

# Crow Tribe elder Joe Medicine Crow dies at 102



By **MATTHEW BROWN**  
Associated Press

**BILLINGS** — Joseph Medicine Crow, an acclaimed Native American historian and last surviving war chief of Montana's Crow Tribe, has died. He was 102.

Medicine Crow died Sunday, Bullis Mortuary funeral home director Terry Bullis said. Services will be announced Monday, he said.

A member of the Crow Tribe's Whistling Water clan, Medicine Crow was raised by his grandparents in a log house in a rural area of the Crow Reservation near Lodge Grass, Montana.

His Crow name was "High Bird," and he recalled listening as a child to stories about the Battle of Little Bighorn from those who were there, includ-

**IN THIS** Aug. 12, 2009 file photo, President Barack Obama leans away to avoid the head-dress as he presents the 2009 Presidential Medal of Freedom to Joseph Medicine Crow during ceremonies at the White House in Washington. (AP Photo)

ing his grandmother's brother, White Man Runs Him, a scout for Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer. His grandfather, Yellowtail, raised Medicine Crow to be

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a warrior. The training began when Medicine Crow was just 6 or 7, with a punishing physical regimen that included running barefoot in the snow to toughen the boy's feet and spirit.

Medicine Crow in 1939 became the first of his tribe to receive a master's degree, in anthropology. He served for decades as a Crow historian, cataloging his people's nomadic history by collecting first-hand accounts of pre-reservation life from fellow tribal members.

"I always told people, when you meet Joe Medicine Crow, you're shaking hands with the 19th century," said Herman Viola, curator emeritus at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American Indians.

During World War II, Medicine Crow earned the title of war chief after performing a series of daring deeds, including stealing horses from an enemy encampment and hand-to-hand combat with a German soldier whose life Medicine Crow ultimately spared.

"Warfare was our high-

est art, but Plains Indian warfare was not about killing. It was about intelligence, leadership, and honor," Medicine Crow wrote in his 2006 book "Counting Coup."

Soon after returning from the European front, Medicine Crow was designated tribal historian by the Crow Tribal Council.

With his prodigious memory, Medicine Crow could accurately recall decades later the names, dates and exploits from the oral history he was exposed to as a child, Viola said. Those included tales told by four of the six Crow scouts who were at Custer's side at Little Bighorn and who Medicine Crow knew personally.

Yet Medicine Crow also embraced the changes that came with the settling of the West, and he worked to bridge his people's cultural traditions with the opportunities of modern society. His voice became familiar to many outside the region as the narrator for American Indian exhibits in major museums across the country.

"He really wanted to walk in both worlds, the white world and Indian world, and he knew education was a key to success," said Viola, who first met Medicine Crow in 1972 and collaborated with

him on several books.

Gov. Steve Bullock said Medicine Crow was an inspiration to his tribe and others.

"Joe was a Crow war chief, veteran, elder, historian, author, and educator. His legacy will forever serve as an inspiration for all Native Americans — and all Montanans," he said.

U.S. Sen. Steve Daines said Medicine Crow was a good leader and the first member of the Crow Tribe to attain a master's degree.

"Medicine Crow's spirit, humility and life achievements leave a lasting imprint on Montana's history," Daines said.

President Barack Obama awarded Medicine Crow the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2009.

During the White House ceremony, Obama referred to Medicine Crow as "a good man, a 'bacheitche' in Crow."

"(His) life reflects not only the warrior spirit of the Crow people, but America's highest ideals," Obama said.

He was nominated for the Congressional Gold Medal and was awarded honorary doctoral degrees from the University of Southern California and Montana's Rocky Mountain College.

## Helen Francene Meek, 80

Helen Francene Meek, 80, passed away at her home in Bigfork surrounded by family on Sept. 30, 2016.

Helen was born Feb. 6, 1936, in St. Ignatius to Roy and Ruby Morigeau. She was raised in Polson where she graduated from high school and later married James Lawrence on June 30, 1953. In November of the same year she was baptized in the Jehovah Witness Church. Helen was married to James for 43 years before he sadly passed away. On July 13, 2002, she married Allen "Bud" Meek.

Helen was a loving mother and grandmother who was always ready to greet her family and friends with a big smile and a hug. She also loved to spend many hours picking huckleberries with her special friends. Helen followed her faith

as a Jehovah Witness until her death.

Helen was preceded in death by her daughter Francine Smith, husband James, parents, sister Janet, and brother George.

She is survived by her husband, Allen "Bud" Meek; children, Heidi Currier, David Lawrence and Jim Lawrence; sister, Pat Funke; 12 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place and a celebration of Helen's life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 8, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, Highway 35, mile marker 34.5 in Bigfork.

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.

## Harry W. Menkens, 94

Harry W. Menkens, 94, passed away the evening of Oct. 12, 2016, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

He was born in Bloomfield, Nebraska, on July 17, 1922. He had five siblings, including a twin brother. His childhood was spent playing and working on the family farm. After high school graduation he spent time working at various farms until enlisting in the Coast Guard in 1942. After basic training in Florida, he was stationed in New Hampshire where he met his future wife, Charlotte Odiorne.

He served on the troop transport, The Wakefield, sailing out of Boston to Europe, making 22 round trips across the Atlantic during World War II.

After the war, he returned to Nebraska to take up his life as a stock and grain farmer, but first he went back to New Hampshire to marry his wartime sweetheart



Charlotte on Dec. 28, 1947. They would have been married 69 years this December. From that union they had one son, Randall Menkens.

Upon retirement from farming, he and Charlotte moved to Bigfork to be near their son who worked for the U.S. Forest Service. Harry loved to fish, golf and dance.

Being a forward thinking, hard working, happy man who was giving toward others, he met many wonderful friends along his life's journey.

Memorials or donations may be sent to the Lake View Healthcare employees' fund, care of Jasmine, at Lake View Healthcare Community, 1050 Grand Drive, Bigfork, MT 59911.

## Gail Arlene Metcalf, 61

Gail Arlene Metcalf was a Renaissance woman with the soul of a pioneer homesteader. She loved the grain elevator and pioneer homestead landscapes of Eastern Montana, and she loved the forest, farm and mountain landscapes of Western Montana.

Gail was born in Kalispell and raised in a rural house on a bend on Helena Flats Road. She attended Helena Flats School and retained a love for that area. She spent many hours with her endearing Grandmother Metcalf, who lived just down the road and taught her to knit and sew. She graduated from Flathead High.

Gail became a masterful seamstress, knitter and leather worker. She also became a masterful gardener, designing her yard on Second Avenue West with beautiful flowers, grasses and shrubs, always with surprise pops of unusual and unexpected plantings, a peaceful patio and an abundant vegetable garden.

She worked hard all her life, as a rancher, a heavy machinery operator and travel agent. This latter work enabled her to travel globally. Most recently Gail worked at MountainWest Bank where her co-workers provided extraordinary support throughout her illness.

Gail was proud of her Flathead Valley family history which was rich with loggers and farmers. She had a special place in her heart for her sister, Sharon, and Sharon's sons, Kevin and Daren and their families, and for her Dad, Tim.



Sharon and Tim predeceased Gail.

In recent years, Gail gave devoted care and attention to the needs of her mom, Fern.

Gail loved her entertaining cat, Mango, her sister's children and their families, the earth, healthy food, exercise, (especially yoga, kayaking, hiking, biking and cross country skiing), and her wide circle of friends, whose friendships she nurtured. She was a fervent environmentalist, and loved to think and talk about the "big questions" of life.

Gail applied herself valiantly to the process and promise of fighting cancer, and died much too young. Her advice was "Live in the moment." She died at home, surrounded by friends, on Dec. 21, 2015, a week after her 61st birthday, early on a winter solstice morning, in the midst of a snow squall.

Friends are invited to remember this independent, hard-working, energetic, capable, steadfast and loving woman. A celebration will take place at 2 p.m. on Oct. 1, at the Eastside Grange Hall, Montana 35, Creston. Stories are welcome.

In addition to her mother, Fern, Gail leaves a brother, Ron, her nephews, several cousins, and many close friends, including her hiking friends, knitting friends, Summit Club friends and Seattle friends.

• "Hike on, Gail!"

## Bruce A. Measure, 64

Bruce A. Measure, 64, died peacefully early Monday morning, June 6, 2016, with family by his side in Kalispell. He was a loving father, grandfather, husband, partner, brother, uncle and friend. Bruce also was a skilled attorney and speaker, an expert on energy and water resources, a brilliant thinker and an avid politician.

Bruce was born Aug. 14, 1951, at Kalispell General Hospital, fourth child to Ambrose and Laura Jo Measure. He attended St. Matthew's grade school and graduated from Flathead High School in 1969. He served in the U.S. military from 1971 to 1973 as a military policeman. He earned a two-year degree in forestry and an undergraduate degree in political science and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Montana in Missoula, where he was elected president of his law school class.

Bruce worked as forest resource manager for the Chippewa Cree tribe in Box Elder in 1979-80 and assistant forest manager for Plum Creek Timber Company from 1980 to 1985. He practiced law with his father, Ambrose, at the law offices of Ambrose Measure and after his father's death as a partner in the firm of Measure, Sampsell, Sullivan and O'Brien.

Bruce's father Ambrose believed we all owe a debt to our community and the more we are given the larger the debt. Bruce practiced this philosophy with enthusiasm and generosity. He was one of a group of visionaries who looked at the abandoned rail lines in the Flathead Valley and saw, instead of rusted tracks and rotten ties, the foundation

for miles and miles of pathways for hiking, biking, jogging, walking and snowshoeing. Bruce did all the legal work for the original organization which achieved phenomenal success as Rails to Trails of Northwest Montana and currently, and still growing, miles and miles of year-round recreational trails.

Bruce was elected and served one term in the 52nd State Legislative Assembly representing House District 6. He was a member of the Kalispell City Government Study Commission in 1995-96 and hearing officer and mediator for the Montana Office of Public Instruction from 1990-2001. He was very proud



the Flathead Electric Coop board of trustees from 2002-2003 and as president in 2004. He also served as the representative from Flathead Electric to the statewide cooperative association. In 2004, Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer appointed Bruce to be one of two Montana representatives to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council where he served two four-year terms including two years as vice chairman and two as chair of the council. At the time of his death Bruce was again a member of the Flathead Electric Coop board and had recently served as board president. As always, a primary focus for Bruce was to reflect and champion the interests and needs of western Montana.

However there is no doubt that his greatest achievement was his son Buckthorne, who with his wife and two children, was indeed the light of his life. Together they hiked every trail, floated every river, the rougher the better, skied Big Mountain, Blacktail and thousands of miles of cross country trails. He set the bar for his younger nieces and nephews in every outdoor activity.

Bruce worked very hard but he also loved to play music. He had a beautiful voice and for many years played his guitar and sang with friends. He happily bragged about the night he caught a few riffs with Gordon Lightfoot in some out of the way

when he was admitted to practice before Montana State Courts in 1988.

Always interested and active in resource management, Bruce served on

bar in Alberta. Bruce loved to play tennis and Friday afternoons with the Kennel Club were the highlights of his week. He also could be found attending his grandchildren's many academic and athletic events.

Bruce is survived by his son Buckthorne, wife Tara and their two children, Rhett and Maggie; his former wife Ann Van Twest (mother Winifred Storli); brothers Christopher Van Twest (Joan Campbell), Grimm Storli and Trond (Katy) Storli; partner Barbara Varnum, her daughter Katie (Ryan) Leahy and children Brayden and Keely and Michelle Lloyd and son Chance; sister Loraine Measure and her children Daren (Jody) Bundrock and son Silas, Steve (Tamera) Bundrock and sons Atle and Ayrton and Lori Bundrock (Michelle Douglas) and son Clay; sister Suzanne O'Connor and daughter Erin and son Scott O'Connor and his sons Shacotta and Jack; brother Edward Measure (Rorie) and sons Alexander and Eric. Bruce is also survived by his aunt, Alice Forhan, cousins and by hundreds of other friends and acquaintances, all of which loved him and will miss him terribly.

Funeral services for Bruce Measure will be held at 2 p.m. on July 1 at Risen Christ Church in Evergreen. A celebration of Bruce's life, with food and fun will be held at 3 p.m. on July 2 at the Lee Proctor residence. The Proctor residence is located just behind St. John Paul II Catholic Church in Bigfork. Maps and driving directions will be available at the funeral service.

Memorials can be made to the Rails to Trails of Northwest Montana, Glacier Park Conservancy and the Flathead Valley Community College Scholarship Fund.

# Energy expert Measure, 64, dies



Bruce Measure in 2002

By **SAM WILSON**  
Daily Inter Lake

Bruce Measure, a Kalispell lawyer, former state legislator and longtime leader on local and regional energy policy, died Monday at age 64 following a battle with cancer.

Prior to his death, he was president of the Flathead Electric Cooperative Board of Trustees and worked as a partner in his Kalispell

law firm, Measure, Sampsel, Sullivan & O'Brien.

But to those who knew him, Measure also was a supportive father, an avid outdoorsman and a fixture in the Flathead community.

His 40-year-old son, Buck Measure, recalled that his father's deep commitment to the Flathead area extended to both its tight-knit communities

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and its rivers, mountains, lakes and forests.

"One think I'll certainly remember is the number of people, from the time I was old enough to remember, that would stop just to say hello, just walking down to Rocky Mountain Outfitter on Main Street," Buck Measure said Tuesday night. "He enjoyed hiking in Glacier National Park, spending time at Bitterroot Lake, swimming [and] cross-county skiing. .... He kept us busy, and we would always be doing something active or part of the outdoors, or going to some event."

In 2004, Bruce Measure was selected by Montana

Gov. Brian Schweitzer as one of the state's two representatives to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, which oversees federal hydropower projects in the Columbia River Basin and administers fish and wildlife programs funded by the Bonneville Power Administration.

Measure served for eight years, including two years as chairman and two years as vice chairman of the council.

In an interview Tuesday, Schweitzer described Measure as "a giant of a man" who possessed dual expertise in law and natural resources issues.

"That's a position where you're with representatives from Idaho, Washing and Oregon, making key decisions to continue to have

affordable electricity," Schweitzer said. "When Bruce Measure spoke, everyone listened. ... He was uniquely situated to represent Montana in all things energy."

**AFTER** graduating from Flathead High School, Measure joined the U.S. Army and served as a military police officer. He also worked for years as a forester and millworker for Plum Creek.

He earned his undergraduate political science degree and his law degree from the University of Montana before beginning his legal career in Kalispell at his father's law firm in 1988. While a Montana House representative from 1991 to 1993, he served on the Judiciary, Natural Resources and Fish,

Wildlife and Parks committees.

Measure's rich environmental background traced back to his parents, Ambrose and Laura "Jo" Measure. At the time of his death in 2000, Ambrose Measure was Kalispell's oldest practicing attorney and also was a widely respected local leader who had represented the valley in the state Legislature and helped create Flathead Electric Cooperative in 1938.

"Both of his parents, I think, had a belief that natural resources belong to all the people, and to effectively use them supports everybody's interest," Buck said.

Following in his father's footsteps, Bruce Measure's leadership on Flathead Electric's governing board would be one of its most enduring

legacies, Schweitzer said. The former governor said Measure was critical to overcoming a period of turmoil on the utility board as it struggled through energy deregulation in the 2000s.

"There are very few people that are giants in both natural resource science and the law, and he was both," Schweitzer said. "He was a genius."

Measure died Monday at The HealthCenter in Kalispell. His is survived by his partner, Barbara Varnum, his son and two grandchildren.

The date is still pending for a memorial service at Risen Christ Catholic Church in Evergreen.

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

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## Robert A. 'Bob' Meseroll, Sr., 81

Bob Meseroll, 81, of Bigfork, and formerly of New Jersey, passed away at home on March 8, 2016, after a lengthy and courageous battle with health issues.

Bob was born in Highland Park, New Jersey, to Walter and Johanna Meseroll. He developed a love for music early in his childhood. He graduated from Highland Park High School and Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Oberlin, Ohio. Bob received his Master's of Music Education degree from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

It was there that he met Judy Gerber, and they were married in 1958. Their children, Bob Jr. and Debbie, accompanied their dad to many of his musical functions.

Bob had consistently been a strong advocate of promoting music programs in public schools. He initiated many programs in various areas of New Jersey. He was passionate in his quest to provide opportunities for youth in both band and orchestra and was tireless in his efforts to achieve that.

Bob was rewarded for his efforts numerous times when former students shared with him their gratitude for his influence on their lives. He just recently received a letter from a student he taught in the 1970s, summing up the feeling of so many: "Today I remain a confident, positive person not afraid of a challenge because, way back when, you showed me how to be that way, and for this I am eternally grateful. Thank you, Mez."

During his teaching career, Bob assumed leadership roles in numerous organizations at the state and national level. He was proud to be chosen to appear as guest conductor of the All South Jersey Orchestra, the All State Orchestra, and the All Shore Band. His



marching band was chosen to march in Atlantic City at the Miss America Pageant Parade and the St. Patrick's Day parade in New York City.

Summers often found the family enjoying vacations at a lake in Maine and the beach at the Jersey Shore.

While vacationing in Montana, Bob fell in love with the area and initiated plans to retire there.

Bob retired from public school education after teaching for 37 years in New Jersey. After moving to Montana, he continued his love of teaching by providing private music instruction to a few select students in Bigfork.

Bob is survived by Judy, his wife of nearly 58 years; his son, Bob Jr., of Arlee; his daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Mike Cooney, of Shamong, New Jersey; his granddaughters, Kaitlynn, Danielle and Dr. Tabitha Cooney; sister-in-law, Lois Meseroll; sister, Doris Eppinger, and husband Ed; sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Connie and Roy String, of Venice, Florida; brother-in-law, Ken Gerber, of Tabernacle, New Jersey; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and brother Stan.

Internment of ashes will take place at Swan Memorial Gardens in Bigfork. A celebration of his life will be held in the summer at a date to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent in Bob's name to Home Options Hospice or Bigfork QRU.

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

## Bruce William Metz, 64

Bruce William Metz, 64, died Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2016, at his home in Marion.

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

## Bruce W. Metz, 64

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, March 18, at 2 p.m. at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Crescent City, Illinois, for Bruce W. Metz, 64, of Marion, formerly of Crescent City who passed away Feb. 17, 2016, at his home in Marion.

He was born on May 18, 1951, the son of Vesta Metz and William Metz (deceased).

Surviving are his mother, sisters, Beth Schoolman of Sheldon, Illinois, and Becky and Web Bohn of Martinton, Illinois; two nephews, Cory Butler, and Nic and Lindsay Bohn; and four nieces, Robyn Butler, Kristy and Nic Arie, Katy Bohn, and Sara and Gabe Weiss. Also surviving are two great-nephews and four great-nieces. He also leaves behind his dog Moof.

Bruce graduated from



Crescent-Iroquois High School in 1969. He then enlisted in the Army and served in the Vietnam War from 1969 to 1971.

After traveling around

and working various jobs in Illinois, Missouri, Montana and Utah, he settled in "one of the most beautiful places in the world" — Montana. This place was perfect for the avid hunter and fisherman that he was. He also loved his gardening, cooking, canning and wine making.

Cremation rites will take place and ashes spread over McGregor Lake in Montana at a later date.

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## MEMORIAL

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### Bob Meseroll

A celebration of life for Bob Meseroll, 81, who died March 8, will be held at 2 p.m. July 5

at Community United Methodist Church, 750 Electric Ave., Bigfork. A reception will follow.

## Emma Rosina Finbeiner Templin Metzker, 94

Emma Rosina Finbeiner Templin Metzker, 94, passed away from natural causes at Edgewood Vista in Kalispell on April 20, 2016.

Emma was the fifth child in a family of eight children, born to Jacob and Rosina Finbeiner. She was born on the family farm out of Max, North Dakota, on Oct. 2, 1921, and attended Chrystal School there.

She was married in 1942 to Bernie Dale Templin, who was killed that same year in World War II. She was remarried in 1945 to William J. "Buss" Metzker, who preceded her in death in 1991.

She resided in Plains from 1945 until August 2011, when she moved to the Flathead to be near family.

She is survived by one remaining sister, Dorraine Gerlitz, of Eugene, Oregon; a step-daughter, Judy Warren, of Bigfork; four daughters, Bonnie Gagnon and Nancy Tucker, both of Columbia Falls, Sally and Norman Wold of Laurel, and Sherry and Dan "Hap" Cheff of Trout Creek; 10 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren and numerous extended family.

Emma was a homemaker until 1967 when she went to work at McGowan's Grocery in Plains in the meat department. She retired from McGowan's in 1986. She went to work to help her four girls to go to school.



Emma loved children and family. She was an avid gardener, loved to sew and cook, liked to clean house, and enjoyed ice fishing and traveling to see family. She was known for her hospitality — she fed everyone. As an avid baker, she always had a cookie or a pie for family and friends. She was very active in her church and the Senior Center in Plains. She was one of the three ladies instrumental in starting the First Lutheran Church in Plains, and was a member of that church until her death. Emma was the rock on which her family was built, and she worked and helped her family her entire life.

Funeral services for Emma will be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 28, at Calvary Lutheran Church in Kalispell. A graveside service in Plains will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 31, with refreshments at First Lutheran Church following services.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests memorials to Calvary Lutheran Church in Kalispell for the Community Kitchen or to First Lutheran Church in Plains for pew cushions.

## Marilyn Meyers, 84

Marilyn Meyers, 84, died Tuesday, May 31, 2016, in Columbia Falls.

A celebration of life will be held 4 p.m. Friday,

June 3, at Lawrence Park in Kalispell.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Doreen 'Dodi' Sharon Michels, 66

Doreen "Dodi" Sharon Michels passed away peacefully Nov. 20, 2016, surrounded by family and friends.

Dodi was a wife, mom, friend, grandma, aunt and sister. She was greatly loved by all those who knew her, and will be missed by all the people whose lives she has touched.

Dodi enjoyed beekeeping, weaving, was an avid gardener and a collector of many things. She also enjoyed being outdoors and being a part of nature.

Dodi traveled around and lived in various states. She always longed to see Montana. Dodi came to Montana and fell in love and knew it was where she would stay forever. Montana is where



Mom found peace and discovered who she was as a person. It is here where she met and married her

true love and soulmate, Kelvin Michels.

"Mom, we love you!"

Dodi is survived by her husband, Kelvin Michels; children, Michael Moreland, Jackie Ireland, Rhonda Thornberry, Carrie Bullman, Ronnie McMurray, Matthew McMurray, Sharon Willis and Caity Dyson; as well as numerous grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Nov. 25, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

## Donald Meyer, 79

Donald Meyer, 79, of Whitefish, died Dec. 28, 2016.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Anthony Michlig, 83

Anthony Michlig, 83, passed away Monday, June 13, 2016, in Kalispell.

Tony and his wife, Deone, moved to Anchorage, Alaska, in 1951, and he had a great run as a contractor of over 50 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and hanging out at their cabin on Big Lake, Alaska. Upon retirement, they moved back to Laona, Wisconsin, and remodeled the house on the Michlig family farm, where there were gardens to be tended and deer in need of daily feeding. Using his dad's recipe, Tony made the best maple syrup.

In 2014, Tony and Deone packed up all their earthly possessions and Effie the cat to move to Kalispell to be near their two sons. At their new residence, Buffalo Hill Terrace, they made many new friends, including some originally from Alaska — small world!

He was preceded in death by his parents, Conrad and Elfrieda Michlig; and his brothers, Raymond and Hillary.

Tony is survived by Deone, his wife and girlfriend of 65 years. He is also survived by son Michael and his wife, Bridget, residing in Bigfork, and his son Nicholas and daughter, Allison; son James and his wife, Darlene, residing in the Flathead Valley, and their two sons Tony and wife Jodie, and Andrew and wife Breana, and their children; daughter Diana, residing in Wisconsin, her son



Christopher, wife Wendy and family, and daughter Georgia. Tony's youngest daughter, Jennifer

McDaniel, resides with her husband, E. L. "Mick" McDaniel and their two children, Michael and Madison, in Indianapolis. The McDaniels will always cherish their many great memories which they shared with Grandpa Tony and Grandma Deone — from Anchorage to Seattle, from southern California to Scottsdale, Arizona, and from the family farm in Wisconsin to Kalispell.

A rosary will be said at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 20, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell. A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, June 21, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, with a burial to immediately follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Gerald 'Jerry' Lee Mick, 58

Gerald "Jerry" Lee Mick, 58, of Libby and proud co-owner of Happy's Roadhouse Inn, died Sept. 6, 2016, in a motorcycle accident.

He was born in California on March 25, 1958, but lived most of his childhood in Great Falls. He served 23 years as an air traffic controller in the United States Navy.

Jerry was preceded in death by his father, Leon Mick.

He is survived by his wife, Carry Mick, of Libby; daughters,

Caroline Alves and Ashley Stanley, both of Massachusetts; and his



mother, Glenna Mick. He also leaves several adoring step-

children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews who will greatly miss him.

The memorial to celebrate his life will be held Sept. 24 at Happy's, beginning with a potluck at 5 p.m. and followed by services that will start around 6:30 p.m.

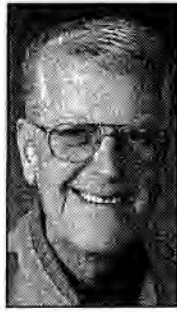
## Ronald Dennis Mickelson, 71

Ronald Dennis Mickelson passed from this crazy earth on June 28, 2016, after a 12-year battle with cancer.

Ron was born to Elsie and Harold Mickelson on June 8, 1945, in Plentywood, and was raised in Westby. He was a tall 6-foot-3 and loved basketball, football and choir. After graduating from high school he spent a short time in California before landing in Columbia Falls where his parents had moved in 1964. At that time, he worked for the Forest Service.

In December of 1964 he returned to Westby to work for his Uncle Kenny and began dating Bonnie Raaum. They married Sept. 3, 1965. The newlyweds moved to Minneapolis, where their daughter Laura Ann was born. In the summer of 1966 the couple landed back in Columbia Falls. In September of 1968 he became the proud father of a son, Lance Vernal. Ron was then employed by Plum Creek, where he worked for 30 years. In 2007 he and Bonnie moved back to their home town of Westby, where Ron enjoyed working with heavy equipment for Meyer Corporation. Three years later they journeyed back to Columbia Falls where Ron worked at the Army Navy store for a while before retiring.

Ron enjoyed camping, boating and watching high school sporting events. He attended many track meets, volleyball, basketball and football games and choir concerts to watch his five grand-



kids participate. He loved working in his yard and was always very fussy about how it looked. He spent many hours plowing snow in the winter — the overseer of the Mickelson 20-acre homestead. He always enjoyed trips back to Westby in his motor home, his pride and joy. Family and home were always number one for Ron.

He is survived by his mother Elsie (94), and his wife Bonnie; his daughter, Laura Ferda, and her husband, Mike and their children, Courtney Baker and husband David, and Tyson Ferda and wife Michaela, and great-granddaughter Ruby Ann; Ron's son, Lance, and his children, Britney Lavina and husband Jay, Nicole, and Dennis, and his great-grandchildren Mykel Hannah, Jaykob and Jayden; his brothers, Marvin and Alan; and sisters, Sharon Hader and husband Lance, Linda Hill, Pat Johnson, and Karen Cowan and husband Shawn.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, his father Harold, and his great-granddaughter Nellie May Baker.

There will be a celebration of life at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 3, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls, followed by a potluck picnic at Pinewood Park.

## Sharon K. Micklewright, 63

Sharon K. Micklewright, 63, of Kalispell, passed away at home surrounded by family on Feb. 26, 2016.

She was born in Minot, North Dakota, on July 1, 1952, to Ted and Barbara (Hansen) Bonnet. Sharon went to Dawson High School.

She married Darrell Micklewright in Kalispell in 2001. She was the co-owner of CBK Services, loved reading, cross stitching, golf and flower gardening.

Sharon was preceded in death by her parents, brother Wendall Bonnet, and sister Bonnie Sanders.

She is survived by her loving husband of 15 years, Darrell Micklewright, of Kalispell; daughters,



Dawn Lemon of Kalispell; Lolo, and Jeanee Demery of Missoula; stepson, Jason Mickle-

wright, of Kalispell; and stepdaughter, Jennifer Micklewright, of Kalispell; grandchildren, David and Austin Lemon of Lolo, Sam Micklewright of Kalispell, and Abigail Kikendall of Kalispell; and sisters, Mashal Knoll of Glendive, Carol Bryan of Billings, and Tana Gallan of Missoula.

No services are planned at this time.

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



## Steve Middlesworth, 70

Steve Middlesworth, also known as "Red Ryder," "Reevie Riddlesworth," "Middle Steve" or "Stevie Wonder," left his family and friends behind in Feb. 2016 in Kalispell.

Born in Conrad, Steve was raised in Shelby, graduating from Shelby High School where he was active in chorus, drama, writing for the school paper, working on yearbooks, and was elected as a delegate to Montana Boys State. In the summer months he helped his father farm in Valier and north of Ethridge. After graduating, he was certified as an electronics engineering technician, later becoming owner-operator of an electronics outlet in Kalispell.

After briefly attending Montana State University, Steve was drafted and proudly served in the U.S. Army for nearly two years, including duty as a light weapons infantryman in Vietnam. His decorations included the Vietnam Service and Vietnam Campaign medals, the Combat Infantryman Badge, Army Commendation Medal



with "V" device, Air Medal and Bronze Star Medal.

Upon return from Vietnam, Steve graduated from MSU with a bachelor's degree in film and TV

production — quite fitting for his creative mind and spirit. However, his career path took him from working on various dam projects with the Bureau of Land Management to the State of Montana Employment Service in Sidney. He was elated when he got transferred to Kalispell, which he regarded as "God's Country."

Eventually, he found his niche in life selling real estate, the perfect job because it allowed this Montana mountain man to cruise God's Country and "sling a little steel" (fish) whenever the opportunity presented itself. Steve was a respected Real Estate broker with his career spanning 25 years. He was one of the original owners of Chuck Olson Real Estate

for many years followed by being the founder and co-owner of NoDoubt Real Estate. His clients typically became lifelong friends, which is the ultimate compliment for a job well done.

There are not enough words to describe this incredible man. For those who loved him, no words are necessary as we knew the joy of having him in our lives. To say we are sad and that he will be missed forever is a gross understatement. Steve loved life and was one of the rare people that got it right. He appreciated every day and the simple things and was an example to us all with his loyalty, humility, humor, trust, integrity and the ability to just "be." He enjoyed all of nature from being an avid bird watcher, fisherman, photographer, animal lover and the best tour guide ever. He quietly went about his life while keeping us all entertained by his infinite ability to dish out ribald levity and singing us tunes.

Later in life, he married his best friend, Chris Noel, taking on her family as well. He

was an amazing husband and stepfather. He put up with lots of shenanigans and drama without a single complaint!

Steve is preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Phyllis (Norley) Middlesworth, Shelby.

Survivors include: Michele Middlesworth, sister, Broomfield, Colorado; Mark Norley, uncle, Kalispell;

Chris Noel, wife, Kalispell; stepchildren, Heidi Harper Sutphen, Orting, Washington; Amber Harper, Kalispell; Justin Harper, Lakeside; Krista Denning, Williston, North Dakota; and grandchildren Payton and Dylan Sutphen, Orting, Washington.

A Celebration of Life with full military honors will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Flathead County Veterans Memorial in Depot Park, Kalispell. There will be a potluck/reception to follow at the VFW on First Avenue West in Kalispell.

Special thanks for the loving care and support from KRMC, Brendan House, the Health Center and all of our amazing friends throughout Steve's journey.

## Cass J. Mieirs, 62

Cass J. Mieirs, 62, died March 17, 2016, in Kalispell.

He is survived by a son, Jason Mieirs, of Prosser, Washington.

At his request, no services will be held.

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

## Maurice Jackson Mills, 87

Maurice Jackson Mills, 87, of Polson, died Aug. 19, 2016. Home and Crematory of Polson is handling the arrangements for the family.

The Lake Funeral

## Robert E. Milam, 76

Robert E. Milam, 76, died Friday, Oct. 14, 2016, in Kalispell.

Services will be held at

a later date.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Robert Edward Milam, 76

Robert Edward Milam, 76, passed quietly in his sleep on Oct. 14, 2016, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, after a four-year battle with lung cancer.

He was born on Sept. 1, 1940, with his twin brother Lenox, in Kalispell to Margaret and Robert Milam.

Bob always jokingly told the story of his options to go to jail or join the service, so he joined the Navy in 1958, traveling the world and doing what he liked best, being a sailor, later a Navy chief and boiler repairman, spending most of his career in California, three years in Pennsylvania, and on ships that took him to see the world. During this time he wed, and had four children; he and his wife went their separate ways in 1982.

In 1976, he retired after 21 years of faithful service and returned to Kalispell, but didn't stay there long. He continued to work as a boiler tender in lumber mills in Wyoming, Washington and throughout Montana.



He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Margaret (Lauman) Milam, and his son Robert Milam Jr.

Robert is survived by his three daughters Laura, Tamala and Victoria, his daughter-in-law Tara, his grandkids Kayla, Stephanie, Alyssa, Kathryn, Ryan, Jennifer, Everett and Patrick, and great-grandkids, John, Boston and Lux.

He will be missed by all who knew him.

A military honor service will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, July 7, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, to be followed immediately by a celebration of Roberts's life potluck at 520 Leisure Drive. This open invitation is for all who knew him and would like to attend.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to your local cancer society.

## Victor Morris 'Vic' Miles, 73

Victor Morris "Vic" Miles was born in Missoula, Sept. 1, 1943, to Grace Fly and Morris W. Miles.

His early years were spent on the home ranch in Tarkio, Montana. He attended school in Superior and Missoula County High School.

He served in the U.S. Army, National Guard and Reserves from 1960-1968 and was honorably discharged.

He was working at Van Evans in Missoula when he and a buddy heard there was a new plywood plant opening in Columbia Falls, and on a whim they decided to check it out. He was hired and spent the next 40 years working at Plum Creek Plywood until he retired.

On June 19, 1971, he was married to Patricia "Pat" Greene Arvidson in Colfax, Washington. They celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary last June. During his time at Plum Creek, he and Pat leased and ran North Fork Lanes for 19 years.

Vic loved all car racing, NASCAR, Sprints, IndyCar, Formula One and Stock Cars; he even drove for a few years at the old Tri-City Speedway. He attended several NASCAR races and even an IndyCar race in Portland, Oregon, as well as races at Skagit Speedway in Washington, and races in Great Falls, Belgrade, Billings, Kalispell and a few more tracks in Arizona. He was also a sports fan. He attended a Phoenix



Coyotes hockey game, Phoenix Suns basketball game. (He has a son who lives in Phoenix). Naturally, he was a Montana Grizzly fan

and had attended two of their games.

After a hard battle with cancer, Vic passed away on Christmas Eve.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Morris and Grace; infant brother, Daniel; nephew Duke Holmes; brother-in-law, Dick Holmes; and his in-laws, Al and Vi Greene.

He is survived by his wife, Pat; children, Jody (Hallie) Arvidson, Scott (Courtney) Arvidson, Rhonda (Brian Metzger) Arvidson and Victor (Dawn) Miles; sister, Kay Holmes; grandchildren, Mark (Marcy), Lydna, Kirsten, (Brandon), Kayla (Raymond), Danny, Kylee, Kaitlin, Andrew (Amber), Cassandra (KJ) and Tyler (Nicole). He is also survived by six great-grandchildren, several nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews.

A funeral service is planned for 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 29 at Columbia Mortuary with burial to follow at Woodlawn Cemetery with Military Honors.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

## Douglas 'Doug' Banks Miller, 67

Douglas "Doug" Banks Miller, 67, passed peacefully away on Jan. 23, 2016, with his loving wife, Barb, there to comfort him.

Doug was born on Oct. 13, 1948, in Charlottesville, Virginia, and grew up in Front Royal, Virginia. He graduated with a bachelor's degree from Roanoke College in Roanoke, Virginia.

Doug was an extremely active entrepreneur, working a short time for an office supply company, then branching off on his own to run a salvage business, a residential building business, and a computer software business. Always the outdoors person, he enjoyed and was excellent at skiing, sailing and tennis and was an experienced pilot, starting his flying lessons when he was 16 and owning several single-engine airplanes over his lifetime. He was a ski area manager and ski instructor and won a Virginia Governor's Cup race at the Massanutten, Virginia, ski resort. Since moving to Montana in 2006, he became a frequent skier at Blacktail Mountain and was well known there by staff and skiers alike.

Doug met his wife, Barbara (Fisher) Shewbridge, in 1980 and they married in 1981, making an instant family with Doug the stepfather to Barb's two boys, Chip and Michael Shewbridge. They lived most of their married life in Richmond, Virginia. Over their 34 years of marriage, Doug designed and physically built four houses for the family: one in Richmond, one on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, and two in Lakeside, where he and Barb retired in 2006. He was a loving and caring father to both



boys, who state that they would not be who they are today, if it weren't for Doug's influence,

lessons and values.

Doug was preceded in death by his parents, Dr. Robert E. Lee Miller Jr. and Dorothy Alice (Banks) Miller, formerly of Front Royal.

He is survived by his wife, Barb Miller, of Lakeside; and his two stepsons, Charles W. "Chip" Shewbridge IV of Potomac Falls, Virginia, and Michael P. Shewbridge of Richmond; and two stepgrandsons, in Potomac Falls.

Doug will be remembered for his quirky sense of humor, his love of life, and his willingness to step up and help others in need. He led an active and enthusiastic life filled with the love of his family.

Memorials in Doug's name can be made to the Somers Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 187, Somers, MT 59932; or Lakeside QRU, 201 Bills Road, Lakeside, MT 59922.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is taking care of the family. A small, family-only memorial will be held to disburse Doug's ashes at the location of his choice on property overlooking Flathead Lake.

## Frieda Louise Wilkie Miller, 87

Frieda Louise Wilkie Miller "left us to be with our Lord and Savior" on Jan. 27, 2016.

Frieda was born on March 11, 1928, in Fortine to Albert and Francis Wilkie. Frieda attended grade school in Fortine until the eighth grade. She graduated from Eureka High School.

Frieda worked for the Forest Service following high school. She and her sister Naomi worked together at United Airlines in Spokane. Upon returning home to the Fortine area, she took a clerical position at the Ant Flat Ranger Station. It was there she met her beloved husband Robert W. Miller.

Frieda always enjoyed and loved the outdoors. She stayed in excellent physical condition her entire life. The consummate homemaker, she enjoyed cooking, sewing and raising a family. Frieda enjoyed traveling in her later years with



Robert. She participated in dancing at fiddler festivals, hiking and meeting friends from

Canada to the Southwestern United States.

Frieda held residences in Montana and Arizona before her passing.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Albert and Francis Wilke; husband, Robert W. Miller; brother, Herb Wilke; and sister, Naomi Burkhart.

Frieda is survived by her brother, Neal Wilke, of Kalispell; daughter, Elma Ruth Miller, of Washington, D.C.; son, Dana Edward Miller, and wife, Tanna Lee Miller, of Corpus Christi, Texas; granddaughter Mikie Michelle Miller, and grandsons Chase Edward Miller and Lane Miller.

Frieda passed peacefully in her sleep at home in Yuma, Arizona.

## Lester 'Les' C. Miller, 82

Lester "Les" C. Miller, 82, of Kalispell died Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2016, in Kalispell.

He is survived by his four children —

Calley, Peggy, Leslie and Todd. Services are pending.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Homer Millspaugh, 75

Homer Millspaugh passed away Sept. 20, 2016, at Harborview Hospital in Seattle, after falling and sustaining significant brain injuries on Sept. 15. He had many health challenges, especially the last few years, coping with Parkinson's disease and a severe hearing loss.

Homer was born in Kalispell on April 26, 1941, to Lola and Earl Millspaugh. He attended Cornelius Hedges grade school, Central Junior High and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1959. He remained friends with many of his classmates.

Homer began his grocery store career at Sykes' Grocery in Kalispell. After moving to Seattle, he worked primarily for Albertson's Food Stores and Bert's Red Apple.

He married Leslie Bauska in 1964, and they made their home in Seattle. He enjoyed taking care of his yard and home, and was especially fond of his neighbors in the Richmond Beach community where they lived for 47 years. He enjoyed many vacations in about 50 different countries, including many trips with his in-laws, Les and



Camilla Bauska.

Fifteen years ago, Homer and Leslie bought a second home in

Kalispell, where they spent many months each year. He appreciated the opportunity to spend more time with his in-laws and get re-acquainted with old high school friends. He also enjoyed time spent at the family cabin on Ashley Lake, where his principal duty was making sure there was wood split for the fire!

Homer is survived by his wife Leslie, at their home in Shoreline, Washington. He also is survived by his brother Charles in Bremerton, Washington; his mother-in-law Camilla Bauska; and three Bauska brothers-in-law, Roy, Jack and Greg, whom he appreciated very much.

Homer was an extremely kind and considerate man who will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

At his request, there will be no memorial service. His cremains will have their final resting spot in Montana.

## Roger Wehr Minnich, 83

With love, we said goodbye on Aug. 1, 2016, to Roger Wehr Minnich.

He was born in 1932 to William and Anna Minnich.

He was preceded in death by both his parents, and a brother Reynold, also an adoptive daughter, Cindy Pederson.

He is survived by his family back East, including his 95-year-old sister, Feral Bowman, his niece Eilene and husband Jerry Myers and their family; his niece Doris and husband Charlie Kemp and their family, and other nieces and nephews.

He is also survived by his adoptive family,



including his partner in life, Charlotte Pederson, son Paul,

and daughters Lisa and Bonnie; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and by many friends.

Roger was a friendly, outgoing person who loved to give people a hard time, and talking about politics.

He was an Army veteran. He enjoyed sports and reading war books and newspapers.

A private memorial will be held at a later date.

## David Merideth Minister Jr., 90

David Merideth Minister Jr. passed away on April 25, 2016, at Day View Adult Family Home in Renton, Washington.

He was born in June of 1925 in Denver to David Merideth Sr. and Freda Johnson Minister.

David grew up in Denver. He graduated from Denver High School in Denver in 1944. After high school, he joined the U. S. Navy in 1944 and served as a fighter/bomber pilot and in World War II. David was honorably discharged in 1946 after achieving the rank of ensign.

David graduated from Colorado A & M with a degree in forestry in 1950 and worked for the U.S. Forest Service and later ran a fishing char-



ter boat on Flathead Lake.

David married Myrtle

Shirley Bures in June 1951 in Loveland, Colorado. They were happily married for 64 years.

David was preceded in death by his parents, David and Freda; and his siblings, Wesley, Marjorie and Carl.

David is survived by his spouse, Myrtle, of Renton, Washington; his sons, Robert and Barry; daughter, Pamela; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on June 15 at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, Washington.

## Carol A. Mistic, 65

Carol A. Mistic, 65, of Whitefish, died June 25, 2016, at her home surrounded by her loving family after a courageous

battle with cancer.

No services are being held at this time.

Austin Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## John M. 'Jack' Moon, 103

John M. "Jack" Moon, 103, passed away Jan. 7, 2016, of natural causes at Heritage Place.

Jack was born Dec. 14, 1912, to John M. and Louise Moon. They bought a 150-acre farm south of Kerkhoven, Minnesota. Jack went as far as sixth grade then educated himself by reading a lot. He loved his dogs Spot and Bounce, and his working horses Ted and Tom. Jack grew up hunting and fishing. He hunted jack rabbits, prairie chickens, gophers, pheasants and ducks. He learned all about the agricultural trade. He had milk cows, hogs, chickens and other animals.

He met the love of his life, Henrietta "Net" E. Reimers, and married her March 15, 1936, at Halloway, Minnesota. They lived on



the farm with his parents at Kerkhoven. They had a hard, but enjoyable life of 67 years. Jack

was a wonderful husband, dad, grandpa and uncle to all his family.

He became a great salesman for the Cargill Seed Corn Co. He did what no other salesman could do at the time. He sold 1,000 bags of corn seed over five years straight. His company rewarded him with trips to Hawaii, the Bahamas, Dallas and San Diego.

Jack moved to Kalispell in 1979. He got to go to Spokane to see the Statler Brothers in concert, his favorite group, and to the Calgary Stampede, as well as Mexico. He loved mak-

ing crafts out of wood which he gave to family and sold at the farmers market. He was also the traffic cop for the farmers market for many years. He would walk to the B & B and Smith's for coffee and shoot the bull with whoever would join him. Jack loved sports and watching his sons in their high school sports and the Minnesota Vikings and Twins baseball games live and on television.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents, son Larry at birth, wife Henrietta, and many friends.

He is survived by his son, John, and Donna Moon, of Kalispell; five grandchildren, Monica Moon, Janelle and Nick Bauer, and Mike, Brent and Tiffany Moon; six great-grandchildren, Ashley Moon, Dawn and

David Rudolph, Baron and Brittney Moon, and Zach and Syterra Bauer; one great-great-grandchild, Zacharya Rudolph; special nieces, Erlis Flickenger, and Pat and Paul Ditton, and other nieces and nephews; a special Friend Marvin Timmons, and many other friends.

A celebration of life for Jack will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday Jan. 15, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. A small reception will immediately follow.

A special thank you to the staff, nurses and doctors for the excellent care Jack received during his stay at Heritage Place.

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.

## Beulah Mae Monroe, 86

Beulah Mae Monroe, 86, died Monday, Dec. 19, 2016, at her home in Kalispell.

She is survived by her children, Roberta Hall, Georgie Gasser, Meriam Knopp, Beverly Peterson,

John Houseal and Ruth Sherwood.

No services will be held at this time.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Daniel B. Monroe, 75

Daniel B. Monroe, 75, died Sunday, Aug. 14, 2016, in Kalispell.

No service will be

held.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## William R. Morgan, 75

William R. Morgan was born in Seattle, Washington, and passed away in Kalispell, Montana, on Feb. 10, 2016, at the age of 75 years. Bill pursued a very active and healthy lifestyle, but it was the complications from chemo drugs that took his life (pulmonary fibrosis).

Bill and his older brother, Bob, were raised by parents who started their family later in life. His father, Harry Morgan (Shamokin, Pennsylvania) had a military career during WWII that took the family to Washington D.C. They later settled in Seattle, where Harry worked on the electrification of the Milwaukee Railroad. His parents spent their early married years as outdoor enthusiasts, and hiked, skied and climbed all over the Northwest as members of the Seattle Mountaineers. That is where Bill got his passion for being outdoors. Their mother, Eulalie Lasnier (Kansas), died of cancer in 1947 when she was only 51 years old, and the boys were 7 and 10. The boys were raised by their father until 1953, when he married Lucile Uran, who also had a passion for mountaineering.

Bill went to Nathan Eckstein grade school in Seattle, and graduated from Roosevelt High. While in college, Bill worked as a seasonal employee in 1962 and 1963 for the Forest Service in Worland, Wyoming. Bill graduated in June 1964 from University of Montana with a bachelor's degree in forestry. He then served in the Army from August 1964, when he started basic training at Fort Lewis, went on to the Oakland Army Depot and sailed to Korea in April 1965, where he served for one year and then was discharged from Fort Sill in July 1966.

After serving in Korea, he got his career conditional appointment in August 1966 with the Kaniksu National Forest. His Forest Service career (primarily timber management) took him to beautiful places and new hiking areas along the way: Seeley Lake District on the Lolo National Forest, West Fork District of the Bitterroot National Forest, Hungry



Service.

Bill married Devvi Ericson in the fall 1984, which made for some really beautiful and colorful anniversary trips; they were married for almost 32 years.

Survivors include his wife, Devvi of Kalispell; nephew, Scott Morgan, of LaPine, Oregon, his wife, Lee, and their son Tyson Morgan and wife Selena of Houston, Texas; daughter, Ashley, her husband Ramy Srour and son Noah of New York City; nephew, Rob Morgan, his wife Jenny Rideout and daughter Ruby of Portland, Oregon; niece, Anne Marie, her husband James Watts and son Xander of Wood Village, Oregon; sister-in-law, Claudia Morgan, of Portland, Oregon; and second cousin, Al (Butch) Morgan, his wife Kim and his children Jessica and Campbell of Stanwood, Washington. Bill's family connections were really important to him because he "settled" so far away from the rest of the family. Every meeting was treasured and filled full of wonderful memories.

Horse and Glacier View Districts on the Flathead National Forest. Bill retired in May 1994 working almost 30 years with the Forest

Other people important in Bill's life were Bob Benson and Jerry Kogan and each of their families.

Bill has accomplished significant climbs such as Mount Rainier, Mount Adams, Mount Baker, Mount St. Helens (before its eruption), Granite Peak, Great Northern, Torrey and Tweedy, Trapper Peak, Gray Wolf, and so many others. He was camping on a peak in the Bitterroot Mountains when they heard something that turned out to be the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens. Bill formed a strong bond with a group of hikers from the Missoula Rocky Mountaineers. This close-knit group still meets for "reunions" every two to four years.

One of the Mountaineers remembered Bill for his "indefatigable energy," writing about him: "On the trail he was like the Energizer Bunny, unstoppable. The essential Boy Scout, always prepared. When we were heading off for a short hike at Toroweap, I noticed his huge day pack, hefted it and said, 'Bill, what do you have in this thing.' He replied, 'A first aid kit and a few other survival items.' I thought this guy is ready for the apocalypse."

You could always depend on Bill; he was the "Rock." He planned activities, taking risk out of the equation, and building excitement and adventure into each outing. Bill also enjoyed photography and packed an SLR camera on all his hikes and backpacking excursions; there are thousands of slides documenting the trips.

Cont. on next page

## MORGAN from previous page

Bill enjoyed geocaching and found it a great way to explore unknown territories. A fall trip to Maine and New Hampshire centered on geocaching and the trip turned out better than any "Leaf Peeping" guided tour.

Bill said "you work hard, to play hard." He gave up vacations for priority field work in the summers with the Forest Service, and in retirement, pursued other outdoor activities such as golfing three times a week with other Forest Service retirees, skiing on sunny days at Big Mountain with his buddy Dan Smiley, and hiking, biking and cross-country skiing to fill out the rest of the weekdays. Every day was an adventure.

He pursued volunteer activities that would allow him to be in the woods. He served various positions on the Flathead Nordic Ski Patrol 1992 to 2007 and received several types of Certificates of Outstanding Service from the local division and the National Ski Patrol System Yellow Merit Star award for Outstanding Nordic Patroller for the Northern Division 2000-2001.

He volunteered countless hours in support of his professional career. He was an American Tree Farm System Inspector doing reviews from 1997 to 2011. He also provided support

to the Family Forestry Expo from 1990 to 2009, giving local fifth-graders the opportunity to learn about and appreciate working, living and playing in the Great American Outdoors. Bill belonged to the Society of American Foresters, and received the Flathead Chapter Forester of the Year Award in 2001.

Bill's brother, Bob, got Bill involved in computers in the early years of the development of the technology. They were building and re-configuring towers, adding hard drives, installing graphics cards and keeping up with the advancing technologies. That interest led him to his most recent volunteer endeavor of providing computer and information technology support to the AARP Tax-aid Program in Northwest Montana from 2009 to 2015. He would recondition donated computers and do software installations and updates for tax preparation. He was also a certified tax preparer and volunteered countless hours during the tax season.

Bill was an American Red Cross rare blood type donor and donated 127 units before he was diagnosed with cancer. He knew the need is constant and a contribution is important for a healthy and reliable blood supply; and you know you've helped change a life by donating.

Bill wanted cremation and a scattering of ashes over some beautiful place in Northwest Montana. There is no planned service and his family requests in lieu of flowers, please contribute to one of your favorite charities.



## Charlotte Augusta (Ellis) Morris, 81

Charlotte Augusta (Ellis) Morris was born in Whitefish on June 22, 1934, and passed away of natural causes on Jan. 30, 2016, at the Heritage Place in Kalispell, after a brief stay in the rehabilitation and long-term care centers.

Charlotte was born to Melvin LeRoy and Gladys Belle (Radabah) Ellis. She was the first child in this union (marriage) and the ninth child born to Gladys. Charlotte claimed to be an American due to her mixed heritage. She had four older half brothers, Henry LeRoy, Vernon Leland, Benjamin Leo and Bert Leo White, and four older half sisters, Esther Belle, Elizabeth Viola Marie, Rosa Lee and Carrie Evelyn White from Gladys' first marriage to Verty Lee White. Her only younger sibling, Mary (Ellis) McIlhargy, was born to Melvin and Gladys in 1936.

Charlotte was born into a poor but very loving family, like most of the average families following the Great Depression. Melvin, Gladys, Charlotte and Mary lived in Whitefish; they were a very humble family who deeply believed in family. They didn't have much, but what they had, they shared.

Charlotte attended grade school in Montana and Washington state. She attended junior and senior (through the tenth grade) in Whitefish. Charlotte was a fearless, assertive individual and always had a faithful dog at her side.

In 1950 she married, at the young age of 16, a local boy who soon was shipped off to Korea. Two children were born into this union, Thomas and Cheryl LaVern Herman. She later gave birth to her third child, Crystal Bell Loesch.

She remained in the Kalispell area and had five more children — three daughters, Kathleen Rose, Annie Laurie and



Cindy Lew Agnew, and two sons, Roland LeRoy and Barry Lew Agnew. Charlotte then

returned to the Troy area where her father lived and had her last two children, Jack Andre' and Charlotte Ann Metzker. She later lived short term in southwestern Montana and Oregon, then returned to the Kalispell area.

There she met, married and settled down with her long-term love John Gilbert Morris, a native of Kalispell who worked as a mechanic at Plum Creek Timber, and later as a self-employed contractor. John brought four young daughters into this union. Charlotte and John were married for 44 and a half years.

Charlotte was a spirited individual who did not hesitate to speak her mind. She loved to read, draw, knit/crochet, do crossword puzzles, swim, snowmobile, boat and share her time with her husband John. John in turned shared his life with her and took wonderful care of Charlotte following a moderately severe stroke. Her family will greatly miss her and her wit.

Charlotte had eight half brothers and sisters, one sister, 10 children, four stepchildren, 38 grandchildren, 51 great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, four half brothers, two half sisters, one daughter, one great-grandchild, and one great-great-grandchild.

Her service will be at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 5, at the Columbia Falls Mortuary. She will be cremated and will return to be in place at the family home in Columbia Falls.

Memorials may be sent to the Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

## Elmer Ray Morris, 85

Elmer Ray Morris, born March 20, 1930, in Douglas County, Missouri, passed away Feb. 2, 2016, at the Heritage Place in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Naomi, of Kalispell; as well as a son, Dennis, and wife, Christine, of Riggins, Idaho and a daughter, Linda, and husband, Dave, of Whitefish; two sisters, Ilene of Nampa, Idaho, and Elene of Caldwell, Idaho; nine grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Elmer was preceded in death by his parents, Orville and Della Morris; and brothers, Harold and Howard Morris.

He worked for 40 years as a heavy equipment



operator and operated everything from a backhoe to a 300-ton crane.

He and Naomi enjoyed

hunting, fishing and camping with their family in Idaho, Wyoming and Montana. Elmer found great joy in playing with his grandchildren and always had a smile and laugh for everyone. Elmer was loved by everyone who knew him.

At his request, no services will be held. Cremation has taken place at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory. A family gathering is planned for this summer at Fairview Cemetery in Kalispell, with urn burial.

## Lewis 'Lew' Morris, 71

Lewis "Lew" Morris, 71, of Helena, formerly of Kalispell, died May 7, 2016.

A memorial service will be 1 p.m., Saturday, May 14, at Our

Redeemer's Lutheran Church, 3580 N. Benton Ave., Helena.

Big Sky Cremations and Twitchell Funeral Service of East Helena is handling arrangements.

## Jean A. Morris, 87

Jean A. Morris, 87, died Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2016, at the Wel-Life in Kalispell.

She is survived by her

son Larry.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

John 'Jinx' Morris, 65

John "Jinx" Morris, 65, passed away on Monday, July 11, 2016, at his Havre residence following a year-long battle with cancer.

Cremation has taken place, and memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, July 22, at Holland & Bonine Funeral Chapel in Havre, with burial of Jinx and Susan's cremated remains to follow at Highland Cemetery in Havre. His family has requested that memorial donations be made in his name to the Friends of Beaver Creek Park or to the charity of the donor's choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home has been entrusted with services and arrangements. Please visit Jinx's online memorial page and leave a message of condolence for his family at [www.holland-bonine.com](http://www.holland-bonine.com).

Jinx was born on May 12, 1951, in Havre, to Jesse and Patricia (Callahan) Morris. He was raised in Havre, attending St. Jude Catholic School and graduating from Havre High School in 1969. For the first few years after high school, Jinx worked for Schlumberger, before attending college in Gresham, Oregon. After college, he lived in Seattle where he was employed by Boeing. In 1985, Jinx relocated to Kalispell to marry Susan (May) Cowan, his high school sweetheart. For the next 28 years, the couple worked side-by-side in their upholstery business, The Recovery Room, and enthusiastically supported the Notre Dame football team together.

Susan passed away in 2013, and Jinx returned to Havre, where he lived at the time of his death.

He loved the Bear Paw



Mountains from the time he was young, and would rather drive the distance from Kalispell

and Glacier Park to spend a weekend there. Jinx recently purchased a motor home and spent hours painting and decorating it in order to take it camping in the Bear Paws. Sadly, he became ill before he could fulfill that dream. He had a passion for vintage cars, and owned a 1969 Ranchero and a 1976 Corvette over the years. He also was an avid sports fan, and could be found with family or friends on most Saturday afternoons, watching college and high school sports. Jinx's unique clothing style developed in the '70s, and he was known for his articulate and colorful attire, always wearing a matching hat with each outfit.

Jinx was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Susan Morris, in 2013, his granddaughter Brooke Davisson in 1993, and his father Jesse Morris in 1975.

He is survived by his mother, Patricia Morris, of Havre; his brother, Dan Morris, of Portland; his sister, Beth (David) Rucinsky, of Havre; his stepdaughters, Karen Barr of Kalispell, Kori (Clarence) Knight of Charleston, South Carolina, and Katie (Blake) Wiles of Berea, Kentucky; his eight grandchildren; his niece, Natalie Lohse of Havre; his nephew, Jesse (Elizabeth) Lohse, of Havre; his many cousins; and many friends, especially his friends from grade school with whom he remained close throughout his life.

Cecelia A. Moser, 96, "entered into eternal life" on Sept. 7, 2016, at her home in Martin City.

She was born in Mt. Carmel, Pennsylvania, on Dec. 2, 1919, the daughter of Stanislaus and Mary Moleski, and spent her last days surrounded by family and friends.

Sis spent her early years in Mt. Carmel and Sellersville, Pennsylvania, while growing up with her sisters, Jess, Dot and Mary. She loved singing and playing music with Jess and enjoyed playing baseball and swimming. They raised a garden and sold produce to help their mom when times were tough. Sis was also very skilled with a sewing machine and worked as a seamstress in a factory after school.

In June 1940 she married Jacob "Jake" Daniel Moser, Jr., her beloved husband of nearly 36 years, and they settled down in Norristown, Pennsylvania. She was very independent since Jake joined the Marines and was away in the early years of their marriage.

She and Jake loved travelling through the United States and Canada, and they enjoyed the West so much that, in 1971, they found a place in Montana where they could move the whole family and their business.

She enjoyed being outdoors, involved her children and grandchildren in the joy of gardening, and took many pictures and movies of her travels and family. She was always cooking and made sure no one went away hungry. She also loved to crochet for the family and church bazaars.

Many years after Jake's death, she married Fred Salter of Creston and lived with him at his ranch in Creston.

She especially enjoyed going to church with her granddaughter, Teri. She is eternally grateful to Margaret and Maurice Burns, who brought communion when she could not attend church, and to the Pudelka family, Deacon Doug Cordier, and



Father Sean Raftis, who brought peace to her final days. She was thankful for her granddaughter

Katie, who was willing to move in with her so she could stay at home, and her daughters-in-law Pam and Judy, who looked after her during the day.

Cecelia was preceded in death by her parents, Stanley and Mary Moleski; husbands, Jake Moser and Fred Salter; sisters, Dot Schaffer and Mary Strouse; sons, Dan, Bill, and Larry Moser; daughter-in-law, June Moser; and grandson, 2nd Lt. Travis Moser.

She is survived by her sister, Jess Conlin of Media, Pennsylvania; son, Chris (Pam) Moser; daughter, Nancy Moser; and daughter-in-law, Judy Moser, all of Martin City. She is also survived by grandchildren, Teri (Ronny) Ingbertsen, Jason (Holti) Moser, Jake (Kim) Moser, Kelly Tennyson, Jed (Cristina) Moser, Brie Albertoni, Tina (Joe) Brents, Katie Moser, and Nicki Moser, and great-grandchildren Corey, Emily, Jalynn, Kim, Zachary, Jacob, Jamie, Sam, Hunter, Allie, Trinity, Drake, Eadric, Caedan, and Charlie, all of whom were the lights of her life.

The Pudelka, Conlin, Darche, Lingle, Blevins, McCaa, Salter, Purdy and Johnson families were frequent attendees at family functions and part of her extended family, as were many others.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in her memory to St. Richard's Catholic Church or to the Martin City Volunteer Fire Department.

A visitation for Cecelia will be held at Columbia Mortuary from 3-6 p.m. on Sept. 16, and a rosary will be said at 6 p.m.

A funeral Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Sept. 17 at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls.

## Norman E. Moss, 72

Norman E. Moss, 72, died Monday, July 11, 2016, at The HealthCenter Northwest in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, Janet Moss, and children, Francis Moss

and Brad Reed.

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 16, at the Church of the Nazarene in Kalispell.

Johnson-Gloschat

## Hazel Motichka, 102

Hazel Motichka, 102, passed away on the morning of Sunday, Sept. 4, 2016. "The earth lost an angel and heaven gained one. Hazel Motichka went to be with her Lord, and many friends and relatives who preceded her in death during her 102 years on this earth."

Hazel was born to Clarence and Ruth Johnson on Aug. 1, 1914, in Turner, Montana. She was the oldest of eight brothers and sisters, all of whom preceded her in death.

She married Neil Sheridan on June 17, 1935, and they had one child, Lorraine Dempsey. Neil was killed in a logging accident in August of 1960, and Hazel remarried several years later.



She married Joseph Motichka who passed away in 1999.

Hazel is survived by her daughter, Lorraine; three grandchildren, Dorrie and husband Mike Stone, Debra and husband Greg Johnson, and Bill Dempsey; and numerous great- and great-great-grandchildren. She will be missed by all who were blessed to know her.

Services are pending at a later date.

To send a note of condolence to the family, please visit [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com). Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Judith 'Judy' Seelye Motichka, 68

Judith "Judy" A. Seelye Motichka, 68, passed away quietly in her sleep early Monday morning, Oct. 10, 2016, after a long battle with dementia complicated with pneumonia.

"She left many loved ones behind to be in heaven with her daddy. The falling snow that morning was not snow, it was the extra feathers that wouldn't fit in her angel wings. God wanted an angel so he took our Judy."

Judy was born on July 4, 1948. She had her two daughters convinced that the firecrackers were celebrate her birthday. She was raised west of Kalispell where she attended Ashley Creek School first through eighth grade. Growing up, you would find her and her brother Terry after school either hunting or fishing in the hills near their family home. She also spent many hours on her horse Topsey in these hills. After eighth grade graduation, she attended Flathead County High School where she graduated in 1966. She began working at Equity Supply Farm store after graduation, off and on for 30 years helping area farmers and ranchers.

On June 20, 1969, she married Myron L. Motichka of Columbia Falls. There they resided and raised their children on the Motichka family farm. They lived there for 39 years before relocating to Midvale, Idaho, where they purchased a ranch. You would always find her outside attending to cattle, her horses, sheep and her garden. Her yard was much like a park

She had a special love for Christmas as she loved to decorate and bring the family together. Her many hobbies and interests included horseback riding and horse events, hunting, fishing, camping, gardening, baking, canning, 4-H, and spending time with family. She spent many, many miles and hours driving the roads of Montana taking her daughters Kelly and Shannon to their horse shows, 4-H and sporting events. She loved to draw and had a passion for photography. She also loved dancing, especially the waltz and polka. Her children and grandchildren were her life. You would always



hear her bragging of her five grandchildren. She loved the Bob Marshall wilderness

and went on multiple horse pack trips there. She also spent many summers of camping and fishing at Spotted Bear. Every fall after Thanksgiving was the annual hunting trip to Augusta, or the "High Woods." She walked many miles in search of the "monster" buck. Quarter horses had a special place in her heart. She raised horses for many years, but the highlight was her mare, Lady, that won the Canadian nationals.

She was a member of the American Quarter Horse Association, bowling league in Whitefish for many years, 4-H, and was a member of St. Richard's Catholic Church.

Judy was preceded in death by her father, Dale Seelye.

She is survived by her mother, Gail Seelye Weimar, of Kalispell; husband, Myron Motichka, of Columbia Falls; daughters, Kelly Motichka of Helena, and Shannon and Matt Jones of Midvale; grandchildren, Zane, Tehl and Austin King, and Natalee and Josey Jones; brother, Terry, and Karen Seelye, of Kalispell; sisters, Fay and Dan Skiles, and Laura and Paul Steele of Kalispell; numerous nieces and nephews, extended family members; and many wonderful friends.

A public viewing will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 13, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, immediately followed by a vigil and rosary. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 14, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls. A burial will immediately follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell. A reception will immediately follow burial service.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Montana Alzheimer's and Dementia Foundation. A memorial fund will be set up in remembrance of Judy Motichka.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Travis Zachary Mullin, 19

Travis Zachary Mullin, 19, died Aug. 29, 2016, at his home in Kalispell. A private gathering has already been held. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Richard J. 'Dick' Munro, 91

Richard J. "Dick" Munro, 91, of Helena, passed away Sunday, Dec. 4, 2016.

The family will receive friends beginning at 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8, with a vigil service to follow at 4:30 p.m. at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church, 1502 Shirley Road. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at noon on Friday, Dec. 9, at Our Lady of the Valley



Catholic Church, with full military honors to follow.

A reception will follow at the social hall of the church. The burial will be at a later date in Dutton.

Please visit [www.aswfuneralhome.com](http://www.aswfuneralhome.com) to offer a condolence to the family or to share a memory of Dick.

## Dara Lee Murray, 44

Dara Lee Murray, 44, died in Kalispell March 16, 2016.

She is survived by her husband, Todd.

A celebration is pending.

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