

Stanly Alden Abernathy, 68

Stanly Alden Abernathy, 68, passed away on May 15, 2017, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. He died of acute hypoxic respiratory failure due to amyloidosis.

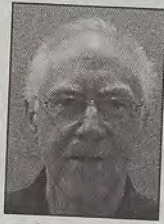
Stan was born in Wilmington, North Carolina, on May 3, 1949, to Chester and Lucy Abernathy. Stan was raised in Yacolt, Washington.

He met and married Ruth Ann Ruonavaara in Calumet, Michigan, in March 1974. They raised nine children together in Yacolt.

Later, they moved to Kalispell. Stan was a lifelong member of the Old Apostolic Lutheran Church.

Stan was preceded in death by his parents, Chester and Lucy Abernathy, brother-in-law David Kysar, sister-in-law Ardith Homola, and nephew Jude Gillette.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Ann Abernathy, of Kalispell; his sons, Lee



(Faith) Abernathy of Kalispell, Ward (Lori) Abernathy of View, Washington, Paul

Abernathy of Amboy, Washington, and Mark (Heidi) Abernathy of Yacolt; and his daughters, Jody (Kyle) Reddig, Rosée (David) Benson, Sarah (Elden) Reddig, and Kelly (Mike) Ost, all of Kalispell, and Jessica (David) Tanninen of Amboy; also 45 grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews and cousins.

Visitation was held May 16. The funeral will be held at 10:30 a.m. today, May 17, at the Old Apostolic Lutheran Church in Lakeside. Burial will take place at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

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

LeRoy W. Abell, 89

LeRoy William Abell, 89, "received his angel wings" on Oct. 6, 2017.

He was born to Milton and Emma Abell on March 24, 1928, in Fortuna, North Dakota. He was the last surviving of eight brothers and sisters.

He is survived by his second wife of almost 20 years, Lenore. Also surviving Dad, Grandpa, are his daughter LeAnn Ost and her family; daughter Rachell (Troy) Schneider and children Camdyn and Bodi; daughter Trista (Paul) Kelly and children Ellen and Jackson; son Jay (Nora) Lemon; daughter Laura Pierce and son Kyle and grandson Aydon Larson;



son Jerry Abell and daughter Shauna; also his extended children, Wendy and

Jim Barabash, Joanne Gosling and Craig Kachor.

His grandkids and great-grandkids always made him laugh and smile. He was very loved by so many special friends and relatives.

No services are planned at this time. Donations may be made to the Evergreen Lions Club.

9 Oct 2017

16 May 2017

Paul Eugene Ackerman, 77

Paul Eugene Ackerman passed away on Sept. 9, 2017, while in the North Valley Hospital in Whitefish. He had been living in Columbia Falls for the last five years, with his daughter Janelle.

Paul was born Sept. 12, 1939, in Webster, South Dakota, to Adelbert Paul and Laura Mae Ackerman. Paul spent his early years in Watertown, South Dakota, until he was 15 years old. The family then moved to Montana and Wyoming, where his dad, Adelbert "Bud" Ackerman, worked power line construction.

In 1959 Paul joined the United States Army. He proudly served our country for three years in Germany, as a lineman, during the Berlin Wall crisis. After being honorably discharged from the United States Army, Paul returned to line construction, working for Bud Ackerman and Son.

Paul married Martha Jeanne Washington in January 1964. To this union two children were born, Janelle Jeanne, and Adelbert "Del." Both children were born in 1965, Janelle on March 1, and



was an all-around nice man, loved people, had a charismatic personality, a great sense of humor, and a very strong work ethic.

Those who had the pleasure of knowing him as a man knew that he was a kind, decent, generous soul who made others' lives better. Throughout his 77 years, Paul rarely failed to impress others with his charisma, his talent, and his heart. He had a gregarious personality, a generous wit, and enjoyed hunting, fishing and the out-of-doors. Paul loved dogs and animals, and while living in Webster, South Dakota, he raised cattle which he enjoyed immensely.

Paul and Barbra were married for 37 years until the time of Barb's death on Sept. 16, 2012. A devoted husband, he cared for her all through her illness.

Paul loved his family deeply and he will be

Del on Dec. 14.

Paul worked for Range Telephone in the Broadus area, and Blackfoot Telephone in the Missoula area. Unfortunately, Paul and Martha were later divorced.

In 1975 Paul married Barbra Christensen in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. They later moved to California, where Paul was foreman for Burnup and Simms. In 1993, Paul returned to Broadus in order to care for his ailing mother, Laura Mae Ackerman, who sadly passed away in 2001.

With the intent to retire, Paul then moved to Philipsburg. Retirement did not set well with Paul, and he soon found himself working independently in the timber industry — an avenue that was very successful, and which he greatly enjoyed.

Of all the things to say about Paul, the truest may be this — he made people smile. Invariably, they had a story that involved him laughing, telling stories and making people feel good. Paul

missed greatly.

Survivors include Paul's daughter Janelle Ackerman of Columbia Falls, his son Adelbert Ackerman of Philipsburg, a sister Ardi and her husband Willis Bartholomay of Terry, their children Lissa of Miles City, and their son Ross, and his family of Denver; also numerous cousins, aunts and uncles.

Paul was preceded in death by both parents.

Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at Saint Paul's Presbyterian Church in Philipsburg. Visitation will be held an hour before service. Interment will follow at the Philipsburg

Cemetery. The family will receive relatives and friends at a reception held at Saint Paul's.

Longfellow Finnegan Riddle Funeral & Cremation Service in Philipsburg is entrusted with Paul's funeral arrangements. You may pay your condolences at www.longfellowfinnegan-riddle.com.

14 Sep 2017

Alfred Raymond Acree, 82

Alfred Raymond Acree passed away on Feb. 2, 2017, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, with his family by his side.

Born June 13, 1934, Al retired from the Washington, D.C., Fire Department, and worked for NASA Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and numerous jobs throughout the years.

He was a member of the VFW Post 276 and the Moose Lodge of Whitefish.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1951 to 1955 and served eleven months in Korea aboard the USS Saipan. He was a member of the USS Saipan CVL-48 Association and served as vice president from 2008 until his death.

He married the love of his life, Barbara Agpaoa Coley, on Dec. 3, 1965. They lived in New Carrollton, Maryland, until 1992, when they moved to Whitefish.

Al loved to hunt, ski, travel and go camping with friends.

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

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; and sons,



Mitchell of California and Jamie of Maryland; two grandchildren; sister, Carolyn Harrison (George) of Maryland; brother, John, of

Michigan; and many relatives living in Maryland, Virginia, Michigan, California and Montana.

A funeral Mass will be said at 11 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 10, at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Whitefish, with Father Kenneth Fortney officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in his honor to Montana Wounded Warriors, 100 Cooperative Way, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901-2386.

Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish is caring for the family.

Maria A. Aikin, 61

Maria Aikin passed away unexpectedly Sept. 4, 2017, three days after her 61st birthday, in Milwaukie, Oregon.

Maria touched many lives and was generous with her time and many talents. She was a master chef, an accomplished gardener, a talented seamstress and an avid reader. Maria appreciated and supported the arts and music.

She was a low key, unflappable, highly skilled professional who earned degrees in psychology, business administration and public administration. Maria had a diverse career as an administrator in wholesale food distribution, technology and law enforcement. Her final job was as the executive assistant to the Gladstone, Oregon, chief of police.

Maria was born Sept. 1, 1956, in Butte to Wilbur and LaVonne Aikin. She grew up in Kalispell with her parents and younger sister, Rebecca. She had an active childhood, participating in Girl Scouts, Rainbow Girls, and many musical avenues where she excelled as a pianist and French horn player.

She moved to Oregon in 1982 and became deeply embedded in the Portland community. A particularly happy time in Maria's life was after her mother moved to Milwaukie in 2008. They

enjoyed as many cultural events together as possible, making the most of what the Portland area had to offer.

She was a dog lover who over the years had four very special canine companions, Jenny, Bert and Ernie, and finally Charlie, who was by her side when she died.

Maria was preceded in death by her nephew, Jason Aikin-Wolfe; father, Wilbur; mother, LaVonne; and sister, Rebecca.

She is survived by her niece, Jessica Aikin-Wolfe, of Kalispell; cousins, Kathy Reed (Charles Dustin) and family of Portland, Marge Reed of Philomath, Oregon, and Don Reed (Risa Greendlinger) and family of Needham, Massachusetts; and a lifetime of friends.

A memorial service is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 7, at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in Milwaukie, where Maria was an active member and integral part of the congregation.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution to St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church, Milwaukie, OR; Family Dogs New Life Shelter, a no kill dog shelter, Portland, OR; Rahab's Sisters, who assists marginalized women, Portland, OR; or another charity of your choice.

3 Oct 2017

Richard 'Dick' Peter Aley, 78

Richard "Dick" Peter Aley of Whitefish passed away on Sept. 2, 2017, at his home with Mary, his wife of 56 years, by his side.

Dick was born to Frederick, "Dode," and Ella Catherine (Nichols) Aley on Dec. 16, 1938, in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Since a little boy his interest was airplanes. He designed, built and flew many model airplanes from control lines to radio control. After graduating from Bigfork High School in 1957, he took his love of airplanes to new heights and went to Northrop Institute in Inglewood, California, where in 1960 he earned an Aircraft and Powerplant License.

His first job was at Morrison Flying Field in Helena. Here not only did his love of airplanes grow, but he found a new love, Mary Dodge. They were married in Deer Lodge on Aug. 19, 1961. Their honeymoon started their life-long adventure with a road trip to California where Dick was going to school. In 1967, Dick graduated from California Polytechnic State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering and Mary graduated with a PHT degree - "Pushing Hubby Through."

Dick joined the Boeing company in September 1967. Working with Boeing gave Dick the luxury of not only working daily with the planes that he loved but also allowed him to see the world. During his 30 years with Boeing, he lived in: Seattle; Vancouver, BC; Minneapolis; Honolulu; Dallas; Tokyo, Japan; and Bangkok, Thailand. In



transmission. After Dick provided an in-depth, hands-on lesson on clutch replacement, Robinette gained the ability to balance a transmission on her chest and learned the importance of not riding the clutch.

Dick's two grandchildren, Amanda and Aaron, enjoyed many adventures with their grandfather. Amanda visited her grandparents for a few weeks while they were building their home in Whitefish. Amanda and her grandfather built a bridge over a stream on the property. This left a lasting impression on an 8-year-old girl. Aaron remembers making balsa wood model airplanes and taking them to a local park to fly them. He also got to take the controls of one of Grandpa's radio control planes at the flying field.

Throughout his life, Dick was active in local model clubs, participated in air shows and was a lifetime member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics. One of his greatest personal achievements was working on the team that designed and built the Miss Ashley II airplane that competed in the Reno Air Races. Miss Ashley II was a highly modified P51 Mustang.

In April 1998, Dick and Mary retired to their dream home in Whitefish. They picked the home site because of the 8-acre meadow

tives.

He passed on to Robinette a love of sweets, science and the manual

passion for life or his love of his family.

The family would like to thank Dick's caregivers, especially Gary and Tim, whose compassionate care allowed Dick to stay at home until the end. Words cannot express how much their care and friendship meant to Dick, Mary, and the rest of the family.

Dick is preceded in death by his parents, Dode and Ella, and his brother Kenneth.

Dick is survived by his wife, Mary; daughter Debbie, grandson Aaron, granddaughter Amanda, and great-grandsons Chase and Leon;

daughter Robinette, her husband Jim, and bonus-granddaughters Carmen and Ava; sister Sandy, and nephews Jim and Bob.

A celebration of Dick's life will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8 at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory. Dick's caregiver Gary, who is also a pastor, will lead the service.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to a charity of your choice. To send a note of condolence to the family please visit www.buffalohillfh.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

1993, he was named field service employee of the year. For Dick the best part of his career with Boeing was the friends that he made. These friendships continued throughout his life and have been a source of comfort for his family after his passing.

While Dick loved working for Boeing, he also loved his life outside of Boeing. Family was especially important. Dick cherished his two daughters, Debbie and Robinette, and worked hard to share his wisdom and life lessons.

Debbie is the oldest and because of this was always elected to do projects and generally help. Dick and Mary decided that in the interest of household peace, Debbie should be his assistant. Debbie learned many life lessons — the difference between a flat head and a phillips head screwdriver, how to hang wall-paper, drive a nail and most importantly how to let loose with a colorful, creative string of exple-

that was a perfect flying field. Dick designed the house and drew the architectural plans. At their retirement retreat, Dick hunted deer and flew model airplanes. He enjoyed working in the woods with his tractor and four-wheeler.

In September 1998, Dick was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. While this disease gradually stole his ability to move, it never stole his

Catherine 'Babe' Alger, 99

Catherine "Babe" Alger, 99, passed away Sept. 30, 2017, surrounded by her loving family in Kalispell, "to join her beloved Elmer."

Babe was born in Anaconda on Sept. 5, 1918, to John and Katie (Quinn) Tracy. One of seven proud Irish children, she attended St. Peter's High School.

A lifelong resident of Anaconda, Babe spent the last few years near family in the Flathead Valley, however, she longed to return to her warm cherished home.

Babe spent nearly a half century working at Weiss grocery with the Casey family. There was not a holiday or event that passed that did not entail producing fruit baskets, meat trays and boxes that were delivered throughout town. You could always distinguish between a box of cereal from Weiss grocery and elsewhere - due to the nail hole in the front of the box. How else would you get the box off the top shelf without a stick that had a nail on it?

Holidays were a special time at the Alger household and there was always room for one more at the table. After a trip down home and dinner, a steady stream of visitors would stop by the house throughout the evening. Coffee, Fig Newtons and pinwheels were front and center and a turkey sandwich with Durkee's was a little slice of heaven. The conversations in the kitchen with Babe would last into the wee hours



She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Elmer; her parents; and

siblings, James, Jack, Tommy, Lillian Smith, Margaret Walsh and Eleanor Hogenson.

She is survived by her children, Tom (Terrie) Alger of Kalispell, Mary (Jim) Hamill of Missoula, and Colleen (George) Hutchens of Kalispell; her grandchildren, Erin (Josh) Mouat of Kalispell, Kellen (Anna) Alger of Helena, Jim (Kristine) Hamill of Missoula, John (Sheley) Hamill of Shoreline, Washington, Cathy (Dave) Hall of Cranbrook, British Columbia, Joe (Linda) Hutchens of Columbia Falls and Doug (Carol) Hutchens of Lake Tapps, Washington. She was blessed with 23 great-grandchildren and seven great great-grandchildren, and numerous nephews and nieces.

She also had a very special relationship with John, Chris and Karen Hogenson who grew up across the alley and thought of the Alger's as a second home. Babe had a strong sense of family and dearly loved the many members of the Tracy clan, descended from John and Katie, who brought so much joy into her life.

Services will be held at Holy Family Catholic Church beginning on Sunday, Oct. 8, with visitation from 7

5 Oct 2017

or the morning.

Her love and support for Anaconda was always clear. She spent many hours listening to the ball games on the radio, attending sporting events or going to tournaments to watch the Saints, Copperheads and A's play. Babe and Elmer were involved and traveled with the American Legion and were lifelong members of the Anaconda Catholic community. Babe was a member of the Daughters of Isabella and a lifetime member of the American Legion Auxiliary. She looked forward to the Tracy family reunion each summer where she would get to visit with her favorite people.

p.m., followed by a vigil service at 7 p.m. The celebration of life will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Oct. 9, with interment at Mount Olivet Cemetery. A luncheon will follow at Holy Family.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Frontier Hospice, 42 Bruyer Way, Kalispell, MT 59901; Shodair Children's Hospital; Anaconda Catholic Community; or a charity of your choice.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Babe's family. You are invited to go to www.darlingtonfunerals.com to view Babe's Tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories.

Cheyenne Nathan Allen, 35

Cheyenne Nathan Allen, 35, of Somers, passed away May 7, 2017.



Nathan was born to Cheyenne Allen and Mercedes Patow in Ridgecrest, California, on Oct. 15, 1981.

Nate was a kind, caring, loving father, son and friend. He had a big heart for those who were in his life and always tried to do right by everyone. He would go out of his way to help you out or to check up on you. He always was positive and encouraging. Nate was a hard worker and did a fine job with whatever he did. He was a perfectionist.

Nate received his GED from Youth With A Mission (YWAM). He did a short stint in the Army in 1999.

Nate was a meticulous stone fabricator,

mechanical restoration specialist, dad and husband. He loved his family.

He was a member of Canvas Church of Kalispell and YWAM of Lakeside.



He was preceded in death by his Mamaw Glenn Rose Barrett and his Papaw George Cecil Allen.

Nate is survived by his dad Cheyenne Allen, his son Ethan, 12, and daughters Hailee, 11, and Madison, 7, of Somers, his sister Melody Rose Allen, and his wife Valerie.

A celebration of life will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 20, at Canvas Church.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Cheyenne Nathan Allen GoFundMe campaign.

15 May 2017

Kevin Victor Allison, 56

Kevin Victor Allison, 56, died April 20, 2017 in Kalispell, of a heart attack.

Kevin was born on Aug. 21, 1960, to Wallace and Cecelia (Neumann) Allison in Imperial, Nebraska.

Kevin was a veteran of the Air Force and the Army.

Kevin worked as an engineer at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. Kevin was a hardworking, kind man with a quirky sense of humor and a fierce devotion to his family. Though he was raised in the sand hills of Nebraska, the mountains called him home to Montana.

He had a deep love for the outdoors and spent much of his free time fly fishing, hunting, and, of course, planning his next hunting trip. He loved to tell stories about his adventures, complete with sound effects, to anyone that would listen. Kevin will be greatly missed.

Recitation of the rosary will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at St. John the Evangelical



be at Loup Valley Cemetery near Stapleton.

Catholic Church in Stapleton, Nebraska. Mass of Christian Burial will follow.

Inurnment and an Air Force Honor Guard ceremony will

27 Apr 2017

Beryl E. Allick

Beryl Allick "went into the arms of her Lord" on Dec. 19, 2017, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

Beryl was born in 1921 in Havre to Jay and Amy Rakestraw. She joined brothers Cliff, Glen and Clarence, and sisters Gladys, Hazel, Wanda and Thelma. In 1935, she and her family moved from Havre to Bigfork, where she graduated high school in 1940. Later that year she met and married Wallace Buck and they had two daughters, Sharon and Vivian. When Wallace fought in World War II, Beryl and her daughters moved to Bremerton, Washington, until the end of the war.

The family then moved to Creston, where Wallace worked in a print shop and Beryl worked on a farm. Later on they moved to Kalispell, where Wallace worked for McElroy and Wilkens. Wallace died in 1974.

In 1979, Beryl met Sammy Allick while dancing at the Eagles Club. They married in January 1980 and were together until her death. Sammy worked at Grosswiler's dairy farm for 38 years and four years for Kalispell Parks and Recreation. During this time, Beryl and Sammy lived on Grosswiler's farm until 1994, when they moved



to Spruce Park Campground in Kalispell. Beryl and Sammy moved to Brendan House in November of this year.

Beryl loved the Lord and loved serving Him. She also loved fishing, dancing, playing the piano, singing, bingo and playing cards, especially pinochle (a force to be reckoned with). Beryl dearly cherished the times she was able to hold the great- and great-great-grandbabies. The other joy for Beryl was a visit from K.D. and Zach for her timely dose of dog therapy.

Beryl is survived by her husband, Sammy; her daughters, Sharon (Arthur) Anderson and Vivian (Frank) Williams; and five stepchildren, Roger, Merlyn and Steven Allick, Doreen Marquez and Karen Pelton. Beryl was blessed with 15 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great-grandchildren.

Beryl was cremated, and a celebration of life will be at a later date. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

24 Dec 2017

Eldora (Dode) Altenburg, 91

Eldora (Dode) Altenburg passed away Saturday, Aug. 26, 2017.

Dode was born to Henry and Violet (Averill) Wittlake on July 18, 1926, in Somers, one of seven children.

On Oct. 18, 1946, she married John L. Altenburg. They moved to the Lake Blaine area in 1959, where they raised two sons, John and Bruce.

Dode was a member of the Jehovah Witnesses and loved reading scripture and having Bible studies.

She was also a good businesswoman, owning three beauty shops and a restaurant. After she and John retired, they loved to travel and camp, spending many weekends at Boisvert's camp on McGregor Lake, and shooting gophers in Lost Prairie and Pleasant Valley, enjoying family picnics, music and dancing at the Eagles.

After John's passing in 2004, she stayed busy working in her yard and

flower gardens, making her Lake Blaine home a "sight to see," and spending time with friends and family.

Dode was preceded in death by her husband John, sisters Gladys Gray, Jean Danielson and Shirley Jahnke, and brothers Emery and Ward Wittlake.

Survivors include sons, John (Linda) Altenburg and Bruce Altenburg; grandchildren, Scott (Becky) Altenburg and their children, Toren and Cavin; Lacy (Dustin) Richter and their children, Eli, Ella and Zephania; Brock (Heather) Altenburg and their children, Tucker and John David; Shawn (Heather) Altenburg; and Shannon (Kym) Altenburg; one sister, Kathleen (Frank) Sutton; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was truly loved and will be missed by all.

A memorial will be held at 7 p.m. Sept. 14 at Woodland Kingdom Hall, 1414 Woodland Ave.

28 May 2017

John E. Alton, 88

Kalispell lost one of its lifelong residents May 23, 2017. John E. Alton "joined his wife, Donna, in heaven" where we are all sure his grand entrance was entertaining and flamboyant. He loved to joke and make people smile.

John owned and operated the first Conoco station in Kalispell on Main Street in the early 1950s, worked at the Columbia Falls Aluminum plant for 30 years as a mechanic, and served as a trustee for District No. 2 for Flathead Electric Co-op. But, John's true love was farming the family farm in Creston with all its beauty and scenic views. There was not a piece of farm machinery that John could not put a Band-Aid on and make useable for yet another crop. If you had a car problem you took it to John and he worked his magic. John would help you even if he didn't know you. We know there is a tool belt waiting for him in heaven.

Free time was spent fishing on the reservoir and telling many a fish tale about it. He loved horseshoes, cheating at cards, hunting in "The Bob" and Great Bear wilderness areas and a 10-cent cup of coffee at Sykes' where, being a staunch Republican, he enjoyed engaging Democrats in political banter.

John was preceded in



death by his wife Donna of 62 years, parents Fred and Marie, and too many

lifetime friends to name here, but he cherished them all.

He is survived by his son Donald Alton and daughter Marlene Horsfall (Allen); granddaughters, Crystal Allison (Andy) and Farrah Perry; grandsons, Tom Alton and Jack Alton (Kirsten); great-grandchildren, Shea Allison, Jack Jr. Alton, Emalee Alton and Austin Alton; sisters, Margie Miciewicz and Joyce White (Jerry); niece Diane Brooks, and grand-niece Meredith Brooks; and many other friends and extended family.

There will be an urnside service 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 31, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, with a memorial service to follow urnside service at 11 a.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell.

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

More obits

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28 Aug 2017

May 28

Jerry Ambrose, 70

Jerry "walked through heaven's gate" with a smile and a cheery "Hello" on Sept. 20, 2017, after seldom speaking as a result of primary progressive aphasia.

Jerry bounced into Tillie and Delcy's arms on Sept. 24, 1946, in Gardner, Massachusetts. He began an exciting adventure and life spent enjoying the wonders of God's creation.

As a child, he loved playing with and teasing his little sister Jackie, biking to swimming holes, being a Boy Scout, and rabbit hunting with family. After high school he followed his teacher and mentor's advice and became a licensed practical nurse. The "Draft" awaited and the Air Force called. After four years of service as a medic and ambulance driver he used the GI Bill at Northeastern and became a registered nurse.

Included in his RN training was a Work Study Program, which he organized, in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Jerry was great at figuring out ways to work, and have fun, so he thought Jackson would be a great place to ski as well as do medical training. Upon graduation, he and his mom loaded his VW Bug, with hockey sticks and skis attached, and headed west through



to hospitals in Montana and Idaho. Working in different locations allowed them to work and explore many places.

Jerry gave his heart to the Lord at a 9/11 Memorial service and began attending Easthaven Baptist. During his life he played hard and worked hard. He received glowing reports of handling stressful situations in a calm and efficient manner with kindness and genuine concern for his patients.

Jean thanks everyone who has been part of this journey, which began in 2006. Thanks for sharing your expertise, advice, concern, support, love and prayers. Thanks to praying friends

from Northern Lights Baptist, North Pole, First United Methodist, Fairbanks, Epworth United Methodist, Kalispell and Easthaven Baptist, Kalispell with special thanks to Small Group ladies who have prayed and given support for years.

Jerry loved being outside enjoying floating, fishing, backpacking.

Canada to a position in Jackson Hole. While there he began a 40-year romance with Jean Jacobs. They honeymooned backpacking in the Wind River Range and moved to Hawaii to dive and enjoy the Islands. While working in Jackson Hole, a nurse anesthetist told him that he could be giving people anesthesia so, after 11 months in Hawaii, he was off to Anesthesia School in Maine.

For 10 years Jerry helped patients at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital feel no pain. He formed Aurora Anesthesia and did locum tennen anesthesia in Alaska for one year while Jean fulfilled her teaching contract. In 1992 he remembered how beautiful the Flathead Valley was when he and his mom passed through, so he and Jean relocated to Montana. He continued working in Alaska in addition

skiing, diving, biking and playing hockey. He was grateful to those who encouraged him regarding career choices and he offered a smile to all he met. As a tribute to Jerry, please use your words to encourage and build up others.

Jerry leaves behind his wife Jean, sister Jackie (Brian) Pfeifle of Massachusetts, brother-in-law Max (Arleen) Jacobs of Iowa, sister-in-law Mary McWilliams of Oregon, sister-in-law JoAn (John) Bogen of Wyoming, along with cousins, nieces, nephews and many friends.

Celebrations of life will be held out of state and donations may be made to the AWANA at Easthaven Baptist, 2010 Whitefish Stage Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, Veterans Food Pantry, 1349 U.S. Hwy. 2 East, Kalispell, MT 59901, or Youth Hockey, 725 Wisconsin Ave., Whitefish, MT 59937.

5 Oct 2017

John 'Jack' Archibald, 91

John "Jack" Archibald died of complications related to COPD at the Veterans Home located in Columbia Falls on Dec. 6, 2017, at the age of 91.

"Jack" is survived by JoAnn, (his loving wife of 65 years, also a resident of the VA Home); his daughter, "DJ" (Donna Jo) of Seattle; son, Mike and daughter-in-law Patty of Columbia Falls; and grandchildren, Jennifer Archibald of Havre, Christopher Burgh of Seattle and Samantha Almond of Tacoma, Washington. Surviving siblings include his sister, Peggy of Wilmington, North Carolina; and brother, Ken of Salem, Oregon. He has numerous extended family members residing on both coasts in Oregon, Virginia and North Carolina.

He was preceded in death by his father, Raymond, and mother, Gertrude (Trudy) Archibald; his grandson, Jessel; and son-in-law, Steve.

Jack was born on Dec. 3, 1926, in Little Rock, Arkansas. He graduated from Albany High School in Albany, Oregon, in 1944. He served in the U.S. Navy as an aerial gunner on TBF aircraft during World War II and later attended Spartan School of Aeronautics, taking maintenance engineering.



lance, charter, flight instruction and search and rescue missions. He had taught many of the Flathead Valley

pilots how to fly and how to fly safely in the mountains. He continued his aviation career as pilot/mechanic, flying small aircraft in Ethiopia and Sudan and twin-engine DC-3 aircraft throughout the Middle East in the 1970s.

Returning from overseas work to the Flathead, he continued his career in aviation again, serving the needs of his beloved Flathead Valley with aerial photography, flight instruction and a stint as co-pilot in fire retardant aircraft. Jack was an accomplished pilot and mechanic who had long been recognized within the aviation community for his flying and teaching skills. A quiet, honest and generous individual, he was truly passionate about all aspects of aviation and strove to pass on his extensive knowledge.

A service to honor Jack is scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 11, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls, with

9 Dec 2017

He married his beloved "JoAnn" (Jolene Montgomery), his lifelong partner after a blind date in 1951. Moving with his growing family to Santa Clara, California, he started his own aircraft maintenance shop and later worked for Boeing on B-52 aircraft in Washington state. Jack moved to the Flathead Valley in 1956, first working as a flight mechanic and later starting Glacier View Skyways at FCA (now Glacier Park International Airport). His years at the airport included service to the greater Flathead community in the form of aerial fire patrol, air ambu-

a reception to follow at the Columbia Falls Veterans Home. Floyd McCubbins will officiate the ceremony. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Jack's life.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Disabled Veterans National Foundation in honor of John Archibald at DVNF.org. Condolences can be sent care of Mike Archibald at 319 Jeffrey Lane, Columbia Falls.

The family would like to thank the dedicated staff and caregivers of the Columbia Falls Montana Veterans Home for their compassionate and loving care.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

13 May 2017

Leona Malinda Arestad, 92

Leona Malinda Arestad, 92, passed away peacefully in Colorado on April 4, 2017.

Leona was born July 8, 1924, on the family farm in Bowden County, North Dakota, to Fred and Susie Miller. She was the fourth of five children with siblings, Jonathon, Clara, Viola and Lloyd.

After graduating from high school, Leona earned her teaching certificate from Valley City Teacher's College. Leona followed her passion of teaching young minds in a one-room school in rural North Dakota, and then in several elementary schools in Montana. She loved being a teacher and watching her students grow into adults. It was through their shared passion for teaching that Leona met and fell in love with her husband of 56 years, Omvall Berger "OB" Arestad. They were



married on Nov. 25, 1948, and they became the proud parents of three sons, John, Jim

and Jeff, whom they raised in Kalispell.

During her time in Kalispell, Leona was active at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, participating in Circle and Ladies Aid. She was also very active in the Kalispell Education Association and was proud to serve in leadership roles for negotiation committees seeking to improve work conditions, wages and benefits. Leona was also an active member and officer of Beta Sigma Phi, both in Kalispell and later in Tucson, Arizona. Leona and OB moved to Arizona after her retirement. She

later moved to Denver to be closer to family.

Family was a very important part of Leona's life. She was the organizer of family gatherings, a champion of OB's music events, and the number one fan at her sons' musical, sporting and social events. Leona was a strong promoter and protector of her husband, sons, and her extended family.

Leona was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and her siblings.

She is survived by her sons, John and wife Gloria, Jim, and Jeff; grandchildren, Michael, Kristen, Ian, Cecilia, Lydia and Sarah; and great-grandchildren, Hayden and Ava.

Our matriarch, Leona, will be missed. We take joy that she is now with the Lord and has joined OB in rest.

Services will be announced at a later date.

24 Oct 2017

Clinton Samuel 'Butch' Armstrong, 92

Clinton Samuel "Butch" Armstrong, 92, passed away on Oct. 20, 2017, a day after his 92nd birthday.

Butch was born to Clinton and Ivah Armstrong on Oct. 19, 1925, in Denver. Shortly thereafter, the family relocated to Orange County, California, near the Eddy Martin Airport

(now known as John Wayne Airport). This is where Butch developed his passion for aviation. At a very young age he would sneak away to the airport and do odd jobs in exchange for flying lessons, piloting his first solo flight at age 16.

In 1943, during World War II, he joined the Navy as a parachute rigger and

served on the USS San Francisco.

After his discharge, Butch jumped at any opportunity to fly, finding work as a crop duster and flying turkeys into Mexico. In 1952, he started flying commercially for Western Airlines (Delta Airlines), a career that spanned 32 and a half years.

It was shortly after his retirement that Butch met and married the love of his life, Barbara Clark. The two enjoyed 29 years together. Between Butch's four sons and Barbara's four daughters, they had 24 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

He was preceded in death by both of his par-

ents, two sisters, and his son, Daniel.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; sons, Sam (Judith) of San Juan Capistrano, California, Steve of Kalispell, and Gary Armstrong of Salt Lake City. He is also survived by his step-daughters, Jami Clark of Billings, Janna Weldele (Mitch) of Whitefish,

Marri Lingle (Kent) of Kalispell, and Julie Webster (Loren) of Mesa, Arizona.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Friends are encouraged to visit the website, www.buffalohillfh.com, to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

James Haldeman Armstrong Sr., 87

Our father was born Nov. 18, 1929, in Northampton, Massachusetts, to the Rev. James Newton Armstrong Jr. and Louise Storms Armstrong.

He passed in his home on Dec. 20, 2016, after a prolonged decline from Parkinson's disease and a bout with lymphoma. Frontier Hospice assisted in his care and comfort.

He was the son and grandson of Presbyterian ministers, his father having attended Union Theological Seminary in New York City during the Reinhold Niebuhr era. He spent his childhood on Long Island, growing up in Southampton, New York, enjoying the woods, the dunes and ocean, swimming, clamming and duck hunting.

After graduating from Princeton University, he entered medical school in New York City where he first experienced the devastating impact on women's lives who had sustained abortions from untrained, ill-equipped providers in clandestine settings. Later during his career as a physician and healer, and after the passage of Roe v. Wade in 1973, Dr. Armstrong incorporated safe, legal abortion work into his family practice in Kalispell, until his retirement nearly 35 years later. In addition, he found great satisfaction from delivering the babies of women he had himself delivered years earlier. He was recognized for his work by the American Civil Liberties Union of Montana in 1995, receiving the Jeanette Rankin Civil Liberties award for Human and Reproductive Rights. He also served on the board of directors of the National Abortion Federation and received



black leather bag and affable, compassionate bedside manner.

Dr. Armstrong chaired numerous hospital committees, was president of the Flathead Medical Society and in 1980 served as president of the Montana Academy of Family Physicians. He was a six-year trustee of Montana Blue Shield (before "the merger"), served as a 20-year board member for the Flathead Valley Chemical Dependency Center and as a founding board member for the Western Montana Mental Health Center. He was medical director for the Wilderness Treatment Center for 17 years. He was a Kalispell School board trustee throughout the 1970s. As a member of the Presbyterian Church, he served as an elder and then as moderator of the Presbytery of Glacier in 1986, before resigning his church membership, critical of the "creeping fundamentalism" within American churches. Shamanistic studies and the Society for Scientific Exploration occupied his time in retirement, as well as raising and training yet another bird dog to seek out, point and retrieve pheasants, grouse and ducks throughout Montana. He climbed many of Glacier's peaks and skied much of Big Mountain, out of bounds of course, before the expansion.

for noon or evening rounds at Kalispell Regional Hospital. House calls were part of his practice, arriving equipped with his

its meritorious recognition Burdick Award, some years after his office, that he shared with Susan Cahill, Physician Assistant-Certified, Master of Social Work, (PA-C, MSW) was destroyed by arson in the early winter of 1994. Dr. Armstrong gained favorable decisions in legal suits before the Montana Supreme Court, the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court defending women's reproductive rights.

Jim Armstrong was preceded in death by his parents, who died in their Kalispell retirement home. His wife of 39 years, Dotty, passed of dementia 15 years after their divorce, and his companion P. Leslie Walker, Ph.D., also passed of dementia, living into her 90s. Jim's eldest sister Deborah Sadowski, formerly of New York and Washington, preceded him in death, and his younger sister, Mary Lou Langdell resides in Shelburne, Vermont.

Jim's daughter,

Dr. Armstrong entered the Navy in 1959 and was stationed at Patuxent River Air Station on Chesapeake Bay where he worked among four of the original seven astronauts, including Jim Lovell and Pete Conrad. "The Right Stuff" portrayed some of his experiences there. Seeking further medical training he completed a residency at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pennsylvania, before traveling cross country in the family station wagon to Montana with his wife, Dotty, two infant children and an English setter puppy in tow. The family home on Kalispell's east side was chosen in part because of its close proximity to Flathead County Hospital and Hedges School. Kalispell had 24 physicians in 1964, and once the hospital moved to Buffalo Hill and another 100 physicians had arrived, Jim was often seen riding his bicycle to his office along the golf course, and up the hill

Maria "Ridie" Storms Armstrong, resides in Carbondale, Colorado, and is employed by the Aspen Ski Company. Her eldest daughter Michela Millette lives in Portland, employed with Keen, and youngest daughter Katherine Millette attends North Dakota State University in Fargo, North Dakota.

Jim's son, James "Jamie" Haldeman Armstrong Jr., resides in Missoula and is a physician with CostCare clinics. His daughter Sarah Armstrong lives in Missoula and Phoenix, and son Eric Armstrong lives in Missoula. Both are blossoming students.

A remembrance of life will be at 10:30 a.m. April 22 (Earth Day) at the Shining Mountains Center for Spiritual Living in Kalispell.

The family requests that any memorial gifts be directed to the Abbie Shelter and violence free crisis line, Citizens for a Better Flathead or the American Civil Liberties Union of Montana.

11 Jan 2017

Richard Austin, 85

Richard Austin "rode off into the sunset" on May 8, 2017.

He was born on Dec. 6, 1931, in Glasgow, Montana. He was delivered at home by his Aunt Alice, and joined brother, John to complete Cloris (Bailey) and George Roy's family. He had a happy childhood growing up during the depression, he was lucky to have a stable home life. His father worked for the telephone company and his mother filled in as an English and Latin teacher. He and brother John had many childhood escapades. He liked to tell of the time they put skunks in the hall just before the Malta High School prom. He made several lifelong friends and often went to Glasgow for school reunions. After graduating from Glasgow High School in 1949 he attended Northern Montana College in Havre. There he met his first wife Ethel Adams. They married in 1952.

He was in the Air Force from 1951-1955 where he worked in intelligence and learned to speak Russian. During that time they had daughter Dianna in Texas, and Cheryl (Rachael) in Virginia. After being discharged he returned



to school at the University of Montana where he graduated with a business degree. They lived in Glasgow

for a short time where daughter Shauna joined the growing family. He loved the western part of the state; they returned to Missoula where daughter Vickie completed the young family. There they resided for 15 years raising their family. One of Richard's favorite activities was to load up all the kids and go for a drive, often taking backroads wherever they led, sometimes hours later. The adventure usually ended with ice cream cones for all. Another favorite memory is of going camping at Placid Lake where they spent most weekends in the summer. He and our Uncle Dick would spend hot afternoons drinking beer and messing around with a boat and motor (that often did not work), and taking the many children water skiing. He was a member of the Masonic Order, Shriners, the Moose,

Eagles and Elks. He worked for Larry Larson Insurance Company for 15 years before the love of big equipment and trucks lead him to change careers. He built a mobile home court and several campgrounds.

He moved to Coram where he built another campground. He started Dick Austin Construction with a front-end loader, a rock crusher and a 12-yard dump truck and ended his career with a fleet of fire water tenders.

During this venture, he met his future wife Sue. Together they raised another daughter, Jennifer. Sue was his partner for 24 years before parting ways. They later reconnected and were companions until the end.

Richard was very adventurous and loved going for drives. In his golden years, he went back to his childhood ways and purchased a Honda Goldwing trike. He was always out cruising. It was common on a warm summer evening to find Dad and a couple of buddies sitting on the front porch shooting the breeze, then they would all jump up, hop on their bikes or scooters and head down to the river

front road. He loved going for rides in Glacier Park, and once counted coup on a bears' butt!

Richard loved his Honda trike and was a member of the American Legion Riders Post No. 27 in Arizona. He was a true patriot and loved displaying the American flag on his restored classic trucks during parades. He was also a member of VFW Post No. 9399 in Apache Junction.

Dad was preceded by his mother and father, Cloris and Roy Austin, brother John and wife Betty Austin. He leaves behind five loving daughters, their children and many great-grandchildren. Dianna and Al Lundy (Abigail and Sam); Rachael Austin and Charles Dalby (Kelsey); Shauna Austin (Shelby, NikkaRose, Mallory); Vickie and Brent Goertzen (Bethany, Rebecca, Amanda, Brian Osborn and Cheya Goertzen); Jennifer Austin; and also niece and nephew D'Arla and Jack.

"Happy Trails Dad, may you find open roads, blue skies and have the wind at your back."

There will be a memorial service 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 28, at the Moose Lodge in Kalispell.

24 Jun 2017