

## Richard Allen Baars, 64

Richard Allen Baars, 64, passed away July 23, 2017, in Kalispell.

He was born July 12, 1953, and had been a resident of Kalispell for over 35 years.

He is survived by his spouse, Coleen Baars; two sons, Richard "Rick" and Robert "Bob" Baars; and three grandchildren, Jordan, Kyan, Scarlett.

Richard A. Baars was born in Hendricks, Minnesota. He was the eldest of 11 siblings and is survived by seven sisters and three brothers.

Richard was a passionate family man, avid outdoor enthusiast, student and teacher of life, eager to give, serve and love all who crossed his path. He welcomed all with a soft smile and warm embrace, his life



will be celebrated and memories of him will be treasured by many near and far.

A simple memorial service will be held to honor Rich at 1 p.m. Friday, July 28, at the Canvas Church, in the lower chapel, 255 Summit Ridge Drive, Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to a charity of your choice or Dream Adaptive Recreational Inc. Program for adaptive skiing on Whitefish Mountain Resort.

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

25 Jul 2017

## Joshua Logan Backer Jr., 26

Joshua Logan Backer Jr., 26, of Greeley, Colorado, passed away on Nov. 24, 2017, in Greeley.

Josh was born on July 10, 1991, in Sacramento, California, to Joshua Logan Backer Sr.

Joshua graduated from Whitefish High School in 2009 where he played football, basketball and track. After high school, Josh had a brief tenure in the Army and entered the workforce.

Josh worked in the oil-fields of North Dakota and Colorado.

Josh led an extremely active lifestyle. After graduation, he continued to play basketball, hunted, hiked, working out and his love for mixed martial arts/jiu jitsu became very prominent in his life.

Josh was a wonderful father who adored his daughter, Isabelle Marie. The pair were always off



on some type of whirlwind adventure, wrestling around and finding fun in every situation. From their make-believe spa and tea parties to their



secret language, their charisma and happiness was truly infectious.

Josh will forever be in our hearts. He is a beloved son, brother, father and uncle.

Josh is survived by his father; siblings, Megan and Shelby Backer; daughter, Isabelle Marie; and his three nieces.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents.

Please contact the family for service information.

3 Dec 2017

## Linda Lee Bakeberg, 79

Linda Lee Bakeberg, 79, died peacefully at home near Seattle, Sunday, Dec. 3, 2017. The cause was heart failure.

Born May 25, 1938, in Garrison, North Dakota to Herbert and Frances Callies, Linda grew up in Whitefish and graduated from Whitefish High School in 1956.

She lived in Seattle and Anchorage, Alaska, before finally moving back permanently to the Seattle area.

Linda was a crossword puzzle enthusiast who loved literature and music of all kinds. Reading was her passion; she was rarely without a book close at hand.

Survivors include her daughters, Mary Carson of Everett, Washington, and Julie Ferris of Issaquah, Washington;

grandchildren, Michael Kelly and Nichole Carson; sister, Janet Card, of Glen Allen, Virginia; brother, Tom Callies, of Whitefish; nieces, Susie, Shawna and Meghann, and nephew Philip; and great-grandchildren, Nicholas, Alexi and Zoie.

A private family memorial will be held in Montana in the spring.

9 Dec 2017

28 Jan 2017

### Neal Wallace Baker, 87

Neal Wallace Baker, 87, passed away Jan. 24, 2017, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

Neal was born May 1, 1929, in Battle Creek, Michigan, to Wallace and Anna Mae Baker.

Neal enlisted in the Army in 1945 and served in Berlin. After four years in the Army he joined the Navy for six years.

It was during this time in the Navy that he met Helen Rhodes and after a 10-day courtship. They were married on Dec. 23, 1951.

He was discharged from the Navy in July 1955 and re-enlisted in the Army in August 1955, retiring in February 1967 after 21 and a half years of service.

Neal worked at C&C Auto Parts store and drove a semi-truck for Petrolane until retiring in January 1993.

After retirement Neal and Helen traveled, spending summers in Montana and winters in Yuma, Arizona.

They returned to Kalispell in 2012 and Neal had resided at the Veterans Home since 2014.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Helen; daughters, Robin (Dan) Hagadone, Dana (Jack) Coughlin, and daugh-



ter-in-law Kelly Baker. He is also survived by grandchildren, Kelcee, Rachael, Connor, Riley and Lily, and great-granddaughter Brinley.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and son Joel W. Baker.

As per Neal's request there will be no services. The family wants to thank all the staff at the Montana Veterans Home for the care and compassion they showed Neal and his family.

Friends and family are encouraged to visit [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.

15 Apr 2017

### Ruth Foreman Baker, 85

Ruth Foreman Baker was born July 22, 1931, to Glyenn and Nellie Messerly. She was raised on the family homestead near Lodge Pole, Montana, where she grew up with her eight brothers and sisters.

Ruth passed away peacefully on April 9, 2017, at Brendan House in Kalispell. Ruth was 85 years old when she "left this earth to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Ruth was a longtime resident of Cut Bank. She worked at Cut Bank Memorial Hospital in her younger years as a CNA and she was a waitress at the Big Sky Cafe for many years. She continued her career in the health care industry as an in-home caregiver before retiring in Kalispell to be near family.

Ruth was a character. She could put a smile on anyone's face and she had a great sense of humor. She loved all of her children and grandchildren and displayed all of their pictures throughout her house. Ruth prided herself on her work ethic and keeping her house in order. As she aged, Ruth struggled with her health and low vision. It was especially difficult for her when she lost her ability to drive as she loved to shop! In her spare time she enjoyed listening to the Bible on her DVD player and visiting with family and friends.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents Glyenn and Nellie Messerly, six brothers and sisters and her two sons Gordon Graham and Thomas Lee Foreman.

Ruth had six children: Gordon "Biggers" Graham,



deceased, Lynn Doney of Chamberlain, South Dakota, Judy Flanagan of Hilton Head

Island, South Carolina, Thomas Lee Foreman, deceased, James "Tom" Foreman of Kalispell, and Virginia Foreman of Portland, Oregon. Ruth's greatest joy was her 12 grandchildren and her great-grandchildren.

On behalf of the family we would like to express our deep appreciation and gratitude to Brendan House staff and caregivers for the love and kindness they bestowed on our mother over the past four years of her life, Calvary Lutheran Church for all of the prayers and dedicated servants who have prayed and visited Mom during this difficult time, and for the outpouring of love from friends. We are truly blessed by your kindness and cannot say "Thank You" enough.

Services are planned for 1 p.m., Friday, April 21, at Calvary Lutheran Church in Evergreen with Pastor Kurt Rau officiating the service. A celebration of life will follow the service in the fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to the Kalispell Food Bank, the animal shelter or a charity of your choice.

Rest in peace. We love you!

Friends are encouraged to visit [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.

## Betty Rae (Nelson) Baldwin, 85

Please note: Funeral services for Betty Rae Baldwin have been moved to United Methodist Church, 1150 Wisconsin Ave., Whitefish, at 2 p.m. on Monday, July 10. Arrangements are by Order of Eastern Star and family.

Betty Rae (Nelson) Baldwin, 85, of Whitefish, passed away with her family by her side on June 3, 2017, in Kalispell.

Betty Rae was born in Kalispell to Ray and Fern Nelson on Nov. 26, 1931. She went to school in Whitefish then continued her education at Flathead Valley Community College, off and on for 18 years.

She married Charles William "Bill" Baldwin Feb. 9, 1953, in Whitefish. They raised their children in Whitefish and have lived in the same house since they married.

Betty's love of learning began during the Korean War when telegraphers were in short demand. She began work with Great Northern Railroad in 1951 and was a relief telegrapher for five years, after learning Morse code in just three months. She also worked for the Big Mountain on the ski patrol when the ski area consisted of a T-bar and a rope tow with stumps all around. During this time she met her loving husband, Bill, of 64 years. While raising four daughters, Caroline, Bonnie, Janet and Brenda, and a son, William "Butch," Betty worked as a waitress/bartender for Frenchy's Chinese Gardens and the Viking Lodge. Later in life Betty could be found providing support to firefighters with wild fires in the North Fork.

Betty was an avid hunter and fisher. She loved growing and canning food for her fami-



ly. Betty treasured her time sewing, silk flower arranging and knitting. She continued

to knit up to 30 pairs of slippers every year for family and friends' Christmas packages until last year. For 33 years of her life, Betty could be found volunteering at the Whitefish Food Bank, an endeavor that brought her great joy, and allowed her to use the knowledge of languages she learned at FVCC, like communicating in American Sign Language with deaf patrons.

Betty was a member of the Order of Eastern Star for over 40 years. She was honored to serve as Matron of Honor six times, a position she had fully memorized. Being a member of the Order of Eastern Star was a proud addition to Betty's life, and one that brought her many friendships and great joy.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, Ray and Fern Nelson; and her brother, Dallas Nelson.

She is survived by her loving husband, Bill, and their children Caroline and Harold Krause, Bonnie McClarty and Mike Murphy, William "Butch" and Dima Baldwin, Janet and Rodney Krug and Brenda Baldwin Kastelein; as well as 12 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren; her sister-in-law Marilyn Nelson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Betty's family wishes to extend sincere thanks to North Valley Hospital, Kalispell Regional Medical Center, including the ICU Department staff, Whitefish Fire Department, and Dialysis Center of Kalispell for their care.

## Jerry Barlow, 84

Today, Jan. 1, would have been Jerry's 85th birthday. He was born Jan. 1, 1932, in Oakland, California, to Wanda and Wallace Barlow. However, he passed away on July 20, 2016, this past summer.

But we, his big and loving family, will be celebrating Jerry's birthday without him with traditional chili, beans and birthday cake. He is survived by three brothers, Ted and wife Loretta, Mike and wife Terry, and Steve and wife Tami; Jerry's wife, Sally, of 64 years, and five loving "children," Teri and husband Chris, Gary and wife Gaby, David, Lee Ann and husband Juan, and Jim. Those "children" were very productive, with 13 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Jerry knew all their names but not their birthdates.

During those 84 years he had a grand time, however, the best time was establishing his own business in the building trade as a dry-wall contractor with his sons. There are a lot of



beautiful walls and ceilings in Northern California and North-western Montana. Jerry often

said we have lived in three of the most beautiful places ... Mount Shasta and Crescent City, California, and Kalispell.

He hunted and fished in all those places, taught by his grandma Suzie.

His last project dear to his heart was rebuilding a 1938 Ford pickup. He got parts from all over, one piece at a time and put it together and re-did it all several times. However, his respiratory health problems didn't allow him to finish that last project before July 20.

So today, on his birthday, his loving family is determined to finish it and we are certain he is "up there" watching and critiquing ever step of the way.

We love you and miss you, Jerry, to the moon and back.

1 Jan 2017

6 Jul 2017

## Janice 'Jane' Smith Barnes, 92

Jane Smith Barnes died peacefully on Sunday, April 23, 2017, at North Valley Hospital. She was 92 years old.

She was lovingly called Aunty Jane or Grandma by most kids in her life, related or not.

She was born in Whitefish on June 14, 1924, to Pearl and Roger Smith. She attended schools in Whitefish and on Oct. 4, 1940, married the love of her life, Lorin Barnes, in Polson. Together they had two sons, Doug and Dennis Barnes. Later they



became the loving parents to Rod Smith.

Jane was very active in civic duties. Her favorite

was volunteering for the Whitefish Methodist Church and especially working to get the Flathead Lake Methodist camp ready for the summer. She spent many hours volunteering for the Whitefish Soroptimist Thrift Haus and later, she volunteered for the Klothes Kloset in

Columbia Falls. Working hard was her mantra and her yard was a show place. In later years, when she could only do container gardening, her yard was still a maze of colors. Music was her passion and often, when you stopped by, you could hear the piano music coming out of the open windows.

Jane was preceded in death by her husband, two sons, grandson, two sisters and two brothers.

She is survived by her granddaughters, Ayrne Meyer, Somer Van Lith and Angela Gruber; and

by three grandsons, Jeff Barnes, Tory Gruber and Jim Gilbert. She has several great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and a host of friends including special friends, Joe and Jean Voermans.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 29, at the Whitefish United Methodist Church, 1150 Wisconsin Avenue.

Austin Funeral Home is caring for Janice's family.

25 Apr 2017

## Laura Grace Barrett, 87

Born in Froid, Montana, in 1930, Laura was raised on a wheat farm, which she left at the age of 16 to attend the University of Montana. She worked as school-teacher in San Francisco. The bright and beautiful Laura became a stewardess for Pan American Airways. There she met Jim Barrett, who was love-struck by the bold blonde bombshell. Laura was captivated by the handsome young attorney. They married and moved to Los Angeles. They had five children, Stephanie Jo, James Patrick, Michael Sean, Kevin Vincent and Gabriela Goodwin.

The care of her family did not temper Laura's passion for the arts. She took the children along on expeditions to London, Hawaii and Mexico. Laura taught art classes and worked to develop community art programs. She wrote and directed her play "Garden of Pleasure," which was performed at UCLA. In 1969, the suburban Laura created a cross culture art cooperative with her black inner city friend Pauline.

Laura's farming roots served the family well when her city boy husband expressed interest in an agricultural project. Laura was 100 percent



for getting the family back to the land. Laura and Jim founded Chateau Montelena in Calistoga, California. Quickly, their 1973 Chardonnay won the landmark Paris tasting of 1976, catapulting the winery to fame.

Jim and Laura went their separate ways in 1977. However, Laura never gave up on the dream of a family winery, maintaining her ownership and making significant contributions to the continued success of Chateau Montelena. Laura's memoir of the early Montelena journey is titled "What Is More Real Than A Dream."

In 1980, the unattended Laura caught the attention of another Mr. Barrett— Jack Barrett, the plumber. Laura found this different sort of man irresistible, and Laura and Jack were married in 1984. By 1986 they moved to Bigfork where Laura's creative idea-generating engine coupled with Jack's practical knowledge to create Bridge Street Gallery and Wine Café and Restaurant.

After bringing a higher level of culture to Bigfork, Jack and Laura

moved to warmer pursuits. A winter escape culminated in the purchase of "La Querencia," a beautiful home overlooking the arts district of Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Here they manifested Ambos Galleria des Artes.

In 2010, Laura was diagnosed with cancer. She bravely endured surgery, radiation and chemotherapy. Laura handled these events as bumps in the road on the way to her destination. With her diminished health, Laura's resolve to accomplish became even more fervent. The dynamic duo of Laura and Jack started Collage Gallery of Fine Arts in Bigfork in 2014. After Jack passed away in Mexico, in March of 2016, Laura adjusted and kept moving. She traveled to Cuba in March of 2017. Laura continued to work on

her memoirs, poetry and artwork. Finally, Laura developed a charitable foundation to support the arts.

Laura was vital and full of Viking spirit until her last days. Surrounded her loving family, "she passed into eternal rest" on July 20, 2017, at Casa Del Lago on Woods Bay.

A reception to celebrate her life will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 11 at the Collage Gallery, Bigfork.

On Aug. 12, a rosary and Mass will be held at St. John Paul II in Bigfork beginning at 10 a.m. Both services are open to friends of the family and community.

Donations, in lieu of flowers, may be made to Habitat for Humanity of Flathead Valley at <http://www.habitatflathead.org/> Flathead Valley.

3 Aug 2017

**Ralph J. Barry, 93**

Ralph J. Barry passed away Sept 15, 2017, in Kalispell.

Ralph was born Aug. 28, 1924, to Alfred and Elizabeth (Keller) Barry in Kalispell. He lived his early childhood years in the Flathead Valley helping his dad and older brothers on the farm. The family eventually moved into town where Ralph attended Flathead County High School, graduating in 1942. The following summer he learned to fly an airplane and always loved to see the world from above the clouds. In June of 1943 he joined the Navy and spent the next three years serving his county in the Pacific War Arena.

On May 5, 1948, he married Genevieve Gonsior. They built a home in Kalispell, and in 1951 their daughter Lorraine arrived.

Ralph hauled railroad tires until he bought his own logging truck. Logging took him to the Libby area where the family lived until 1981. Ralph and Genevieve moved back to Kalispell upon his retirement, but the opportunity arose to drive a gravel truck for McElroy and Wilkins which he was happy to do, re-retiring after another four years of hard work.

Ralph was an avid outdoorsman and many weekends were spent boating, skiing and snowmobiling. During the winter months



Ralph and Genevieve would travel with other family members to the Southwest where they enjoyed boondocking, motorcycle riding, and exploring the desert. Ralph always loved geology, and there is a large collection of unique rocks decorating the yard at the Barry home from his wanderings.

Ralph was preceded in death by his son Ronald, brothers Ernest Barry and Alroy Barry, and sister Adeline Windle.

He is survived by his wife, Genevieve; daughter, Lorraine Busch (Tom); granddaughters, Charlene Hamilton (Scott), and Allison Brakefield (Nathan); great-grandchildren, Kristopher Lancaster, Corrina Biggs, Mirriam Biggs, Morgan Brakefield and Conner Brakefield; sister, Elaine (Wayne) Moothart; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Viewing was held Thursday, Sept. 21, at Johnson-Glochot Funeral Home. Services will be held at 11 a.m. today, Sept. 22, at Johnson-Glochot Funeral Home with a luncheon to follow at the Eagles in Kalispell.

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**James Craig Bartlett, 67**

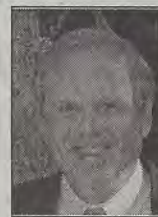
One month shy of his 68th birthday, James Craig Bartlett passed away on Feb. 21, 2017. He collapsed with liver cancer and went so fast and too soon.

Jim was born in St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula March 23, 1949, 15 months after his brother John and 24 years later his son Josh was born there. Jim was born to John and Edith Bartlett who moved them to Whitefish where they grew up and were joined by their sister Jan three years later.

Jim graduated Whitefish High School in 1967 and maintained those friendships he gained 'til this last summer's 50th reunion. Jim went to undergrad school at the University of Chicago and graduated in 1971.

On Oct. 25, 1969, he married Linda Lee Pfefferkorn and they moved to Missoula so Jim could go to law school at the University of Montana. He graduated in 1974, passed the bar and moved to Kalispell to practice with the law firm of Hash, O'Brien & Bartlett. In 1997, Jim established his private law practice. He practiced law for 43 years in the valley, touching many lives.

Jim and Linda had two children, Joshua Colin Bartlett born Feb.



2, 1974 and Jacy Maren Bartlett born Jan. 30, 1978.

Jim loved the law and

was a respected source of legal knowledge.

He loved to golf in the spring, summer and early fall and ski in the late fall and winter.

Jim is survived by his wife of 47 years Linda; his son Josh (Marian) Bartlett; his daughter Jacy (Alan) Berg; granddaughter Luna Berg; sister Jan (Larry) Majerus; sister-in-law Billie Bartlett and by numerous aunts, nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father John, mother Edith and brother John C. Bartlett.

There will be a celebration of life from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at Buffalo Hills Golf Course. Friends and family come share memories!

Memorial donations may be made in Jim's name to the following organizations: Kalispell Lakers Baseball, Buffalo Hills Golf Course Memorial Program or University of Montana Law School.

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

## Marie Basaraba, 92

Just five days before her 93rd birthday, Marie (Belinski) Basaraba was freed from years of physical pain and agony. Marie peacefully passed away on Sept. 5, 2017, in Whitefish.

Visitation will be from 2 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell, before Marie journeys to North Dakota. The Divine Liturgy in Belfield, North Dakota will be celebrated by Father Yurii Sas at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16, at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church. Interment will follow at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Ladbury Funeral Service, with a rosary recitation by William Belinski, and Parastas cantered by Gerry Grosulak at 7 p.m. Visitation will continue one hour prior to Divine Liturgy at the church on Saturday.

The third child of Nick and Paraska (Haverlock) Belinski, Marie was born in Gorham, North Dakota, on Sept. 10, 1924. Like her mother, Marie became an excellent cook and baker.

At the age of 16, Marie married Sam Basaraba in Terry, Montana, on Oct. 31, 1940. Marie worked tirelessly as they ranched and farmed north of Belfield, as well as ventured to Eugene, Oregon, to work in the logging industry. After moving to Dickinson, North Dakota, Marie worked as a meat wrapper for many years, and then managed the bakery at the Red Owl store. Marie had a reputation of being known as a hard worker with a very strong work ethic. Marie valued independence, education and being of service to others. Marie worked, and took care of others whether she was in pain, or not.



embroidery and beautiful crocheted afghans.

In 1979, Marie left her beloved North

Dakota prairies, and began another chapter of her life to be near her children in the majestic mountains of Northwestern Montana. She moved to Bigfork and eventually settled in Columbia Falls.

While residing in Columbia Falls, Marie was instrumental in the formation of the musical group, the Troubadours, as she loved music and singing. Marie had an infectious smile, a sweet sense of humor, and natural leadership abilities. She was extremely active in the Columbia Falls Senior Citizen Center, and brought an art to volunteering through her many years of dedication with the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Flathead County. Despite the distance, Marie was an avid supporter of the Ukrainian Cultural Institute, and kept in touch with many close friends and relatives in North Dakota.

Marie's love for the Ukrainian culture was evident by her passing on the timeless Ukrainian traditions of Christmas Eve supper and Easter to her children and eight grandchildren, Darrin Basaraba and David (Carla) Basaraba of Elko, Michelle (Brandon) Rigby and Coby Haas of Fairbanks, Alaska, Candace (Carson) Zumalt of Red Bluff, California, Jeremy (Brianna) Thompson of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Alexis Basaraba-Thompson of Dickinson, and Elizabeth Gawryluk of Bismarck, North Dakota. Marie is survived by her children, grandchildren and 13

Marie's siblings were very dear to her, as they were part of her support system through the years. She is survived by her sister, Marcella (Vic) Paluch of Los Angeles, and her brother, William (Lori) Belinski of Billings; and many nieces and nephews.

Marie was preceded in death by her sister Pauline Tabatt, brother Sam Belinski, and her

parents.

Pallbearers are Fred and Coby Haas, Jeremy Thompson and Oleh Ivanets.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Ukrainian Cultural Institute, and the North Dakota Ukrainian Dance Association in Marie's eternal memory.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

### 10 Sep 2017

Sam and Marie had four children, Eugene (Joanne) Basaraba of Elko, Nevada, Julianne Basaraba of Kalispell, Betty (Fred) Haas of Columbia Falls, and Loree (Oleh) Ivanets of Dickinson.

Despite working outside of the home for the majority of her life, Marie's organizational skills allowed time for her to relax and enjoy her talents of sewing, gardening, cooking, baking, crocheting and embroidery. Many homes in North Dakota and Montana have been graced with creations of her handiwork — especially Ukrainian

great-grandchildren.

Sept-10

8 Apr 2017

### Beverly Jean Bateman, 68

Beverly Jean Bateman of Great Falls passed away Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016, in Kalispell.

A memorial service with reception to follow will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 14, at the West Side United Methodist Church in Great Falls.

Beverly was born on July 4, 1948, in Great Falls to John and Mabel Bateman. She attended schools in Great Falls, graduating from C.M. Russell High School in 1966.

She later graduated from Great Falls Commercial College and began her career in insurance. Beverly was employed with Rocky



Mountain Insurance for many years, and later transferred to Kalispell to work for the

Insurance Exchange. Her career spanned over 50 years.

Bev enjoyed traveling, baking, canning, sewing and lunching with the girls. She also was active in the foster parenting program.

Beverly is survived by two adopted daughters, Candis and Cierra; sister, Elaine (Gene) Meier; brother, Jack Bateman; and mother, Mabel Bateman.

11 Jan 2017

### Genevieve Margie Baumann, 77

Genevieve Margie Baumann, 77, longtime Kalispell resident, "left her earthly home" on April 5, 2017.

She was born Feb. 2, 1940, to Emil Henry and Rosie (nee Kasala) Sirucek in Ronan. She was the 11th of 13 children. At the age of 8 Genevieve became ill with Polio. This caused her to spend several years wearing casts and braces. She also endured long hospital stays and several operations on her back. Despite her medical challenges, with the aid of her family, Genevieve kept up her school work and graduated from Bigfork High School. Later she graduated from Northern Montana College.

Genevieve met Arthur Baumann at college and on June 23, 1962, they were married in Bigfork. They both began teaching school in Fairfield and wanted to join the Peace Corps. Genevieve was not eligible due to her medical history and so Arthur and Genevieve moved to Alaska and worked as teachers. They joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and became active members. Their daughters Roselle and Debbie were born in Alaska. Their eldest son Duane was born in Minnesota while they were working on the farm. Finally, Genevieve and the family returned to Montana, where their youngest son Benjamin was born.

Genevieve's highest priority was her family, and service to others around her. She served on the Evergreen Water Board, and in many volunteer positions with her church, local schools and other local community agencies.



She is survived by her husband Arthur Baumann, her children Roselle

(Mike) Harney, Debbie (Andy) McKane, Duane (Barbara) Baumann and Benjamin (Mindy) Baumann. She also is survived by two sisters, Marie Reed and Betty Ferry and two brothers Carl (Norma) Sirucek and Donald (Denise) Sirucek and many grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and by her sisters Agnes Sirucek, Ruby Smith, and Shirley O'lexy and her brothers Edger Sirucek, Bill Sirucek, Jack Sirucek, Emil Sirucek and George Sirucek.

A funeral service will be held 11 a.m. Friday, April 14, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Chapel located at 1380 Whitefish Stage Road, Kalispell. Interment will be at Fairview Cemetery.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Genevieve's family. Go to [www.darlingtonfunerals.com](http://www.darlingtonfunerals.com) to view Genevieve's Tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories.



## Camilla Margaret (Metcalf) Bauska, 93

Camilla Margaret (Metcalf) Bauska passed away at her home on Nov. 19, 2017, at the age of 93.

She was born March 4, 1924, to Grace (Remore) and Roy "Dick" Metcalf in Kalispell. Her father and his family came to Montana on an immigrant train in 1901. The 11 children in his family and their spouses all lived in the Flathead Valley for a time. They were farmers and had a place in the LaSalle area, on the Flathead River east of Kalispell. Her mother, Grace, came to Montana with her parents and sisters to homestead places near Malta. They then moved to the Eureka area, where Grace taught school in Fortine. After moving to Kalispell and teaching there for several years, she met and married Dick Metcalf. Camilla was one of three children, and attended St. Matthew's School until her teens, when her mother died. She then attended high school for one year in Oregon, living with an aunt. She spent her senior year at Thompson Falls High School and graduated there in 1941.

After marrying Lester Bauska, they lived at the Bauska farm in Smith Valley for a few years, where their family was started with Leslie and



then Roy 13 months later. In 1950 they purchased property in Kalispell where Les' Gun Shop

was built. Their log cabin was moved into town right next to the gun shop. Shortly after, Jack joined the family followed by Greg in 1956.

Camilla's work ethic was instilled at an early age and culminated in her retirement at the age of 76, the last 38 years as manager of the Four Seasons Motor Inn. Her first job was as camp cook in several of her father's logging camps in the Flathead area. One of these camps was at Ashley Lake, where her treasured cabin is located to this day. The cabin was easily her favorite place to be and she loved sharing it with family and friends. She also enjoyed jumping in her Jeep with just her dog, and spending days and nights enjoying the sights and sounds of the lake. Especially the loons!

Camilla had a lifelong passion for learning and traveling. She started taking classes at Flathead Valley Community College when it was founded in 1967 and took

her last "Seniors" class in 2015. Her keen interest in local and world events would find her reading at least one newspaper daily and watching television newscasts and her favorite PBS programs, to keep informed. Not many subjects could not be discussed with her. Although she lived her entire life in Montana, she traveled extensively. Her travels took her to many countries on several continents. Many of these trips were with her daughter Leslie and beloved son-in-law, Homer.

Friendships were also of high value to Camilla. The "Potluck Group" would regularly have dinner parties, go dancing, play cards and truly enjoy being together as friends. After retiring she found great pleasure in going on field trips through FVCC, where she forged many friendships while learning about the birds and plants of Montana, as well as Montana state history. Retirement also led her to volunteering at the hospital and the Central School Museum, which she found to be enriching.

Camilla's family have tons of great memories of her. We will always admire her generosity, her class, her optimism, her love of classical music, her dignity, her

humbleness and her integrity. We will miss her amazing sense of humor, her correcting our table manners and grammar, her common sense advice and her unconditional love.

She is survived by her four children, daughter Leslie Millspaugh of Seattle; sons Roy of Edmonds, Washington, Jack and Greg of Kalispell; grandson, John Bauska; great-grandsons, Jonathan and Joshua; niece, JoAnn Wold, of Wilsonville, Oregon, and foster son from Laos, Sang Le of Sacramento, California.

She was predeceased by her parents, husband Les, sister Marian Blackmore, brother John Metcalf, son-in-law Homer Millspaugh, and all 21 cousins of her generation on the Metcalf side.

Cremation has taken place and there will be no service at Camilla's request.

The family suggests any memorials be made to the Flathead County Animal Shelter in honor of Camilla's lifelong love of animals, or better yet, adopt a pet!

26 Nov 2017

## Bobbie Kay (Ostby) Beach, 72

Bobbie Kay Ostby was born Aug. 23, 1944, to Freda and Robert Ostby in Kalispell.

Bobbie died April 30, 2017, at her home in Martin City.

Bobbie married Howard Fauley at a young age of 15, became a mother shortly after that, and was a mother to many until the day she died. She would always say that was her greatest accomplishment in life. Bobbie married again to Norman Beach who was her soul mate.

Bobbie Kay did so many jobs and owned several business — way too many to name. She did taxes for years and people knew her as “The Tax Lady.” Her hobbies were numerous also, a few were camping, golfing, arts and crafts, boating with Norm on their “Love Boat” which was a pontoon houseboat Norm built from scratch, and her trips to the ocean. She loved playing games with her sisters and friends and did that up until the day she died. She was in many organizations and took pride in being a volunteer fireman. She was very active in her church and loved telling everyone the wonderful love of Jesus. Bobbie Kay loved her family unconditionally

and would have given the shirt off her back to anyone (and sometimes did just that). Her pride and joy was great-grandson Michael, age 5.

Bobbie Kay was preceded in death by both her parents, husband Norman Beach, stepson Jay Beach, and grandson Pierce Beach.

Her survivors include daughter, Tammy Fauley, of Astoria, Oregon; sons Chuck Fauley of Coram, and Mike Beach of Hungry Horse; grandchildren include Alyssa Beach of Columbia Falls and Jane Beach of Hungry Horse; great-grandchildren, Michael and Madeline Anderson of Columbia Falls; sisters, Karen Lietz (husband Don), and Judy Johnson (husband Jack); numerous nephews, nieces, and special niece Valerie Johnson who was a big help to her, all living in Montana; and many friends who loved her dearly as she loved them all too.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 5, at the Canyon Community Church in Coram. A potluck will follow services at the ED building next to the church. Columbia Mortuary is caring for Bobbie’s family.

2 May 2017

## Bette Jean Bear, 74

Bette Jean Bear, 74, passed away peacefully, surrounded by loved ones, on Sunday, Oct. 1, 2017, in Kalispell.

Bette was born on May 29, 1943, in Great Falls and grew up in Whitefish.

She married Ray L. Bear on Jan. 9, 1963, and they spent almost 55 years together building a life full of love and happiness.

Bette went by many names in her life, including Bette Kaber and Bette Jean, but her favorites were Mom and Grandma. She was happiest when surrounded by family and those she considered to be family. She loved it when her house was overflowing, with children running amok, family sharing stories, and so much laughter that it could be heard a mile away. She also loved to cook and especially to bake. During family gatherings, there was always enough food on the table to feed an army and she always had plenty of cookies in the cookie jar. If she wasn’t with family or in the kitchen, she could be found in her garden, tending the flowers or weeding the vegetable patch with dirt up to her elbows and a big smile on her face. While she built her life and home in Kalispell, her heart lived with the ocean. She loved the ocean breeze on her face, the waves washing over her feet, and walking barefoot in the sand hand-in-hand with her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father, Esther Fern Hoffman Kaber and Arthur L. Brown; brothers, Arthur “Larry” Brown and Vernon Brown; and puppies, Maggie, Zoey and many more.

She is survived by her husband Ray L. Bear; siblings, Rita Holcomb, Bruce Kaber, Claude Kaber, Karen Benda,



Arthur Brown Jr., Sandra Waible, Les Platt and Raymond Brown; daughter, Diana (Kelly)

McIntyre, and their three children and three grandchildren; daughter, Sheryl (Russ) Walter, and their seven children and 12 grandchildren; son, David (Latasha) Bear, and their two children; daughter, Kelly (Mike) Cannon, and their son and grandson. She also leaves behind puppies Molly and Izzy, and so many more family and friends.

A memorial service will take place at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, followed by a graveside service at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A celebration of life will be held following the memorial at the Eagle’s Lodge in Kalispell upstairs in the Main Ballroom.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in Bette’s name to your local Humane Society or to the American Cancer Society.

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.

3 Oct 2017

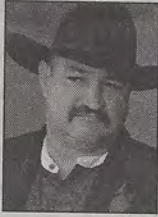
Oct 4

## Steven Ray Beavers, 55

Steven Ray Beavers was born in Rockdale, Texas, on March 8, 1962, to Barbara and John Beavers.

He graduated Cross Roads High School in 1980 in the top 10 of his class. He would proudly boast of that honor.

Steven found solace in Montana around 1992 while driving an 18-wheeler. He moved there shortly after choosing the wild and free lifestyle that embellished his spirit. He remained in Montana until 2013 when he was diagnosed with progressive supra



nuclear palsy.

He returned to Texas after the diagnosis to live out his final

years under the care of his sister Stacey Renea Wisk and his mother Barbara Beavers. Steven succumbed to his illness on Oct. 23, 2017.

A memorial will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, at Huckabee-Tomlinson Funeral Home in Malakoff, Texas.

24 Oct 2017

## Richard 'Butch' Bedrin, 53

Richard "Butch" Bedrin, age 53, passed away on Oct. 18, 2017 at his home in Kalispell.

Butch is survived by his wife, Sandy; his son, Randall James, and wife Chantelle; his grand-daughter, Emery Lynette; and stepson, Scott Tayes. He is also survived by his mother, Catherine; step-father, Roger; three sisters, Richelle, Sheryl and Diane; five nephews, Jay and Dustin Voigt, Jake and T.J. Topp, Sawyer Jacobson; and too many friends to mention.

Butch was a U.S. Army veteran. His constant display of loyalty is exhibited not only in his service to our country, but also to his family and his auto shop. He was a good husband and a loving father. Always searching for a laugh at your expense,



Butch loved conversations with friends, spending time in his auto shop and movie night with his family. Those who knew him were bless-

ed with his genuine kindness. An old soul who loved rock 'n' roll, Butch will always be remembered for his laughter and his kind heart.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Butch's family. You are invited to go to [www.darlingtonfunerals.com](http://www.darlingtonfunerals.com) to view Butch's Tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories.

21 Oct 2017

Edna R. (Holum) Begg, longtime resident of Kalispell, passed away at Brendan House, Oct. 20, 2017, surrounded by her loving family. Edna spent the last year of her life there, longing to return to her home of 61 years. "She has now made her final move to her heavenly home where she will dwell forever in the presence of Jesus." She missed achieving her 100th birthday by a matter of months.



school as a teacher's aide. By the age of 16, she worked as a nanny with various families in the town of Scobey. She eventually became a waitress in Nashua, Wolf Point and Glasgow

moved to the Flathead, where they purchased the Kalispell Laundry and Dry Cleaners in January 1946, continuing ownership for 40 years. They lived in the laundry for the first five years and worked relentlessly seven days a week. Their son Gerald "Jerry" was born in 1949.

Edna became a mother, homemaker and business partner with George and became the office manager and bookkeeper for their varied business interests. Her fine penmanship and keen wit for numbers enabled her to produce hundreds of statements each month, adding columns of numbers in her head with exquisite accuracy.

Edna and George purchased the Vogue Cleaners on Idaho Street and built one of the first laundromats in Montana on Second Avenue West. Part of their goal was to create North West Linen and Uniform Systems, serving the needs of hundreds of businesses from Lake McDonald to Blue Bay on Flathead Lake. They built the Imperial Fabric Care Center in the B & B Shopping Center and later added

the Kalispell Car Wash next to the laundry, which was one of the first power hand washes in the city. They purchased the Maverick Gas and Car Wash on South Main, which at the time was the city's largest retail gas outlet and operated the Bulldog Pub in two downtown Kalispell locations.

Edna and George started the development of South Meadows on Airport Road and donated 17 acres to the City for "Begg Park," which now encompasses Kalispell Lakers Ball Field, the Begg Dog Park and playground area, for which Edna was presented the Community Spirit Award by the city of Kalispell.

She was a proud, independent, strong-willed (some might say stubborn) Norwegian. She survived the Great Depression and all her life lived humbly and modestly, never wanting to waste anything and never wanting to owe anyone. Her house was always clean and orderly and everything had its place. Her huge yard was immaculate, due to her loving care. It kept her busy through the years and she worked in it well into her

Edna was born to Clarence and Elma (Lien) Holum in Twin Valley, Minnesota, March 8, 1918, and raised on the plains of Northeastern Montana in the Madoc community, the second in a family of six children. The siblings remained very close to one another throughout their lives.

Edna's character was shaped and polished like a diamond during the Great Depression. Christmas sometimes consisted of a single orange split amongst six kids or a small bag of candy, but she never complained.

Her formal education was cut short by economic necessity. After graduating from the eighth grade, she worked at the

where her nicknames were "Sunshine" and "Deer Legs."

She met the love of her life George "Bud" Begg in 1941 while working at Johnny's Cafe in Glasgow and they married in 1944. Previous to their marriage, George enlisted in the Army Air Corps and became a pilot and flight instructor. Edna joined the war effort in 1943 by moving to Santa Monica, California, along with her sister Edith and friends. Edna worked at Douglas Aircraft on the C47s and became one of the many World War II "Rosie the Riveters." While in Santa Monica, their daughter Linda was born.

Following the war they

Creighton, all of Kalispell; one sister, Erma (Pete) Beckers and their family of Ozark, Missouri; extended family, Lisa (Dan) Bexten, their children and grandchildren of Kalispell and numerous other nieces and nephews. Edna is also survived by her son Jerry of Kalispell and grandson Kabyn (Alyssa) Vikesland and their daughters Alaythia and Cosette of St. Louis, Missouri.

A celebration of her life will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 27, at Trinity Lutheran Church with a luncheon to follow.

The family wishes to thank God's earthly angels dressed in blue and purple at the Brendan House, who lovingly took care of her during her last year with hugs, kisses and compassion; and John Erickson, FNP-C, who guided us through this difficult journey.

For those who wish, the family suggests donations be made to the National Alzheimer's Association, Brendan House, March of Dimes or a charity of their choice. Johnson-Gloschat funeral home is caring for Edna's family.

90s. Edna loved making leise for her family, which she did until the age of 95. She was a collector of family history and photos, which her family greatly appreciates. She loved fishing, hunting, bowling and traveling, but most of all she loved dancing with George. She was his devoted caregiver for many years while he battled Alzheimer's.

During her years in Kalispell, Edna enjoyed worship and fellowship at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran, where she was a member.

Edna was preceded in death by her parents, husband George, infant son Gary, infant grandson Jeraemy, and four siblings.

Edna is survived by her daughter Linda (Bernie) Mengwasser and their family; granddaughter Cammy (B.C.) Corpron and children, Brittany (Ty) Burnas, Kyle Todd, Bailey (Preston) Mota, Alecia (Alex) Creighton; granddaughter Reni (Dan) Anderson and children, Jaden, Janae and Jarrett; five great-great grandchildren, Kendalyn and Hudson Burnas, Sawyer, Charlie and Thomas

## Ann "Randy" Raine Beim, 79

Ann "Randy" Raine Beim, 79, of Kalispell, passed away Thursday, July 13, 2017, at her home.

Randy spent many years as a caregiver in the Kalispell area, bringing support and comfort to those less fortunate. After retiring as a caregiver, she volunteered with Big Brothers Big Sisters and was a Big Sister for the past three years.

Randy is remembered as loving her kids and grandkids. Friends have remembered her as sweet, warm and caring. She had a giving heart and was helpful to everyone she knew.

Preceding Randy in death are her parents, Dade Raine Taylor and Charles Frederic Taylor, Jr.

Surviving Randy are her children, Taylor Williams, Andy Beim, daughter-in-law Jill Beim, and grandchildren Ashley Beim and Jordan



Beim and his wife Michelle Chan; and brothers John A. D. (Jake) Taylor

and his partner Jeff Derr, and Charles Frederic (Rick) Taylor III and his wife Janet and her three nephews Tucker Taylor, Matthew Taylor and Patrick Taylor.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 29, at 11 a.m. at Darlington Cremation and Burial Service, Glacier Chapel. Private inurnment.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Humane Society of NW Montana <http://humane-societypets.com/>

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Randy's family.

22 Jul 2017

## Germaine Bennett, 69

Germaine Bennett, age 69, passed away on the morning of June 30, peacefully at home in Kalispell with her family. Complications after a bout with pneumonia left her weak and she was unable to heal.

She is survived by her brother Dale, and her three children Shawn, Ben, and Leona and their spouses Mike, Denise, and Erik, as well as her six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three siblings, and her beloved husband Chuck.

Germaine spent 20 years as a paraeducator in the Columbia Falls School District, a job that brought her great pride and happiness. Her biggest joy was spending



time with her grandchildren Brendan, Alexxandra, Charlotte, Zarek, Nolan, and Leala.

She also loved to listen to Dale sing karaoke or watch any football game.

Services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 6 at Darlington Cremation and Burial Service, 3408 U.S. 2 E., Kalispell, with a potluck reception to follow at the Winchester Room at the Outlaw Convention Center. You're welcome to bring your favorite dish.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Germaine's family.

## Cynthia L. Benedict, 69

Cynthia L. Benedict, 69, passed away peacefully at Kalispell Regional Medical Center early Dec. 14, 2017, from complications of a recent illness.

Throughout her life she sought to bring joy to others through art and friendship. She was an accomplished landscape artist and photographer with recent work shown in Bigfork and Seeley Lake galleries.

She leaves her husband Ed Benedict,

daughter Sarah Benedict, son-in-law Michael Mitchell, and grandchildren Keller and Emily Mitchell, all of Kalispell, and sister Barbara Pratt of East Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

A memorial service will be held in the spring.

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.

19 Dec 2017

## Patricia V. Berg, 81

Patricia V. Berg, 81, passed away on Oct. 28, 2017 at home.

She was born July 16, 1936, in Columbia Falls to Roger and Lois Motichka.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Berg.

Patricia is survived by her children, Rexann and husband Jim Nadeau, Penny and husband Wade Fish of Whitefish, and Bill and wife Tina Berg of Marion; grandchildren, Erik, Erin, Bryan and



Patrick; great-grandchildren, Kobie, Kalli, Wyatt, Clayton, Zoe, Chevelle

and Broderick, and many more close friends and family.

No services are planned at this time. Austin Funeral Home is caring for Patricia's family.

4 Nov 2017

20 Aug 2017

### Pete G. Bergen, 84

Pete G. Bergen, 84, passed away at home in Austin, Texas, on Aug. 14, 2017, due to complications from congestive heart failure. Pete was born on Dec. 24, 1932, to Peter and Agnes Bergen in Hampton, Nebraska, the eldest of five living children.

He married Edwina June 8, 1956, and they shared 61 wonderful years together.

Pete was a graduate of Bob Jones University, with a degree in pastoral ministries. He completed graduate courses through Dallas Theological Seminary and Bethel College.

Pete began his ministry by starting Youth for Christ in Omaha, Nebraska. He was gifted in mercy and evangelism and faithfully served in churches and ministries for 60 years in Nebraska, Iowa, Montana, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Pete also served as a volunteer chaplain at the Sandstone



Federal Prison in Minnesota. He loved his Lord and shared that personal love with as many

people as he could, even in his last days.

Pete is leaving behind his beloved wife, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many extended family members. The family is thankful that he is in the presence of his Savior in heaven.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Aug. 25 at Bannockburn Baptist Church, 7100 Brodie Lane, Austin, TX 78745.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be sent to BBFI Mission Office, P.O. Box 191, Springfield, MO 65801, in support of Jon Bergen (No. 126110), a nephew and missionary to Scotland.

20 Aug 2017

### Bobbi Jo Bernau, 41

Bobbi Jo Bernau, age 41, was born March 26, 1975, to Allen and Linda Bernau in Kalispell. BJ passed away March 8, 2017, after a courageous three-year battle with cancer, surrounded by her loving family.



She was preceded in death by her brother Jeremy, Grandparents George and Irene

McClain and Roy Bernau, Aunt Renee Olmstead and Uncle Pat Buls.

She is survived by her parents, brother Jeff (Liz) nephews Blade and Tarek, Grandmother Lavaugh Bernau, aunts and uncles; Jeanette (Randy) Feller, Patti (Ken) Bullman, Tom (Charlotte) McClain, Bill (Ruth) McClain, Donna (Ernie) Freebury and numerous cousins, extended family members, and cherished friends which included her Turner's Syndrome Sisters from around the world.

A viewing will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. today, March 14, at Darlington Cremation and Burial Service, 3408 US Highway 2 E., Kalispell, MT. A funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 15, at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery, 2659 U.S. Highway 93 N., Kalispell, MT. A reception will be held at 4 p.m. at the Eagles Club, 37 1st St. West, Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Turner's Syndrome Society or Hospice.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Bobbi Jo's family.

Bobbi attended Evergreen school and graduated from Flathead High School in 1993. She continued her studies at FVCC. Bobbi worked as a CNA doing home health care and loved the work she did helping others.

Having Turner's syndrome, Bobbi was an advocate for getting Turner's recognized for the city and state making February Turner's Syndrome Awareness Month. The butterfly is the symbol of hope for girls with Turner's and has long since been her inspiration.

Bobbi will be lovingly remembered as an outgoing, cheerful, positive soul. She treasured spending time with family and friends. Bobbi would spend countless hours driving her "AWSMANT" Subaru around town shopping and finding the best deals! As she was often heard saying, "it was only three dollars!" Spending time at the family cabin on Duck Lake, riding on the Harley with her dad wearing her Captain America stars and stripes helmet, boating, camping, fishing and going to the movies were some of her favorite activities.

13 Mar 2017

## LaVaughn Deloris (Meyer) Bernau, 85

LaVaughn Deloris (Meyer) Bernau passed away Thursday, Aug. 3, 2017, at the Heritage Place in Kalispell, at the age of 85.

LaVaughn was born in Chadron, Nebraska, on Sept. 14, 1931, to Caroline (Knutzen) and Roy I. Meyer. She finished high school in Chadron before moving with family to a farm on the southeast end of Echo Lake north of Bigfork.

She married Roy G. Bernau in Las Vegas in the spring of 1952. The pair raised their three children in the Flathead Valley. LaVaughn worked for the local school system in the kitchen at Flathead High School and then at rural Fair-Mont-Egan school doing janitorial work until her retirement in 1991. Her hobbies included sewing, crocheting and she was a word search master. The rest of her time was spent enjoying her family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Roy in 1987, brother Fred Meyer



in 2005, daughter Renee Olmstead in 2015, grandson Jeremy Bernau in 1977, and

granddaughter Bobbie Jo Bernau in March of 2017.

She is survived by her son Allen and wife Linda Bernau, daughter Donna and husband Ernie Freebury, along with five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, some residing in the Flathead area and some in Idaho Falls, Idaho; also, numerous relatives and her many friends.

A viewing will be held at between 3 and 5 p.m. on Aug. 7 at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell. The funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Aug. 8 at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home with Pastor Ron Pierce officiating. Burial at Glacier Memorial Gardens will follow the service.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

5 Aug 2017

## Mildred Elaine Berner, 98

Mildred Elaine Berner, 98, passed away peacefully Aug. 17, 2017

Mildred was born July 23, 1919, in Kalispell to Lester and Pearl Rhodes. She was raised on the family homestead in Rhodes Draw and attended elementary school at Bald Rock School until the third grade when her family moved to Gateway, which is now under Lake Kocanusa. Mildred attended Lincoln County High School in Eureka until her junior year in high school at which time the school burned down, and her family moved back to Kalispell where she graduated from Flathead County High School with the Class of 1937.

She met Homer Berner at a dance in West Valley in the spring of 1939. They married on Nov. 30, 1940, and spent the next 30 years in the West Valley farming and also owning Lost Creek Lumber Company. Mildred enjoyed being a farmer's wife and taking care of her family. They enjoyed those years in West Valley with many lifelong friends and family alike. Their only child, a daughter Patricia, was born in 1942.

In 1961 Mildred and Homer moved to Eureka and bought the Eureka Tavern, running it until 1969. Mildred often shared stories and pictures of "the bar days." They moved back to Kalispell after selling the bar and retired. They enjoyed many years of traveling, often spending the winters in Arizona.

Mildred was a kind, generous and spunky woman who loved her family very much. She was always up to date on what her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were doing and was incredibly proud of each of them. She never wanted you to leave her home empty handed and always insisted that you take something, whether it be a cookie or a piece of candy, she always wanted to send you off with some-

thing. Mildred lived a long, good life and will be greatly missed.

She was preceded in death by her beloved parents, her husband Homer, her brother George Rhodes, and her son-in-law Dale Holder.

Mildred is survived by her daughter, Patricia Holder, of Kalispell; as well as her grandchildren, Brent and wife Carrie Holder of Eureka and their children Tayler and Ryan, Mitch and wife Amber Holder and their children Alex and Logan of Ridgefield, Connecticut, and Willa and her husband Jason Manger and their children Rielly and Abi of Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, if you wish to honor Mildred the family suggests contributions be made to Sparrow's Nest of Northwest Montana, P.O. Box 8384, Kalispell, MT 59904. This organization supports homeless teens throughout the Flathead Valley.

Mildred's family would like to thank Laura, Rene and Sonja as well as her sweet friend Marilyn at Quality of Life for their loving care and companionship over the last year.

Per Mildred's request no services will be held.

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.

19 Aug 2017

5 Jan 2017

## Nancy Dougherty Best, 85

Nancy Louise Dougherty was born in Groffdale, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on May 18, 1931, as the first child of Frank and Kathryn Ebersol Dougherty. Frank had an automotive repair shop in Lancaster. He later switched to industrial engineering design and obtained a few patents. He had grown up in Seattle and Alaska. Kathryn was a seamstress who sewed some of the historical costumes for the Lancaster mansion of James Buchanan, the last president before Lincoln. Kathryn had old roots in Lancaster County, with Nancy's great-grandmother having heard the cannons of Gettysburg from many miles away. Nancy had a younger brother, Terry, who was an Air Force pilot and served in Vietnam.

Nancy graduated from McCasky High School in Lancaster with a 4.0 in 1949. She then attended Oberlin College in Ohio, where she was in the Top Ten of the Freshman Class. The strong liberal arts environment at Oberlin deeply impressed her. The following summer she worked at a resort lodge in Maine, where she met Thomas Best, a student at the Episcopal Seminary in Philadelphia. They married and she transferred to Drexel, graduating summa cum laude with Bachelor of Arts in Home Economics and English degrees, and was a member of Phi Kappa Phi. Later in life, she earned a Master of Arts in Spanish degree from Millersville State College, Lancaster County, and a Ph.D. in Language Instruction degree from Pennsylvania State University.

Thomas was made the priest of the Episcopal Church in Gordon, Nebraska, and in 1958 became the priest of the newly built Episcopal Church in Kalispell. Her children Randolph and Kathryn were born in Nebraska, and John and James in Kalispell. In



the 1970s, Thomas left the Episcopal Church and they became divorced.

In Kalispell, Nancy taught English at the new junior high, took, over Mr. Hamilton's Spanish class at Flathead High School after he died, and taught Spanish at Flathead Valley Community College. Outside of Kalispell, she was professor of education at Central Connecticut State College and at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma; professor of English at Hannam University in South Korea; and taught second grade at a Christian school in Seattle.

She went on many evangelical trips to such places as Israel, Turkey, East Germany, Russia, China, India, Panama, Chile and South Africa. Regarding nature as a manifestation of God's greatness and goodness, she tried to picnic and hike every weekend in Glacier Park from late March to early November.

The last decade of her life, she worked at the Salvation Army Thrift Store in Kalispell. She looked forward to going to work and considered several of her co-workers as family.

Nancy belonged to Canvas Church and frequented Fresh Life Church. She was also an enthusiastic devotee of Bible Study Fellowship.

In November 2016 she discovered she had cancer. On Dec. 17 she flew to Dothan, Alabama, to stay at the home of her granddaughter Andrea Bergman. She died there Dec. 23, 2016.

She is survived by her brother, and all her children and grandchildren.

Suggested memorials would be to Wycliffe Bible Translators or Youth With A Mission.

## King Billedeaux, 89

King Billedeaux, 89, passed away on Sept. 22, 2017, in Sun City West, Arizona.

King served in the Navy during World War II, is a retired Montana Highway patrolman, and a lifetime member of the Elks Lodge.

King is survived by his wife, Deanna; daughters, Susette Gertsch (Max), Kathy Van Buskirk and Valerie Jones; son, Louis Arther (Lynn) Billedeaux; sister, Dorothy Lynn Morris; and 13 grandchildren. Services will be held



at 2 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 29, at Camino del Sol Funeral Chapel, 13738 Camino del Sol, Sun City West.

Memorial

Contributions may be made to Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E. Flower Street, Phoenix, AZ 85014.

26 Sep 2017



## Joan Foster Binnie, 92

Born in Montreal Dec. 11, 1924, Joan was the third child to Winnifred Foster. Joan had an older sister, Brenda and older brother, Raymond.

Joan met Alfred Binnie at the ski school at Jasper in Quebec. She was working at Weaver Coal in Montreal, and was 25 when she married "Alf" in 1950. They moved to California and settled in Long Beach. There, Joan worked for Insurance Company of North America (INA), surveyors, and for Clark Drake Marine Insurance. Joan and Alf loved to camp at Sequoia National Park.

They lived in Long Beach for 34 years before re-settling in Whitefish in 1989 once they retired. They chose Whitefish because Alf loved to ski and they both wanted to be close to their beloved Canada. They purchased a lot in Houston Point and built their home, which they cherished together. Alf loved to fuss outside, while Joan was busy nesting inside.

Joan and Alf had a spiffy, colorful style which was evident in the green VW bug they drove. They loved the farmers markets, shopping and they both had a keen eye for color and fun decorations.

Summertime was Joan's favorite time of year. She loved to hear the



children squeal with delight outside, and especially loved the visits with the neighborhood pets. They both enjoyed to travel, especially to London, and made their annual trip to the Carmel car show, Concours d'Elegance for many years after they moved to Whitefish. It also provided the opportunity to revel in their coastal memories.

Joan was gentle, sweet and unique, and gracefully accepted the loss of her eyesight. She continued to manage her life successfully after Alf passed in

2009. She was especially grateful to her friend Peter Ramseth at Buffalo Hill Terrace for his wonderful friendship, Beth Waterman in California, and Leslie Collins and Myrna Wade in the Flathead Valley for their constant support throughout her years in Montana.

As requested, there will be no service for Joan.

Joan passed away peacefully on May 31, 2017, while residing at Immanuel Lutheran Home.

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 caring for the family.

4 Jun 2017

## Myra Louise (Shaw) Birky, 54

Myra Louise (Shaw) Birky, 54, passed away Jan. 3, 2017.

She spent the last 20 plus years battling cancer. She was an amazing lady. Even though she endured a great deal of pain, she always had a positive attitude.

Myra was born in Kalispell to Dwight L. Shaw and Margaret (Peggy) Everett Shaw on Oct. 28, 1962. Myra attended Kalispell Adventist grade school and later went to the Bozeman Adventist Academy. She then attended Flathead High School.

At the age of 19, Myra married Frank L. Birky. They enjoyed their early years participating in local softball games, hiking and gardening. In 1989, life took on a new



meaning with the birth of their first son. During the following few years with the birth

of three more sons, their family was complete. They shared with their boys their love of nature and the importance of family.

Myra was preceded in death by her baby brother, Bruce, her mother, father and her husband, Frank.

Her incredible kindness and loving spirit will be greatly missed by everyone who had the pleasure of knowing her.

She will be forever loved by those who have survived her. Myra is survived by her four

sons, Bruce, Seth, Tristen and Adam Birky. She is also survived by her siblings, Yvonne Shaw, Dwight E. Shaw and Laura J. (Shaw) Gettig, all of Kalispell; and her brother, Lewis Shaw of Washington. She is also survived by several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

In celebration of the life of Myra Birky, a luncheon will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017, at the Eagles Hall, 37 1st Street West, in Kalispell.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Myra's family. You are invited to go to [www.darlingtonfunerals.com](http://www.darlingtonfunerals.com) to view Myra's Tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories.

7 Jan 2017

## Jolene Bjelland, 70

Jolene Bjelland passed away Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2017, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Jolene was born Sept. 6, 1947, in Minot, North Dakota. She graduated from Minot High School in 1966.

She married Norman Bjelland on April 15, 1967, and moved west to Kila. Norman and Jolene celebrated 50 years of marriage this past spring.

While raising three young boys, Jolene's passion for kids led her to operate a day-care business out of her home. As her boys entered elementary school, Jolene followed them to Cornelius Hedges Elementary and worked as a teacher's aide. Jolene was a den mother for the Boy Scouts, BMX racing mom, and Babe Ruth Baseball pit coach. Jolene's continued enjoyment of working with children led her to employment as a secretary at Helena Flats School before she joined her husband as the partner and bookkeeper in their business



Montana Gold Bullet Company, where she worked until her death.

Jolene was preceded

in death by her sister Marlene, and her parents, Joseph and Teresa Mickelson.

She is survived by her husband, Norman Bjelland; sisters Barbara Wenger, Betty Erickson, Shirley Dassenko and Gloria Endsley, and her brother Jerome Mickelson, all of Minot. She is also survived by her sons, Leif Bjelland and his children Hunter and Kale, Alf Bjelland and his children Justen and Gwenneth, and Jason and Jen Bjelland and their children Ty and Avery.

Jolene will be missed and not forgotten. A poem found in her work desk (unknown author):

I'm Free  
Don't grieve for me, for  
now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God

laid for me.  
I took his hand when I  
heard his call,  
I turned my back and left  
it all.

I could not stay another  
day,  
To laugh, to love, to work,  
to play.

Tasks left undone must  
stay that way.

I've found that peace at  
the close of the day.

If my parting has left a  
void,

Then fill it with remem-  
bered joy.

A friendship shared, a  
laugh, a kiss,

Ah yes, these things I too  
will miss.

Be not burdened with  
times of sorrow,

I wish you the sunshine of  
tomorrow.

My Life's been full, I  
savored much,

Good friends, good times,  
a loved one's touch,

Perhaps my time seemed  
all too brief,

Don't lengthen it now with  
undue grief.

Lift up your heart and  
share with me,

God wanted me now, He  
set me free.

14 Oct 2017

Kenneth "Pa" Bales, 88, of Ferndale, passed away May 19, 2017, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

Pa was born Sept. 13, 1918, in "2nd Point," Montana, at his ranch homestead. He did several types of work for his neighbors, and construction on the Fort Peck Dam. He also worked for the Civilian Conservation Corps. In the last part of the 1930s his homestead was covered up by water from the Fort Peck Dam. His family moved to Indiana where he worked at a resort in Ohio and met his wife to be, Lillian Ioleen Miller.

In 1939 they were married and had a son Kenneth Duane, who was born in 1942. Soon they packed up and moved to Redondo Beach in Southern California. Pa worked there as a mechanic at Mission Auto Garage. The garage owners were both killed in a plane crash so he went into business for himself as owner and operator of Bales Brothers Garage. By this time a daughter Jeannie and another son Donald were born. Jeannie was lucky enough to be born on Pa's birthday. Later on, he needed a larger building and lot as his garage had done well picking up towing for the Redondo Police Department and others in surrounding cities. He hired more employees and bought more tow trucks while he expanded his business. All along, his wife Ioleen (Granny) worked by his side as co-owner, bookkeeper, mechanic and she also drove the biggest tow truck they had.

In 1962 he sold his business and moved to Oroville, California. He drove CAT for Morrison Knudsen on the Oroville Dam and other construction. When the dam was completed he took on the job of head janitorial maintenance at Palermo School. He and his wife were founding members of the Hill Top Jeep Club of Culver City, California, and the Ophir Gopher Jeep Club of Oroville. In 1987 Pa and Granny made 11 trips in his moving truck to move from Oroville to Bigfork where Jennie was.



Then they became members of the Ford V-8 Club of America and the local Flathead

Pioneer Auto Club.

Pa and Granny were married for 68 years when she passed in 2007 at the age of 86. Together they built three homes, enjoyed collecting anything and everything, refinished collectables and antiques, collecting selling and restoring old cars and trucks, swap meets and garage sales. He knew every car part of the 1930 Fords. Pa was well known for his knowledge of old cars far and wide throughout the U.S. He and his close friend, Doug Morton traveled all over the U.S. just to see and buy old car parts. Pa always said he didn't know why Doug had taken a liking to him but just to meet him you'd know why. He never met a man, woman or child who didn't like him. He danced for the first time in his life at Lake View Care Center at the age of 98.

Pa is survived by daughter Jeannie Bales, son Donald (Hop) Bales, sister Hoyt Tye, brother-in-law Herbert Hunter, daughter-in-law and husband Brenda and Bobbie Guard; grandchildren Belinda Wessel, Tina DesRosiers, Dayna Haulderman, Ronda McGrath, Erika Bales, Frankie Bales, Donald Bales, Alisha Bales and Kenny Bales; great-grandchildren Danny McGrath, Mina Bales, Ronin Bales, Grant Wessel, Brad Wessel, Breanne Wessel, Britney DesRosies, Karlee DesRosies; great-great-grandchild Khole

DesRosies; and several cousins, nieces, nephews and special friends and old car buddies.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pioneer Auto Club in

Kalispell.

Online condolences may be submitted at [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com). Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

3 Jun 2017

23 Mar 2017

### John Blackwood, 83

John Blackwood, 83, passed away peacefully on March 20, 2017, the first day of spring, at Heritage Place, with his loving wife and daughter at his side.



regularly, while attending a New Life Conference at Grace Baptist Church in Great Falls

he went forward in church and made a commitment to confess Christ as Savior and Lord on March 21, 1971. He decided to follow the Lord in baptism on Palm Sunday, March 20, 1972. "John left this earth to meet his Savior" 45 years later on the same date, March 20, 2017.

While in Livingston, John was chairman of the Livingston Library expansion in 1977-78, and for a period of time John served on the board of Montana Institute of the Bible when the campus was in Maiden Canyon east of Lewistown. John was a member of Rotary club in Great Falls, Livingston, Bozeman and Whitefish, and a Paul Harris Fellow. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Whitefish.

John was predeceased by his parents.

He is survived by his wife Karen, and his daughters, Linda and her husband Jim Beal, and Mary and her husband Allen Armstrong. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Marilee, Johnathon, Bethany and Stephanie Beal, Max and Jurnee Armstrong, and stepgrandchildren Kevin Armstrong and his wife Loretta, and Paul Armstrong and his wife Lexi.

John was a faithful and loving husband to his wife Karen, and his first priority was his family, whom he loved unconditionally. He had been in failing health for several years, but never complained and was always positive. He was kind, honest, sincere and hard-working, and he will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him.

The family will hold a memorial celebration of John's life on July 9 in Whitefish.

John was born in Havre on Oct. 27, 1933, to John S. and Neva Feely Blackwood. Their home was in Chinook. He attended school in Chinook and graduated from Blaine County High School in 1951. He attended Montana State University (now University of Montana) in Missoula, graduating with a degree in business, then attended Law School in Missoula, graduating in 1958, having achieved many academic honors throughout his school and college years. He started his career as an assistant United States attorney in Billings, then moved to Great Falls to work in the firm of Jardine, Stephenson, Blewett and Weaver where he became a partner.

He met his wife Karen in Great Falls and they were married on July 9, 1966. They were blessed with two daughters, Linda and Mary, who were born there.

In 1972, John and his family moved to Livingston where John formed a partnership with John McDonald, a former fraternity brother (Sigma Chi) as McDonald and Blackwood Law Office. The law office burned in October 1975, the result of a fire which started in the business below, and after that John remained in Livingston in solo practice. He also ran the home ranch in the Bear Paws south of Chinook for 10 years with hired men, driving back and forth between there and Livingston to manage the ranch and visit his mother and aunt. After selling the ranch in 1989 and closing the law office in 1990, he and Karen moved to Jackson Creek near Bozeman, and in 2011 they moved to Whitefish.

Although while growing up John attended church

3 Jan 2017

### Herbert Blakeman, 88

Herbert Blakeman, 88, of Hot Springs, died Dec. 31, 2016.

Herbert was born Oct. 11, 1928, in Moorcroft, Wyoming, to Walden and Isadora Blakeman

Herb is survived by his son Brad Blakeman, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was one of the last real chuck-wagon cowboys. He would tell stories of riding the range and sleeping under the stars.

He married the love of his life Wanda Finley

(1935-2015) on Oct. 16, 1951, from that moment on the two were inseparable. Whether it was driving truck, running one of Canada's largest cattle companies, logging, drilling oil, or their last endeavor, owning and running their own restaurant, The Running Iron in Hot Springs, for 20 years you would always find them together.

Services will be at 1 p.m. on Jan. 4, at the Apostolic Lutheran Church 215 Blacktail Rd. Lakeside.

### Richard Frank Blanchet, 93

Richard Frank Blanchet "slipped quietly from this life" early Sunday morning May 28, 2017.

He was born Feb. 19, 1924, to Louis Joseph Blanchet and Annie Lilly Clarke in Creston. Richard was joined two years later by his only sibling sister Grace Louise. She preceded him in death in 2012. They supported each other all of their lives as neither married.

Richard attended Fairview school and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1942. He supported the war effort by farming with his father to help provide for our nation's troops. He and his father continued to farm and raise cattle after the war.

Richard wrote in a diary every day of his life starting in his 20s as evidenced by the stacks of books. They contained on one page, in tiny concise writing, every action each day including the bananas and cookies eaten. Each day included a detailed account of the weather; temperature, visibility, wind direction, rain, snow, etc. Family members have read the journals learning of life on the farm in winter, mud, heat, cold, with an absence of water, sewer and electricity.

Richard was at the Immanuel Lutheran Home for a few short years and learned another way of living closely with friends,



song, movies, celebrations, and warm food.

He was well liked and his close friends will

miss him.

Richard's family was small, but he had many loving and helpful neighbors who were there to support him with rides, phones, groceries and animal husbandry skills. He knew he could depend on them. Orrin Webber was a special friend to Richard.

Richard is survived by multiple levels of cousins with Blanchet first cousins, Patricia McClarty and Russell Blanchet; Clarke first cousins, Susan Clarke Kitchen, Harold Clarke, and Ernie Clarke. His second, third and fourth cousins are numerous and include the recently celebrated Butte Blanchet cousins.

A public viewing will be held from noon to 2 p.m. on Monday, June 5, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 6, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home with a burial to follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. A gathering will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church following the graveside service in the Commons Room. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

3 Jun 2017

## Randal Blasius, 61

Randal Blasius, 61, died unexpectedly in his sleep on Nov. 7, 2017.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, Nov. 13, at the Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell. Father Tom Duncan of St. Pius X Priory in Post Falls, Idaho, and pastor of the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception in Shelter Valley officiated. Randy's final resting place is St. Richard's Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Randy was born in Long Beach, California, to Donald and Bernice Blasius on Aug. 22, 1956. He was the oldest son, followed by his brothers Rod and Russell (deceased shortly after birth). Randy completed his education at Mission Viejo High School, California, in 1974.

Randy moved to Carson City, Nevada, in order to be close to the ski slopes of Lake Tahoe. He succeeded in obtaining his Commercial Drivers License (CDL) driving for Helms Construction and Capital Beverages.

Randy married Cheryl Fenn in 1985. A son, Rocky Byron, was born in 1987. That marriage ended in divorce. Randy worked at the family Midas Muffler Shop in Carson City. When his brother opened Rod Blasius Automotive Shop, Randy came on as an auto mechanic and later promoted to office manager.

In 1996, Randy married the love of his life,



Patricia. He became stepdad to her three children orphaned in 1986.

With the sale of Rod Blasius Auto, Randy returned to driving for Kragen Auto Stop, Labcorp and Toyota Automotive.

Randy and Patty made numerous bike rides with friends throughout the Southwest. In 2010, Randy and Patty followed the lead of his brother and wife to Kalispell, where they retired in Bigfork.

Randy will be sorely missed. His smile, humor and hearty laugh would identify him in any crowd or family gathering.

Randy is survived by his wife Patty, and his son Rocky Byron and Ashley Blasius of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Patty's children and their spouses, Christie and Dorian Wilbun, Camille and J.C. Mejia, and Casey Caliva, and four grandchildren, of San Diego. His brother Rod Blasius and Karen reside in Kalispell with their children, Beau and Ayala Blasius, Weston and Misty Blasius, and Rheanna Blasius, nine grandchildren and numerous cousins.

The family is grateful to the folks at Buffalo Hill Mortuary and St. Richard's Cemetery who served so well the needs of guests and family during this difficult time.

## Robert Alan Blickenstaff, 75

Robert Alan Blickenstaff died peacefully surrounded by his family on Dec. 31, 2016, in Barrington, Illinois.

Born in Virginia on March 29, 1941, he was a man of great integrity who always persevered to achieve the best in all that he did.

After graduation from The Hill School in Pennsylvania, he attended Princeton University where he received a degree in 1963 in chemical engineering and a commission in the U.S. Army as a 2nd lieutenant.

He continued his education earning a master's degree in chemical engineering from Northwestern University. Following graduation, he served one year in Vietnam, for which he was awarded the Bronze Star.

He joined the DuPont Company, where he worked for over 30 years in various positions, from research engineer in the Textile Fibers Department to general manager of DuPont Philippines to president of the joint venture DuPont Lanxide Composites. When he retired, he formed a consulting business that focused on leading organizations through challenges such as mergers and building projects.

Throughout his life, he was actively involved in his community. He served on the Parents Committee of the Tower Hill School in Wilmington, Delaware, (which his children attended) and on the Princeton Alumni Schools Committee, which interviews candidates for admission to the university. More recently, he applied his strategic planning skills to help



the Glacier Symphony and Chorale achieve its fundraising goals for its Silver Season Campaign. He also served on the board

of Kalispell Regional Hospital and on the Building Committee for the new City Hall in Whitefish.

Building and design were his avocations, and during his life he designed three homes for his family, including his dream home in the mountains of Montana where he and his wife retired. He loved hosting friends from across the country and sharing his love of nature with his grandchildren during "Gramp Camp" adventures.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Rebecca; his daughter, Leslie Blickenstaff, of Brookline, Massachusetts; his son, David Blickenstaff, daughter-in-law Jenny, grandson Henry, and granddaughter Kelsey, of Evanston, Illinois; and his sister, Joan Goldsmith, of Modesto, California.

The family suggests that contributions in his name be made to the Glacier Symphony and Chorale, P.O. Box 2491, Kalispell, MT 59903 (<http://www.gscmusic.org/donations-and-sustaining-support/>); or the Glacier National Park Conservancy, P.O. Box 2749, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 (<https://glacier.org/donate/>).

A celebration of his life will be held in Barrington, Illinois, in the spring.

2 Dec 2017

14 Jan 2017