

Hazel M. Nau, 93

Hazel M. Nau, 93, died Sept. 14, 2015, surrounded by her family and loved ones. With love and broken hearts we say farewell to our mother — a loving, caring and giving person.

Hazel was born in Albany, Minnesota, on March 15, 1922. After high school she attended beauty school in Minneapolis and during that time she met and married E.C. "Bud" Nau on June 2, 1941; Bud preceded her in death in 1992.

Hazel was a member of St. Matthew's Catholic Church for 64 years. Going to church every Saturday night with one of her children or friends and then to dinner was the "highlight" of her week. God was always part of our mother's life; he was her refuge and strength. Hazel fought the good fight; she finished the race and had kept the faith.

Mom was the proud mother of six sons and three daughters, sons Don and wife Nancy of Eugene, Oregon, Bob and wife Mary Ann of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Tom and wife Annette of Great Falls, Ron and wife Karen of Columbia Falls, Charlie and wife Patty of Missoula, and Kenny and wife Sharon of Kalispell; daughters, Sharon and husband Dewey Coursey of Eureka; Mary and husband Dick Sonju of Kalispell, and Rose and husband Kermit Johnsrud of Kalispell. Her sister Mary Ann Grausam also survives her, along with sisters-in-law Marge Grausam, Anne Whelchel and Ginny Nau.

Mom and Dad left a legacy of over 90 grandchildren. There were many gatherings at our home or

at our cabin on Echo Lake that were loud, full of laughter, storytelling and great homemade food. Everyone always wanted one more helping of mom's special pie, cinnamon rolls, or fresh vegetables from her garden. Mom always was there to listen to anyone's problems without judgment, finding the good in everyone no matter the circumstance. Mom's Christmas Eve party was not one to forget, she always had something special happen on Christmas Eve. Hazel always proclaimed she was a "tough old bird," never to complain about herself or troubles she might have faced.

Some of her favorite memories were times at the cabin on Echo Lake catching fish, dancing and playing cards with family and friends. She also spent many hours caring for her flowers, gardening and sitting on her outside swing marveling at Mother Nature.

The verse by David M. Romano would have been one of Mom's thoughts. "So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart, for every time you think of me I'm right here in your heart."

A visitation will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 18, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 19, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Kalispell.

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

David Allen Nedved, 68

David Allen Nedved, 68, passed away Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at his home from natural causes.

David was born in Mahanomen Minnesota on May 22, 1946 to Ludwig and Maurine Nedved.

David spent his younger years on the family dairy farm. In the early '60s he ventured to Montana to join his two older brothers Gene and Earl. In 1965, he was drafted in the United States Army. In 1966, he married Nonie Reed and they had two children Dan and Michele. He was blessed with a grandson, Casey Nedved, whom he loved and was very proud of.

After David's enlistment he and Nonie moved to Montana, where for a short time he worked for several different logging companies and the railroad before gaining employment at Glacier National Park as a seasonal worker. He ended his 21-year career as the fabricator for G.N.P. maintenance shop. Evidence of David's work is still visible in the park today! Bear traps, many gates and other structures remain in the park today — a point of pride for him and his family.

In 1993, David met Dee Chambers whom he married and gained three stepchildren Deanna, Sean and Kristen; seven grandchildren including Dustin and Kiera Omsburg, to whom he was very close to, and four great-grandchildren including Logan, who he loved to come visit.

After David's career with G.N.P. he dedicated his time to the creation of many fine handcrafted knives, which will be timeless heirlooms for those lucky enough to



receive them.

Throughout David's entire life his love for the great outdoors led him on many adventures from the tallest peaks to

the lowest valleys. There's no place David did not travel by foot in his passion for hunting and fishing. Along his journeys he shared many a campfire with other rugged outdoorsmen including Larry Kickbusch, Dick Bras, Peaball, Tom Parris, Ray Short, Kip Keller, and Tom Gallery.

Preceded in death by his parents Ludwig and Maurine Nedved; his brothers Gene and Earl Nedved, and his special friend Larry Kickbusch.

David is survived by his wife Dee; son Dan; daughter Michele; his grandson Casey; his wife Jamie; stepchildren, Deanna, Sean, and Kristen Omsburg; seven step-grandchildren; four great-grandchildren, and nephews and niece Jim, Mike, Rand, Joy Nedved and their families.

Left behind are special friends, Dick Bras, Ray Short, Lyle Reed, and Ed Rhodes.

A special thank you to Tom Gallery, who was by his side daily during his lengthy illness.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

Family requests that any memorials be sent to Frontier Hospice, 29 Second St., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for David's family.

Doretta Balding (Wagner) Nees, 97

On Thursday, Nov. 12, 2015, at 97 years of age, Doretta died peacefully in her home in Kalispell, from natural causes. She was surrounded by family and friends.

Doretta was born in Mitchell, South Dakota, on Nov. 20, 1917, to Thomas and Panzie Wagner. In 1930, she moved to Kalispell with her family and finished high school there. They resided on her father's farm in the Lower Valley. She met Lawrence Guy Nees in the spring of 1935 at the Nazarene Church in Kalispell. They were married in 1936 and celebrated 67 years together.

During their years together, she worked hand-in-hand with Guy as he served as a pastor, college president, and World Missions Director for the Church of the Nazarene.

She spoke at women's events, led junior high groups, played the piano in ministry and was the consummate hostess. She led the women's Auxiliary Club, raising funds, directing meetings and planning events for the college. She taught Bible studies, had an open door policy and was always eager to help those in need. She traveled with her husband to Africa, India, and many other countries in their service for the Church of the Nazarene.

Doretta was known for many gifts and qualities. She was an excellent seamstress, knitter and artist in many genres. She loved gardening and was a wonderful cook.

Doretta has been described by her children as being gracious, kind, joyful and gentle. Her grandchildren remember her for her unconditional love and consistency. Home always came first in her list of priorities.

Doretta is survived by her four children, Tom and Pat Nees of Arnold, Maryland, Ronald and Ginna Nees of Kalispell, Lois Wagner of Kalispell and Carol Nees and Les Brown of Kalispell. She loved her 13 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and one great-great granddaughter (10 months old). Doretta is also survived by her sisters, Lois Watteyne and Bonnie Cole, both of Kalispell and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lawrence Guy Nees, and her sisters, Marie Lawrence and Darlene Laurin, and brother, George Wagner.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 16, at the Church of the Nazarene in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: Frontier Hospice, 42 Bruyer Way, Kalispell, MT 59901, the Parkinson's Foundation through United Way of Flathead County, 40 Appleway Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901 or to Nazarene World Missions through the Kalispell Church of the Nazarene.

Johnson Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Alice M. Nelson, 91

Alice M. Nelson, 91, of Kalispell, died May 8, 2015, in Kalispell.

A memorial service will be at noon June 1 at

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, Kalispell. A reception will be from 1 to 2 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 405 Liberty St., Kalispell.

13 Jun 2015

Conrad 'Smilie' Nelson, 78

Conrad (Smilie) Nelson, 78, passed away at Brendan House on June 6, 2015.

Conrad was born in Cut Bank to Gilbert and Ida (Sheltie) Nelson on May 12, 1937.

He moved to Columbia Falls after high school where he married Alice Branner on October 13, 1970. Conrad and Alice had two children plus Alice's two children from a previous marriage.

Conrad was employed at Plum Creek until he retired after 32 years.

Conrad also taught little league and was a basketball coach. His hobbies were fishing, hunting, bowling; he also tied flies, played cribbage, and smoking salmon for himself and others.

He is survived by his wife, Alice; stepsons, Tony and Debbie Kelsey of Superior, Ken Kuehl of Medford, Oregon; son



Daniel and Tonya Nelson of Kalispell; Kari Maze of Kalispell; sister Shirley Stevens of Mandan,

North Dakota; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Beverley.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 16, at Columbia Mortuary.

Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

16 May 2015

David Lee Nelson, 79

David Lee Nelson, 79, of Rexford died at home May 12, 2015.

He was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Milton and Ann Nelson on February 10, 1936.

After serving in the Navy, he moved to North Dakota where he met and married his beloved wife Beverly, who died in 1996. In 1969, he moved his family to Montana and went work for the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company. He retired in 1998 and in 2005 moved to Rexford.

He will be greatly missed by his friends and family. He is survived by his children James "Dusty" Oneill



of Rexford, Robb Nelson of Hungary Horse, Cheri Davis and Van of Rexford; three grandchildren, David Watson, Evann Watson, Nicole Nelson and



seven great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

Dorothy H. Nelson, 97

Dorothy H. Nelson, 97, of Eureka, died Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015, at Mountain View Manor in Eureka.

Visitation will be from 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday, Nov.

22, at Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka. Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 23, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Eureka.

Edward H. Nelson, 72

Edward H. Nelson, 72, passed away Jan. 13, 2015, in Tucson, Arizona.

Ed was born Jan. 23, 1942, to Harold and Mildred "Millie" Nelson in Whitefish.

He attended schools in Whitefish and Ferndale, and graduated from Bigfork High School in 1962.

Ed was preceded in death by a brother, Thom-

as; and his mother and father.

He is survived by a sister, Ann Johnson, and her husband, Larry, of Kalispell; his ex-wife and companion, Julie Nelson, and stepdaughter, Robyn, of Tucson; two nieces, Dee Ann Cooper of Kila and Dawn Secord of Columbia Falls; and four grandnephews, all of the Flathead.

John D. 'Desi' Nelson, 71

John D. "Desi" Nelson, 71, died March 27, 2015, at his home in Phoenix with his children at his side.

During World War II, Desi was born in Adelaide, Australia, on April 30, 1943, to Helen and Charles Nelson. In 1945, at the end of the war, his mother brought Desi and his sister Maxine by boat from Australia to the U.S. and went on to live in Whitefish where their dad lived. Des was a Whitefish boy from then on, attending school through high school and working for the railroad in Whitefish and Missoula.

In 1967, Desi served honorably in the U.S. Army with a year tour of duty in Vietnam and was honorably discharged in 1968. He would later receive a full medical disability for his military service.

After his military service, Desi traveled the world, going back to his birth place in Australia and continuing to travel through Asia, ending up in Munich, Germany, where he met and married Eileen Lewendowski. Eventually they would move back to Missoula where Desi worked for Burlington Northern and Montana Rail Link.

Desi and Eileen had their first child, Angie, in July of 1977, and a son, Michael, in 1981, and raised their two children in Lolo. Eileen and Desi divorced in 1994.

He retired medically from the railroad in 1995.

Desi remarried in 1996 to Bonnie Stickney. They then moved to Phoenix where he enjoyed the



desert sun until his passing.

Desi will be remembered by his family and friends for his charm and devious wit. His love of sports and

his great company when it was time to party.

He is survived by his wife Bonnie, grandchildren Bella and William, his loving children Michael and Angie Nelson, and his mother Helen, all living in Phoenix; his sister, Georgia, and Lew McCready, of Whitefish; brother, Chuck Nelson, and wife, Mary Zartman, of Bozeman; sister, Michelle, and Tom Peterson, of Bainbridge Island, Washington.; his wonderful nieces and nephews that he loved so much, Frank Lamb, Darin Lamb, Trena Boyd, Travis Broussou, Stephen and Bryan Peterson; and many relatives in Australia.

He was preceded in death by his father, Charles, and sister, Maxine Lamb.

We hope Desi has reunited with his dad whom he always missed throughout his life.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. July 31 at the Whitefish Cemetery, with a celebration of his life to follow at the VFW in Whitefish.

If you would like to make donations in Des' name, please make them at your local VA or hospice center.

Marjorie Alice Nelson, 91

Marjorie Alice Nelson was born on May 26, 1923, in Fargo, North Dakota, to Randall and Eliza Curry and was raised at the family farm in Hope, North Dakota, where her father was a dryland farmer.

She passed away from natural causes May 8, 2015, comfortably, under the gentle care of Brendan House staff.

She graduated from the school in Hope and then went to a high school/secretarial school in Williston, North Dakota.

After leaving North Dakota, she traveled the western states working as a secretary, an employee of the Bell phone company and the Camelsback Inn in Arizona and a USO volunteer.

She first met her future husband, Richard M. Nelson, at Rocky Mountain National Park. Their paths crossed again in Glacier National Park where he was a gearjammer and she worked at the Lodge. They were married in November 1956 and their only child, Douglas G. Nelson, was born in September 1957. Her husband Richard, who pre-deceased her on Feb. 16, 2012, was a classroom teacher and A/V coordinator at Flathead High School for 35 years. Alice was a wife and mother throughout. She spent many years in the 60s and 70s selling memberships to the Com-



munity Concerts series each year. She earned an Associate of Arts degree

from Flathead Valley Community College in June 1970.

Following their retirement they raised their grandson Douglas J. "D.J." Nelson. They also enjoyed traveling to such places as Machu Pichu, Sweden, Central America, Europe and above the Arctic Circle.

Alice is survived by her son, Douglas G. Nelson of Bigfork; her grandson D.J., his wife Karen and their children, Caleb, Sarah and Peter of Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, Washington; her sister-in-law and her husband in Washington and also six nieces and nephews and their families.

A memorial service will be held at noon June 1 at Johnson-Gloschat Mortuary, 525 Main St., Kalispell. A reception will be held from 1 to 2 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church, 405 Liberty St., Kalispell.

In lieu of cards or flowers please make contributions in her name to Samaritan House, 124 9th Ave. W. Kalispell; the Flathead County Animal Shelter, 225 Cemetery Road., Kalispell, or the Flathead Food Bank, 1203 Hwy 2 W., Kalispell.

Mary Jane Nelsen, 82

Mary Jane Nelsen was born in Scobey, Montana, on Oct. 19, 1932, to Uffe and Dot (Hughes) Nelsen.

She died on Aug. 31, 2015, in the care of Home Options Hospice, Kalispell.

Mary Jane began living with her aunt and uncle, Estella and Edwin Colby, in Fort Benton in 1935 when her mother was ill with cancer. She continued to live with the Colbys after her mother's death in 1936. Mary Jane attended grade school in Fort Benton. In 1944, she moved with the Colbys to Conrad where she graduated from high school in 1950. She attended college in Missoula at Montana State University - now renamed the University of Montana. Mary Jane, who preferred to be called Jary, was a member of Spurs and the Sigma Kappa sorority. She graduated from MSU in 1954, and started teaching high school math and physical education in Warden. She also taught in Whitefish.

In 1961, Mary Jane "Jary" began working for the Girl Scouts of America as an executive director. Her career with the Girl Scouts took her to Olympia, Washington, Albany, New York, Alexandria, Virginia, and New York. A highlight in her life was attending a luncheon where she dined with first lady Nancy Reagan in Washington, D.C. She was hired by the Campfire Girls and worked as an administra-



tor in their offices in Kansas City, Kansas, and Denver.

In 1985 she retired and moved to Lakeside. She was active in a women's investment club known as WAFERS and was considered a very successful investor. She also joined the Lakeside Women's Community Club, and helped to organize their first summer fair fundraiser.

In 2006, due to poor health, Mary Jane "Jary" moved to the Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

A private family grave-site service was held Sept. 14, in Scobey where her ashes were interred in the Nelsen family plot.

Mary Jane "Jary" was preceded in death by her parents, Dot and Uffe Nelsen; stepmother, Getta Nelsen; and sisters, Phyllis Metcalf Discher, Helen Nelsen Briese, Joyce Nelsen Gorder, LaVerna Nelsen Moothart and Doris Jeanne Nelsen. She was also preceded in death by her extended family, Ed and Estella Colby, Jean Colby Spicher, and Irene Colby Bennett.

She is survived by her brother, Robert John Nelsen, of Billings; her sister, Lois Nelsen Hedstrom, of Wilton, North Dakota; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Robert Dale Nelson, 84

Robert Dale Nelson, formerly of Kalispell, passed away peacefully with loved ones by his side on Nov. 17, 2015, at his home in West Jordan, Utah, after a long battle with Alzheimer's.

Bob was born in Cascade, Montana, on May 24, 1931. The Nelson family moved to Great Falls when he was young.

Bob graduated from Great Falls High School in 1949 and joined the Montana Air National Guard in 1950. He attended basic training at Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, and worked full time at the rank of senior master sergeant over all flight operations in the 120th Fighter Squadron in Great Falls. Bob married Geri Linnell on Feb. 9, 1951, and they raised their three children in Great Falls; Pamela Smith and David of Auburn, Washington, Vicky Golie and Michael of Taylorsville, Utah, and Rick Nelson and Dorene of Orem, Utah. The family spent their summer vacations at Swan and Holland Lakes in Montana where they enjoyed boating, fishing, and skiing together. Bob and Geri divorced in 1974.

After retiring from MANG in 1978, Robert became a Realtor/broker and owned ERA Classic Real Estate with his second wife, Ginny Schermele. The couple moved from Great Falls to Bigfork. After divorcing, he moved to Kalispell and continued working in the real estate business. Bob later met Alice "Missy" Creekmore, and on Sept.



27, 1997, they married in the Card-ston, Alberta, temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They

resided in Kalispell until September 2014, when they moved to Utah to be near family. For more than 18 years Bob and Missy spent each winter in their home in Yuma, Arizona.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, John A. Nelson Jr. and Vera Wilcox Nelson; and siblings, Lovell, Bruce, Ruth (Miller), Lee, Verda (Jenson) and Joyce (McMaster).

Bob and Missy's lives were blessed by his three children and Missy's sons, Brett Creekmore of Kenai, Alaska and

Shane Creekmore (Jason Bolinder) of West Jordan. The two have 13 amazing grandchildren, Dustin, the late Aimee, Sunny, Tia, Brenna, Emiley, Cassey, Seth, Meisha, Joshua, and Jarom, Jeremy Lee and Joshua Taylor, plus 18 precious great grandchildren. The legacy Bob leaves behind is his unconditional love, dedication, and devotion to his wife, children, extended family, and friends throughout his entire life. His fun-loving, gentle nature, the "always-positive-never-complaining" attitude, and his fierce patriotism will be forever cherished in the hearts of all those who have known and loved him.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 4 at the LDS Chapel 8435 S. 2700 W., West Jordan, Utah. Bob's final resting place will be at the Veteran's Memorial Cemetery 17111 S. 1700 W., Riverton, Utah.

Van Kirke Nelson, 83

Dr. Van Kirke Nelson passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, April 18, 2015, surrounded by his family.

In April, 53 years ago, Kirke, Helen, two toddlers and an infant drove into the Flathead Valley in a 1957 Borgward station wagon and an old Pabst Blue Ribbon beer truck with \$500 and a few possessions, and took up temporary residence in the Blue and White Motel to begin their new life. It wasn't long until they moved into a cozy two bedroom house near Lawrence Park and Kirke opened his practice as the first ob-gyn specialist in the Flathead Valley. He was soon busy delivering babies and helping Helen raise their family who had grown to five rambunctious towheads.

Van Kirke Nelson was born in Ottumwa, Iowa, on June 18, 1931, the only child of Harold and Sara (Van BusKirk) Nelson. They moved to Los Angeles where, shortly after, his mother died of tuberculosis. Harold was remarried to Winifred, Kirke's stepmother, several years later.

After high school, Kirke went on to East Los Angeles Junior College, then to the University of Southern California where he completed his bachelor's degree and obtained his medical degree. During his senior year in medical school he met his sweetheart, Helen, a Canadian nurse working at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. Kirke and Helen were married on Feb. 21, 1958, in Santa Barbara, California. Before setting up a practice in Kalispell at the Buffalo Block in 1962, he worked as the emergency doctor for the Pasadena Police Department and subsequently for the Kalispell Hospital.



and a way to put it in motion. Later in life, he found a great interest in sitting on the

Glacier Bank board and serving on the Kalispell Regional Hospital board as well.

When Kirke wasn't practicing medicine, he was pursuing his other great passion — collecting Western art, artifacts and what he liked to call "keen things." He began collecting while still in medical school and it became a family affair with dinner conversations and family vacations often centered around the history, beauty or cultural significance of a new discovery and wall space. He was active in the work of the Montana Historical Society and the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls. He was a true friend of artists and potters as well.

Kirke lived his faith in a gentle and sure way. He felt God's presence in his life and tried to live each day showing Christ's love and kindness to others. Through the years, Kirke has been recognized for his many accomplishments and contributions to the community but his true humanity was witnessed in his common, everyday interactions with others. At any given moment, he had a way of making you feel like you were the most important person in the world to him because you were. All of us are the recipients of his thoughtfulness, godliness, intelligence and gentleness. Everyone who knew him has a story, whether of a simple act of kindness, of good humor, or of generosity. These are the stories he would like us to share with each other and remember him by.

Over the course of his medical career, he performed countless surgical operations and delivered approximately 7,500 babies. With his family, he volunteered for Project Hope on the Navajo Reservation in 1971. Kirke served on the board of the Montana Medical Association and the Board of Medical Examiners for many years.

Kirke loved the Montana outdoors. He was an inveterate bird hunter, heading to the hospital many fall mornings in his hunting garb in order to bag a few ducks, geese or pheasants at first light before work, or hunting on the weekends with his children. During the winter, you could find him skiing with his family, his pager tucked in his jacket.

Kirke was an entrepreneur at heart — a dreamer and a doer. Whether it involved dredging an old tour boat off the bottom of the lake and refurbishing it as the Far West, building the Kalispell Medical Arts building, working to establish the ALERT helicopter as part of the Flathead Valley's medical mission, helping found the Outpatient Surgical Center, opening Glacier Gallery or putting on community art shows with the Hockaday Museum of Art, Kirke always had an idea up his sleeve

He was his wife's and children's biggest fan and was unwavering in his support and prayers for their many adventures. He will be forever remembered by his wife, Helen, and their five children and their families, Greg Nelson and wife Gina, and children, Vale, Forest, and Echo and husband Brian; Julie Mitchell and husband Doug, and children, Garrett and Andrew; Kathy Nelson and husband Chris Sauv , and children, Emma and Julia; Nancy Maxwell and children, Sierra, Jandi and Hanna; and Doug Nelson and wife Karen, and children, Michelle, Jessica, Weston, Rachel and Lauren.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Kirke's memory can be made to any of the following organizations which were dear to his heart: ALERT, the Flathead Food Bank, the Hockaday Museum of Art, Flathead Valley Community College Nursing, or Kidsports.

Friends and family are invited to attend a memorial reception from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, May 17, at the Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp south of Lake-side on Lutheran Camp Road. Casual, outdoor attire. Parking is limited so please try to carpool.

Dr. Nelson and widow honored by museum

The C.M. Russell Museum gave Helen and the late Dr. Van Kirke Nelson of Kalispell the prestigious Josephine Trigg Award at a private dinner ceremony in Great Falls on May 14.

The Josephine Trigg Award is the museum's highest award. Van Kirke Nelson, a longtime Kalispell physician and art collector, died at age 83 on April 18.

The award is presented for dedicated and outstanding contributions in preserving the memory and works of Charles M. Russell and for significant support toward the growth and success of the C.M. Russell Museum.

Helen Nelson accepted the award at the C.M. Russell Museum with many family members present.

NELSON Continued from A1

"The Nelsons' tremendous support for the C.M. Russell Museum has remained constant over the past 46 years," Museum Executive Director Michael Duchemin said.

"Their generous relationship with the museum is highlighted by dozens of donations of artworks and artifacts, including

works by C.M. Russell, Edward Borein, Earle Erik Heikka and Joe DeYong."

The Nelsons showed a special interest in the conservation of the Russell Home and Studio, and they supported the "Trails to the Future" campaign with a major gift to expand the museum in 1997.

Van Kirke Nelson started collecting Western art and Americana around the time that he and Helen married in the mid-1950s.

Nelson's passion for "The West in Paint and Bronze" grew when he moved his young family to Montana in 1962. He specialized as an obstetrician-gynecologist operating out of Kalispell, delivering 7,000 babies over the next 52 years.

As his medical practice grew, Nelson parlayed his success into a second business, opening Glacier Gallery in 1969.

Glacier Gallery specialized in fine works by noteworthy Western artists of the 19th and 20th centuries; Native American artifacts, pottery and

weavings; rare books and photographs; and contemporary Montana artists with an emphasis on Glacier National Park.

From the beginning of his life as a collector,

Nelson threw his support behind the C.M. Russell Art Auction, serving as a consignee or exhibitor for the very first

'The museum has benefited immeasurably from his good governance, relentless optimism and generous spirit.'

Michael Duchemin

auction event in 1969.

He joined the National Advisory Board of the C.M. Russell Museum in 2005 and the Trigg-C.M. Russell Museum Foundation Board in 2010.

"The museum has benefited immeasurably from his good governance, relentless optimism and generous spirit. His legacy will be carried on," Duchemin said.

Josephine Trigg was a good friend and neighbor of Charlie and Nancy Russell. At the time of her death in 1951, she willed her extensive personal collection of Russell art, letters and sculptures to the establishment of a Russell museum.

The C.M. Russell Gallery opened to the public in 1953.

The mission of the C.M. Russell Museum is to collect, preserve, research, interpret and educate on the art and life of Charles M. Russell; the art and lives of his contemporaries; and the art of preceding and ensuing generations that depicts and focuses on the culture, life and country of Russell's West.

VAN KIRKE NELSON

Beloved doctor dies at 83

By LYNNETTE HINTZE
The Daily Inter Lake

Dr. Van Kirke Nelson, a pioneer of the ALERT air ambulance service and longtime obstetrician-gynecologist who



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delivered well over 7,000 babies during his medical career in Kalispell, died Saturday at age 83.

Nelson was among a determined corps of medical professionals who did whatever it took to handle emergency medical calls in Northwest Montana before ALERT was founded in 1975.

He was a charter member of the ALERT board and served for 37 years before stepping down two years ago.

"He was probably the most amazing man I've ever known," Dr. Jack Davis said.

In addition to ALERT, Davis pointed out that Nelson was instrumental in building the Kalispell Medical Arts Building

(the first medical building on Buffalo Hill) and HealthCenter Northwest.

"Kirke has always been sort of a godfather," said Davis, who has known Nelson since 1971. "He's the guy that would arrange everything."

During the annual ALERT banquet planned Saturday at the Flathead County Fairgrounds, a special memorial remembrance will be given for both Nelson and Ted Parod, another local emergency air-rescue pioneer who died last September.

ALERT Advisory Board Chairman Bob Sandman said Nelson's commitment to the ALERT program was "just one small example" of his dedication to medical service.

"People that are in that profession give their lives to help others," Sandman said. "His commitment was an obvious demonstration of taking time from what little free time he had" to make sure ALERT succeeded.

Dr. John Van Arendonk, medical director for ALERT, said Nelson "was always there" for whatever he could do to help.

"Going back to the very beginning, he was always supportive of the air-ambulance program," Van Arendonk said.

In a 2013 interview with the Daily Inter Lake, Nelson recalled how pilots Hank Galpin and Ted Parod would land their helicopter in Nelson's front yard or at the old Kalispell hospital to pick him up for an air rescue. Galpin and Parod flew for ALERT before Kalispell Regional Hospital got its own helicopter.

DOCTOR Continued from A1

It was a pivotal rescue in the South Fork drainage that led to the creation of the Advanced Life-support Emergency Rescue Team, today known simply as ALERT. A 26-year-old logger was working alongside his father in the remote reaches of the Hungry Horse area when he was badly injured.

A helicopter was in the area, assigned to a Forest Service project. It was available but by no means equipped for a rescue in the wilderness. Nevertheless, the chopper was the only hope for a rescue, so using a wire basket dangling from the aircraft, they flew the young man out, Nelson recalled in 2013. However, he couldn't be treated en route to the hospital and died.

Loggers then rallied the medical community to establish an air ambulance service.

In 1975, air ambulance services were rare. When ALERT formed, there was only one urban hospital-based helicopter advanced life support system, based in Denver.

ALERT was the first rural air service.

Kalispell Regional Healthcare Foundation Director Tagen Vine said Nelson has been a generous donor to ALERT and other hospital programs through the years.

"He was generous with both his time and resources," Vine said. "This hospital wouldn't be what it is today without his vision."

Nelson and his wife, Helen, and their young family moved to the Flathead Valley in 1962 and

he opened his Kalispell practice as the first OB-GYN in the area. Through the years, his service to the Flathead Valley extended well beyond his work with ALERT.

With his family, he volunteered for Project Hope on the Navajo Reservation in 1971. He served on the Montana Medical Association board and the Board of Medical Examiners for many years. He also served on the board of directors for Glacier Bank and Kalispell Regional Hospital.

Davis also credited Nelson with initiating the first transportation of obstetrical patients from Browning and establishing specialty medical care on Buffalo Hill before the hospital was built there.

Davis described Nelson as "the single most innovative leader" he has known, but noted that "he still had that gracious caring for everybody, as does Helen."

Beyond practicing medicine, Nelson's other great passion was collecting Western art. He helped start the fine art auctions that have become a main event at the annual ALERT fundraising banquets.

Art shows at the Hockaday Museum of Art have featured the Nelsons' collection through the years. He was active in the Montana Historical Society and the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls.

A memorial reception for family and friends is planned from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 17, at Flathead Lutheran Camp south of Lakeside. A full obituary will be published in Thursday's Inter Lake.

Gordon Gilman Nesten, 86

Gordon Gilman Nesten, 86, passed away peacefully Sept. 13, 2015, surrounded by his loving children, due to complications of pneumonia at the Brendan House.

Gordon was born on June 10, 1929, to Clair Gilman and Gladys Mae (McHenry) Nesten, in New Westminster, British Columbia, where his parents were farming. He joined sisters Wilma "Mody" and Alma "Jony" and one year later, his "baby sis," Wanita "Nita" joined the family. Due to difficult times, he went to live with relatives Jake and Izy Reimers and family of Ronan. After his parents' divorce, Gladys married James Harbin and little brother Frank joined the family.

In 1945, while living in Tacoma, Washington, Gordon had to get his mother's permission to join the U.S. Army Transport Service at the age of 16. He worked on the ships Sierra and Silverado. He then joined the U.S. Navy in 1950. Gordon served his nation with courage and distinction during the Korean War aboard the aircraft carrier USS Bon Homme Richard "Bonny Dick," being honorably discharged in 1954.

Gordon married the love of his life, Sue Ann Burnside, on Dec. 13, 1958. Gordon then attended the Coyne Electrical School in Chicago. After finishing school, Gordon and Sue lived in Eastern Montana while Gordon completed his electrical apprenticeship and began their family. Their daughter Hope was born in Culbertson, and twins Bobby and Billy were born in Glasgow. After moving back to Kalispell in 1963, Gordon and Sue would be blessed with another son, Rob.

Gordon began his electrical career with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 768, recently being awarded his 55-year membership pin. His work took him all over the Northwest. Locally, he worked at the Colum-



bia Falls Aluminum Plant and the Libby Dam, with a career

spanning 32 years. Gordon retired in 1991, longing to return to the homeplace he spent a lifetime creating. Gordon and Sue, with the help of family and friends, built their home in Evergreen and raised their family there. Their home became the "go to" place for all family gatherings. Gordon and Sue were blessed with five grandchildren, Travis, Justin, Calen, Kelsey and Shannon Ann.

Gordon and Sue and sons spent several successful hunting seasons in Eastern Montana with family and friends, creating memories to last a lifetime.

On June 28, 2010, Gordon's loving wife took half of his heart with her passing. The love of his children, grandchildren and extended family aided him through this difficult time. The birth of his two great-grandsons, Jason and Brody, brought pride, joy and pleasure back into his life.

Gordon was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 51 years, Sue Ann, and his precious infant son, Bobby James, his parents, and sisters Mody and Jony, and numerous family and friends, too many to name.

Gordon leaves behind his daughter, Hope Horstman, her children, Travis and Jessica and their son Brody, Justin and Amber and their son Jason, and Shannon Ann and the children's father Jack Horstman; sons, Billy Nesten, and Kim and Rob Nesten and his children Calen and Kelsey and their mother, Kelly Pisk Nesten; his sister, Nita Wiggins; and brother, Frank Harbin; sisters-in-law, Gay Rose, Hazel Stefanatz and Marie Burn-

side, and brother-in-law, Bill Collier; and numerous nieces and nephews and friends.

Gordon was a loving husband for 51 years and loyal until his passing. He was a loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, and friend to all he met. Gordon's love of family could never be measured. The impact of his work ethic and generous spirit will be his legacy and carried on for generations.

Gordon's family would like to thank the wonderful and caring staff of the Forest Pod at the Brendan House and Home Options for the loving care given to their father.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, with the viewing beginning at 9 a.m. at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. Gordon

will be laid to rest with full military honors at Glacier Memorial Gardens following the memorial service. A luncheon will be held at the Moose Lodge in Evergreen where Gordon and Sue were lifetime members.

15 Sep 2015

Bess (Rogers) Neufeld, 92

Bess (Rogers) Neufeld of Kalispell, passed away on Sept. 27, 2015, at Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Bess was born on Jan. 7, 1923, in Glasgow, the daughter of Asa and Isabel Rogers. She attended school in Glasgow and graduated from Glasgow High in 1942. That same year, after graduation, she married her high school sweetheart, Arthur Neufeld. They raised two children, a daughter and a son.

For a few years they lived on a farm north of Glasgow. They later left the farm and eventually moved to Kalispell. Bess worked for several years as a bookkeeper for her husband's busy construction business. Bess loved to be around people. Her cheerful nature often brought smiles and happiness to others. She and Art put in many years of



volunteer work in nursing homes.

She found much joy in music and strum-

ming her guitar; everyone enjoyed having her sing and yodel, especially her rendition of Patsy Montana's "Cowboy Sweetheart."

Bess had a strong faith in the Lord and loved sharing her faith with others.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Arthur; and her son, Allan; also her parents; and one sister, Jean Kurus.

She is survived by her daughter, Carol and husband Don Counsell, one grandson, Tim Stocklin and wife Andrea, and two great-grandchildren,

Parker and Peyton, all of Kalispell. She also leaves behind her nieces, Leslie Maxey of Sandpoint, Idaho, and Sarah Lee and daughter, Molly of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and many more nieces and nephews.

The family is grateful and appreciative of the loving care Bess received at Buffalo Hill Terrace and at Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Visitation for Bess will be from 3 to 5 p.m. today, Sept. 30, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. She will be laid to rest at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 1, at Glacier Memorial Gardens. A memorial service to celebrate Bess's life will be held at 1 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, at Buffalo Hill Terrace with

Pastor Robert Ross officiating. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the Neufeld family.

Nick Neumann, 62

Nick Neumann, 62, formerly of Kalispell, died Nov. 14, 2015, in Livingston.

He is survived by

his sons, Brad, Loren and Paul; their mother, Connie Neumann; and his mother, Maxine Von Wald.

Randolf K. Nigg, 53

Randolf K. Nigg, 53, of Kalispell died Saturday, Sept. 26, 2015, at his home in Kalispell.

A memorial service

will be at 10 a.m. Oct. 6 at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, with urnside service at 11 a.m. at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Randy Nigg, 53

Randy Nigg, 53, born March 15, 1962, in Kalispell, passed away Sept. 25, 2015 in Kalispell.

Randy was an avid NASCAR and sports fan. He also had a great love for all animals.

Randy will be greatly missed by friends and family. Randy leaves behind his father, Vern Nigg; brother, Kelly

Nigg, and many other relatives.

A memorial service will be held for Randy at 10am on Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2015, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory. A celebration of his life will follow, time and location to be determined.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the Nigg family.

Nona Delores Paul Nichols, 84

Nona Delores Paul Nichols passed away Feb. 25, 2015, in Yakima, Washington.

She was born July 25, 1930, to George and Bertha Paul of rural Bigfork. She grew up on her family's diversified dairy farm near Bigfork and attended Bigfork public schools. She was an active student, holding class and school-wide leadership positions and playing trumpet in the high school's marching band.

Nona attended the University of Montana in Missoula where she was part of the marching band and Alpha Phi sorority. She earned her degree in business education. She and a group of friends worked in the Wyoming oil boom and she eventually returned to Bigfork to teach in the public schools and assist her parents on the farm.

Nona married her high school sweetheart, James Harold Nichols, in 1957, first via radio while he was stationed overseas, and later, face-to-face, back in Bigfork. She and Jim farmed with her parents and later moved to the Washington, D.C., area, where Jim worked for the National Security Agency, and Nona taught high school business, in Washington D.C., and at Laurel Senior High School in Laurel, Maryland, where she was voted Teacher of the Year. She completed a master's degree from the University of Maryland, and her coursework for a Ph.D. in economics.

Nona and Jim moved back west to the Yakima Valley, Washington, in the 1970s, settling in rural Naches. At mid-life, she studied for and passed the CPA exam, which led to her work as chief financial officer for El Ranchito restaurant and tortilla factory in Zillah, Washington, from which she retired.



Nona was an active member of the Naches Presbyterian Church, serving numerous terms as

elder and treasurer for the congregation. She enjoyed sewing, gardening, the outdoors, her dogs, professional sports (especially baseball) and staying abreast of current events. Her passions in life included her investments, her work, grandchildren's sporting events, music concerts and dance recitals, her church, and her family. In her retirement, she enjoyed traveling with the family making many trips to Montana, South Dakota, and special trips to England, France and Italy.

Nona was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Stanley; and her husband.

She is survived by her two sons Clifford Paul and Patty of Toppenish, Washington, and Timothy John and Laurie of Brookings, South Dakota; grandchildren, Paul, Lauren, Luke, Jordan and Hannah; and cousin Judith Ann Paul, of Corvallis.

Funeral services were held March 1 at Peace of Christ Church in Naches. Burial will be held at a later date at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. To share a memory, visit www.keithandkeith.com

Carol Lynn Nicholson, 62

Carol Lynn Nicholson, 62, was born in Jeffersonville, Indiana, on July 8, 1952, the only child to parents Melvin A. "Nick" and Grace (Sommerville) Nicholson. Early in life she found sports, beginning with bowling on a Saturday morning league at the age of 8, playing summer league softball before her high school years, and powderpuff football as a junior in high school. After graduating from Clarksville High School in 1970, she raced stock cars for two summers at the local track there in Jeffersonville.

She began visiting family in North Pole, Alaska, in the 1970s and in 1981 she made a permanent change of address. Among other jobs there, Carol spent 13 years working for the Bureau of Land Management. While living in Alaska, she enjoyed fishing for halibut and salmon. She also became involved with National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), an advocacy group for federal workers. She served as chapter president of the Fairbanks Alaska Chapter and as vice president of the Alaska State Federation. After moving to Montana in 2001, she served as the Montana State Federation secretary.



activities. Carol's favorite place to fish was Middle Thompson Lake for perch.

Carol was diagnosed with cancer in July 2008 and her will to live was obvious in that she defied the odds and lived much longer than ever expected.

She passed away on May 1, 2015, at her home.

Carol was a Baptist and a member of the Culbertson Baptist Church in New Albany, Indiana.

As per Carol's wishes, her ashes will be buried next to her father at Kraft Graceland Cemetery in New Albany at a later date. A memorial plaque will be placed in the Gebo Cemetery in Fromberg, Montana, where her husband, Billy, will be interned next to his first wife, Marianne.

Carol was predeceased by her father, Melvin A. "Nick" Nicholson; her grandparents, Edgar L. and Hazel A. Nicholson of New Albany, Indiana, and Harold and Phyllis Sommerville of Clarksville, Indiana.

5 May 2015

While still living in Alaska, she became interested in genealogy when a friend challenged her to trace her family roots back to the American Revolution, to establish her membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). From that point on, Carol was very involved with family history research. She volunteered her time at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' Family History Center in Kalispell and on a national website (findagrave.com) to photograph cemeteries in Flathead County. She had spent countless hours researching gravesites for the Montana Veterans Home Cemetery and requesting markers for those who are buried there without markers. And in her effort to provide pictures of markers to loved ones who live in other parts of the country, she visited findagrave.com before she traveled somewhere, to see if anyone was looking for a picture of a grave marker in the area in which she was planning to visit.

Already being a member of DAR, Carol was the organizing regent of Bird Woman Falls Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) in Columbia Falls in 2007, an accomplishment she was quite proud of, even if she did so kicking and screaming. The ladies that she and daughter, Tracy, met were wonderful and Carol quickly gained new friends.

Carol and Billy were married in 1994 in Fairbanks, Alaska, and moved to Kalispell in 2001 to be nearer family. Since moving to Kalispell, they have enjoyed camping and fishing, when they weren't tied up with their other

Carol leaves behind her husband of 20 plus years, Billy E. Butts, of Columbia Falls; mother and stepfather, Grace and F.D. "Brad" Bratager; of Kalispell; and stepsister, Durene Morgan, of Michigan; daughter, Tracy Morsching, and husband, Brian, of Kalispell; and grandchildren, Emily and husband Zane Flint, Nick and Brianna; and her great-granddaughter, Aubry Nicholson, born in March 2014. Carol also leaves her stepchildren, Jeanie Heron and Marty of Montana, Christina Baker of Washington, Greg Butts and Karla of Montana, Susan Boyer and Doug of Utah, and Richard Butts of Washington. She leaves her stepgrandchildren, Connie, Mike, Megan, Tim, Catherine, Katelyn, Douglas, Benjamin and Taryn; and stepgreat-grandchildren, Kyla, Quinton, Camilla, Liam, Elizabeth, Josh, Mariah and Gabriel.

There will be a memorial service held for Carol at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 9, at Columbia Mortuary.

In lieu of flowers, the family ask that donations be made to Carol L. Nicholson Page Fund c/o Dorothy Oliveria 365 Brookfield Drive, Helena, MT 59602 to help DAR pages attend state conferences.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Carol's family.

Thomas Henry Nonemacher, 69

Thomas Henry Nonemacher, 69, of Kalispell, Montana, passed away at his home on Friday, November 6th. His death concluded decades of pain and health issues following spinal chord injuries that altered his life as a young man. Tom overcame many daunting challenges by appreciating the joys of everyday life and through a devout belief in the Catholic Church.

Tom was born in Southington, Connecticut, and he was a proud New Englander. Starting at a young age, Tom's love of farming was clear and it helped him through the loss of his mother during childhood. In particular, Tom loved dairy farming and started his own farms in Vermont, Wisconsin, and Montana. He was happiest tending to the animals he loved.

As a teenager, he was a leader with Future Farmer's of America (FFA). He also played basketball, and passed his skills on the court to several of his sons.



Second only to farming, Tom was a storyteller who loved to make people laugh.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Alice Nonemacher, father, Henry Nonemacher, stepmother, Angeline Nonemacher, and sister, Joan LaBuda.

Tom is survived by his wife of 42 years, Micki; his eight children, Thomas Jr., Christopher, Stephen, Matthew, Darcy, Jacob, John and Michael and their spouses; a multitude of grandchildren; his sister Judy Smith; brother-in-law Roland Smith; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at St. Matthew's church in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to be made to St. Matthew's Parish, 602 S. Main St., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Susan Gail (Caudill) Nutter, 57

Susan Gail (Caudill) Nutter, of Columbia Falls, passed away peacefully on Oct. 21, 2015, at the age of 57, after a long battle with cancer.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lucille and Clarence Caudill, her brother Frank Caudill, and her husband Harold "Buck" Nutter.

Susan is survived by her only son, Douglas J. Nelson, his wife Karen Nelson, her grandchildren, Caleb, Sarah, Peter and another granddaughter on her way. She is also survived by her siblings and their spouses, Virginia and Kevin Botchek, Gloria and Rob Buhmann, Donna and Brian Miller, Oscar and Anita Caudill, Frank's widow Maggie Caudill, and Susan's numerous nieces and nephew.



Susan was beloved by all of her friends and family for her generous nature, her

kind heart and her love of life. She had an amazing, positive outlook towards life and brought people together through her love and friendship.

Susan loved her garden, woodworking, art and crafts, and spent many years creating beautiful pieces for her friends and family. She is greatly missed by all who knew her.

Susan did not wish to have a funeral. Her family had a small gathering in remembrance of her at her parents' gravesites. At this time, no life celebration has been planned.

16 Jun 2015

Charles Calvin 'Cal' Noble, 83

Charles Calvin "Cal" Noble, 83, a longtime Libby resident, died Wednesday, April 22, 2015, in Anchorage, Alaska, of natural causes.

Services for Cal will be

11 a.m. Thursday, April 30, at Libby Christian Church, 100 Kootenai River Road.

Arrangements are under the care of Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home of Libby.

Charles "Chuck" Norick, 77

Charles "Chuck" Norick, 77, died Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015, at his residence in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, Mariann, and children, Shawn, Shelly, Skyler, Storm, Shantell, Sterling, Walter and Barbara.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 6, at the Church of the Nazarene on Whitefish Stage Road in Kalispell.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Daphne A. Simonson Noa, 46

Please join us in celebrating the life of Daphne A. Simonson Noa at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 20, at the Woods Bay Recreation Park/Boat Launch.

Daphne's sweet spirit has touched many lives through the years and she was very loved by those who knew her. She was well known for her "Random Daphne Thoughts."

Daphne passed away on March 16, 2015, at Renown Medical Center in Reno, Nevada.



She was married to Bill Noa.

Her dad, Harvey L. Simonson, and her mother, June

Simonson, preceded her in death. Harvey L. Simonson was a well-known contractor in the Bigfork community.

She is survived by her brother, Doran, and numerous brothers and sisters.

Ellen Tena Nutting, 98

Ellen Tena Nutting, 98, passed away Tuesday, April 7, 2015, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.



them as gifts over the years, and I must have had over 150 of them, none of them the

This is her obituary as she had written it:

I was born May 16, 1916, to Jonas and Lucy Sharpe on a homestead south of Greycliff, Montana, where I attended country schools.

In March of 1934, I married Arthur Raymond Nutting in Reedpoint, Montana. In 1936, we moved to Ashley Lake where I cooked at Karels Logging Camp next to the lake. In 1954 our small family moved to Eureka where I worked as a cook at the local cafe and at the Eureka creamery. I moved to Kalispell in 1959 and bought my own farm and "did it my way." The many jobs I worked in Kalispell included Johnsons Cafe, Pasttime Bar/cafe, the Hut Cafe and the Blue and White Motel. At the age of 82, I told my employer, "You know that old song, 'You can take this job and shove it?' Well I quit!"

I was president of the Ladies World War II Auxiliary for 18 years, president and lifetime member of the 2252 Ladies VFW Auxiliary, member of the Women of the Moose, member of D.A.R., and also a member of the Smith Valley Grange.

For many of years I served, volunteering at the Montana Vets Home, picking up used paper from individuals, cutting out the obits and taking them to the Mormon Church to be recorded and gathering highway trash, for which I received the honor of Senior Citizen of the Year in 1998.

same. One of my biggest hobbies was doing genealogy. I'm very proud to say that 99.5% of my family has been catalogued into my records. I had a very big love for my grandchildren. I have seven five-generations in my family. It was nothing for me to drive to Whitefish on a Friday, pick up a carload of grandkids and keep them for the weekend, turn around on Sunday and drive them home; no matter what time of year, rain, sleet, snow, it didn't matter.

I was preceded in death by my son, Jackie Lee Nutting; my father, Jonas Sharpe; mother and step-father, Lucy and Walter Cartwright; brother, Ernest Sharpe; sisters, Bessie Jones and Betty Mathis; and grandson, Travis Wartnow.

I am survived by my daughter, Ellen Mae Knopfle; sister, Mary MacDonald; brother, Bob Cartwright; five grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and 10 great-great-grandchildren; and many, many nieces, nephews and cousins.

My nephew has been known to say that I will have everyone and everything in line when it comes time for all of us to make our final journey.

Spring was my favorite time of year; my cows were never hungry and I loved to watch the calves run and play. I also loved to watch my flowers bloom and my gardens grow and I'd been told I had a green thumb.

I loved to dance and play the piano, I collected salt and pepper shakers, receiving many of

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, April 13, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell. Interment will follow at Glacier Memorial Cemetery. Please come and share your favorite memories and stories with us at Smith Valley Grange after interment.

The End — p.s. I was once a butterfly ...

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