

Barbara Kemler, 85

Barbara "Barb" Kemler, 85, passed away Jan. 11, 2017, with her family by her side.

Barb was born Sept. 22, 1931, in Vale, Oregon.

Barb was married to Robert Kemler in Missoula in December of 1950 and was preceded in death by him in March 2009.

Barb grew up in western Montana and lived in Albany, New York, White Bear Lake, Minnesota, Rollins and Lakeside. Barb was an excellent bridge player, with exceptional culinary skills and loved to travel and was well known and admired along

the west shore of her beloved Flathead Lake.

Barb is survived by her son Steven Kemler and companion Kelly Susen, of Missoula.

Memorial Services and a celebration of Barb's life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Lakeside Chapel with a reception to follow. Cremation has taken place.

Memorials may be given in Barb's honor to the Lakeside Community Chapel, Museum at Central School, West Shore Community Library and West Shore Food Bank.

Joyce Willard Keniston, 82

Joyce Willard Keniston, 82, passed away peacefully on April 23, 2017, "to be with her husband Richard." Joyce was surrounded by her family and her loyal companion "Sheeba" at Hillside Manor in Missoula, after a long battle with cancer.

Joyce is survived by her three children, Donna Caras and husband James Caras of Missoula, Gary Keniston and Mary Ingalls of Missoula, and Julie Reid and husband Larry Reid of Kalispell; three grandchildren, Jennifer Taylor and husband James Taylor of Missoula, Taylor Reid and Hope Martin of Billings, and William Reid of Kalispell; and three great-grandchildren, Devin and Nadelie Taylor of Missoula and Emry Wells of Kalispell.

Joyce was born on July 3, 1934, to Fred and Alice Willard in Hamilton. Joyce attended Hamilton High School and graduated in 1952. Joyce then attended the University of Montana. She took a job with the U.S. Forest Service.

In 1956 she met and married the love of her life, Richard W. Keniston, where they started their journey together of 60 years. Joyce also worked for the Montana Highway Department and then went on to become an Avon representative in 1974, which she continued to do until the last days of her life, for a total of 42 years.

Joyce was also a lifetime member of Beta Sigma Phi. She enjoyed camping, fishing, playing cards and talking on the phone to her family and friends. Of all her accomplishments, Joyce's greatest achievements have been in the lives of her family and friends and always made everybody feel welcome even if she had just met them.



Her favorite title of them all was "Nana" and she so loved her grandchildren and great-grand-

children. Her kind heart, brilliant smile and wonderful laugh will be missed dearly. Her generous heart filled her home with love, fun, family and friends, including an attitude that there was always room for one more. She leaves all of her family with the knowledge that they were truly loved. She will be dearly missed by all of her family and many friends.

Joyce was preceded in death by her husband Richard of 60 years, and her parents Fred and Alice Willard.

A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 20, at Garden City Funeral Home in Missoula with a graveside service for both Richard and Joyce at Sunset Memorial Gardens, and a reception following back at Garden City Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Partners Hospice in Missoula.

Joyce's family also wanted to acknowledge the wonderful care she received at the last part of her life from the staff of Hillside Manor.

"Always in our hearts and loved forever."

April 28

4 Feb 2017

Laurie Angela Kerney, 59

Laurie Angela Kerney, 59, died suddenly on June 11, 2017, at her home from apparent cardiac arrest.

Laurie was born a twin (only four minutes older than her identical twin sister) on Feb. 21, 1958, in Yakima, Washington. Growing up, she was a cheerful model child and student. She graduated from A.C. Davis High School with a 4.0 grade point average. She was on the honor roll and on the drill team.

After graduation she married her high school sweetheart, Jim Kerney, and they moved to Kalispell where they made their home and raised their three children. Laurie and Jim owned and operated Silvertip, AKC kennels. They bought, trained and sold, professional service dogs for obedience, protection and security. Laurie ran the inner operations of their business. Laurie also worked in tech support for Hewlett-Packard. Being a natural born caregiver, Laurie studied to become a certified nurse assistant. She enjoyed working at the hospital caring for same-day surgery patients. Later, she



started her own home health-care business, which became full-time employment after their divorce. Lifting a patient, Laurie suffered a back injury, which plagued her throughout her life, however she continued doing volunteer work at the local library, and home health care in a less physical sense, until her passing.

Laurie loved her grandbabies more than anything in the world! They were her life! She was a "more than happy to" babysitter, and like a second mother to Dominic, with whom she had a special bond. He went to her house every day after school until Mom got off work, and they made many happy memories together.

Laurie is survived by her children, Jarod Ray-Elgin Kerney (Kalispell) and Angela Christine Kerney (Lakeside); her grandchildren, Benjamin James Dyer (Missoula), Dylan Kerney (Kalispell), and Dominic, Liam and Lyric (Lakeside). She is also survived by her mother Barbara Jaeger,

and Jim Jaeger — the only father she'd ever known since she was 4 years old, (Yakima); her twin sister, Linda Phelps (Sandpoint, Idaho); younger sister, Lisa Jaeger (Yakima); many nieces, nephews and friends. She also leaves behind her much loved, fur child and companion, service dog, Toby.

Laurie was preceded in death by her beloved son, Eldon James Kerney, who died on Dec. 1, 2011. Laurie missed Eldon so much, "and now they are together..."

Laurie was loved by so many, and she will be missed ... but her sweet, gentle spirit, and love will live on in the hearts of all who knew her ... May she rest in peace.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

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

21 Jun 2017

Edward John 'Bud' Kienas, 58

Edward John "Bud" Kienas passed away May 10, 2017, at his home in Somers after a short battle with cancer.

Bud was born May 16, 1958, to Robert and Joanne

Kienas in Whitefish. He grew up in Somers with his brother Bobby and his sister Karla, spending most of his time outside. Bud attended Somers School, Bigfork High School and Flathead High School. He then went to pursue work in the oil field, moving to Wyoming and Nevada before returning home to the Flathead Valley where he was head of shipping at Connector Technology for 18 years. After leaving Connector Technology he was finally able to open his own business, K Enterprises, a mobile steam cleaning



was the oldest of four. Bud loved his family so dearly. He had a wonderful sense of humor and would often glue quarters to the floor to see who would try and pick them up. He was very tech-savvy and enjoyed collecting antiques but his true passion was fishing. Bud found a love for fishing as a toddler; it was almost a meditation for him. He enjoyed all fishing but fly fishing was his favorite, he recently learned the art of tying his own flies and became really good at it. Bud "is such a kind soul" and would do

service. Bud was never afraid of hard work. He was very strong-willed and

anything for anyone, he loved to see people smile.

Bud was preceded in death by father Robert Kienas, sister Karla Fischer and his infant sister Brenda Kienas.

He is survived by his mother Joanne Kienas, brother Bobby and Wendy Kienas, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

A funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 17, at Buffalo Hills Funeral Home with a reception to follow at Vista Linda in Somers.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Frontier Hospice. The family would like to thank Frontier Hospice for caring for Bud.

Condolences for the family may be submitted online at www.buffalohill-fh.com.

13 May 2017

Louis Metz Kimbrell Sr., 93

Louis Metz Kimbrell Sr., 93, passed away Aug. 11, 2017, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Louis was born on April 21, 1924, to Johnny and Maggie Kimbrell in Townley, Alabama. His father worked for the coal mines and the family moved from Alabama to Harlan, Kentucky, when Louis was a small child. He had many stories about the adventures he would have in "the Hollers" with the "company town kids."

Louis enlisted in the Army following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He fought in the Pacific as a paratrooper with the 503rd Parachute Infantry Regiment, making combat jumps on New Guinea and the Philippine island of Corregidor. He remained on active duty following the war, and retired after 26 years of service. During his time in the military he served at numerous locations state-side, in Europe and Asia. He received numerous awards and decorations during his time in the Army, to include the Combat Infantryman Badge, Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

In December 1948, he met the girl of his dreams, Venetta Anderson. They got married on Jan. 14, 1949, after only knowing each other for two weeks. They were married 68 years and raised five children, Linda, Louis Jr., Timothy, Susan and Leila.

After moving around the world throughout his career, the family moved to Kalispell (where Venetta was from) in 1968. Louis began working for the city of Kalispell and retired a second time in 1986. After this final retirement Louis and Venetta enjoyed camping, fishing and spending time with their family. He enjoyed keeping cute decorations in their yard and would repair them with his masterful skill of Duct Tape. To this day



it puts a smile on his children's faces when we think about this. He was a true Atlanta Braves fan, watching every game during the season.

He was also a longtime member of St. Matthew's Catholic Church.

Following a bad injury in 2011 he moved to the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Venetta, his son Timothy, his great-granddaughter Laykin Humphreys, and his beloved dog Ringo.

Louis is survived by his children, Linda (Bill) Kral of Nobleford, Alberta, Louis Jr. (Anne) of Kalispell, Susan (Kelly) Hartman of Kalispell, and Leila (James) Lockwood of Kalispell; 10 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren; his sister, Ruth Parmerlee, of Indianapolis, Indiana; his sister-in-law, Orletta Lovell, of Kalispell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A viewing will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. Friday, Aug. 18, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. A graveside service will follow visitation at 11:30 a.m. at Fairview Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the Montana Veterans Home and its staff for the wonderful care that Louis received, as well as the staff of Kalispell Regional Medical Center, the emergency room, and Dr. Sarah Robinson.

As Dad was famous for saying, "You never get out of this world alive!"

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations are requested to the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

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

Venetta Ruth Kimbrell, 87

Venetta Ruth Kimbrell, 87, passed away July 2, 2017, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

Venetta was born on Oct. 11, 1929, to Oscar and Lily Anderson in Creston. She was raised in Lake Blaine where she went to a one-room schoolhouse. She had a number of stories about the adventures she had with her siblings and the neighborhood kids.

At 19 she traveled to Indiana where she met and married Louis. They were married on Jan. 14, 1949, after only knowing each other for two weeks. For the next 27 years, they traveled with the U.S. Army until Louis retired, settling in Kalispell. During this time they raised their five children, Linda, Louis Jr., Timothy, Susan and Leila.

Venetta worked as a waitress and cook for many years. People might remember her from the Sportsman's Cafe on Main Street.

She loved to watch and feed the birds and squirrels that frequented her yard. She loved her flowers and was quite famous for her tulips — the deer in her yard just loved them! She loved to fish and collect rocks while walking the riverbanks. Often she would return from the river weighed down with many rocks in her fishing vest, but no fish. She enjoyed



spending time with her family and friends and was a longtime member of St.

Matthew's Catholic Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents Oscar and Lily, her sister Della've and brother Oscar Jr., her son Timothy Kimbrell, and her great-granddaughter Laykin Humphreys.

Venetta is survived by her husband, Louis, of 68 years; her children, Linda (Bill) Kral of Nobleford, Alberta, Louis Jr. (Anne) of Kalispell, Susan (Kelly) Hartman of Kalispell, and Leila (James) Lockwood of Kalispell, 10 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, her sister Orletta Loveall of Kalispell, her brother William Lash of Texas, and numerous nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind her beloved cat Marcy and the neighborhood cat Fluffy Pants.

A viewing will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. today, July 7, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, July 10, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church with burial to follow at Fairview Cemetery.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

July 7

Pauline Ann Hovey Pedersen Kinniburgh, 84

Pauline passed away Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017, at her home in Kalispell.

She was born Dec. 10, 1932, in Kalispell to Paul and Anna (Smith) Hovey. She attended schools in Halfmoon and Kalispell, graduating from Flathead County High in 1950.

Pauline married Ralph Pedersen in November of 1950. They had three children, and Ralph died in 1957. She met and married G. Eldon Kinniburgh in December 1959, and they had two children. They celebrated 57 years of marriage last December.

Pauline worked as a deputy treasurer in the Motor Vehicle Department for over 30 years, retiring in 1997.

She was an active and devoted member of Bethel Baptist Church and served in various roles through the years including financial secretary.

Pauline had many hobbies. Her favorites included her passion for card making/stamping and her Christmas Village.

She is survived by her husband Eldon; her siblings, Helen Loudon of Spokane, Mary Young of Kalispell, and Willis Hovey and wife Dot of Lowman, Idaho; and her children, Karen Pedersen of Columbia Falls, Leslie Allison and her partner Dale Anderson of Creston, Washington, Jeffrey Pedersen of Ninilchik,



Alaska, Gary Kinniburgh and his wife Carolyn of Enumclaw, Washington, and Jodi

Hollenbeck of Spokane; also, the grandchildren and great-grandchildren whom she loved and cherished, Sara and her husband Lee Morgan and their children, Hayden and Lacey; Erica and her children Sitera and Tiana; Ross; Kelly and her husband Jon Dobson; Reese and his wife Meira and their children Reagan, Paige and Lucas; Hannah, Courtney; and Alex.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 20, at Bethel Baptist Church with Pastor David Pestel and Pastor John Weber officiating. A lunch reception will follow.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial gifts be given to Lake Blaine Bible Camp, c/o Bethel Baptist Church, 936 4th Ave. W., Kalispell, MT 59901; or to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop in Kalispell.

Cremation and burial have been taken care of by Darlington Funeral Home and Crematory. Please visit their website to sign the guest book; <http://www.darlington-funerals.com/notices/Pauline-Kinniburgh>

18 May 2017

Jean Elaine Kinsman, 97

Jean Kinsman of Kalispell passed away on July 23, 2017, in Brendan House.

Jean Elaine White was born March 18, 1920, in Black Eagle, Montana, on a homestead on the Teton River, the daughter of Earl Peregrin White and Alice Sylvester (Williams) White. She spent her younger days on a farm in the Bitterroot and graduated from Darby High School in 1938.

She married Chester Heath and later had a son, Norman Edward, on Flag Day, 1941. Years later, after divorce, she married Arthur Jensen Jr. of Superior. They had a daughter, Deborah Lynn Jensen, in 1949. After Art's death, Jean married Edward J. Kinsman on June 18, 1959.

Jean was preceded in death by her parents, her son Norman, and many other family members.

She is survived by her husband Ed, and daughter Debbie and son-in-law Dan Mason; granddaughters, Jill Mason, Jenae Mason, and Jodi-Lee and her husband Jason DeMott; and four great-grandchildren, Kaylen and Kolton, and Berkeley Jean and Braelynn; her niece Gwen and husband Jack Meskimen; and many other wonderful friends and relatives.

Jean had four brothers, Harry, Kenneth, Ernest and Alan, and two sisters, Virginia and Josephine. Josephine Cruson survives Jean in Oregon.



Jean loved to sew and made beautiful clothes for her sister, her

daughter, her grandchildren and many gifts for her friends. She enjoyed family get-togethers with the camp-outs, delicious food and sing-a-longs around the bonfire.

She and her husband Ed and friends traveled in their camper to lots of their favorite places such as Glacier Park, Yellowstone, Banff, Alaska and others. They always had a garden and canned and froze everything they could. She was a ferocious weed puller and had beautiful flower gardens. Jean loved playing cards and games and would stay up all hours of the night to win.

In the early years Jean was the Mineral County treasurer in Superior and at one time owned a hamburger stand called Pop's In-and-Out. She also worked for the Mineral Independent newspaper.

Jean's wit and personality made all around her enjoy life a lot more.

Jean said last week, "I have lived a long and happy life. I always had a garden to harvest, calendar full of camping dates, fish to catch and friends to celebrate happy hour."

Jean is forever in our hearts and memories.

A celebration of life will be scheduled at a later time.

28 Jul 2017

Jeffrey Todd Kintzler, 54

Jeffrey Todd Kintzler, age 54, passed away on Monday, Feb. 6, 2017, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell surrounded by his loving family.

Jeff was born on June 21, 1962, to Dennis Kay and Wanda M. Kintzler in Riverton, Wyoming. He was welcomed by his two brothers, Daniel S. and Timothy. Following Jeff's birth, were Lisa, Pamela and Mark.

The family moved to Colorado Springs in 1966 and Jeff attended Talbott Elementary and Air Academy Junior High, where he served on the student council, played soccer, ran track, rode mini bikes and loved "swimming" in the nearby pond.

In 1974 the Kintzlers relocated to Jeffrey City, Wyoming, where Jeff attended the Methodist church, rode motorcycles, learned the meat cutting art and announced, to his unaware parents, at 14, he had gotten a job washing dishes at a local pub/restaurant. He attended and graduated from Jeffrey City High School. He followed in the steps of his older brothers, learning the construction trade and it was ingrained in his soul. His first son, Brenon was born in 1979.

In 1984 Jeff migrated north to Kalispell; "God's country" he called it. He remodeled a downtown building, which housed a small clothing store and thus began his craftsman legacy. A Quonset hut-type building south of town followed and on down the line were spec homes in Greenbriar,



Lone Pine and River Glen to custom homes throughout the valley, sometimes drawing

the plans on a paper napkin. He did commercial remodels as well as jewelry boxes. His hands and mind were always busy. Jeff was an independent contractor eventually forming a partnership with Dan Wilson, Wilson-Kintzler Construction, lasting 10 years. His latest independent venture was Brannigan's.

He was so happy for his daughter, Chanelle, born in 1988 and his second son, Daniel, born in 1990.

He never said no to challenges; he faced impossibilities head on, designing, applying and appreciated acceptance. He never threw away a thank you card. High standards was his zeal, valuing honesty. He never quit. He was an encourager who enjoyed helping others; many times from the good of his heart, friend or stranger. Jeff did everything full throttle — work, play ... biking, skiing, camping, boating, antique hunting. He loved shooting at the gun club and ... music; his knowledge of artists, lyrics and meanings of songs always amazed people.

He cherished his family and was driven to see them loved and content.

Leaving to grieve are his sons, Brenon, (Dianna), Kalispell, and Daniel O. (Miranda) San Diego, California; daugh-

ter, Chanelle Powell, Littleton, Colorado; four grandchildren, Mia and Maeve Kintzler, Kalispell; Elena and Harper Maes, Littleton, and his partner, Robbie Rae Winkler. Also his parents, Rolen and Wanda Heath, Puyallup, Washington; Dennis and Alice Kintzler, Belin, New Mexico; brothers, Daniel S., and Timothy, Reno, NV; Mark, Portland, Oregon; sisters, Lisa Powell and Pamela Kintzler-Graham, Puyallup; stepsisters, Rebecca Holman, Liberty Hill, Texas and Carrie Whitehouse, Maple Valley, Washington; and nieces and nephews: Shamay, Derry, Lanaie, and Zach Kintzler, Reno; Tyler, Ciara and Carissa Powell; Caleb Jeffrey and

Ethan Graham, Puyallup; Trevor and Alex Holman, Texas; Zoe and Zane Whitehouse, Maple Valley and many great nieces and nephews and close cousins. Eli Baldwin who looked to Jeff as a father figure is also considered part of the family.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Roy and Ethel Burns, "Bud" and DeEtta Kintzler, several aunts and uncles and one cousin.

A celebration of Jeff's life will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19, at Darlington Cremation and Burials Services Glacier Chapel, 3408 U.S. Highway 2 East, Kalispell. Pastor Jim Davey will officiate. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Jeff's family.

8 Sep 2017

Beth Ann Ahlcrona Kisskeys, 57

Beth Ann Ahlcrona Kisskeys, 57, born in Minnesota June 2, 1960, passed away unexpectedly in her Prairie Island, Minnesota, home Aug. 25, 2017.

Beth graduated from Aitkin High School and earned her Bachelor in Early Childhood Education degree from Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Beth split her time between Bigfork, Montana, Minnesota and Arizona and was working for Prairie Island Indian Community at the time of her passing.

Beth had a passion for family traditions, cooking, gardening, animals, and serving others.

Beth is survived by siblings, Cheryl Kubasch, Richard



Ahlcrona Jr., Steve Ahlcrona and Marijke Strijbos; nieces, Jacquelyn Cote,

Melissa Kim and Heather Hallows; boyfriend, Jim Underwood; biological family, Darlene, Charlene, Christopher, Bryan and Michael Roach; and many other family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her loving parents, Richard and Margerylou Ahlcrona; husband, David Kisskeys; biological father, Paul Wickstrom; and biological brother, Charles Roach.

Condolences may be sent to www.mahnfamilyfuneralhome.com

14 Feb 2017

Nancy 'Nan' Ann Miller Garnett Klehm, 87

Nancy "Nan" Ann Miller Garnett Klehm, just shy of her 88th birthday, passed from this life Saturday, Sept. 23, 2017.

She was born Sept. 29, 1929, in Butte to Harry and Leonine (Williams) Miller and then adopted by Lucile (Williams) and Dick Garnett four months later. She grew up in Helena and

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Being the baby of both families, she was doted on by all.

While playing piano at a dance, she met Dave Klehm. Six months later they wed in her parents' home in Coeur d'Alene. Then it was off to the University of Idaho for Dave to attend forestry school. After graduation, they moved briefly to Kalispell, and then Dave enlisted in the U.S. Army, so it was off to Fort Belvoir, Virginia, for him to attend OCS. He went to Korea as a second lieutenant. Through all of this Nan worked in a variety of offices; from each job she came away with a unique skill that she would later use to make her more effective in her next endeavor.

When Dave returned from Korea, they decided Kalispell was where they wanted to settle. They



started their family with Kari in 1954, and Kris followed along in 1957. The family grew up in the bedroom community of Evergreen. The home on Meadowlark Drive was pretty rough when they put down roots there, but over their lives there they built a lovely and welcoming nest — Nan continued to tend her beloved yard into her 87th year.

Nan became a legal secretary to SY Larrick in the '60s, and worked with him for 34-plus years. She studied while working there, eventually becoming a credentialed paralegal. While working in that office she mentored many young women, helping them hone not only secretarial skills, but life skills.

After retirement, Nan embraced volunteering, first with RSVP and, until last year, she was working with the Backpack Program in Evergreen Junior High — she was very generous with time and resources.

Music was integral to Nan; she wore out two

organs, and then her ukulele got plunked on regularly, after the last organ gave out. She loved going to the music at Snappy's and during her time with hospice, she looked forward to her music therapist's weekly visits. She would play along, and she always felt better after these visits. For her grandson Zach's birthday in August, she played her uke and sang "Happy Birthday" to him.

At the time of Nan's death she was living in the "mother-in-law" apartment of the home she'd lived in for 62 years. When company came she would take great pride in her lovely surroundings, and especially the view of the flag that the Harmons fly. From this apartment she would watch Kari do the mowing of her "little piece of heaven." She often reminisced about hitting golf balls across the "hole" and how she would be ecstatic if she got the ball all the way into the neighbor's back yard!

Nan was preceded in death by both sets of parents, Harry and Leonine Miller, and Lucile and Dick Garnett; her siblings, Jamie, Billy, Charles, Leo, Mona, Jean

and Aique; her beloved son, Kris; and husband, Dave. The loss of a child can be very hard on a marriage, but Nan and Dave endured and became stronger as a team.

Nan is survived by daughter Kari Klehm and her husband Mike Collins, and her dear grandson Zachri Klehm. There are many nieces and nephews (and greats and great-greats) who will miss her, as well.

A life celebration for Nan will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Oct. 7 at the Red Lion. Please join us with a story to share.

Special thanks to Sharalon (hospice nurse), Kirsten Wells (music therapist) and Peggy and Gary Grafe who made a musical house call!

Contributions in Nan's name may be made to Home Options Hospice (Music Therapy Scholarship), 275 Corporate Dr. No. 600, Kalispell, MT 59901; or Montana Hope Project, P.O. Box 5927, Helena, MT 59604; or NW MT Veterans Food Pantry, 1349 Hwy. 2 E., Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

3 Oct 2017

Jack F. Klein, 88

Jack Frederick Klein, 88, died of natural causes on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017. He received his wish and died peacefully in his sleep, at home, surrounded by his loved ones.

Jack was born at home in Adrian, Minnesota, on Dec. 22, 1928, to Michael and Margaret Klein. He lived and worked on the family farm as a child.

He married Ruth Scheidt and they started their family. They lived in Colorado, South Dakota and Oregon, but they knew they'd found heaven when they moved to Montana.

He truly was a jack-of-all-trades. He worked at his school, mowed lawns and worked at co-ops. He sold pots and pans, vacuums, phone contracts and cemetery plots.

Jack made jewelry, had a worm farm, ran a tavern and worked for the railroad. He drove truck, financed a pawn shop and worked for Boeing. Dad wanted to have a mink farm, but our mom said no ... she won out on that one! Dad wanted to raise ostriches ... Mom won again!

Jack worked as a logger for many years, very proud of how many trees he could fell in a day, and even owned his own logging company for a short time.

Jack took great pride in working hard and providing for his large family.

In 1967 he traded his 40 acres in Swan Lake for apartments in Whittier, California. He spent eight years in California remodeling the apartments while also holding down a full-time job as a carpenter at Ford Motor Company. He also owned a mortuary for a short time with his sister and brother-in-law.

He missed Montana so he moved back to



Kalispell and bought two motels, the Mont Villa and Teepee Lodge, which he also remod-

eled. Jack also bought 80 acres of land in Essex.

One of Jack's final investments was to sell his lodge and use that property to become co-owner of the La Quinta Inn here in Kalispell.

During retirement he enjoyed snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, reading, cooking and visiting with friends.

Jack was a caring and giving man who always wanted to help others. He was a bit of a character with a good sense of humor and many stories to tell. He was well liked by everyone he met.

Jack was preceded in death by his wife Ruth, and three sons, David, Daniel and Richard.

Jack is survived by his daughters, Mary Hildesheim and Joe, Linda Green and Dave, and Jackie Klein and Rob Mattheisen; and his sons, Terry Klein, Andy Klein and Diane, and Mark Klein and Charlotte. He is also survived by numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A special thank you to Reyne for being a loving friend and caregiver to our father.

A public viewing will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. on Friday, April 21, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 22, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church with a burial to follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Please visit www.jgfuneralhome.com to share condolences. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

William R. 'Bill' Knapton, 65

William Knapton passed away early on the morning of Dec. 17, 2016, at Peace Harbor Medical Center in Florence, Oregon.

Bill was born March 19, 1951.

Bill spent considerable time traveling, doing construction work and visiting friends. Bill had amazing mechanical and woodworking skills just as his father did, and was frequently working with his hands. He also seemed to love to play and party, and was never without a joke of questionable appropriateness and a warm laugh. Bill loved to share the tale of how he landed a job, stating that he met with the proprietor, provided his qualifications, stated that "A farting horse will never tire, a farting man is the one to hire," followed by audibly releasing gas, and was hired on the spot.

Bill served our country by enlisting in the Army and heading to Vietnam as a helicopter mechanic where he served between 1969 and 1971. He was often brutally honest, not with-

holding his beliefs and values, but rarely shared his military experiences.

Bill loved the water ... boats, swimming, snorkeling and even scuba diving. Though he was born in the far inland mountain town of Whitefish, he often found recreation on or in the water. He finally settled in on the coast in Florence where he could walk the beach every day, visit his parents and never be too far away from the water.

Bill's passing was preceded by his parents, Marvin and Irene Knapton of Florence, and sister Patty Sanderson of Kalispell.

He is survived by his sisters, Jean Sedivy of Columbia Falls, and Mary Knapton of Everett, Washington; and sons, Travis of Havre, and Brandon of Kooskia, Idaho. Bill was the grandfather of 13, and great-grandfather of two.

Condolences may be sent to 223 Blue Bird Dr., Kooskia, ID 83539.

No services will be held, but interment will be planned for late spring.

1 Jan 2017

David William Knauth, 77, of Bigfork, passed away peacefully on Monday, March 20, 2017, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

He was born on Jan. 19, 1940, at Staten Island General Hospital, New York City, to Gustave W. and Mary Agnes (Killeen) Knauth.

Dave attended Staten Island Academy, and graduated from Wagner College in 1962 with a degree in Economics. He played baseball for Wagner College.

From 1962-68, Dave served in the United States Air Force. A navigator-bombardier on B-52 bombers, Dave received Air Medals, a National Defense Service Medal and a Vietnam Service Medal. As a member of the elite S-10, 38th Bombardment Wing crew, Dave participated in the Strategic Air Command Combat competition held at Fairchild Air Force Base. Forty crews rated as superior performance combat air crews on B52s and B58s competed in October 1966; the S-10 crew from Ellsworth Air Force Base was awarded first place. First Lt. David Knauth served two tours of duty and was stationed at Anderson Air Force Base on Guam during the Vietnam War. He flew over 70 missions and was honorably discharged with the rank of captain in 1968.

Dave met Sharon Sue Alexander, while based at Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota. Sharon was a fourth-grade teacher at the Douglas School System. They married on Feb. 11, 1967. Dave and Sharon celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, with their family, this year.

After his military service, Dave worked as personnel manager of Loeb-Rhoades Investment Banking at 40 Wall Street in New York City. He moved his family to Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 1975, where he began a career in administration at Memorial Hospital.



In 1980, Dave and his wife, Sharon and sons,

Gus and Hal moved to Butte where he worked as the human resources director at St. James Hospital (Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, Kansas). After serving as chief operating officer, he left St. James in 1997. Dave and Sharon moved to Bigfork where he had the opportunity to work for CenturyTel. Over the years, Dave became an expert in labor relations and management. Dave retired in 2004.

Dave was proactive in state organizations and nonprofits. He coached both soccer and little league baseball, was president of United Way, and was elected to the school board in Butte. He served as elder of the Presbyterian Church, and is a member of the Community United Methodist Church in Bigfork.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Sharon; son Gus, his wife Meg, and grandsons Ethan and Aidan Knauth, of Overland Park, Kansas; son David (Hal), wife, Niki and granddaughters, Gracie and Emma Knauth of Bigfork; his sister, Justine Landis of York, Pennsylvania; sisters-in-law, Judith Alexander Block and Arlowyn Alexander Graham; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his sister Carol Jaeger, of Staten Island, in 2009.

Cremation has taken place with a memorial service planned for early July.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a donation be made to the Community United Methodist Church, 750 Electric Avenue, Bigfork, MT 59911 or to a charity of your choice.

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

Ida was born Feb. 24, 1920, at home near Proctor. Her father, Peder Underdal, came to America in 1901 from Norway, going back in 1906 to get his soon-to-be wife.

They homesteaded about 35 miles east of Conrad, having three children, Melvin, Clarence and Ida. Early school was in a one-room schoolhouse a half-mile away. Ida graduated in 1938 from Shelby High School, staying in town during the week. She went to business school in Minnesota



Ida A. Knutson, 96

and got a job with Northwest Airlines in St. Paul, working as a secretary to the operations

manager. After a few years, she was needed at home on the farm to help out. Her mother passed away in 1944. She met and married a neighbor, Clarence Knutson, farming his place and some of her father's. They bought a

cabin on Whitefish Lake in the '40s to have more things to do in the winter. Both learned to ski on Big Mountain. In 1959 they decided to retire from farming and move to Whitefish so Greg and Gary could start school there instead of out in the country. The family got more involved with the ski run, helping out with getting the first chairlift built in 1960. Ida and Clarence had a great retirement, until Clarence passed away from cancer in 1978.

Ida then went back to work, as Greg and Gary were gone, both being in the service, for Abell Agency for her boss and great friend, Terrell L. Abell. When that business was closed, she worked and volunteered at the Stumptown Historical Society with Jill Evans until the summer of 2016. Ida passed away Feb. 2, 2017, after a good life with lots of good times.

In lieu of flowers, please make any memorials to Christ Lutheran Church, or the charity of your choice.

18 Feb 2017

Kenneth Ernest Knutson, 91

Kenneth Ernest Knutson, 91, of Columbia Falls passed peacefully on June 30, 2017 at Kalispell Regional Hospital surrounded by his family after an injury and a long battle with Alzheimer's and cancer.

Ken may be remembered as being strong, hard of hearing and as a stubborn Norwegian, but cherished dearly for his Christ-like example of honesty, integrity and love, an adoring husband and wonderful father. His selflessness was incomparable and he always put others before himself irregardless if they were family, friends or a complete stranger.

Ken was born Nov. 11, 1925, in McVille, North Dakota to John Knutson and Martha Tufteland. He was the second eldest of six children.

He was raised on the Tufteland Homestead 40 miles from Hatton, North Dakota. He worked the family farm until he was drafted in World War II and served in anti-aircraft in the U.S. Army from 1945-1946, but his stories only spoke of driving the motor pool. He was honorably discharged at the end of the war and returned to farming the family homestead and helped care for his siblings after the passing of their parents (1936 and 1945) and their grandmother in 1937.

He moved to Fargo, North Dakota and worked as a carman for Burlington Northern Railroad. He was married to Norma "Joy" Elgen from 1966-1969, they moved to Whitefish in 1967 where they shared two children, Brenda and Kelly, and a stepdaughter, Wanda Elgen. Ken solely raised his two children until



meeting his true love Patricia Hodges at Sally's. In 1974, they married and shared one stepdaughter, Wendy, and a son, Keith.

Family was most important to Ken and he loved his, yours, mine, and ours, children equally. He spent many years in Whitefish with his family being heavily involved in the Nazarene Church, raising horses, gardening, camping, tinkering with vehicles and always surrounded by a houseful of extended family and neighborhood kids. After 36 years on the railroad, he retired in 1986 and spent his remaining years enjoying his family.

Ken is preceded in death by his parents, John and Martha; sisters, Jean Johnson and Myrtle Odegaard; brother, Stanley Knutson; and granddaughter, Victoria Knutson. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Patricia; children, Brenda, Kelly, Wendy and Keith; brothers, Gerald and Joel Knutson; grandchildren, Patrick, Alex, Jesse, Katelynn, Dustin, Julian, Kyle and Kaden; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Kenneth's life will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, July 7 at Family Life Christian Church, 1075 Foys Lake Road, Kalispell, followed by graveside services at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the Family.

OBITUARIES

Oct 18

Diana Kouns, 74

A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29, at the Apple Barrel Antiques Market, 3250 U.S. Highway 2 E., Kalispell, for Diana Mercedes delPulgar Morton Kouns, who passed away on Oct. 7, 2017, after a short, unexpected illness.

Diana was born Nov. 28, 1942, in Manhattan, New York, to Santiago and Christina (Mornwig) delPulgar. She lived in New York until 1961, when, with toddler and newborn infant in tow, she moved to California to join her husband. They lived in California until 1969, when the family relocated to Vientiane, Laos, for two years, returning to California where she lived until she moved to the Flathead Valley in 1992.

She spent most of her adult life working in the banking industry. In her later years, she worked in various food establishments throughout the Flathead Valley where she made lifetime and enduring friendships.

Diana enjoyed "minding the store" for her friend Carol at the Apple Barrel every Saturday, and meeting her friends, Shelby and Lynn, for Friday morning breakfast. She also enjoyed cooking for her family, antique and thrift store shopping, reading and going to lunch with her son. One of her favorite pastimes was traveling the back roads of Northwest Montana with her daughter, and their canine companions, Tucker and Terra. They never knew where they were going, but they would set off together on a new and exciting adventure every time. Loving to explore any dirt road off the beat-



en path in the mountains surrounding the Flathead Valley, they

discovered some of the most beautiful sights that Montana has to offer, even finding five small lakes in one day. Diana was also an avid animal lover and throughout her life, rescued and cared for many dogs and cats, many of which survive her.

Diana was married twice, first to Howard "Duke" U. Morton and later to Robert C. Kouns.

Diana is survived by her beloved family, sister, June Palmer, of South Dakota; children, Derek Morton and Christina Morton-Scott, both of Somers; four grandsons (by her daughter), Tomar C. Scott and Brandon T. Scott, both of Ohio, Cory E. (Nicole) Richardson of California, and Cortney B. Richardson of Somers; six great-grandchildren, Christian, Christianna, Jada, Jersey and Braden, all of Ohio, and Cameron E. Richardson of California, and her numerous friends. She also leaves behind her constant companion, Tucker, her beloved dog.

In lieu of flowers, we know our mother would appreciate a donation made instead to the Spay and Neuter Task Force of Flathead Valley or any animal rescue group in her memory.

Diana's ashes, along with her mother's, will be spread at a later date to be determined by the family.

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

Clifford Kracher, 91

Clifford Kracher, 91, passed away on Saturday, April 29, 2017, at his apartment in Buffalo Hill Terrace in Kalispell.

Cliff was born on Feb. 24, 1926, in Helena to John and Catherine Kracher. Cliff grew up in Helena and graduated from Helena High School in 1944. That year he joined the Navy and served two years on a ship in the Pacific during World War II.

After the war he returned to Montana and married Grace Gregoire on Aug. 27, 1949, in Havre. They were happily married and devoted to each other for 64 years until Grace passed away in 2013. He also attended Carroll College in Helena where he earned a bachelor's degree in bio-chemistry in 1951.

Grace and Cliff began their life together working and living in Anaconda where Cliff worked as a chemist for the Anaconda Company until 1969 when the family relocated to Columbia Falls where Cliff took a job in the lab for Anaconda Aluminum. In 1987, they moved to



Kalispell and were residents ever since.

Among Cliff's many interests and hobbies were music, dancing, playing the banjo,

motorcycling, attending Dixieland jazz festivals around the country, traveling, fishing and camping.

Cliff is survived by his two sons, Steve of Kalispell, and Jim and wife, Joan, of Plymouth, Minnesota; grandsons, Chad and Matthew, of Minneapolis; and numerous nieces and nephews.

There will be a viewing and rosary from 1 to 3 p.m. today, May 2, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 3, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Kalispell. Burial will follow at St. Richard's Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Dorothy Virginia (Ewart) Krause, 99

Dorothy Krause "went to be with the Lord" on Aug. 9, 2017.

Dorothy was born to Rodney Bronson Ewart and Ida Elizabeth (Smith) Ewart on Feb. 12, 1918, in Idaho Falls, Idaho. She was raised in Idaho Falls.

Dorothy Ewart and Harry Krause were married May 18, 1941, in Idaho Falls. They resided in Bayview, Idaho, Canby, Oregon, and Kalispell. They had four children, David, Jonathan, Judy and Harry "Hal."

Dorothy was an elementary school teacher. She taught at schools in Blowout and Richfield in southern Idaho, and at Mountain Brook, Swan River, Somers and Evergreen schools in the Flathead Valley.

She liked to quilt, travel, read and participate in TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly).

Dorothy is survived by a sister, Sara Albano, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin; three sons, David of Dallesport,



Washington, and Jonathan and Harry "Hal" of Kalispell.

She was preceded in death by

husband, Harry (1977); daughter, Judy (1998); brother, Bob Ewart; and two sisters, Mary Wood and Barbara Ewart.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Sept. 8 at the Epworth United Methodist Church, Kalispell, with a reception to follow. A graveside service will be held following the reception. Dorothy will be buried beside her husband, Harry, at the Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, Whitefish Stage Road and Rose Crossing, Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Hearing Health Foundation.

Funeral arrangements are by Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

Beryl Dorean Krejci, 90

Mrs. Beryl Dorean Krejci (nee Barney) died peacefully in her home on April 16, 2017, at 3:22 a.m. in Marion, at the age of 90 years.

Beryl is survived by her sister, Joanne Haysom, of Port Orchard, Washington; and by her children, Keith B. West of Marion, Kathy and Marvin Fisher of Coram, Kay and Terri West of Columbia Falls, Kerry and Deb West of Marion, and Valeda and Chris Siek of Hamilton; and by her stepchildren, Greg Krejci of Gig Harbor, Washington, William Krejci Jr. of Moyie Springs, Idaho, Michelle Krejci of Seattle,



and Michael Krejci of Moyie Springs, Idaho, and numerous grandchildren,

great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Beryl was preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, Bill D. Krejci; her husband, Byron O. West, of 30 years; her sister, Beverly Wilson; and brothers, Theron Barney and Kendall Barney; and her eldest son, Kenyon Deloy West.

Beryl was born in Inglewood, California, on July 3, 1926. She was

self-educated and well read, continually availing herself of a multitude of literary genres, loved and wrote poetry, enjoyed all music (learning to play the accordion) and was enamored of all nature, wildlife, landscapes and a special fascination for "prairie" wild flowers. Her plants and flowerbeds were always a relaxation and comfort to her. Montana was her beautiful state of choice.

Beryl excelled in grace and love for all her children and grandchildren, always with integrity and a zest for life, being a wonderful example and welcoming all who crossed her path, while remain-

ing at all times firm and steadfast in her faith.

A memorial service is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, April 22, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Beryl's life!

Our family would like to thank her Christian family and friends, the various caregivers, hospice services of Kalispell Regional Medical Center, and especially Kerry and Deb West for all their love and care in her final days here on earth.

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

Donna Kurtz, 55

Donna (Udell) Kurtz, 55, passed away Jan. 24, 2017 at her home in Somers due to cancer.

She was born on Aug. 12, 1961, in Paterson, New Jersey. She was raised in New Jersey. She was a graduate of Morris Knolls High School in Rockaway, New Jersey, and of the Spectrum Art Institute in New Jersey.

Donna married Matthew Kurtz in 1989 in Missoula. They had been married 27 years.

She worked in advertising, was a freelance artist and self-employed as co-owner of the Lakeside Dairy Queen with her husband. She served on the Missions Committee of the Community United Methodist Church of Bigfork.

Donna also enjoyed photography.

She was preceded in death by her father, Stan Udell.

Donna is survived by her husband, Matthew



Blaine Kurtz of Somers, and Julie Kurtz of Lakeside; brothers and sisters, Lori Joyce of Alexandra, Virginia, John Udell of Chester, New Jersey, Sheri Silverman of Newfoundland, Amy Weiss of Newfoundland, and four stepbrothers.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Community United Methodist Church of Bigfork.

Memorials are suggested to the Community United Methodist Church Mission Committee, 750 Electric Ave., Bigfork, MT 59911.

14 Feb 2017

Ardeth Jean Larson Kvapil, 86

Ardeth Jean Larson Kvapil, born June 18, 1930, died June 2, 2017, in Kalispell, in the presence of her children and Kim and Mark Larson. Kim and Mark were her family support when Ardeth resided at the Libby Care Center.

She was born in Cadott, Wisconsin, to Olga and Philip "Bill" Larson. Her mother died when she was 3 years old. She was raised by her father and greatly influenced by her grandmother, Ida Larson.

Ardeth graduated from Cornell High School and worked at the hospital in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

She married Walter Kvapil at Big Drywood Lutheran Church on June 22, 1950. Walt was a carpenter and their daughters Dianne Marie and Donna Mae were born in Chippewa Falls. In 1955, the family moved to Montana when visiting her father, who was then living in the Happy's Inn area. The family lived in Montana logging camps spanning from Seeley-Swan to Happy's Inn, where they lived in a small trailer for seven years. Daughter Barbara Jean was born while they were living at Happy's Inn. Son Phil was born in Libby, where the family had moved in 1963. Ardeth then lived in Libby for the remainder of her life, making friends of neighbors and strangers alike. Her faith was very important to her and she actively taught her family her Christian values. Dianne's daughter, Kelsi, thanked Ardeth for being such a good mother to her children, thus teaching Dianne to be a good mother.

Ardeth enjoyed painting, dancing, volunteering, and was a member of the Libby Fine Arts Club,



the Sons of Norway, and the Faith Bible Church. Ardeth was known as a very kind, selfless

woman. Strangers became friends, friends became family, and all her family were extremely important to her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, daughter, Donna; husband, Walter; and son-in-law, Steve Breen.

She had two brothers and two sisters who preceded her in death.

She is survived by her sister Joan Wolf, and her brother Albert Larson, both of Wisconsin; her daughters, Dianne Breen and Barb Kvapil of Tacoma, Washington; and son, Phil (Rachael) Kvapil, of Fairbanks, Alaska; and three grandchildren, Brian and Kelsi Breen and Ivan Kvapil. She is also survived by many close nieces, nephews and dear friends.

Viewing will be from 9 to 10 a.m. today, June 6, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, 525 S. Main St., in Kalispell, followed by a graveside service at 10:30 a.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, officiated by David Nelson. A memorial service and celebration of life is tentatively planned for Saturday, Sept. 2, at 2 p.m. at Faith Bible Church in Libby.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Ardeth's name may be made to Faith Bible Church in Libby, Elohim Bible camp in Troy, or a hospice of your choice.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family. Please visit www.jgfuneralhome.com to leave condolences for the family.

5 Jun 2017

Charles 'Chuck' McKinley Kyger, 80

Chuck Kyger passed away Sept. 14, 2017, at home, after a hard fought battle with cancer, with his wife and daughter by his side.

He was born March 26, 1937, in Keltner, Missouri, to Charles and Katherine Kyger. He was one of seven children. He quit school at a young age to help take care of his family.

In 1959 he married Leatha Hoyle and they had two girls, Joyce and Anita. They later divorced and in 1966 he married Karen Walter. They just celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary in June. Chuck and Karen added two children to the family, Wade and Lisa.

Chuck was a hard worker and spent many years working at Superior Lumber/Columbia Falls Forest Products before it shut down. He then went to work for Meadow Lake until the fall of 2016.



He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and two sisters.

He is survived by his wife Karen, son Wade (Robyn) Kyger, daughters Joyce (Brad) Murray, Anita (Mark) Davis, and Lisa (Duwayne) McSloy; along with 17 grandkids and 19 great-grandkids. His family was his life and his grandkids had him wrapped around their fingers.

Services for Chuck will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 22, at Columbia Mortuary with urn burial to follow at Woodlawn Cemetery. A potluck lunch will follow in the chapel of the Montana Veterans Home. Dad is now free of pain and able to deer hunt once again.

20 Sep 2017