

### Beatrice Mary Tallmadge, 87

Beatrice Mary Tallmadge, 87, of Troy, died Sunday, March 8, 2015, at Cabinet Peaks Medical Center in Libby of natural causes.

Services will be at 3

p.m. Monday, March 16, at the Troy Community Baptist Church. Visitation will be from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 15, at Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

### Jeffrey Eric Tappero, 37

Jeffrey Eric Tappero, 37, died Saturday, Nov. 28, 2015, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He is survived by his father Jerry Tappero, and

mother Susan Colville. No services are planned at this time.

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

1 Jun 2015

### Roger N. Targerson, 71

Roger N. Targerson passed away May 28, 2015.

Roger was born July 24, 1943, in Vancouver, British Columbia, to Harold and Yvonne Targerson. At the age of 2, the family moved to Washington and lived in the Everett-Seattle area.

He graduated from Everett High School, Everett Junior College and the University of Washington. Roger later earned his master's degree in military science at the Advanced Armor School in Fort Knox, Kentucky. He was in the Army National Guard for 18 years.

He held many jobs over the years. When he worked for Sperry Rand he put all the engineering drawing for the Boeing 787 on microfiche and all state documents in Olympia on microfiche. Roger also enjoyed farming, cooking, and his beautiful red tractor.

He had a great love for music and his guitar and could turn any gathering into a song fest. He had his own sense of humor and could turn anything into a joke. His favorite fun times were with his family at the ocean — even making jokes about



a tsunami taking us all out together.

Roger was an EMT for about 10 years. He served on the Dayton School board, Lake County



Planning board, was a Gideon, and on the Polson Community Church board.

In 2001 he developed Guillain-Barre but fought his way back to his tractor.

He loved his tractor but he loved his five grandchildren, Emily, Chelsea, Cadis, Owen and Lucas, even more. He is also survived by his wife Anita, and children, Wes and Melissa, and a sister Faye.

Memorial services for Roger will be held at 11 a.m. today, June 2, at the Polson Community Church.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at [www.thelakefuneralhomeandcrematory.com](http://www.thelakefuneralhomeandcrematory.com). Arrangements are under the direction of the Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

### Elizabeth Grondin Taylor, 76

Elizabeth Grondin Taylor, 76, died Sept. 2, 2015, after a brief illness, with her loving family by her side.

She was born April 6, 1939, in Bemidji, Minnesota.

She is survived by her daughters, Leslie Taylor, of Seattle, Washington, and Jennifer Merriman, of Boulder, Colorado, and two grandchildren, Remley and Gordon Merri-man. She is also survived by her sister, Geneva

Reff, of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and niece and nephews: Debbie, Robert, Steven, and Tim.

She is preceded in death by her mother and father, Elizabeth and Ernest Grondin, and brothers, Robert and Gordon.

In lieu of flowers please send a donation to the Flathead County Animal Shelter.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Elizabeth's family.

1 Jun 2015

### Thomas Taylor, 43

Thomas Taylor, 43, of Breezy Point, Minnesota, passed away Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

He was born to Thomas and Maryann Taylor on Oct. 27, 1971, in Whitefish.

Tom met the love of his life, Kristi Wiederien, in 1991 in Bozeman. They married on Sept. 28, 1996, in Columbia Falls.

Tom began working for Costco Wholesale in 1993 in Missoula. During his 22-year career with Costco, he worked in many different capacities at six separate locations throughout Montana, Illinois and Minnesota. He was currently an assistant warehouse manager at Costco in Baxter, Minnesota. He loved his job and all of the coworkers and friends he met throughout the years. They meant a lot to him.

He enjoyed spending time in the outdoors with his wife and two amazing sons, Thomas and Lucas,



camping, fishing and boating.

He was an exceptional father and husband.

Tom loved his immediate and extended family and his loss will be deeply felt.

Tom is survived by his wife, Kristi; sons, Thomas and Lucas; mother, Maryann Taylor-Rhine, and William; brother, John Taylor, and Suzette; sisters, Kimberly Stratton and Scott, and Elizabeth Willcut and Craig; and mother-in law, Rose Wiederien.

He was preceded in death by his father.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 6, at Kline Funeral Home, 30208 Lilac Drive, Pequot Lakes, Minnesota. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service.

### Alvina Mae Tenas, 63

Alvina Mae Tenas, 63, died Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2015, in Polson.

A wake will begin at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 10, followed by a rosary at 8 p.m., and funeral Mass will be 10 a.m.

Friday, Dec. 11, all at Elmo Hall.

Burial will take place in Dayton Cemetery.

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

9 Aug 2015

### Vernon T. 'Sonny' Tennant, 79

Vernon T. "Sonny" Tennant, 79, of Missoula, passed away Aug. 6, 2015, at the Stevensville Living Center.

He was born April 17, 1936, in Kalispell, the son of the late Vernon and Mary Tennant. Vern was raised in Kalispell. During his high school years he found a passion for sports, in which he excelled in football. He graduated from Flathead High School—Home of the Braves in 1955. After high school Vern became a Grizzly on the football team as a fullback on the 1956 roster.

In 1958 he joined the Navy and was stationed in Hawaii for three years, before returning to Kalispell. In 1961, Vern went to a dance where he laid eyes on Audrey and an instant love for each other was formed. They married in 1961 and quickly began a family. Vern was a hard worker and a great family man. He worked for Meadow Gold for 30 years before retiring. He had the ability to get everyone's



attention with his whistling.

He loved to watch sports, had many "secret" fishing

holes, challenged all to pinochle and cribbage, and enjoyed dancing with his wife at the Accordion Club dances.

Vern is survived by his wife of 54 years, Audrey, of Missoula; and three sons, Richard and Julie Gebhardt of Ronan, Rocky and Sue Ellen of Delaware and Montana, Kirk and Lori Tennant of Stevensville; two daughters, Janet Turney of Victor, and Julie and Mike Weiner of Wisconsin; 12 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren, one brother, George, and one, sister, Louis, of Kalispell.

The family suggests to celebrate the life of Vern, crack open a beer and enjoy. Here's to you, Dad!

Condolences and memories may be shared with the family at [www.white-sittfuneralhome.com](http://www.white-sittfuneralhome.com).

28 Mar 2015

### Jerry W. Thew, 75

Jerry W. Thew, 75, died March 19, 2015.

He was born in Chico, California, to Ulysses and Pauline Thew. Jerry grew up on a farm with his two sisters and younger brother.

Jerry became a diesel mechanic. He mar-

ried Jeannette Bildi in May 1974. He moved to Kalispell in 1980 with his family.

Jerry loved to fish and hunt and to help others who needed his help.

He leaves behind his wife and kids.

He will be missed a lot.

### Jeanette Thew, 78

Jeanette Thew, 78, died in Kalispell on Aug. 28, 2015.

Jeanette was born March 2, 1937, in Oakland, California to Fred and Zeldia (Lamoreaux) Beldi. Jeanette grew up and attended school in Oakland.

She became a nurse's aide and worked at the Lutheran Home and for daycare at St. Matthew's School. She volunteered for the crisis line and enjoyed reading, crocheting, and going camping



with family.

Jeanette was preceded in death by her husband, Jerry Thew; sister,

Zelda Hughs, and brother, Arnold Beldi.

She is survived by sons, Henry, of Couer'd Alene, and Thad Rivera, of Kalispell; daughters, Norma Rivera of Kalispell, Donna Kilpatrick, of Ari-

zona, and Cindy Rivera of Kalispell; brothers, Fred and George Beldi; sister, Barbara Beldi; nine grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren and one great-great-granddaughter. No services are planned at this time. Family and friends are encouraged to visit the website [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

### Taylor Thompson, 23

Our beloved son, brother and friend Taylor Thompson passed away unexpectedly Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015.

Taylor was born in Kalispell on July 27, 1992, and grew up in Whitefish. He was an honor student at the University of Montana with plans to graduate this spring with a double major in economics and psychology. Taylor had just been selected to Global Grizzlies, a service organization through the university, and planned to travel to Uganda this summer to provide volunteer services.

Taylor was passionate in life. He took great joy in making others happy and made a conscious decision each day to live life to the fullest and not let things get him down. Taylor loved his family and friends; he was especially close and proud of his younger brothers.

Among many of



Taylor's passions, he especially enjoyed hockey, soccer, skiing, hiking, camping, golf, music

and art. But his favorite pastime was hanging out with his many friends.

Taylor is survived by his parents Jim and Robyn Thompson, brothers Jared and Ryan, and many extended family.

Taylor was a bright spot in many lives and his kind and loving spirit will be sorely missed.

A memorial service will be held for family and friends at 3 p.m. this Sunday, Nov. 8, at the Whitefish Performing Arts Center, 600 East Second Street. A celebration of life is being planned for a later date.

### Colleen Quinn Thomas, 55,

Colleen Quinn Thomas, 55, died Monday, July 13, 2015, at Renaissance Assisted Living in Kalispell.

Cremation has taken

place. A private family memorial service will be held at a later date.

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

### Raymond Gerald Thompson, 74

Raymond Gerald Thompson, 74, of Missoula died at his home on April 22, 2015.

He was born April 8, 1941, in Anchorage,

Alaska.

Cremation has taken place and services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

### Thomas Thompson, 66

Thomas Thompson, 66, of Kalispell died Aug. 14, 2015.

Buffalo Hill funeral home and crematory is caring for the family.

July 12

**Marcia Thomsen (Bennett), 69**

Mrs. Marcia Thomsen (Bennett) passed away at Banner Boswell, Good Samaritan Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona, on Dec. 8, 2014, at the age of 69 due to a serious fall that lead to severe head trauma.



beauty, intellect and compassion, she will be greatly missed by all.

Marcia was born on July 22, 1945, in New York to Henry and Matilda Bennett. A gifted artist and teacher, she graduated with her Bachelor in Education from Buffalo State University, then studied for a Masters of Literature at University of Syracuse.

She taught high school English in Newark, New Jersey, before John Denver's "Rocky Mountain High" convinced her to move west to Montana, in 1972, where she taught elementary school in Columbia Falls. Her interest in her students was sincere and compassionate. Through her work she was able to transform countless lives.

Marcia lived her life with strength, grace and kindness. She brought her love of art and literature to many; leading and attending painting classes, singing and writing poetry, motivating students and friends to believe that they are capable of anything- as she, herself, demonstrated. Marcia enriching many lives with her

had a deep affection for family. She was a giving wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend.

She is survived by her husband and love, Lyle Thomsen, of Bigfork, and Surprise, Arizona; her daughters, Emily Walter, Amanda and Matt Cornelius, Kirsten and Neil Patel and Amity Thomsen; her grandchildren, Guillermo, Matilda, Isabelle, Ella, David, Morgan and Mija; her brother Walter and Irene Veit; sister Vivian and Hank Mason; nieces, Trisha and Leslie; nephews, Eric and Brian, and many, many good friends in all corners of the country.

A small service was held December 12, 2014, at the Desert Palms Presbyterian Church in Sun City West, Arizona.

A celebration of life will be held 11 a.m. July 22 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls. Following the summer service, her remains will be spread along the Florida coast and the North Fork of the Flathead.

**Bernadette 'Mae' Thramer, 84**

Our dear, sweet Mom was raised up on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2015, in the presence of her loving family. She was a very vibrant and lively 84 years young. Her passing was due to complications of pancreatic cancer. Like many other obstacles in her life, she approached this battle with the most positive attitude possible, not happy to have it placed in her path, but very willing (in fact, eager) to fight it.

Bernadette "Mae" Marie Thiele was born on Sept. 5, 1930, on the family farm near Clearwater, Nebraska, to Carl John and Rose Gertrude (Funk) Thiele. She was the ninth of their 12 children and grew up happily despite being a child of the Great Depression.

After graduating from St. Mary's in O'Neill, Nebraska, in 1948, she married James Joseph Thramer on Feb. 26, 1949, at St. John's Catholic Church in Clearwater, Nebraska. They were blessed with eight mouths to feed throughout their marriage. In 1956, Jim, Mae and six of their children moved to Kalispell where they raised their family and added the final two to their brood.

In 1973, they headed back to Nebraska where Jim preceded Mae in death in March of 1982. Over the next several years she moved to be near one or more of her children and siblings, finally settling in Neligh, Nebraska. In 2004, she made her way back to Montana where she spent the remainder of her life enjoying family and friends, and life in general. We, her Montana children, were so happy to have her near again and able to enjoy her over the last several years.

Throughout Mom's life music was a common theme. She played piano from the time she was a child and played the organ for and sang in the choir in many of the various parishes to which she belonged.



lane, Jim and Alice Thramer, Rosemary and Jim Gilbert, Dwayne and Laurie Thramer,

and Chris Ohler and Mark Delorme, all of the Flathead Valley; and Kathy and Bob Slocum, and John Thramer and Patti Hirschmann of Norfolk, Nebraska; 19 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings, Vince, Lillian, Marge, Charles and Adelaide "Lou." We are sure she will also be remembered by many other family and friends too numerous to mention.

Besides being a daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, aunt and friend, Mom wore many hats throughout her life. She worked in the food, health and home health industries and was very much admired by her employers, patrons and patients. In fact, Mom continued to care for her elderly patients until just the last few months of her life.

Mom gave us love, and taught us forgiveness and patience. She was never afraid of hard work and passed that strong work ethic on to us. She persevered through tough times and remained strong in her faith, was spunky and sassy and always happy to share a laugh. She was always on the go and happy to be a part of her large circle of friends at the Elms and St. Matthew's Parish. We thank God for cell phones or we never would have been able to keep track of her! We love you Mom and miss you so much.

A rosary will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Kalispell. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 12:10 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, also at St. Matthew's. Father Rod Ermatinger will officiate. A luncheon will follow the Mass and all are invited.

**Ernest William Thureno, 62**

Ernest William Thureno, 62, passed away Feb. 3, 2015, in Kalispell, in a vehicle accident.

He was born on December 27, 1952, in Lynwood, California, to Ernest William Thureno and Virginia Marilyn Thureno. He grew up in Downey, California, and graduated from Downey High School.

He joined the U.S. Navy November 1973, was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia, attained rank of E-3 Airman, worked as an aircraft mechanic, helicopter crewman and on mines countermeasures. He served in Egypt, Italy, Scotland and other countries. He completed his military service in October 1976, and returned to California. He was a Christian, married and raised his two children there until moving to Montana.

He dearly loved his two children and was overjoyed last October with the birth of his first grandchild Mackenzie. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying fishing, hiking, camping, landscaping his yard and was always ready to help his family, friends and anyone who had a need.

He is survived by his



wife Margerite Putman; son Ernest Thureno; daughter Marena Thureno-Collins, son-in-law Cale Collins; granddaughter Mackenzie



Collins; two sisters Kathy Gallagher and Ellen Reece and brother-in-law Ed Reece; four nieces, one nephew, numerous great-nieces and great-nephews, mother of his children Carol Curtis; many other family members, longtime friends and colleagues.

A viewing was held Feb. 6 at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell. A celebration of life was held on Feb. 8, at the Swan Lake Grange Hall. A special thank you to all Ernie's friends who organized the memorial service and provided a wonderful meal and for the beautiful flower arrangements prepared by Jessi Way.

An online obituary may be viewed and memories and condolences maybe sent to Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home at [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com).

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim; parents, Carl and Rose Thiele; daughter, Susan Dianne; granddaughter, Anna Mae; sisters, Teresa, Cecelia and Geraldine; brothers, Augustine, Louie and Clement Joseph; and many in-laws, family and friends who were near and dear to her.

She is survived and will be greatly missed by her loving children, Mary Thramer and Tom McFar-

Donations in Mae's memory may be made to St. Matthew's Parish or to the charity of your choice.

Mom will be interred in Nebraska with our Dad following a Mass at St. John's Church in Clearwater in September of 2015. Details for this service will be shared at a later date.

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

### **Eva Helena Tice, 91**

Eva Helena Tice, 91, died Aug. 4, 2015, in Kalispell.

She is survived by John, James and Emily Tice.

Private services have been held.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

### **Robert L. Tice, 91**

Robert L. Tice, 91, of Bigfork died at Kalispell Regional Medical Center on July 28, 2015.

He is survived by sons Jon and Jim Tice.

Graveside services

will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday Aug. 3, 2015, at the Bigfork Community Cemetery.

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

### **Sidney James Tietema, 90**

Sidney James Tietema, 90, died at Polson Health & Rehabilitation Center on Feb. 9, 2015.

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

11 Dec 2015

### **Jerry D. Tiller, 59**

Jerry D. Tiller, 59, of Kalispell, passed away Tuesday night, Dec. 8, after a long battle with brain tumors. He will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Terry Tiller; daughter, Sherry Tiller; son, Britain Tiller, and father, Raymond Tiller.

He is also survived by his sisters, Susan Leksén and Alan and Charlene

and Gregg Self, both of Montana, as well as many neices and nephews.

Jerry was a loving husband, father and friend. He was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses on July 24, 1974 and served as an elder for many years.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses 1900 U.S. 93 W., Whitefish.

This loving man will be deeply missed.

## James Noble Toavs, 79

James Noble Toavs, 79, of Columbia Falls, "went to be with the Lord" on Friday, Dec. 11, 2015, at his winter home in Sun City, Arizona, under the care of his family.

Graveside services will be 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 18, at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls with Pastor Jerry Buchanan officiating. Visitation will be 2 to 7 p.m. at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell with a remembrance service at 7 p.m. You are invited to share a memory of Jim at the service.

James Nobel Toavs was born on Aug. 19, 1936, the youngest son of Nicholas and Katie (Penner) Toavs at the



family farm north of Wolf Point. He was raised and attended Wide Awake School until age 12. In 1945, the family moved to Columbia Falls. Jim attended youth group at First Baptist and met Ava Harder.

James married Ava E. Harder on April 3, 1955, in Columbia Falls. In 1957 they purchased a small farm west of Columbia Falls and raised their four children, Katherine, Laureen, Diane and Michael. Jim worked at Plum Creek Lumber and later at Anaconda

Aluminum Company, Arco and Columbia Falls Aluminum Company. He worked himself up to chief operator in the rectifier, controlling the power. He retired in 1995.

Jim loved to fish and hunt and soak up the sun in Arizona in the winters. He was a master "MacGyver" at every thing he touched; if there was a way to fix, it he was the man for the job.

Jim raised his kids to love the Lord and trust in Him in everything. Jim was a devoted and loving husband.

James was preceded in death by his wife, Ava; daughter, Laureen; six brothers, Theodore, Nicholas, Reuben, Wilmer, Martin and

Frank; and one sister, Susie Khron.

He is survived by his children, Katherine and Jerry Choate of Sidney, Diane and Tim Werner of Crosby, North Dakota, Michael Toavs of Glendive, and son-in-law Rod Emmert of Columbia Falls; eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren; brother, Arlie, and Jeannie Toavs; sisters, Margaret and Tommy Heidner, Ruth and Erwin Spent, Elizabeth Stevens and Hannah Shuttlesworth.

Stakston-Martin Funeral Home of Crosby, North Dakota, and, locally, Buffalo Hill Funeral Home are assisting with the arrangements.

20 Feb 2015

## Virginia 'Ginger' Lucille Todd, 88



ed and was known for her beautiful stained glass windows. She loved her family

and friends, had wonderful dinner parties and is remembered by all who knew her for her feisty sense of humor.

Virginia was preceded in death by her beloved son, Robert Michael; husband, Jim; and brother, Bill.

She is survived by her sisters, Florence Sutherland and Mary Inabnit; her brothers, Dick, Clark, Tom and Jim Fowler; six children, Tom and wife Debbie of Anchorage, Alaska, Jeff and wife Debbie of Reno, Nevada, Joe and wife Roschelle of Kalispell, Bill of Kalispell, John and wife Carrie of Anchorage, and daughter, Mary Young and husband Jim of Anchorage. She also leaves behind 18 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial Mass will be held at 12:10 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Kalispell, with a luncheon to follow the service.

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

Virginia "Ginger" Lucille Todd, 88, "went to be with Jesus" on Thursday, Feb. 19, 2015, at home surrounded by her kids.

She was born in 1926, in Conrad, Montana, to Ida and Walter Fowler. She grew up on the farm with two sisters and five brothers. After graduating from high school, she moved to Kalispell on the train after winning \$50 in a "Name that Tune" contest.

In 1948, she married Jim Todd of Kalispell. They began a family and over the course of many years had seven children. Jim and Virginia were married for 56 years before Jim's death in 2004.

Virginia was a vivacious lover of life and an extremely hard worker. Along with raising seven children, she transformed a run-down house into a beautiful home. She became a "jack-of-all-trades" and could easily be found wallpapering, on a ladder painting the ceilings or lugging a hammer around for her latest project. She loved to garden in her yard, and watch the birds in her feeders, protecting them from any encroaching enemy squirrels. Virginia loved to play cards and enjoyed many years of bridge as a master bridge player with her lovely friends. She belonged to a St. Matthew's Study Club that met for many years. Virginia loved art and over the years she drew, painted

### Russell Toft, 62

Russell Toft passed away on Oct. 8, 2015, at the age of 62, after a hard fought battle with pancreatic cancer.

Mr. Toft was preceded in death by his father, Richard Toft.

He is survived by his mother Barbara Toft, brother Ken Toft, sisters Judith Mackin and Beverly Toft, sister-in-law Patty Toft, brother-in-law Pat Mackin, several nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Russell was born in Sidney on July 28, 1953. The family moved to Kalispell where he grew up. He graduated from the University of Montana and managed a grain elevator in Kalispell. Later, he received his Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Washington and lived in Seattle where he was a manager for Fatigue Technology Inc.



Russell was a loving, kind and generous person and will be greatly missed by many.

Please join family and friends graveside at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 7, at C. E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A fellowship gathering will follow at 3 p.m. on the second floor of the Museum at Central School.

### Torkel 'Tork' Leon Torkelson, 87

Torkel "Tork" Leon Torkelson, 87, died Monday, March 9, 2015 in Whitefish.

Tork was born Dec. 9, 1927 in Spokane, Washington.

Tork met Lorraine Brown in high school and they were later married. They raised their children in Whitefish in the home he built with his own two hands.

He went to work for the Great Northern Railway in 1947 and retired from the Burlington Northern Railway in 1990. Many of those years were as a machine operator building bridges and tunnels.

He was a part of the Whitefish Boat Club, the Whitefish Winter Carnivals, the Masons, and an honorary member of the Moose Lodge. Tork's passion was being a pilot and flying small private airplanes. He enjoyed golfing, shooting trap, hunting, ice fishing, camping and being part of four wheeling with the Iguanas.

Tork was preceded in death by his wife Lorraine Brown Torkelson; his parents Torkel and Adeline Torkelson of Spokane, Washington; bro-



ther Harold Torkelson; grand-daughter Shyloh Cochran of Whitefish and great-grand-

daughter Alysa Huffine of Polson.

He is survived by son Wayne and wife Robby Torkelson of Columbia Falls; daughter Laurel and Dallas Torgerson of Polson; daughter Karla and husband Joe McKellar of Whitefish; several grandchildren, Olin and Blaine Torkelson, Darryl, Darrin, Leigh (Huffine) and Mara Torgerson, Jesse Cochran and numerous great-grandchildren. He is also survived by one brother Kenny and wife Evelyn Torkelson of Spokane, Washington.

A memorial service will be held for family and friends at the Moose Lodge in Whitefish at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 28 with a luncheon to follow.

If you would like to make a donation, please do so to the charity of your choice.

Austin Funeral Home is caring for Tork's family.

15 Mar 2015

25 Dec 2015

### Donald 'Donny' Clifford Toftum, 40

Donald "Donny" Clifford Toftum, 40, passed away Saturday, Dec. 19, 2015, at his home.

He was born July 23, 1975, to Ole and Peggy Toftum in Whitefish. He joined his brother, John. Donny attended schools in Columbia Falls. He loved hunting, fishing and camping.

In 1994, Don was blessed with a son, Cole Alan. Donny met his soul mate, Tinamay Foss, and they were married in 2005 on his birthday. Their happiness ended too soon. Tina was killed in a car accident on Oct. 22, 2006.



Donny "is now in the arms of his Lord and his beloved wife, Tinamay."

"We love

you, Donny."

He is survived by his son, Cole; father, Ole Toftum; brother, John and family, Jamie, Jesse, James and Jaydon; two half brothers, Brian and Justin; mother, Peggy; grandmother, Audrey; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

A memorial will be held at a later date.

### Colin K. Torgenrud, 55

Colin K. Torgenrud, 55, died Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2015, at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula.

Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Tues-

day, Jan. 27, at Lakeview Cemetery. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at The Lake Funeral Home (formerly Grogan Funeral Home).



**Margaret 'Rusty' (Lemieux)  
Torstenson, 74**

Margaret "Rusty" (Lemieux) Torstenson, 74, peacefully passed away on May 18, 2015, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, surrounded by her loving sons.



enjoyed many adventurous trips around the world.

Rusty was a very special lady

She was born Dec. 5, 1940, to Monna and Herbert Lemieux. Rusty grew up and attended school in Malta.

Rusty met the love of her life, R.W. "Buck" Torstenson, while working at the Sports Club in Shelby. After a short courtship, Buck and Rusty moved to Kalispell, were married in 1967 and spent 48 wonderful years together.

Buck and Rusty were a true team in love and business. They both cherished life and were extremely hard workers. Once in Kalispell, they purchased and operated the Pastime Bar. Being the true businessman that Buck was, he saw an opportunity in the Hennessey Steak House when it became available. With Rusty's love and support and a whole lot of hard work, this restaurant with its employees and patrons grew to what was known as Montana's premier Convention Center and Restaurant, the Outlaw Inn. After many years at the Outlaw, Buck and Rusty sold their interest and bought Fenders, the restaurant where they worked together until they retired.

Along with being a successful businesswoman, Rusty was a loving mother, grandmother and friend to all. She was a wonderful cook, hostess and entertainer. Buck and Rusty enjoyed spending time on their house boat on beautiful Flathead Lake where guests always enjoyed the fine food and wonderful hospitality. Buck and Rusty were also avid travelers and

and truly cared about people and animals and would do anything to help others in need. Rusty was always very proud of her boys and family and enjoyed spending time with them.

Rusty was preceded in death by her loving husband, R.W. "Buck" Torstenson; and her parents, Monna and Herbert.

She is survived by her sons, Patrick Torstenson, Scott and Mike Bare; and her many wonderful grandchildren.

A viewing will be from noon to 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 2, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, June 3, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. Funeral services will follow at noon at the Church at Creston Lutheran, with a luncheon to follow.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thank you to the wonderful staff at the Brendan House and Rusty's fellow members of the Church at Creston Lutheran.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Flathead County Animal Shelter.

"Rusty you will always live in our hearts and every time we enjoy a cup of tea, a good meal and kindness we will think of you!"

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Rusty's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and view Rusty's tribute wall.

### R.W. 'Buck' Torstenson, 94

R.W. "Buck" Torstenson, 94, "went to be with Jesus" on Feb. 28, 2015, at the Brendan House in Kalispell, surrounded by his loving wife and family.

Buck was born in 1920 in Kenmare, North Dakota, to Vernetta Torstenson. He grew up in Bainville, Montana, with his mother who worked for Bell Phone Company as a switch phone operator. After high school, Buck was in the Elliston area East of Helena when he was approached by a railroad man wanting to hire men to work on the Mullen Tunnel; this is where Buck's stint on the railroad began and is how he was given the unusual railroad social security number.

Buck enlisted in the Montana Army National Guard and was later stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington. After the Pearl Harbor invasion, Buck was called to duty with the 41st "Sunset" Infantry Division 163rd infantry, Montana's own "Fighting Jungleers" who fought bravely in the South Pacific. Decorated with a Bronze Star and reaching the rank of first sergeant, Buck left New Guinea and World War II behind and returned to Shelby. Here he and other veterans performed military drills and exercises for large audiences to sell war bonds.



restaurant where they worked together until they retired.

Buck believed in a sense of community and belonged to many orga-

nizations, including the American Hotel and Lodging Association, Montana Board of Tourism, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce, numerous bank boards, Trinity Lutheran Church and later the Church at Creston Lutheran.

Buck was a one-of-a-kind, true gentlemen. He loved his family and friends and hosted many memorable ceremonies, special banquets and elaborate parties. He is remembered by all who knew him for his great sense of humor and good nature.

Along with raising six children, he always enjoyed yard work and running his tractor around his property. In later years, he enjoyed taking care of errands around town and visiting friends and family. Buck loved to play cards and enjoyed many years of poker and cribbage.

Buck was preceded in death by his mother, Vernetta Torstenson.

He is survived by his loving wife, Rusty, to whom he was married for 48 years; and sons, Ron Torstenson, Patrick Torstenson, Scott Bare and Mike Bare. Buck is also survived by his many wonderful grandchildren.

In addition to being a loyal soldier, Buck was also a truly gifted businessman. If Buck shook on it, you could consider it a fair deal. Realizing his dreams from his days in the military, Buck purchased the Sports Club in Shelby. This is where he met the love of his life, Margaret "Rusty" Torstenson. In 1967 they were married and moved to Kalispell where they purchased and operated the Pastime Bar. Buck loved life and was an extremely hard worker. Being the true businessman that he was, Buck saw an opportunity in the Hennessey Steak House when it became available. With Rusty and a lot of hard work, this restaurant with its employees and patrons grew to what was known as Montana's premier Convention Center and Restaurant, the Outlaw Inn. After many years at the Outlaw, Buck and Rusty sold their interest and bought Fenders, the

A viewing will be held from noon to 5 p.m. Thursday, March 5, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. Burial will take place at 11 a.m. Friday, March 6, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A service will follow at 12:30 p.m. Friday at the Church at Creston. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Montana Veterans Association. "R.W., we will always carry your memory in our hearts. You are a true American hero."

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

# Outlaw co-founder Torstenson dies at 94

The Daily Inter Lake

Longtime Kalispell businessman and civic leader Ronald W. "Buck" Torstenson, best known as a co-founder of the Outlaw Inn, died on Saturday at age 94.

A North Dakota native, Torsten-

son grew up in Bainville, Montana, and graduated from Culbertson High School in 1937. He lived in Helena and worked for the railroad before serving in the U.S. Army during World War II.

He spent five years as a member of the 163rd Regiment, 41st Infantry Division, known as the Fighting Jun-

gleers for their service in the South Pacific. Torstenson was awarded a Bronze Star and reached the rank of first sergeant.

After the war, Torstenson purchased the Sports Club in Shelby. In 1967, he moved to Kalispell with

See **OUTLAW** on Page A6

## OUTLAW Continued from A1

his new bride, Rusty, and they purchased the Pastime Bar on Main Street. Together, Buck and Rusty raised a family of six children: Ron Torstenson, Patrick Torstenson, Scott Bare, Mike Bare, Barbara Henderson and Vicky Thomas.

In 1969, the Torstenson family purchased Hennessy's Steak House and shortly thereafter the Hennessy's Motel at the site of the present-day hotel known as the Guesthouse Inn & Suites and Outlaw Convention Center.

It was in 1973 that Torstenson joined with business partner Dick Dasen Sr. to build the modern convention center that



TORSTENSON

the Inter Lake reported that, "According to Dick Dasen, one of the present owners of the Outlaw Inn, co-owner Buck Torstenson came to him with the idea in 1970. Dasen said he and Torstenson put approximately \$80,000 into developing the idea before they were even

was then known as Best Western Outlaw Inn and Hennessy's Steak House.

An April 1975

story in

convinced to begin construction. Today, Dasen and Torstenson are still the sole owners of the convention center and have invested about \$3 million in the enterprise to date."

After a major expansion in 1976, the Outlaw Inn was one of the largest convention facilities in Montana. The Torstenson family sold their interest in the Outlaw Inn in 1992 and later opened Fenders, a popular restaurant north of Kalispell, where they worked together until they retired.

Torstenson was active in a variety of professional and civic organizations during his years at the

helm of Hennessy's and the Outlaw Inn.

He served on the board of directors of both the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce and the Montana Chamber of Commerce, was active in Sons of Norway, and was on the board of directors of the Montana Inn-Keepers Association, among many others. He was also a director of First National Bank that later became Norwest and is now a branch of Wells Fargo Bank Montana. He was active in Trinity Lutheran Church and later the Church at Creston Lutheran.

An obituary appears on Page A7 of today's Inter Lake.

### David G. Townsend, 86

David G. Townsend passed away March 11, 2015, from a broken heart surrounded by the love of family, prayers of friends, and caring nurses of Brendan House.

Dave was born June 27, 1928, to Jesse Hennessy and Spike Townsend where they resided in Seattle through his youth.

David joined the Merchant Marines at age 16 and sailed across the equator before he was 18. Dave moved to Kalispell in 1947 to work for his uncle "Hugh" Hennessy at Hennessy's Steak House and returned to school to receive his high school diploma from Flathead High.

Mary Anne (Wormley) Townsend stole David's heart in 1950. They married and moved to California and then on to Arlington, Oregon, where Dave managed a John Deere Dealership.

The two returned to the Flathead and purchased the Stockman's Bar in 1964. Dave would remain in the bar industry for 35 years operating the Stockman's, Hole in the Wall and Branding Iron. Dave enjoyed fishing, boating, skiing, hunting, family, friends and of course, ice cold beer, living life's motto "Don't do anything



today that can wait until tomorrow" and carrying the brand, Lazy SOB.

Dave was preceded in death by Mary Anne in November

2013 after 63 years of marriage.

He is survived by his son, Bruce Townsend, of Austin, Texas; grandson, Brad Townsend, and wife Destiny, and great-grandchildren, Zayden and Abigail, of Kalispell; granddaughter, Jessica Townsend, and Shane Terrel, and great-grandchildren, Chance and Trinity, of Tecumseh, Oklahoma; and granddaughter, Jazmin Townsend, of Kalispell.

Funeral services are postponed for a joint service of Dave and Mary Anne Townsend.

Contact [bradtownsend@hotmail.com](mailto:bradtownsend@hotmail.com) for more information

Clean Living — "In heaven there is no beer, that's why we drink it here, and when we're gone from here, well our friends will be drinking all the beer."

### Gary Ross Trader, 67

Gary Ross Trader, 67, of Kalispell, died Sept. 11, 2015, in Helena, due to cancer. He had worked as a drywaller.

He is survived by his wife, Benita Trader, of Kalispell; father, Orlan Trader, of Missouri; daughter, Angela Rowe, of

Missoula; and son, Gary Trader Jr. of Wenatchee, Washington.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, at Easthaven Baptist Church on Whitefish Stage in Kalispell.

**Bill Treece, 84**

Bill Treece, 84, passed away April 13, 2015, at the Mountain View Manor in Eureka. He was born on April 8, 1931, in Duncan, Oklahoma, to Douglas and Bertha Treece. He had just celebrated his 84th birthday.

Bill spent his early years in Duncan, graduating from high school there.

After graduation, he moved to North Dakota to work with his former boss from Oklahoma doing well pump servicing. It was there that he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in the Korean War for 18 months. Tech. Sgt. Treece was awarded the Korean War Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, United Nations Service Medal, the Republic of Korea's Korean War Service Medal, National Defense Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Overseas Service Stripes, Presidential Unit Citations, and miscellaneous unit certifications and awards as a crane shovel operator and engineer equipment mechanic, and was honorably discharged June 1954.

After serving in the Army, he went back to Oklahoma, however, there was no work there. He then went to North Dakota to work but didn't like the work or the climate. He was told that Montana was the place to go and he could make money just by hooking logs and dragging them to trucks to be loaded, so he and a friend headed to Eureka for work where he lived with Keith and Jr. Burgess. It was here that Bill met Dolly (Agnes) Roberts in a restaurant that he frequented. She wasn't sure what to think of him at first, as he always showed up at the restaurant with a carload of kids. However, she soon found out they weren't his kids, that he just loved children and



fishing up the North Fork. He was also a bowler in his younger years and enjoyed photography and woodworking. Bill was also known

for making his famous hamburger soup and his special recipe will live on forever.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Theo, Lorene and Thedis; and brothers, Otis and Mutt; along with his two oldest children, Toni in 1997, and Douglas in 2006, and a very special sister-in-law, Ruby Cummings Treece, in March 2015.

Bill is survived by his wife Dolly of Eureka; daughter Karen and Dave Helmrick, Sara, Jeremy and Craig of Troy; twin sons Kevin and Jaci, Jordan, Jaden, and Taylor of Kalispell; and Keith and Diane, Cole, Samantha, Melanie and Clay of Kalispell; and twin daughters Lorelee Jo and Rod Treece, Cebren and Amber and Trent of Kalispell and Luann Treece and Madison of Santee, California, along with Toni's children, Justin and Ana Walker, Kyle and Maria Walker, Charity and Todd Townsend, and Xyane and Stephanie Vredenberg and Doug's children, Brittiney and Josh Treece Cosgrave, Kayla Treece, and Dani Treece; 11 great-grandchildren, Lucas, Alaina and Jared Townsend, Aiden, Liam and Elise Walker, Olin Walker, Trinity Nelson, Torianna Cosgrave, Piper Treece, Ciara Treece, and great-granddaughter to arrive in June; special neighbor, Joyce Hudson, daughter-in-law, Shelly Treece, and sisters-in-law, Fay Miller

**Daniel 'Danny' Trenk, 18**

Daniel "Danny" Trenk, 18 died in a car accident on Tuesday June 2, 2015. He is survived by his mother, Elise, and sister, Jennifer.

There will be a visitation from noon to 5 p.m. Monday, June 8, at Columbia Mortuary. Funeral services will be announced.

**Patrick Trottier, 65**

Patrick Trottier, 65, died Friday, May 8, 2015. He is survived by his children, Annie and Tanner Trottier. A memorial service will be held at 12:30

p.m. with military honors at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 30, at the VFW in Whitefish. A luncheon will follow. Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

so the courtship began. Bill and Dolly were married on April 7, 1956, in Sandpoint, Idaho, and they just celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary. They were blessed with seven children including two sets of twins.

Bill lived the remainder of his life in Eureka. He worked in the woods as a loader and skidder, and ran heavy equipment building roads. His welding abilities were known throughout the valley. He was also a heavy equipment mechanic for Fred King and Donny Fluid. When he wasn't working he enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. Together they went camping, boating, fishing and hunting, and made trips to Oklahoma, Carlsbad Caverns and Mexico.

Bill especially loved

and Shirley Roberts Butts, all of Eureka; nieces, Jovie Hathcock in California, Nancy Treece Finley Minter in Oklahoma, Karla, Deb, Becky, Pam, Shelley in Montana and Sherry in Washington; three nephews, Harold and Judy, Roy Edwin and Wayne and Linda in Oklahoma.

Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 20, at the Tobacco Valley Cemetery with full military honors. A reception will follow at Riverstone Lodge north of Eureka.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka.

Online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.schnackenbergfh.com](http://www.schnackenbergfh.com).

**Patricia Ann 'Patt' Truman, 69**

Patricia Ann "Patt" Truman was born July 11, 1946, in Whitefish to Lyle and Mildred Black Truman.

Patt passed away Aug. 1, 2015, at 12:40 a.m. at her home in Eureka, surrounded by family, friends and her dog Lindy.

Patt lived with her parents until they were divorced. She then lived with her mother in the Seattle/Tacoma area until her junior year of high school. At this point she came to live in the Rexford and Eureka area until she graduated in 1964.

After graduation she moved back to Tacoma and attended four years of nursing school at Tacoma School of Nursing. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in nursing. Patt's nursing career lasted 30-plus years and she helped deliver hundreds of babies in Seattle, Spokane, Billings, Missoula, Kalispell, and in Eureka under Dr. Rietzel.

Patt's hobbies were diverse — painting, jewelry making, moccasins, boating, gardening and studies with Carolyn Myess.

Many of the words used to describe Patt: kind, attentive, dedicated, loyal, dynamic, flamboyant, stubborn, bossy, controlling and creative, to name just a few. Once when



asked, "Why do we have to do everything your way?" she replied "Hmm, I will give

that some thought ... in the meantime do what I tell you to do!" Patt commanded a room!

Patt was preceded in death by her parents, a brother, a sister and her grandparents.

She is survived by hundreds of family members who thought highly of her success as a college graduate, a gifted nurse and mentor of many. She was everyone's go-to person for any ailment, fear and basic need. She will be deeply missed by family and the many, many friends she had acquired, as well as her 11 godchildren.

She thought of Eureka, Rexford and the homestead on "The West By God Kootenai" as home.

"Travel with the angels and your guiding angel Tobias (Toby), dear one."

Services will be at 11 a.m., Friday, Aug. 7, at the First Baptist Church in Eureka.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka. Online condolences and memories may be shared at [www.schnackenbergfh.com](http://www.schnackenbergfh.com).

**Thomas W. Trumbull, 78**

Thomas W. Trumbull died Nov. 11, 2014.

He was born Feb. 29, 1936.

He was a longtime Kalispell and Bigfork resident and recently resided in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Tom served as business manager for School District 5 for 20 years.

He was preceded in

death by his parents, Bill and Dode Trumbull; and sister, Ann Anderson.

He is survived by his wife, Jeanne; daughters, Anne and Nancy; daughter-in-law, Michelle; and brother, Michael.

A celebration of life gathering will be held in the Flathead area on Aug. 1.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE****Thomas 'Tom' W. Trumbull**

A celebration of life for Thomas "Tom" W. Trumbull, 78, who died Nov. 11, 2014, will be held from 2 to

4 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 1, at Village Greens Community Center, 195 W. Nicklaus Ave., in Kalispell.

## Jean Allen Turnage, 89

Jean Allen Turnage, 89, family man and devoted public servant, died peacefully Sunday, Sept. 27, 2015.



chief justice of the Montana Supreme Court and again in 1992, serving 16 years as Montana's top judicial official. While on the Supreme



Court, in 1993 he was elected president of the National Conference of Chief Justices and also served as chairman of the board of directors of the National Center for State Courts.

In 1995, he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Legal Letters degree from the University of Montana.

After retiring from the Montana Supreme Court in 2000, Jean returned to his private practice and continued serving clients until he went on senior status in 2014.

Mr. Turnage was in the Masonic Order, including the Shrine and Jesters, the American Legion, VFW, Elks and Rotary International, as well as a life member of the Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association and the Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana.

Jean was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Julia Turnage; his sister, Antoinette Flynn; and brother, Russell Thompson.

Jean, a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai tribes, was born in St. Ignatius, on March 10, 1926, and graduated high school there in 1944. During the school year Jean worked as a service station attendant and drove a delivery truck that delivered milk from the various dairy farms throughout the Mission Valley to the creamery in Polson. In the summers he worked as a carpenter's apprentice at the Naval Training Station in Bayview, Idaho, and also as a boilermaker in the Kaiser Shipyards at Swan Island, Oregon.

After high school Jean enlisted in the Army Air Corps and served as a top turret gunner on a B-29 until his honorable discharge in 1946.

Next Jean enrolled in the University of Montana where he served on the law review and received his law degree in 1951. While attending law school he worked for the Montana Highway Department.

Jean's distinguished lifelong career in the law started with his private practice in Polson in 1951 where his law firm still carries his name some 64 years later. Just after he opened his practice, he met and married the love of his life, Eula Mae Johnson, in 1952. That same year he was elected Lake County attorney and served five terms, and in 1959 served as president of the Montana County Attorneys' Association. In 1962 he was elected to the Montana House of Representatives and then to the Montana State Senate in 1964 where he served for 20 years. While in the State Senate he chaired the Taxation and Judiciary committees, served as minority leader in 1967, majority leader in 1977 and as president of the Senate for the 1983 session.

In 1976, he was appointed a special assistant attorney general and argued a case on behalf of the state of Montana before the United States Supreme Court in Washington, D.C.

In 1984 he was elected

He is survived by his wife, Eula Mae; daughter, Patricia; son, Lloyd, and Geri; grandchildren, Erin Leonard and fiance Doug Trigg, James Turnage and Joseph Turnage; and great-grandchildren, Tristian Leonard, Austin Leonard and Natalie Leonard.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Polson, followed by interment with full military honors by the Mission Valley Honor Guard at Lake View Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Ninepipes Museum of Early Montana, Shriners Children's Hospital, Mission Valley Animal Shelter or the charity of your choice.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at [www.thelakefuneral-homeandcrematory.com](http://www.thelakefuneral-homeandcrematory.com)

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

28 Sep 2015 IPD

# Jean A. Turnage remembered as effective statesman

By **SAMUEL WILSON**  
The Daily Inter Lake

Jean A. Turnage, a former chief justice of the Montana Supreme Court and long-serving Republican leader in the state Senate, died Sunday at St. Luke Extended Care in Roman.

Turnage, 89, left a legacy as a gifted statesman and judge, whose intelligent, respectful approach to navigating complex issues inspired those he worked with.



John Mercer was a longtime colleague

of Turnage at their practice in Polson, Turnage, Mercer & Wall, PLLP, who remembered Turnage as humble and patient, whether in public or private life.

"There was nothing arrogant about him; he would see anyone and take the time to talk to them, with all the credentials he had," Mercer said. "He wasn't always the guy dealing with the most complex litigation, although he would, [but] he would also take the time to deal with the simplest things."

That humble style was a hallmark of his public service as well, Mercer said.

"He always found a way to make people feel like their thoughts were listened to, and make them part of the solution," he said. "It was never

**TURNAGE**

See **TURNAGE** on A10

## TURNAGE Continued from A1

in 1946.

He received his law degree from the University of Montana in 1951, beginning his private law practice in Polson the same year. In 1952, he met his wife, Eula Mae Johnson, and was elected Lake County Attorney, where he served five terms including a stint as president of the Montana County Attorneys' Association in 1959.

After being elected one term in the state House in 1962, he was elected to the Montana Senate in 1964, where he would serve for the next 20 years. A Republican, he was the minority leader in 1967, majority leader in 1977 and president of the Senate in 1983.

Both Mercer and Mike Halligan, a former Senate minority leader who began his career in the Legislature across the aisle from Turnage, used the word "gentleman" to describe the quietly effective leader.

Halligan remembered meeting Turnage on his first day as a freshman Democratic Senator from Missoula.

"There was no reason why Jean Turnage should have been interested in me, but he took it upon himself to seek me out after we adjourned for the day, just to come over and shake my hand, welcome me to the Senate and ask me what my goals were," Halligan said.

In the Legislature, Turnage was a champion for the University of Missoula's Flathead Biological Station. Halligan

said he saw the program not as a partisan issue, but as an institution that would protect the quality of the lake and his constituents who depended on it.

Halligan recalled Turnage as a brilliant statesman who never raised his voice, instead insisting that the legislative body maintain the highest level of decorum, and leading by example.

"I think he left that legacy with hundreds and hundreds of people that he served with, that there was a level of statesmanship expected of you as a public servant and you have to exclude those qualities in order to be effective," he said. "In my humble opinion, there is no one in the 22 years I served

in the Legislature who better epitomized the word 'statesman' than Jean Turnage."

Toward the end of his time as a Senator, he was appointed as a special assistant attorney general for the state, arguing on behalf of Montana before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1976. After leaving the Legislature, he was twice elected chief justice of the state Supreme Court, an office he held for 16 years. He also served as the president of the National Conference of Chief Justices and chairman of the National Center for State Courts' board of directors.

Mercer added that while many of his colleagues in the Legislature are no longer serving, the current political

landscape would benefit from a leader like Turnage.

"He just liked to help people get things accomplished, and that's frankly something that I would say, as I observe politics now, has really disappeared — the people that can make things work and get people to work together toward common goals."

Funeral services will be held on Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Polson, followed by interment with full military honors by the Mission Valley Honor Guard at Lake View Cemetery.

Reporter Samuel Wilson can be reached at 758-4407 or by email at [swilson@dailyinterlake.com](mailto:swilson@dailyinterlake.com).



### Mariana (Kologi) Turner, 70

Mariana (Kologi) Turner passed away at the age of 70, on Oct. 29, 2015, in her home from natural causes.

She was born in Great Falls to Peter and Nina (Curley) Kologi on Feb. 7, 1945. She spent her early years in Simms, Montana, and married Ivan Turner on Aug. 28, 1961, in Dubois, Idaho.

Mariana lived in Bozeman, Conrad and then Bigfork where she spent 48 years. She worked at Electric Avenue Books and Electric Avenue Gifts in Bigfork. Mariana enjoyed reading, travel and possessed a natural curiosity for everything in life. She was a homemaker and active community member.

Mariana cherished time spent with her children and grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Ivan, of Bigfork; daughter, Shannon and Gregg Barrett of Bigfork, and their children, Hannah and Cooper; sons, Rick and Kathy Turner of Great Falls and their children, Bryson and Amanda; Rob and Tammy Turner of Great Falls and their



children, Evan and Fletcher; and Mike and Shannon Turner of Portland and their

children, Noah and Inga; and her brother, Stephen, and Connie Kologi, of Helena.

Mariana was preceded in death by her parents and granddaughter, Alexis Turner.

Mariana had a positive influence on everyone she met, and was deeply loved by many. We are comforted knowing she is finally getting all her questions answered.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to be sent to the Bigfork Playhouse Children's Theatre in Mariana's name at P.O. Box 456, Bigfork, MT 59911.

To send a note of condolence, please visit Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home's website under tributes: <http://www.jgfuneralhome.com>

Per Mariana's request, the service will be family only.

### Norma F. Tuxon, 73

Norma F. Tuxon, 73, of Eureka, died Sunday, July 5, 2015, at her home in Eureka.

Survivors include her husband, Rod; and two children, Stacey Alana Bakholdin and Forrest Kenneth Tuxon.

A memorial service will be at 5 p.m. Sunday, July 19, at Beyond the Cross Assembly in Eureka.

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

### Theodore 'Ted' Tveidt, 72

Ted passed away June 1, 2015, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center by his family.

Ted was born April 22, 1943, in Whitefish, to Esther and Ole Tveidt, graduating from Whitefish High School in 1962 and spending his entire life living in Whitefish.

Ted's love was being outdoors. He was an avid skier, fly fisherman, hunter, both birds and elk, and golf.

After high school, Ted began his working career which also followed his passions, beginning in 1962 working on the Big Mountain Ski Patrol, becoming an accomplished skier while seeking out every inch of powder he could find. That same year he began what would be a lifelong career with the U.S. Forest Service on the Tally Lake Ranger District working trail and wildland fire. He continued working at Tally Lake until 1965 when he transferred into the Big Prairie Ranger District in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, allowing him to experience the serenity and beauty of the back country.

In 1966 he married Lynda Elwood and would transfer back to Tally Lake Ranger District and ultimately becoming the fire management officer for the district office. In 1990 he transferred to the supervisor's office in Kalispell.

Ted found such excitement in fire, whether it be a small broadcast burn or a large wildland fire. His vast experience led him to travel the United States in various capacities offering his knowledge to aid



in fire suppression. Ted retired from the U.S. Forest Service in 1999.

His fire calling didn't stop with his Forest Service experience. He was an active volunteer with the Whitefish Fire Department for 23 years, dedicating countless hours to fire and EMS service within the community and surrounding area while making strong and lasting bonds with his fellow fire families.

As a young boy Ted, along with his dear friends Bob Muraoka and Keith Evenson, began fishing together. His love of fishing continued throughout his life which led him to become a flyfishing guide in 2000. For 11 years he would row his clients down the river with the intent that each and every one would catch that "one" fish. He seemed just as content just rowing the boat and assisting his clients as he was if he were fishing himself.

Ted had a passion for golf and was often "first tee" on the Whitefish lake golf course. Golfing with his dear friends Travis Collier and Ron Luke and numerous other special friends would often lead to many humorous conversations, challenges and great memories.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Esther and Ole, and various aunts and uncles.

Ted is survived by his loving wife, Lynda, of 49 years; his son, Kevin, of Augusta; son, Travis and

wife Kristy, of Whitefish; daughter, Jennifer and her fiance Brian, of Renton, Washington; grandchildren, Madison and Baylee of Missoula, Cody and Fynlee of Whitefish, and Brooklynn, Tucker and Tanner of Spanaway, Washington; and his sister, Karen, of Bozeman.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. June 5 at Whitefish United Methodist Church, 1150 Wisconsin Ave. Whitefish, MT 59937. Internment will take place at 2 p.m. at Glacier Memorial Gardens, 2659 Highway 93 N., Kalispell, following a celebration of life at the church. All are welcome to attend graveside services following the celebration.

Memorials may be made to the Whitefish Methodist Church, P.O. Box 4248, Whitefish, MT

59937, or the charity of your choice.