

Richard Joseph Page, 34

Richard Joseph Page, 34, died unexpectedly from a congenital heart condition Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017, at his home in Whitefish.

Born Dec. 14, 1982, in North Tarrytown, New York, he was the son of Joseph Page of Whitefish, and Kate Nickels of Camden, Maine.

Richard graduated from Carmel High School in Carmel, New York, and attended Mitchell College in New London, Connecticut. He graduated from Colorado State University in Fort Collins with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work degree (BSW).

Upon leaving college, Richard worked with both young people and

the senior population in his field of social work. He particularly loved working with at-risk young people, and helping them to lead productive lives.

During his time in Whitefish, Richard enjoyed working as a barista at the local Starbucks coffee shop. He was often to be found bicycling around Whitefish and the surrounding area in all seasons. With a smile on his face and a sense of joy, nothing made Richard happier than to be surrounded by people enjoying life.

Richard is survived by his mother, Kate Nickels, of Camden, Maine; and his father, Joe Page, Chief of the Whitefish

Fire Department; his stepmother, Michele Page; his brothers, Donald Page of Camden, and Guy Mason of Denver; sister-in-law, Heidi Mason; niece, Calla Mason; stepbrother, Mateo Urquijo of Edinburgh, Scotland; and foster sister, Tamara Johnson, of Bronx, New York.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21, at the Glacier Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1515 Trumble Creek Road, in Kalispell.

Memorial donations may be made in his name to Safety Harbor Kids, P.O. Box 14, Malibu, California 90265, www.safetyharbor-kids.org, enriching the

lives of orphans, foster and homeless children through education in areas of college, career and the arts.

14 Jan 2017

14 Aug 2017

Sonya Palmer, 68

Sonya (Son yo) Palmer passed away on Aug. 4, 2017, at her home in Kalispell at the age of 68 years.

Sonya was born Aug. 27, 1948, and was the fourth child born to Hak Chun Nam and Wol Sok Kim in Tongsong-myon, South Korea. Sonya had four sisters, Ok Hui Nam, Ok Pun Nam, Ok Cha Nam and Ok Sun Nam, and two brothers, Chong O Nam and Chong Sik Mam, all of South Korea.

Sonya wed Brent James Palmer on March 21, 1973, in Seoul, South Korea.

Sonya is survived by her husband Brent, two children, Raymond of



Marion, and Dawn (Brian) of Medford, Oregon, and granddaughter Ashley Palmer.

Sonya was an avid outdoorsman. She loved to garden and travel to the local mountains to pick huckleberries and mushrooms. She was a very hard worker and spent 22 years working at Finnegan's in Kalispell.

Sonya was cremated at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

A memorial service for family and friends will be conducted in the spring of 2018.

11 Jan 2017

Benjamin Jim (Curtis) Parsons, 36

Benjamin Parsons, 36, of Kalispell, died Jan. 5, 2017, in an avalanche while backcountry skiing on Stanton Mountain in Glacier National Park.

Born to Valerie and Larry Parsons on March 15, 1980, Benjamin Jim (Curtis) Parsons was a light from the moment he was born. With his fiery red hair and endless energy, he started intervals young, being instructed by his parents to run around the house to tire him out, his little sister trailing in his wake.

As he grew, he continued to find outlets to burn that energy, whether in school, on the mountains or in his professional endeavors.

Ben leaves behind a family who had front row seats to watching his love in action, his beloved wife and teammate Jennifer Parsons; the thrill of his life, his son Rowen Parsons; his parents and greatest fans, Valerie and Lawrence Parsons; and his partner in crime, the original bro-bro, Josephine Parsons.

He also leaves a family-in-law of brother bears (Patrick and Bryan), sisters (Jessica and Monica), mom (Debbie) and little cubs Noah and Sloane, who loved being swept into his adventures and forced him to play board games and basketball – the only competitive activities in which Ben could be beaten.

Ben also left an extended family who

lived vicariously through his escapades, Susan and Robert Burroughs and family, Tom and Trish Boydston and family, Jerry and Deb Boydston and family, Joe Boydston and family, the James Boydston family, Stephen and Cindy Parsons and family, Martin Parsons and family, Liza Dawson and family, and John and Sue Parsons and family.

The blurred lines between friend and family carried over to his brothers and sisters at the Whitefish Fire Department, and those other groups who put on uniforms that matched his: the Sportsman Ski Haus cycling team, and lycra lovers everywhere.

He was predeceased by his father-in-law Donald Curtis Jr., and uncles, James Boydston and Sandy Parsons.

A memorial service for Benjamin will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, at the Flathead County Fairgrounds.

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

OBITUARIES Aug 20

Iva Pedersen 81

Iva (Meeks) Pedersen was born Feb. 25, 1936, in Bowling Green, Kentucky. Iva moved with her family to Montana in 1945. She attended Russell Elementary School and graduated high school with American Schools.

Iva met in Vallejo, California, her sail-or sweetheart, Ken Pedersen, in 1957. They were married Oct. 7, 1957, in Kalispell. In 1959 Iva and Ken started Pedersen Excavation, later known as Ken Pedersen Pumping. After 55 years in Business Iva and Ken retired in 2014.

Iva was past president of the American Legion Auxiliary. She enjoyed volunteer work and spending time with family.

Iva passed away Aug. 10, 2017. She was surrounded by her loving husband Ken and her family who loved her dearly. "She is in heaven now with Jesus." We are all blessed to have shared our lives with her.

Iva was preceded



in death by her parents Chester and Earline Meeks, and sisters Lolita Reynolds and Virginia Broomfield.

She is survived by her husband Ken Pedersen of Kalispell, daughter Connie Mackay (Fran Farr) of Bozeman, grandson Calder Mackay (Ashley Nettles) of Bozeman, granddaughter Serena Mackay of Bozeman, sister Louise Smith (Gene Smith) of Kalispell, sister Rebecca Saylor (Clyde Saylor) of Portland, brother Chester Meeks (Donna Meeks) of Anchorage, Alaska, and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Iva's 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 is caring for the family.

Jan 11

Rose (Gonsalves) Penrod, 56

"His Lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord.'" Matthew 25:23



Fellowship Church and worked at Raj Salon pampering

Rose (Gonsalves) Penrod "peacefully left this earth to be with her Lord and Savior" July 14, 2017, surrounded by her loving family, at the age of 56.

Rose was the fourth born child to Joe Gonsalves and Mary Martin on Oct. 16, 1960, in Hanford, California. She graduated from Hanford High School in 1978 and went on to pursue her passion at the Hanford Beauty School.

Rose married Jeff Penrod in 1979 and they started their life journey together in California. It was then it became very clear that one of her biggest joys was to be a devoted and supportive loving wife to Jeff. Their evenings were spent creating dreams, and pursuing them together. When a business opportunity arose in 1986, they packed their things and moved to Montana, where together they raised three beautiful girls who were her absolute joy and life. She instilled values, and love, patience and kindness in her children and over the years taught them to love the Lord just as she did everyday. Her girls are a direct reflection of the amazing mother she was and she will continue to live on with the legacy she left in her children.

others. Little did many people know, the people who sat in her chair at the salon were more than just clients. She held people's hearts close to hers and listened with a kind ear. Rose cared for people dearly and would pray for them daily while always showing the love of Christ in the way she loved others.

Rose had a passion for people, and a smile that could brighten any room. She was a positive and selfless Godly woman who walked strong in her unwavering faith. Many knew her as a talented, hard-working woman with an unmatched zest for life. Throughout her life she brought so much love and light to everyone around her, and holds a special place in the hearts of those who knew her.

She will be greatly missed by her family and friends for her gentle spirit, beautiful smile, acts of kindness, and the love she had for her God.

Rose was preceded in death by her brother John Gonsalves.

She is survived by her husband, Jeff Penrod; their three children, Heather Peterson of Beaverton, Oregon, Meredith Jenkins and husband Dustin Jenkins of League City, Texas, and Katherine Taylor and husband Grant Taylor of Weatherford,

29 Jul 2017

In 2001 Rose purchased Classic Cuts in Kalispell where she was able to continue her passion as a beautician, and began building lifelong friendships with the girls she worked alongside which she continued to do in each salon thereafter. After raising their kids and sending them out on their own journeys, Rose and Jeff found it in their hearts to spend a short time in California to be closer to where their children, grandchildren and family were. They returned home to Montana in 2015 where they happily resided together in Bigfork. Rose spent her time teaching children's Bible study at Alethia Christian

Texas; grandchildren, Claire and Reed Larson, Marley Peterson, Aliyah, Elsie and Hayes Jenkins, and Oliver Taylor; her mother, Mary Martin; father, Joe and wife Loretta Gonsalves; brother, Steve and wife Maryann Gonsalves; brother, Anthony and wife Sherry Gonsalves; sister, Susan and husband Gus Duarte; and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

A celebration of Rose's amazing life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 12, at Alethia Christian Fellowship Church.

Please send any condolences to Jeff Penrod, 618 Spruce Place, Bigfork MT 59901.

5 Nov 2017

Samuel L. Penzi, 30

Samuel L. Penzi, 30, found his final peace on Oct. 28, 2017.

Samuel is survived by his parents, Louis and Lori Penzi.

Sam was an avid skier, golfer, basketball enthusiast and, most recently hiker, as he and his mom explored the Whitefish Legacy Trails

with his dog, Yogi.

He graduated from Whitefish High School in 2006 and received his degree from University of Montana in 2013, in elementary education. Sam was pursuing continuing education at Flathead Valley Community College and substitute taught at School District

No. 5.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Shepherd's Hand Clinic. Sam would often say, "It's just a ride." He is at peace on this ride.

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

24 Oct 2017

Ronald Lee Perry, 81

Ronald Lee Perry, 81, died Oct. 3, 2017, on our 59th wedding anniversary, at University Medical Center in Las Vegas.

Ron was born Dec. 20, 1935, in Tacoma, Washington, to George Richard Perry and Gladys Maxine Harwood Perry. In 1945 the family moved to Martin City, and later to Hungry Horse where the Hungry Horse Dam was being built. Mr. Perry gave his 10-year-old son a .22 rifle and pointed him toward the woods. Four years later Ron emerged an Eagle Scout and attended the Boy Scout Jamboree in Washington, D.C., in 1950.

Ron graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1953 and furthered his education with scholarships for two years at the University of Washington and two years at the University of Montana, receiving his degree in business and finance. When he was old enough Ron pulled on the green chain nights at Plum Creek Lumber. In January 1959, Ron began his career in accounting at the main office of Plum Creek; three months later he was transferred to the PC facility in Pablo. It was during these years when he was trained and received his commission into the Army National Guard.

In the winter of 1964 Ron was again transferred. This time, taking his current responsibilities in finance and his growing family back to the Columbia Falls office where he remained for the next 23 years. The first of January 1983 Ron became owner/manager of Superior Lumber in Columbia Falls until his retirement June 1987.



Ron Perry is survived by his wife, Barbara Rae Bell, at the family home in Boulder City, Nevada, near another big dam! This time, Hoover;

his daughter Carol Perry Mortensen, and son Michael Perry, both in Las Vegas, Jack Perry and his wife Michele of Columbia Falls; three grandchildren in Georgia, Amanda Rae Perry Beal, Marc and Austin Perry; and great-granddaughter Katherine Rae Beal; two grandchildren Robyn Alexandria Mortensen of Henderson, Nevada, and Ronald Joseph "RJ" Mortensen in Boulder City.

Services will be held at a later date.

Peace.

Family and friends can sign an online memorial guestbook at www.bouldercityfamilymortuary.com

Cindee Lee Pesarik, 60

Cindee Lee (Fila) Pesarik passed peacefully at home in Kalispell on Dec. 22, 2017.

She was born to Edward Fila Sr. and Norma Mae Kimball in Sedro Wooley, Wash., on Nov. 17, 1957. She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

Cindee married Gary L. Roe and later divorced. She married Peter Pesarik and later divorced.

Cindee was a beloved mother and grandmother and will be greatly missed. Despite many health challenges, she loved to serve others. She was happiest when outdoors, in the beauty of nature.



She was proceeded in death by her parents and brother, Ridge Fila. She is survived and

will be greatly missed by her sons, Gary J. (Mindy) Roe and Chad H. Roe, of Sandy, Utah and Kalispell, respectively; as well as her grandchildren, Porter, Jacob and Piper. She is also survived by brothers, Randy (Susan) Myers of Mt. Vernon, Wash., and Edward (Sharon) Fila Jr. of Bountiful, Utah; one nephew and seven nieces.

A private family service is planned.

27 Dec 2017

Donald Vance Peterson, 66

Donald Vance Peterson passed from this earth on the 22nd day of April, 2017. He died from heart and arterial disease. His passing was peaceful.

Donald was born Feb. 22, 1951, in Neosho, Missouri, to Leonard M. Peterson and Cletys M. (Boehning) Peterson. His family moved to Montana in 1954 and he graduated from Flathead High School Class of 1969. He was a sexton at Glacier Memorial Gardens until his retirement and a member of a Masonic Lodge in Kalispell.

Don filled his days with small acts of kindness and will be missed by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leonard and Cletys; by his niece, Angela Kay Lea; and his great-nephew, David Lea.

He is survived by his sisters, Kathleen Kay (Charles) Vernon and Carol Ann (Bill) Lea; his nieces, Kimberley Kay Vernon Meredith Marie

Lea, Isabel Ann Lea and Blake Holly Matthews; and nephews, Charles "Nick" Ellis Vernon Jr., Christopher Erin (Windy) Vernon, Ross Albert (Jessica) Lea, Random Harrison Vernon, Incarnadine Fenn Vernon, Clayton Ross Lea and Jack Hunter Yori.

A brief service will be held for friends and family at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, April 27, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to the charity of your choice.

Condolences for the family may be submitted on Don's webpage at buffalohillfh.com.

24 Apr 2017

Donna Jean Peters, 70

Donna Jean Peters, 70, passed away on the beautiful morning of June 5, 2017. She was in the comfort of her home and surrounded by very close family, her good friend Joanne, and Pastor Mike.

Donna was born in Denver on Nov. 14, 1946, to Elsie and Don Rose. She attended school and graduated from Arvada High. During her school years, Donna spent many summers in Wild Horse, Colorado, living on the farm of her aunt, uncle and cousins where she made many wonderful memories.

Shortly after high school, she met and married Michael C. Peters and they welcomed the birth of their son, Tracy. They then welcomed their son, Don, and later, daughter Shelly. Donna worked at the University of Colorado Health/Science as a secretary until 1980 when they moved their family to Fairplay, Colorado.

Moving from city life, to small town country, it was there where she became active in involving her kids in sports activities, 4-H and rodeo. She loved riding horses, raising ranch animals and teaching her kids about hard work and responsibility. Some of her best times were spent packing in to Buffalo Peaks and setting up camp with family and friends. In 1984, she started working in the ticket department at the Breckenridge Ski Area and, in 1992, she worked in the purchasing department at Beaver Run Resort. In 2005, she and her husband moved to Buena Vista, Colorado, where they stayed until moving to Kalispell in 2007.

Shortly after moving to Montana, Donna lost her husband of 41 years. The following winter, she took off with her dog Tess, truck and

camper and went to Arizona where she made many new friends, met up with past friends and gained so many wonderful memories. It was during her time in Arizona, that she met her last partner in love, Ron Conlin. She loved being in the warm air and sunshine! In the spring, she ventured home to spend her summers camping, boating, planting beautiful flowers and spending time with family and friends. She loved working with beads and made many strands of "Angel Beads" to give out to anyone that she thought needed an angel nearby. She was honored to deliver many of them to the oncology center for patients battling cancer.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents, husband Michael, and granddaughter Caitlin.

She is survived by her loving partner, Ron Conlin, of Kalispell; sister, Marlene Rose-Briggs, and her husband, Tim, of Broomfield, Colorado; her son, Tracy Peters, of Mobridge, South Dakota; son, Don Peters, and wife Rae, of Pueblo, Colorado; and daughter, Shelly Olbert, and her husband, Paul, of Kalispell; and grandchildren Jessica, Nick, Brandon, Jamie, Kristen, Matt, Steven, Eric and Cale. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, June 16, at Valley Community Church of God, 2149 Hwy. 2 East, Kalispell. There will be an open house and meal afterwards at Donna and Ron's home located at 655 Pebble Drive, Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Donna's name to Valley Community Church at P.O. Box 5128, Kalispell, MT 59901, or an animal shelter of your choice.

3 Aug 2017

James Richard 'Pete' Peterson, 71

James Richard "Pete" Peterson passed away July 2, 2017, at 71 years old, at Genesis Healthcare in Whitefish.

He was born Aug. 18, 1945, in Kalispell to Don and Dorothy Peterson. At a young age he moved with his family to Libby where he attended school.

He was a Navy veteran, serving three years and was honorably discharged. After the military he worked at J.Neils Lumber Co., was a carpenter on Libby Dam, worked for Matelich Construction building bridges, and was a sawyer for Bob Peterson at Happy's Inn.

He married Judy Iverson and they lived at Happy's Inn where they welcomed first daughter Jamey and second daughter Janelle. In 1981 they moved to Juneau, Alaska. He worked for the state of Alaska for a few years, then he bought a septic tank and porta-potty business. While in Juneau they welcomed third daughter JoMarie to the family. He was very proud of his three daughters and loved them very much.

He was a very accomplished skier and taught his daughters how to ski. Jim loved to drive around the back roads hunting for grouse. He just loved being in the outdoors.

Jim was a very gentle, kind and giving man. He was always just a phone call away and would do whatever he could to help. He didn't have a lot of material things, but



that didn't matter; it was his love of his family and friends that defined him.

He was preceded in death by his parents Don and Dorothy Peterson,

and sister Marilyn.

Surviving him are his three daughters, Jamey Kirschel (Paul), Janelle Earls (Dan), and JoMarie Travers; and seven granddaughters, Reyna, Analiese, Geneva, Alexandra, Madison, Audrey and Giselle; brothers, Don Peterson of Libby and Ajo, Arizona, Doug Peterson of Winnemucca, Nevada, and sister, DeeDee Peterson Balum, of Polson; and many cousins, nieces, nephews and his many friends.

The families would like to thank the staff at Genesis Healthcare in Whitefish and Frontier Hospice for all the extraordinary care that Jim and his family received. You are all truly special people.

No services are planned at this time.

Condolences to the family may be sent to DeeDee Peterson Balum, P.O. Box 7044, Kalispell, MT 59904.

Donations of any kind in Jim's name may be made to the VFW Post in Libby.

Aug 4

25 Jul 2017

Kelly John Peterson, 55

Kelly John Peterson, 55, of Provo, Utah, passed away Saturday, July 18, 2017, at his home.

Kelly was born July 18, 1961, in Calgary, Alberta.

He is survived by his parents, Deverl and Marjorie Peterson of Dayton, his sister Vicki May and nephews, Douglas May and Daniel May.

He was predeceased by his brother Robert Waldo Peterson.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday July 27, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Polson. Burial will be at Lakeview Cemetery in Polson. A reception will follow at the church.

Arrangements are by Johnson Gloschat Funeral Home.

Raymond Dwayne Peterson, 57

Raymond Dwayne Peterson, 57, of Eureka, passed away peacefully on Oct. 18, 2017, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Ray is survived by his loving wife, Debra, of 36 years; sons Jason (Cecelia) Peterson and Darren Peterson, and daughter Alicia (Travis) Bourassa; parents, Kenneth and Sharron Peterson; brothers, Randy (Val) Peterson, and Ricky (Lisa) Peterson. His grandchildren were his pride and joy, Savanna, Nathan, Ryan, Gage and Garrett; also many loving nieces, nephews and extended family. Let's not forget his loyal sidekick Rufus.

He was preceded in death by brother, Rocky Peterson; grandparents, Viva and John Peterson, and Beatrice and Ervin Kinney; aunts, Delorise Hall, Delcina Frank and Alma Langtree; uncle, Gary Kinney; father-in-law Joe VanBommel; and brother-in-law, Albert Bjornrud.

Ray was a loving

husband, father, grandfather and friend to all. He was very a very hardworking man.

He enjoyed working on anything with an engine or helping family and friends. His biggest joy was snowmobiling, jeeping, boating, camping and golfing with family and friends. You can ask anyone — he enjoyed picking on kids.

One of his last thoughts was wishing he had more time with his grandkids.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Oct. 28 at Eureka Church of God, 1295 2nd Ave. East.

A huge thank you to all of the first floor staff at KRMC.

The Peterson family is very blessed with all of the outpouring of love and generosity through this difficult time.

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

24 Oct 2017

Robert H. Pettee, 82

Robert H. Pettee, 82, passed away Feb. 19, 2017.

His friends called him Bob or Bondo. He was born June 22, 1934, and grew up in Hopkinton, Massachusetts, where he joined the Air Force at 17 and served in England during the Korean War.

Following the war he was stationed at March Air Force Base near Riverside, California, where he met Ruby, his wife and the love of his life, at the roller skating rink. He went on to work at Lockheed, American Airlines and GE Flight Testing as a flight mechanic — he had a lifelong interest in aviation and space flight.

He moved his family to Montana in 1974 and back to California in 1978 to seek treatment for Ruby's breast cancer until she passed away in December 1980. He returned to Montana in 1981, and over the years worked at Buffalo Hill Golf and Eagle Bend, where he was known as a skilled mechanic and fabricator. He loved Montana and built a family of friends



there. Dave, Denny and Ann, Don and Maureen, and the gang at Charlie's meant the world to him. They

heard his stories about travels, machines and, of course, Ruby.

He is survived by his daughter Vickie, granddaughter Kate, and his great-grandson Alden. Please share memories and photos at <https://tinyurl.com/rememberingbob>.

Mike Phillips

Mike "The Pirate" Phillips passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, Nov. 27, 2017. He was born in Miami in 1955 and raced through his younger years playing "all sports."

He moved to Las Vegas with his brother and sister-in-law, Michelle Simpson, in the '60s and put himself through New Mexico's Albuquerque High School while singing in a rock band and working at the Pancake House.

Mike picked up bartending from a mentor down in New Orleans and then developed his art at the Playboy Club in Dallas, Texas. He married Debra in Texas and had one son, Cory, in 1976.

Mike had a deep affinity for the wilderness and took an opportunity to live and work in Stanley, Idaho, where he learned whitewater rafting. He met and married Lynn in California and had another son, Sean, in 1983.

Mike lost his right leg in 1985 when he was struck by an inattentive driver while waiting for help on the side of the highway. He managed a string of successful pubs and restaurants in California, but then it was off to the wilderness of Grand Canyon, Arizona.

Mike met Joan there in 1993, regrouped with Cory and Sean, then moved the family base back up to Idaho. He had his third son, Cody, in 1997.

While living in Idaho, Mike's projects included T.W. Fischers in Coeur d'Alene, Iron Horse in Post Falls, Sonic Burritos in Spokane and Havanas Cigar Bar across from Spokane Valley Arena. Onward to Montana, Mike had a hand in a variety of projects in the Flathead Valley includ-



ing Big Mountain Summit House, North Bay Grille, The Docks in Lakeside, Muley's on

Blacktail Mountain and Brannigan's Pub. Most recently, he was semi-retired and working down in Woods Bay at The Sitting Duck with Tammy and Travis, surrounded by friends in the type of small community he loved so much.

Mike leaves his three beloved sons: Cory Phillips of Lawrence, Kansas; Sean Phillips with Trisha and grandsons Sean and Seth of Temecula, California; Cody Phillips of Columbia Falls. Brothers Tom (Boston), Pete (Coeur d'Alene), Ted (North Carolina), and David (New Hampshire). Sister Christy with Dan Brandon and kids, Bethany and Josh up in Starr, Alberta, Canada.

Loved ones: Michelle Simpson, nephew Don Simpson with wife Jessica and the kids in New Mexico. Sweetheart Theresa Cornett in Woods Bay and a pirate ship load of friends.

There will be a Celebration of Life at 3 p.m. on Dec. 16 at The Sitting Duck in Woods Bay. The family would love to put together a book of stories, poems and pictures using 8.5-inch-by-11-inch sheets. Please bring, send or make one up onsite. Friends are encouraged to visit our website at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

28 Oct 2017

Richard Harlan Pierce, 86

It is with heavy hearts we say that our dad Richard Harlan Pierce passed away peacefully on Oct. 23, 2017, at the age of 86, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

Dad was born in Truman Minnesota to Ruby and Edward Pierce.

Richard is lovingly survived by his children, Diana Sandalack (Bill), Susan Gendreau (Larry), and Rick.

Dad enjoyed spending time with his five grandchildren, Christopher, Lacey, Kimberly, Michael



and Madison; and with his 10 great-grand-kids, Kassandra, Farley, Ryley,

Jackson, Addison, Mayson, Ellison, Marly, Scout and Myles.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Katherine and Grandsons Zackary and Tyler Pierce. Dad enjoyed golfing, fishing, hunting and meeting his many friends for

“breakfast.” This time of year you would find him hunting or enjoying the outdoors.

Many people have enjoyed the fish he caught or a “cottage cheese” container of raspberries or tomatoes from his garden.

Dad was an electrician and a proud member of the IBEW.

A celebration of life will be held from 2 to 4:30 p.m on Saturday, Nov 25, at the Meadow Lake Golf Course Grille in Columbia Falls.

4 Nov 2017

Vance Vernon Plympton, 63

Vance Vernon Plympton, 63, died Nov. 2, 2017, at home in Missoula. His body just wore out.

Viewing and visitation will be from 10 a.m. to noon on Nov. 8 at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell, and the funeral service and reception will follow at 1 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church in Evergreen.

Cremation will take place and burial will be done at a later date at the Holy Family Mission on the Blackfeet Reservation.

Vance was born in



Kalispell on June 17, 1954, at the old Kalispell Hospital. He

attended Evergreen grade school, Flathead High School and Flathead Valley Community College.

Vance worked 15 years at Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant, then for the juvenile detention centers in Kalispell, Missoula and Hamilton.

From there he worked at The Hub, which was a drop-in center for the mentally handicapped and the homeless in Billings.

Vance loved people and socializing. People loved him and his sense of humor and his antics. His reputation for fun preceded him. He also enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing and family campouts.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Helga Pollock-Plympton, daughter Laressa Brushia; three grand-

sons, Anthony Brushia, Ethan Brushia and Ian Plympton-Brown. He is also survived by brothers, Warren (Marlene), Weldon (Kay), Steve (Gay) and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his beloved son Matthew Plympton, his sister Janey, and his father and mother Jacqueline and Warren Plympton.

The family requests any memorials be sent to the American Heart Association.

Stanton D. Poier 87

Stanton Poier, 87, died peacefully on Nov. 20, 2017.

Stan was born in Rudyard to Andrew and Henrietta Poier on April 25, 1930. He joined brother Leonard, and sisters Marian and Babe. At the age of 8 years Stan and his family moved from Rudyard to Kalispell where he grew up and made his life. As a boy Stan embraced all the Flathead Valley had to offer. He ice skated at Woodland Park, he split wood for his neighbors, and he played sports for the Kalispell schools. His parents bought a cabin on Angel Point on Flathead Lake. He loved to fish the lake; he caught many nice bull trout, cutthroat and salmon. Friends introduced Stan to another great passion, hunting, which continued throughout his life.

The Poier family was very musical and Stan learned to play the coronet. He could listen to a song and play by ear. As a teenager he played for dances along the Hi-Line with sister Babe and her husband Joe. In those teen years Stan worked summers east of the mountains on various ranches and farms. Stan graduated Flathead County High in 1948, ending his formal education.



He played varsity football for the Braves and also played in the band.

On Sept. 6, 1952, Stan married the love of his life, Ellen Gwen

Rognlie, in a little Lutheran church in Somers. They were married 57 years and raised three sons, Stanton L. Poier, Don Poier and Howard W. Poier. As an adult Stan worked for several employers, including Kalispell Lumber, cut meat for Safeway Foods, worked to build Hungry Horse Dam and finally worked for the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company for 36 years, retiring at the age of 62. Stan was a member of the fraternal organization Masonic Lodge No. 42 and the Eagles in Kalispell. Stan served in the National Guard and was honorably discharged.

Family always was first with Stan and Ellen. There were countless get together for birthdays, holidays or just Sunday afternoons that included grandparents, cousins and friends, lots of good food and laughter.

Summers were filled with weekend camping trips to area lakes or rivers, with evening stories around the campfire about the big buck or bass that got away. Stan loved to hunt; he had many adventures and shot many nice game animals which the family enjoyed eating. In the '80s Stan and Ellen bought a lot on Ashley Lake and built a small cabin there. The lake was his favorite spot. He loved to fish there and made many close friends with neighbors in that area. Stan and Ellen had many close friends and there were many pinochle parties or dancing at the Eagles.

Stan was always steady in life's ups and downs. He never ran from his responsibilities to his family or his friends. In life he lost two sons before he died and watched his wife disappear from Alzheimer's. Through it all and to his last days he was quick to smile or laugh, and made

friends with everyone he came in contact with. He will be missed by his family and friends.

"We know in heaven there is a small fishing boat with Stan in it with that old fishing hat on and Ellen is there sitting in the front and life is good."

Stan is survived by son, Don and Deb Poier of Kalispell; grandchildren Sami Poier of Kalispell, and Casey Poier and Megan Stokes of Seattle; and many nieces and nephews.

There will be a visitation for Stan from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, with services to be held at 1 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Church of the Nazarene, 1295 Whitefish Stage Kalispell.

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

28 Nov 2017

28 Dec 2017

Carol (McBroom) Lininger Poil, 87

Carol McBroom was born Nov. 1, 1930, in Kalispell to Clifford and Idella (Howell) McBroom.

She died Dec. 15, 2017, in Newton, Kansas.

She married Wilton Lininger Dec. 26, 1947, and they lived in Proctor where Wilton was born and raised. They had three daughters, Cathy, Norma and Betty. Wilton was a sawyer and in 1956 he was injured in an accident in the woods. His injury developed into cancer and he died Jan. 9, 1958.

Carol moved to Kalispell and spent her summers ponying horses at the county fairs. Later, she moved to California and worked at the racetracks year round for many years.

In 1989 she married Bob Poil and they

and the county fairs. Bob passed away in 1998.

Carol was also preceded in death by her daughter, Norma Lininger Carter (2000); son-in-law, Len Carter (2015); grandson, Joseph Nakamura (2016); and brother, Clayton "Buzz" McBroom (2014).

She is survived by her daughters, Cathy and Betty Lininger; grandson, Kazumi Nakamura; granddaughter, Kyoko Nakamura; grandson, Ben (Melanie) Steele; two great-grandsons, Oliver and Andrew Steele; sisters, Myrna Teskey, Floy (Roger) Baker, and Sandra White; two half brothers, a half sister, and numerous extended family.

Graveside services will be scheduled in the

2 Dec 2017
Roger Polensky, 66

Roger Polensky, 66, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017 at his home with his loving wife Luann at his side. His passing was caused by a lengthy illness with complications.

Roger was born July 1, 1951 in Dickinson, N.D. His parents were Andrew and Hattie Polensky. They moved to the Flathead Valley when Roger was a young boy, eventually making their home in Kalispell. Here Roger attended grade schools and Flathead High. Most of his adult life was spent working for Plum Creek Timber in Evergreen. He retired in 2014 after 40 years. Roger enjoyed watching old Westerns, Nascar racing and old cars.



Roger is survived by his wife Luann, sister Joanne, children Shellie, Renae, and Jason,

stepchildren Christopher, Curtis, and Carla and his best friend and companion Coco. Grandchildren Justin, Kasmir, Amia, Hannah, Simon, Ava, Layla, Kayden, Jaymie Lou, Jamin, Josh, Jasmine, Olivia, Tritica, Trevon, Tanner, and Trey. Great Grandchildren Karson & Lali.

As per Roger's request there will be no service.

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

21 Jan 2017

Leota 'Dutch' Porteus, 81

Leota "Dutch" Porteus, 81, passed away peacefully with family at her side on Jan. 14, 2017, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She was born on April 7, 1935, in Sweet Grass, Montana, to Hazel and Ted Hudson.

She graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1953.

In October of 1953 she married Charlie Simpson, and in the spring of 1954 their daughter Deb Simpson was born. Charlie and Dutch were married for 35 years before his passing in January of 1988. Dutch later went on to marry Jim Porteus of Columbia Falls.

She spent most of her working years in the dental industry. She went on to retire from that field. She and Jim also owned and ran Porteus Auction and BBQ Co. for 18 years.

In her early years, she would often greet her father at the door after he had his day of work. Most often she greeted him with a dirty face from playing outside. Her father started to call her the "dirty Dutchman," thus the nickname "Dutch" came about and stayed with her all of her days.

Dutch had such a "spunk" about her; many would say she was quite the "pistol" or such a "spitfire." She had an enormous love of life, her friends, her family and anyone who she came in contact with. She enjoyed watching NASCAR,



hotrods and anything that went fast! She was an amazing cook, and always loved pre-

paring meals and baking goods. There was never a time that she didn't leave you with a good joke, a hearty laugh or a full stomach. She was a master crafter, and often spent her time sewing clothes for her grandchildren, making decorations and thoughtful gifts for family and friends. She had a love for painting, and if she had it her way, she would have painted a room a different color every year.

Dutch touched the lives of many; she never met a stranger, and she will certainly be missed. She always said, "You better cremate me in a pair of shorts and flip-flops, 'cause it's gonna be hot where I'm going."

Dutch was preceded in death by her parents, Ted and Hazel Hudson, brother Larry Hudson, and Charlie Simpson.

She is survived by her sister, Loretta Fauske; daughter, Deb Simpson; grandsons, Christopher and TJ Motichka; great-granddaughters, Paige and Aubrey Motichka; and several family and friends.

A celebration of life will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 13, in Kalispell.

16 May 2017

Margaret C. Pontius, 103

Margaret C. Pontius, 103, of Bigfork, passed away May 14, 2017, in Bigfork.

Maggie was born April 5, 1914, in Pasadena, California, to Sherman Cole and Edith Cole.

Maggie had a great influence on those around her, helping to start the Bigfork library and the Bigfork Senior Center. She was also a member of the Ferndale Sewing Circle.

Maggie is survived by daughter, Luella Dixon (Jerome), of Bigfork; grandchildren, Don Dixon (Barbara) of Maryland, Joanne Dixon of Bigfork, Sharon (Chris) Halasz of California and Christina Wiltfong of Bigfork; great-grandchildren, Diane Dixon of Germany, Mandi Johnson of Bigfork, Karest Nash of Florida, Kayla (Ladd) McMahon of Dayton, Cody Nash of



Minnesota, Johnathan Michaelson of Bigfork and Joshua Wiltfong of Bigfork; and great-grandchildren, Troy Dixon, Remi McMahon, Lincoln McMahon, Titan

McMahon and Halle McMahon.

There will be a service held for Maggie at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at the Swan Chapel in Swan Lake. Chuck Cushman and Ron Peirce will officiate.

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

22 Jan 2017

29 Jul 2017

Esther M. (Frolander) Janke Portrey, 87

Esther was born on July 15, 1929, to Carl and Ruth Frolander in Somers.

She passed away on June 24, 2017, in Spokane Valley, Washington. Esther attended Ronan High School, and was married to Arnold Janke in 1947 until his death in 1969.

She married Robert Portrey in 1992. She lived most of her life in Montana and Washington. After raising eight children, she worked for JCPenney. She enjoyed playing pinochle, doing jigsaw puzzles and scrap-booking.

She was a member of the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church.

Esther is survived by her husband, Robert Portrey, 92, of Spokane Valley; children, Jim (Nancy) Janke of Deer Park, Washington, Louise (Dave) McWhirk of Newman Lake, Washington, Dan (Terry) Janke of Kalispell, David (Patti) Janke of Spokane Valley, Linda (Mike) Graham of Spokane, Joey Janke of Wisconsin, and Teresa (Bill) Zamora of Newport, Washington;



Washington; 19 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Arnold Janke, 48, (who sold Fuller Brush to many in Libby); her

stepson, Greg Portrey, of Usk, Washington; her sister, Betty Johnsen, of Ravendale,

daughter Nancy Janke, 2; her parents; and her brother Dean Frolander.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 5, at the Ronan Cemetery, 46727 North Foothills Drive. A reception will follow at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 35681 Terrace Lake Road East, Ronan.

Contributions can be made to Horizon Hospice for their care and dedication at 123 W. Cascade Way, Spokane, WA 99208.

Michael Wayne Potter, 53

Michael Wayne Potter, 53, of Shelby, passed away unexpectedly July 29, 2017.

He was born Nov. 23, 1963, to Allen and Marlene Potter in Coram.

Michael "Mike" enjoyed hunting, fishing and camping but, most of all, spending time with his wife Nancy Potter and his family.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Potter; children, Brad and Quincy Ottwell, Ashlie Potter, Kyle Potter and Amanda Dilling; parents, Allen and Marlene Potter; brother



and sister-in-law, Ken and Kathy Birnel; brother, Bob Potter; sister, Rhonda Tripp; and

second brother, Donny Lietz.

He was preceded in death by his father-in-law Bud Ottwell.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 6, at New Life Church Shelby. It will be potluck. All are welcome.

Joseph LeRoy 'Buzz' Pourroy, 56

Joseph LeRoy "Buzz" Pourroy, 56, passed away May 6, 2017, in Little Rock, Arkansas, due to complications from COPD.

He was born March 29, 1961, in Conrad and raised in Somers and Kalispell. He attended schools in Somers and Kalispell.

Buzz was married to Jeanne Leona King for about 21 years. He was disabled and self-employed.

He was preceded in death by his wife Jeanne, son Dustin, and his parents, David Pourroy and Mary Pourroy.



Buzz is survived by his mother-in-law, Darleen King, of Arkansas, goddaughter, Sierra

Taylor Dean, of Columbia Falls; brothers, Bernie and Janet, Mike, and Pete and Nanette; and sisters, Donna and Jay, Jeanne, Beverly and Don, Patti and Randy, Shirley, and Alma.

Cremation will take place and private services will be held.

1 Aug 2017

Dennis Dean Powell, 66

Dennis Dean Powell, 66, of Martin City, passed away March 14, 2017, at North Valley Hospital. Dennis was surrounded with the love of his family and friends.

Dennis was born July 17, 1950, in Kalispell to Merle and Bertha Powell. He was raised in Bigfork and was always hard working and enjoyed working with his hands.

After school he joined the Army and served in Vietnam. He was severely injured in battle and retired from the Army a disabled veteran.

Dennis is survived by his wife of 44 years Jenifer Powell, his children Shelly (Marcus) Green, Tony (Tora) Powell, Shelly Goodwin, grandchildren Courtney, Jenisha, Renee, Krystyn, A.J., and Shane, his sister Gail (Joe) Banks, brother Melvin (Cece) Powell, numerous in-laws, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Dennis was preceded in death by his son Corey Dean Powell, his grandson Dean Earl Powell and his parents Merle and Bertha.

Dennis was often found



participating in his favorite activities. He loved to go Jeeping, mud bogging, hunting and fishing. For most of his life he worked

as a mechanic, never afraid to take on the most challenging projects. His real passion was being a dad and grandfather. Spending time with his kids and grandkids was so important to Dennis and he never missed an opportunity to tease them about something.

A memorial and celebration of his life is planned for July 15, 2017. Details regarding time and place are still being worked on, but will be shared later.

Friends are encouraged to visit our website at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

19 Mar 2017

Beverly Jean Price, 70

21 Jul 2017

Our beloved mother, Beverly Jean Price, 70, of Columbia Falls, passed "into the loving arms of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" on July 2, 2017, at home surrounded by her loving family and companion Johnny Leubner. Bev fought a long and courageous battle of cancer and many other illnesses.



could no longer speak and preferred a whiteboard and markers to commu-

nicate. Dr. Tubbs wouldn't allow her to use her whiteboard and made her use her electronic larynx during her appointments, which she despised. Her daughter Tonya bought her a smartphone and she learned to text. She struggled at this point from day to day but courageously continued to live. In May of 2017 she once again received the devastating news her throat cancer had returned for the third time in only seven years. This time the cancer was inoperable as it laid on her carotid artery. Bev was given six to 12 months to live and chose not to undergo aggressive chemotherapy, but to live her life to the fullest and enjoy the time she had remaining and to spend it with her family, friends and loved ones. Unfortunately Bev's life came to an end sooner than we had wished. Bev was a fighter and fought 'til her very last breath.

Beverly was preceded in death by her father Ralph Lloyd Price, her mother Laura Adelaid Cookingham-Price, her brothers Ralph Leroy Price Jr. and Paul Keith Price, and her sisters Lenora Faye Mansley and Eleanor June Staats.

Beverly is sur-

born on April 14, 1947, in Saint Ignatius to Ralph Lloyd Price and Laura Adelaid Cookingham-Price. Bev was the youngest of five children and had many challenges throughout her life. Bev lost her mother at the age of 14, but continued to move forward despite the loss of her mother. Bev's family traveled a lot as her father had five children to support after the loss of his wife. Shortly thereafter, her father had a mental breakdown and was committed to Warm Springs where he lived until his passing in 1980. Soon after her father was committed, Beverly and her siblings lived with many different family members until they were old enough to work and provide for themselves.

In February 1969 she gave birth to a baby girl, whom she named after her mother, Laura. Six months later Bev met Leonard Ray Bowers and his three children Sheila, Kerry and Stephen. Beverly and Leonard were married Jan. 10, 1970, and became one family. Together they had two daughters Tonya and Tracy. Beverly and Leonard's marriage unfortunately ended in the early '80s.

Several years later she met her companion Johnny Leubner with whom she spent the past 28 years. Johnny loved Bev with all of his heart; he was there for her through the good times and the bad. Beverly's life was extremely challenging, despite all her health issues Johnny stuck by her side until her passing. Bev's family is forever grateful for all the help and support Johnny has given throughout the years and especially this last 15 months.

Beverly's passions include, first and foremost, bingo, which she even attended only days before her passing. Her other passions included crocheting, gardening, canning, hunting, fishing, camping, huckleberry picking, and the love for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

In 2009/2010 Beverly received her first diagnosis of throat cancer. Beverly underwent surgery and 30 rounds of radiation and went into remission and became cancer free. Unfortunately in April of 2016 she received her second diagnosis of throat cancer; this time it was in her voice box. Bev underwent surgery for the second time to remove the cancer, which also included removing her voice box. This made Bev's life even more challenging as she

vived by her children, Laura Jean Price of Columbia Falls, Tonya Kay Petero (Benjamin) of Kingman, Arizona, Tracy Lynn Ellsworth (Tom) of Libby, Sheila Rae Mills (Mike) of Troy, Kerry Lynn Bowers (Grace Charee) of Libby, and Stephen Henry Bowers (Lori) of Libby; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends.

As requested by Beverly, there will be no services or viewing. Beverly requested cremation by the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Her family will have a celebration of life on her birthday April 14th of 2018. This is for all family, friends and those who knew and loved her. The location and time of celebration of life will be announced in the local newspaper in March of 2018. Family and close friends will be notified with plenty of time for travel preparations.

7 Jan 2017 James Cherington Price, 28

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

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

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

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

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



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

The love of his life

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 Jan 2017

Calvin Ray Profitt, 74

Calvin Ray Profitt, 74, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2017, at Cabinet Peaks Medical Center in Libby of natural causes. He was born on Jan. 24, 1943, in Orofino, Idaho, to John and Grace Profitt. He was the second child of 11 brothers and sisters, so there was lots of activity in his family. He started school in Orofino and then attended different schools as his father had to move the family for work. The last school he attended was Flathead County High School, which he left after his sophomore year to enlist in the National Guard. He completed his service and was honorably discharged. He attended Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton, Oregon, for two semesters. Calvin decided school was not for him and went back to logging and driving truck.

Calvin retired from the Teamsters Union in Anchorage, Alaska, in 2008 and moved back to Libby to enjoy fishing, hunting and visiting



brother Larry Profitt, sister Judy Johnson, sons Lane and Shannon

Profitt, and a stepdaughter Shelly Tweet.

Survivors include his wife, Deanna Profitt; daughter, Shawna Robertson; son, Raymond Profitt (Kelly); and stepchildren (although they were considered his children), Bernie Clark (Tina), Sally Sutherland, and Rick Sutherland (Raeann); siblings, Dave Profitt (Claudette), Debbie McCray (Jim), Loren Profitt, Glenda Profitt, Ramona Cain (Pat), Cindy Brown, Cecil Profitt and Tammy Burnside; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

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

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

David 'Dave' Andrew Pudelka, 66

David "Dave" Andrew Pudelka, 66, passed away March 23, 2017, at home.

Dave was born in Coaldale, Pennsylvania, to Paul and Irene (Matta) Pudelka. He graduated from Methacton High School in 1968.

Dave married Heather Mullin in 1974.

A veteran, he served as a specialist five in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. He participated in the Easter Offensive and was honorably discharged after three years of service to the nation.

Dave worked as a sawyer in the Flathead Valley from 1973 to 1989 when he changed his career path to work for U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He began his career at the Port of Sweetgrass and retired in 2010 as the port director of the Port of Roosville.

He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He enjoyed spending time with his children, grandson, and loved to tell jokes to anyone who would listen.

Dave was preceded in death by his father, Paul; parents-in-law Bradley and Amy (Falle) Mullin; sisters-in-law, Norah Mullin Roberts and Carolyn Fleming Mullin; and brothers-in-law, Clinton Mullin, Timmy Roberts and Melvin Coffin.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 42 years, Heather; his children,



David "Brad" Pudelka and grandson Nathaniel, Anna Pudelka, and Joe (Cassandra) Pudelka; his mother, Irene



Pudelka; siblings, Jim Pudelka, Diane (Mark) Creasy, and Paul (Debra) Pudelka; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and family friends; the Moser and Darche families, especially his fishing buddy Simon Darche.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his memory to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation or the American Lung Association

A rosary/vigil for Dave will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on March 29 at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, with the rosary beginning at 6 p.m.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on March 30 at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls with interment at St. Richard's Catholic Cemetery.

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.

1 Jan 2017

Leone Pugh, 94

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

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

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

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

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

Leone Pugh and her husband were established Kalispell citizens and best known for their roles at the B & B Shopping Center which was an



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

interested with the lives of each and every customer.

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

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

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

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

early community anchor. Her husband served as manager and Leone was the hostess of the restaurant that was the informal focal point of community relations. They worked as partners to make sure the business was not just a place to shop but as a center for the community

dear angel ...

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

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

26 Nov 2017

Lorraine Blackmer Purdy, 93

Lorraine Blackmer Purdy, 93, of Columbia Falls, passed away Nov. 20, 2017, at the Retreat at Buffalo Hill, with her family by her side.

She was born Nov. 25, 1923, in St. Louis and moved to Montana at the age of 3.

Lorraine is survived by her granddaughters, Julie Foster and husband Dave, Vickie Mode and husband Jim, Loree Duschesne and husband Tony, and Darla Marshall; daughter-in-law Lorraine Walden; niece, Judy Whitworth; numer-

ous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husbands Boyd Blackmer and Clarence Purdy; sons Robert Walden and Lance Walden Sr., and grandson Lance Walden Jr.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial will be held in the spring.

Memorials can be made in Lorraine's name to The Retreat at Buffalo Hill, 406-752-9243.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Lorraine's family.

22 Jun 2017

Thomas J. Pyles, 81

Thomas J. Pyles, 81, passed away June 19, 2017, in Kalispell.

Tom was born in West Virginia July 15, 1935, and at age 13 moved to Montana. He loved hunting, fishing and singing.

He met and married Bernadine Snyder and they had six children. After the passing of Bernadine, he fell in love and married Sandi Gikiere in 2008. He lived in Martin City for the greater part of his life where he was greatly known and loved. Tom was a loving father for not only his own children but was considered a father figure to many, many others.

Tom was preceded in death by his late wife Bernadine, son Brian

Pyles and nine siblings.

He is survived by his wife, Sandi; sons, Tom Pyles Jr. (Beth), and Russ Pyles (Lisa); daughters, Linda Trumble (Gary), Susan Jones (Monte), and Audrey Snyder; stepchildren, Anthony Lufkin (Staci), Jennifer Gikiere, and Ryan Gikiere (Summer); 10 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren; sister Norma Engbretson (Maurice); numerous nieces and nephews and adopted extended family.

A celebration of life will be held at 4 p.m. on Saturday June 24, at the South Fork Saloon in Martin City.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Joyce E. Pyles, 84, of Kalispell, passed away Sept. 19 2017, after contracting pneumonia. Joyce was born on Aug. 21, 1933, in Noonan, North Dakota, to Harold and Beatrice (Sackett) McNeil. The family even-

tually moved to Kalispell. After graduating Flathead County High School, she attended college for a short time in California, then returned to the Flathead Valley. Here she met and married Bill Henderson and

they had a child, Larry Henderson. Later, after Bill's death in a rodeo accident, she met and married Bruce Pyles. The two of them had four children, Laurie, Rusty, Carole and Marie. The family moved to Union,

Oregon, in the summer of 1972. Joyce was preceded in death by her husband Bruce, and sons Larry and Rusty. In 2004 she returned to Montana, where she lived until her death.

Joyce is survived by her siblings, Keith McNeil, Carol Williams and Donna McNeil; daughters, Laurie, Carole and Marie; grandchildren, Mandy, Almee, Russell, Andrea, Brian and Steven; and great-grand-

children, Colter, Brie, Hannah, Paige, Anika, Lexi and Lily. A gathering of friends and family will be held at 1 p.m. on Oct. 14 in the gym at Central Bible Church, located at 902 1st Ave. E., Kalispell.

Joyce E. Pyles, 84