

## Dorothy 'Dot' Pacheco, 92

Dorothy "Dot" Pacheco died at The HealthCenter in Kalispell on Oct. 17, 2016, at the age of 92.

She was born in St. Marys, Kansas, Sept. 28, 1924.

Dot was preceded in death by her parents, sister, brother, two husbands and a son.

She is survived by her three daughters, Dottie Olofson (Gerry) of Missoula, Zoe Montgomery (Frank) of Thornton, Washington, and Donna Shirley of Kalispell, with whom she had lived for 17 years.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, at

Northridge Lutheran Church, 323 Northridge Dr., Kalispell.

Visitation will be held at the church from 9 to 9:45 a.m. Burial will follow at the Libby Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be given to the prayer shawl ministry at Northridge Lutheran Church. Dot had been an active part of the prayer shawl ministry for over six years.

Friends may visit the website [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave a note of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family

## Sharon 'Kay' Padilla, 71

Sharon "Kay" Padilla, 71, died Wednesday, March 23, 2016, at Polson Health and Rehab.

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

## Kimmy Palumbo, 56

Kimmy Palumbo, 56, died Thursday, March 31, 2016, at her home in Coram.

She is survived by her husband, Michael,

and children Michael II, Joshua and Gabrielle.

A memorial service is pending. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Frank Ernest Pancoast, 68

Frank Ernest Pancoast, 68, "went to be with our Lord" on Aug. 11, 2016.

He was born in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, on Feb. 17, 1948, to Frank and Hazel Pancoast. He was the oldest of five children.

Frank proudly served in the United States Navy as a SeaBee from August 1967 until January 1971.

On March 18, 1972, he married the love of his life, Deborah Gardy. They had four children together.

Frank was an avid outdoorsman. Hunting and fishing were a couple of his very favorite things to do, but his love for God was his passion in life. Never a bashful guy, he shared his love of the Lord with everyone. He was an incredibly generous man, and loved to help anyone in need.

Everyone knew God was first in Frank's life, and his family was second. He loved spending time with all of his kids and grandkids. He taught them all to hunt, fish, and to pull the best practical jokes they could. Laughter was easy to come by when Frank was around, even if it was at his own expense. Cheering for his kids and grandkids at their various sports and activities was a big source of pride for him.

Frank went to college for air conditioning and refrigeration. He was also an auto mechanic, a furniture restorer, and worked in construction. He became a master electrician and opened the doors to his own business, Pancoast Electric,



in 1993. Frank's work ethic and quality of work was second to none.

Frank was preceded in death by his father, Frank O. Pancoast.



He is survived by his loving wife of 44 years, Deborah. He is also survived by his mother, Hazel Pancoast; his sister, Deborah J. Pancoast; sister, Joan Grimley, and her husband, Bob; brother, John Pancoast, and his wife, Deborah E. Pancoast; sister, Jean Thederahn, and her husband, Neil; daughter, Jeannette Burton, and her husband, Dennis; son, Ron Pancoast, and his wife, Kristy; son, Brian Pancoast, and his wife, Dixie; and daughter, April Stover, and her husband, Tom. Missing their PopPop forever are his grandkids, Trent, Tyler, Megan, Ashlee, Cameron, Ally, Ethan, Stryker, Conner, Trevor and Baxton.

There will be a memorial service to celebrate Frank's life at 4 p.m. on Sept. 16 at Hope Church in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please give your gift to a person in need as Frank would have done, or make a donation to your favorite charity.

Frank was a loving husband, father, grandfather, son, brother and friend. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

## Elizabeth 'Liz' Chambers-Paplinski, 83

Elizabeth "Liz" Chambers-Paplinski, 83, of Walla Walla, Washington, passed away peacefully Aug. 19, 2016, with her family in Bigfork.

A dearly loved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Liz was truly one of a kind. She was kind and deeply compassionate and hilariously sassy. She traveled all over the world as a military wife and mother and later served for over 20 years for the United States Forest Service in Bend, Oregon. She was an excellent cook and enjoyed canning. Her golden years were some of the best of her life with her husband Ken. They enjoyed traveling and spending time on the Washington coast.

She was preceded in death by her late husband James Chambers, her mother Edna Hickey, her brother Jimmy Herndon, and granddaughter Jennifer Mathis.



She is survived by her husband Kenneth Paplinski, her sister Mae Herndon,

her brother Robert-Kenady Herndon, and his daughter, Kelly Rendon-Bans; her daughter Patricia Ill and husband Ken; her grandchildren, Sabriand Fairweather, Annie Kirchner and husband Michael, Dawn Veltri and husband Rich, Trevor Erickson and wife Sasha, Sarina Sterner and husband Reece; and 10 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

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.

## Lester Merle Paro Jr., 85

Lester Merle Paro Jr., 85, died Saturday, Nov. 19, 2016, at Mountain View Care Center in Ronan.

Memorial services

will be held at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Shrider-Thompson Funeral Home.

## Walter Lee Parsons, 67

Walter Lee Parsons, 67, of Columbia Falls, formerly of Blackfoot, Idaho, died Wednesday, May 11, 2016, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center due to complications of previous surgeries.

A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Friday, May 20, at the Thomas 4th Jesus Christ of Latter-

day Saints Church, 1050 W. 100 S. in Blackfoot. A viewing will be from 10 to 10:45 a.m. at the church. Interment will follow services, at 4 pm. in the Afton, Wyoming, Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hawker Funeral Home in Blackfoot.

## Jerry Patterson, 68

Jerry Patterson, 68, passed away Friday, June 13, 2016, while hospitalized in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

He is survived by his niece, Jennifer, and was predeceased by his parents and his sister, Patricia.

Jerry was born in Alabama on May 2, 1948, to Grover and Margie Patterson. As a young man, his family relocated to San Diego, where he graduated from La Jolla High School in 1966. He became a Montana resident in 2004.

Jerry worked as a



service writer for a number of Cadillac car dealerships in southern California. His favorite pastimes

were taking long drives and playing lottery games. He was a witty conversationalist, and will be remembered for his kind heart and generous spirit.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 25, at Columbia Mortuary.

## Sherry Patterson, 72

Sherry was born Sherrill Lynn Jonach in La Junta, Colorado, July 19, 1944, to Johnny and Ruthie Jonach.

Sherry passed away at Brendan House in Kalispell on Oct. 23, 2016, after experiencing multiple health issues in recent years.

She lived most of her adult life in Billings working various jobs. In 2007 Sherry moved to Columbia Falls to be close to her mother and two of her three sisters.

Sherry was married twice but never experienced the pain or joy of bearing any children. However, through the years she had many dogs and cats that brought her much joy.

She is survived by her sisters and their families, Joanie and Howard Caudill with sons Justin and Kim Dailey and Jeremy and Wendy Dailey and their families; Gayle and Dan Brown

with their children, Ronica Hall, Jake and Christie Becker, Dan Jr. and Aileen Brown, and Tracy and Dan Gladden and their families; Nancy Michels with son Jamie and daughter Marsha and Jim Hawkins and their families.

She is also survived by six cousins including Paul Gregory who was more like a brother, her stepmother Carrie Jonach, and her treasured friend Ona. Sherry also leaves behind her dear cat, Gracie.

Sherry made many friends while attending Whitefish United Methodist Church and while taking dialysis treatments.

Sherry was preceded in death by her parents and stepfather, D.W. Smiley.

Cremation was performed by Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

There will be a private family service for Sherry.

## Mary Paulsen, 62

Mary A. Paulsen, 62, died at her home in Kalispell on April 18, 2016.

Memorial services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday,

April 23, at Adventure Church, 348 Second Ave. W., Kalispell. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Dorothy 'Dottie' M. Payne, 89

Dorothy "Dottie" M. Payne, 89, died Thursday, Feb. 25, 2016 at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She is survived by her children Janice Payne, Sharilee Putzier, Jim and Steve Payne.

Funeral services

will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 29, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Burial will take place at a later date.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

## Dorothy Payne, 89

With great sadness we announce the passing of our mother, Dorothy Payne, 89, of Lakeside.

Her husband of 63 years, James Payne, an optometrist in Great Falls, predeceased her in 2010.

She is survived by four children, Sharilee Putzier of Tucson, Arizona, Janice Skolnick of Alameda, California, Jim Payne of Whitefish and Steve Payne of Somers; grandchildren, Jarame Ell, Jami Cureton of Boise, Idaho, Susan Smith of Georgia; and great-grandchildren, Gabe, Archer, Orion, Zoe, Caleb and Jonah.

Dorothy was a stay-at-home mom involved with her children and her community. Because Jim was a pilot, Dorothy also got her pilot's license and flew in a Powder Puff Derby. They owned a Cessna 180, a Beechcraft Bonanza and Jim became president of the Montana Pilots Association. With



trips to the 7-Up Ranch and down to Mexico, Dorothy and Jim loved to fly. They also designed and

built four homes — the last in Lakeside near all the grandparents. Other family members soon joined them, moving to Flathead Lake, Whitefish, Somers and Meadowlake Golf Course in Columbia Falls.

Mother had many talents that included sculpting, stained glass, painting, sewing, gardening, dancing and golfing. She was involved in her church and sang in the choir.

She was a Red Hatter and involved with the Rocky Mountain Rollers RV Club. She never had a negative thing to say about anyone. She loved her family and made friends wherever she went. She had a great life.

Services were held Feb. 27.

## Virginia 'Ginger' Pazer, 73

Virginia "Ginger" Pazer, 73, passed away Nov. 28, 2016, in Kalispell.

Ginger was born Feb. 20, 1943, in Wallace, Idaho, to Edgar and Virginia (Turner) Sanders.

Ginger had retired from Sacred Heart Medical Center.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Pazer; son, Bert Harvey; parents, Edgar and Virginia Sanders; sisters, Mary George and Kathy Trenk; and brothers, Allie Sanders and Wayne Sanders.

She is survived by her children, Jon Hosking (Heather) of Oregon, David Harvey of Washington, and Jacquie Imholt of Minnesota; grandchildren, Ginger Drake, David Gronley, Angela Kinyon, Carolyn Harvey, Michael Harvey

and Sheena Harvey; and seven great-grandchildren.

A memorial is planned for the spring of 2017 with interment at Fairmount Memorial.

Friends are encouraged to visit our website at [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave notes of condolences for the family.

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

## Francis 'Frank' Pelech, 82

Frank Pelech, 82, passed away Thursday, July 14, 2016, at Brendan House, where he was being cared for following complications of a major stroke he suffered at the end of April.

Frank was born in Ashley, Pennsylvania, the son of a coal miner and one of seven children. He worked from a very young age, selling newspapers on the corner, shining shoes, working in the fields harvesting vegetables. He enjoyed sports and played the trumpet so well he was offered a chance to attend the Julliard School of Music, but was disappointed when his parents wouldn't let him go to New York City.

Frank joined the Coast Guard as soon as he was old enough and served aboard an icebreaker in the North Atlantic and Arctic. He later joined the Navy and served aboard an aircraft carrier, where he worked on airplanes and started taking classes in electronics. He got his associate degree in electrical engineering from Southern Technical Institute in Marietta, Georgia.



He moved with his first wife from Delaware, where he was working at the Dupont Company, to live on a ranch in Libby. After his divorce, he worked at long-haul trucking and met his wife, Diane, and daughter, Mia, and they soon became a family. They moved to Washington state, where Frank eventually finished his degree in electronics engineering through Chapman University. He was working as a civilian for the Naval Undersea Warfare Engineering Center in Keyport, Washington. He loved his job there while working on submarine torpedoes at the test ranges and supporting SEAL teams in their training.

Frank retired in 1995, and he and Diane moved back to Montana. They eventually settled in Kalispell, where Frank worked for a short time at Semitool. After he left Semitool, he enjoyed gar-

dening, camping, fishing, shooting guns, boating and barbecuing.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, John and Katherine Pelech; three brothers, John, Joe and Stanley Pelech; sister, Delores Karpovich; and son, Michael Pelech.

Frank is survived by his wife, Diane, at the family home in Kalispell; his daughter, Mia Wolf and family, of Port Orchard, Washington; four children from his first marriage; one sister, Joan Kondraski, of Mountain Top, Pennsylvania; one brother, Walter and

spouse, of Florida; sisters-in-law, Delores Pelech and Margaret Pelech of Florida; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Bryan and Joan Stahlberg of Kalispell, Bryan and Janis Marshall of Florida, and David Bradley of Missoula; and many nieces, nephews, and grandchildren.

At Frank's request, there will be no services. Diane would like to express her gratitude for the exceptional care that Frank received and also the numerous hugs and "caring words" that Diane received during the long stay at Brendan House.

## Michael J. Pelton, 36

Michael J. Pelton, 36, died Thursday, May 12, 2016, at his home in Martin City.

He is survived by his

wife Kat Johnson.

A memorial service is pending in Great Falls.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

## Marlene JoAnne Kirchoff Perenz, 78

On Oct. 2, 2016, a beautiful fall weekend day, Marlene JoAnne Kirchoff Perenz left her earthly existence.

In doing right by Mom, we, her daughters and granddaughter, were caring for her at home, an important request she made most of her adult life. As it turned out, she gave us a great gift and honor, she taught us one last life lesson. We gathered around her, pulled out boxes and boxes of letters, photographs, notes, cards and important documents — things that in a busy world gets pushed aside. She had them all. She created amazing photo albums with handwritten stories, chronicling our family. Touching anecdotes, cute and silly memories. Things that make a family, well, a family! We were taken back through the years, reintroduced to our heritage, to the important things in which life is truly made of. We spent the whole day with her and our family from years gone by, all because she was the keeper of stories, the maker of our world. We laughed and cried, loved and held tight and when the time came, let her go.

She was born Sept. 16, 1938, to Frank and Jearldine Kirchoff. She lived in Minnesota, Colorado, California, Utah and Montana. She had many jobs but mainly worked in the medical field as a receptionist. Keeping those doctors in line and on time was something she did flawlessly. Mom was grace, poise and strength. She fought for equality and family. She was strong-



willed, intelligent and faithful. She held herself and us to a higher standard. She was books

and studying, drives in neighborhoods to look at houses and chocolate sodas. She was libraries, hours of discussion and debating. She loved touring cemeteries, and made incredible home-cooked meals and grew amazing gardens. She was comfort, knitted blankets, watercolor paintings, crossword puzzles, and "Jeopardy!" She was the shelves and shelves of books in every house we lived in. She will always be our world. Mom did a beautiful job at this thing called life and in the end, reminded us to let go of pettiness and embrace what is real, to notice the precious moments, wrap them gently, and remember them often, and to choose to seek and see things that are wonderful. She was adored and is deeply missed now and forever.

Mom, Brian will save you a seat at the Tonys! Good night T-hearts.

She is survived by daughters Susan, Julian and Paula Perenz; granddaughter, Kristin and Brian Gregoire; great-grandchildren, Camerin Gregoire and Asha Gregoire; brother, Lenny Kirchoff; and nephew, Robert Kirchoff.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

To send a note of condolence to the family please visit [www.buffalo-hillfh.com](http://www.buffalo-hillfh.com).

## Elsie Violet Persicke, 92

Elsie Violet Persicke, 92, passed away May 29, 2016.

Born in Tottenham, London, Sept. 29, 1923, to William and Ida Kilroy, Elsie was married to Dan Persicke in London in 1944, until Dan's passing in 1967.

Elsie had an adventurous lifespan of 92 years.

The great adventure started during World War II when she met Dan. She had many enlightening wartime stories. Following the war, she came to the United States on a ship with 400 other war brides. Landing in New York, then traveling across the county by train, Elsie ended up in Whitefish. From London to a logging camp in Northwest Montana — what an adventure.

They raised their family of four children a block away from Whitefish City Beach.

Widowed at a young age of 44, she went from



housewife to working in a lumber mill, and learning to drive was only the beginning of a life as

a single mom.

She ended her working career as a housekeeper at the Whitefish Memorial Hospital.

Elsie is survived by son, Reg Persicke of Seeley Lake, and daughter, Judy Rieker of Hayden Lake, Idaho; as well as five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by husband, Dan; sons, Dennis and Don; and grandson, Eric Persicke.

To send a note of condolence to the family, please go to [www.buffalo-hillfh.com](http://www.buffalo-hillfh.com).

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Curtis O. Peterson, 85

Curtis O. Peterson, 85, died Thursday, Dec. 22, 2016, at his home in Kalispell.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4, at First Presbyterian

Church, 540 Main St., Kalispell, with the Rev. Glenn Burfeind officiating.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

## Timothy 'Tim' Pfeifer, 55

Timothy "Tim" Pfeifer, 55, died Thursday, Feb. 25, 2016, in Ronan.

He is survived by his son, Tyler. A remembrance for Tim will be from 3 to 6 p.m. on Friday, March 11, at the

Blue Moon. In lieu of flowers, the family asks you to bring memories or make donations towards the funeral expenses.

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

## Curtis Oliver Peterson, 85

Curtis Oliver Peterson completed his journey on earth on Dec. 22, 2016, at his home, in the loving care of his family.

He was born on July 22, 1931, in Superior, Wisconsin, the son of Edwin and Beatrice (Krona) Peterson. Starting his working career in his teen years, he was a caddy for Nemadji Golf Course and a pin setter at Waletzko bowling alley. He recalled that a priest was most generous as he stuffed the thumbhole with a \$5 bill; in the 1940s that was a big deal. Upon graduating from Central High School he traveled west to work for the Great Northern Railroad under the tutelage of his grandfather section roadmaster Fred Krona.

He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1950; his tour of service took him to Germany where he spent the next three years as a parachute packer. While there he made lifelong friends with Ed Vilchinsky and JC Stafford, he visited Saboe relatives in Norway and attended the 1951 Olympics in Finland.

He married Lorraine "Amy" Peterson in Superior and they recently celebrated 62 years of marriage. To this union four wonderful children were born, Gary, Cheryl, Cary and Steven.



the board also. He was active with the Fairway Boulevard Homeowners Association for many years and was presented with his prized "Golden Spigot" award.

Curtis was a life member of VFW Post 2252 and served 20 years with the VFW Honor Guard, considering this an honor to do so. He was a member of Masonic Lodge 864 of Whitefish and the Order of Eastern Star Vista Chapter 44, serving in various leadership positions over the past 19 years.

Being Dad to his children, foster children and then Grandpa and Great-Grandpa was the delight of his years. He loved to embellish stories to the little ones as he did 20 years of taxi service for his 'grands' and 'greats' with school pick up schedules. Grandpa was always on call for family emergencies and babysitting.

Curtis was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Elwood and Fred, and son Gary (2004).

He is survived by his brother Bill, (Bonnie) of Superior, Wisconsin; wife, Amy; Gary's chil-

Returning to Superior he worked for the Great Northern until 1961, at which time he and his family relocated to Whitefish where he went to work for the Anaconda Aluminum Company, where he became active in the Aluminum Workers International Union serving as trustee, secretary and president of Local 320 and Northwest Council of Councils. He also served intermittently with the United Steel Workers on contract negotiations, organizing and arbitration's, etc. He retired from Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC) in 1994.

Curtis' life calling was to be of service to others. He served on the board of directors for North Valley Hospital, Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Flathead Valley Community College Foundation; was active in the First Presbyterian Churches he attended, serving as a deacon, on Session, building maintenance, treasurer; no task was too humble for him to tackle. He took great delight to serve in the building of the Glacier Presbyterian Camp and on

dren, Curtis Wm. (Dustin and Rylin; Courtnie Marino (Calista and Clarice); daughter, Cheryl Reynolds (David) and children Christa Clark (Todd), Alexandar and Maddox, Brent, Adam and fiancée Melissa Thomas; son, Cary (Rose); and son, Steven (Karen) Caleb and Logan; sisters-in-law, Elaine Stevens and Laura (Ronald) Norwich; numerous cousins, nieces and nephews and lifelong friends.

Curtis loved deeply his family and many friends; he appreciated his golf buddies; our "Dine In Group" of 20-plus years, church "family," especially our adopted Eddy Lou. We are grateful for the many visitors, calls, cards and hospice care for Curtis during his trying months with declining health due to Parkinson's.

A celebration of life will take place at 3 p.m. Jan. 4, at First Presbyterian Church, Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please send memorials to Glacier Presbytery Center, P.O. Box 384, Lakeside, MT 59922.

## Carolee Joan Pfuhl, 84

Carolee Joan Pfuhl passed away peacefully in Whitefish early on March 6, 2016. She was not quite 85.

Born on April 1, 1931, in Everett, Washington, to Owen Haselton and Beatrice "Bee" Johnson-Haselton, Joan was the first of their four children. Her siblings, Owen, Margaret and Sandra, would follow.

Joanie grew up in Snohomish County and King County, Washington, where she attended Everett High School, graduating in 1949. She then moved to Walla Walla, Washington, to attend Whitman College, earning her bachelor's degree in English literature. Joan was an active member of the Phi Mu sorority.

It was at Whitman where Joanie met her future husband and the love of her life, Erdwin H. "Bud" Pfuhl, who was a sociology major. They were married on Aug. 22, 1953, at the home of Bud's father in Palo Alto, California. Bud and Joan lived for a couple of years in Walla Walla, then the newlyweds moved to Moscow, Idaho, where Bud continued his studies at the University of Idaho, earning his master's degree. Their first child, Christopher John, was born there in October of 1957.

Their next move was to Pullman, Washington, where Bud received his doctorate degree from Washington State University. They then returned to Walla Walla and to Whitman College, a place they loved dearly, and where Bud began his teaching career. Joan worked at several different jobs over those early years to help support their young family.

After saving steadily, Joanie and Bud were able to purchase their first home in Walla Walla. Their two daughters were born there — Stacey Ann in 1959, and Lisa Amanda in 1961. These were some of their happiest times together.



teachers improve their own skills brought her much personal satisfaction. Joan visited many foreign destinations in her lifetime, including Paris, Leningrad, Russia, and Helsinki, as well as various cities in England, Norway, Scotland and Greece.

Beginning in 1971, Joanie and Bud escaped the hot Arizona summers by trekking to Montana, where Bud had been hired as a seasonal ranger in Glacier National Park. He spent 18 summers in that capacity, allowing them both to teach during the school year and return each June-August. They purchased land outside Bigfork at that time, later built a home on it, and finally retired there in 1991. The Flathead Valley had become their new home — their favorite place where they made many very dear friends. Joan was involved in the Ferndale Sewing Circle, the Glacier Orchestra and Chorale, her beloved book club in Bigfork, and the Flathead County Democratic Women. She even played a role in the stage production of "Ladies First."

In 1965, the family moved to South Burlington, Vermont, where Bud had been offered a teaching position at the University of Vermont. They made many lifelong friends there, but realized that their hearts truly were still out West. So in 1967, Bud obtained a teaching position in Arizona State University's sociology department and the family moved cross-country once again.

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Carol Joan Pfeiffer, '74

Over the ensuing years, Joan determined she wanted to teach at the elementary school level, and had begun pursuing her master's degree while living in Vermont. The move to Arizona set her schedule back a bit, but she resumed her studies in Tempe, Arizona. Joanie finally achieved her degree after many years of hard work, and her first full-time teaching position was with the Kyrene School District. She came into her own over the years, becoming one of their best teachers. Joan loved every minute with her kindergarten, first- and second-grade students. She especially adored the youngest children. Joan's innovative methods of engaging her students in their own learning process inspired many other teachers to emulate her.

Joan was a teachers' teacher, as well. She worked for the Math Their Way program, which is a curriculum program designed to teach early-childhood educators how to instruct children in the fundamentals of math. Joanie enjoyed extensive travel opportunities with the program (even internationally). Helping other

Joanie was an extremely accomplished knitter, a wonderful cook, a talented seamstress (teaching both her daughters to sew and create needlework art), and even taught herself to play the guitar. She could bake pies in a wood-burning oven that would rival any top chef's creation, flip huckleberry pancakes over a campstove on a backpacking trip, and her potato salad was a legendary addition to any potluck gathering. Fortunately, Joan passed these skills along to her daughters and granddaughters! Her joy in being a part of the Bigfork and Kalispell communities was on full display whenever she joined in a game of golf with friends, attended a symphony concert, shopped at the annual Arts in the Park festival, or just walked her beloved springer spaniel down the street.

Joan suffered a stroke in May of 2014, but battled hard to overcome the resulting aphasia as much as possible. Just as she was beginning to resume a more normal routine, she fell while out walking and fractured her hip. Together, those injuries created a difficult path for Joan — she struggled to communicate, and many activities were no longer possible. But through it all, her new and old friends alike continued to see the funny, sweet and sensitive Joan that was still inside.

Her family is especially thankful for the kindnesses Joanie was shown by the staff at The Springs in Whitefish, the great folks at Immanuel Lutheran Home, Pastor Dan Heskett of Northridge Lutheran Church, and all her many lovely friends around the Flathead Valley. We were blessed with a wonderful mother, and blessed that she was so embraced by this community.

A remembrance gathering in her honor will be held later in the summer.

Survivors include her brother and sisters; her three children; two grandsons, Bob and Andy; and four granddaughters, Beth, Amy, Katri and Lauren.

Memorial donations may be directed to the Glacier Symphony and Chorale, an organization both Joanie and Bud cherished and supported.



## Madaline Phillippi

A memorial service for Madaline Phillippi, 91, who died May 3, will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 23, at the Swan River Community Hall in Bigfork.

## David Bernard Phillips, 94

David Bernard Phillips, 94, died on June 30, 2016, in Kalispell.

David was born in Minneapolis on Sept. 29, 1921, and moved with his family to Montana when he was 4. They lived in the Mountain Brook and Creston area. He attended school there and one year at Flathead County High School. He enlisted in the Army in 1942, serving with the 46th Portable Surgical Hospital in the India-Burma theater of World War II. His unit marched nearly 1,000 miles through the jungles and mountains of Burma.

After being honorably discharged from the Army, David received his pilot and A&E mechanic's licenses; he had a lifelong love of flying and working on aircraft. When a plane would fly over, he would often share details about it and sometimes a story about when he flew one. Later in life, he lived by the city airport and enjoyed hearing the planes take off and land. While living in Alaska, he was a partner in Fairbanks Aircraft Service, and worked there for a number of years.

David married childhood friend Lois Hanson on May 26, 1953. After their wedding they lived in Fairbanks for a few years and then moved to Portland, where David attended Multnomah School of the Bible for one year. Eventually they moved back to Fairbanks. David and Lois have three wonderful children, all born in Alaska — two in the territory, and one in the state. In the mid-'60s, the family moved to Kalispell, where David worked in construction



for Dallas Munter, building houses.

Always handy, he built the family home when they returned to Fairbanks in 1974. There, he got a job



for the local newspaper, the News-Miner, doing maintenance on the presses and machinery. Much to his delight, he also was able to work on the owner's airplanes. David enjoyed Alaska's scenery and loved nature photography. In 1993, David retired, and he and Lois moved back to Kalispell to be closer to family.

His greatest loves were his family and his heavenly Father.

He was preceded in death by his parents, five siblings, and two great-granddaughters.

David is survived by his beloved wife of 63 years, Lois Phillips; daughter, Martha Oureland; and husband Bill; son, Jonathan Phillips; daughter, Joy Gregory, and husband Dale (all of Kalispell); seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

A visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, July 7, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, July 8, at Central Bible Church in Kalispell, with a burial to immediately follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Frank Wendell Phillips, 86

Frank Wendell Phillips, 86, passed away on March 29, 2016, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

Frank was born to Homer and Carrie Phillips on August 31, 1929, in Springdale, Pennsylvania.

Frank enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1947 and then transferred to the Air force in 1949. While stationed at Chanute Air Force Base in Illinois, he met and married a school teacher, Louise Almira Robinson, on March 8, 1951. Together they had four sons, John, Mark, Bruce and Paul.

During the Korean War, Frank flew as a loadmaster, delivering and air dropping supplies from Japan to Korea. He was respectfully known as "Sarge." On one of his last assignments, he was stationed at Glasgow Air Force Base in Montana. After retiring from the military, Frank worked for the postal service as a mail carrier in Kalispell.

Frank's favorite hobbies were hunting, fishing and tinkering with guns and reloading ammo. The highlight of every year was the family deer hunting trips to the Kass



Ranch in the Larb Hills, south of Malta with his buds. He always has been a hunter since age 9; he had his last hunt on the Kass Ranch at

the age of 85.

Frank is preceded in death by his loving wife of 55 years, and son John in 1971, parents, step-parents, and three brothers.

He is survived by his three sons, Mark in Billings, Bruce in Silverfork, Utah, and Paul at the family home in Whitefish.

The family would like to thank the doctor and nurses of the Montana Veterans Home for the compassionate care they provided for our father during his stay there.

No services are planned at this time. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Austin Funeral Home. Frank's ashes will be spread in Sun Prairie, where he hunted for many years.

"Rest in Peace, Pops."

## William 'Craig' Pickard, 46

William "Craig" Pickard, who passed away on July 10, 2016, loved and was loved by many.

Craig was born Oct. 18, 1969, in Portland to Bill and Jan (Christenson) Pickard. He was raised in both Sisters and West Linn, Oregon, and graduated from West Linn High School in 1988 and Lewis and Clark College in 1992.

Craig was a decorated athlete and was inducted into the Lewis and Clark College Athletic Hall of Fame for both football and baseball. His true passion was the outdoors. Craig was an avid hunter and fisherman and had a true respect for nature. He loved the mountains of Montana and the coast of Oregon.

Craig had a true love for his family. In 1999, he moved to Montana to marry his sweetheart, Marna Hagen. They were blessed with two children, Anna in 2002 and Will in 2006.

Craig is survived by his wife, Marna, and three children, Daniel of Perth, Australia, and Anna and Will, both of Columbia Falls; his mother, Jan Christenson, of Crane, Oregon; his sister, Kelly Pickard, of



Redmond, Oregon; his father- and mother-in-law, Norm and Mary Ann Hagen, of

Columbia Falls; and his brothers-in-law, Brett (Lisa) Hagen and Todd (Susan) Hagen, all of Spokane. Craig also had many aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces who loved him.

Craig was preceded in death by his father, William Ray Pickard; and his grandparents, Harvey and Marcella Christenson and Olen and Lucille Pickard.

A celebration of Craig's life will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 21, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 401 7th St. W., Columbia Falls.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Parkside Credit Union, Columbia Falls. A memorial account has been set up for the family. The family would like to thank all of those who have shown an immense amount of love and support during this time of loss.

"Fish on, Pick!"

## Donald Pickens, 83

Donald Pickens, 83, died June 29, 2016, in Columbia Falls.

Private family services

will be held at a later date. Columbia Mortuary is caring for the Pickens family.

## Eric Platt, 68

Eric Platt, of Spokane, died at home on May 20, 2016. Eric lived in the world with joy and quiet strength, before and after his diagnosis of ALS in 2011, and left this life peacefully.

Eric was born Feb. 17, 1948, to Yvonne and Earl Plackett in Topeka, Kansas. He moved to Butte when he was 2 and Kalispell when he was 12. Eric graduated from Flathead High School in 1966 and, after a year at Flathead Valley Community College, graduated from Montana State University in Bozeman with a Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting in 1971. Eric served six years in the Montana Army-National Guard and worked in credit union management for 28 years, moving from Montana to Fairbanks, Alaska, where he met his wife, Barbara.

After a move to Washington state in 1999, Eric worked in commercial banking for 12 years with U.S. Bank and Wells Fargo Bank as an analyst, senior analyst, business banker, business banking manager and vice president. Throughout his career, Eric served on the boards of many civic organizations, including the board of trustees for Flathead Valley Community College.



Eric was a rodeo champion in the team roping event as well as the owner and driver of a racing hydroplane. Although he moved on to less

dangerous activities, Eric was happiest being active outdoors — fishing, hunting, skiing, scuba diving or golfing. While living in Spokane, Eric and his wife spent a great deal of time at their recreational home in Libby.

Eric is survived by his wife, Dr. Barbara S. Echo; his two children, Jaymie (Platt) Grow and Jason Platt, and their mother, Hootie Dodge; his brothers, Mark Plackett and Lynn Platt; his sister, Karen Rhom; and his four grandchildren, Gabe, Luke, Sydney and Max Grow.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Silver Valley ALS ride, Team Riders on the Fly, Evergreen Chapter of the ALS Association; [www.alsa-ec.org](http://www.alsa-ec.org).

A memorial celebrating Eric's life will be held at a private residence at 3 p.m. on June 4 at S. 8727 Southfork Lane, Spokane, WA.

## David M. Polansky, 49

David M. Polansky was born on May 22, 1967, in Great Falls to George F. and Clara E. Polansky of Lewistown, Montana.

Dave attended and graduated from St. Leo's Elementary and High School in Lewistown. He was very involved in school activities and enjoyed participating in football, basketball, track and choir. Dave was also a talented pianist and performed in numerous recitals and music festivals. After high school, Dave went on to attend Montana State University. Dave had many hobbies, including cooking, bird hunting, and barbecuing but most of all he enjoyed the time spent with family, especially during the holidays.

Dave enlisted in the Montana Army National Guard in 1986 and served 22 years of Active Duty service. He deployed to Kuwait/Iraq from 2003 to 2004 in support of Operation Iraq Freedom. He was a recipient of two Meritorious Service Medals and two Army Commendation Medals. He retired as Sergeant First Class honorably in 2008. He was proud of his service to his country and truly loved the men and women he served with.

Dave worked as the program manager for Flathead County at Eagle Transit from 2008 to 2013. During his time there he was instrumental in acquiring funding for the South Bus Barn building and other general improvements, including expanding the routes. Additionally, he further developed and helped maintain the relationship with the park.

Dave's true passion in life was to farm. In 2009, he began a custom farming and haying operation. The farming community became a second family to him. He also enjoyed Polansky contracting, where he installed appliances and genuinely loved interacting with all the people he met on the way.



Dave married Marci Lee in Kalispell on Oct. 10, 1992. They had two sons, Bryar

and Braedyn Polansky. Marci passed away in 2006.

Dave married Bernadette Nickol in Kalispell on Dec. 20, 2008. The marriage brought together Bernadette's three daughters, Paige, Mackenzie, and Nicole Bouma, and Dave's two sons. The family was joined by another daughter, Mihaela Nickol-Polansky, in 2010. Dave was a loving father and stepfather and always put family above all else. Everyone who knew him will remember his big laugh, kind smile, and loving personality.

Dave was preceded in death by his grandparents; his father, George F. Polansky; sister, Patricia Polansky; his first wife, Marci (Lee) Polansky; and Linda (deYong) Lee.

He is survived by his wife, Bernadette Nickol; his sons, Bryar and Braedyn Polansky; his daughter, Mihaela Nickol-Polansky; his stepdaughters, Paige, Mackenzie and Nicole Bouma; his mother, Clara (Ray) Koeser; his sister, Carol Stickney; his brother, George (Marsha) Polansky; his mother-in-law, Betty Nickol; his brothers-in-law, Patrick Nickol, David (Patty) Nickol, Philip (Leorra) Nickol, and Konrad (Sheila) Nickol; his sisters-in-law, LeAnn Nickol, Barbara (Jim) Bouma, Ramona (Bruce) Kinyon, and Juanita (Rick) Rodriguez; Bob (Marie) Lee; Jamie (Scott) Johnson and many nieces and nephews.

A public viewing will be held on Tuesday, July 12, 2016, from noon to 2 p.m. at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, with a service to follow.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Hattie Victoria (nee Jirges) Polensky, 89

Hattie Victoria (nee Jirges) Polensky, 89 Hattie Victoria Polensky left us on Oct. 20, 2016.

She was born to Joseph and Mary Jirges on Feb. 17, 1927, in North Dakota and lived in New Hradec, North Dakota, until the 1950s.

Hattie married Andrew Polensky in New Hradec in the St. Peter and Paul Cathedral and they soon welcomed Roger Polensky and Joanne Polensky to their family before moving to Kalispell.

Hattie took a job at the laundry at Kalispell Regional Hospital, where she worked until she retired. She very much enjoyed her time working and the relationships she had with her coworkers.

In her old age, her grandchildren formed a "care team" to care for her through two nursing facilities to ensure she was able to live in a dignified way and felt loved and cherished. She would tell us every time we left that "I love you. I love all my grandchildren." And she did. She loved us all so thoroughly.

Hattie was preceded



in death by her parents, Joseph and Mary Jirges; sister, Mary Luptak;

sister, Beatrice Fichter; and husband, Andrew Polensky.

She is survived by her sister, Martha Jablonski, of Dickenson, North Dakota; her children, Roger Polensky and Joanne Polensky; her grandchildren, Renae Polensky-Gugler, Jason Polensky of Wichita, Kansas, Joshua Romine, Daniel Romine and Kimberly Romine; and great-grandchildren, Hannah, Simon, Degan, Hagen, Marrinity, Ava and Layla.

There will be a Mass of Christian Burial at 12:10 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Kalispell.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, please bring flowers to a living loved one of your own. Always remember to show love to your family while they are with us, as you never know when they will be gone.

# SHIRLEY JEAN POTTER

October 04, 2016 at 4:41 pm |

Shirley Jean Potter, 83, passed away peacefully with family and friends by her side on Sept. 22, 2016 in Whitefish.

Born April 1, 1933 in Poplar, she was one of seven children, four brothers and two other sisters. She and her family moved over from Culbertson to Whitefish when she was 8.

At the age of 17 she worked summers in Essex as a switchboard operator communicating with the railroad engineers. This is where she met my father, Herbert Allen Potter, an engineer for the Whitefish line. 'Herbie' was his nickname, and he would come in to talk to her at her place of work often with coffee in his hand, while waiting for his train.

Eventually they both married when she was 19, "Herbie" was 31. They moved from their tiny house in Essex, when she was 21, back to Whitefish. There they built our house on the golf course overlooking Whitefish Lake. During the two years of construction they stayed in a Forest Service tent next to the property's building site while pregnant with her first son, Howard.

She attended Hair Beauty School in Kalispell with good friend, Richard Berger in the 1960s.

Continued on other page  
page 1

*Shirley Jean Potter  
Cont*

After Hair School graduation, she built her own beauty shop onto the house and successfully ran, Shirley's Beauty Salon, with four other employees for 24 years, while my father worked the railroad.

This way she could better raise her three kids from home. We all used to hang out on a neighbor friends dock, in the summers on Whitefish Lake.

She is survived by her three children, Howard Potter, retired Navy Veteran; Norma Jean James (Potter), who currently works as a school teacher in Kalispell; and Michael Potter, her youngest son. All three children live in the Flathead Valley.

Shirley was very loved by the Whitefish community. Her original and unique sense of humor made people of all ages laugh hysterically.

Her polarizing and witty personality would always make people feel better. She always told me that "it's fun to laugh at life" and to "never sweat the small stuff." Shirley had a way of telling stories about everyday life with colorful humor and vocal detail.

Her absolute best friend and companion of the last 10 years, Ralph Ammondson, and her were inseparable. They would always go for drives to look at the deer, eat out and watch football games at local sports bars. Her third act of life was fulfilling with Ralph next to her, a true and perfect gentleman who opened the door for her wherever they went.

A celebration of her life will be held at the Bulldog Saloon in Whitefish on Wednesday, Oct. 12 from 5 to 7 p.m.



Shirley Jean Potter

## Patricia Julia Porro

Posted: Friday, March 11, 2016 10:47 am

KALISPELL – Patricia Julia Porro, passed away of natural causes on March 8, 2016, in residence at Buffalo Hill Terrace in Kalispell, Montana. She was born to Edward Rea Funk and Mabel Keaster in Great Falls in April 1922. Patricia married John Anton Porro, son of Louis Porro and Hattie Jaraczkeski of "Little Chicago" in January 1944 and soon after moved to a farm/ranch near Simms where they raised two daughters. In the 1950's Patricia began work at Simms High School as Secretary and later as Librarian which endeared her to many students from the Sun River Valley. After retiring from ranching, she and John spent several years caravanning through the southern U.S. and Mexico. After John passed away in 1981, she became an accomplished artist, spent time camping and gardening and learned to ski in her 60's. She had a quick smile, sharp wit, easy laugh and loved road trips which she did well into her 80's. Many people much younger than she were inspired by her energy, curiosity and enjoyment of everyday life.

She is preceded in death by her brother, James E. Funk and daughter, Madalyn Moore. Lonnie Marie Porro resides in Whitefish.

Friends and family are invited to an informal Celebration of Life on Monday, March 21, 5-8pm, at The Celtic Cowboy Restaurant, 116 1st Ave So. in Great Falls. Memorial donations can be made to St. Labre Indian School in Ashland, MT. To send a note of condolence to the family please visit [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory in Kalispell is caring for Patricia

## James Cherington Price, 28

On Dec. 23, 2016, James lost his long and difficult battle against addiction.

James grew up in the Flathead Valley. He attended Hedges Elementary, Linderman and Kalispell Junior High School and received his GED at the age of 16.

He was always surrounded by friends and never minded being the center of attention.

James was a successful athlete and played soccer, football, baseball and basketball. People who knew him described him as charming and charismatic with a happy disposition. James liked music and was an avid Minnesota Vikings fan.

In his adult years he worked in the food industry or for his dad's restoration business. He ultimately found his niche



as an auto salesman working for Mile High Auto Sales in Butte.

The love of his life was his beautiful daughter Sophia whom he cherished with all his heart. His plan was to move to Texas to be closer to her, with a goal of being the best father he could be. James grew in his faith and believed God was guiding him.

James was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather Jim Rotter, his uncle, James Rotter, and paternal grandparents George and Betty Price.

He is survived by his daughter Sophia Price, and her moth-

er Marquie Kalagian; his beloved mother Stephanie Maroney, his father James Price and stepmother Velvet, his sisters Elizabeth "Lizzy" and Christy Ann, niece Clarissa, his maternal grandmother Mary Lou Rotter, his aunt, Michelle and Richard Anderson, and uncle, Daniel Rotter, all of Kalispell; also numerous friends and relatives in Montana, Minnesota and Ohio.

A gathering of James' family and friends will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15, at the Epworth United Methodist Church, located at 329 2nd Ave. East in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the James Price Memorial Fund, Account no. 988988, at the Whitefish Credit Union.

## John 'JT' Polotto, 57

John "JT" Polotto passed away in Tucson, Arizona, on March 23, 2016, from brain cancer, with his wife Dawn and brother Mike by his side.

JT was born on July 13, 1958, to Syble and Joseph Polotto in Great Falls. He moved to Whitefish in 1987, where he met his wife, Dawn. They then moved to Columbia Falls and later to Hungry Horse.

John worked for a number of different places, and owned and operated Grizzly Glass and JJ's Auto Sales in Columbia Falls until 1993. He then worked with the construction crew at Plum Creek until his snowmobile accident in February 1995. He then went back to college, graduating with a degree in business from Flathead Valley Community College, ran for the House of Representatives, and volunteered with different organizations throughout the Flathead. He served on the Hungry Horse Water District board and



Summit Independent Living Center in Kalispell.

John is survived by his

wife, Dawn, of 26 years; his daughter Angela, and her two children, Rue and Courtney, of Columbia Falls; and his son Brad and his wife, Genevieve, daughter Eryn of Wahiawa, Hawaii. He is also survived by his siblings, Rita Gilchrist, Michael Polotto, Denise Johnson and Danny Polotto.

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

John was an inspiration to many people and didn't allow his spinal injury to get in the way of anything he wanted to achieve. He will return to Montana later this summer to be buried by the family in Neihart.

A celebration of life will take place in the Flathead in July.

## Chester 'LeVern' Porter, 66

Chester "LeVern" Porter, 66, "went to be with the Lord" on March 05, 2016, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, surrounded by his loving family.

Chester was born on May 3, 1949, in Tacoma, Washington, to Chester Porter Sr. and Essie Porter.

Chester enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1967. When returning home from basic training, Chester married Cynthia Wallen, and soon after deployed for Vietnam. Chester served in Special Operations "Recon" from 1967 to 1969, serving three tours. While deployed, Chester and Cynthia welcomed his first son, Gary, in 1967. Chester served as a radio operator during his service.

After returning home, Chester settled with his family in Acme, Washington. Chester worked on the Burlington Northern Railroad. In 1970 he and Cindy welcomed a daughter, Tracy Porter, and in 1973 a son, James Porter.

After a debilitating injury, Chester was disabled and spent his time as the patriarch of the family. He helped everyone no matter what. Chester was a great musician, artist, father, grandfather and friend. He was the most respected person in the Porter family. Chester fell in love with



Montana and moved to Kalispell in 1994. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and his best friend for years, his little dog, Pee-wee.

Chester was preceded in death by his father Chester Porter Sr., mother Essie Porter, and brother Leonard Porter.

Chester is survived by his three children, Gary Porter of Columbia Falls, Tracy O'Dell and husband Keary of Kalispell, and James Porter and wife Moriah of Kalispell; brothers, Donny and Cheryl Porter of Columbia Falls and Bruce Porter of Kalispell; and sister, Nola Lux, of Ronan; as well as nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Chester will be forever missed by all who had the privilege to know him.

Funeral services will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 12, at Columbia Mortuary, 1010 4th Ave. W. in Columbia Falls. Viewing funeral services begin at 1 p.m. followed by graveside service at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls. Reception will be held after graveside services at the Hampton Inn in Kalispell, 1140 Highway 2 W.

## Vera Joy Porteous, 67

Vera Joy Porteous, 67, formerly of Kalispell, died Jan. 3, 2016, in San Diego.

She is survived by her husband Clifford

A. Porteous, and son Clifford J. Porteous.

Services will be at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, at Miramar National Cemetery in San Diego.

## Shirley S. Potter, 83

Shirley S. Potter, 83, of Whitefish, died Sept. 22, 2016, in Whitefish.

Celebration of her life

with a video remembrance will be at Pin and Cue in Whitefish on Wednesday, Oct. 5, from 5-7 p.m.

## Victor Pound, 79

Victor Pound, 79, died Thursday, July 21, 2016, in Mesa, Arizona.

He had a home in Kalispell.

Graveside services will be private.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Joyce (Hagen) Paliga Powell, 86

Joyce (Hagen) Paliga Powell, 86, of Libby, passed away Tuesday, June 7, 2016, at the Libby Care Center of natural causes.

She was born Nov. 4, 1929, in Zurich, Montana, to John and Audrey (Schwenke) Hagen. She resided and attended grade school in Zurich. In 1942, she moved with her family to Big Sandy, where she entered high school, graduating with the Class of 1947. Joyce enjoyed band and sports activities in high school.

In February 1948, she moved to Great Falls when she married Nicholas "Nick" Paliga Jr., a marriage that lasted 48 years until Nick's death in 1997. Nick and Joyce moved to Libby in 1951. In 1957, they moved from Libby when Nick started work of heavy construction. This took them to Idaho, Washington, Oregon and back to Montana in 1960.

Joyce started her banking career with Northern Montana State Bank in Big Sandy and was then employed in several different banks wherever they lived. In 1978, she left First National Bank in Libby to start a career at the Kootenai National Forest, retiring in 1992. After retiring, Joyce enjoyed volunteering with various organizations, especially as receptionist for the VA Medical Clinic, coming from Spokane every month to serve veterans and helping with the Red Cross blood drawings. She also enjoyed bingo.

Joyce was a member of Christ Lutheran Church, VFW Ladies Auxiliary, American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, St. John's Lutheran Hospital



Auxiliary, Senior Citizens, American Diabetes Association, Sons of Norway,

Cabinet View Country Club, Red Hat Society, Eagles and the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.

In 2000, Joyce and Robert "Bob" Powell were married at Christ Lutheran Church. They very much enjoyed walking, golfing and traveling, taking many short and long trips together until his death in 2012.

Joyce was preceded in death by husband Nick Paliga; infant daughter, Susan Gail; her parents; brothers, Marvin and Clinton Hagen; and husband, Robert Powell.

Survivors include her children, Lori Ann Landino and husband Dr. Louis of Seattle, and Mitchell Paliga and wife Shannon of Berwyn, Illinois; sister, Virginia Doerschlag, of Kalispell; brother, Myron "Sandy" Hagen, and wife, Nina, of Post Falls, Idaho; sisters-in-law, Eloise Hagen of Libby and Lucille Haldeman of Allyn, Washington; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Joyce will be 11 a.m., Saturday, July 23, at Christ Lutheran Church in Libby.

Arrangements are under the care of Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Homes & Crematory of Libby. Online condolences and memories may be shared by visiting [www.schnackenbergfh.com](http://www.schnackenbergfh.com).



## Ronald Wayne Prince, 71

Ronald Wayne Prince of Eureka passed on Feb. 1, 2016, from end stage multiple systems atrophy. His wife of 52 years, Joyce Prince, and daughter, Davina Prince, were at his side as he passed peacefully in North Valley Hospital. His other daughter, Dawn Eddings Prince, kept vigil as well from her home in Southern Illinois, where Ron was born on June 26, 1944.

He is survived by his friend and son-in-law, Gregg Alexander, husband to Davina; and his grandson, Teryk Prince-Hughes, son of Dawn.

We who remember Ron think of his giving nature — so many times he fixed furnaces for low income and elderly people without charge; his love of animals, like the time he poured his warm coffee

around the feet of a cat abandoned and frozen to a Dumpster; his love of space and science fiction, which came out in the stories he told his daughters — fantastic tales that always started, "Once upon a time there were two little girls."

When our family was young, he came up with "The Magical Jumping Spot" which was an ordinary bank of a stream near our property. He led us in jumping over the creek for hours, believing we could really fly.

"Now we hope that his spirit soars from its own Magical Jumping Spot and joins the great joy of a loving universe."

No formal services are planned and a memorial to celebrate Ron's life will be announced at a later date.

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## MEMORIALS

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### Ron Prince

A memorial celebration of life and potluck for Ron Prince, 71, who died Feb. 1, will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. April

2 at the Riverstone Lodge, 6370 U.S. 93 N., in Eureka.

Refreshments will be served.

## Leone Pugh, 94

In loving tribute to our mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend —

Leone Pugh, 94, passed away peacefully early morning, Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016. She was at her beloved home when her earthly life ended. She cherished the independent life that she was able to maintain.

She is survived by two children, Dianne and Terry; three wonderful grandchildren, Justin, McKenzie and Tyler; a great-granddaughter, Lily; and a large extended family of relatives and friends. She will be missed but never forgotten.

Leone was born in Douglas, North Dakota, on Sept. 1, 1922, as the youngest of seven brothers and sisters. She learned the desire to contribute as evidenced in her early childhood. Whether it was helping her brothers design early inventions or serving as the family entertainer her mission was to make sure the team succeeded and that she contributed. Her childhood was modest but provided the early values of a positive attitude and a kind, generous spirit. Those attributes became the core of her adult life.

She attended college and eventually met a charming Air Force airman returning from service in World War II. His name was Earl Pugh who became her partner for life. Her husband passed away in 2004 after 57 years of marriage. Since then she displayed the independence and capabilities of a modern day woman. She enjoyed an active life with family and friends. She traveled between her home in Montana and Arizona to be involved with her children, grandchildren and great-granddaughter.



where the customer deserved respect and a kind smile. She provided both and was truly

interested with the lives of each and every customer.

In 2006, her courage and character was demonstrated when faced with the surgery and radiation of throat cancer. Doctors and nurses were amazed at her positive spirit as evidenced on the radiation table. She would raise her fist in the air and yell out, "Let her rip." She was a fearless and brave woman.

It can be said that our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend was the kindest and most compassionate person we have ever known. Although she will be missed her presence and memory will remain in our thoughts and hearts forever. She has touched so many lives and will serve as an example to us all of what it truly means to live by the Golden Rule and give selfless love to others.

She was a true Flathead Brave and Montana Grizzly fan and loved seeing children having fun competing in sports. It was her inspiration that led to the family contributions to help build the Kids Sports fields where both Leone and her husband are rightfully recognized and acknowledged as the major financial contributors of the flag football fields.

She was a wonderful example of true compassion, generosity and the value of a positive attitude. She always strived to make sure you were having a great day and how could she help. She would want us to let you know that she truly cared about each and every one of you. We dearly love her and our love is everlasting. Rest in peace our dear angel ...

Leone Pugh and her husband were established Kalispell citizens and best known for their roles at the B & B Shopping Center which was an early community anchor. Her husband served as manager and Leone was the hostess of the restaurant that was the informal focal point of community relations. They worked as partners to make sure the business was not just a place to shop but as a center for the community

A funeral service will be held 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home with a graveside committal to follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Peter W. Putzier, 75

Peter W. Putzier died on Nov. 13, 2016, from complications of dementia.

He is survived by his brother, Matthias Putzier and wife Mary Ann, of Bluffton, South Carolina; wife, Sharilee Payne; children, Peter and Christine; and grandchildren, Shae, Nina, Peter and Joseph.

Peter was born to Dorothy (Cremer) and Frederick Putzier in 1941 in Red Wing, Minnesota. He grew up in Ellsworth, Wisconsin, attended grade school there and graduated from St. Thomas Academy in Minneapolis. He attended a Jesuit seminary and the University of Wisconsin.

Pete met his first wife, Elsa, at U of W and they were married in 1964. Peter earned a master's degree in Latin to complement his Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

After leaving the University of Wisconsin, the young family moved to Austria where Pete attended the University in Vienna, Austria, studying German. He then taught in Switzerland at the Institut Le Rosey, a prestigious international boarding in Gstaad. Switzerland always remained a kind of second home to Pete.

In 1968 the young family moved to Kalispell. Pete taught English at Flathead High School and taught part time at the Flathead Valley Community College where he was a brave and early advocate for the unionization of teachers.

In 1970 Pete got his real estate license. In 1976 he and his wife Elsa opened Teakettle Realty in Columbia Falls. He was president of the Chamber of Commerce in Columbia Falls, and chairman of the Board of Realtors. He supported the Columbia Falls School System and its sports programs. For several years he was an EMT volunteer for the Columbia Falls Volunteer Ambulance Association.

Religious faith and family were the lodestones in Pete's life. He was deeply committed to his family and to the education of his children. He spent



hours tutoring, encouraging and supporting his kids during all phases of their schooling. He was

always intellectually curious, carried with him a lighthearted mischievousness, and never stopped striving for a deeper connection with God.

Pete loved all water sports, including swimming, canoeing and especially sailing in his J-24, the "Saki," and later sailing his trimaran, "Triphoon." We remember him smiling while sailing on Flathead Lake, wearing his Green Bay Packers hat, equally happy in a broad reach or waiting for the next "puff." He loved to ski and the family chose to build a little cabin at the base of what was then called the Big Mountain Ski Resort.

Travel with his family was another love of his. Pete always had a special place in his heart for Greece and Italy, the countries of many of the philosophers he knew so well from his studies.

In 1997 he married Sharilee Payne and started a second journey in his life. They spent time together golfing, riding motorcycles, or going on sailing cruises. Pete was close to Sharilee's children, Jami, Jarame and Suzanna. They were a genuine second family to him. It was also during this time that Pete developed a special bond with his poodles, O'Reilly, Steele, Lexi and Sail, all of whom would bring him great joy and comfort.

Please join us in celebration of Peter's life, sharing stories and special moments that will put a smile on our faces and joy in our hearts for knowing this very special man. A rosary will be said at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls, with services at 2 p.m. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery.