

William Richard 'Bill' Sacrison, 84

William Richard "Bill" Sacrison, 84, passed away April 8, 2015.

Bill was born Aug. 8, 1930, in Bowman, North Dakota, to Hans E. Sacrison and Lillian L. (Haivala) Sacrison. He spent his boyhood years in Harding County, South Dakota, and graduated from Buffalo High School in 1948. During the summers, Bill worked on several sheep and cattle ranches around Buffalo and always appreciated that he had the opportunity to participate in those last few years when horses were used for all ranch work, including mowing, raking and hauling hay. During the fall and winter months, hunting and trapping provided not only recreation but also income and a source of meat for the table.

Bill and Mary N. Hedges were married Aug. 23, 1952, in Buffalo, South Dakota. Bill graduated from South Dakota School of Mines in Rapid City in 1953. His college education was financed primarily by working in construction as a laborer, carpenter and cement finisher.

Bill served in the U.S. Navy from 1953 through 1956. After completing Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island, Bill was stationed at the Pentagon and then attended several Navy schools in Washington, D.C., and San Diego. He taught at the Amphibious Intelligence School in Coronado, California, for the balance of his active military service. Part of the training schedule was aboard the Amphibious Force Flagship, Mt. Olympus (GC8). Bill was also a life member of the American Legion, Post 147 of Buffalo, South Dakota.



they moved from Denver and built a new home near Kalispell. Bill was an accomplished carpenter and enjoyed building furniture, work-

ing on their home and was always busy doing projects with his grandchildren. He so enjoyed the outdoors and looked forward to creating a winter wonderland for his grandchildren with ski trails, a sledding hill and ice-skating rink.

After retiring, Bill and Mary enjoyed traveling to several countries, including Australia, New Zealand, South and Central America, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway.

Bill truly loved his family and is eternally grateful to Mary for sharing her life with him. In 2002, Bill and Mary returned to the same small community where they were married to celebrate their 50th anniversary among many relatives and friends, and recently celebrated their 62nd anniversary. Bill's daughters and their families provided countless hours of pride, joy and satisfaction. Some of his most enjoyable times were his many camping and fishing trips with his grandchildren.

Bill had a special love for his country and was always grateful for the freedom and opportunities it provided. In lieu of memorial gifts, Bill's memory can best be served by simply being honest, responsible and patriotic citizens of this great nation. Although, friends and family may contribute to the Wounded Warrior Project, a cause Bill supported. Bill was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell.

After receiving a master's degree at the University of Wyoming in 1958, Bill enjoyed an interesting and challenging career as a geophysicist-geologist with AMOCO Production Company (now BP) where he was involved in significant discoveries of oil and gas reserves. The family lived in Casper, Wyoming, and Denver. Work took Bill to all the Western states; Alaska; London; Madrid and southern Spain; Ankara, Turkey, and Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. He was a longtime member of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Denver Geophysical Society and Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists.

Bill retired from AMOCO and Mary retired from teaching math in 1986, after which time

Bill is survived by his wife, Mary; daughters, Karen and Bob Leach of Missoula, and Diane and Doug Ginsbach of Casper, Wyoming; grandchildren, Jake and Luke Ginsbach, Garrett and Hannah "Hanni" Leach, and Marya Leach Morrow and Ben; two brothers, C. Robert "Bob" and Loydene, and Hans and LeAna; sister-in-law, Ruthann Sacrison; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother John "Jack" Sacrison and nephew Steven Sacrison.

Burial and services will be held in South Dakota this summer.

John W. Safford Jr., 75

John W. Safford Jr., 75, of Kalispell, died Nov. 30, 2015, in Columbia Falls.

He is survived by his wife, Sarah Safford.

A memorial will be held at 11 a.m. Dec. 11 at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory.

John William Safford Jr., 75

John William Safford Jr. passed away Nov. 30, 2015, at the Hidden Meadows Memory Care Home in Columbia Falls, with his loving wife Sarah by his side.

He was born in Missoula Aug. 20, 1940, to John and Ellamae Poston Safford. Throughout his childhood the family lived in Missoula, Butte, Bozeman, and finally Helena.

He graduated from Montana State University with Bachelor of Science degree in 1964, a Master of Science degree in 1966, and a Ph.D. from the University of New Mexico in 1970. After graduation, John joined Abbott Laboratories in North Chicago, Illinois, where he worked for 25 years as a scientist developing several diagnostic tests. He held several patents in his field.

It was at Abbott Laboratories that John met his future wife in the centrifuge room. Sarah always said that he was the nicest man that she had ever met and they married in 1978. They were married for 37 years until his death. While living in Illinois, John and Sarah enjoyed working, partying with friends and family, and riding on the back roads of Wisconsin and Illinois on his motorcycle.

It was hard to leave all their family and friends in Illinois but John and Sarah took early retirement in 1996 and returned to John's beloved Montana to help



take care of his parents. John and Sarah enjoyed everything that Montana had to offer.

Living in Montana also meant that he could spend more time with his siblings.

John was an avid hiker with his friend Rocky and enjoyed fly fishing with his friend Ray. With the RV, John was able to enjoy more Montana fishing and camping with Sarah, the dog, and friends. In what became a fun quest, John and his wife spent every wedding anniversary while they lived in Montana staying in a different one of Montana's grand old hotels. John loved to tie his own flies for fishing and shared them with his friends. Photography was his passion and he spent many, many hours taking pictures and playing with them on his computer. He had a wonderful sense of humor and a way with words. Even when dementia robbed him of many things, he still had a sense of humor.

He will be greatly missed.

John was preceded in death by his parents, John and Ellamae.

John is survived by his wife Sarah. He is also survived by his brother Tom and wife MaryAnn Safford of Oak Harbor,

Washington, his sister Sue Stevens of Kalispell, his brother Bob and wife Lori of Kalispell, and many nieces, nephews and great-nieces and -nephews.

A memorial ser-

vice will be held at 11 a.m. on Dec. 11 at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Heart Locker in Kalispell.

5 Dec 2015

Kevin King Sanderson, 50

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015, "was a beautiful day to go to heaven" for Kevin King Sanderson, 50, of Libby, when he passed away peacefully after a year-long battle with cancer.

He was born Dec. 9, 1964, during a blizzard in Phillipsburg to Sandy and Carol Sanderson. At the age of 3, Kevin moved to Libby with his family where his dad was going to work on the Libby Dam project. Kevin attended Libby schools graduating in 1983.

After graduating, he lived and worked in Libby. He had driven trucks since he was big enough to reach the pedals and see over the steering wheel. He got his first truck in 1984. He hauled countless loads of logs and gravel up and down the roads and highways of Montana. Most everyone knew Kevin for his self-proclaimed bag of trucker tricks.

Kevin married Terri Ann Postlethwaite on Sept. 18, 2004, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Together they raised their children, Sandra, Allie, Beau, Sean, Kelly Jo, Davie Jane and Jeremiah. He enjoyed outdoor activities with his family, especially hunting, camping and, mostly, fishing with his boys and his brother.

Kevin was known for his big smile, booming voice, infectious laugh and big heart. He has so many friends; it seems that everyone knew Kevin.

He was a member of Libby Christian Church. He loved his Lord, Jesus Christ, with all his heart



and rarely missed an opportunity to show it. One of his greatest joys was baptizing his son

Beau.

He was also member of the NRA.

Kevin is survived by his wife, Terri Sanderson, of Libby; children, Sandra Sue of Bozeman, Allie, Beau, Sean Sanderson, and Kelly Jo and Tim Spencer, of Libby, and Davie Jane and Clint Kinden, and Jeremiah Larson, of Alaska; his parents, Sandy and Carol Sanderson, of Libby; sisters, Julie Brossman, and Leslie and Rick Jaqueth, brother, Bryon and Chelsea Sanderson, and grandchildren, Carleigh and Taylor Spencer, all of Libby; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by an infant son, Joshua Andrew, in 1990; his grandparents; and uncles, Byron and Bobby Joe Sanderson.

He will be forever in our hearts and deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. Our lives are so much richer having had him in our lives.

Visitation will be held from 1 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23, at Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Libby. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24. A reception will be held at the Memorial Center following the graveside service.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.schnackenbergfh.com.

22 Oct 2015

Patti Sanderson of Kalispell passed away peacefully at Immanuel Lutheran Home on Saturday evening, Dec. 27, 2015, with her loving husband, Sandy Sanderson, by her side. Her delightful 6-year-old granddaughter, Alisa, had left that afternoon softly singing her the song, "Tomorrow," before heading to the film "Annie."

Patti was born to Marvin and Irene Knapton on March 28, 1946, in Whitefish where her father was a railroad engineer.

She is survived by her two sisters, Jean Sedivy of Columbia Falls, and Mary Knapton of Seattle; and her brother, Bill Knapton of Florence, Oregon.

"Perky" Patti grew up in the railroad community of Whitefish. Her



best friend since age 3, Sharon (Caterro) Hale, lived down the street in what they called

"Little Italy." Patti loved spending time with the Caferos making and eating spaghetti and meatballs. Some of her best friends included Sharon, Renee, Gayle, Shirley, Cleone and Zoe. These friends remained close to her throughout her life. Patti, known for her lively, easygoing nature, graduated from Whitefish High School in 1964.

After traveling to Europe with friends, Patti attended beauty school and became part-owner of the Hair Hut in Whitefish with Loni Anderson and Shirley Casey. In 1968, Patti married musi-

Patricia 'Patti' Knapton Sanderson, 68

cian Sandy Sanderson, and they moved into her grandmother's house in Whitefish. After relocating to Arizona for only one year, they decided to raise their children Karen and Logan in Kalispell after they had complained endlessly about not having snow for Christmas. Patti's greatest love was her family and they all knew their hearts belonged in Montana. Upon returning, she worked part-time at the Hair Affaire Salon for over 10 years. Patti loved the outdoors and camping. Old friends still reminisce about the tale of when she woke up one morning in the Apgar Campground with a bear sitting on her feet in her tent, eating doughnuts. Patti loved to cook and was cherished for instigating countless family

gatherings. She loved learning new cuisines and frequently hosted themed gatherings such as fajita dinners, French wine and cheese parties, and many lasagna feasts. Patti was also talented at gardening, and crafts such as beading and cross-stitch. Like the Energizer bunny, she was always bouncing from one project to another. Patti was full of unconditional love and expressed no bias.

In 1995, Patti was diagnosed with a moderate case of Multiple Sclerosis. Although the flare-ups were sometimes frightening, Patti never let the MS slow her down. Her sweet optimism overcame her fear, and she never stopped smiling. In 2010, her MS worsened. Fortunately, she suffered little to no pain the entire time. Her

greatest struggle was giving up her hustle-bustle lifestyle. When her legs finally gave out in 2012, she moved to the Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Even from her bed, Patti was cheerful. She beamed when friends and family visited, and loved hearing their stories. Patti showed us that quality of life is not just in a physical body but also in a loving spirit. This radiant spirit lives on in her children and grandchild. Her bright twinkle will now sparkle even greater through their eyes.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10 at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, followed by a reception from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at the Split Rock Café, 30 Second St. E., KM Building, in Kalispell.

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

Gary L. Sampson, 61

Gary L. Sampson of Whitefish died Thursday, March 26, 2015, after a long battle with kidney disease.

He was born June 3, 1953, in Ottawa, Illinois, the son of Martin and Eva (Rick) Sampson.

He was a 1971 graduate of Ottawa High School.

He is survived by his wife, Carol (Norman) Sampson, formerly of Ottawa; two brothers, Don and Arlene Sampson, and Marty and Judy Sampson; and two sisters, Sandy and Tim Duncan, and Sheila and Gary Modesitt; along with many nieces and nephews.

Gary was an avid outdoorsman, a member of Carpenters-Millwrights Local 911 and co-founder/treasurer of the North Valley Sportsman Club. He was active in the Flathead County 4-H Fair, Youth for Hunting & Fish-



ing and the Bob Marshall Wilderness Foundation.

He was an intelligent,

humorous and loving man who was his happiest when roaming the mountains and great wilderness of God's country.

A celebration of Gary's life will be held at a later date by family and friends in Ottawa.

In memory of Gary, memorials may be directed to the National Kidney Foundation, kidney.org/donate.

Condolences may be sent to Carol Sampson at csampson040@centurylink.net; mailed to Carol Sampson, 1662 Columbia Falls Stage Road, Columbia Falls, MT 59912-9315; or call 406-257-0667.

11 Apr 2015

Dad pursued passions of 10K road races, hiking, fly fishing, skiing, road biking, golfing and was an avid walker. He spent weekends following University of Montana and Carroll College football, all Helena High sports and almost every activity involving any of his eight grandchildren. Endless summers were spent at

Memorials in Bill's name are suggested to First Presbyterian Church, 535 N. Ewing St., Helena, MT 59601; Glacier National Park Conservancy at <http://glacierconservancy.org>, Hospice of St. Peter's Hospital, c/o St. Peter's Hospital, 2475 Broadway, Helena, MT 59601, or Prickly Pear Land Trust, P.O. Box 892, Helena, MT 59624.

Please visit www.asw-funeralhome.com to offer the family a condolence or to share a memory of Bill.

William 'Bill' Edgar Samson, 85

William "Bill" Edgar Samson passed peacefully on Monday, Jan. 19, 2015, after an 18-month battle with cancer.

He was born on June 7, 1929, in Helena, to Frances (Seely) Samson and Edgar Samson. His mother later married Tom Johnson who helped to raise the boys into the fine men they became.

Dad's Montana roots date back to his grandfather, J.B. Seely, for whom Seely Lake was named. Following graduation from Helena High School in 1947, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, and served in Korea and Japan.

He married his high school sweetheart, Lucille Hinman, and they celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary in August. They welcomed children Shelley, Julie and David. He had a 36-year career with Mountain Bell and the family made lifelong friends in Helena, Great Falls and Billings before returning to Helena to begin an early retirement at age 54.

Dad volunteered with Community Chest/ United Way, Habitat for Humanity, VA Hospital, Boy Scouts, YMCA Board of Directors, and was a long-time blood donor to the American Red Cross. He was one of the founders of the C.M. Russell Art Auction, member of the Last Chance Runner's Club and instrumental in starting the annual Governor's Cup Race, president of the Great Falls Advertising Club, Toastmaster of the Year, lifetime member of the Telephone Pioneers, Board member for the Great Falls Chamber of Commerce and elected to the Great Falls City Commission for two terms and the University of Great Falls President's Council. He was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church for over 50 years as a session and committee member and all-around handyman.



family cabins in Lincoln and Swan Lake enjoying the lifelong friends made in Dirt Bags Bible study, Swan Lake walkers and the

comradery of hundreds of hikes in the Jewell Basin, Mission Mountains, Beartooth, Bitterroot, Pintler, Elkhorn, Big Belt and the Swan mountain ranges. His sanctuary, however, was Glacier National Park where he bagged 77 peaks and summited over 100 times. A personal highlight was conquering Granite Peak, Montana's highest mountain, on his fifth attempt.

Dad was preceded in death by brothers Dick and Tom.

He is survived by his wife, Lucille; half-siblings, Barry and Carol Samson, and Patty and Charlie Rountree; children, Shelley and Don Pelc, Julie and Scot Ferda, and David Samson; his beloved grandchildren, Brian, Brady and Bryson Pelc, Tucker, Taylor and Ashley Ferda, and Elizabeth and Lauren Samson; as well as great-grandsons, Cooper, Jackson, Anderson and Bennett Pelc; and first great-granddaughter, Lucy Ferda, due in April.

A memorial service celebrating Bill's life will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 26, at the First Presbyterian Church, 535 N. Ewing St., in Helena. A reception will immediately follow in the social center of the church. A graveside service with full military honors will immediately follow the reception at the Montana State Veterans Cemetery at Fort Harrison.

24 Jan 2015

Betty Lou Samsel, 82

Betty Lou Samsel, 82, of Polson, died Wednesday, March 18, 2015, at St. Joseph Medical Center. No services are planned

at this time. The Lake Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family with arrangements.

Frank Lorenzo Sanford, 89

Frank Lorenzo Sanford, 89, died Saturday May 30, 2015, at home in Kalispell. A memorial service will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 6, at the Canvas Church, Kalispell. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

MarieElena 'Lena' Sandlin, 73

MarieElena "Lena" Sandlin, 73, died Friday, July 31, 2015, after a long illness.

She leaves behind her husband of 47 years, James Sandlin; her children, Maria and David Bullough, Robert and Eileen Sandlin, John and Julie Sandlin, and Julie Lewin; her grandchildren, Jeremy, Robert, Meaghan, Jamie, Caitlyn, Aidan and Alice; and her great-grandchildren, Toni, Jade and Brook.

Born Oct. 11, 1941, in Providence, Rhode Island, MarieElena was the daughter of Eileen Platis Barnes. She had two brothers. They had a lively childhood in Los Angeles, filled with endless adventures and high jinks.

On May 12, 1968, she married her husband Jim. Together they moved to Dana Point, and later Anaheim, California, where they raised their four children with an abundance of love and support.

In 1993, Lena moved with her family to Kalispell. It was her paradise. She loved the mountains, trees and fresh air. She enjoyed sitting in her living room chair watching the deer from her window. She found a home at St. Matthew's Catholic Church and became an active parishioner, making many good friends.

Lena was always "home" to those who knew her. She opened her doors

and her heart to those who needed a soft place to land. Her home was filled with laughter, good food, open conversations and the occasional food fight. Her greatest love always remained her children and grandchildren — those genetically hers and those lovingly "adopted into her heart." She held a special spot in her heart for her dear neighbors, the Shostaks, who showered her with love over the last few years.

A rosary will be prayed for her at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church. Memorial Mass will be held at 12:10 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6, at St. Matthew's, followed by interment at Glacier Memorial Gardens and then a luncheon also at St. Matthew's.

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

4 Aug 2015

Juanita (Klein) Sandman, 91

Juanita (Klein) Sandman, 91, formerly of the Flathead Valley, died Monday, June 22, 2015, at Our House Assisted Living in Helena, after battling Alzheimer's disease.

She is survived by her daughters, Diane Sandman of Denver and Linda

Sandman of Helena.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, at SonHeaven Assisted Living, 2540 Ferndale Lane in Helena.

Big Sky Cremation and Twitchell Funeral Service in East Helena are handling arrangements.

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Therese Eusterman 'Tess' Saubert, 88

Therese Eusterman "Tess" Saubert passed away peacefully on Jan. 16, 2015, at Health Center Northwest Hospice.

Tess was born on Dec. 15, 1926. She was one of five children born to George B. and Ethel (Huntimer) Eusterman. Her father was a physician at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and it was there that she enjoyed a rich and wonderful childhood. The nature of her father's specialty resulted in the family meeting many interesting people from around the world who sought out care at the clinic. This famously included the family spending a number of days at the White House at the invitation of Franklin D. and Eleanor Roosevelt as a thank you for the care of their son.

Tess had an early passion and talent for music, singing and playing the piano in many performances through her high school years. She attended Marymount College in New York for two years and transferred to the University of Colorado in Boulder where she graduated with a degree in English literature, minor in history.

It was at CU that she met and married Donald I. "Bob" Saubert. The couple moved to Bob's home state of Montana, first to Missoula where he attended the University of Montana law school. It was in Missoula that their first child was born, Thomas B. "Tom" Saubert. The couple later moved to Great Falls where her second child was born, Mark H. Saubert. And later the family moved to Billings where Tess and Bob divorced in 1970.

After 20 years of being



a mother and homemaker, Tess returned to school and received a certificate in medical

terminology. Her family encouraged her to move to Kalispell where Tom and his wife Marilyn (Stebbins) resided. She did so in 1976 and lived in Kalispell for the remainder of her life, with a never ending love of the mountains and her many friends and family in the valley. Tess retired from the Kalispell School District, working at various school locations for 14 years.

Tess was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in her senior year at college at the age of 21. This occurred at a time when the life expectancy of a person with MS was 35. She forged ahead by fostering a faith in God that grew and sustained her, and her ever smiling, gracious manner belied the daily effort needed to deal with her condition. Undaunted by it, her inspiring example of strength and deep love made life better for all of us who knew her.

Tess is survived by her sons, Tom Saubert and his wife Marilyn, and Mark Saubert and his wife Terri, all of Kalispell; brother, Joseph Eusterman, and wife, Mary, of Wilson, Oregon; grandsons, Bret Saubert of Lincoln, California, and Chris Saubert and his wife Jade of Bismarck, North Dakota; several nieces and nephews, including George Eusterman III and wife Louise of Mount Vernon, Washington, Vince Eusterman and wife Jane of Centennial, Colorado,

Bill Eusterman and wife Diane of Great Falls, Michael Eusterman and wife Jennifer of Bellevue, Washington, Chuck Eusterman of Salt Lake City, Matt Eusterman of Eagle, Idaho, Nancy Kennedy and husband John of Palos Heights, Illinois, Patty Jalowiec and husband Jeff of Woods Dale, Illinois, Laura Peterson and husband Matt of Sammamish, Washington, and Martha Biery and husband Mitch of Denver.

Funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 23, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, with Father Rod Ermatinger officiating. A lunch reception will follow in the

church basement. Interment is being planned for some time this spring.

Donations in memory of Tess can be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater NW Chapter, 192 Nicker-son St., Seattle, WA 98105.

The family cannot adequately express the depth of gratitude to the many individuals who cared for Tess, including Dr. Christopher Gill, Dr. Kathryn Hansen, and all of the wonderful people at KRMC Health Care NW Hospice.

"Her smile that radiated warmth and lit up the lives of so many now makes heaven a brighter place."

23 Jan 2015

J. 'Steve' Saville, 73

Steve Saville, 73, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2015, at the Whitefish Care Center.

A 10-year resident of Bigfork, he was born in Wilmington, Delaware, and retired in Chicago following a 32-year career with Sears.

A very proud American and decorated U.S. Army veteran, Steve served two tours in Vietnam.

An avid surf fisherman and golfer, he could often be found at Eagle Bend. Steve loved the Flathead Valley and considered himself a "Bigfork Ambassador" as he tended the Bigfork Chamber summer afternoons, and worked for the Flathead Valley Convention Bureau providing infor-



mation to prospective visitors.

He is survived by his wife of 20 years, Patty Blonda Saville, of Bigfork; his mother, Dorothy Hanby Saville; sister,

Patricia Voehl, of New York; children, Jennifer Stocker of Greenville, South Carolina, Amy Hebbeln of Chicago, and Steven Saville of northern Virginia; and nine grandchildren.

Services celebrating Steve's life will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 31, at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church on Route 209 in Ferndale.

Clara Joan Sayle, 78

"Clara Joan (Joy) Sayle had the best Christmas present ever; she celebrated it with Jesus." She unexpectedly passed away on Thursday, Dec. 24, 2015. She was surrounded by her sons and their families in her last hours. Clara had her wit and sense of humor till the end.

Clara was born to Clark H. Joy and Bertha Joy (Zimmerman) on May 16, 1937 in Polson. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1955. She raised three Christian boys who all volunteered to serve in the U.S. military, Dennis Lewis (U.S. Army), Gary Lewis (U.S. Navy) and Daryl Lewis (U.S. Air Force). She taught Sunday school and ensured they had a solid Christian foundation from an early age.

Clara was quite active in the Cub Scouts (Den Mother) and Boy Scouts of America while her boys were young. She played an important part in their education and was a PTA volunteer. Clara was a very social person which was displayed by her success as an Avon lady. She was employed by JCPenney in Kalispell for 25 years. In retirement, Clara was known as the "movie lady" at several movie rental establishments. She enjoyed movies and game nights with



her family. Clara moved to Fountain Colorado in 2011 to be closer to two of her sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Clara was preceded in death by her mother and father, uncle Lawrence Zimmerman, aunt Jennie Desch, uncle Fritz Desch, aunt Lena Zimmerman and uncle Bill Zimmerman and many other dear family members and friends.

She is survived by her siblings, Bob Joy of Kalispell, Donna Hedge of Columbia Falls, and Ron Joy of Crosby, Minnesota; sons, Dennis Lewis and his wife Svetlana Lewis of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Gary Lewis and his wife Jill Lewis of Vancouver, Washington, and Daryl Lewis and his wife Lisa Lewis (ZeVan) of Fountain, Colorado; six grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and many other caring family members and friends.

Clara did not want a public service, so her sons gathered immediate family to celebrate her life through treasured memories and precious stories.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to your favorite charity as you feel led.

Eugene Farly 'Gene' Scott, 77

Eugene Farly "Gene" Scott, 77, died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2015, at his residence in Polson.

He was born on June 11, 1938, in Worthington, Minnesota. He graduated from Worthington High School in 1956 and he attended Worthington Junior College for two years.

While working for Toro Manufacturing in Windom, Minnesota, he met Kay Evans. They were married on Nov. 5, 1959 in Minneapolis.

He worked at Northwestern National Bank of Minneapolis and at Roseville State Bank for a number of years. Two boys, Jeff and Marc, were born there. In 1968, they decided to get out of the rat race and move West. They settled in Pablo. A daughter Tiffany was born there.

He went to work at the Plum Creek Timber Company in Pablo. He held various positions while working at Plum Creek and retired in 1994 as purchasing agent and safety director.

After retirement, he and Kay built a new home in Polson and during a trip south one winter he decided to paint wildlife on feathers ... and a new career was



born. He displayed his art in several art galleries and was invited to attend the Silver

Dollar City Craftsman and Art Festival in Branson, Missouri, for several years.

Gene loved to hunt and fish and travel with his wife Kay to the Southern states in the winter.

Gene was preceded in death by his daughter Tiffany, son Jeffrey, granddaughter Kari Jo, and his parents.

He is survived by his wife, Kay; son, Marc, and Deborah; a brother, Herb; and three sisters, Dorothy Lawrence, Helen Boldt and Minnie Apel; six grandchildren, Kim, Brittany and Ryan, Janel and Tiara Duford, Jordan and Trevor; and four great-grandchildren.

At his request, no services will be held.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at www.thelakefuneralhomeandcrematory.com.

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

Betty J. Scoggin, 88

Betty J. Scoggin, 88, died Saturday, Dec. 19, 2015, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She is survived by her

son, Butch Rogers.

There are no services planned at this time.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Betty Jean Scott, 81

Betty Jean Scott, 81, "went to her heavenly home" on Oct. 22, 2015. She lived out her days in her own home in Libby, independent and strong as she lived her whole life.

Betty was born to William and Nell Venable in Columbus, Georgia, on Feb. 10, 1934. Betty attributed her strong relationship to the Lord as the gift given to her by her Godly parents. She taught many children the stories of the Bible over the years and was a spiritual mentor to many young people. As a young woman she would sing on the radio with talent given by God. But she refused the offer to make it a profession as her calling was to raise a Christian family. Not only was she blessed with beauty and talent and devotion to family, she helped support her family for years by building circuit boards at the Grass Valley Group in California.

Betty was blessed

with a large and loving family. She met her first husband, Donald H. Bernall Sr., at the Rosehill Church of Christ in Columbus. She gave birth to her first son, Donald H. Bernall Jr., and then moved to Auburn, California, where they had their daughter Pamela L. (Bernall) Lewis. Donald Sr. fell victim to a logging accident in 1956 and Betty returned to Columbus to grieve and to the arms of her family. When she returned to California to visit her late husband's family her big blue eyes and beautiful smile caught the attention of her future husband, Jack C. Scott Sr. They married in 1957, made their home in Nevada County and had their third child, Jack C. Scott Jr. in 1958. They made their home primarily in the Grass Valley area until 1992, when they moved to Libby.

Betty was a strong Christian mother instilling that same love and

devotion to faith in her three children as well as all those who knew her. Betty faced many health challenges throughout her life, especially in her last years, with structural pain from advanced scoliosis. But regardless of her health challenges, she never lost her faith, her love for life, or her ability to bring joy and happiness to her family.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, older brother Joe Venable, and husbands Donald Bernall Sr. and Jack Scott, Sr.

She is survived by her children, Don Bernall and Jaynee, Pam Lewis

and Danny, and Jack Scott and Paula; nine grandchildren, Tye, Ben, Chance, Angela, Danielle, Kami, Amber, Jessica and Jacob; 20 great-grandchildren; three brothers, Bob, John and Paul Venable; a sister, Ruth Martin; a host of nieces and nephews; and countless friends who held her dear.

While we rejoice for what she has gained in her passing, life for those who loved her will be harder, yet heaven will be so much sweeter.

Private family services are being held.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.schnackenbergfh.com.

Gary D. Scheel, 76

Gary D. Scheel, 76, died on Thursday, Sept. 3, 2015, at home in Columbia Falls.

Gary is survived by his wife, Sharon Scheel, and children, Gina Laird, Jasmine Lutgen, and Jacob Scheel.

There will be a celebration of life at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2015, at Whitefish Foursquare Church, 233 Kalispell Ave. in Whitefish. A luncheon will follow services.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

Faithe Marie Schellinger, 72

Surrounded by her husband and children, Faithe Marie Schellinger, 72, "left this world to join her loved ones in heaven" on Oct. 11, 2015, after bravely losing a battle with cancer in Kalispell. Her courage and compassion during her short battle was an inspiration to us all.

Faithe was born to Leone and Alvin Rasmussen in Glasgow on Feb. 23, 1943. She spent her childhood in Glasgow with her brother Lee and sister Jerri, and she attended and graduated from Glasgow High School cheering on her beloved Scotties. She and her fellow cheerleaders were lifelong friends.

After high school, Faithe attended St. Catherine's University in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Prospect Hall Secretary School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Returning to Glasgow, Faithe met the love of her life, Daniel Schellinger. They were married in Glasgow on Aug. 17, 1963, and had two children, Shawn Schellinger and Shannon Bachman.

Faithe and Dan bounced around the state of Montana frequently in the early years as Schellinger Construction moved across the state. But when they arrived in Columbia Falls in 1970, they knew they found their home. Their children were able to walk across the street to attend Columbia Falls High School, and the whole family enjoyed many Wildcat football and basketball games throughout the years.

Faithe was a legal secretary for many years in Kalispell and was an integral part of the Columbia Falls law firm of Bothe and Lauridsen for 17 years along with one of her best friends, Michelle Knutson.



in their Catholic Church.

Faithe's children and grandchildren were her life. She and her

whole family enjoyed many vacations and holidays together. The most memorable was a Hawaiian cruise in 2014 to celebrate numerous family milestones. It will be a special memory for all of us that were able to share that precious time with her.

Faithe is survived by her loving husband, Dan Schellinger, of Columbia Falls; children, Shawn Schellinger and wife Denise of Broomfield, Colorado, and Shannon Bachman and husband Michael of Fishers, Indiana; mother, Leone Rasmussen, of Palm Desert; grandchildren, Kayla and Austin Bachman of Fishers, and Ryan and Mia Schellinger of Broomfield.

Faithe was preceded in death by her father, Alvin Rasmussen; and siblings, Lee and Jerri Rasmussen.

Funeral services will take place at 11 a.m. on Oct. 21 at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls. Father John Miller will preside over the service. Burial will occur privately at a later date. A reception will occur directly after the funeral at the nearby Back Room Restaurant in Columbia Falls, one of Faithe's favorites.

The Columbia Mortuary is in charge of the arrangements.

Please call Shawn Schellinger at 303-641-5136 for any questions.

16 Oct 2015

Faithe was always active in numerous organizations throughout her life. She worked tirelessly as the local president of the American Cancer Society; co-chairman of the Church Women United; fund raiser for the March of Dimes; taught junior bowling; served two terms on the Columbia Falls City Council; secretary treasurer of the Columbia Falls Booster Club; taught Sunday school at St. Richard's Catholic Church; Cub Scout den mother; taught English to the children of migrant workers in Mecca, California; and was a lector for St. Richard's Catholic Church.

In retirement, Faithe and Dan became snowbirds and spent their winters in Palm Desert, California, where Faithe's parents also retired. Faithe was very active

Mecca Elementary School in the little town of Mecca, California, held a special place in Faithe's heart. She was involved in the school and with the children who attended by her association with the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Palm Desert.

Please send any memorial donations to the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 43775 Deep Canyon Road, Palm Desert, CA 92260 or by phone, 760-346-6502. Please mention the Mecca school as the destination of your donation. Faithe would be so happy that the impact she has had on those kids continues beyond her death. Visit <http://mecca.cvusd.us/pages/> Mecca Elementary to see amazing photos of the kids whose lives Faithe touched.

Faithe left us way too early. She will be terribly missed by those she left behind. We know she is in heaven smiling down on us as she celebrates her reunion with her father, her brother and her sister.

Randall 'Randy' Kent Schellinger, 59

"Don't weep for me; I am free." Randall "Randy" Kent Schellinger, 59, of Whitefish, "was greeted at the gates of heaven by his mother, sister, son and best friend" on Friday, Aug. 28, 2015, following a courageous battle with Huntington's disease.

Randy was born the youngest, and the favorite, on April 4, 1956, in Glasgow, to Cliff and Polly Schellinger.

Randy graduated from Whitefish High School in 1975. Prior to his illness, Randy spent his entire adult life working for the family business, Schellinger Construction Co., alongside his dad and brother.

Randy lived life to the fullest and was always looking for his next adventure. He was an avid snow skier, water skier, hunter and traveler. He enjoyed boating on Whitefish and Flathead Lakes, heli-skiing in Canada, walking along the beach in Thailand, attending the NFR in Las Vegas, spending time with his grandchildren, and always looked forward to the annual Schellinger 3rd of July party on Flathead Lake. Randy's greatest joy came from watching his children's sporting events and hunting with his boys, brother, father and friends.

To know Randy, was to love him and continually laugh at his wit. Randy faced Huntington's Disease with determination, bravery, and his ever-present humor.

Randy was preceded in death by his mother, Polly; son, Brett; and sister, Kristi.

He is survived by his wife, Kathy Schellinger, of Whitefish; sons, Matt

and Lauren Schellinger and A.J. Schellinger, both of Whitefish; father, Cliff and Vernell Schellinger, of Eltopia, Washington; sister, Shelley and Pat Dolan, of Billings; brothers, Al and Sandy, of Whitefish and Don Allen, of San Marcos, California; foreign exchange brother, Klaus Arpia, of Finland; grandchildren, Logan, Kya, and Tovar, all of Whitefish; Uncle, Dan and Faithe Schellinger, of Columbia Falls; nieces, Heather and Robb Bergeson, Nicci and J.D. Daniher, and Megan and Josh Griffiths; and nephews; Nathan and Jessica Dolan, Kyle and Darcy Schellinger, Dustin Ohs, Jesse Ohs, and Eric and Alisa Allen; and many cousins and dear friends.

Randy was an exceptional father, grandfather, and uncle. He loved children and spending time with his sons and his friends. Randy will be missed by all who knew and loved him, but we can find peace knowing that he is free from pain and disease.

The family would like to thank Brendan House for their exceptional care of Randy. A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. Sept. 3 at Christ Lutheran Church, 5150 River Lakes Parkway, Whitefish.

If you wish to make a donation, please send to Hereditary Disease Foundation, Development office, 3960 Broadway, sixth floor, New York, NY 10032, or online at cures@hdfoundation.org.

Family and friends are encouraged to visit the website www.buffalohillfh.com to send notes of condolence to the family.

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

Beverly June (Gronley) Schenck, 74

Beverly June (Gronley) Schenck, 74, passed away peacefully at her Kalispell, home surrounded by her family on March 10, 2015.

Bev was born Nov. 4, 1940, on a farm in Fairdale, North Dakota, to Marie and Hans Gronley. Her parents were of Bohemian and Norwegian ethnicity, and she was the youngest of 10 siblings. The family moved to Kalispell in the fall of 1942. There were still seven siblings at home and the family enjoyed modern conveniences for the first time. Bev attended Flathead County High School where she led the marching band as a drum majorette. She graduated in 1958.

After high school, Bev attended a business college in Spokane and then worked for a time at KOFI radio station in Kalispell.

At 18 years old, she met the love of her life, Lewis Schenck, and after a three-month courtship they married on Aug. 8, 1959, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. They spent 52 wonderful years together and raised three sons, Steven, Rodney and Brian.

Early in their marriage, Bev worked for the credit bureau in Kalispell, and after that employment her principle occupation was managing the home. When her children were young, Bev was active in PTA, 4-H, and was a Cub Scout den mother. Lewis' career ambitions required the family to re-locate frequently, and Bev created a loving home for the family in six different states. Bev and Lew were able to return to the Flathead in the fall of 1995, and happily retire.

Bev was happy at home, and enjoyed her many pets, thrift shopping, spending time at her cabin out "west" and always



liked a good pot-luck. She cherished her grandchildren and always made the

holidays a special time; she would radiate joy. For many years, family camp outs were a favorite activity and a fun way to gather the family from distant locations. Bev was sharp witted and strong willed, a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She brightened our days with her smile and laughter. We grieve, but take comfort in knowing "heaven has another angel."

Bev was preceded in death by her husband, Lewis; her parents; her brother, Sidney; and sisters, Darlene Polejewski and Gwendolyn Clements.

Bev is survived by her three sons, Steven and wife Peggy, Rodney and wife Kathy, and Brian and wife Cathy, all of Kalispell; nine grandchildren, Meghan Brown and husband Rob, Amanda, Matthew, Jennie, Katelyn, Justin, Alex, Sidney and Tyler; two great-grandchildren, Charlotte and Camber; brothers, Gerald of Seattle, LeRoy of Kalispell, Winford of Michigan and Stanley of Kalispell; sisters, Frances Roth of Spokane and Gloria Sandon of Kalispell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Cremation was chosen, and a celebration of her life services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, March 19, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. A reception will be held at the Rainbow Bar following the service.

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

William Francis Schmidling, 63

William Francis Schmidling, 63, of Kalispell, died Nov. 4, 2015, in Madison County Montana.

No services are being held at this time. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

29 Dec 2015

Joe Schmidt, 88

On Dec. 15, 2015, after 13 years of caring for a heartbroken family, Dad has "gone to join the love and meaning of his life — our mom."

Joe Schmidt, 88, was a man who affected the lives of all he touched. He not only taught his children to ride bikes and drive cars, but he also taught them the meaning and importance of family. Joe left school at the age of 11 to help support his own large family. During his life he was employed in mills, logging, truck driving, and self-taught auto body repairs. He liked very much to take his wife and children to Alaska and Montana to enjoy the summer months. He and his wife, Madge, founded their own business, Reborn Auto.

For recreation, Joe enjoyed woodworking and traveling, along with many other hobbies. He was a man who labored every day, be it on work or play. Most importantly, though, he appreciated family. He would commonly say things such as "Family sticks together, right or wrong."

He gallantly served his country through the Coast Guard.

Joe was born on Aug. 4, 1927, in Leon, Kansas, to Jacob and Katrina (Wedel) Schmidt. He married Madge Marie Mayfield on Dec. 31, 1952, in Canon City, Colorado.

Joe is survived by his sister, Elsie Becker;



children Gary (Fay), Cindy, Lorna (Bill) and Frank

Jackson; grandchildren Shawn VanQuekelberg, Katrina (Chris) Arnold, Jessica Roberts, Amanda (Tim) Terrell, Brittany Stevenson, Frankie Jackson, Simon Knapton, and his ever-ready sidekick Josephine Terrell, as well as many beloved nieces and nephews spread across many miles.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Madge; siblings Esther (Jantz), Ervin, Susie (Weaver), Irene (Jantz), Edwin, Della, and Neola (Strobaugh); sons-in-law Terry VanQuekelberg and George Riley; and grandsons Matthew and Mark.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 3, at North Valley Community Center, 235 Nucleus Ave. in Columbia Falls.

Please join us to celebrate the life of Joe and share your stories with our family.

Laura Kay Schrader, 44

Laura Kay Schrader, 44, died from heart failure on Oct. 3, 2015.

She had been a retail clerk and nanny.

She is survived by her parents, Emil Schrader of Hamilton, and Betty Rudisill of Cut Bank.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial for family and friends will take place at a time to be determined in the spring.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

8 Apr 2015 IPD

Donald R. Schrammeck, 94

Donald R. Schrammeck, 94, passed away peacefully April 7, 2015, with his children at his side.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, April 10, at O'Connor Funeral Home in Great Falls. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at O'Connor Memorial Chapel, with burial to follow at Highland Cemetery in Great Falls. Arrangements have been entrusted to O'Connor Funeral Home.

Donald was born July 28, 1920, in Great Falls to Walter and Anna. He enlisted into the United States Air Force in 1942. Lt. Col. Schrammeck became the first Montana Air National Guardsman to retire at the end of 20 years of service in the Air Force and Air National Guard. He flew 4,000 hours, with 94 combat missions in P38s during World War II in the Southwest Pacific, and two years of active duty with Montana Air Nation-



al Guard during the Korean conflict.

He was united

in marriage to Adeline Mora in 1948 and the two remained inseparable until her passing in 1993. Don was also employed with the Great Northern Railroad beginning in 1941. He remained there for more than 40 years until his retirement in 1980.

Don is survived by his son Greg, daughter Jan, and brother Ken.

He was preceded in death by parents, wife Adeline, brother Paul, and sisters Lois and Nona.

Condolences may be left online at www.oconnorfuneralhome.com.

Christopher T. Schneider, 31

Christopher T. Schneider, 31, died June 21, 2015.

He is survived by his parents Julie and Geoff Schneider.

No services are planned at this date.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

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Barbara S. Scholz, 77

Barbara S. Scholz, 77, passed away peacefully Friday June 12, 2015, in Whitefish.

Barbara was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, in 1938 to Albert and Anna Peterson, and was the youngest of 13 children. She met her husband Raymond (of 19 years) in Stratford, Connecticut. Shortly after they married they moved to Montana, where she enjoyed many crafts such as crocheting. She also loved doing puzzles and has many of them framed and hanging in the Vet's Home in Columbia Falls. Barbara was also a part of the American Legion, as well as was 2015's Whitefish Winter Carnival Queen.

She was preceded in death by her parents,



Anna May Peterson; husband, Raymond T. Scholz; five sisters

and six brothers.

She is survived by her brother Frank and Emma Peterson of Port Angeles, Washington; dozens of nieces and nephews and her son, Steve and Leona D'Amico of Bridgeport, who was the love of her life and whom she spoke of daily.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 25, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Barbara's family.

April 5

Phyllis Irene Schroeder, 90

Phyllis Irene Schroeder, 90, passed away April 1, 2015 in Whitefish due to complications with diabetes and infections.

Phyllis was born on July 14, 1924 in Casper, Wyoming.

She married Lawrence "Larry" Gordon Schroeder on September 11, 1953. The Schroeder's moved to Whitefish after retirement where they built their home and enjoyed life, the outdoors and family and friends.

Phyllis was a loving mother and a focal point for all the relatives to keep in touch with each other. She was a beautiful person who always cared for people and all living things. She had many talents, including arts of painting, drawing, sewing, crafts, flower arranging, stained glass, playing the organ, piano and guitar.

Phyllis is survived by her husband Lawrence "Larry" Schroeder; brothers Robert and Roger



Cain; sister Ann Weenig; her sons, Joseph Snyder, John Schroeder; daughters, Susan

Schroeder Smith and Sandra Broughton; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren with two more on the way.

She was preceded in death by her parents Leslie and Bertha (Osborn) Cain; her son William Snyder and her sister Pauline Annis.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 6, at First Presbyterian Church, 301 Central Avenue, Whitefish.

All are welcome to attend and celebrate Phyllis's life. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Diabetes Foundation www.diabetes.org/donate/.

Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish is caring for the family.

Carol Sue (Gregg) Schreibeis, 61

Carol Sue (Gregg) Schreibeis, 61, "joined the choirs of heaven" April 24, 2015.

Carol was born in Whitefish to James and Gloria Gregg (Hoffman) on Oct. 28, 1953. She attended the Whitefish School system and graduated in 1972. Her desire and natural mothering instincts were honed as the eldest sister to James ("Skettilegs"), Jeff, Jerry and princess Tracey.

In 1973, she briefly attended Eastern College in Billings; it was here she met her one and only true love and partner for life, Mark Schreibeis. They were married on Dec. 15, 1973, in Whitefish. In 1974, Carol and Mark welcomed the "spark" of their life, Heidi Lynn, and added to the tinder box Jason Wayne in 1977. They moved from Billings to Rapid City, South Dakota, in 1977, and to Kalispell in 1978. It was here their family took root.



Carol was an active, positive and energizing member of all she was a part of. She often

referred to herself as a "joiner" and "she just couldn't help but jump in." Her life centered around her unwavering faith, joy, and hope in her Savior, Jesus Christ — and between both Carol and Mark, they raised their family accordingly. She played an integral role at both Trinity Lutheran and the Church at Creston, serving as board member of Lutheran Women's Mission League, missions, as Sunday school teacher, Bible study leader, Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS), church secretary and, after the relentless prodding of her daughter, as a beautiful contribution to the choir. Carol truly personified the Lord's

mission to "love thy neighbor" by selfless acts of love and charity, including giving the gift of sight to an unknown recipient after death.

Carol leaves a legacy of passion for the Lord, and true love and commitment to her husband and children.

She is survived by her husband, Mark; daughter, Heidi Lester, and Peter; son, Jason Schreibeis; brothers, Jim Johnson and Irene, Jeff Gregg and Jerry Gregg, sister, Tracey Schumacher, and Trent; beloved aunt and mother figure, Kathleen Gregg; grandchildren, Kayne Schreibeis, Jeremey and Erika Collingwood, Tyrion and Nakiyah Schreibeis; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, in-laws, and dear friends.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 1, at the Church of Creston.

Memorials may be made to any cancer treatment and recovery

center of your choice, the Hope Pregnancy Center in Kalispell, and the mission field associated with any congregation. In honor of Carol's love of the poem, "When I Am an Old Woman, I Shall Wear Purple" by Jenny Joseph, both her sister and daughter invite you to wear purple.

To send condolences to the family, please go to www.buffalohillfh.com.

Mary F. Schriener, 82

Mary F. Schriener, 82, died in Kalispell on Oct. 23, 2015.

At her request, there

will be no services. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Francis Joseph Schumacher, 93

Francis Joseph Schumacher was born Nov. 6, 1922, to Frank Schumacher and Marie Hoffman Schumacher in Kenmare, North Dakota.

He passed away at Immanuel Lutheran Home Dec. 22, 2015. He was educated at St. Agnes School in Kenmare. He graduated from high school in 1942. He entered the Army in 1943. His basic training was at Camp Hood, Texas, where he was trained in tanks. He was then sent to New Britain, the Solomon Islands, New Guinea, Leyte, and Luzon as a member of the 112th regimental combat team, attached to the 1st Cavalry Division. Since heavy tanks were of little use in the Pacific theater, he was trained and re-assigned as a sharpshooter. He earned the Bronze Star for his service.

After his honorable discharge, he attended college at Ellendale, North Dakota, studying the upholstery trade. He returned to Minot, North Dakota, and was employed at Keatings Furniture.

On Nov. 20, 1948, he married Adeline Muske. They moved to Kalispell in 1955, where he opened his own upholstery shop. He was a master upholsterer and earned a reputation of being able to fix most any furniture or auto interior.



After his retirement in 1986, he shared his talents of repairing with the Kalispell Senior Center. He was a nearly 70-year member of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). He was a very active member, holding many offices over the years. Francis was named Volunteer of the Year five times for his work at the Veterans Home located in Columbia Falls. Participating in the honor guard ceremonies at funerals was important to him for many years. Francis proudly donned the Army uniform he was discharged in every Veterans Day for the ceremonies. He was also honored with a JCPenney Golden Rule award. He was a member of the St. Matthew's Catholic

Church in Kalispell.

Francis enjoyed Ashley Lake where he

and Adeline purchased a cabin, enjoying the time there with his children and grandchildren. He was a member of the Flathead Valley Good Sams for more than 20 years. Traveling was one of his special interests.

After his 70th birthday he learned to oil paint and won many ribbons at the fair. He was a very gifted handyman, which he used to help many elderly people. He and Adeline helped deliver commodities to seniors and did substitute driving for Meals on Wheels.

Francis was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Adeline, his parents, four sisters, and two brothers.

He is survived by two brothers, James and Luke, from Kenmare. He has four children, Steven and Carol Schumacher of Malta, Susan and John Ramsey of Townsend, Randall and Becky Schumacher of Kalispell, and Sandi and Tim Shawhan of Billings. Francis has seven grandchildren, Amber and Bruce Brensdal of Jefferson City, Erik and Megan Schumacher of Boise, Idaho, Andrew and Alison Ramsey of Colleyville, Texas, Joel and Tara of Belgrade, Michelle and Scott McKnight of Opportunity, Montana, Katie Schumacher of Opportunity, and Timothy Shawhan of Billings. He has seven great-grandchildren, Logan and Jett Brensdal, Reese and Carson Ramsey, Tori Schumacher, and Benjamin and Abby McKnight.

Services will be held at 12:10 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church. Rosary will be said at 7 p.m. Monday evening at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

Memorials made be made to the DAV or the veterans' group of your choice.

FRANK SCHUMACHER WWII vet leads full

life despite wartime wounds

By LYNNETTE HINTZE
Daily Inter Lake

Frank Schumacher still has lingering effects of head wounds from World War II, but his injuries never held him back from doing what he set out to do, whether it was his career, family or volunteer service.

Now 93, Schumacher lives at Immanuel Lutheran Communities in Kalispell, where family members regularly visit to reminisce.

Seniors in the Kalispell area are well-acquainted with Schumacher and his wife of 66 years, Adeline,

“He’s one of the most caring people on this planet.”

■ Katie Schumacher

who died in 2012. Spurred by Adeline’s belief that “we’re in this life to get others through it,” the couple volunteered their time in many ways, from handing out government commodities to seniors to substitute driving for Meals on Wheels.

Schumacher was active with the local chapter of the Disabled American Veterans for well over six decades and remains a member. He was named Volunteer of the Year five times for his tireless work at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

HIS MEMORIES of combat action in the Philippines during World War II are hazy because he was hit in the head by an exploding artillery shell. Family members have pieced together Schumacher’s military story as he has recalled wartime memories through the years.

Schumacher grew up in rural North Dakota and attributes his marksmanship skill to shooting gophers as a kid. With 10 other siblings, there were so many boys in his family they spanned three wars. He and his older brother served in World War II; three other brothers served in the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War.

His superiors recognized his finesse for shooting and doled out awards for his ability in shooting rifles, pistols, machine guns and throwing hand grenades.

Schumacher trained with tanks in the 1st Cavalry Division, but the heavy tanks proved to be of little use in the swampy terrain of the South Pacific.

He participated in campaigns on the

Bismarck Archipelago, Leyte, Luzon, New Guinea and the Northern Solomon Islands.

DURING ONE battle, as Japanese soldiers surrounded his unit, an enemy soldier dropped a hand grenade into his group. His sergeant picked up the grenade to throw it out of the way, but the device blew off his hand.

Schumacher was ordered to go alone through the jungle and bring back medical help. When he returned, everyone in his unit had been killed or wounded.

“He never got a scratch on him,” said his son, Randy, of Kalispell. “His sergeant put him in for the Bronze Star.”

Randy has spent years researching his father’s time in the war, but most of the medical records are missing.

Schumacher spent time in five different hospitals during the war. After he sustained the head injury he was hospitalized in Manila, where doctors drilled holes in his head to check for blood clots.

DURING HIS time in the hospital, Schumacher’s personal belongings were stolen, leaving him with only a hospital gown when he was discharged. The Army issued him a new uniform, and to this day he wears it proudly at Veterans Day programs.

At one point he was

shipped to a hospital in Illinois to recover.

In later years, Randy would discover that both his father and his father-in-law, Clayton Lauman of Somers, a medic in the Philippines, were in the same hospital and even

in the same wing during the war. Lauman died Nov. 7.

After the war Schumacher went to school to learn upholstery and woodworking. He and his wife spent a decade in North Dakota before moving to Kalispell in 1955.

Schumacher made his mark in the upholstery business, operating his own shop for decades. He was a perfectionist, his granddaughter Katie Schumacher pointed out. Some of his best upholstery work was done for restored antique cars.

His brain injury from the war kept him from working at a fast clip, but he embodied the adage, “slow and steady wins the race.”

“As long as he could work at his own pace he was fine,” Randy said.

The Schumachers raised four children. He has seven grandchildren and seven grandchildren.

“He’s an extraordinary loving man,” Katie Schumacher said about her grandfather. “He’s one of the most caring people on this planet.”

Features editor Lynnette Hintze may be reached at 758-4421 or by email at lhintze@dailyinterlake.com.



FRANK SCHUMACHER wore his World War II army uniform to a Veterans Day ceremony at Columbia Falls High School. His son, Steve, an Army veteran from the Vietnam War, accompanied him. Steve is from Malta. (Chris Peterson file photo/Hungry Horse News)



FRANK SCHUMACHER
during World War II



SCHUMACHER poses in a selfie with his granddaughter Katie Schumacher.

- 382 B -

Betty 'Trapper Betty' Lou Robertson Showen Funseth Schurr, 90

Betty Lou Robertson Showen Funseth Schurr "Trapper Betty," 90, passed away on Dec. 15, 2015, at her home in Whitefish surrounded by her husband, John, and daughters.

She was born June 27, 1925, to John and Margaret Robertson. After graduating high school she lived in California for a few years.

Betty managed the Isaak Walton Inn with



her friend Rosie Hamilton in the late '50s. She moved to Whitefish where she worked at the Hanging Tree and the Whitefish Lake Golf Course. She also managed the VFW for Barb Gallo. She was an avid horse-woman, hunter, trapper, and fisherman.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, one sister, and a grandson.

She is survived by her husband, John; three daughters, JoAnn Rider, Chuckie Hannon and Pattie Showen; five grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held in warmer weather (she hated the cold) most likely on her

birthday, June 27.

Austin Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Albert Anton Schwegel, 93

Albert Anton Schwegel, 93, passed away quietly on Oct. 9, 2015.

Al was born in Hines, Minnesota, on May 18, 1922. He was the fourth of 11 children born to Mike and Otilia Schwegel.

On Oct. 26, 1942, Al was drafted into the U.S. Army Air Corps, where he obtained the rank of staff sergeant. Al served as a ball turret gunner and was stationed in England. On Jan 11, 1944, he was shot down over Germany and sent to prison camp Stalag 17-B where he spent 489 days as a POW before being liberated. Al finally returned home to his family on June 15, 1945.

On July 16, 1949, Al married Betty Lou Corne. They started their family on their own farm outside of Blackduck, Minnesota, where they had seven children. In June 1968 they moved to Whitefish where their eighth child was born. Al worked for American Timber Co. until his retirement in 1983.

Al was preceded in death by all of his siblings; his wife, Betty Lou Schwegel; a daughter, Lori Schwegel; and a grandson, Chase Hart.

He is survived by his remaining seven children, Thomas and Clarissa Schwegel of Whitefish, Robert and Theora Schwegel of Helena, Luanne Sagen of Whitefish, David and Penny Schwegel of



Fairbanks, Alaska, Roy and Cheryl Schwegel of Whitefish, Gerald and Christine Schwegel of Olney, and Lee Ann and RD Giesy of Whitefish; as well as numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Al remained in the family home until February of 2015, at which point he was transferred to the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls until his passing.

A vigil will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 16, at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Whitefish. Inurnment will immediately follow church services at Whitefish Cemetery. Please join the family at the Whitefish VFW after inurnment.

A special thank you to the Montana Veterans Home staff for their exceptional care of our dad.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls for the Wounded Warrior Project.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Al's family.

1 Feb 2015

John W. Schutt, 73

John W. Schutt fought a long battle with cancer and finally found peace Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 28, 2015.

He was born to John A. Schutt and Louise B. Craft on May 22, 1941, in his grandparents' house on Second Avenue West North in Kalispell. John had been a Lake Blaine resident since 1963, where he raised his family and enjoyed the lake and the country solitude.

John was well known for owning and operating three different roller rinks in the Flathead Valley — Shady Lane in Kalispell, Bayview in Polson and Whoopie John's in Columbia Falls. Throughout all that he had done, he was a glorified paperboy for the Daily Inter Lake, the Great Falls Tribune, the Spokesman and the Kalispell News.

John was preceded in death by both parents; and his sister, Barbara Benziem.

John is survived by his wife, Carol Schutt; his sons, Brian, Kirke, David

and Kevin; daughters, Danette, Kimberly and Connie; with 16 grandkids and five great-grandsons. Other survivors who were left behind were a lot of family and good friends.

We are so thankful for all of the great care that was provided by Kalispell Regional Medical Center Hospice and making it possible for John to stay home all the way through the end. We would like to give a special thanks to Aimee and the rest of the Hospice caretakers.

Services will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 3, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. A reception will follow at 1 p.m. at the Hampton Inn in Kalispell. Family and friends are welcome to bring a side dish, salad or dessert.

In lieu of flowers, please leave any donations to Kalispell Regional Medical Center Hospice. Thank you!

14 Oct 2015

Wayne Delbert Schwenke, 64

Wayne Delbert Schwenke, 64, of Chatsworth, Georgia, passed away on Feb. 2, 2015, at Hamilton Medical Center surrounded by his loving family.

Wayne was born in 1950 at home west of Kalispell to Martha and Herbert Schwenke. He grew up in the Batavia, Creston and Rhodes Draw areas of Flathead Valley with two brothers and six sisters. As a teenager, he helped train horses and put up hay; he spent time in Alaska, and began working in the woods.

After moving to Washington, he volunteered as a firefighter in North Port, Washington, enjoyed racing stock cars, fishing and continued working as a logger.

He was blessed with three sons, Darren, Nathan and Darrell, while living in Washington. After some time, Wayne moved back to the Flathead Valley and was blessed with his daughter, Jayne. He continued logging. In his free time he enjoyed hunting, attending local stock car races and spending time with his large family and friends.

After undergoing a successful kidney transplant in the early '90s, Wayne moved to Colville, Washington, and transitioned into working as a real estate agent. In the following years, Wayne spent time in Washington with his sons and their families, as well as making several trips to Georgia to visit his daughter and her family. He remained in Georgia and was re-united with his lifelong love, Jeannine, and thoroughly enjoyed spending time with his family.

Wayne looked forward to attending the annual Schwenke family reunion and reconnecting with his brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and other family members. Wayne was of



great character, a caring and thoughtful man who enjoyed family, friends and a good

laugh.

Wayne was preceded in death by his mother, Martha Chapman Schwenke; his father, Herbert Schwenke; a sister, Dorothy Krause; and a brother, Francis Schwenke.

He is survived by his sons, Darren Schwenke of Kettle Falls, Washington, Nathan Schwenke and wife Rammie of Evans, Washington, and Darrell Schwenke of Canon City, Colorado; and daughter, Jayne Watson, and husband, Jason, of Chatsworth, Georgia; stepdaughter, Carey Sempf, of Chatsworth; and his lifelong love, Jeannine Drake, of Chatsworth. He is survived by his grandchildren, Darren's sons Austin, Skyler and Orion, and daughter Evlyn; Darrell's daughters Rhys and Lauren; Jayne's daughters Emmaline and Madeline, sons Arthur and Lincoln; and Carey's daughter Leanna, son Joseph, and granddaughter Mallarie, of Chatsworth. He is also survived by sisters, Lois Jackson of Kalispell, Florence Rhodes of Kalispell, Barbara Dougherty and husband Bing of Paradise, California, Irene Hogrefe and husband Dean of Kalispell, and Shirley Shipp and husband Clyde of Columbia Falls; and a brother, Bill Schwenke, of Kalispell. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews who were very special to him.

A memorial service and interment will be held the first weekend of August in Kalispell.

Cremation services were provided by Peoples Funeral Home & Crematory of Chatsworth.

Scott Thomas Sederstrom, 44

Scott Thomas Sederstrom, 44, died March 13 while climbing at Owens Gorge near Bishop, California.

Sederstrom was born in Longmont, Colorado, on May 6, 1970, to Carla and Tom Sederstrom.

He is survived by his mother, Carla Sederstrom; brother, Eric Sederstrom; his nephews, Nasi and Niko Sederstrom; the Bergstrom

and Sederstrom families; and his fiancée, Suzanne DeBono. Scott was predeceased in death by his father, Tom Sederstrom.

At the age of 3 he started skiing in Colorado. He loved the mountains and all outdoor activities. He will be missed by his large network of friends.

A memorial is planned May 24 at Lawrence Park in Kalispell from 1 to 5 p.m.

Richard 'Dick' Seibert, 80

Richard "Dick" Seibert died Dec. 11, 2015.

He was born Jan. 23, 1935, in Dillon to Essie (McDonald) Seibert and Thomas A. Seibert. He spent his childhood in various towns in Montana including Dillon, Denton, Helena, Brady, Big Arm and Polson.

After graduating from Polson High School, Dick joined the Air Force where he graduated from the United States Air Force School of Aviation Medicine and served nine years as an air force medic.

After his discharge he earned a degree in education from Eastern Montana College and a master's degree in economics from Utah State University. He taught at Polson High School for 24 years. Dick was also in the Montana National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve for 11 years. His service spanned the Korean War, the Vietnam War and Desert Storm.

Dick loved sports and coached football and golf, and enjoyed being the announcer at Polson football and basketball games. While in Polson, he was active in city government and was a member of the city council for a number of years, and even served as mayor for a short time. He looked forward to big game hunting and hunting birds with his dogs every fall and was an avid fisherman. Along



with his wife, Judy, he bred and showed Portuguese water dogs for 30 years.



He is survived by his wife, Judy, of Zillah, Washington,

son, Richard, of Spokane; daughters, Catherine Seibert and Harold Zielkowski of Belgrade, Vicky Elder of Federal Way, Washington, and Mary Seibert of Spokane City, Washington; and grandchildren Alexandra Blackhorse (D'Angelo) of Rexford, Idaho, Samantha, Jacob and Joshua Elder of Federal Way; and three nieces and a nephew.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Thomas and Homer; sister, Leona Tockey; and nephews, Thomas and Henry Seibert, and Thomas, Bradley and Laurie Tockey.

If you would like to make a donation in Dick's honor, please send it to Shriner's Hospital for Children, 911 West 5th Avenue, Spokane, WA 99204 or go to the website <http://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/donate>.

A memorial will be held in Polson at a later date.

William 'Bill' Andrew Sellers, 46

William "Bill" Andrew Sellers passed away unexpectedly Thursday afternoon.

He was born on April 25, 1969, to Robert and Sherry Sellers in Great Falls.

He was preceded in death by his father, Bob.

He is survived by his mother Sherry, his wife Kim, his brother Wade and wife Jackie and their children Hunter and Haley, also his children Sean Tix and his son Ryan,



Tony Rico, and Telena Zanca and husband Savion and their children Curtis, Indyciah, and Aryanna. He is also sur-

vived by many extended family and friends.

Services will be held for Bill on at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 9, in the Hilton Garden Inn in the Glacier Conference room.

21 Apr 2015

Inez Shafer, 83

Inez Shafer "went to join the Lord" April 13, 2015, at Heritage Care Center in Kalispell.

Inez Jeanette Shepard was born Sept. 12, 1931, in Hill City, South Dakota. Her parents were Jay and Myrtle Shepard. She was delivered by her grandmother at home.

Inez enjoyed her first 11 years in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Her father was one of the original workers on Mount Rushmore and she and her brother spent many hours running up and down the steps behind Mount Rushmore. When the mountain was finished the family moved to Ronan where they were to spend the rest of their lives.

Inez started school at Ronan when she was 12 and graduated from Ronan High School in 1949. She was proud to be one of the '49ers and helped make high school reunions for that class possible. She was a member of the Ronan Home Extension Club, Mayflower Society and Daughters of the American Revolution.

Inez married Les Shafer Aug. 12, 1949. They were married 63 years and have three children, Caryl Brown, Joan Johnson, and Dan and



Lisa Shafer. Grandchildren are Pam and Bob Siloti, Brandy and Jason Channel,

David Tubb, Jennifer and Buck Barney, Matt and Jolena Brown, Susan and Jesse Rose, Dustin Shafer and Jamie Shafer. Great-grandchildren are Mitchell Wassam, Nachele Wassam, Riley Channel, Jadelin Brown, Troy Barney, Kinsley Barney, Ridge Barney and Aiden Veselets. She also has a sister-in-law, Dee Anderson; and niece, Gay Shepard.

Inez was preceded in death by her husband, Les; infant son, Raymond; parents, Jay and Myrtle Shepard; her brother, Reece; and son-in-law, Mark Lee.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 25, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Ronan, with burial following at Calvary Cemetery. A vigil will be held Friday evening at the same location. No time has been specified for the vigil at this time.

Donations may be sent to North Crown Club House, 45979 Old Highway 93, Ronan, MT 59864.

John K. Shanahan, 78

John K. Shanahan, 78, of Bigfork, died in Kalispell July 2, 2015.

John was born in Anderson, California, on Sep. 30, 1936.

He is survived by his wife Virginia Shanahan; sons Ted, Jim, and Will Shanahan and daughter

Shannon White.

A graveside funeral service will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, July 10, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

24 Dec 2015

Kristin Ann Kjos Shane, 66

Kristin was born on May 20, 1949, in Kalispell to Leslie Homer and Lillian Randall Kjos (both now deceased) and passed away in Pflugerville, Texas, on Oct. 20, 2015.

She was a loving mother, wife, daughter and friend who loved to cook and garden.

Kristin is survived by her loving daughters, Rebecca Schuman with husband Daniel, and Amy Pfluger with husband Kelly; and former husband, Ronald Shane. Kristin was blessed with four grandchildren that she loved with all of her heart, Audrey and Dane Schuman, and Joshua



and Kiersty Shepherd. Kristin is also survived by brother, Randy, and Twila Kjos; sister, Sylvia, and Daniel Kingsbury; numerous nieces and nephews, and great-nieces and -nephews.

Memorial services and a reception will be held at noon on Monday, Dec. 28, at Stillwater Free Lutheran Church, 1401 Church Dr., Kalispell. Graveside interment will follow at 3 p.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, 641 Conrad Drive, Kalispell.

Betty Ann Sharp, 82

Betty Ann Sharp, 82, of Somers, died Feb. 15, 2015, at Lakeview Care Center

in Bigfork.

At her request, there will be no services.

Longtime journalist Shay dies at age 87

By **CHRIS PETERSON**
Hungry Horse News

Longtime Hungry Horse News reporter and columnist Gladys Shay died Monday evening of natural causes.

Shay, 87, grew up with a penchant for the news.

When just a child, she recalled seeing the lights and hearing the fire engines outside the window of her Kalispell home as firefighters raced to save a house ablaze.

"And I automatically started writing a story," she said in an interview earlier this year. Just a few days before her death, Shay was sending news tips via email to the newspaper.

"She always had an interesting news item to share," said Hungry Horse News Editor Chris Peterson, who worked with Shay for 18

years. "She was a great source of information and history. It's a sad day for the newspaper."

Shay was the "Girl Friday" for Hungry Horse News founder and editor Mel Ruder for 30 years, covering society news, Columbia Falls City Council and a host of other topics for Ruder, who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1965 in community journalism for his coverage of the 1964 flood.

Shay's journalism career, however, started long before she went to work for Ruder. As a child, she wrote for the Kalispell Times, the weekly newspaper in Kalispell at the time.

In her teens she worked in the newspaper mailroom and then came to Columbia Falls once a week to pick up ads from businesses. Shay was one of four children. Her mother was a homemaker and her



GLADYS SHAY is pictured at her home in Columbia Falls in July 2013. (Daily Inter Lake file photo)

father was a mainline conductor for the Great Northern Railway. In 1929 he got a transfer so he could drive the Galloping Goose — a passenger train — from Columbia Falls to Kalispell everyday.

Shay graduated from Flathead High School in 1946 and her uncle, John O'Connell, was mayor of Columbia Falls at the time. Shay was visiting her uncle and Ruder walked in one day that same year and said he was starting a newspaper in Columbia Falls.

"He had egg on his tie," Shay recalled.

Ruder knew she worked for the Kalispell paper and hired her shortly thereafter.

"I was his first and only news employee," she said.

They sat and typed stories

See SHAY, A11

SHAY

from Al

in desks close to each other. Both talked to themselves as they wrote and people often thought they were talking to each other, which wasn't the case. Ruder hated being interrupted.

"If he was typing, you left him alone," she said. "Ruder was a good name for him."

Both of their writing styles were clipped. They left articles like the word "the" out of their sentences to save space. And they were protective of their news and their sources.

She wrote a column of local news called "Heard Around the Town Square," which debuted with the newspaper's first edition Aug. 8, 1946. The job entailed much, much more, though, than simply writing about who had entertained guests or traveled afar.

"I was a reporter, ad

salesman, bookkeeper and I handled subscriptions," she noted in a 2013 interview with the Daily Inter Lake.

With a shorthand speed of 125 words a minute, she quickly became Ruder's right-hand assistant. It allowed Ruder time to photograph Glacier National Park and events throughout the Columbia Falls community.

"Mel mostly worked nights and weekends in the office," Shay recalled. "I'm probably the only person who ever argued with Mel. You couldn't work for him without being a perfectionist."

A crucial part of her job was smoothing things over with newspaper customers who'd been ruffled by Ruder's notoriously prickly personality.

She married Al Shay in 1947 and she had six children: Gail, Janet, Howard, Laurie, Tim and Becky. There was a 20-year span between the oldest and youngest and when Becky was born,

Shay, who had a wry sense of humor, quipped that she "was having her own grandchild."

But in the mid-1970s her life took an abrupt turn when her husband left her for another woman.

Shay still had children to feed and the newspaper business didn't make ends meet. So she quit.

"I never told Ruder why," she said.

Ruder would later say that letting her go was the worst thing he ever did. Shay got a better-paying job as a receptionist for Dr. Robert Cotner's dental office.

Later she was a clerk/typist and nurse's aide at the Montana Veterans Home. During World War II she had been a Girl Scout and had served as a nurse's aide at Kalispell General Hospital. (Incidentally, she also wrote troop news for her Girl Scout troop in grade school, an early hint at her vocation for writing.)

In 1978 she changed jobs again, finding

employment at the Columbia Falls liquor store. When the store manager retired, she ran the store.

She never strayed far from writing, though, and eventually resumed writing her column and offered up occasional feature stories for the Hungry Horse News.

Through the years Shay has been involved at some level in most of the town's civic organizations.

She was president of the Girl Scout Association and a troop leader for Brownies, Campfire Girls and Girl Scouts, and also was a Cub Scout den mother and pack secretary.

When she was 25 she was the youngest-ever Worthy Matron for the Order of Eastern Star. She's a founding member of the Methodist Church Ladies Aid in Columbia Falls.

Shay is a past president of the VFW Auxiliary and was president of the Columbia

Falls Library Association when the library moved to City Hall decades ago. Her involvement with the Columbia Falls Lions Club and North Valley Senior Citizens also spanned decades.

A graveside service is planned at 3 p.m. Friday at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Lynnette Hintze of the Daily Inter Lake contributed to this story.

Gladys Shay, 87

Gladys Shay died Monday, Oct. 26, 2015, of natural causes.

Gladys Ella Van was born June, 13, 1928, at the family home in Columbia Falls to George and Ella (Lewis) Van. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1946.

Gladys' journalism career started in high school where she worked on the school newspaper and also for the Kalispell Times. Shortly after graduation, she was hired as the first employee at the Hungry Horse News where she worked until the mid-1970s. Gladys covered all types of news and loved to tell the story of informing Mel Ruder he had won a Pulitzer Prize for their work covering the catastrophic 1964 floods. She later returned to writing the "Gabbing with gigi" column and wrote publicity for numerous organizations in the community. Being a reporter for more than 70 years was one of Gladys' most prized accomplishments.

Gladys was a candy striper at Kalispell Hospital during World War II. She was also active in band and had a lifelong love of music, especially bagpipes.

She married George "Al" Shay in 1947. They divorced in 1976. She lived most of her life "a mile away" from her birthplace in the home she designed and they built. They owned and operated the Columbia Falls Taxi Service and Gladys used her chauffeur's license to deliver the Star mail route from Columbia Heights to Coram. They also owned and operated Columbia Falls Transfer Company.

Pomeroy Chapter she established the Columbia Falls Rainbow Assembly for Girls.

She was a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church and belonged to Beulah Circle at Columbia Falls United Methodist Church.

Gladys was a member of Lions Club International and was the first female president of the Columbia Falls club. She also enjoyed membership with the Kalispell Lions.

In more recent years she liked wearing her red baseball cap to lunch with the Red Hats of Columbia Falls. She was an ardent supporter of the Montana Veterans Home and served on its foundation board. Gladys was a member of North Valley Senior Center, having served as its president and also playing thousands of games of pinochle there.

Gladys had skin cancer, including one on her face, which she joked was a product of her curiosity and "reporter's nose." She never hesitated to tell anyone with a suspicious spot to "get it checked."

Gladys had macular degeneration and although losing her sight was devastating, she compensated and persevered, making adjustments so it did not slow her down and she was able to finish her life living independently.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and sister Gertrude Van. Her grandsons Russell Schulte and Joel Atkinson and great-grandson Cole Sandefer also preceded her in death.

29 Oct 2015

D. Roger Shelley, 69

D. Roger Shelley, 69, died Thursday, April 9, 2015, at his home in Rexford of natural causes.

Services will be at 1 p.m., Friday, April 17, at

the Tobacco Valley Cemetery in Eureka.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka.

While raising her six children, Gladys was involved in all facets of Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts and worked with their school organizations, including once serving as the "pregnant president of the PTA." She was known to her grandchildren as "gigi" and enjoyed playing cards with them but insisted they had to play by her rules.

She loved the mountains and trees and specifically the North Fork where her favorite places were Great Northern Flats, Big Creek and Hornet Mountain. Gladys led a family competition to find the first wildflowers each year. All the kids and grandkids were encouraged to look for flowers but only "Mother Nature" was allowed to find the first buttercups and pussy willows.

Gladys was a 68-year member of the Order of Eastern Star and served in many capacities for the organization. While Worthy Matron of Estella

Survivors include her brothers, George Ted Van and his children and grandchildren, and John and his wife Florine Van and their children and grandchildren; her children and their families, Gail and Mitch Linne, Jan and Jerry Townsend, Howard and Connie Shay, Laurie Shay, Tim and Gwen Shay, and Becky Shay. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, a great-grandchild expected in November, and leaves behind a family cat that amused her. Also surviving her are numerous cousins and good friends.

Graveside services are at 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 30, at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls. A reception will follow at Columbia Falls United Methodist Church where the family looks forward to visiting with Gladys' friends.

Memorials may be made to Columbia Falls United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 27, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

Edward John Sherle, 86

Edward John Sherle passed away on May 10, 2015, after a long illness.

Edward was born Sept. 25, 1928, in Laredo, Montana, to John and Teresa Sherle. He was the youngest of nine children.

Edward served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Korea in 1952 and 1953. After his discharge from the Army, he went to work for Great Northern Railroad as a pipefitter in Whitefish.

On Sept. 28, 1962, he married the love of his life, Annie Lou Goss. Following their marriage they, along with Annie's three daughters, were transferred by Great Northern to Seattle where he worked until his retirement in 1988.

In October 1989, he and Annie returned to Montana and made their home in Columbia Falls until Annie's death in 2001. Annie and Eddie were inseparable and after her death he lost the will to live.

Eddie was preceded in death by his parents and



five sisters, Elsie, Anne, Lydia, Clara and Ida; three brothers, Otto, Walter and Ted and his wife Annie of 43 years.

He is survived by his three

stepdaughters, Margaret of Newport Beach, California, Carolyn of Cle Elum, Washington, and Christine of Lake Oswego, Oregon; three granddaughters; and seven great-grandchildren. Also surviving him are his sister-in-law Evelyn Syth of Kalispell, and many nieces and nephews. A unique soul who loved practical jokes, he will be missed.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 16 (Annie's birthday), at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. There will a viewing one hour prior to services.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Eddie's family.

Russell Lee Sherman, 63

Russell Lee Sherman, 63, died at home on Thursday, May 21, 2015. The Lake Funeral

Home and Crematory is assisting the family with arrangements.

Russell Sherman, 63

Russell passed away on May 21, 2015 at his home, of natural causes.

He was born July 8, 1951 in Havre, to Gordon and Agatha Sherman. Russ was raised in the Hi-Line area until 1964 when the family moved to the Mission Valley. He graduated from Ronan High School in 1969, where he was an outstanding lineman on the football team and known as the "Sherman Tank." After attending MSU Northern in Havre, he returned to the Mission Valley working at Dupuis Lumber and later Plumb Creek Lumber.

Russ married the love of his life, Joan Bocksnick, in October of 1972. They were blessed with five children Toni, Tomi, Cody, Jani, and Josi, who learned the art of hard work from their father.

Together Russ and Joan built their family farm. They raised beef cattle and had a large hog operation for many years. Russ loved farming and ranching and even though he was unable to do the physical work the last three years, he was still very active in the day to day operations of the farm. He was always will-



ing to give advice.

He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, A "Papa" to

his 12 grandchildren who will miss him dearly.

He was preceded in death by his daughter Jami, brothers Larry and Ron, his parents, and honorary daughter Lea Ann Larson.

Survivors include his wife, Joan; daughters Toni and Quincy Taylor of North Carolina, Josi and Thomas Brosam of Dillon and Tomi and Jeff Clairmont; son Cody and Libby Sherman, both of Ronan; and sisters Donna and Mike Molzhon and Shirley Burland, also of Ronan.

Memorial Services will be held 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 26, at the Ronan Christian Missionary Alliance Church, 35663 Terrace Lake Road. Please join the family for a reception immediately following the service.

Messages of condolences may be sent to www.TheLakeFuneralHomeAndCrematory.com.

James Webster Sherwood III, 78

James Webster Sherwood III, born May 18, 1936, a lifetime summer resident of Glacier National Park, passed away suddenly yet peacefully in his sleep Christmas night, Dec. 26, 2014.

He had only recently left his home in Plandome, New York, last June with his cherished wife Karyn, setting their sights west to spend the rest of their life together in the great outdoors of Montana and wintering in Arizona. He and Karyn were due to move into their new home together only weeks after he passed. His last months on the planet were happy and filled with excitement for this new adventure.

"Jaz" lived his life in magnificent chapters, as he had come to tell the world so vividly about in the many books he penned since he first published in Paris in 1963. His most recent book, "Going to the Sun," about growing



up inside Glacier National Park is sold all over the Flathead at stores and book

signings which will be continued by Karyn. A commemorative book-mark with his signature will be distributed.

His two loves in life were family and the written word. He was also an avid conversationalist, a talent he shared readily with friends and neighbors. You may remember him sharing a story or an observation with a particular pep in his step and flare in his words.

He is survived by his six children, Veronica, Alexandra, Roxanna, Christopher, Jim IV and George; as well as seven grandchildren.

Karyn will continue spending her summers in West Glacier lifted by the legacy her husband left behind.

7 Jul 2015

Caroljean Shorter, 74

Caroljean Shorter, 74, formerly of Whitefish, died unexpectedly Friday, Jan. 16, 2015, at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

She is survived by her husband, William "Bill" Shorter, of Tulsa; daughter,

Lisa LaFromboise, of Portland; and sons, Brett Miller of Whitefish and Jim Leake of Portland.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, at Add'Vantage Funeral Service, 9761 E. 31st St., Tulsa.

Wayne George Sherwood, 62

Wayne George Sherwood, 62, "joined our heavenly Father" on Sept. 9, 2015, in Kalispell.

He was born Jan. 23, 1953, in Kirkland, Washington. He moved to Bellingham, Washington, in 1967 and went to Meridian High School. Wayne ran a successful business building commercial aluminum fishing boats for Bristol Bay, Alaska, and San Francisco from 1977 to 1990, then went on to building outdrives and engines from 1990 to 2014. In 2004, he moved to his present home in Kalispell where he entertained the valley with his karaoke business.

Wayne loved the beauti-



ful lakes and mountains, taking his jet skis out to play on sunny days. He was always tin-

kering on a new project or entertaining people singing karaoke. He always had a story to share with his numerous friends and family. He cherished everyone he met in his journey through life.

Wayne will be most remembered for his love for everyone. We all have been blessed by his loving bear hugs. Wayne will be truly missed and remain in our hearts and prayers

forever.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Patricia Sherwood.

He is survived by his sister, Elaine, and Larry Ebner; brother, Keith Sherwood; his oldest daughter, Kristina Sherwood and Jeremy Kinn; son, Philip Sherwood and Nicole Mast, grandchildren, Ladahlia and Millie; and youngest daughter, Lindsey, and Bryan Luchi, grandchildren Trinity, Livia and Ella; also several nieces and nephews.

There will be a celebration of life potluck at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3, at the Eastside Grange in Creston.

27 Sep 2015

Deola Mary 'Dee' Shryock, 94

Deola Mary "Dee" Shryock, 94, from Polson, died at Heritage Place in Kalispell on Dec. 2, 2015.

The Shryock family have lost their matriarch. She will be tremendously missed as the focal point for all her children and extended family. Her strength and vitality, in spite of her age and declining health, has been an inspiration.

Dee was born on Nov. 19, 1921, in Blackfoot, Idaho, to John George Ellis and Blanche B. Jagers. Her mother came from a pioneer gold mining family of Bannock, and her father from southeastern Idaho. As one of eight children from that union, Dee grew up in Blackfoot during the Great Depression but completed her last year of high school at Butte High School in 1939. She then entered the Army cadet nurse program in Pocatello, Idaho, and graduated with a registered nursing degree in 1943. She was directly commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army as a nurse and was stationed at Fort George Wright in Spokane.

In 1944, she married Captain Harry "Lee" Shryock Jr., a World War II bomber pilot, in Spokane.

After the war, Dee lived the life of a career Air Force pilot's wife. Dee and Lee had five children and Dee worked when she could as a nurse. They enjoyed living around the country and overseas. The family lived in Ohio, Florida, Georgia, Texas, Idaho, Guam and Washington.

When Lee retired they moved to where they had honeymooned — Polson. Dee went to work for the Council on Aging and was instrumental in bringing Home Health to Lake County in the 1970s. They built a home on Flathead Lake where they enjoyed neighbors, friends and family. Her life changed dramatically when Lee was killed in 1984 in a highly publicized shooting at the



Polson airport after volunteering to exchange places with a kidnapped boy and pilot a plane.



She was a longtime member and deacon of the Presbyterian

Church in Polson. Her interests included bridge, painting, travel, walking and family get-togethers. She always liked dogs and leaves Enzo, an Italian greyhound. She spent much of the last 20 years enjoying the company of Walter Woodcock, whom she lost a few years ago.

Her family was everything to her, and she knew everyone and everything until the end. She believed in maintaining close family bonds, dignity, respect, honesty, hard work, helping those in need, and high expectations for all. She was a true lady.

She is survived by sons, Arnold and Sondra Shryock of Nampa, Idaho, George and Jane Shryock of Whitefish, and John and Rosa Shryock of Kalispell; and daughters, Mona Troy of Augusta, and Jayne Roberson recently of Polson; one sister, Virginia Reber, of Kalispell; two brothers, Robert Ellis of Meridian, Idaho, and Jake Ellis of Pocatello, Idaho; 12 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Dec. 7, at the Presbyterian Church in Polson. A lunch will follow. Cremation has taken place. Burial will be at the Polson Cemetery next to Lee, with a brief graveside commemoration.

Condolences can be sent to www.TheLakeFuneralHomeandCrematory.com. Arrangements are under the direction of the Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

Nadezhda 'Nadia' Ivanova Shvets, 66

Nadezhda "Nadia" Ivanova Shvets, 66, died in Kalispell April 5, 2015.

Funeral services will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 9, and from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, April 10, at

the Church of the Nazarene in Kalispell, followed by a graveside service at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

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

30 Oct 2015

Ramona Lee Siders, 53

Ramona Lee Siders, 53, of Conrad, passed away on Friday, Oct. 23, 2015, after a long battle with pancreatic cancer.

Ramona was born to Marguerite Campbell and Raymond Bersanti on Sept. 10, 1962. She grew up in Anaconda with her older sister Teddi Parsons and younger brother Steve Hoover.

Ramona raised six children, Angela Switzer and Brandon, Christopher Siders and Jordan Sheppard, Jennifer Siders, Stanley Lee Jr., Ramona Lee-Mutuc and Emerson Mutuc, and Ava Nelson.

Ramona will always be remembered for her strength and amazing free spirit.

Ramona was preceded

in death by her mother, Marguerite Campbell; father, Raymond Bersanti; brother, Raymond Bersanti Jr.; and daughter, Candy Rose Lee.

She is survived by her siblings, Teddi Parsons and Steve Hoover; children, Angie, Chris, Jen, Junior, Mona and Ava; her three granddaughters, Ella, Iris and Olivia; and numerous close friends.

Funeral services will be held at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 7, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home located at 525 Main Street, Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations at www.gofundme.com/monasiders53.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Richard 'Dick' Silberman, 73

Richard "Dick" Silberman, 73, died Monday, Nov. 23, 2015.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Nov. 28, 2015, at 2 p.m. at

the Ronan Community Center.

The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory is handling the arrangements for the family.

Robert Harvey Silvert, 80

Robert Harvey Silvert, known to friends and family as "Rob," passed away at home peacefully on Friday, Sept. 4, 2015, at the age of 80 years.

Rob was born April 1, 1935, in Nazareth, Pennsylvania, where he spent his entire childhood.

He began an accomplished career in the U.S. Air Force and served from 1955 to 1959. Rob was awarded the Outstanding Airman Award for seven consecutive months under the Strategic Air Command.

Honorably discharged from the military, Rob moved on to a career that spanned 32 years at Pan American Airways. He retired as supervisor of heavy overhaul maintenance and engineering of 747 services for Pan Am at JFK International Airport in New York.

He resided in Greenwich, Connecticut, for 18 years, then onto Ridgefield, Connecticut, for 10 years. Moving from Ridgefield in 1992 to reside in Kalispell, he continued his aeronautical career with ST Mobile Aerospace Engineering in Mobile, Alabama, where he was a project manager of 747 maintenance. Finalizing his aviation career, he was employed by Atlas Air, where he consulted and traveled the world as an aviation technical consultant.



Retiring to his Montana home in 2003, Rob enjoyed

many activities including fishing, hunting, restoring/building furniture and attending local auctions, and personal storytelling.

Rob is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Bette," to whom he was married for 51 years. In addition, he is survived by his children, Nancy and Scott Follett, Amy and Paul Carlsted, and son Todd; and two grandchildren, Brooks and Parker Follett. He is also survived by two sisters, Joyce and Lucy of Pennsylvania.

The family requests memorial contributions be made to the Pan American Historical Foundation or to the Wounded Warrior Project.

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.

Elizabeth S. Simms, 70

Elizabeth S. Simms 70, of Bigfork, died Thursday, March 19, 2015, in Kalispell. No services

are planned at this time. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Helen Cameron Simpson, 91

Helen Cameron Simpson, 91, a lifelong resident of Kalispell, died peacefully of natural causes early Monday morning, Nov. 16, 2015, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home.

She was born in Kalispell Oct. 12, 1924, to David S. and Charlotte Bingham Cameron. She was the youngest of four children. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1942 and went on to attend the University of Washington in Seattle, where she was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

She returned to Kalispell after two years of college and married Harold E. "Hap" Simpson, her high school sweetheart, on Nov. 7, 1944. They enjoyed 59 years together before Hap's death in July 2004.

Helen was a devoted wife and mother. She held the family together while Hap was busy developing a business in the lumber industry. The family had a summer home on Flathead Lake for many years where she loved the lake and the view of the mountains. She was an avid golfer along with the other members of the family and competed in many of the local tournaments. She was a member of Kalispell Golf Association, Eastern Star and a 50-year member of PEO. Helen was a Cub Scout den mother and a Brownie Scout den mother for her children.

After the children were grown, Hap and Helen enjoyed travel with friends and shared their time between Palm Desert, California, and Kalispell, but wherever Helen was she always had a view of the mountains.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her sister, Ora Clark; and two brothers, Lewis and Leslie Cameron.

She is survived by her son, Larry R. Simpson, and his wife, Margie,

of Kalispell; and twin daughters, Linda Simpson Cloutier of Kalispell, and Kathryn Leary and husband, Tom, of Glenbrook, Nevada; her seven grandchildren, Lisa Cloutier and husband Brian Anderson of Bigfork, David Simpson and wife Ann Lee of Asheville, North Carolina, Jenny Cloutier of Whitefish, Chris Leary of San Francisco, Mike Simpson of Boise, Idaho, John Leary of Whitefish, and Kevin Leary and wife Holly of Reno, Nevada. Helen was the proud great-grandmother of Alexander and Olivia Simpson, Ava and Andrew Leary and Shaw Simpson.

The family wants to say a special thank you to Shana Myren for her devotion, kindness and friendship to Mom and to all of us over the last 13 years. The family also wants to thank the nurses and aides at Immanuel Lutheran Home for making her last five years as comfortable as possible.

A memorial service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, at Buffalo Hill Terrace, 40 Claremont St. Burial will be in the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to Shriners Hospital, 911 W. Fifth Avenue, Spokane, WA 99204, a lifelong charity of Helen and Hap's; or a charity of your choice.

Helen's heartwarming smile will be missed by all.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

10 Mar 2015

Henrietta Shropshire Simpson, 81

Henrietta Marie Ebbers was born Oct. 25, 1933, in Howells, Nebraska. Her parents, Henry and Rose Ebbers, moved to Buhl, Idaho, during the Dust Bowl. They raised their three daughters, Margery, Henrietta and Gabriella, on their family farm.

Henrietta graduated from Buhl High School. While attending business school in Twin Falls, Idaho, she met, then married Jay Shropshire in 1952. Together, they had three sons, Mark, Robert and Tyler, all of whom survive her. Their first years were spent in Buhl where Jay was owner/operator of a trucking business. She kept the business records in spite of being severely dyslexic, raised her first two sons, Mark and Robert, and even worked part time in the local cannery.

They sold Jay's successful business in 1967 and moved to Tacoma, Washington, where Tyler was born.

Three years later, they moved to Kalispell. In 1978, Jay had a massive heart attack. Henrietta participated in every aspect of his recovery, including walking with him 3 miles every day. She went to work, first at the Kalispell library and then Conrad Bank. She put her seamstress skills to work to help pay medical bills and still



managed to garden and maintain an immaculate home. She retired from the bank after Jay died

in 1990, then started a successful housecleaning business.

She married James Simpson, a local pastor, in 1992 and began a new adventure as a pastor's wife first in Vista, California, and then Hermiston, Oregon. After retirement, they enjoyed traveling, flying to the interior of Mexico, as well as China, boating to Hawaii, and driving through Alaska, just to name a few trips.

A series of strokes slowed her and eventually ended her life on Friday, March 6, 2015, at age 81.

She is survived by her three sons, Mark, Robert and Tyler, and their families; as well as her beloved husband, James Simpson, and his four children, Paul, Jennifer, Elaina and Ernie, and their families; and Margery, her sister, and her family. Henrietta will be greatly missed.

Graveside services will be held at 1:30 p.m. Monday, March 16, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A reception will follow at Easthaven Baptist Church in Kalispell.

2 Dec 2015

Christina Linn Sires, 40

Christina Linn Sires, 40, passed away Nov. 27, 2015, in Kalispell.

Christina was born March 7, 1975, in Springfield, Oregon.

Christina went to Flathead High School where she graduated and then went on to the University of Phoenix. She enjoyed horses, fishing, camping, hunting, hockey, and football, but her greatest love was getting her hair and nails done and spending time with her family.

She is survived by husband, Jesse Perry; children, Tyler Bradshaw, Lauren and Gavin Sheldon, Dylan and Eason



Sires; brother, Mike Burgoyne and sister-in-law Danielle Teske; mother, Patty Lou

Thomas; grandmother, Edna Platt; and nieces, Kyleigh and Bayleigh Burgoyne.

A memorial service will be held in the summer.

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

28 Mar 2015

Dennis Sitch, 70

Dennis Sitch passed away March 21, 2015, from natural causes in Polson.

He was born in Minot, North Dakota, on July 22, 1944, to Peter and Rene Sitch.

Dennis spent his younger years in North Dakota, and in his teens he moved to Sandpoint, Idaho. He graduated from Sandpoint High school in 1962.

After graduation he worked in local sawmills until he was drafted into the United States Army, serving in the Vietnam War for two years.

After his honorable discharge from the Army, he moved to Lincoln, Montana, to work as a post cutter with his brother Pete Sitch.

He helped out with odd jobs and created relationships with the townsfolk of Lincoln throughout his lifetime.

Dennis Sitch spent his life devoted to his nieces and nephews in their sports and milestones in their lives. He then moved to Polson in 2003 to live with his niece Tammy Sitch. Tammy proceeded to care for Dennis until his passing.

He is survived by his



sisters, Elvira and Miron Lewis, and Arline Gilbert; brother, Greg Sitch; his nieces and nephews, (the Sitches, the Gilberts, and the Lewises),



and his many friends in Lincoln.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Peter and Rene Sitch; brother and sister-in-law, Pete and Jean Sitch; and brother-in-law, Rodger Gilbert.

Dennis peacefully passed on the weekend of the Pete Sitch Basketball tournament, a time in which his family could come together and celebrate his life.

Dennis Sitches memorial will be at noon April 11 in the Community Hall of Lincoln, with a celebration of life to follow.

Messages of condolences may be shared with the family at www.thelakefuneralhomeandcrematory.com.