

Esther "Ace" Caroline Gallagher, 85



the nearest Catholic church, as her deep faith was an important part of her life.

Esther "Ace" Gallagher, 85, passed away peacefully, with family in her heart, on Dec. 28, 2015, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

Ace was born in Anaconda on March 11, 1930, to Peter and Mary Eckberg. Following graduation from Anaconda High School, she met the love of her life, Vernon "Red" Gallagher who had recently returned from World War II. They married in Anaconda on June 7, 1948, and moved to Kalispell shortly thereafter. They remained in the Flathead Valley, having fallen in love with the lakes, the mountains and the people.

Ace is survived by her five children and their families, Tim and Mimi Gallagher of Corvallis, Oregon, Gary and Linda Gallagher of Redding, California, Tom and Irene Gallagher of Clinton, Mississippi, and Sandra Gallagher, Shannon and John More, all of Corvallis. Her grandchildren include Kelly, Kyle, Erika, Lauren, Alexis, Skyler and Stacy Gallagher, and Kevin and Justin More; and great-granddaughter, Ainsley Bixby. Her sisters Helen Clark of Kalispell and Alice Elliott of Missoula also survive Ace.

Ace and Red began raising a family, making a generous contribution to the baby boomer generation. For several years, Ace was able to stay home and raise their five children, but eventually went to work at the B & B Bakery, and then at JCPenney's where she retired after more than 20 years.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Red, of 65 years, her parents Peter and Mary Eckberg, and brother Charles.

Ace was blessed with a sly sense of humor and a booming, generous laugh. Perhaps our fondest memory was how she loved to sing. She was never shy about singing favorite tunes such as "Oh Lord It's Hard to Be Humble," and "The Gallagher Song" — wherever she was!

Our family would like to give a special thanks to her sister, Helen Clark and the family of Rick and Karen Weaver who provided a much appreciated level of love and care to Ace during her final years.

Ace was an active member in the Elkettes, the Daughters of Isabella, and Birthday Club which was a gathering she regularly looked forward to. She loved desserts, and no one ever made a better apple or huckleberry pie! Greater passions, however, were a love of sporting events, from following their kids' activities to attending Montana Grizzly football games.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Jan. 15 at St. Matthew's Church, with graveside services to follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

It wasn't necessarily the love of the game that Ace had, but more a love for the party that went with the game! Another favorite was the many camping and golf outings Ace and Red had with their friends and family. No matter the activity, each Sunday Ace and Red could be found in

We leave our mother with an Irish blessing she knew very well.

"May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face, and the rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."

"Our tears will fade, but our love and memories never will. Thank you for all you have given. We love you very much. Please say hi to Dad and continue to look out for us."

Richard L. Gage

A celebration of life for Richard L. Gage, 73, who died Sept. 23, will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 11, at Grouse Mountain Lodge in Whitefish.

23 Jul 2015

John Andrew Gagnon, 77

John Andrew Gagnon, 77, passed away peacefully on July 14, 2015, at his home in Columbia Falls, after a long battle with cancer.



carpentry projects, tinkering with cars, scuba diving and music.

He was born on Oct. 13, 1937, in Missoula and resided in Plains with his parents, John Gagnon and Rhoda Knutson Gagnon.

John married the love of his life, Bonnie Jean Templin, in Plains on Dec. 30, 1965. They raised their children in the Flathead Valley since 1978.

He attended school in Plains and Spokane. From 1961 to 1963 he served in the Army. After injuring a knee in jump school, he transferred to the armored division.

John is survived by his wife, Bonnie Gagnon; daughter, Lisa Noble, and her husband, Justin; son, Jay Gagnon, and his wife, Gina; four grandchildren, Jaimee and Peyton Noble of East Helena, and Allison and Cade Gagnon of Somers; one sister, Joan Thacker, of Fair Acres, New Mexico; and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

Following his military service, he returned to a career in construction. He worked multiple years in heavy construction, traveling all over the United States. Most of his work was on power line or dam right-of-way clearing or road building. His family teased him because he didn't relate things he had seen but, rather, good restaurants along the way. His construction career ended in 1993 with a serious back injury.

There will be a memorial service for John at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 25, at Calvary Lutheran Church in Kalispell. A private graveside service will be held in Plains at a later date.

When he was 15, he helped his dad build a family cabin in the Thompson River drainage. This reminded him of his favorite place to spend time. At the cabin he passed his love of Montana and his passion for fishing and hunting on to his children and grandchildren.

The family asks that donations be made in John's name to Make A Wish Montana 175 N. 27 Street Suite 1214, Billings, MT 59101; or Community Kitchen, Calvary Lutheran Church, 2200 Highway 2 East, Kalispell, MT 59901.

His hobbies included

Columbia Mortuary is caring for John's family.

26 Mar 2016

Elsie Galles, 87

Elsie Galles, 87, died on March 22, 2015, in Whitefish.

nville and Robert John Woodard.

She is survived by her children, Nicholas A. Michaud, Melanie Dawn Golden, Donald Craig Michaud, Laurie S. McCo-

A memorial service will be at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at Austin Funeral Home. A reception will follow at the Moose Lodge in Whitefish.

Calvin Henry Gamma, 88

"Heaven's gate opened wide and let an amazing man in."

Calvin Henry Gamma, of Kalispell, passed away unexpectedly Aug. 6, 2015.

He had many names: Calvin or Henry, Dad, Grandpa, Great-grandpa, friend, but in recent years he was known as Gramps by many.

He was born at Ashley Lake on July 5, 1927, to Anton and Bessie (Arnold) Gamma. He was the youngest of four children, brothers Frank "Pete," Ben and sister Mary. Most of his younger years were spent at home ranching and working in the woods. He only attended school through the eighth grade.

He served in the U.S. Army for one year, as back in those days all hands were needed at home to help ends meet. So back home he came.

He met Thelma Lorenson Madsen in 1951 through her cousins, who he was working for. They married on July 12, 1952, and he gained an instant family, Gerald and Joyce Madsen, and to this union two other children were added: Roland in 1953 and Roleen in 1954. They divorced in 1972 but remained very good friends.

He married Anita Hansoni in 1978 and to this union Melissa was added to the family. They also divorced and he lived a single life for the rest of his days.

After returning from the Army, he was a self-employed logger and ran his own sawmill. In 1966, he went to work for Forest Products. He moved to Missoula for one year and hauled cement blocks for R-Lite Co. On returning to the Flathead, he was fortunate enough to get on for the City of Kalispell and retired after 26 years. Retirement was not



age 75.

He loved to fish (especially Ashley Lake), bowl, anything outside and was ready for a road trip any time. Other than one year in Missoula he spent his whole life here in the Flathead.

Calvin is survived by his children, Gerald and Sherry Madsen, Joyce and Mead Stokes, Roland and Ella Gamma, Roleen and Carl Anderson and Melissa Gamma; grandchildren, Rex and Donna Stokes, Donny and Dev Stokes, Rae Dean Barker, Jeremy Madsen, Jeanice and Jack Myrtue, Krisha and Joe Dull, Lisa and Jason Schreckendgust, Bruce Gamma, Brice and Alisa Gamma, Janice and Justin Mordja, and Niel Gamma; 16 great-grandchildren; his sister, Mary Hoversland; numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Frank "Pete" and Ben; and grandchildren, Michael Gamma, Dlorah Stokes and Jason Madsen.

Cremation has taken place and a celebration of life will be 1 p.m. on Aug. 29 in the basement of the Eagles Club, 37 W. First St., Kalispell. A potluck will follow. In honor of gramps, please wear something with a John Deere on it or green or yellow, as he was a collector of John Deere paraphernalia.

Until we meet again, Gramps, to the world you were one person, to your family you were the world. We love you and miss you.

for him, so for the next eight years he he worked for Black Magic, finally retiring for good at

Glenn D. Gardner, 58

Glenn D. Gardner "left this world" Saturday, April 18, 2015, "to continue his journey as God planned and Christ promised."

"Then Jesus said ... Go! It will be done just as you believed it would." Matthew 8:13.

Glenn considered himself a "working man" but possessed knowledge, abilities and a character that provided over 58 years of amazing experiences and opportunities to love and mentor dear friends and family members too numerous to mention.

Yet Glenn felt this description by Nicholas Sparks was more appropriate: "I am nothing special, of this I am sure. I am a common man with common thoughts and I've led a common life. There are no monuments dedicated to me and my name

will soon be forgotten, but I've loved another with all my heart and soul, and to me, this has always been enough."

His wife Kelly Apgar is honored to follow Glenn's lead on her journey in this world and for eternity, remaining faithful to God's plan and Christ's promise.

Glenn lived in accordance to Galatians 5:22-23 — "The fruit of the Spirit is love manifested in joy (love's strength), peace (love's security), patience (love's endurance), kindness (love's conduct), goodness (love's character), faithfulness (love's confidence), gentleness (love's humility) and self-control (love's victory). Against such things there is no law."

As per Glenn's wishes there will be no funeral or memorial service.

If you desire to honor his journey, please consider a donation to the charity or organization of your choice.

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

Joan Delores Gardner, 85

Joan Delores Gardner, 85, died Friday March 27, 2015, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

She is survived by her husband, George Gardner; and daughter, Heather

Vrentas.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

Bernie E. Garrett, 72

Bernie E. Garrett, 72, of Llano, California, died March 11, 2015, in Llano.

Visitation is from 9 to 11 a.m. Friday, March 27, at Johnson-Gloschat

Funeral Home, with services to follow at 11 a.m. Burial will take place at Glacier Memorial Gardens following the service.

Richard 'Dick' Gehrke, 69

Richard "Dick" Gehrke, 69, passed away on Jan. 2, 2015, with family by his side.

Dick was born in Cass Lake, Minnesota, on Jan. 3, 1945, to Albert and Dorothy Gehrke. He graduated from high school in Cass Lake, then married Marlyce Dahl in 1969. Their two children were born in Wadena, Minnesota.

He visited 30 different states as a long-haul driver for Cenex before moving to Montana in 1977. Dick then went to work at Columbia Falls Aluminum Company on Jan 18, 1978, until he retired on Oct. 10, 2000.

While living on McGregor Lake, he enjoyed volunteering for the Marion Fire Department. Some of his favorite activities were getting out in the woods, camping, fishing, hunting and woodturning. He found great pleasure in sharing these activities with his son and grandson. He made many friends in Montana and enjoyed visiting with them.

Dick is survived by his wife Marlyce, daughter Vicki and Dave Wirkus, son Dennis, grandson



Jayden Wirkus, and granddaughter Chantell Gutierrez of Oregon; sister Gloria and Mike Loos of Min-

nesota; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his mom and dad, stepdad, a sister and a brother.

He has been cremated. Services will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan 9, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Home Options hospice.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Dick's family.

30 Oct 2015

Gilbert L. Gendreau, 89

Gilbert L. Gendreau, 89, passed away on Oct. 26, 2015, in Kalispell.

Gilbert was born Sept. 22, 1926, in Scobey. The family moved to Walhalla, North Dakota, where Gilbert grew up.

In 1949 Gilbert married Lee Ryker in Kalispell. They were together for 51 years before Lee's passing in 2002.

Gilbert worked as manager for the Kalispell Laundry and Dry Cleaners before he retired.

He loved gardening and keeping the house and yard to perfection. He also liked woodworking, fishing and spending time with his family.

Gilbert was preceded in death by his parents, five brothers, one sister, and his wife Lee.

Gilbert is survived by

son, Larry, and Susan Gendreau; daughter, Paula, and Timothy Brubaker; sister, Edna Burke, of Anderson, California; 11 grandchildren, Sarah and David Metcalfe, Derek and Monique Burton, Christopher Gendreau, Kim and Zach Lindsay, Lacey and Jarod Oftedahl, Nicki Ward and Dan Mullis; and 13 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life for Gilbert will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 2, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

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.

Dawn Chenoweth Gemmete, 46

"God quietly took" Dawn Chenoweth Gemmete of Kalispell on March 18, 2015. She was 46 years old.

Dawn was born March 27, 1968, in Magrath, Alberta, to Carol Irvin and Skip (Floyd) Chenoweth. Dawn was blessed with two additional parents, Dick Irvin and Kay Chenoweth.

The world suffered a great loss with the recent passing of Dawn. While sudden and shocking, Dawn had been battling various illnesses for most of her young life with unbelievable courage and a tenacity that humbles us all.

Dawn was the kindest, most loving soul one could ever have the privilege of knowing. She had a love for all people and creatures that was unmatched, from family and friends to strangers, from dogs and cats to all living creatures; she opened her heart to us all. Illnesses kept her from living her life fully, but during the times when she was feeling a little better she had a smile



and laugh that were her trademarks. She quite literally lit up the room.

She is survived

by her mother, Carol, and Dick; father, Floyd, and Kay; sister, Dionetta, and Lance; uncle, Ken, and Nicole; and stepsiblings, Mike, Connie, Loni, Judy, Lynda and Kendra. Her pets were her children, Zeke, Ruby, Dot, Zen and Zoe. Friends are too numerous to mention but a special thanks to Steven Rubin, a very close friend, and Nikki Nash, a dear friend and housemate during her final years who put Dawn's needs before her own.

Memorials may be made to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, Attn: Judy, P.O. Box 221, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral home and Crematory is taking care of the Gemmete family. Please visit www.jgfuneralhome.com to leave condolences for the family.

9 Aug 2015

James F. Gerald, 68

"The Lord called Jim" on Saturday, Aug. 1, 2015, at his home in Kalispell. Jim loved the Lord and his family and lived each day with a happy heart. He enjoyed helping others which reflected in his working career and many years of volunteer work in the community.

Jim was very proud and honored to serve his country in the U.S. Army. Fellow veterans and their families held a special place in his heart.

Jim's favorite Bible verse John 3:16. We know and believe God's promise that we will be together again in God's timing.

Jim is survived by his loving wife, Jane; and



wonderful children, Trina and Tom Miller, Laure and Coy Aasheim; six very special grandchildren and one extra special great-granddaughter

and one sister. A celebration of Jim's life will be held at a later date.

To send a note of condolence to the family please visit www.buffalohillfh.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Betty Ann Gerrity, 87

Betty Ann Gerrity, 87, "went to her peaceful home" Saturday, June 20, 2015, surrounded by her family.

Betty was born to Harold and Ranghild Wooster June 1928, Bristol, Connecticut. Ranghild passed away due to complications at childbirth. Hilda Larson, Ranghild's older sister, stepped in to care for little Betty. Hilda and Harold fell in love as well and married.

Betty was the only child but grew up close to a large family that seemed like her own, the Peterson family. They had 12 children. There were so many around she says, "I thought I was a Peterson for the longest time."

Hilda and Harold raised Betty on a Grade A dairy farm in Forestville, Connecticut, called Acorn Farms. She helped with the chores and delivered milk with her dad to the town and neighboring areas. After high school she worked in an arrow manufacturing company in Connecticut.

On Aug. 3, 1946, she married James Olin "Red" Hewitt. Shortly after she and Red, her mom and dad, Hilda and Harold all picked up and moved out west to this great place Harold had visited as a young man and fell in love with... called Montana.

They first moved to Bayhorse, a small dot on the map in southeast Montana. They ran the post office there for nine years until the USPS closed the 4th Class Post Offices. They also ran a ranch with only a cistern for water and no electricity or phone. Three very handsome and adventurous boys were born there to Betty and Red, Thomas James, Gary William and Richard Olin.

In 1958 they moved up to the Flathead Valley in Northwest Montana. Betty, Red and the boys to a farm/ranch in Columbia Falls, Hilda and Harold to a farm/ranch in the beautiful mountains west of Kalispell called Brown's Meadow, later to be listed on the map as Wooster Ranch.



proud were mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She loved her family and

was so proud to watch them all blossom and grow under her tender, humorous and watchful eye.

She was a member of the Montana Cow Bells, 4-H Leader, Valley View Women's Club, Sand Piper Art Gallery, Polson Senior Center and Red Hat Society. Betty supported many community activities in volunteering her time as an artist, quilter and anytime someone needed help. Betty loved to garden always raising enough to share.

Betty was preceded in death by mother, Ranghild Wooster; daughter, Penny Hewitt; husband, James Hewitt; father, Harold Wooster; step-mother, Hilda Wooster; granddaughter, Rebecca Ann Hewitt; son, Richard "Dick" Hewitt and husband, Bernard Gerrity.

She is survived by sons, Tom and Deana Hewitt; Gary and Denise Hewitt; Jim and Tammy Gerrity; daughter, Laurie and Brad Dassonville and daughter-in-law Judi Hewitt; thirteen grandchildren, Patricia an Matt Morehouse, Daishia and Kyle Brosten; Kim and Mike Cary, Kari and Josh Baugh, Jen and Raymond Dickinson, Jon and Tana Lowry, Todd and Becky Horning, Shannon and Ken Adkins, Matthew Gerrity, Brandon and Chiara Gerrity, Derek and Emily Gerrity, Eric and Shawna Gerrity and Emily Gerrity and nineteen great-grandchildren, Madeleine Morehouse, Ethan Brosten, Shaniya and Madison Cary, Bear and Kayia Baugh, Otto and Ruby Horning, Josiah, Malia and Elysa Fetveit, Morgan Dickinson, Jordyn and Drew Lowry, Makenna and Paisley Gerrity, Brynn Gerrity, Sweet Pea and Bart Dassonville.

24 Jun 2015

A tragic farm accident took Red's life. Betty and boys moved to Kila, to be closer to Hilda and Harold. Betty continued to raise the three fine young gentlemen and met Bernard Gerrity and married in May of 1961.

Two even more wonderful children were born to Betty and Bernard; Laurie Ann and James Frances. They resided in Kila until 1967 and then moved to a ranch outside of Polson, Montana.

Betty held many wonderful positions in her lifetime, including farm/ranch hand boss; U.S. postmaster, Bay Horse; retail clerk, Tee Pee Westwear, Polson... but the ones that made her most

Viewing for Betty will be 4 to 7 p.m. Monday June 29 at The Lake Funeral Home, Polson, with a chapel service at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday July 1 at The Lake Funeral Home, and a graveside service at 3 p.m. on Wednesday July 1 at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

Condolences and memories can be left for the family with The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory, Polson MT. www.thelakefuneralhomeandcrematory.com

Donations can be made in Betty's name for Polson Senior Center, 504 3rd Ave E, Polson, MT 59860.

Arrangements are under the direction of The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

Alvin J. Geske, 72

Alvin J. Geske of Kensington, Maryland, died on March 15, 2015, at Kensington, Maryland, of pulmonary fibrosis. He was a longtime resident of the Kensington area and practiced law in Washington, D.C., since the early 1970s.

Mr. Geske was born on April 17, 1942, in Whitefish to Alvin E. Geske and Ada Jay (Best) Geske. He graduated from Whitefish High School in 1960 as salutatorian and a member of the school's 1960 state interscholastic golf team.

He received a Great Northern Scholarship, awarded to outstanding students who were children of employees of the Great Northern Railroad (now part of the BNSF Railway).

He kept up with many of his high school classmates at reunions.

He was a 1964 summa cum laude graduate of Southern Methodist University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in his junior year and received the Phi Beta Kappa Research Award and Departmental Distinction.

In 1967 he was awarded a Juris Doctorate degree with honors from the University of Chicago Law School, where he served



with high honors from George Washington University Law School in 1974.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1970.

He was admitted to practice law in Texas and the District of Columbia.

Although he briefly practiced law in Texas early in his career, the largest part of his career was spent in Washington, D.C.

He was an attorney and assistant branch chief with the Legislation and Regulations Division, Office of Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service, from 1970 to 1974, where his principal activities were participating in the development of regulations under the Tax Reform Act of 1969 and regulations under various controversial income tax accounting rules.

From 1975 through early 1981, he was a legislation attorney with the Joint Committee on

the staff of the Law Review and was a member of the Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity. He also received a Master of Laws degree in taxation

Taxation of the United States Congress, where he worked on tax legislation (including the Tax Reform Act of 1976, the Revenue Act of 1978, and the Energy Tax of 1978.)

From early 1981 to his retirement in 2011, he was in the private practice of law in Washington, D.C. with a number of small firms and, since 1993, with Holland & Knight, LLP.

He served as chair of the Committee on Agriculture of the Section of Taxation, American Bar Association in 1986 and wrote many articles on various aspects of tax law during his career.

Mr. Geske was active in various civic associations and related groups. He was the president of the Rock Creek Palisades Citizens Association from 1997 through 2007, and served as a representative of RCPCA to the Montgomery County Civic Federation, the Coalition of Kensington Communities and the Allied Civic Group.

He was a member of Hughes United Methodist Church in Wheaton, Maryland, where he served on the Audit and Finance Committees.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Alvin E. and

Ada J. (Best) Geske, former residents of Whitefish; and his sister and brother-in-law, Laura and James Gray.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Cheryl Geske, of Kensington, and his sons, Daniel of Kensington, and David of Silver Spring, Maryland.

He was devoted to this family. He greatly enjoyed activities with his family, particularly attending Daniel's drama performances and sporting events, and vacations in the Glacier Park area. For over 30 years, he participated directly in swimming therapy for David and group adaptive swim every Saturday at the local YMCA.

He and his wife were a team, working to help David live with his many disabilities while advocating and supporting legislative efforts to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities.

Mr. Geske has requested that any material expressions of sympathy be sent as donations in his name to the Maryland School for the Blind, 3501 Taylor Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21256.

A burial service will take place at the Whitefish Cemetery later in the spring.

MEMORIAL**Alvin J. Geske**

A burial service for Alvin J. Geske, 72, who died March 15 will be

held at 3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 21, at the Whitefish Cemetery.

Bob Gesek, 88

Bob Gesek, 88, passed away July 8, 2015, at the Columbia Falls Veterans Home.

Bob was born in Spokane March 28, 1927, to Arthur Gesek and Agnes Brinks. Bob had three younger sisters, was raised on a farm where he "surely got up at 4 a.m. every day and milked 100 cows before walking 10 miles to school and in the snow!" Three days after turning 18 he signed up for the Coast Guard, against his father's wishes, "to represent the family." He served in the Pacific and saw the end of World War II.

Returning to Spokane, he trained as an electrician and moved to Montana, working construction on Hungry Horse Dam. It was here he met Patricia "Pat" Wedgwood who was on summer break from college. She was living with her parents at the Veterans Home in Columbia Falls where her father was the commander. Being young, in love and adventurous, they married and moved into a little house on the river without water. Soon they bought a log home in Martin City, and lived happily for several years until building a home on the North Fork and moving. Bob worked at the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant for several years before he and Pat went into their own business, Gesek Electric, on Nucleus in Columbia Falls. During these years they had six children, Steve, Diane, Mike, Patty, Joanne and Bobby. They were committed to God, family and community and very active in business and civic organizations and church. Bob coached kids basketball and boxing for St. Richard's Parish.

Between picnics and berry picking the kids were taught many "important" life lessons:



Whitefish and the family moved there a year later, transforming the doctor clinic above the store into living quarters. Once again they were very involved in the community. Bob loved his customers. He was often called out in the middle of the night in freezing temperatures to repair a broken furnace. He never complained and always wanted to help. Bob and Pat enjoyed fishing in their pontoon boat and traveling in their motor home with friends during these years.

A highlight for Bob while living in Whitefish was becoming the Winter Carnival king in 1980 and making merry!

Mike Gesek, Bob's son, eventually took over the business and Bob retired in 1989 when Pat passed away.

Good fortune came to Bob when he met Margaret Shanahan of Whitefish and love and joy came to him when they married in 1994. They continued to live in Whitefish for several years before moving to Columbia Falls where they made a beautiful home and yard and enjoyed hobbies.

One hobby they both loved was mushrooming, picking berries and drives in Glacier National Park.

"Close the door, you were not born in a barn!"

"Money does not grow on trees!"

"Do not forget where you are from and who you belong to!"

Every summer Bob had two gardens and loved to work in them. Every fall the swingset turned into a meat hanger for either wild game or a butchered

cow or hog. Every Christmas the roof of the house was bright with lights and filled with trees and Santa.

In 1969, a second store was opened in

Kylie, Leila, Cora, Hannah, Mike Jr., Kale and Kaison; sons-in-law, Steve and Don; sister-in-law, Dana; stepdaughter, Mary; and stepson Tom and daughter Patty would like to thank all his many friends and neighbors who watched over Bob when he lived alone. Shoveling two feet of snow could only be done by angels.

We are also extremely grateful to the Veterans Administration and all the caring compassionate caretakers in the Flathead healthcare system. They made it possible for Bob to stay in his home as long as possible. Brendan House, the Veterans Home, Meals on Wheels and all the staff can't be thanked enough. Flathead Valley is very lucky to have them all.

A funeral Mass will be held for Robert at 10 a.m. on Monday, July 20, at St. Richard's Catholic Church. A luncheon will follow Mass from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and a graveside service will be held at 12:30 p.m. at St. Richard's Catholic Cemetery

in Columbia Falls.

There has been a change to the schedule for the visitation for Bob. On Sunday July 19, the viewing will be 3 to 5 p.m. at Columbia Mortuary and there will be a vigil at 5 p.m.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Bob's family.

Although Bob lost Margaret in 2008 and previously Pat and five children, he kept his faith, saying "God has a plan." He continued to love and cherish life and family and friends. His family continues to grow with many grandchildren and great-grandchildren who will miss is gentle, kind, compassionate spirit. They will even miss losing their money to Grandpa in poker.

Bob's grandkids Ryan, Steven, Tracy, Shelly, Trisha, Mike, Theresa and Jake; great-grandkids, Odessa, McKenzie, Delaney, MaKenna,

Mollie Joanne Gibson, 104

Mollie Joanne Gibson, 104, died Oct. 22, 2015, at her home in Eureka.

She is survived by her children, Sylvia Bronson, Donnie Gibson and Marjorie Rooney. Visitation will

be from 3 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 29, at the Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka. Services will be at 2 p.m., Friday, Oct. 30, at the First Baptist Church in Eureka.

13 May 2015

Porter William Gifford III, 68

Porter William Gifford III passed away Saturday, May 9, 2015, of multiple myeloma and amyloidosis in Glacier National Park.

Porter was born Oct. 15, 1946, in Dallas. He graduated from St. Mark's School of Texas and later from the University of Denver where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and graduated with a master's degree in finance. While in Denver, he served in the Army Reserve.

In 1967, Porter met Marsha McLean from Miles City. Porter married Marsha in 1969. They moved to Dallas where they had two daughters, Carrah of Portland and Barrett of Applegate, Oregon. In Dallas, Porter was a successful building contractor and mall developer.

In 1983 Porter and Marsha moved to Whitefish where their third daughter Gillian was born. She now resides in Jacksonville, Oregon. While in Whitefish, Porter was a member of the Rotary Club, a parishioner of the All Saints' Episcopal Church, and was a real estate broker with Century 21 and later with



West Venture. Porter loved the outdoors and enjoyed skiing, hunting, fishing and hiking.

Porter was preceded in death by his parents, Beth and

Pete Gifford.

He is survived by his wife, Marsha; three daughters; a brother, Geoff Gifford from Colorado; a sister, Shari Gifford from New Jersey; sister-in-law Anne McLean and brother-in-law Harvey Stone, both of San Francisco.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Porter Gifford Memorial Fund at the First Interstate Bank in Whitefish.

Porter's service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 15, at All Saints' Episcopal Church located at 2048 Conn Road (midway between Whitefish and Columbia Falls off Highway 40).

Austin Funeral Home is caring for Porter's family.

18 Jul 2015

Krystle Marie Gilchrist, 28

On Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015, our beloved Krystle Marie "Bunky" Gilchrist, "joined our Heavenly Father." She was 28 years old.

She is survived by her parents, Klaus and Jacque Gilchrist of Polson, and her son, Fox Johnson of Whitefish, as well as numerous other family members and loved ones.

Krystle graduated from Polson High School in 2004, where she lettered in cheerleading, was a member of the football managers team, and a member of the choir. She loved choir, both in school and church.

Later she moved to Whitefish where she lived for the last 10 years. During these years she worked different jobs, one of which she managed the Emerald City Casino. While working full time, she earned her degree in interior decorating from Penn Foster Career School in 2009.

She then started Seasonal Sensations By Krystle which allowed her to use her creativity to help others with party planning and decorating.

Krystle enjoyed mentoring kids through youth



organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club and Big Brothers Big Sisters. One of her favorite

activities with the kids was roller skating.

Some of Krystle's hobbies and interests were sewing, quilting, writing poetry and creative writing. Krystle also enjoyed playing music. She played a few instruments over the years but her favorite was the electric keyboard which she played by ear at an early age.

On June 28, 2009, she gave birth to Fox Ryley Johnson. When Fox was about 3 years old they both started Fox's Used Toys where they collected used toys and clothes, and distributed to those in need.

Krystle's beautiful smile and love for life will be with us until we meet again.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on July 18 at the Lake Funeral Home and Crematory. A reception will follow at 2 p.m. at the Mission Valley Elks.

Robert 'Bob' Gilliland, 73

Robert "Bob" Gilliland, 73, passed away Tuesday, June 2, 2015, at his home in Grand Prairie, Texas, surrounded by family. Bob had spent the last few years of his life fighting a dual diagnosis of ALS and Pick's disease.

He and his twin sister, Barbara, were born Feb. 24, 1942, to Claude and Elizabeth McKeen Gilliland in Whitefish.

Bob graduated from Whitefish High School in 1960. He went on to college in Havre and graduated from the University of Montana in 1966. Bob also served in the Montana National Guard. He taught school in Browning and Eureka but then went on to work at Plum Creek Lumber in 1973 for the remainder of his career. Bob was an avid fisherman and a Montana man through and through.

He taught his daughters, Mary, Kristina and Kimberly the love of woodworking and spent hours with them in his wood shop. He loved huckleberry picking with his whole family and taught everyone the cardinal rule of eating the huckleberries which were picked with the right hand and bucketing the ones picked with the left.

Bob met his wife, Dana Adams Gilliland, in 1965



while both were working at the Montana Pavilion at the World's Fair in New York. They were married Oct. 2, 1965, in Whitefish. For

the next 50 years Bob enjoyed watching his children and then his grandchildren grow up. He enjoyed traveling, camping and playing pinochle with close friends.

He is survived by his wife, Dana; daughters, Mary and Steve Balsley of Vienna, Austria, Kristina Gilliland of Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and Kimberly and Ricardo Villarreal of Grand Prairie; grandchildren, Tyler, Raelynn, Alexander, Bryce, Ricardo and Isaiah; siblings, Barbara and Dennis Olsen, and Edward and Nancy Gilliland; and an aunt, Mary Ellen McKeen Beck, of Arlee.

A memorial service is being arranged to take place during the summer in Whitefish.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Steinway Fund for Whitefish High School, ALS or a charity of your choice.

Shirley Marlene Gipe, 59

"Alive, I'm Christ's messenger, dead, I'm his bounty. Life versus even more life! I can't lose." Phillipians 1:21, "The Message Bible."

Shirley "went to be with the Lord" on Feb. 17, 2015, after a brave year-long battle with cancer.

Shirley was born on June 2, 1955, to Raymond and Janice Salmonson in Wallace, Idaho. She attended Libby and Polson Schools. After her schooling, she met, and later married, the love of her life Harlan Gipe in September 1975. Shortly after they married, they moved to the Gipe family farm to work the land they loved. Over the next 39 years, they birthed, fostered and adopted 13 children, raising them all to be Jesus "freaks" above all else.

Shirley was a first-rate missionary who truly believed that she was the very hands and feet of Jesus. She has had a major impact in the lives of orphaned children, opening her heart and home to whomever God brought her. Her impact will continue exponentially in the lives of those who were affected by her great love.

Shirley was preceded in death by her father,



Raymond Salmonson, and her father-in-law, Ralph Gipe.

Shirley is survived by her

mother, Janice Lindbom, and Donald; her mother-in-law, Amelia; her husband, Harlan; her best friends, Kim Holland-Evertz and Diane Buzard; her daughter, Jennifer Groves, and Zach; her son, Jordan, and Lacey; her son, Conrad; her daughter, Kumari Cash, and Tom; her son, Dillon; her beloved teenage daughters, Tigrai and Feather; her 10 grandchildren; and more surrogate children and grandchildren than can be counted.

Donations can be made to the Shirley Gipe Memorial Fund at First Interstate Bank in Polson or to the GoFundMe website <http://www.gofundme.com/mmo4jg>.

Proceeds will go toward Shirley's end-of-life medical expenses, and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to Make Your Mark Ethiopia, an organization that provides support and education to at-risk street youth in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Robert 'Bob' Gilliland

A memorial service for Robert "Bob" Gilliland, 73, who died June 2 will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, at United Methodist Church on Wisconsin Avenue in Whitefish.

Bernice Moen Gochanour, 92

Bernice Nora Moen Gochanour "went home to be with the Lord" on Sunday, Aug. 9, 2015, with family at her side. She would have been 93 on Oct. 5.



children. She was a dedicated housewife and mother who took pleasure in sewing her children's

Our mother was born in Rason, South Dakota, on Oct. 5, 1922, to Marta and Engebrecht Moen. She was the fifth of seven children, all born at the family home.

At the age of 5, her family moved to Velva, North Dakota. She graduated from Velva High School where she was active in the marching band, cheer-leading, writing for the school newspaper, leadership, and many other activities. She went on to attend school and became the fastest typist in North Dakota!

When World War II began, the family moved to Sacramento, California. It was there that Bernice met her future husband, Donald Gochanour in 1945, who was serving in the Armed Forces. Several years later they moved to Anaconda, Montana, where their seven fabulous children were born. In 1956, they moved to Columbia Falls.

Mother was very active at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, where she held many responsibilities. She saw to it that we all attended church weekly and were confirmed. She was also very active in the Women's Democratic Association. She was an officer for many years and was named the Democratic Woman of the Year in 2005. She enjoyed working at every election, helping at all Democrat functions, and campaigning for her favorite candidates.

Mother's greatest joy, though, was raising her

clothes, baking, gardening flowers, making Christmas ornaments for her grandchildren yearly, watching Griz basketball and football games, and cross-stitching. Mother was a tremendous cook and made sure dinner was served promptly at 5! Man, she knew how to stretch a buck to feed a family of 9. Then the real fun came, grandkids!

Mother is preceded in death by her parents and six siblings, husband, Donald, and two sons, Don Jr. and Brett "Skip."

She is survived by her children, Cynthia Deist of Kalispell, Alanna Evans and Dean of Spokane, Denis and Deb of Graham, Washington, Denise Dickinson and Dwayne and Gail Bennett and Jeff of Spokane. Her grandchildren were bright stars in her life: Donnie Gochanour and Kory Hammond of the Seattle area, Courtney Westphal and Aaron and Lacy Schneider and Jim of Kalispell, Jayson Perrine of Spokane, and Amber Buck of Missoula, Tarah Dau and Kjersti Collins of Spokane and Kari Anna Evans, of Alaska, Kimberly Gochanour, of Graham, and Bradley Dickinson of Spokane, and 13 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of Mother's life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell. A reception will follow at the church.

Todd Allen Goddard, 44

Todd Allen Goddard, 44, formerly of Kalispell, died Feb. 2, 2015, in Bountiful, Utah, due to a brain tumor.

He was a mortgage broker.

He is survived by his

parents, Don and Sheryl Goddard of Helena; wife Karen Goddard, and children, Bailee, Spencer, Allisyn and Parker, all of South Weber, Utah.

Burial took place Feb. 6 in West Jordan, Utah.

In loving memory of Nancie Lee Goin (Herzog) who passed away 7-10-2015. Nanci was cremated in Boise, Idaho, and graveside burial was held on 9-11-2015 at St. Richard's Catholic Cemetery, Columbia Falls, where she was laid to rest at her mother's feet. Nanci is survived by her children Thomas Barta and Sue Engebretson.

10 Nov 2015

William Burchard Goodwin, 81

William Burchard Goodwin, 81, passed away Oct. 26, 2015.

Bill was a resident of Brookdale Cotswold Assisted Living in Charlotte, North Carolina.

He was born on Nov. 20, 1933, in Manila, the Philippine Islands, to Elizabeth Smith Goodwin and Ret. Col. Arthur Cleveland Goodwin Jr.

He is survived by his brother, Arthur Cleveland Goodwin III, and his wife, Martha Kennedy Goodwin.

Married for 18 years to Rosemarie Brucia, Bill had no children. There is a large family comprised of cousins, nieces and nephews spanning four generations.

Bill graduated from Yale University with a Bachelor of Science degree in industrial administration and St. Lawrence University



with a Master's in Education degree.

After serving

in the United States Army, Bill worked in the mechanical design department at Grumman Aviation before embarking on his first love — teaching mathematics and coaching both soccer and track and field.

As an avid backpacker and skier, Bill retired to Kalispell in June 1989 with access to Glacier National Park and the Big Mountain ski area. It was a 14-year odyssey with wonderful, still active friendships too numerous to mention. Montana was a true highlight in Bill's western retirement.

In lieu of flowers, Bill prefers that you make a donation to your favorite charity.

Lois Elizabeth (Falkner) Gorton, 94

Lois Elizabeth (Falkner) Gorton "passed into the arms of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ" on July 21, 2015.

Lois was born in Kalispell in 1920 to Ernest Joseph Falkner and Sarah Mathilda Bogue. The youngest of five children, she grew up on Kalispell's Eastside and attended Hedges, Central and "old" Edgerton School. After graduating from Flathead County High, she attended the College of Saint Catherine in St. Paul, Minnesota, and graduate school at Ohio State University.

She became an instructor of diet therapy at the Deaconess Hospital in Billings and, until she retired in 1978, taught dietetics for the Montana State University School of Nursing at the Billings Deaconess campus. Lois was proud of the fact that as a result of a successful class action lawsuit against MSU, she was retroactively granted the status of associate professor and awarded back compensation for her employment from 1975 to 1978.

Following his service in the Army during World War II, Robert Arthur "Bones" Gorton and Lois were married in 1946 at St. Matthew's Church in Kalispell. Bones was a standout football player for the University of Montana Grizzlies while he completed his undergraduate studies on the GI Bill. Lois was a relief dietitian for the UM residence halls and later, the first dietitian for the student union and supervised the menus for the football team's training table.

After Bones graduated, the couple lived briefly in Ronan, before settling in Billings, where they found teaching jobs and raised their three children, Charles David, Donna Jean and John Allan.



say they had "painted every place they ever lived in."

The couple took annual summer excursions to "the Lake," relaxing and enjoying summer fun with their children, family and friends. After retirement, they returned to Kalispell to enjoy the area they had always loved.

Lois and Bones were dedicated partners and parents. Raised Irish Catholic, Lois was a "hardworking little gal" known for living her life with purpose and determination. A testament of her loyalty to the "love of her life" was her caring for Bones as he struggled with Alzheimer's disease for more than 10 years before his death in 2003.

Lois was an avid football fan, and even in her later years and, with failing eyesight, she kept up with the fortunes of the Ohio State Buckeyes and, of course, her beloved Griz — taking particular delight anytime they trounced the Cats.

Lois was preceded in death by her husband; her sister, Anna Mae; and her three brothers, Robert Ernest, James Edgar and Harold Joseph.

In an era when most women were expected to fill the role of housewives and mothers, Lois was a woman who successfully juggled both family and career. As a couple, Lois and Bones were much admired as great dancers, fun and loyal friends, and the couple to go to for all the little neighborhood emergencies. An industrious pair, they took property maintenance seriously and did many home improvement projects together. Lois liked to

She is survived by her three children, David; Donna Crocker and her husband Jeff, and their three children, Ben and his wife Crystal, Kelcey, and Kate Ward and her husband Nathan; and Jack and his wife Emily, and their three children, Aaron, Sara and Sean. Lois also had three great-grandchildren, Cove, Shelby and David; as well as several nieces and nephews. She did love and enjoy those babies! She will be missed by all.

Any memorial gifts could be directed to Alzheimer or Parkinson research organizations.

A graveside service for family and close friends to celebrate Lois' life will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, July 27, at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell with Pastor Mel Haug attending.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements.

25 Jul 2015

Gerald Raymond Goudreau, 69

Gerald Raymond Goudreau was born March 11, 1946, in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, to Raymond and Jean (Krapf) Goudreau. He fought a valiant fight with recently diagnosed pancreatic cancer and passed away peacefully on Thursday evening, April 16, 2015, at the Ray Hickey Hospice House in Vancouver, Washington, at the age of 69.

Gerry graduated from Fitchburg High School in 1964 after participating in both football and basketball.

He loved to ski in New England and Europe and ultimately moved to Vail, Colorado, in 1969. In the winter, he would ski and work on the trail crews and in the summer he developed his journeyman carpenter skills that he continued to use throughout his life. After a slight mishap in Vail of tumbling down the run in his green parka, the nickname "Green Tomato" stuck for years.

Gerry married Kathy Nevius in 1972. Their daughter, Lucy, was born in Denver in 1975. In 1977, they moved



to the Flathead Valley of Montana, making their home in Columbia Falls. Their son,

Jeff, was born in 1978 in Whitefish.

Gerry continued to work as a carpenter for the next 30 years, honing his skills as a finish carpenter. He was well known for his exceptional skills that are apparent in many homes and commercial projects that he worked on.

While living in Montana, he always greatly enjoyed his many hunting excursions. Any game or fowl was not safe when he, his friends and Jeff were on the hunt. He was very involved and excelled with competitive shooting, both pistol and archery, as well as trap shooting. He always looked forward to his annual pig hunting trips to Texas.

In 2001, Gerry married Vonne Stroisch in Kalispell and moved to Vancouver soon thereafter. They made their

home in Battle Ground, Washington, where he maintained a beautiful lawn and awesome garden. His favorite "girls," his dogs, Sugar and Lacy, were always with him and will miss him tremendously.

He learned to fish for salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River, making many dear friends over the years. The "Goudreau B&B" was a popular place each September for the fall salmon run. Company came from all over to fish with the "Godfather of the River."

He especially enjoyed having his grandsons with him to fish. They came every summer from Montana to spend time with Grandpa. They all have wonderful memories of their fishing adventures.

Gerry was preceded in death by his parents, and numerous aunts and uncles.

He is survived by his wife, Vonne, at the family home; daughter, Lucy Dodson, and Troy Williams, and grandsons, Kaden Bradley and Austin and Wyatt Dodson, all of Columbia

Falls; his son, Jeff, and Lindsay Goudreau, and grandchildren, Cove and Greta, all of Columbia Falls; stepdaughters, Theresa Stroisch and Kevin Dingle of Durham North Carolina, and Shauna Stroisch of Sacramento, California; and stepgranddaughter, Jenna Gudgin of Seattle. He is also survived by two sisters, Susan and Jerry Kalagher, and Joyce Goudreau, all of Massachusetts; and his former wife, Kathy Lockhart, of Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to his favorite cause, CCA (SW Washington Coastal Conservation Association) <http://www.ccawashington.org/donate>; or a charity of your choice.

A celebration of life will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 26, at 1079 Hodgson Road, Columbia Falls. Be sure to bring along your best Gerry story! Call 406-862-3206 or 406-250-4570 for directions if needed.

Rest in peace, sweet man — You will always be missed and loved more than words can express.

Joyce Irene Gneiting, 89

Joyce Irene Gneiting, 89, died Friday, Dec. 11, 2015, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She is survived by her children, Nola Cestnik,

Lynne Daniels, Annette Lopez and Scott DeVall.

Services will be held at a later date. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Linda Marie Gragg, 57

Linda passed away Monday, July 27, 2015, after a battle with melanoma. After a two-and-a-half-year struggle, she's out of pain.

Linda loved her family, card making, baking, her dogs and cats, fishing, camping, animals, snorkeling and smiling.

She was a veterinary technician at Calm Animal Care and loved her job.

She was preceded in death by her dad, James Francis, and nephew, Benjamin Ryan.

Linda is survived by her mom, Marilee; husband, Scott, children, Kevin Bradley, Elizabeth Ann, and Holly-Marie and husband Kyle; sister, Jeanne Michelle, and



spouse, Pat; sister, Donna Jo; brother, Kenneth James, and wife, Sarah; brother, Bryan Leo,

and wife, Alisha; brother, Bryce Patrick, and partner, Renee; by her uncle, Mike, and wife, Pat; aunt, Sheila, and husband, Stan; and many loving nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations are accepted at Calm Animal Care, P.O. Box 14, Kila, MT 59920.

A celebration of life will be held Monday, Aug. 3, at the Lawrence Park Pavilion in Kalispell. The service begins at noon.

3 Jan 2015

James 'Jim' Francis Gragg, 79

James "Jim" Francis Gragg passed away peacefully at his home in Kalispell on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015, at the age of 79.

Jim was born Aug. 29, 1935, in Shawnee, Oklahoma, the son of Bryan Sterling Gragg and Lucille (Bolles) Gragg. He grew up in sunny Oceanside, California, and received his Bachelor of Science degree in forestry engineering in 1959 from the University of Montana.

Jim worked for the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation until his retirement in 1992, receiving the Governor's Excellence of Service Award in 1991 and the Forestry Pioneer Award in 2009.

He married Marilee Ellen Connors in 1957. Jim was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He enjoyed woodworking,



sports, and root beer floats. He considered himself a man of few words, but those who knew Jim know he could offer opinions and advice on almost any topic. Jim would ponder projects for hours while offering the advice, "Don't overthink it!"

Jim is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Marilee Gragg, of Kalispell; children, Linda and Scott Roberts, Jeanne Gragg, Donna Gragg, Ken and Sarah Gragg, Bryan and Alisha Gragg, and Bryce and Renee Gragg; cousin, Charlie and Brenda Street; nine grandchildren; and 9.75

visiting with family and friends, gardening, Montana Grizzly, Gonzaga and Flathead Brave

great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and grandson, Benjamin Gragg.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 9, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, 525 Main St., in Kalispell. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Jim's name to the Flathead Valley Community College Forestry Program, 777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, or to the Flathead Valley Animal Shelter, 1035 First Ave. W., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

"We love you bunches and will miss you a thousand times every day!"

Gladys Graham, 91

Early in the morning of Dec. 18, 2015, Gladys Graham of Kalispell peacefully "left this earth to live on forever in her heavenly homeland." This loving and godly woman who was such a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and friend, "is finally seeing the God she loved and served — face to face. She is now reunited with her beloved husband, Marvin and precious daughter, Laura, along with many more of her loved ones who passed before her."

Gladys was born July 27, 1924, in Anaheim, California, to Albert and Eda Smith. She was the first of three children, followed by her sister, Norma and brother, Ray.

After graduating from high school, Gladys went to work at a munitions manufacturing company in Los Angeles which



served to supply the U.S. troops during World War II. It was there she would meet and start dating, Marvin Graham. After a time of separation while Marvin served as a Navy pilot in the European Theatre, the two were married on April 4, 1944, just outside the Naval Air Engineering Station in Lakehurst, New Jersey. They soon returned to southern California where they would spend most of their married life.

While Marvin pursued an engineering degree, which lead to a highly successful career, Gladys devoted herself to giving constant and loving attention to Marvin and their four children,

David, Linda, Christine and Laura. Gladys truly was the consummate wife and mother. She was an amazing caregiver who worked tirelessly to make sure that the physical and spiritual needs of her family were always being met. Besides the contribution she made at home, Gladys was a steady and faithful servant to her church family, service which was born out of a passionate faith. Her precious old Bible, containing countless names and notes, demonstrates that she was a woman of great spiritual depth, one who daily lived in the dimension of prayer.

After retiring in 1981, Marvin and Gladys moved to Bigfork to be closer to their children and grandchildren who had moved to Montana in the early 1970s. Gladys, like her dear Marvin who passed

away in 2000, loved living in the Flathead Valley, and for the rest of her life here she continued to joyfully devote all her energy to serving her God and family.

Countless times, over the years, we would hear her say, "I've sure had a wonderful life." Yes she did have a wonderful life. And, on Dec. 18 — it suddenly got a whole lot better.

Gladys is survived by her son, David Graham and his wife Kathy, daughters, Linda Seymour and her husband Phil, and Christine Daspit and her husband JD; 13 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A family graveside service was conducted at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell on Dec. 22.

James Bruce Graham, 88

Jim passed away on Feb. 24, 2015, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

He was born on March 30, 1926, in Kalispell, to Byron H. Graham and Anna I. Duffy Graham and was raised on the family farm in the LaSalle area, overcoming the Great Depression, but living what he called a happy and carefree childhood.

The summer after graduating from Flathead County High School in 1944, he worked horseback on a U.S. Forest Service trail crew, and then enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps and served as an aerial engineer in the South Pacific.

After the war, he was a sheet metal apprentice in Kalispell, worked on Hungry Horse Dam as a coppersmith, and retired after 35 years of working in the fabrication shop at the Columbia Falls aluminum plant side by side with his twin brother Bob.



(Seaman) of Kalispell; daughter, Colleen, and husband, Clay White, of Helena; grandchildren, Scott Graham and wife

Linda. He is survived by his wife, Ramona; son, Glenn, and wife Shelley; daughters, Cathleen and Mary Beth

Jim married Ramona June Saurey in 1949, and they spent the next 65 years raising their family in Evergreen. Jim raised flower and vegetable gardens, supplying many households with produce. He coached baseball and loved watching his grandchildren play sports. He valued the environment and wildlife, hunted and enjoyed plugging for bull trout from the Flathead River and fly fishing its tributaries for cutthroat. At the horse races during the fair, his favorite place to sit in the grandstands was on the finish line. Perhaps most of all his pursuits, he loved to go huckleberry picking.

Jim was well known for his ability to repair and fabricate all kinds of mechanical and household items. He was politically well-informed, avidly followed the news and had an uncanny ability to recall facts and figures. His sense of humor was wry and perceptive. He was patient, hardworking and generous. He said, "Don't look back, what's done is done, and what's gone is gone."

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Francis and Lawrence; and niece,

Karen, and great-grandchildren, Marlie and Ashlyn of Star, Idaho; grandchildren, Claire Graham, Jamie Graham, Gregory Seaman, Kayla Seaman and Eric Seaman of Kalispell; brothers, Byron Jr. of Fort Worth, Texas, Robert, and Neil and wife Lorraine of Kalispell; and numerous nieces, nephews, and friends.

A memorial gathering for friends and family to share their stories of Jim will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Montana Veterans Home

in Columbia Falls.

Tributes may be sent to the Shriners Hospital for Children, P.O. Box 2472, Spokane, WA 99201.

The family extends its sincere appreciation to the staff at the Montana Veterans Home for their professional and loving care of Jim during the last five months.

To send a note of condolence to the family, please go to www.buffalohillfh.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Kenneth 'Ken' Graham, 91

Kenneth "Ken" Graham, 91, of Whitefish, died Dec. 10, 2015, at home.

He is survived by his wife, Katherine Graham; sons, Monty, Randy, Garreth, Kelvin and Darrel Graham, and daughters, Shirley Eason, LeAnn Quilling, Tammy Graham, Kara Galloway

and Karen Reed.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. A visitation will be 1:30 p.m. prior to the service. Burial will take place following the service at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Linda Mae Graham, 65

Linda Mae Graham, 65, passed away Jan. 5, 2015, in Kalispell. Linda courageously fought cancer for years.

Linda was born in Kalispell on Feb. 5, 1949, a daughter of Robert Graham and Nina Le Sueur.

Linda attended Columbia Falls High School and lived in the Flathead Valley most of her life.

Linda was a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Linda served the Evergreen community as the postmaster of the Evergreen Post Office for 20 years. Linda believed in community service, serving the Evergreen community most recently by volunteering for the Lions Club, the Volunteer Fire Department and at the Outpatient Infusion Center at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. Linda was recently acknowledged by the Evergreen Chamber of Commerce for her service to the Evergreen community.

Linda enjoyed garden-



ing, camping and outdoor activities, especially with her family and friends.

Survivors include her parents, Robert Graham from Kalispell, and Nina Le Sueur from Missoula; sons and daughters, Crystal Stricklin and husband Robert from San Antonio, Texas, Tami Williams of Kalispell, and Jeff Timlick and wife Stephanie of Kalispell; brothers and sisters, Janet and husband Duane Larson of Missoula, Murray and wife Janet Graham of Columbia Falls, and Donna and husband Chuck Beagle of Missoula.

Linda was also blessed with eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Evergreen Lions Club, c/o West One Bank, P.O. Box 7758, Kalispell, MT 59904.

A celebration of her life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, with a potluck reception following at the Moose Lodge in Evergreen, 2158 U.S. 2 East.

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.

Mary Ada Shelley Graham, 79

Mary Ada Shelley Graham, 79, of Libby, died Monday June 28, 2015.

She is survived by her partner, Billy Schikora Jr.; and son, Jim Polette, of Vancouver, Washington.

Visitation will be 1 to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 9, at Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Libby. Mass of the Resurrection will be at 10 a.m. Friday, July 10, at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Our father, Bob Graham, passed away on June 29, 2015, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

Bob was born on March 30, 1926, in Kalispell, to Byron H. Graham and Anna I. Duffy Graham and raised on the family dairy farm in the LaSalle area. He graduated from Flathead County High School in 1944, eventually enlisting in the Army, stationed in Alaska.

After the war, he was a sheet metal apprentice in Conrad, worked on the construction of the Hungry Horse Dam and then started a 35-year career of sheet metal fabrication for the aluminum company in Columbia Falls, side by side with Jim, his twin brother.

Bob married Nina Cole, settling in the LaSalle area where they raised their family as well as cattle on 80 acres. Later he married Dorothy Bowman, living in Kalispell, yet visiting daily the farm he loved. When all the work was caught up he would still visit, if for no other reason than to watch his grazing cattle out in the pasture — a sight he never tired of.

Dad enjoyed the backcountry of the Bob Marshall Wilderness and Glacier Park on horseback as well as hiking the many trails. While fishing the numerous streams and rivers in our area, Dad most enjoyed the pursuit of the west slope cutthroat and Dolly Varden. Tossing a bull trout plug into the Flathead River with the expectation that he would pull in a "big one" was often part of the family's nightly routine during the summers. Later on in life another passion was following the footsteps of Lewis and Clark. He read all of their journals and then set out in his pickup to follow their path throughout Montana and Idaho. All of his children and grandchildren grew up camping and hiking, continuing to carry on his legacy of enjoying the outdoors and appreciating what we have in our Montana backyard.



ing. Dad was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy; daughter, Linda; parents; and brothers, Francis, Lawrence and Jim.

He is survived by his daughter, Janet Larson, and Duane, and their daughters, Lindsey and Abby, of Missoula; his daughter, Donna Beagle, and Chuck, and their sons Michael, Ryan and Jace, of Missoula; his son, Murry Graham, and Jan, of Columbia Falls, and their daughters Katie and Faye, of Missoula; his daughter Linda's family, Crystal Stricklin of San Antonio, Texas, Tami Williams of Kalispell, and Jeff Timlick of Kalispell; and stepdaughter Claudette Biller, and Randy, and her son Don Walters, of Kalispell. He is also survived by his eldest brother Byron Jr. of Fort Worth, Texas, and youngest brother Neil and wife Lorraine of Kalispell; sister-in-law, Ramona Graham, of Kalispell; 18 great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Our dad will be greatly missed and our hope is that he will go on to find a place with huckleberry bushes alongside a beautiful flowing river from which he can pull out yet another record breaking bull trout. Here locally, the bull trout can rest a little bit easier.

When mid-August arrived each year, Dad could be found at the fairgrounds, up in the stands, most likely with a new straw hat on, ready for each and every horse racing event during the county fair. Smiling from ear to ear, it was something he loved, "win some and lose some," either way, he loved horse rac-

A gravesite family gathering will take place at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 2, at Glacier Memorial Gardens, followed by an 11:30 a.m. memorial luncheon at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls for friends and family to come and share their stories of Bob.

Our family extends its most sincere appreciation to the entire staff of the Montana Veterans Home for their professional and devoted care of our father, Robert Graham. He could not have been in better hands. We also wish to thank family and friends who took the time to visit Dad during his stay at the Veterans Home. We appreciate you all.

To send a note of condolence to the family, please go to www.buffalohillfh.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Ethel Jean Purvis Graves, 88

Ethel Jean Purvis Graves was born Sept. 29, 1926, in Bancroft, Idaho, and passed peacefully, surrounded by family, in Kalispell May 13, 2015.

Ethel grew up in the Sun River Valley in Montana, graduating from Simms High School in 1944. She attended the College of Great Falls where she received her Bachelor of Science degree.

She married Richard "Shorty" Graves Oct. 11, 1947, and spent her life teaching, being a farmer's wife and raising her five children only to adopt a sixth when all the children left home.

Ethel loved children and loved to sing. She was active in Delta Kappa Gamma, Sweet Adelines, a member of the Sun River Valley Lions Club and Sun River United Methodist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Mary Purvis; husband, Richard "Shorty" Graves; son, Jim; daughter, Linda Graves Vollrath; and her seven siblings.

She is survived by four children, Richard "Rich" Graves and Susan of Pocatello, Idaho, Jo Ann Graves-Gill and Paul of Kalispell, Ray Graves and Betsy of Renton, Washington, and Bonnie Richardson and Mike of Appleton, Wisconsin; grandchildren, Dylan Graves and Cami, Marissa Church and Ron, Lindsay McClanahan and Kris, Sarah Graves and Zach, Sage Graves,



Elizabeth, Samantha, and Christopher Richardson; sister-in-law, Patricia Swartz-

back; and many nieces and nephews.

Ethel moved to Prestige Assisted Living Center in Kalispell in October 2006 to be closer to her daughter Jo Ann.

We would all like to thank the staff, especially the caregivers from the Memory Care Center for the love and wonderful care they gave to Mom.

Therefore, there will be a service held at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 28, at Prestige Assisted Living, as well as a service at 10 a.m. May 30 at Croxford Funeral Home in Great Falls with a reception to follow at Sun River United Methodist Church, Sun River.

The family request contributions may be given to Good Grief Camp, P.O. Box 9555, Kalispell, MT 59904.

27 Apr 2015

Debbie Ann Green, 63

Debbie Ann Green, 63, passed away on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, at her home in Columbia Falls, surrounded by her family.

Debbie was born Jan. 13, 1952, in Kalispell. She attended Half Moon and Columbia Falls Elementary Schools and graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1970. She obtained her beautician's license from Mr. Lee's beauty school in Spokane, Washington. She was married to John Green for 41 years. Debbie was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed working in her flower beds, fishing, camping, bowling and dancing to country music. She played a huge part in the raising of her grandsons, Brayden Green and Kamden Skonord. Debbie became a great-grandma when Gracie Aleah Green,



daughter of Brayden and Cheryl was born.

Debbie is survived by her husband, John Green,

children, Amber and Danny Green, grandsons Brayden Green and Kamden Skonord; great granddaughter Gracie Green, her sisters, Sue Saurey and children Tara, Carla and Dirk and families; sisters, Jan and Hal Hollo and Matt; and Uncle Jeff Haines of Spokane.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father, Donna (Haines) Prier and Dan E. Saurey.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2015, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Grave-side rites will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Lawrence V. Green, 84

Lawrence V. Green, 84, formerly of Whitefish, died July 12, 2015, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

He is survived by his children, Sylvia Huguley

of Kalispell, Lori Radabah of Coram and Teri Johnson of Whitefish.

A private memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Aug. 31 at 830 Kienas Road in Kalispell.

Emily G. Greenup, 92

"Heaven gained the faithful soul" of Emily Greenup, 92, on Saturday, Nov. 8, 2014.

A memorial service will be 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 18, at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby. The memorial will be preceded by a committal service at 10 a.m. at Mountain View Cemetery in Shelby. Arrangements have been entrusted to Whitted Funeral Chapel, Shelby.

Emily was born Aug. 31, 1922, in Hingham to her immigrant parents, Gunder and Amborg (Standahl) Woldtvedt of Norway.

Living most of her life in Shelby, they remember her as the fun-loving red-head who could be seen caring for her family, supporting the Lutheran Church and working in the community with her younger sister, Ruth Pettigrew.

Emily married the love of her life, Roscoe Greenup, on Aug. 26, 1943, and together they built the family trucking business, had four children and created a legacy of valuing family.

Emily had the type of personality that brought the people around her together for games or for supporting one another during difficult times. Emily loved flowers, she was neat, well-organized, thrifty and always lived below her means, always using God's word as her guide in life, giving faithfully to God's work.

At times, she was the



creative mother, thinking of games to help her children learn their arithmetic; at times

she was a listener, pointing people in the right direction; at a later time in life, she was the grandma that welcomed grandchildren to her home for visits and special chocolates. Most recently she was the great-grandma that held all the tiny great grandbabies.

She especially enjoyed time spent with others when it benefited someone else or an organization such as the quilters group at St. Luke's that crafted hundreds of quilts that were sent to those in need. She often reflected verbally about her family and friends in Shelby who cared and included her in their lives.

Though Emily is no longer here on this earth, her legacy and influence have forever changed us all. Her value for family relationships is continued on in the annual Greenup family reunion that has been held every year since 1976. Her generous spirit continues as we who were touched by her are now honoring her memory with our own actions. We still tell the stories of Emily Greenup, the classy lady with a witty remark and twinkle in her eye.

She is survived by her four children, Robert Greenup of Liberty Lake,

Washington, James Greenup and Donna of Colbert, Washington, Elaine Omdal and Robert of Mead, Washington, and Richard Greenup and Carol of Boise, Idaho; as well as nine grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren; her sister Ruth Pettigrew, and sister-in-law Anna Mae Woldtvedt, both of Shelby.

Emily "joins many of her family members in heaven," her husband, Roscoe; her parents; brothers, Elton, Gordon, Ray and Mike Woldtvedt;

and her grandchildren, Jason and Sara Greenup.

Memorials can be sent to St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 222 2nd Ave. S., Shelby, MT 59474, referencing either the Roscoe and Emily Greenup Educational Fund or the Missions Ministry.

Please visit Emily's online memorial and leave a message of condolence for the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com. You may also read Emily's life history at <http://goo.gl/vxMWSA>.

2 Aug 2015

Linda (Hedge) Greer, 43

Linda (Hedge) Greer, 43, passed away peacefully on July 28, 2015, at the Health Center in Kalispell.

She was born on May 1, 1972, in Kalispell, to Clarence and Donna Hedge.

Linda went to school in Columbia Falls. She lived in Arizona for 15 years before moving back to Montana in 2012. She loved camping and floating with friends. She was an avid bowler and won state awards.

Linda is survived by



her two sons, Jake and Brandon; her husband, Richard Greer; parents, Donna and

Clarence Hedge; several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews as well as her sister, Joy, and brother, Bill.

Cremation has taken place and no formal services are planned.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Linda's family.

Merry Beth Griffith, 66



Merry Beth Griffith, 66, passed away peacefully at her home in Lakeside on Saturday, May 16, 2015, after a truly courageous two-year battle with cancer.

She was born in Somerset, Pennsylvania, in 1949 and spent the majority of her childhood years in nearby Bedford, Pennsylvania, attending local grade and high schools. Merry initially obtained a nursing diploma from the Altoona (Pennsylvania) School of Nursing.

In 1971 she was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force and began a successful 20-year career retiring as a major.

While in the service, Merry obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Kent State University in 1982 and also met her future husband, a Kent State professor of aerospace studies. Merry and Jack Griffith would have celebrated their 33rd anniversary on May 22.

In the U.S. Air Force, Merry held various clinical nurse leadership positions as well as served as a flight nurse on the C-9 Nightingale and C-130 Hercules aircraft in the United States and Turkey, respectively. In 1971, she was part of the stateside welcoming contingent for returning Vietnam

POWs. Merry was stationed in many places throughout her career, including Arizona, Illinois, Maryland, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas, as well as South Korea. Among her military decorations are the Meritorious Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

After her Air Force retirement, she volunteered in the public school system in Scottsdale, Arizona, and served as a tour guide at the Phoenix Zoo.

Merry enjoyed travel and loved to visit her two favorite national parks, Grand Canyon and Glacier National Park. Her other interests were bicycling, hiking, kayaking, and reading. Merry was a dedicated Pittsburgh Steeler and Arizona Diamondbacks fan.

In Lakeside, she was a member of the Lakeside Community Chapel, Lakeside-Somers Community Club, the Book Club, Community Chapel Bible Study Group and the Red Hat Society.

She is survived by her husband, Jack; sons, Christopher, a U.S. Navy corpsman of Great Lakes,

Illinois, and Michael, a pharmacy doctoral candidate of Glendale, Arizona; brother, Robert and Annette Heinemeyer of Phoenix, Arizona; sister-in-law, Judy Griffith Neilson of Mesa, Arizona; several nephews and a niece.

Merry was preceded in death by her parents, Harry and Geraldine Heinemeyer. Merry will receive full military honors at 11 a.m. on Tuesday July 7 at the Western Montana State Veterans cemetery in Missoula. A celebration of life and reception will be held 11 a.m. the following day, Wednesday, July 8, at the Lakeside Community Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, the

family requests memorials to the Lakeside QRU, Northwest Montana Veteran's Food pantry, or the Kalispell Regional Healthcare Foundation Hospice Program.

The family extends its sincere appreciation to the Lakeside Clinic, Lakeside QRU, the various Kalispell Regional healthcare organizations, and the many friends that provided first class, compassionate care and support to Merry during her journey with cancer.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website, www.buffalohillfh.com, to leave notes of support for the family.

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



MERRY BETH GRIFFITH

age 66, passed away May 16, 2015 in Lakeside, Montana. A Full Military Honors ceremony will be held at the Western Montana State Veterans Cemetery in Missoula, Montana on Tuesday July 7, 2015 at 11:00 A.M.

A Celebration of Life service will follow on Wednesday July 8, 2015 at 11:00 A.M. at the Lakeside Community Chapel.

Merry would enjoy you dressing casual for her Celebration of Life.



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

Dorothy Fern (Ballenger) Gress, 86

Dorothy Fern Gress, 86, passed away peacefully on Friday, Sept. 18, 2015, at HealthCenter Northwest of natural causes, with her family by her side.

"Dot" was born as the second of two children on Nov. 13, 1928, to her parents Art and Vera Ballenger in Kalispell.

Dorothy spent her life in Kalispell. In her younger years, she enjoyed employment at Kuscus Candy Store, Woodward's Department Store and at Buttrey's Yardage Center. In later years of employment, Dorothy went on to become a certified nursing assistant, working in Home Health and Hospice.

Dorothy was also an excellent artist and liked to spend her spare time doing activities such as crafting and painting.

Dorothy created a strong lineage of family with 41 direct descendants. She is survived in death by her children, Robert, Mrs. Earl



Darlene Lowery, Charles, David, Beverly and Mrs. Travis (Lisa) Myers; as well as

numerous, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Paul, her brother Arthur Junior, her grandson Colby, and her great-granddaughter Kami.

Dorothy was a strong Christian and it gives her family comfort knowing that she is in the arms of our heavenly Father.

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 25, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, immediately followed by a celebration of her life at the Eagles in Kalispell.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Leslie L. Grigg, 79

Leslie L. Grigg, 79, died in Kalispell Thursday March 5, 2015.

He had been a machinist. He is survived by his wife, Sandy L. Grigg; and children, Kim S. Grigg,

LuAnn L. Grigg, and David E. Grigg.

At his request, no services will be held. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

24 Apr 2015

June R. Grill, 95

June R. Grill, 95, passed away on April 18, 2015, at Beehive Homes in Columbia Falls.

She was born on June 22, 1919, in Hammond, Indiana, to Elmer and Mary L. Regnier. When she was a child the family moved to Joliet, Montana.

June married Theodore Grill on Feb. 24, 1939, in Joliet, where they resided until his death in 1982. She then moved to Billings where she lived until coming to Columbia Falls in 2010.

June was an artist who painted with both oils and watercolors. She was a china painter who created many beau-



tiful china pieces and dolls. She also used her kiln and pottery wheel to make many

beautiful gifts for family and friends. She was an accomplished seamstress who made much of her children's clothing, plus quilts for her children and grandchildren.

When not involved with one of these projects you could find her reading a good mystery. Her travels took her on several cruises. She also traveled to Europe, Hawaii and many of the other 50 states. She was a 4-H

leader for many years and a member of the Joliet Episcopal Church.

She is survived by three daughters, Linette McJunkin of Coupeville, Washington, Diana Cowan and Richard of Kalispell, and Teddie Price of Seeley Lake; and one son, Robert, and Starla of Huson.

She is survived by 13 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren. She is also survived by three sisters, Juanita Spaulding and Patricia Hennen of California and Sharon Frank of Billings; along with several nieces and nephews.

A service will be held

at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 9, at the St. Luke's Episcopal Church located at 119 North 33rd St. in Billings. A private burial will be held on Sunday at the Joliet Cemetery.

A special thanks to the staff of Beehive Homes who have given June such wonderful care these last five years, and to Home Options Hospice for the great care they provided this last month.

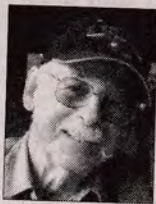
Remembrances can be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Les 'Butlow' L. Grigg, 79

Les "Butlow" L. Grigg, 79, died of renal failure on March 5, 2015, with his wife Sandy by his side at the HealthCenter in Kalispell.

Les loved and lived a full good life. Wherever his travels had taken him, he always returned to his Columbia Falls roots.

Les grew up in Columbia Falls and was the youngest son of George and Florence (Blood) Grigg. He was a true Columbia Falls boy who loved the Flathead. He could be found hunting the North Fork, fishing off the Old Silver Bridge or from the streams of the Hungry Horse Reservoir. Les enlisted in the



Navy and honorably served in the Korean War. After the war, Les started his vast working career. Adventurous and handy with all tools, he worked as a straddle-bug driver at Plum Creek Lumber, an electronic tech for Philco in Greenland, a heavy equipment operator in San Francisco, a field service specialist for Bailey Valve in Oakland, California, a machinist in San

Leandro, California, and finally as an owner/operator of a small firewood business back in Columbia Falls.

Retiring in Columbia Falls, Les spent his free time fishing, hunting, outdoor photography and gardening. He was politically well-informed, followed the news and was an avid reader. He was our family "factoid junkie." His intelligence, witty sense of humor, adventurous outlook of life and his shared love of the family card game "31" will be greatly missed.

Les was preceded in death by his parents; siblings, Emma, David "Bud," Ernie and Vivian;

and a son, Leslie Grigg II.

Les is survived by wife, Sandy Grigg, and these days a lovely blended family — three daughters, Kimi Grigg, Lu Ann Grigg and Sandra Caroompas; son, David Grigg, and wife Sarah; brother, Bill Horak, and wife, Brenda; two sisters, Susie (Grigg) Huggins and Maxine (Horak) Lettman and husband Fred; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held for friends and family in late July in Columbia Falls.

6 Jun 2015

Martha Jean Groenke, 90

Martha Jean Groenke was almost 91 when she peacefully passed "on to our Lord" with grace and dignity, as she always had in her Bigfork home, just two short years after her husband Ted of 65 years, on May 24, 2015. Martha was with her sons, grandsons, and great-grandchildren when she passed.

Martha was a whirlwind of activity around Bigfork, involved in Glacier Symphony, Community Players and the Elves. She was also president of the Junior League of Chicago, founding its Children's Theatre in her early years. She enjoyed all these activities tremendously.

Martha was born in Canton, Ohio, on July 7, 1924, and went to school there. Martha eventually graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, as a physical therapist.

She married Ted Groenke in 1947 after graduation and very soon raised a family and started her "volunteer career." Martha followed Ted in the love of the outdoors, skiing, golfing and watching Flathead Lake from her deck and feeding the birds. She was a regular at Bigfork community functions and particularly loved the Fourth of July parade and taking her invisible dog to hand out



treats on Halloween to the children.

She will be missed by many friends who knew her

good soul.

Martha is survived by three sons, Theodore A. Groenke Jr. "Tad" and wife Jennifer, Frederick J. Groenke "Fritz," of Bigfork and Hans R. Groenke of Desert Air, Washington; grandchildren, Kai Groenke of Kalispell and Kate Maetzold of Whitefish, and Hans Groenke Jr., Karl Groenke and Kase Groenke of Desert Air, Gretchen Groenke Durango, Colorado, and Barbara Manning of Chicago; and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded by her loving husband, Ted Groenke; sister, Joan Jennerjohn, formerly of Madison, Wisconsin; and her parents, Harry and Ruth Gauchat of Canton and Madison.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. July 10 at St. Pat's Church in Ferndale with Pastor Louise officiating and we invite all who knew Martha to a reception following the service at the Bigfork Inn.

Remembrances are welcome for Glacier Symphony Orchestra and Chorale.

Loretta Lillian 'Claridge' Grosswiler, 78

Loretta Lillian "Claridge" Grosswiler, 78, peacefully passed away April 24, 2015.

She was born on Sept. 24, 1936, to Lyman H. and Lillian (Viano) Claridge. Loretta grew up and attended Flathead Valley schools.

On June 15, 1952, she married the love of her life, Richard Grosswiler, and was married to Richard for 60 wonderful years, during which time they raised four children.

Loretta was a super busy lady during her lifetime. In 1972 she was one of the top distributors in the Northwest for Ovation Cosmetics. Then in 1975, she was introduced to Fay Swafford Originals, a line of handbags, garment bags and accessories. She had booths at the Great Falls, Missoula and Kalispell fairs and again, she was one of the top distributors. She had a knack for being a great salesperson, and loved every minute. She could have sold snowballs to an Eskimo. Loretta started her own business in her home, selling handbags, clothing, jewelry and accessories, known as Loretta's Dress Shop. Eventually, her business outgrew her home, and in 1998, she moved her business to Center Street in Kalispell until her retirement in 2006.

During her busy life, Loretta somehow found the time to be heavily involved in the Heart Fund Association. She and Richard belonged to the Eagles Club. Loretta also enjoyed bowling in league, and golfing, especially with Richard in the Friday night mixers at Buffalo Hill Golf Course. She loved working in her yard and always had beautiful flowers around her home.

Loretta was also very involved with her children's, grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's many activities, including football, basketball, track and field, volleyball, base-



ball, band, orchestra, choir concerts, dance recitals and car racing. She and Rich-

ard were always there, sometimes juggling two or three activities the same day. Where did she get all that energy?

Loretta was a very special lady, who really cared about people and would do anything for them. She knew what she wanted and went after it. Loretta left a really great example of what life and love should be. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Loretta was preceded in death by her loving husband, Richard; her parents, Lyman and Lillian Claridge; grandson, Kevin E. Grosswiler; and granddaughter, Melissa D. Grosswiler.

Loretta is survived by son Brian, his wife Micki, their sons, Cody and Douglas Grosswiler; son Scott, his wife Carol, their daughters, Stacie and husband Jason Apple, Sarah and her husband Brent Card, and son Jake and his wife Rebecca Grosswiler; son Joe, his wife Dawn, their sons, Chris Arnold and his wife Katrina, Nolan, Jeremy and Kevin D. Grosswiler; daughter Lonita, her husband Jim Huston, their son Chris, his wife Desiree, son Jeff, daughter LeighAnn, and son Aaron. She is also survived by her sister, Lamona Meyers; and brother, Roger Claridge, and his wife, Deane. Along with her four children and 13 grandchildren, Loretta was also blessed with 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday April 30, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

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

Frank Guay, 87

Frank Guay passed away peacefully early May 29, 2015, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. He was comforted through his final hours by his wife, daughter, son, five grandchildren, and several of his great-grandchildren.

Frank was born in Whitefish on Aug. 5, 1927, to Wilma (Lent) Guay and Frank Guay. He had one sibling, his older sister Betty.

Frank left school during the ninth grade, preferring to get out on his own and start working. He started as a farm hand in the Bigfork area at age 13, hitchhiking between Whitefish and Bigfork to get to work. For a period of time he worked in the railroad round house switching the tracks to direct the train cars. He spent most of the rest of his life working hard to provide for himself and, later in life, for those he cared for.

His resume was long and varied. As a young man he learned carpentry skills from his grandfather, Milo Lent. Milo taught him how to use tools, pay attention to detail, think ahead, and just do good work as they built homes in and around Whitefish. He drove taxis in Kalispell, was a carpenter on the Hungry Horse dam construction project, managed a service station, was a mechanic and service manager at a car

dealership, sold cars, worked in automotive body shops, then went back to carpentry as his own boss building and remodeling any structure made of wood.

He served a term as a Flathead County commissioner in the late 1970s, spent some time as a Realtor, and went back to construction. He even took a shot at harvesting lodgepole pine for fence posts.

Frank taught hunter's safety classes in Kalispell for many years, and was an active member of the Jaycees for several years. He also served on the board of the Evergreen Water District.

In 1950, Frank married Cora Beth Grainger. A year later they greeted their daughter Jean, and a son, Larry followed. Nothing meant more to Frank than his responsibilities to those he cared about. He never stopped teaching and offering guidance, often accompanied by some folksy saying and, maybe, just a touch of sarcasm. His grandchildren can spend hours fondly telling "Grandpa" stories.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents and sister.

He is survived by his wife at the family home; his daughter, Jean Kelly, and her husband Terry; son, Larry, and his wife Rhonda; grandchildren, Brett Kelly and his wife Amy, April (Kelly) Snell

and husband Jerry, Jessica (Guay) Pullman and husband Tyler, Alyssa Guay, and Alexandra Guay and husband Vince; and nine great-grandchildren.

Services will take place at 2 p.m. Wednesday,

June 3, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

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

6 Apr 2015 IPD

Nan C. Guenzler, 79

Nan C. Guenzler "went home to be with her Lord and Savior" on March 24, 2015. Nan passed in the comfort in her home.

She was born on Nov. 8, 1935, in Havre.

Nan was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family. She had many friends, many of which she shared her love of Jesus in worship at the Bethel Chapel.

Nan and Gordon moved to Bigfork in 1963. They began as farmers and later built and operated the North Shore Bowling Center.

Nan is survived by her daughter, Jeanie Heydon, of Kalispell; son, Tim Guenzler, and Carolyn, of Bigfork; daughter, Tammy, and Steve Glendenning, of



Colorado Springs, Colorado; and her grandchildren, Trey Heydon, Zack Guenzler, Jon

Swanson, Victoria, Lara and Brette Guenzler, Cecily and Alec Taylor, and Christian and Caden Glendenning; and her sisters, Bonnie Mutchler and Debi Haines; as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gordon Guenzler; son, Larry Guenzler; father, Merle Haines; mother, Fern Haines; and her brother, Kim Haines.

A celebration of life service will be held at 2 p.m. on June 5 at the Little Brown Church in Bigfork.

26 Feb 2015

Forrest Dale Groshelle-Juntunen, 2

Forrest Dale Groshelle-Juntunen, 2, passed away Feb. 17, 2015, in Kalispell.

Forrest was born June 18, 2012, in Kalispell, to Kyle Groshelle and Takara Juntunen.

Forrest's hobbies were climbing, jumping, smiling and laughing. He loved his beanies, singing to AC/DC, coloring on the walls and cuddling, and he also loved the movie "How to Train



your Dragon." He called his grandma "Grandma" and his grandpa "Grandpa Poo." Forrest

loved his baby ice cream cones from Dairy Queen.

He was preceded in death by his great-grandpa, Art Juntunen.

He is survived by his mother Takara Juntunen, father Kyle Groshelle, and grandparents, Jeremy and Cindy Juntunen, and Roger and Bonnie Groshelle, all of Kalispell; great-grandparents, Darrel and Ardis Christofferson; aunt, Kayla Wonders, and husband, Grant; and uncle, Brett Groshelle.

A celebration of Forrest's life will be held at

10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28, at the Canvas Church in Kalispell.

A fund has been set up at U.S. Bank, Forrest Juntunen Memorial Fund, Account No. 150091779267.

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

To send a note of condolence to the family, please go to www.buffalohillfh.com.

Carol Tommerup Guest, 71

Carol Tommerup Guest "was granted her angel wings" on Jan. 19, 2015, "and is now with our heavenly father." She passed away peacefully and was surrounded by her loving family at home after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

Carol was born Sept. 15, 1943, in Minot, North Dakota, to Clarence and Lil Tommerup. When she was 5, her family moved to Kalispell, where her parents bought a farm in Smith Valley. She attended Boorman Elementary School and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1961. In 1979, after her mother passed, she moved to the farm with her children to continue to ranch with her father. In 2006, after her father passed, she continued on her own to raise cattle and run the family farm until she passed away. Her grandchildren and children were a huge help to her in continuing to farm through her fight with cancer.

Carol was a very hard-working woman and often had several jobs at one time. Over the years she was employed at Guest Photo Art, Job Service, Manions, Long Machinery and Triple W. She had worked at Triple W for the past 26 years. Even with a full-time job she continued to run the farm on her own.

Despite her hard-working careers, she always found time to play and spend time with her family. She was a great cook



and she loved to have family and friends over for a great meal. No matter who came over, she

always welcomed them with open arms. Carol was a busy lady and it was often hard to find a weekend that she didn't have something planned, but that is what kept her healthy and strong.

Carol loved the outdoors. Whether it was hiking, kayaking, camping, building fence, skiing, fishing, traveling or just spending time with family and friends, she never wasted a minute. She lived life to the fullest.

Her passion for hiking allowed her to spend most weekends on a new trail enjoying the beautiful outdoors of Montana, as well as in Canada and many other states. She used to do hikes that took her more than 10 miles in a single day. She always loved when her grandkids would go with her, sharing stories of wildlife encounters and the wonderful things along the way. Carol loved going for a morning ride in her kayak while the waters were calm. She enjoyed going on a quiet afternoon horseback ride with her granddaughters or for a few days in the Bob Marshall.

Carol loved to travel and went many places with her family and friends. She was blessed with the opportunity to go to Africa a few years ago. In the

past year while filling her "bucket list" she went to Hawaii, Victoria, British Columbia, a 4,000-mile road trip to the Oregon Coast to see the lighthouses, Disneyland and Sea World, Hoover Dam, and back East in October to see the fall colors and enjoy the coast of Maine with her children and grandchildren. Carol loved lighthouses and long walks on the sandy beaches.

Carol was active in many groups over the years. She was a member of Boomers, Eastern Star, Jaycees, hiking groups and several other social groups. She established very dear, lifelong friendships and enjoyed playing cards, going to plays, concerts, hiking, kayaking and taking road trips with these wonderful friends. Her favorite concert was George Strait.

Carol was also involved in the community, as she served multiple terms on the Smith Valley School board, was a 4-H leader for many years and was a Big Sister through the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

Carol was the most amazing, loving, giving and spirited mother, grandmother and friend anyone could ever ask for. She was a very strong, independent woman who was always there when anyone needed a hand. Her grandchildren were her pride and joy. She loved going to watch her granddaughters compete in rodeos and O-Mok-Sees, watch basketball games, listen to concerts,

softball games and cheer. No matter the sport, she was always there cheering them on. Her special thing to do with her grandson Levi was having him fly her over the valley and park, and getting an aerial view of the many places she explored over the years.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence and Lil Tommerup; stepmother, Florence Tommerup; and brother, Larry Tommerup.

Carol is survived by her children, Scott Guest and wife Laurie of Battle Ground, Washington, Susan Schmid and husband Shawn of Kalispell, and Sheila Wilson and husband Andy of Kalispell; her beloved grandchildren, Amanda, Levi and Heidi Schmid, Kaylee, Emily and Madison Wilson, and Brittany and Allison Guest; sister-in-law, Dorothy Tommerup, of Arizona; as well as many special nieces, nephews and friends.

Carol was an amazing mother, grandmother, aunt and true friend to all. She will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, with a potluck reception to follow in the basement of the Eagles.

Donations in memory of Carol can be made to the Flathead River Riders Saddle Club, 805 5th Ave. W., Kalispell; or Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Eric Scott Gustafson, 49

Eric Scott Gustafson was born Dec. 22, 1965, in Whitefish to Don and Zoe Gustafson.

He passed away July 28, 2015, at The HealthCenter from multiple sclerosis at the age of 49.

Eric attended 12 years of school in Whitefish, graduating from Whitefish High School in 1984. He then attended Montana State University.

Over his lifetime he worked in Arizona, Hawaii and managed a motel in Chester, Montana, for many years. He enjoyed many hobbies, including skiing on Big Mountain, hunting, fishing and riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle. He always had a smile on his face and a warm heart that everyone enjoyed being around. His sense of humor was the light

that led us through many tough times.

Eric was preceded in death by his father, Don Gustafson, and brother, Gary Gustafson.

He is survived by his mother, Zoe, of Kalispell; his eldest daughter, Harlie Gustafson, of Kalispell, whom he adopted at the age of 1; and his youngest daughter, Sadee Gustafson, of Kalispell. He is also survived by sister, Lori Gustafson, of Sacramento, California; and brother, Tim Gustafson, of Reno, Nevada; and many nieces and nephews.

A family celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

The family is being cared for by Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. To send a note of condolence to the family, please go to www.buffalohillfh.com

Leona 'Donna' Guthrie, 81

On Oct. 14, 2015, Leona "Donna" Guthrie "went to be with the Lord."

Donna was born on May 9, 1934, to Daniel and Jennie Minier near Dushore, Pennsylvania. Donna had 11 brothers and sisters.

She married the love of her life William "Bill" Guthrie on Sept. 3, 1955. To this union five children were born. Bill was in the military and the family traveled and lived in many places including Panama City, Florida, Anchorage, Alaska, and Kalispell. Donna and Bill loved Montana and retired in Kalispell in 1974.

Donna loved the Lord and accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior when she was 25. Donna was very active in her church, Easthaven Baptist Church. The people in her church were like a second family to her. She loved them very much.

Donna was a devoted and loving wife, mom and grandmother. Her daughters, sons-in-law and grandchildren meant the world to her. She also loved her friends. She was known for helping, serving, giving and praying for many.

Her hobbies includ-



ed Bible study, swimming, sewing, crafts, crochet and gardening.

Donna was preceded in death

by her husband Bill, her infant daughter Karen, her parents, and all but three of her siblings.

She is survived by her daughters, Kathy and Virgil Rauch of Wolf Point, Debbie Weaver of Kalispell, Jennie and Bob VanBommel of Exira, Iowa, and Billie and Jim Cumley of Kalispell; grandchildren, Anna Rose, Melissa, Samantha, Connie, Micah, Jonathan, Nathan, James, Geoffrey, Steven and LeeAnne; many great-grandchildren; siblings, Ora Bekker, Florence Dieffenbach and Oliver Minier; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A funeral service in memory and celebration of Donna's life will be held at 11 a.m. today, Oct. 17, at Easthaven Baptist Church in Kalispell. Pastor Daniel Lambert will be officiating. Private burial services are being provided by Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

Edna Yvonne Gwynn, 83

Edna Yvonne Gwynn passed away at the age of 83 at Kalispell Regional Medical Center the evening of Sunday, Sept. 13, 2015. She was surrounded by her family.

Graveside services will be at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22, at the Tobacco Valley Cemetery. A memorial celebration of her life will follow at the RiverStone Family Lodge.

Edna was born in Eureka on June 9, 1932. She lived her early years on Meadow Creek Ranch, Fortine and in the Eureka area. She graduated from Lincoln County High School in 1950. Activities at LCHS included playing basketball, drill team, baton twirling and cheerleading. She also worked at Whithycomb's Rexall Drug Store at the soda fountain and also as a store clerk.

She met the love of her life at the age of 10. She would sit on the fence and throw rocks at Bill so he had to walk the long way around to the fishing hole. Later Bill became her best customer at the soda fountain.

In June of 1950, Edna celebrated her 18th birthday, graduated from Lincoln County High School, and married Bill Gwynn. Together, they had four daughters. They operated a Christmas tree and wreath business for about 60 years where Edna was the bookkeeper and a shrewd business manager. For years, Bill and Edna loved to dance together and created magic on the dance floor. Together they attended many sporting events where they rarely missed a game and, even after Bill passed, Edna continued to support the local activities.



Bill, her daughter Cindy, her brother Robert McKenzie, and her parents Grace and

Johnny.

She is survived by son-in-law Larry Viano, granddaughter Marci Davis and husband Phil, great-grandson Wilbur, and great-granddaughter Roma; grandson Tim Viano and wife Nina, great-grandson Bridger, and great-granddaughter Makenna; daughter Susie McRae; grandson Christopher Hibbert and Bianca, great-granddaughters Risa, Kayla and Haley; granddaughter McKenzie Camp and husband Nick, great-grandson Aaden, and great-granddaughters Zoey and Gracie; grandson Michael McRae; daughter Shelley and husband Tom Shay; grandson Andrew Shay and wife Anna, great-grandson Trent and great-granddaughters Selah and Hattie; granddaughter KaeDee Shay and Jud; and granddaughter Klairee Shay and Tre; daughter Kelley and husband Terry Comstock; granddaughter Tara Patterson and husband Jason, great-grandsons Ty, Cael, Dayne, Nicholas and John Paul, great-granddaughters Emma, Abigail and Rebecca; grandson Telten Comstock and Karra, and great-granddaughter Aria; grandson Cade Comstock and wife Samantha; grandson Colter Comstock and wife Amanda; granddaughter Lisa Unbekannt and Andreas, great-grandsons Ben and Mark. She is also survived by sister-in-law Marilyn McKenzie, brother Hubert McKenzie and wife Bonnie, Tommy Cuffe and wife Carol, brother Mike Cuffe and wife JoAn, sister Becky Vredenburg, and brother Ben Maughn and wife Mel; and many nieces and nephews. She leaves behind her beloved dog and companion Lizzie.

20 Sep 2015

Currently, Edna was on the board of directors for Tobacco Valley Senior Citizens Center, and she regularly attended St. Michael's and All Angels Episcopal Church, where she led prayer services and was church treasurer for 47 years. She was a member of Sundowner's Home Demonstration Club, Bridge Club and Lions Booster Club. When Bill served as a state legislator and his sight was failing, Edna read the bills to him each day.

From the early days of their marriage, Bill and Edna's dinner table always had a chair for anyone passing by, and many young people, grandchildren or friends picked up an afternoon snack or a meal. She was everyone's "Maga."

Edna was preceded in death by her husband

The family would like to publicly thank Eureka Ambulance attendants Rachel Durham, Joyce Suttley and Patty Kincheoloe for their professional and loving attention. The family also wishes to thank the community, family and friends for all of their support and kind words.

Any monetary donations can be made to the St. Michael's and All Angels' Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 342, Eureka, MT 59917.

Michael C. Gwynn, 74

Michael C. Gwynn, 74, died at his home in Eureka on Sunday, May 10, 2015.

He was born on June 20, 1940, to Kenneth and Donna (Sabin) Gwynn in Seward, Alaska. He grew up in Eureka and attended Eureka schools. He graduated from Lincoln County High School in 1959.

Mike was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1959 and served in Germany as well as stateside. He returned to Eureka in 1961 and went to work for Midnight Oil driving a fuel truck. He hauled fuel to many of the small cant mills and logging operations on the Kootenai Forest and also fuel oil to many houses in the valley.

He married Rosemary Torres Oct. 5, 1961, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Mike and Rosemary were later divorced in the early 80s. He was recalled to active duty shortly after he was married. This was during the Berlin Crisis and the Cuban Missile Crisis. He served again for 10 months until August of 1962.

In June, 1962, their son, Butch, was born at Fort Hood, Texas. Shortly after, Mike received an honorable discharge from the Army. He then returned to Eureka and worked for his dad at the Tobacco River Lumber Company. Mike and Rosemary then managed the service station and motel at Ksanka Inn from 1965 to 1971. He then drove truck hauling lumber from Elko, British Columbia, to Eureka until 1977



when he started Gwynn Lumber and Reload Inc. He married Debbie Duvall in 2000 and they divorced in 2002.

At one time Mike was a member of Can-Am Search and Rescue. He owned a bloodhound named Beulah that he used in search and rescue operations and some crime scene investigations. Mike and Beulah working alongside other search and rescue personal found numerous lost people. He enjoyed farming, ranching and flying and raising mules, ostriches and dogs. In his younger years Mike really enjoyed hunting at a camp at Sullivan Creek in the south fork of the Flathead River. Mike, Kenny Peterson, Kent Roose and many others camped there for quite a few years. Kenny still camps there every hunting season. Toward the end of Mike going to hunting camp he became the camp cook which he enjoyed more than hunting. In the mid 70s to mid 80s he really enjoyed occasionally flying and driving rodeo cowboys to many various rodeos across the U.S. and Canada.

He was preceded in death his grandparents; parents; uncle; niece; and sister, Mary Ann.

Survivors include his sons Marvin "Butch"

Gwynn and Barbie and Bobby Pecora and Angela, all of Eureka; his soulmate Julie Rieben, Eureka; sisters Bee Gee Cole and Mike, Eureka; Patsy Ramesz, Whitefish; stepchildren, Orie Roberts and Shainah, Whitefish, Sara Reeder, Columbia Falls, Amanda Reeder and fiancée Quentin Bailey Eureka, Shanel Duvall, Texas, Trish Duvall, Eureka; grandchildren Brea, Paige, Jay, the Pecora children, Lyrik, Laken, Lucas and Laura; one great-grandson, Audie, and one great-granddaughter Zoey and many nieces and nephews.

Mike was known for his short temper and colorful language but was better known for his generous heart. He was always first in line to help out anyone who needed it. He was a loving man, and had a way with children. Children are what put the sparkle in his blue eyes. He will be greatly missed by those who had the honor of getting to know him.

Services will be 3 p.m., Thursday, May 21, at the Riverstone Lodge in Eureka.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.schnackenbergfh.com.

In lieu of flowers Mike asked memorials be made either to the Tobacco Valley Animal Shelter, PO Box 1815, Eureka, MT 59917, or For The Children Inc./Doug Betters Winter Classic, PO Box 21, Whitefish, MT 59937.