a small country school.

Edna married Gene Skramstad on Dec. 8, 1945, and she raised her family in Grand Forks, Fargo and Minot, N.D., and moved to Kalispell in 1971. While in Minot, Edna worked in several retail positions and was a volunteer for the Civil Defense, watching for unidentified aircraft.

After moving to Kalispell, Edna worked with her husband in starting and operating the El Rancho Cafe. While operating the cafe, they also operated a wild game meat processing business.

She was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church.

Edna was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Floyd, Maurice and Russell; and a grand-

daughter, Shannon.

She is survived by her husband, Gene, of 66 years; a son, Allan and Kay, of West Fargo, N.D.; a son, Dennis, of Kalispell; a daughter, Sheryl and Monte Magruder, of Kalispell; a son, Bradley and Cindy, of Kalispell; a brother, Milton Olson, of Fargo; grandchildren, Tracy and David Drake, Lisa and Eric Cook, Scott Skramstad, Jon and Kris Skramstad, Erik and Heather Skramstad, Cody and Hillary Hatton, and Ashlee Skramstad; great-grandchildren, Samuel Eide, Lucas Eide, Emma Cook, Sofi Cook, Isabella Skramstad and Bryce Skramstad; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Edna will be held at 1 p.m. today, Sept. 18, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel with Pastor Robert Nilsen officiating. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. today until the time of services. Burial will follow in the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

The family suggests that memorial gifts be given to the Alzheimer's Association of Montana, 3010 11th Ave. N., Billings, MT 59101.

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.

James Preston Slack, 79

James Preston Slack, born Oct. 22, 1932, in Fort Wayne, Ind., "passed on to the greater existence" on Feb. 23, 2012, in Yorba Linda, Calif. He was 79.



Jim grew up in Fort Wayne. He attended Concordia Lutheran High School. In 1954, he graduated from Utah State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in political science.

Jim proudly served our country as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army in Germany from 1954 to 1956, as part of the post World War II Occupation Forces. After completing his service time, he then attended and graduated in 1960 from Boalt Hall School of Law, at the University of

California. He then served the County of Orange as a deputy district attorney in the early 1960s. In the mid '60s he opened the Law Offices of Kurlich, Slack & Ballard in Fullerton, Calif. In 1993, he moved to Kalispell and continued to practice law. During his 52-year career in law he held memberships in the California State Bar Association and Montana State Bar Association.

Jim is survived by his two sons, Steven Slack and Michael Slack; two grandsons, Tanner and Keaton Slack; and two granddaughters, Brittney and Jaycee Slack. He also leaves behind his faithful best friend Kali, his Brittney spaniel.

McAulay & Wallace Mortuary funeral directors are handling arrangements.

Cyril George Sladek, 96

Cyril George Sladek, 96, Pasco of Columbia Falls, died Jan. 27, 2012, at his home in Columbia Falls. Services will be at a later date.

He is survived by his daughters, Patricia Meister of Chicago, and Barbara

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

Sewell I. 'Bud' Sleek III, 75

Sewell I. "Bud" Sleek III, 75, passed away at his Marion residence Saturday, May 19, 2012.

Services will be held

in Colorado at a later date.

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

Thomas Steven 'Tom' Snyder, 76

Thomas Steven "Tom" Snyder, 76, died Wednesday, May 16, 2012, at his residence in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Snyder, of Kalispell; and his children, Mark Snyder of Ashland, Ore., Bret Snyder and Rebecca

Snyder, both of Talent, Ore., Daniel Snyder of Columbo, Sri Lanka, Jens Nielsen of Fallbrook, Calif., and Autumn Santa of Kalispell.

There are no services planned at this time. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Christopher Jay Smith Jr., 30

Christopher "CJ" Jay Smith Jr., 30, of Columbia Falls, passed away Saturday, June 16, 2012,



from a lengthy battle with brain cancer, surrounded by his loving family.

CJ was born on July 7, 1981, to Christopher and Debbie Smith in Warden, Wash. Being the oldest boy, he was always causing trouble and havoc around the house.

In 2001, Chris met Christina Marie Hamilton and her son Jonathan. Finally, on July 18, 2005, they made their family official. 2005 was a good year for Chris as he got his GED and started working towards getting his electrical apprenticeship. He also started helping his dad get Monster Electric Inc., off the ground.

As the years went by, CJ advanced in school, graduating from Flathead Valley Community College in 2009, and even started teaching his youngest brother Doug the electrical ropes.

In September 2010, Chris was diagnosed with a grade 3 anaplastic astrocytoma located directly in the middle of his brain. He underwent surgery to install a shunt and started radiation and chemotherapy soon afterward. Chris never let the tumor get the best of him and up until the very end, was always shooting dirty looks, cheesy grins, or playful taunts in anyone's direction.

Chris was a wonderful husband, father, son, uncle and brother who

will deeply be missed.

He is survived by his wife Christina Marie Hamilton-Smith, and son Jonathan and father-in-law Jordan Kittleson, of Columbia Falls; parents, Chris and Debbie Smith, of Kalispell; sisters, Shonna and Walter Grinn of Belgrade, Tenny Framness of Indiana, and Christina May Smith of Kalispell; and brothers, Denis and Brandi Smith, and Douglas and Sarah Smith, of Kalispell. He is also survived by nieces, Kyrsten Framness, and Amber and Autumn Hughes; nephews, Joseph and Kit Smith, and Josiah and Kyler Smith; and numerous other relatives.

Chris was preceded in death by his mother-in-law, Denise Hamilton; and an uncle, Denis Smith.

The family would like to let friends know that we are planning a celebration of life/birthday party for Chris on July 7 which would have been his 31st birthday, at Woodland Park, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Look for balloons to direct you to the correct gazebo). We ask that you wear something purple, as it was his favorite color; and if you can help out in any way, please call Christina at 406-270-0602 or 406-892-0691.

Any condolences can be sent to Christina and Jonathan Hamilton-Smith and family, 962 Jensen Road, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

Columbia Falls Mortuary is handling all the arrangements and caring for the family.

You are invited to go to www.columbiamortuary.com to offer condolences and view CJ's tribute wall.

Glenn Earl Smith, 82

Glenn Earl Smith, 82, passed away on July 27, 2012, at his home in Columbia Falls.

He was born Nov. 14, 1929, in Great Falls, to Earl Frederick and Lou Marie (Smail) Smith.

The family moved many times throughout the Northwest but settled in Lewiston, where Glenn graduated from high school.

In 1956 he met and married Elizabeth Booth in Wibaux, where they started their family, with daughter Joan and son Van. In 1965 they moved to the Flathead Valley and complete the family with a son Douglas in 1966.

Glen worked for the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant and then spent several years as a sawyer. Over the last 40 years he was known by all as "Jobber Joe" or simply "Jobber," making a living as a carpenter, plumber and handyman — whatever needed done.

In 1965 he dedicated his life to the Sovereign Lord Jehovah and was an active servant of Him in the

Whitefish congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Glenn was preceded in death by his son Douglas in 1971.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, at the family home; daughter Joan and husband Lloyd Anderson of Whitefish; son, Van, of Columbia Falls, sisters, Corrine Miller and Frieda Gasse; brothers, Dale and Duane Smith; 16 nieces and nephews; four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Glen will be greatly missed and "we all look forward to the resurrection to life on a paradise earth as foretold in John 5: 26-29."

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 4, at the Whitefish Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 1900 Hwy. 93 West.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home. You are invited to go to www.austinfh.com to offer condolences, share memories and view Glenn's tribute wall.

James A. Smith, 86

James A. Smith, 86, died Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2012, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

Family services will be

held in early summer.

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

Kathy Helen Smith, 75

Kathy Helen Smith, 75, died Saturday, July 14, 2012, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She is survived by three sons, Larry Vasquez, Michael Ross and Rick

Hely; and one daughter, Jody Herrera.

No services are planned at this time.

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

Lester E. Smith, 91

Lester E. Smith, 91, passed away July 26, 2012, in Richland, Wash.



Lester was born Oct. 12, 1920, in Bridgeport, Neb., and was raised there.

During the summers, Lester spent time at the family ranch in Hot Springs, S.D., in the Black Hills. He also spent time fishing on the Platte River.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor was bombed, Lester immediately joined the U.S. Marine Corps, seeing action on the Marshall Islands, Saipan, Tinian and Iwo Jima with the 4th Division.

After graduating college with his teaching degree, Lester set up the first educational environmental laboratory in the state of Wyoming. He also taught in Lander, Wyo., where he retired.

Lester was a member of the Marine Corps League, other veterans organizations and involved in vet-

eran activities. He always looked forward to his annual reunion with his fellow veterans from the 4th Division, 27th Regimental Weapons. During World War II he had received the Presidential Unit Citation.

Lester was preceded in death by his wife Dorothy, and daughter Helen.

He is survived by his sons, Richard and Karen Smith, Russ Smith and Dan Smith; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Graveside military services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 3, at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Contributions in Lester's name may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website, www.buffalohillfh.com, to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Lucille Mae Smith, 92

Lucille Mae Smith, 92, of Kalispell, died Monday, Dec. 5, 2011, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She is survived by her children, Delores Lamb of

Columbia Falls, and Richard Smith of Newport, Tenn.

Services will be private. Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

Therese Lowell 'Terry' Smith, 93

Therese Lowell "Terry" Smith of Bigfork "left this world" on March 2, 2012, in Walla Walla, Wash. She was 93.



Born July 18, 1918, in Pendleton, Ore., to William E. and Helen Snyder Lowell, she was raised in Boise, Idaho; Spokane; Helena; Denver and Salt Lake City. Her father was a newspaperman and an Associated Press correspondent. Her mother was a homemaker.

Terry attended Whitman College, Colorado College and the University of Utah.

In 1941, she married Reed D. Smith of Salt Lake City.

During World War II, while Reed served in the Air Corps, Terry worked in Washington, D.C., for Bowen & Co., which manufactured proximity fuses. When the war ended, she and Reed lived in Aspen, Colo., where, with former members of the 10th Mountain Division, Reed helped build Aspen's first ski runs.

Returning to Salt Lake, Reed received his law degree from the University of Utah, while Terry graduated in 1948 with a degree in sociology.

They enjoyed hiking in the canyons with a fly rod and frying pan, and they loved to dance to the big bands of that era.

In 1953, Reed opened the Fireman's Fund office in Santa Ana, Calif. Like so many of their generation, they bought a small house on the GI Bill and set about living the American dream.

At age 50, Terry decided to go back to work and had to be very persistent to find a job. She ended up working for one of America's first sports agents. Her favorite clients were Bert Blyleven and Steve Yeager. She also worked for the Campfire

Girls organization.

In 1990, she visited Bigfork and impulsively bought a small house on the Swan River. She moved in during January 1991. Thus began one of the happiest and most fulfilling times of her life. She remodeled the house (a project that she relished), reorganized the altar guild at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church and served on the vestry, made beautiful dream catchers and sold them through the Bigfork Art and Cultural Center (where she also volunteered), and started playing lots of bridge and hosting many fun parties.

While working at the Janoff Gallery, she reconnected with Betty Bartlett, who had come to the gallery to inquire about some framing. Betty had been her baby sitter in Helena in the 1920s.

Terry loved her only child, son, Steve, of Bigfork; Jesus; God; America; her mom and dad; her big brother Stephen W. Lowell of Kalispell (who died in 2002); her husband Reed (who died in 1982); her grampy, Stephen Arthur Lowell, of Pendleton; the Episcopal Church; beach combing; birds; ducks; turtles; the cats Mrs. Feely, Tiger, Beeper, and George; the dogs, Hitchhiker, Dinty, Ahab and Bodie; whodunits; crossword puzzles; jigsaw puzzles; crafts; decorating; entertaining and ice cream.

She was a member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Mayflower Society.

Terry lived a long and happy life and never let aches and disappointments affect her "positivity." She was a happy camper with a great style and a marvelous sense of humor. She yet lives in the hearts of the many who loved and admired her.

A memorial service and life celebration is planned for the summer, with the date to be announced.

Mary Louise Solberg, 79

Mary Louise Solberg, 79, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2012, at Kalispell



Regional Medical Center in Kalispell after a long battle with COPD.

She was the youngest of seven children born to Axel and Cornelia (Sheaffer) Swenson on a homestead in Kevin, Mont.

The family later moved to a farm near Cut Bank along the Milk River. She attended boarding school in Columbia Falls from fifth to eighth grade. She attended high school at Flathead County High School in Kalispell. She married Albert Solberg on Sept. 24, 1949. Three children were born to this union, Merdith, Nancy and Duane. They farmed in the West Valley area of Kalispell. Mary worked hard raising chickens, candling, selling and delivering eggs, along with the care of many farm animals and a large garden. They moved to Whitefish in 1971. They divorced in 1973. She worked as a waitress at Sykes' Fountain and the Park Inn in Kalispell. After her divorce, her adventurous spirit led her to working for the R. L. Polk Company doing city directories in Alaska and the Northwestern States. She settled down in Portland for a time, working for Opticraft. After tiring of her life in a fifth wheel, she was proud to purchase her own home in Gresham, Ore. In her retirement years, she returned to the Flathead Valley and settled back in the family home in Whitefish. She enjoyed her family, playing cards, collecting turtles, watching birds and animals

outside her window, her computer and watching ballgames. She experienced great joy in the past few years when she was introduced to her four grandchildren, who were adopted out at birth.

Mary is survived by her big brother, Warren Swenson of Cut Bank; big sister, Margaret Wagner of Langley, B.C., Canada; daughters, Merdith and husband Ron Hartsoch, and Nancy Solberg of Kalispell; Duane and wife Karen Solberg of Anaconda; eight grandchildren, Jeff and wife Mary Hartsoch, Jeanne Harbin, Jessica and husband Chris Anderson, Emilie Solberg, Joel Kegel, Tim and wife Sara Meyer, Luke and wife Amy Bowen and Sarah Foster; eight great-grandchildren, Kyler, Cody and Cassidy Hartsoch, Jordyn and Heather Harbin, Elyse Bowen, McKenzie Meyer and Bryer Anderson; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Robert and Harvey Swenson; and sisters, Dorothy Ruth Boyle and Jean Anders Bucher.

A viewing will be held from 9 a.m. to noon on Monday, Dec. 3 at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. A graveside service will follow at 2 p.m. at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Following services, a potluck will be held at Central Bible Church Gym at 902 First Ave. E., in Kalispell.

The family suggests donations be given to Lamplighter House, 410 Windward Way in Kalispell in Mary's name.

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

David Alan Solum, 51

David Alan Solum, 51, died May 31, 2012, at his home in Clinton.

He was born Dec. 19, 1960, at Hill Air Force Base in Ogden, Utah. He grew up and went to schools in Missoula, Kalispell and Somers.

After high school, David enlisted and served proudly in the U.S. Marine Corps as a helicopter crew chief. Following his military service, he worked at numerous jobs in the electrical industry and was very adept at fixing and maintaining mechanical equipment.

While employed at a Missoula bowling alley, he became a U.S. Bowling Congress Association certified bowling coach. Coaching young kids was his great delight, which he did in bowling and baseball. He was also an avid Griz fan, supporting his favorite team, the Missoula Grizzlies.

Together with his wife, Rose, they enjoyed fishing, camping, quilting and caring for their dogs and horses.

David was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Otto and Nellie



Solum; and his maternal grandparents, Ted Winegar and Charlotte Kingman.

He is survived by his wife, Rose; his grandkids, "Buddies" Connor and Gavin and "Princess" Cassidy; his children, Anita Sayer and sons, Christopher and Gavin; Max Sayer and son, Connor, of Missoula; and Carrie Hill and children, Cassidy, Kaleb and Kalee, of Boise Idaho; sister-in-law, Judy Feistner; and brother-in-law, Gary Spatzier-ath. And, of course, he leaves behind his beagles, Princess Leah and Gunny Sargent.

He is also survived by his mother, Peggy Fonner, of Missoula; his father, Alan, and Geri Solum, of Somers; sister, Deborah Eickhorst, and Randy; brother, Erik Solum and Penny, of Big fork; sister, Barbara Reeder, and Steven, of San Diego; sisters, Laural Manwill and Wayne, and Pamela Pfau and Joe of Boise Idaho; sister, Nikki Kelly, of Missoula; and numerous nephews and nieces.

There will be an interment service at 2 p.m. July 6 at the Western Montana State Veterans Cemetery, 1911 Tower St., in Missoula, with a barbecue to follow at the Hellgate High School Courtyard, 900 S. Higgins Ave., Missoula.

David Alan Solum, 51

David Alan Solum, 51, of Clinton, died Thursday, May 31, 2012.

A memorial gathering is planned for 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 6 at the Missoula Winery, 5646 W.

Harrier Dr., in Missoula. Casual "Griz" wear is suggested.

Arrangements are under the care of Garden City Funeral Home.

Richard Wayne Sooter, 63

Richard Wayne Sooter, 63, died Jan. 8, 2012, in Whitefish.

He is survived by his father, Wayne Sooter, of

Kalispell.

Arrangements are pending with Austin Funeral Home.

Carrol L. Sorensen, 82

Carrol L. Sorensen, 82, of Columbia Falls, died Monday, Sept. 17, 2012, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly Sorensen, of Columbia Falls; three daughters, B.J. Kavanaugh of Port Angeles,

Wash., Dawn Robison of Kingston, Wash., and Mary Sorensen of Portland; and one son, Les Sorensen of Columbia Falls.

Services are pending. Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

Don R. Souther

Don R. "Preacher" Souther, loving husband, father, "Papa," "Coot," dog lover and friend to many, "took his last look toward the big Montana Sky" on the afternoon of Feb. 24, 2012.



Don was born in Denver on Dec. 17, 1938, the first son of Paul Souther and Grace Russom. He spent his younger years above the tree line in Climax, Colo., where his father worked in the coal mines.

His best friends were the squirrels and birds that taught him to love and appreciate the natural world. As a child his idea of heaven was the Museum of Natural History in Denver. He loved rainbows and rocks and his twin pet skunks. He and his family fished and hunted and camped in the high mountains.

When Don was 10, his family moved to Carlsbad, N.M. It was there that he learned to cope with the hot, dry and barren land of the Southwest. He learned to make campfires with sagebrush and hunt sage hens and rabbit for food. It was there that his father introduced him to hunting artifacts.

Don entered into active Navy service in Albuquerque, N.M., on Aug. 29, 1956. He attended Class "A" Diesel Engineering School. He served two years in the Mediterranean as a diesel mechanic, and was honorably discharged to the Reserves on March 2, 1960.

After his discharge, Don worked in East St. Louis at ACF Industries as inspector, where he supervised workers, wrote detailed reports of conditions and estimated labor, materials, time and costs for conversion, repairs and maintenance of all types of railway transport cars.

He met and married Peggy in 1970. Don and Peggy had a son, Don Jr., in August 1971.

ern Wyoming Community College where he studied basic electrical theory. He was later hired by Pacific Power and Light as an estimator. His interest in drafting and design was renewed by fielding and designing power lines in the Rock Springs area and later at Rawlins.

Don spent much of his leisure time hunting and fishing in the high desert of Wyoming. His greatest love in that country was artifact hunting with his closest friends, Tim Huertter and Gary Babcock of Rawlins.

He and Peggy later separated and were divorced in the late '80s.

Don transferred from Rawlins to Kalispell in the fall of 1990. It was then that he met and later married Cherie Browning on New Year's Day 1992, at their home in Columbia Falls. The walls of the house rattled with celebration, conversation and laughter.

In 1996 his health began to deteriorate when he suffered numerous heart attacks and other ailments prior to his early retirement. He worked part-time for his wife at her H&R Block Franchise in Columbia Falls after retiring, and became known to some as "Mr. Secretary."

His extensive experience as extension clerk for the power company during power outages prepared him for handling the influx of phones ringing in early February. His favorite part of the job was visiting with everyone in the waiting room and telling fishing and hunting stories.

He had many friends and close relationships in the Flathead, and offered council or a friendly ear to many. When asked why he was so lucky, his reply was always the same, "Clean living and purity of soul" ... thus the nickname "Preacher" became popular. Some who never knew his given name will now know his true identity.

Don later enrolled at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Science in education degrees. He earned many credits in counseling and higher mathematics.

Don became an employee of the Madison County Illinois Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency in April 1975, where he headed an Industrial Alcohol Education and Referral Program, as well as established an Alcohol Information Center at the local hospital and coordinated a hospital in-service training program.

He and Peggy later relocated to Rock Springs Wyo., where he took a full-time position with the Sweetwater County Drug-Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program. In the next three months he developed a Hunter Safety Program for 50 troubled youths and trained 12 qualified instructors for SSDAAPP by integrating youths into alternative lifestyles, to get "High on Life," not drugs. His honesty, sincerity and, above all, cheerful attitude toward hard work were major factors of the council's success.

In 1977 he enrolled at West-

His favorite read was "The Prophet." Favorite artifacts: Clovis points. Favorite actor: Al Pacino. Favorite food: "turkey 'n' dressin'" and cranberry sauce. Favorite game: Texas Hold 'Em. Favorite song: "Let It Be."

Upon leaving Wyoming, he truly missed the wind, sage brush and juniper.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Paul and Grace Souther; and his son, Don Jr.

Don is survived by his best friend and wife, Cherie, of the family home; brother, Paul Souther, and wife, Eula, of Newbern, N.C.; his sister, Dr. Sharon Worth, and husband, Michael, of Lubbock, Texas; daughters, Keely Cunningham of Columbia Falls, and Andrea Browning of Martin City; and his beloved granddaughters, Abbey, Jaclyn, Ally Rose and Destiny. He had 20 nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind his loving puppies, Cashew, Sunshine, Rosie, Precilla "Cilly," Sammy and Red.

Don is sorely missed by his AA family and friends and will always be known by his close family as "Papa," who loved with a wide-open heart. Don strongly believed in fellowship.

"Isn't life grand?"

There will be a celebration of Don's life the afternoon of June 16 at Half Moon Lake near West Glacier.

Morris 'Mo' Edwin Speck Jr., 84

Morris "Mo" Edwin Speck Jr., 84, passed away Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 22, 2012, at Expressions Assisted Living in



Columbia Falls. He was born on June 2, 1928, in Houston, and grew up in Fort Worth, Texas. He was raised by his mother Hazel and stepfather D.Y. Steph. Though Morris was an only child, he grew up surrounded by a large extended family. He spent most of his early years on a farm. As he got older he spent time working on cars with his dad, hunting, riding in rodeos, and boxing in the Golden Gloves.

After graduating from high school, Morris joined the Marine Corps and was assigned sea duty in the Pacific Islands and China. After being discharged for a knee injury, he lived in New Mexico, where he was a pilot and opened gas stations in Santa Fe and Albuquerque which both failed.

He then moved to Borger, Texas, with his wife Shirley to start his long career with Phillips Petroleum. While working his way up at Phillips, he attended Frank Phillips College and earned an engineering degree. Morris eventually became plant

manager of Philblack, and was later promoted to an executive position in Bartlesville, Okla. After three years, he was promoted again and transferred to Akron, Ohio, where he became general manager of the Worldwide Carbon Black Division, putting him in charge of operations and sales of 17 plants. He retired from Phillips after 30 years in 1984, and moved to Montana where he purchased the 66 Ranch near Kila.

Morris will always be remembered for his kindness, good sense of humor and great stories. He was a true Southern gentleman who loved his family and his many friends.

Morris is survived by his ex-wife, Shirley Steele, of Longmont, Colo.; four children, Timothy Speck of Huntsville, Texas, Stephen Speck and Delila of Orange, Texas, Paul Speck of Windsor, Colo., and Felecia Speck of Kalispell; grandchildren, Brandi, Jessica and Christopher; and great-grandchildren, Parker, Bryden and Harmony.

Memorial services for Morris will be held at noon on Thursday, Nov. 29, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel. A reception will follow at the Elks.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Morris's family. You are invited to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Morris's tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories.

Michael Ray Spence, 73

Dr. Michael Ray Spence, 73, passed away at his home from a pulmonary embolism on Dec. 25, 2012, in Lakeside.

He was born in Marion, Ind., and grew up in Farmington, N.M.

Michael received his baccalaureate degree at New Mexico State University in 1962, received his Doctor of Medicine from New Mexico State University in 1968, and a master's degree in public health from the Johns Hopkins University in 1980.

Michael served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1975 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and in U.S. Army Fifth Field Hospital and the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization Research Laboratory in Bangkok, Thailand.

Michael dedicated his life to practicing and teaching medicine and public health. He made medicine come alive with his stories and life experiences. Throughout his career he mentored hundreds of medical and public health students and young practitioners to support and broaden their careers and their lives. Michael taught medicine as an associate professor of gynecology and obstetrics at the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore from 1975 to 1984. From 1984 to 1991, he was a professor and chair of obstetrics and gynecology at Hahnemann University School of Medicine in Philadelphia. Throughout his career Michael advocated for and served the poor and the disenfranchised. As an example, he established and directed a dedicated clinic to provide services to people living with HIV and AIDS in Philadelphia. In 1997, Michael and his wife Judy moved to the Kalispell area. Michael served as the chief medical officer



for the State of Montana Department of Public

Health and Human Services from 1997 until 2004. Michael then served as the medical liaison for quality management at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center until his death. Michael had the gift of curiosity. Throughout his professional career he was an investigator on numerous research grants and projects, and he published 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts and book chapters.

Michael also had a passion to push himself to learn and experience new things throughout his life. He ran marathons on multiple continents, and he was an avid aviator and photographer. Over the past 15 years he loved hiking and backpacking the trails of Montana with his numerous friends, particularly in Glacier National Park.

Michael is survived by his wife, Judith; children, Michael C. Spence, wife Laura and granddaughter Carey Michele Spence, all of Baltimore, Melissa A. (Spence) Ley and husband Richard Ley of Columbia, Tenn., and Thomas L. Spence and wife Brigitte, grandchildren Casey, Ezekiel, Sarah Grace and Naomi Ruth, all of Cameron, N.C. He also leaves behind his pets, Sadie, Robbie, Katie and Molly.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to The Salvation Army.

A celebration of Michael's life will be held at a later date.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Michael's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Michael's tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories.

Nora Sperry, 88

Nora Sperry, 88, died Nov. 14, 2012, at the Libby Care Center.

Graveside services will be at noon Friday, Nov.

16 at the City of Libby Cemetery. Arrangements are under the care of Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home.

Della Marie Spindler, 93

Della Marie Spindler passed away at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula on Monday, Dec. 10, 2012, at the age of 93, six days short of her 94th birthday. She died of complications encountered after suffering a broken hip.

She was born on Dec. 16, 1918, to Gaston and Mary Viano. She was born at her grandparents' home in Montford, a short distance east of Kalispell. At that time the area was mostly inhabited by Indians and a few white settlers.

She grew up in the Bald Rock Community northwest of Kalispell. She attended Bald Rock School and Flathead County High School. She earned a diploma from Flathead County High, unbeknownst to her children, on June 4, 1995.

On Nov. 19, 1934, she married Clinton F. Spindler. They lived on a farm in the Bald Rock area until 1959. At that time, her husband was a fire control officer for Lolo National Forest Service in Plains. He began working for the Forest Service in 1936.

Her husband, Clinton, passed away in August of 1963. That same year she went to work as a clerk at the Plains Drug Store. She continued in that position

until she was 70 years of age, and after 23 years of service.

She was a lifetime member of the Plains Rebecca Lodge. While living in Plains, she raised four grandsons and two granddaughters.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Clinton F. Spindler; her son, Clinton O. Spindler; and a great-grandson, Adrian Spindler.

She is survived by a son, Charles F. Spindler, and his wife, Jeri, of Stevensville; a son, Andrew R. Spindler, and his wife, Patricia, of Alta Loma, Calif.; and a daughter, Mary Rousselle, and son-in-law, Richard A. Rousselle, of Ronan; and numerous grandsons, granddaughters, great-granddaughters, great-grandsons, great-great-granddaughters, nieces, nephews and cousins.

A viewing will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. today, Dec. 13, at the Shrider-Thompson Funeral Chapel in Ronan. A rosary will be said for her at 10 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 14, at Sacred Heart Church in Ronan, followed by a funeral Mass at 11:30 a.m. with Father Miroslaw Szynal officiating. A luncheon will follow Mass. Interment will be at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, at Glacier

Eunice M. Staples, 74

Eunice M. Staples passed away Nov. 18, 2012, in Bozeman.

She was born Sept. 11, 1928, in Marsing, Idaho, to Jennings and Bessie (DeZell) Swinney. When 1 year of age, she moved with her family to Gildford, Mont., where she was raised and schooled. She graduated from Northern Montana College in Havre in 1947 and worked for the AAA office for two and a half years.

Eunice married Jack Staples April 6, 1948, in Havre. After living in Havre, Great Falls and Helena, she and Jack farmed in the Gildford area for 30 years. They retired to Kalispell in 1984. They moved to Bozeman in 2004 to be closer to family.

Eunice enjoyed doing Hardanger embroidery and traveling with Jack. She was a devoted wife and mother, putting everyone else first.

She was a member of the First Baptist Church in Gildford and Central Bible Church in Kalispell. She had several small church group gatherings and Bible studies in her



home, as well as planned and served several dinners for the churches. She also attended Grace Bible Church in Bozeman as her health allowed.

Eunice was preceded in death by her parents; an infant son, Randy; her brother, Jack Swinney; daughter-in-law, Mari Jane Staples; and two great-grandchildren, Drew and Piper Clark.

She is survived by her husband, Jack; two sisters, Emma Hansen and Esther Griffith of Gildford; five children, Jerry Staples of Sierra Leone, Africa, Dennis and Mar-nie Staples, Janet and Jon McMaster, and Nadine and Herb Bartle, all of Bozeman, and Loreen and Ken Reese of Portland; 12 grandchildren and their spouses; and 20 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Family graveside services will be held in Sunset Hills Cemetery in Bozeman. A memorial service will be held at Dokken Nelson Funeral Service at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25, with a reception following at Grand Avenue Christian Church.

Arrangements are in the care of Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service, www.dokkennelson.com.

Frances Blondail Stace, 85

Frances Blondail Stace, 85, died Friday, Nov. 16, 2012, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

Frances is survived by her two daughters, Yvonne Fanger and Debra Stace.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 24, at the Happy Valley Missionary Baptist Church in Whitefish.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

Bryan LeRoy Standley, 79

Bryan LeRoy Standley, 79, of Kalispell "took his final drive to Heaven where many friends and family were waiting with open arms."



He was born in Butte to Anne Marie (Stephens) and Francis Bryan Standley. The family spent most of his childhood in the Bitterroot Valley and he graduated from Missoula County High School in 1948. He then joined the United States Marine Corps. He returned to Missoula and in 1954 he married the "love of his life," Marlene Keniston.

In 1955, Roy and his father Bryan started a logging business and the family moved to many locations. Winter months logging was on hold due to weather and he could be found on the bench of his Hammond organ or piano, entertaining at supper and dance clubs.

Roy and Marlene's three children were raised to appreciate music, which is still a big part of their lives today, thanks to their dad.

The family settled in Kalispell in West Valley where Roy and Marlene grew the most beautiful dahlias. Every morning you could always find him out in the garden tending to "his girls."

Roy's home away from home was the Eagles Lodge in Kalispell where

he proudly addressed himself as a Bald Eagle, and spent many nights dancing and enjoying friends.

Roy was a 32nd Degree Mason, a member of the Scottish Rite and a Shriner.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing and watching the stock market, but getting into his Toronado and heading down the road was his passion.

He loved his family, friends and Montana.

Roy was preceded in death by his parents; his loving wife; his sister, Rosie Young; his mother and father-in-law, Theodore and Gena Keniston; and his sister-in-law, LaRae Hayes.

He leaves behind his sister, Donna and Doug Dahlgren of Clarkston, Wash.; his brother and sister-in-law, Dick and Joyce Keniston of Missoula; his three children, Debora LaRose and Ken Peters of Kalispell, Scott and Theresa Standley of Redmond, Ore., and Crystal Malek and Bud McKay of Bigfork; grandchildren, Corrin, Randy, Jay, Shar, Patton, Duree, Brittney, Ryan, Kelsi and Kyle; great-grandchildren, Shawn, RaeAnne, Malachi, Gabriel, Mackensie, Kaiden, Ryder and Marli; many nieces, nephews, aunts and cousins; and many dear friends.

The funeral will be at 2 p.m. Sept. 8 at Daly-Leach Funeral Home in Hamilton, and a special celebration of life/80th birthday party will be at 7 p.m. Sept. 21 at the Eagles Lodge in Kalispell.

Alvira Marie 'Vi' Starks, 89

Alvira Marie "Vi" Starks, formerly of Whitefish, passed away Friday, May 4, 2012, in Billings, after a brief illness.



Vi was born May 18, 1922, in Burdette, Alberta, to Harry and Martha Phipps, the oldest of five children. She grew up and attended schools in Alberta and British Columbia as the family moved about the provinces. They settled in Creston, British Columbia, where she attended high school.

On Nov. 6, 1943, she married Richard "Dick" Starks, a young farmer from Bonners Ferry, Idaho, who was farming in the Kootenai Valley near her parents. They lived in Spokane, Seattle, Bonners Ferry, where their two daughters were born, Whitefish and Missoula, where her husband passed away in September of 1981.

During her years in Whitefish, Vi was very active in the community. She was active in the Methodist Church in Whitefish and Vista Chapter No. 44 OES, serving as Worthy Matron of that chapter and was mother advisor of the Order of Rainbow for Girls for several years in the 1970s. She held the Grand Cross of Color honor from that organization.

Vi will be remembered for her beautiful birthday and wedding cakes she baked for friends and neighbors in Whitefish and Missoula. Her grandchildren will remember the "money" birthday cakes and all those goodies she baked for them!

She was busy with the Senior Center while in Whitefish, volunteering her time and working as the director of it for a few

years in the late 1990s. She was named Flathead County Senior Citizen of the Year in 2001.

She enjoyed her back yard along the Whitefish River, spending many hours taking care of it and feeding the ducks, geese and birds that came to the yard. "We know they all missed her when she moved away!"

Nine years ago, Vi made the move to Billings to be near her daughter and family. She cut back on her volunteer time with that move, but did enjoy the Senior Center and the ladies group in Hope Methodist Church. She still baked plenty of cookies and made sure all the "old" folks and neighbors were supplied with them.

Vi is survived by her daughters, Cheryl Grantham of Billings, and Donna Rae and Larry Stollfuss of Marion; five grandchildren, Kelli Grantham and Justin Grantham of Billings, Joshua and Fiona Stollfuss of Dearborn, Mich., Jacob and Linda Stollfuss of Cleveland, Ohio, and Jamin Grantham of Bath, Maine; three great-grandchildren, Eli and Julian Stollfuss of Cleveland, and Jordan Stollfuss of Dearborn. She is also survived by her three sisters, Marble Gray, Lois Price and Nina Nesbitt, all of Creston, British Columbia; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Her husband, Dick; her parents, Harry and Martha Phipps; and her brother, Ray Phipps, preceded her in death.

Cremation has taken place and a celebration of Vi's life will be held at a later date. Memorials can be sent to the charity of your choice.

Arrangements are by Cremation & Funeral Gallery in Billings. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.cfgbillings.com through "Our Families."

Ruth (Shannon) Nace Steel, 89

Ruth (Shannon) Nace Steel, longtime Montana newspaperwoman in both editorial and advertising, died Monday, Dec. 31, 2012, of heart failure. She was 89.

She passed away in the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Anthony and Terry Nace, in Phoenix.

Ruth's father, Albert "Spike" Shannon, along with his wife Aline and young son McClellan, tore up roots in Minneapolis and moved west to settle in Browning in 1917. Ruth was born six years later on June 29, 1923.

Browning in 1917 was the Wild West in transition, and young Ruth as a child, dreaming of flight, would dance to the song "Lucky Lindy" on the Victrola, and look out onto dirt streets where the occasional car steered its way around wagons and men on horseback. Growing up, Ruth spent much of her time on horseback working as a ranch hand.

She was a young woman with many plans, when suddenly she and her friends had their plans changed for them, blindsided by the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

"A date none of us would ever forget," she wrote. "A date that completely changed all of our lives."

With the U.S. entry into a two-fronted war, Ruth first went to work for the Douglas Aircraft Company building D-C3s as troop carriers, before returning to Montana to train horses for the military. She then entered the Navy and worked as an air traffic controller in Rhode Island, while also continuing her pursuit of a pilot's license.

At war's end, she was the first woman pilot to fly into Browning, landing at the Star Meadows airstrip, now a faint memory.



offered little protection.

"My brother Mac cried on seeing my bruised and swollen

face," she said. If she'd been taller, one investigator suggested, she may have lost her head. Being only 5 feet, 3 inches may have saved her life.

After her recovery, working in a restaurant frequented by many film stars, she met Anthony Nace, an ex-actor turned industrial psychologist. He was looking for a pilot. He found one, and much more. They married and sought out adventures in the Southwest before settling down in Santa Barbara, Calif., where their two sons were born in 1953 and '54.

Anthony died in '64, and Ruth took her two sons to live in Montana the following year, where she taught them to hunt and appreciate the outdoors. There they all lived for the next 20 years, between Lakeside, Kalispell, Missoula and Bigfork. During that time, Ruth worked for the Daily Inter Lake, KCFW television, the Missoulian and the Bigfork Eagle.

Ruth married Frank Steel on the shore of Flathead Lake in 1972, and they had 20 happy years together traveling and enjoying life. They moved to El Paso, Texas, in 1986, where Ruth took microlight flying lessons at the age of 62. She only lost interest when she realized, as she said, "The darn things didn't hold enough fuel to get you anywhere."

She and Frank moved to Sierra Vista, Ariz., in 1990. Frank preceded Ruth in death by exactly 20 years. She had lived in Apache Junction, Ariz., since 2004.

"Someone had put up a windsock," she once told her son Shannon, "made out of an old pair of long underwear."

In the early post-war years, in Studio City, Calif., where she was working on gaining her commercial pilot's license, she often flew over to frequent the famous "Happy Bottom Riding Club," owned and operated by the lovably infamous female pilot Pancho Barnes.

She survived a plane crash as well. Attempting to land at a small airstrip in Southern California, banking against a howling wind that suddenly gave way, her plane veered into the ground. Her thin cloth and leather helmet

She is survived by her sons, Shannon and Anthony Nace; her daughter, Connie Orud; her grandsons, Kyle Nace and Cody Orud; her granddaughter, Kodi (Nace) Sohl; and four great-grandchildren, Jackson, Henry, Charlie and Helen; as well as her stepdaughters, Brenda Sorm and Jody Collins, and Jody's daughters, Abby Collins, Erin Watkiss, and two grandchildren Ellis and Grier.

Celebration of life services are planned in February in the Phoenix area and this coming summer in Montana's Flathead Valley.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to Ruth and Frank's favorite charity, Habitat for Humanity.

Betty Janie Steig, 69

Betty Janie Steig, 69, passed away on June 24, 2012, from a battle with cancer.



Janie was born on May 22, 1943, in Baker, to Charlie Jack and Dorothy Stevens Clark. She was the youngest of five children and was raised on the family ranch in Marmouth, N.D., until she was 16.

It was in North Dakota where Janie met the love of her life, Floyd Steig. Janie moved to Philipsburg with her parents, and after Floyd's tour in the Navy they were married in Philipsburg on Oct. 12, 1963.

They moved to Bowman, N.D., and worked with Floyd's family dairy. This is where the first of four children were born, Barbara Ellen, 1964.

Then an opportunity came about to move to San Francisco to work with Janie's sister and brother-in-law at a portable truck lubrication shop. This is where their number two daughter, Kristine Renee, was born in 1965.

They spent four years in San Francisco and then moved to Whitefish in 1969, where Floyd worked for the aluminum plant in

Columbia Falls. In June of 1970 Jerilee Ann was born, and in 1974 Brian Floyd was born.

Janie worked many odd jobs in Whitefish, which she called her social time, but her "real job," as she always said, was to be a mother and wife. Her longtime love and passion was always, and always will be, riding horses.

She is survived by her husband, Floyd, at the family home; her three daughters, Barb McKay and Reid Thilmony, Kris and Shane Groshelle, and Jeri and Vaughn Murinko; and her son, Brian, and Mandy Steig; 11 grandchildren; her brother, Derl, and Rose Clark of Parump, Nev.; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and many friends.

Donations can be made to Whitefish Ambulance and EMTs, Wings, the local Cancer Society and Brendan House in Janie's name.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, June 29, at Austin Funeral Home, followed by interment at noon at Whitefish Cemetery.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home. You are invited to go to www.austinfh.com to offer condolences, share memories and view Janie's tribute wall.

Betty Jane Steffen, 87

Betty Jane Steffen, 87, died Jan. 10, 2012, at Whitefish Care and Rehabilitation Center in Whitefish.

She is survived by her

son, Neil Steffen.

No services are planned at this time.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

Gervin Calvert 'Bud' Stein, 90

"Bud" Stein, having lived a rich and diverse life, passed away peacefully and quickly on May 12, 2012, at age 90, in Bigfork.



Bud was an accomplished athlete, named to the Athletes Hall of Fame at Mamaroneck High School in New York, where he was a star competitor in several sports. He continued his prowess in ice hockey by coaching the Mamaroneck team to the national finals at Lake Placid in 1952.

His passion, however, was golf. Bud was a member of Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck, the Victoria Club in Riverside, Calif., and Eagle Bend Golf Club in Bigfork. He enjoyed many years of playing with the Victoria Vikings men's group, and in Bigfork with the Merryman. Bud was particularly proud that, as he aged, he was able to shoot his age, as recently as his 82nd year.

Bud was an enthusiastic outdoorsman, adept at hunt-

ing and fishing. In later years he captained a boat and loved taking friends on the Swan River to admire the spectacular scenery.

Bud attended Colgate University in New York, leaving to enlist in the Army in World War II. His career was spent in the oil industry, as president of Lincoln Oil in New York, then in sales and marketing for ConocoPhillips in Los Angeles.

Bud leaves the cherished love of his life, Dorothy, their relationship spanning seven decades. He treasured and was devoted to his family, daughters, Susan and David of Denver, and Nancy and Zoneth of Bigfork and Lone Pine, Calif. He had five grandchildren, Ryan, Brooke, Kristin, Brody and Hayden; and three great-grandchildren, Kayla, Emma and Indiana.

No services are planned at this time.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Bud's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and view Bud's tribute wall.

Sharon L. 'Sherry' Stein, 64

Sharon L. "Sherry" Stein, 64, died Thursday, May 17, 2012, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell.

She is survived by her husband, Frank Stein, of Kalispell; and three sons, Brett Trippel of Chey-

enne, Wyo., Bart Trippel of Fort Collins, Colo., and Kraig Trippel of Kalispell. Memorial services will be private by the family.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Sherry Hurd Trippel Stein, 64

Sherry Hurd Trippel Stein passed away peacefully on Thursday, May 17, 2012, in Kalispell.

Sherry died due to inoperable brain cancer.

She was born in Thermopolis, Wyo., on June 30, 1947, to mother Lena Della "Pauline" Leach, and father Oliver Cromwell Hurd.

Sherry is survived by brothers, Gary Gene Hurd and Ronald Dean Hurd; first husband, Kenneth Gene Trippel; and current husband, Franklin Julius Stein; son, Kraig Leon Trippel, wife



Jennifer, and kids Abbey and Jack; son, Bret Allen Trippel, wife Shannon, and kids Makayla and Brady; and son, Bart Jason Trippel, wife Wendy, and kids Brooklynn and Brianna.

Sherry grew up in Wellington, Colo. She was part of the first graduating class from Poudre High School in Fort Collins, Colo., in 1965.

She enjoyed reading, social activities and yard work.

She worked for Poudre School District in Fort Collins for 20 years. After retiring in 2003, she moved to Kalispell to work for Cutting Edge Excavation, her oldest son's excavation company.

The family will have a private inurnment this summer.

August D. Steinhauer, 72

August D. Steinhauer, 72, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

Private family services will be held at a later date. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Mitchell Floyd Stempin, 60

Mitchell Floyd Stempin, 60, passed away Sunday, Feb. 12, 2012, in Billings.

A graveside service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18, at Lone Pine Cemetery, in Bigfork. Visita-

tion will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 17, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, in Kalispell.

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

Francis H. 'Howard' Stevens, 80

Francis H. "Howard" Stevens, 80, passed away peacefully on Thursday May 3, 2012 at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.



Howard was born to William and May (Preston) Stevens January 12, 1932 in Duluth, Minn.

He and his wife Betty had three sons. He moved his family to Kalispell in 1963.

He was self-employed for many years buying, trucking, and selling lumber. He spent

several years doing maintenance work for the Whitefish Lake Lodge, then later in Kalispell Center Mall.

He is survived by one brother Harold and two sisters Dorithy and Floy all from Minn., his three sons Victor and Wanda of Casper, Wyo., Mark and Terri of Huson, Bob and Rhonda of Kalispell; grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

At Howard's request there will be no services.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Howard's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and view Howard's tribute wall.

Shawn D. Stevens, 18

Shawn D. Stevens, 18, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2012, in Kalispell.

He was born Jan. 10, 1994, to Vicki (Parrish) Keck and Brent Stevens.

Shawn attended schools in Kalispell and Maui, Hawaii, and lived in Arizona and New Mexico as well.

He enjoyed riding on the lawn mower with Grandpa when he was little, playing basketball, skateboarding, writing rap songs and listening to rap music. He loved animals, especially dogs and cats; working at McDonald's by Costco; swimming in the ocean and listening to the whales.

A major part of Shawn's life was spending time with friends and his little brother, Brady.



Shawn is survived by his mother, Vicki Keck, of Kalispell; father, Brent Stevens, and wife, Sherry, of Kalispell; and brother, Brady Keck, of Kalispell; grandparents, George and Barb Parrish; aunts, Laurie Clifton of Kalispell, and Dollie Martin of Boise, Idaho; uncles, Bill Parrish of Kalispell, Jerome Joy of Missoula and Louis DeRosier of Missoula; numerous cousins and special friends, Lori Street and Chris of Arizona and New Mexico, and their children Heather, Aliesha, Nick and Chris.

A memorial service for Shawn will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

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

Marjorie Jackson Stevenson, 85

Marjorie Jackson Stevenson, 85, passed away on Monday, April 16, 2012, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell.



She was born July 30, 1926, in San Diego to Rude Samuel and Dagmar Olund Jackson.

She was a "military brat," as her father was career U.S. Navy. She spent her childhood in San Diego, graduating from Hoover High School in 1944.

She was first employed as a secretary with the San Diego School District until her marriage, when she became a military wife.

She was an especially dear mother to four children. In her young motherhood days, she was an active volunteer in PTA, Scouts and the Military Wife Association in Arizona, California, Alaska and Nebraska.

After her children grew older, she worked full time as an elementary school secretary in Agana, Guam; computer department secretary at Central Bank in Great Falls; and finally, elementary school secretary in Las Vegas, retiring in 1981. As a school secretary, she was active and held office in the Clark County Educational Office Personnel Association in Las Vegas.

In her retirement years, she and her husband were summer employees with Hamilton Stores, Grant Village, in Yellowstone Park for three years, one of them during the infamous Yellowstone Fire in 1988, thus being evacuated from the park because of nearby dangers. She and her husband also were managers of the Senior Citizen Ksanka Court Development in Eureka for three years, where they made life-time acquaintances who were sincerely relished.

Her family was always her primary love, and she was extremely proud of her children's accomplishments. She modestly spoke of moving 50 times, living in five different homes they bought and sold, six various government quarters on Air Force bases

(including a Quonset hut), numerous apartments and eight recreational vehicles. She loved the challenge of moving and decorating, making each a special home for her family with fresh memories, experiences and friends, thus making it a home, not just the house they enjoyed.

She enjoyed sewing, needlework, crafts, decorating and open road traveling, especially the years with her husband in the motor home journeying cross country four times, spending winters in the south, summers in the north and into Canada, and caravanning to Nova Scotia.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Dorothy Smith; and brother, Robert Jackson.

She is survived and will be terribly missed by her loving husband, James "Steve" Stevenson, of Columbia Falls; two sons, Steven Williford and his wife, Mary, of Oak Harbor, Wash., and Glen Williford and his wife, Nina, of Zionsville, Ind.; two daughters, Jodi Fayle and her husband, Jeff, of McGill, Nev., and Lori Johnson and her husband, Mike, of Columbia Falls; along with eight dear grandchildren, Jenni King and her husband Josh, J.D. Fayle and his wife Sarah, David and John Williford, Amanda, Nicholas and Shane Johnson, and Karen Robinson and her husband Brett. She also was a loving great-grandmother to Brayden Fayle, and Brett and Addison Robinson. She is survived by sisters-in-law, Cassie Jackson of Roseville, Calif., and Helen Lautenbacher of Bensalem, Pa.

As was her wish, immediate cremation was performed and her ashes will be combined with her husband's and spread in Montana where they met and fell in love. A private memorial will be held.

The family requests memorials be sent in Marjorie's name to Fellowship Alliance Church, 1025 Seventh Ave. W., Columbia Falls, MT 59912, or your personal choice.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Marjorie's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and view Marjorie's tribute wall.

William H. Stock, 70

William H. Stock, 70, passed away on Wednesday, July 18, 2012, at his home in Lakeside.



William was born on Nov. 27, 1941, in South Porcupine, Ontario, Canada, to William A. and Evelyn (Rivers) Stock.

When he was 15 years old, the family moved to Downers Grove, Ill., where he graduated from Downers Grove High School. He attended St. Procopius College for one year.

William was a retired United Airlines pilot, where he was a captain of a 747 for almost 32 years.

William married Linda Gruff in 1990 in Maple Valley, Wash. They were married for three days shy of 22 years.

He enjoyed flying, golf, reading, crossword puzzles

and fishing.

William was preceded in death by his parents, William and Evelyn; and his uncle, Jack and wife Fern Stock.

He is survived by his wife, Linda; his daughter, Michelle and grandson, Casey, and granddaughters, Rashelle, Kayla and Amanda; great-granddaughter, Justice; son, Bill and his daughter, Ashley and her mother Kristen; and two sisters, Carol and Fran.

A celebration of William's life will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Sunday, July 22, on the Far West tour boat out of Lakeside. His ashes will be spread on Flathead Lake.

The family request donations in William's name be given to Home Options Hospice or the Lakeside Montana Food Bank.

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

Alfreda Gayle (Smith) Stone, 55

Alfreda Gayle (Smith) Stone, 55, a homemaker, passed away at her home in Browning on Thursday, Jan 3, 2013.

Rosary services will be at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan 11, at Little Flower Catholic Church in Browning, with a memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, at the church.

Pondera Funeral Home



in Conrad is handling the arrangements.

Survivors include daughter, Marshall Stone, of

Bozeman; sons, James Naldrett and Samson Naldrett, both of Kalispell; and seven grandchildren.

Daniel Raymond Story, 63

Dan Story died suddenly at his home in Kalispell on Monday morning, Sept. 24, 2012.



Dan was born Dec. 17, 1948, in Flint, Mich., and was the



son of Violet and Carl Story. He was the youngest child of the family, which included one older brother and five sisters. He was adored by his sisters who, in addition to showering him with love, taught him to dance to tunes on the radio, a skill he perfected as he grew to be a man.

The family, now headed by a single mother, moved to southern California while he was a very young child to be close to his mother's married daughter, Rose Madore and her husband Paul, who helped care for him while his mother worked as a nurse. At 12 years old, after a visit to his third sister and her husband, Gerry and Cal St. Onge in Libby, they convinced his mother to let him stay in Montana. He attended Asa Wood Elementary and graduated from Libby High School.

Living in the St. Onge household, he discovered machinery and vehicles, along with hunting, fishing, hiking and camping, and his love of the outdoors continued for his entire life, along with his love and admiration for Cal St. Onge. He played basketball in junior high and worked at the lumber mill and Wilson's Grocery in Libby, along with haying for local ranchers during his high school years. Upon his graduation, he joined the Army and served in Germany and in Vietnam.

time moving to Kalispell, where he worked as a machinist and then as a cabinet maker for the newly formed Semitool. After seven years he went to work for Renfrow's Cabinet Shop in Columbia Falls and then Architectural Woodworking of Montana, where he worked for many years as a journeyman architectural woodworker.

In 2005, Dan moved back to Libby, where he entered the electrical trade and worked for Preferred Electric as an electrician, until 2009 when he retired. After his retirement, he assisted his wife as accounting manager of Hometown Insurance Agency in Kalispell, splitting their time between Libby and Kalispell.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Mel Haynes; and sisters, Fran Prouse and Linda Warlick.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Elizabeth; children, Tiffany Story and Daniel Story; grandchildren, Tyler Collins, Emily Masuda, Cody Collins, Hunter Collins, Aidan Story, Alissa Masuda and Bella Story; sister, Rose Madore; sister, Gerry St. Onge, and brother-in-law, Cal St. Onge; sister, Carolyne Langley, and brother-in-law and dear friend, Ron Langley; nieces and nephews, and friends, too many to mention.

Dan was a kind-hearted man with an offbeat sense of humor. He enjoyed playing golf, any type of competitive sport, woodworking and good music, and was a great cook. He loved babies (anybody's).

After his discharge from the Army, he moved to Anaheim, Calif., where on July 21, 1973, he married Elizabeth Freund. They moved to Libby in 1975, but returned to California where their daughter Tiffany and son Daniel were born. During this time, Dan became a journeyman machinist.

They relocated again to Montana and then to Kennewick, Wash., where Dan worked as a carpenter at Hanford. When the economy took a downturn, Dan relocated again to Montana, this

He loved his wife and family, and adored his sisters and his own children, especially. He was proud of all their successes. He supported them with complete unconditional love. His grandchildren were a constant joy to him. He was an honest man and a loyal friend.

You are invited to join the celebration of his life at 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 1, at Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home, 422 W. Second St., Libby. Graveside services for the family will follow at Libby Cemetery. Friends are invited to join the family for a continuing celebration of his life at the VFW, 114 W. Second St., Libby.

Clyde L. 'Skip' Stout, 55

Clyde L. "Skip" Stout, 55, died Friday, Nov. 25, 2011, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

He is survived by his father, Clyde L. Stout; and his three children,

Sonya Au Claire, Clyde L. "Trey" Stout and Ashley Stout, all of Kalispell.

Memorial services are pending. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Marcella Strack, 91

Marcella Strack, 91, passed away peacefully April 1, 2012, at the Village Health Care Center in Missoula of natural causes, with daughter Betty at her side.

She was born June 30, 1920, in Kalispell to Gregory and Mary Duffy. Marcella was raised in Kalispell and graduated from St. Matthew's High School. She played on the girls' basketball team and played the organ at St. Matthew's Church in Kalispell for many years.

On Sept. 1, 1938, Marcella married Mathias J. Strack in Kalispell. She was a stay-at-home mom, taking care of six children. She made a big sacrifice in her life to move out of Kalispell to send her four daughters to Sacred Heart Academy in Missoula.

Marcella was an active member of the Degree of Honor and Daughters of Isabella. She enjoyed her card club on Fridays with her lady friends, plus playing bingo.



Marcella was preceded in death by her husband of 68 years, Matt, on Oct. 20, 2006; her parents; brothers, John, Jerry, Francis and Patrick; sons, Richard and Greg; and daughter, Rita Steinke.

Survivors include her children, Betty Anderson and Mark, and Sharon Burgad and Bob, all of Missoula, and Kay Petroff and Dennis of Sydney, Australia; 17 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

A Mass of celebration will be held later this summer with burial to follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. The date will be announced.

"I wish to thank all the wonderful workers at Village Health Care Center for making Mom so comfortable during her last three months of her life. Special thanks to Laurie, Rita, Kim and Steve in physical therapy. She loved you, Steve, and talked so highly of you all the time. You were her 'hero.'"

Donations may be made to St. Matthew's School in Kalispell.

Cremation has taken place under the direction of Brothers Mortuary in Hamilton.

Mary Jane Street, 89

Mary Jane Street, 89, died on Feb. 12, 2012.

She was born Mary Jane Bretthauer Sept. 28, 1922, to Leora and Reio Bretthauer. She grew up in Whitefish with her two sisters, Dorothy and Rhea. Mary Jane graduated from Whitefish High School in 1940 and married Russell Street in 1941.

When Russ went in the Army and was stationed in Texas, Mary Jane went along and worked at Fort Sam Houston. They moved back to Whitefish after a short time when Russ was discharged with eye problems.

In 1947 they built Street's Grocery at 237 Central Avenue and lived in an apartment upstairs.

The year 1950 saw Mary Jane and Russ adopt two boys, Doug and Roger. Both have preceded her in passing.

Street's Grocery operated for 16 years and during this time they developed and together marketed a spice product called Alpine Touch. It is still on store shelves today. In the late '50s Mary Jane and Russ, together with partners, bought the Bay Point Cabin Camp. They operated Bay Point through the '60s and, after buying out their partners, went on to develop Bay Point Resort Condominiums and later Bay Point Country Homes.

Mary Jane and Russell were a team in all things. They were active in the early development of Big Mountain; they were part of the original "Dirty Dozen"

that started the Whitefish Winter Carnival. They were community builders and very supportive of Whitefish, whether it be its businesses, the schools, tourism development, Whitefish Lake, or the Volunteer Fire Department.

In 1995 after Russ died, Mary Jane continued to be an active member of the community. She was very active in the Presbyterian Church and a supporter of the Whitefish Community Foundation.

Mary Jane very much enjoyed traveling. In her later years, her one regret was she could no longer travel, however, from 1996 on she traveled to Arizona numerous years during the winter. In addition, she also went to Africa, Europe twice, Russia, Australia, Alaska and Canada to see the polar bears.

Mary Jane was 89 years old this past September.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Whitefish Community Foundation Presbyterian Endowment Fund which she founded, the Presbyterian Church itself, or the Whitefish charity of your choice.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, April 19, at the First Presbyterian Church, 301 Central Ave., in Whitefish. The Rev. Ken Peterson, former pastor of the First Presbyterian Church from 1978 to 1992, will conduct the service. Rev. Peterson knew Mary Jane and Russ for many years when he was in Whitefish.

Robert Glenn Strong, 87

Robert Glenn Strong passed away on Aug. 26, 2012, at his home in Columbia Falls, due to natural causes.



Bob was born on July 29, 1925, in San Bernadino, Calif., where he was delivered by his grandfather, Dr. David Strong. Bob's father was a cameraman for MGM studios, and during the Great Depression Bob was sent to live with his grandfather, who in turn moved him in with a farm family who owed Grandpa money.

Bob enjoyed his time on the farm but a heart condition was discovered that kept him hospitalized for a year. When he was released he was told he had three to five years to live. Shortly thereafter, his father was filming the original "Mutiny On the Bounty" near Catalina Island and was swept off a barge during a storm while trying to rescue the film. His grandfather died soon after, and Bob returned home to live with his mother who was given a job for life with the studio.

He and his friends played on the back lots of MGM and he was once given a small film role — they were looking for a short, fat kid. In high school he worked for the studio as a key grip moving up to \$1 per hour salary.

Edith Disbrow. In 1998 they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Shortly thereafter, Edith died and Bob married Marian LaPlume.

After college he worked for GMAC and was recruited by the FBI while working with them on finding a felon whose car Bob was about to repossess. He was posted to St. Louis, Chicago, Puerto Rico for eight years, and finally Miami for eight years. While in Miami and Puerto Rico, he spent most of his spare time deep sea diving and playing duplicate bridge, two passions he never outgrew, but time underwater was the most fondly remembered.

He retired as a supervisor and spent many of the next years traveling the world and camper traileing in the U.S. In 1999 he sold his home in Hemet, Calif., and made Montana his year-round residence.

He will be remembered as a kind and friendly person who could make new friends while standing in any line.

This talent was recognized by the FBI when at one point in his career he was put into a Miami jail cell with a convicted kidnapper to find out where the felon's accomplices were. (He did find out.) Bob led a life with many challenges but never let them dominate. He was always grateful for the blessings he received.

After high school, he went to Loyola on a football scholarship but left early to join the Navy's V12 program which trained officers for the war effort. Bob was 19 when he began duty on a ship in the South Pacific as a first lieutenant. He was among the first occupation troops in Japan.

After returning home, he continued his education on a scholarship at USC where he played football.

In 1948, Bob married

Bob leaves his wife, Marian, of Columbia Falls; and his son, Glenn, and wife, Monica, and grandchildren, Kelsey and Nicholas, all of Salt Lake City.

Memorials should be sent to the Columbia Falls Library which he utilized on a regular basis and whose librarians he was extremely fond of.

No services are planned at this time. Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

You are invited to go to www.columbiamortuary.com to offer condolences and view Robert's tribute wall.

Kenneth Wayne Stowbridge Sr., 73

Kenneth Wayne Stowbridge Sr., "was called home to heaven to forever be with the Lord" on Tuesday, March 13, 2012, surrounded by his loving family, after a short battle with cancer.



He was born Dec. 15, 1938, in Bemidji, Minn., to Eugene "Pete" and Faye (Lee) Stowbridge. He attended schools in Bemidji, where he was very involved with North Star Riders Club and won many ribbons and awards.

He was drafted into the Army in 1962 and served two years. He came to Montana in 1964 to look for work and found employment at Plum Creek Timber Co., where he worked for 44 years, retiring in June 2005.

He met Virginia Faye Lietz in 1964, and they married Nov. 7 of that year. This union was blessed with three children, a daughter, Shannon, and two sons, Ken Jr. and Scott. They were married for more than 47 years.

Kenneth was an avid hunter and fisherman. He loved tinkering on motors. He loved spending time at his son's family cabin on the Thompson River. He was very proud of his children and adored his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers,

Johnny and Bill; sister, Lois Ward; his beloved granddaughter, Elizabeth Stowbridge; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia, at the family home in Kalispell; daughter, Shannon, and husband, Bill Brittenham, of Kalispell; son, Ken Jr., and wife, Kitty Stowbridge, of Charlo; and son, Scott, and wife, Kendi Stowbridge, of Columbia Falls; his grandchildren, Amanda and John Riggs, Ryan Buck, Shawn and Tami Brittenham, Judd and Jamie Stowbridge, Ashley and Joe Vanek, Tyler Benzein, Aleysha and Curtis Wagner, and Shanae and Kassidie Stowbridge; foster grandchildren, Brandon Vance, and Lacey and Rob Smith; his great-grandchildren, Jordyn Buck, Tessa Riggs, Carter Brittenham, Austin and Emmalee Vanek, Mckenzee and Lynzee Wagner, and Ashtyn Smith; siblings, Alice and Jim Riley, Eugene "Hoosier" and Judy Stowbridge, and Anna Riley, all of the Flathead Valley, Larry and Brenda Stowbridge, Linda and Charles Weikel, Judy and Warren Green, Fred Stowbridge, Randy and Deb Stowbridge, Jim and Jodi Stowbridge; aunt, Arleen Lee; and numerous family in Bemidji.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, March 19, at New Covenant Church. Family is being cared for by Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website, www.buffalohillfh.com.

Delores C. Struble, 81

Delores C. Struble of Prescott, Ariz., most recently of Mesa, Ariz., died March 23, 2012, from Alzheimer's disease.



Delores was born on March 31, 1930, to parents Walter and Thea (Jore) Rolf in McIntosh, Minn. She grew up on a dairy farm there, along with her three brothers, Kenneth, Truman and Wallace. She moved with her parents to Kalispell in 1946 and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1948.

Delores was united in marriage to L. Wayne Struble on Nov. 25, 1948, in Kalispell. Delores and Wayne raised four children, Sharon, Linda, Marcia and Larry. Together

they also played a significant role in the upbringing of most of their 10 grandchildren. Delores was blessed with 11 great-grandchildren, a few she never met.

Delores loved and was deeply loved by her family. She will be remembered as being a faithful wife, devoted mom and fun grandma. Her family is her legacy. Her hands were always busy creating something; first for her family and then for others. She instilled a strong work ethic and "can do" attitude in her children and grandchildren.

Delores and Wayne moved their family many times prior to their move to Phoenix in 1966, at which time Delores declared she wasn't moving again. But they did when they moved to their retirement home in Hoot-

nany Holler, rural Prescott, in 1990. Wayne passed away in April of 1991. Delores remained in her home until her Alzheimer's disease necessitated her move to Mesa.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Wayne; her daughter, Sharon; her brother, Truman; and great-grandchildren, Billie and Bradley Brown.

She is survived by her daughter Linda, and Ken Simonsen, of Sidney; daughter, Marcia Struble, of Mesa; and son, Larry, and Elizabeth Struble, of Prescott; grandchildren, Scott and Rebekah Blakley of Chino Valley, Ariz., Bob Pasley of Phoenix, Ben and Melisa Pasley of Fort Bragg, N.C., Joe Simonsen of Great Falls, Matthew Simonsen of Fairview, Tami Lombardi of Tempe, Ariz., Bill and Mae Brown of Prairie Grove, Ark., Steve Brown of Sachise, Texas, Laramie and Liz Struble of Kent, Wash., and Chelsie and Doug

Barnard of Camp Verde, Ariz.; great-grandchildren, Scott Jr., Taylor, Connor, Noah, Travis, Addison, Dominic, Alexavier, Kyle, Rebecca and Lyla; her brothers, Kenneth and Harriet Rolf of McIntosh, and Wallace and Lillian Rolf of Havre; sister-in-law, Agnes Rolf of McIntosh; sister-in-law, Yvonne and Glen Kartheiser of Columbia Falls; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial services for Delores Struble will be held at 10:30 a.m. June 9, at the Ruffner-Wakelin Funeral Chapel in Prescott.

Memorials maybe given to the National Alzheimer's Association or to the charity of one's choice.

Jean Kathryn (Wolters) Struck, 91,

Jean Kathryn (Wolters) Struck, 91, died of natural causes at her home in Libby on Jan. 23, 2012.

Survivors include her husband of 68 years, Truman Struck, of Libby; and her children, Kathryn and Barbara, both of Kalispell, William of Kent, Wash.,

Janice of Libby, Marjorie of Milton, Wash., and Thomas of Auburn, Wash.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, at St. John Lutheran Church in Libby. Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home of Libby.

Delores M. Swanberg, 89

Delores M. Swanberg, 89, of Lakeside, died Nov. 28, 2011, at Cottonwood Rehab Center, in Woodland, Calif., near the home of her daughter,

after suffering complications following a head injury.

A memorial service will be held in Kalispell at a later date.

Richard Swennes, 85

Richard Swennes, 85, of Libby died Friday, Oct. 7, 2011.

Private services will be

held.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home of Libby.

Nils Albin Swanson, 68

Nils Albin Swanson, 68, died Saturday, March 31, 2012, in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon Swanson, of Kalispell; and four sons, Johan Swanson of Canyon City, Colo., Todd Trefz of

Lakewood, Colo., and Steven Trefz and Jeffrey Trefz, both of Golden, Colo.

Memorial services are pending.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Joann M. Swartz, 68

Joann M. Swartz, 68, died on Monday, April 30, 2012, at her residence in Libby of natural causes.

Survivors include her three children, Lewis Swartz, Jr., Mary Taylor

and Mae Ann Swartz.

Private family services are being held. Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home and Crematory in Libby.

Shirley J. Sweeney, 85

Shirley J. Sweeney, 85, died Friday, Aug. 10, 2012, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

A potluck gathering with be held at 2 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 18 at the Lonepine Community Hall in Hotsprings. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Tom M. Sultzer

A memorial service for Tom M. Sultzer, 57, who died Oct. 22 in Anacortes, Wash., will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3, at St. Patrick's Episcopal

Church, on Montana 209, across from the Ferndale Fire Station.

Tom is the son of Lin Sultzer and the late Duke Sultzer.

Brith Elin Hitland Sutherland, 61

Brith Elin Hitland Sutherland's 61-year journey concluded the morning of April 24, 2012,

surrounded by her family and loved ones at her home in Kalispell.

Brith was born in Bergen, Norway, Nov. 17, 1950, to Kaare and Ruth Hitland. When she was just shy of 2 years old, she and her parents emigrated to Whitefish. Her childhood was filled with idyllic adventures on Whitefish Lake, skiing, singing and the camaraderie of her friends. She graduated from Whitefish High School in 1968.

After graduating from high school, she moved to Spokane and graduated from Kinman Business University in 1970 with a degree in business.

In 1970, she began work at Anaconda Aluminum Plant, first as a secretary and then, as a lab technician — a groundbreaking role for a woman at that time. She remained with Anaconda Aluminum (later Arco) until 1983.

During that time she traveled widely, going to Europe many times and traveling all over the Northwest. Brith climbed numerous peaks in Glacier Park, skied in the U.S., Canada and Europe, sailed, motorcycled and hiked and reveled in all of it.

In 1978 she met the love of her life, Steve Sutherland, and on March 2, 1981, they married on top of a mountain in Sun Valley, Idaho. In November of 1982, Kory, the first of her two children was born, and in April of 1986 her daughter Bree followed.

As her children grew older, Brith entered into a new journey of rediscovering the



outdoors around Montana. One summer, Brith, Steve and their young children logged well over 10,000 miles on gravel roads throughout Montana. Brith and her family continued to explore the great outdoor experiences that could only be found in Montana, and could often be found floating the North Fork and Middle Fork of the Flathead River, as well as staying in forest service cabins throughout Montana.

Brith was well known for her writing, with many of her stories and articles being published in publications, such as Montana Woman magazine, among others. Brith enjoyed life among her family; and family was always a pinnacle of her life right up to the point of her passing.

Brith was a strong, outspoken and outgoing woman who always had something to do, whether it was working, socializing, spending time with her family, or standing up for what she knew was right. Brith remained strong right up until the end.

Brith will always be remembered for the great mother, wife and friend she was.

A celebration of the life of Brith Elin Hitland Sutherland will be held at 3:30 p.m. on April 28 at the Central School Museum in Kalispell. Brith wished to be remembered for her life of traveling, skiing, outdoor activities, community activism, as well as for the vibrant life she shared with her friends and family.

We invite you to share your thoughts and memories at <http://brithsutherland.com>.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent in her honor to Human Therapy on Horseback, Inc., or to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana.

Mary Gestring Svennungsen, 84

Mary Gestring Svennungsen was born to Edward and Elizabeth Gestring March 30, 1927, in Mocasin, Mont., and died Feb. 8, 2012, in Kalispell. She was 84.



Mary attended Cayuse Prairie School and graduated from Flathead County High School. She entered Northern Montana College, Havre, where she completed her teaching degree, receiving the Delta Kappa Gamma award for outstanding woman graduate in education. She taught elementary school in Missoula and Medford, Ore.

In 1951, she married Amos W. Svennungsen and they moved to Shelby, where Amos began his optometric practice. They lived there 30 years, during which time Mary was active in Jayceens, Garden Club, Marias Valley Golf Women, Soroptimists, Montana Optometric Auxiliary and Lutheran Church Women.

As a member of the Optometric Auxiliary, Mary was instrumental in establishing a scholarship program for aspiring optometrists. In the 1960s, she served as president of the Great Falls Conference of American Lutheran Church Women. In 1979, she helped lead the effort to construct a new sanctuary at St. Luke's Lutheran Church.

In 1981, the family moved to Sonoma, Calif., where they lived for eight years. During retirement, they spent their summers in Whitefish and winters in Palm Desert, Calif.

A lifelong member of the Lutheran Church, Mary

was an active member of St. Luke's Lutheran in Shelby, Faith Lutheran in Sonoma, Hope Lutheran in Palm Desert, Christ Lutheran in Whitefish and Bethlehem Lutheran in Kalispell, where she participated in Bible studies, prayer groups, church choir, altar guild and quilting.

Mary was also an accomplished flower arranger and enjoyed music, bridge and travel.

A beloved wife, mother, daughter, sister, aunt, sister-in-law, grandparent, family member and friend, she was often organizing special gatherings so that friendships and family could be renewed.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and her brothers, Bob and Brad.

She is survived by her husband, Amos; her brother, Charles, and JoAnn Gestring; her sisters-in-law, Jessie Gestring and Sheila Svennungsen; her son, Rock, and wife, Joanie, of Shelby; her daughter, Ann, and husband, Bill, of Northfield, Minn.; her son, Bradford, and wife, Marne, of Sacramento, Calif.; 10 grandchildren, Kara, Peter, Sonja, Kirsten, Sarah, John, Mary, Ellyn, Brooke and Bradley; and four great-grandchildren, Kyrie, Finley, Noelle and John.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. today, Feb. 11, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell.

The family suggests that memorials be given to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church Organ Fund or Lutheran World Relief.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Mary's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and view Mary's tribute wall.

Mary Paxton Wood Sylvest, 84

Mary Paxton Wood Sylvest, 84, passed away July 18, 2012, of heart failure.



She was born in Colinton, Alberta, on June 23, 1928, on the family's homestead. Her parents, Alexander Wood and Alexandrina Paxton Wood, immigrated from Scotland with their six children. Mary was the first child to be born in Canada. In all, there were 10 siblings.

Mary met Alvin Leo Sylvest in Sydney. They were married June 17, 1953, in Glendive. They have three daughters, Judy Marie Sylvest, Carol Joy Ewalt and Merry Allison Sylvest, and three granddaughters, Holly Marie Bitz, Melissa Joy Bitz and Addie Bess Ewalt.

She is survived by her immediate family and youngest sister, Irene Harps.

Mary and Alvin retired in 1986 and moved to Lakeside, where they have been members of the congregation of Christ Church Episcopal in Kalispell. She loved to garden, and was talented in many creative arts, including painting, sewing, baking and crafts.

Mary was a joyful person who loved to laugh and make others laugh with her wry humor. She was a warm and generous person, and had been active in church communities since she was a young girl.

She was proud of her Scottish heritage and took part in activities with the City of Denver Pipe Band and Scottish Highland Dancers. Above all, she was devoted to her family.

The service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 25, at Christ Church Episcopal, 215 Third Ave. E., Kalispell.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Opal L. Maddux Swisher, 94

Opal L. Maddux Swisher, 94, passed away Feb. 10, 2012, at Whitefish Care and Rehabilitation Center in Whitefish.



Opal was born Oct. 3, 1917, to Mae and Fred Reeves in Kalispell.

She married Harry Maddux in 1933. Opal worked as a cook in a logging camp and remained a great cook for all of her life.

She and Harry raised their three children in Whitefish.

Opal enjoyed attending her pinochle and sewing clubs. She also loved music and dancing.

Following Harry's death in 1958, Opal worked at the Downtowner Motel, J.C. Penney and Tyke Town clothing store, all in Whitefish.

In 1960, Opal married Don Swisher. She was a dearly loved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Opal was preceded in death by her parents; husbands, Harry Maddux and Don Swisher; and granddaughter, Tracy Maddux.

Opal is survived by her son, Harry Maddux, and wife, Janet; daughter Carole Harwood, and husband, Rollin; daughter, Barbara Willard, and husband, Bob; eight grandchildren, Terri (Maddux) Benedict, Shelly (Maddux) Snipes, Craig, Bryan, Mark and Michael Harwood, and Scott Willard and Taunya (Willard) Rivera; 17 great-grandchildren, Tanner Benedict, Cory, Tyler and Joel Snipes, Christopher, Paige, Emma and Bryan Harwood, Logan and Brady Harwood, Kayla Harwood, Alex and Cole Harwood, Tina and Faith Willard and Joshua and Rylan Rivera.

Thank you to the "Springs," Whitefish Care and Rehabilitation Center and Hospice for their loving care.

Memorials can be made to Whitefish Community Memorial Fund (in memory of Tracy Maddux) c/o WFCU, Attn: Mark Dowaliby, P.O. Box 37, Whitefish, MT 59937.

A private family service will be held.

You are invited to go to www.austinhf.com to offer condolences, share memories and view Opal's tribute wall.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

Robert W. Sullivan, 74

Bob was born to Victor and Mildred Sullivan, the youngest of five, on Nov. 11, 1937, in Denver. He grew up and was educated in Denver. He died quietly and peacefully Aug. 5, 2012.



He married Carol Langren at the Alameda Methodist Church in Denver Oct. 11, 1957. They enjoyed nearly 55 years together and raised four children, Gina, Shelley, Tracey and Rob.

After a short time in Oklahoma working with Conoco Oil, Bob and Carol returned to Denver and Bob became a painter, contracting with several government facilities. They moved to Yellow Bay, south of Bigfork on the East Shore, in 1977, and enjoyed working a cherry orchard.

Bob continued painting and did what he liked best, working in private homes; he did excellent work and had many happy customers. He became ill in 2006, retired and moved to Kalispell.

The Sullivans bought a vintage 1972 Cortez many years ago that Bob took great pride in. He refurbished it, and he and Carol took advantage of all the many recreational areas and waterways all over Montana. Bob loved meeting his kids and grandchildren, camping and going between Denver and Seattle with his grandchildren so the cousins could be together.

Bob was a great landscape artist and painted many beautiful Montana scenes that his wife, children and grandchildren proudly display.

He was an avid, avid Denver Bronco fan from the time the Broncos became a team in 1960. There were great football parties with friends both in Denver and Montana. Whether there was a party or he was alone, he donned a Bronco shirt and seldom missed his Sunday football game.

A great highlight for him this past month was a visit from Brock Osweiler, our new local Denver Bronco. He showed off his pictures and autographs to everyone he came in contact with, and shared an autographed hat and pictures with his father-in-law in Denver. One of his grandsons said, "You had a real Bronco in your house!"

Bob is survived by his wife, Carol Sullivan; his beloved father-in-law, Vic Langren, of Denver; daughters, Gina Taylor and husband Jerry, of Bonney Lake, Wash., Shelley Brown and husband Duane of Moore, and Tracey Sullivan of Denver; and one son, Robert, of Sumner, Wash; his terrific grandchildren, Shawn and wife Julie, Amanda and husband Mike, Megan and husband Kip, and Danielle and husband Sean; and two great-grandsons, Pierce and Bryce.

He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings.

Bob was a very private man and requested no services. He has been cremated at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

His family has been with him through his illness when it was important to him and continues to be with Carol. Hospice was wonderful, and Bob and Carol loved and appreciated them all.

Vera Louise Swisher, 87

Vera Louise Swisher, 87, passed away at home Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2012, in Whitefish.

She was born May 18, 1925, to Cora (Harris) and Edward Victor Zinn in Bellflower, Calif.

She was an original "Rosie the Riveter," working at McDonnell Douglas in aircraft assembly in the war effort during World War II. She married Hollis Swisher, and they had three daughters.

Vera loved to crochet afghans and was passionate about Major League Baseball, and just celebrated her last World Series.

Vera was preceded in death by her husband, Hollis; her parents; and numerous siblings.

She is survived by her

three daughters, Corine "Renie" and husband Terry of Oregon, Sandy and husband Ty of Whitefish, and Vicki and husband Matt of West Virginia; and granddaughters, Diane of Oregon, and Kristi and Amber of Montana.

Memorial contributions can be made in Vera Swisher's name to the Flathead Spay and Neuter Task Force, P.O. Box 2095, Whitefish, MT 59937.

Private family services will be held at a later date.

You are invited to go to www.austinhf.com to offer condolences, share memories and view Vera's tribute wall.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

Stacy Ward Swor, 70

Stacy Ward Swor, 70, of Mill Valley, Calif., died suddenly on June 13, 2012, in his hometown of Kalispell.



He was visiting his aunt, Harriett Morris, 94, of Kalispell, at the time.

Stacy was born in Minot, N.D., on April 26, 1942. He was the only son of Erma and Chancey Swor.

He spent his early years in Seattle and then moved to Kalispell, where he lived until he graduated from high school. He went to college at the University of Montana in Missoula, where he earned his law degree. He practiced law in Missoula and was the Assistant District Attorney until 1969.

Stacy's only daughter, Samantha Beth Swor, was born on his 25th birthday. They shared a birthday, their hearts and an affection for the Bay Area, cats, underdogs and the San Francisco Giants.

In 1969, Stacy moved to San Francisco where he worked for the Energy Commission, the IRS, and later started a law firm, Evans, Farber, and Swor. He later moved to Mill Valley, where he has lived and practiced law for the past 35 years as a corporate attorney and helping small businesses get started. Stacy had also been working with Community Action Marin for many years as a counsel and advisor. He gave much of his time and energy in all their endeavors to assist

the residents of his community.

Stacy was a mentor and an advocate, always trying to help people and support them through any difficulties. He was a generous volunteer and will be missed by many. He was a gentleman and a gentle man.

Stacy married his loving wife, Barbara Hamilton Swor, on Aug. 27, 1995. They spent many happy years together traveling, enjoying time with family and supporting each other's busy work lives. They shared a love for the California coast, the wine country, Hawaii, good food, reading, music and Bay Area sports.

Stacy had a deep affection for Barbara's two sons, Aaron and Joshua Mack, spending many hours talking, giving guidance and enjoying sporting events together.

Stacy was preceded in death by Aaron Mack, and his mother, Erma Buckingham.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara Swor of Mill Valley; daughter, Samantha Swor and husband, Kevin Beckett, of Berkeley, Calif.; Joshua and wife, Keslie Mack, of Monterey, Calif.; and five grandchildren, Olivia and Patrick Beckett, and Aleah, Kiryn, and Nili Mack.

Stacy has been cremated as was his wish. A celebration of his life will be held at a future time.

Donations can be made in his name to either: Community Action Marin or The Aaron Mack Endowment Fund at College of Marin Foundation.