

Patrick C. Smith Sr., 69

Patrick C. Smith Sr., at 69 years old, "took his journey to heaven" on July 22, 2018.

"Upon his arrival in heaven he will be greeted by his parents, William C. Smith and Roberta "Bobby" Martin, his son Theodore Smith, and daughter Yolanda M. Smith, and he and his last wife Sue can continue their travels."

Known as "Smitty" by his friends, he was born in Long Beach, California, Dec. 18, 1948, and raised on Naval bases until he joined the Navy at the age of 18.

He was a gunner's mate



when he met and married his wife Audrey in Chicago, and after his time in the service moved to his family farm in Kalispell in the summer of 1975.

Shortly after arriving in the Flathead Valley he began to work at the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant until he retired after 25 years.

He enjoyed motorcycles and cars, he loved ships, travel, music and support of the NRA.

Patrick leaves behind many memories for his children, Audrey L. Smith (TeeTock), Patrick C. Smith Jr. and Angela Smith-Ibarra to pass on to four granddaughters and

three grandsons.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 30, at Glacier Memorial Gardens Kalispell.

Arrangements are under the care of Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory.

William 'Bill' F. Smith, 61

After a courageous battle with brain cancer, William "Bill" F. Smith was peacefully called home, surrounded by his friends and family, on Dec. 28, 2017. His spirits remained high, and a smile could always be found on his face, even during his hardest days. Through it all, he never gave up his sense of humor or his love of life. He was truly inspirational.

Bill was born on June 18, 1956, in Bozeman. His family later relocated to Ferndale, where he was raised. He graduated from Bigfork High School, Class of 1974. A few short years later, he went to work for Plum Creek in Columbia Falls. It was there that he made his lifelong and loyal friends. Those relationships were unshakable, and are a testimony to his character over his 37-year career. As Bill's health faltered, they were there with him, taking him fishing, sharing stories and laughter, and shedding tears of friendship.

In 1978, Bill married Debbie Thorson. They became involved in horseracing, which led them on many adventures throughout Montana, Washington and even Canada. Bill



and Debbie welcomed their daughter in April of 1983, Jennifer, who is the love of Bill's life. As a family they continued their adventures with horses. They made many friends who became "track" family. "Mr. Bill," as they affectionately called him, was highly respected by all. Everyone enjoyed his smile, his willingness to lend a helping hand and, yes, his great handicapping advice.

Most think Bill was born with a fishing rod in hand. He began on the Swan River near his childhood home. It wasn't long before he started fly fishing. Bill had a true knack for tying his own flies. His creations caught an abundance of rainbow trout. It didn't matter the season, he loved fishing year-round. On the lakes catching pike in spring and summer, snagging salmon out of Graves Creek in the fall, or ice fishing for perch on Smith or Van Lake in the winter, he genuinely loved it all.

Fishing may have been his passion, but he also loved hunting. Once hunting season began,

he and his daughter Jen would spend their weekends down in the Swan. Occasionally their hunting trips would lead them to Lincoln or the Bozeman area. Spending that time together was treasured. On days they weren't having any luck, they'd focus on hunting for the perfect Christmas tree instead. Another tradition they enjoyed. If it didn't take up half the house, it wasn't a true "Smith" tree.

Bill was known for his generosity. He donated to both national and local charities. You could always see him bidding on items at benefits, challenging others not to look at how little they could pay for something, but rather how much could they give to help.

When Bill became a follower of Jesus Christ, he wanted to share his excitement with having accepted the Lord in his life. He built great friendships through his Bible study and in his church. They shared with him the gateway that would provide him strength through prayer and belief.

This man's journey embodies the full and rich life he lived. We will remember a special soul who made this world a better place simply by

passing through, and by giving so many cherished memories to those he touched.

He is survived by, and will be dearly missed by, his daughter, Jennifer Smith; mother, Lorri Schraeder-Miller (Bill); sisters, Judy Andriolo (Mike) and Vickie Bauska (Ken); brothers, Roger Smith (Debbie), Dan Schraeder (Sue) and Doug Schraeder-Waltz (Lynda); and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and close friends.

He was preceded in death by his stepfather, Bud Schraeder; and sister, AJ Slocum.

A celebration of life will be held in May. A notice will be printed at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to your charity of choice in his honor.

Charles K. Snyder, 78

Charles Kenneth Snyder, age 78, peacefully passed away on Tuesday morning, March 20, 2018. He was at home, surrounded by his loving family, when his hard work on this earth was completed. When he was born on March 30, 1939 in Hill City, South Dakota his family called him "Kenny." When he became an adult, he called himself "Chuck."

As a young child, "Kenny" was free to roam the area around Harney Peak in the Black Hills of South Dakota. He grew up with his sister, Dolores, on a ranch near Hill City. He would spend his days exploring on his horse and fishing in Horsethief Lake. He was known to bring many critters home to show his family. On one occasion he caught a baby mountain goat, brought it home, painted its horns red then let it go. He continued to be intrigued by wild animals for the rest of his life.

The day before Chuck passed away our yard was suddenly filled with wild animals. In the morning there were five whitetail deer bedded down close to our house. We noticed a coyote on the game trail. A flock of nearly 30 wild turkeys were in the backyard. An ermine was running on top of the snow in the front yard. The back porch had several squirrels and birds that accumulated all at once. Chuck had been a member of the Flathead Wildlife Club for many years. Our family and friends that were present understood this gathering as an honor to Chuck.



Chuck's abilities to design and draw were amazing. He would draw certain features in 3-D to assure the end results were understood. Today, Carolyn treasures all of these hand drawings by Chuck.

The call of the Montana mountains brought Chuck back home to Kalispell and the Flathead National Forest in 1980. His two youngest sons were born, and their dream house was built in 1986. All of Chuck's wonderful skills were then put to good use. He designed and put in the yard an underground sprinkling system. He designed and built his "shop" with the help of his two young sons, Justin and Dylan. Today Chuck's trophy deer & elk racks adorn the walls of his shop. His loving presence is felt in that shop by all who enter its doors.

Chuck's love of the outdoors has been passed down to all of his four children. As a young child Justin wrote how his dad taught him to be an ethical hunter which, in turn, has helped him to make good decisions in his life. Dylan's love of plants and animals originated with his dad. Downhill skiing and fishing are what Dylan will be passing down to his own three children.

On September 14, 1994 Chuck retired from the

begin designing their dream house when they were first married and living in Prescott.

physical activities were limited but not his positive personality. He never complained and instead showed perseverance in the face of adversity. Their little Shih Tzu, Tokyo, has been Chuck's loyal companion and protector throughout his illness. Chuck continued to live at home with his wife, Carolyn, as his caregiver. She was able to grant his wishes; "Talk to me, smile at me, hold my hand, love me and live your life; knowing that you are in my heart always."

Chuck and Carolyn celebrated 41 years of marriage on March 4, 2018. Our love has created a family that they are proud of. Chuck is known as "Papa" to all the grandchildren. Carolyn wishes are that many of Papa's wonderful traits be passed on to each of the seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Chuck is survived by his loving wife Carolyn Neilan Snyder and children; Lesly Lage (Jeff) of Reno, Nevada; Brad Snyder of Reno, Nevada; Justin Snyder (Kelsey) of Pinedale, Wyoming; Dylan Snyder (Danielle) of Kalispell. Chuck is also survived by his seven grandchildren: Nicholas Hasler, Alexa Snyder,

Caeden Hanson, Jasper Snyder, Mira Snyder, Oliver Smith and Honey Snyder, and three great grandchildren; Carson Hasler, Van Hasler, Ava Hasler.

Chuck was proceeded in death by his parents, Charles F. and Grace Snyder, and his sisters, Hildred DeWitt and Laverne Pease. His only surviving sibling, Dolores Rolland, resides in Rapid City, South Dakota.

The Snyder family sincerely appreciates the loving care provided by Home Options Home Health and Hospice. To Jess, Renee, Susan, Deb and especially Penny; "Thank You for your loving care and support."

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, March 30, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. with a reception to follow at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, 1890 Hwy 93 North, Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations be made to the Samaritan House, 124 9th Avenue West, Kalispell, or to your favorite charity. 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.

continued next page

Chuck was an avid hunter and fisherman. His father Charly taught him well. Hunting season was an important part of his life. His strong desire to hunt and fish was the top consideration when he made a decision as to what part of country to live and raise a family.

Chuck received his civil engineering degree from South Dakota State in Brookings. His love for the mountains brought him to the Flathead National Forest in Kalispell in 1965. He moved to Missoula in 1969 where he worked on the Lolo National Forest until 1977. He met and married Carolyn Jeanne Neilan on March 4, 1977. The next day they moved to their first home together in Prescott, where he became the Forest Engineer on the Prescott National Forest.

Chuck and Carolyn

Flathead National Forest and his civil engineering career. His two youngest sons were only eight and ten years old at that time. Justin and Dylan spent all their summer days either water skiing, wake boarding, fishing, hiking, camping or trail bike riding. Their dad would take them places that were unbelievable. They rode their trail bikes as far as the trail could take them. They would then hike to the high alpine lakes to catch some amazing fish. Their beloved dog Oly would lead the way on many of these fishing trips. In the winter months, they enjoyed ice fishing and downhill skiing with their dad. These boys had a father that set a good example of how to be a kind, considerate and loving man.

For the past 12 years Chuck has lived his life with Parkinson's. His

Stephen Lee Sorensen, 72

On Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018, Stephen Lee Sorensen passed away unexpectedly of natural causes at the age of 72.

Steve was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, on Nov. 12, 1945. He moved throughout his life as his job as a nursing home administrator required until he settled in the Flathead Valley with his family in the spring of 1986.

Steve is survived by his two children, his son, Jeffrey Sorensen (Mindi), and his daughter, Lisa Johnson (Jacob); four grandchildren, Amelie, Meg, Arden and Zoren; and by his brothers, Gary and Fred Sorensen.

Steve was preceded in death by his mother, Elizabeth, and father, Oscar.

Steve served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War.



He was an active member in his church and loved his church family. One of his greatest passions was playing the piano, which he frequent-

ly performed at church events. His friends will fondly remember him for his sense of humor and his smile. Steve was a very loving father and grandfather who will be missed dearly by his family.

A celebration of his life will be held at 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 22, at the First Church of the Nazarene in Kalispell.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Steve and his family.

Sung S. Sorenson, 75

Sung S. Sorenson, 75, passed away peacefully Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018 at her home in Columbia Falls.

Sung was born in Korea on Sept. 17, 1943 to Sang Gab Lee and Suk Soon Lee.

Sung lived in Columbia Falls since 1967 and retired from School District 6 as a custodial engineer.

Sung loved her flowers and loved going on cruises for vacation.

She is survived by her beloved husband of 54 years, Raymond Sorenson; her two boys, Richard and Johnny; three grandchildren, Justin, Morgan and Addison; and her sister Jae Soon Jung and niece Sun Wha Lee in Suwon, Korea; plus many other cousins, nieces and nephews.

Sung and her fried rice will be missed at friend and family gatherings. She will be remembered for her gallon jars on the kitchen porch holding pickles, kimchi and other Korean delicacies but she will mostly be missed because of her kind and gentle nature.

The family asks that memorials be made to Shriner's Children Hospitals.

Services will be at



Columbia Mortuary at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 3.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

Gary Spannuth, 75

Gary Spannuth passed away April 21, 2018, at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula at the age of 75.

He was born June 3, 1942, in Hamilton. Gary attended school in Hamilton. He was a member of the 1959 state Basketball Championship team and has many medals for track.

Gary and his father Ed opened the Arctic Cat snowmobile shop. Later, the opportunity presented itself to work for the Arctic Cat distributor where he traveled in five states. Later, he and his family moved from Idaho back to Montana to begin a new adventure. They opened the Jesco Boat Center, in Kalispell, for many fun activities folks got to enjoy. Who doesn't love to go "boating" in the beautiful lakes and rivers in Montana?



His loyal partner and loving wife Jan, who had been by his side since 1964, decided to

retire after 28 fun-filled years and they moved to Hamilton, where they happily resided.

Gary was preceded in death by his mother Eileen, and son Taff.

He is survived by his loving wife, Jan; father, Ed; and brothers, Robert (Darolyn) Spannuth and Bob Kelly.

A casual reception will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, April 30, at the Daly-Leach Community Room in Hamilton.

Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at www.dalyleachchapel.com under the obituary section.

Donna Lavern "Sparkie" Sparks, 87

Donna Lavern "Sparkie" Sparks, 87, died Dec. 3, 2018, in her Brentwood, California, home with her daughters by her side.

Born March 6, 1931 in Hopkins, Minnesota, she was the third child of Jessie and Daisy Sparks.

Donna's father, Jesse, was a hardworking farmer and friend to all who crossed his path. Her dear mother Daisy was a resourceful, loving and gracious homemaker.

In addition to Montana, Donna lived in many states including Washington, Oregon and Alaska before finally settling down in Northern California. In 1969, she and her husband purchased

property in Brentwood, cleared the land and for the next five years, the family, kids included, worked day and night building their dream home.

Throughout her life Donna worked hard, be it as a mother, a state bridge toll collector, or fastidious piano student. One of her proudest moments came the day

she was able to purchase her very own baby grand. Is it any wonder that much of Donna's remarkable life can be compared with the Italian word for piano, "pianoforte," noting her beautiful hands-on ability to live very loudly and yet very softly as well?

Donna felt so very blessed to be the mother of her four children, Susette (Max), Louis (Lynn), Sally (Tom) and Troy (Leslie). In addition, she is survived by her brother Gary (Penny), 11

grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Donna was preceded in death by her sisters, Reba and Phyllis, her half sisters Helen and Mary Jo, and her beloved grandson, Jason.

A memorial service for Donna will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 8, at the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints, 1101 McClarren Road, Brentwood, CA 94513. A reception will follow.

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

Rocco James Spencer

Rocco James Spencer, his parents, Gabriel and Whitney Spencer; sister, Gabriel and Whitney Spencer; brother, Romy Spencer; brother, Renzo Spencer; maternal grandmother, Dorothy Glencross; and paternal grandparents, Robert and Vickie Spencer. Rocco is also survived by his uncles, cousins and many other relatives.

Although Rocco never spent any time with us here on earth, he was very loved and touched many lives. His sister and brother were so excited and he was so loved already.

He was preceded in death by his grandpa, Robert Glencross; and his great-grandmas and grandpas.

Rocco is survived by

Gabe and Whitney would like to thank our nurse Debbie at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, Dr. deHoop and Dr. Kathleen Nelson of Kalispell OB/GYN. To all the other medical staff, friends, family and coworkers, words cannot express how much thanks we give to you.

Kerry James Spooner, 60

Kerry James Spooner, 60, of Wasilla, Alaska, formerly of Kalispell, passed away after a short battle with cancer on the evening of April 26, 2018, at Providence Hospital in Anchorage.



fisherman and hunter. Wherever there was good fishing and hunting, Kerry went —

He is survived by his partner, Angie Edwards of Wasilla; his three sons and two daughter-in-laws, Ross Spooner of Ketchikan, Alaska, Cole and Lyndsey Spooner of Anchorage, and Kory Spooner and Samantha Graham of Kenai, Alaska; his two grandsons, Kade and Drayden Spooner and their mother Michelle Wilson of Soldotna, Alaska; and his two granddaughters, Kaylin and Hayden Spooner of Anchorage. He is also survived by his brothers, Mike Spooner of Kalispell and Lenny Spooner of Baker, Oregon, and his sister Kim Jung of Fallon, Nevada. He is also survived by ex-wives, Kerry Spooner and Cathy Taylor; and four stepsons, Tim, Peter, Chris and John.

Kerry was born on June 17, 1957, in Anaconda and lived in Kalispell where he graduated from Flathead High School in 1975. Kerry went on to become the epitome of an avid

Montana, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and finally Alaska. He had lived in Wasilla, Eagle River, Valdez, and Craig, Alaska. If Kerry wasn't hard at work on the oil fields, he was out on a boat in the middle of the Prince William Sound, or deep in the Denali tundra with a backpack and a rifle.

He taught everyone he met that the secrets to a great life are nature, laughter, and surrounding yourself with love. He lived more in his 60 years than some people do in 120. He will be fondly remembered and terribly missed.

Kerry's family will celebrate his life on what would have been his 61st birthday on Sunday, June 17.

In lieu of flowers, please make a memorial donation to either The American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org, or to Providence Hospital at Providence Alaska Foundation, P.O. Box 196604, Anchorage, AK 99519.

Joan Lucile Stack

Joan Lucile Stack passed away peacefully at her home on Aug. 18, 2018. Joan will be remembered for her indomitable spirit, her readiness for adventure, and the love and support she gave to her family throughout her life.

Born in Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Otto Jensen and Vera Marie Jensen, Joan went to school in Colorado Springs (Home of The Terrors) and attended Colorado University in Boulder. She met her husband, Robert "Bob," at a college dance, fell in love, and started the adventure of married life, which was to last more than 69 years. Following her husband's job as a geologist with Carter Oil, Joan moved several times early in their marriage. Cathy, their first daughter was born in Denver, followed by Jim in Urbana, Illinois. In 1952, they moved to Bob's hometown of Cut Bank where he joined his father in the construction business. Daughter Laurie was born there several years later.

In 1967, Joan opened her own business, bringing beautiful craft projects, as well as art and knitting supplies to the Cut Bank community. She ran her craft store as well as the drapery department and the picture framing side of Bob's Cut Bank Building Service during the day, and taught craft classes in the evenings.



Her talent for interior decor is evidenced in her children's homes.

Joan was active

in many facets of the Cut Bank community as an enthusiastic golfer, Girl Scout leader, and co-leader of Presbyterian Vacation Bible School. She was an avid member of P.E.O., an international philanthropic and educational organization for women, and was a founding member of Chapter AW in Cut Bank. She served in all the offices of P.E.O. and was honored for her 50 years of membership. Jo was a ready chaperone for kids' adventures, taking her share of hard knocks in stride, including a challenging pack trip through the Belly River country of Glacier with a youth group from her church.

Always up for an adventure, Joan learned to ski, and she raised all three children on the slopes of Big Mountain in Whitefish. Bob and Joan enjoyed many summers at their cabin on Whitefish Lake, and she taught many children (and some reluctant adults) how to water ski on Whitefish Lake. She loved periodic hikes in the mountains of Glacier Park to favorite spots including Sperry and Granite Park chalets.

After her youngest went to college, Joan and Bob made their home in the beautiful Flathead Valley, building a house in Kalispell. She continued her church activities, becoming a church elder and, with Bob, helping to renovate the basement of the Kalispell Presbyterian Church. The move to Kalispell gave her cherished time with her beloved grandchildren, Chris and Libby Hetrick. She took them to many after school events in "Grandma's talking car," cooked wonderful meals for the whole family and even built lizard terrariums when duty called.

Travel was also a favorite activity in the years after Bob and Joan retired. In the early days of cruising, they saw the world via cruise ships and other trips to remote locations, including Yugoslavia, Istanbul, Fiji, Russia, Hong Kong and Mazatlan. She told stories of drinking Russian vodka with the locals and clinging to the rickety railroad car on the way up the mountainside to Machu Picchu. With the help of a beautiful motor home, they took extended trips to see the U.S. and Canada from coast to coast. Mom had a great eye and talent for capturing wonderful photos along the way.

Joan was preceded in death by her husband, parents, brother Stan

Jensen, and nephew Michael Jensen.

She is survived by children, Catherine (and Doug) Hetrick, James (and Lisa) Stack, and Laurie Stack (and Spencer Arnot); grandchildren, Christopher (and Kali) Hetrick and Libby (and Matt) Smith; and great-grandchildren, Andrew and Aurora Hetrick, and Tristan and Riley Smith. She is also survived by nieces and nephews, Virginia Phenicie Thilmany, Maureen Phenicie Humes, Kevin Jensen and Chris Jensen.

The family is very grateful for the beautiful facilities, attentive care and wonderful meals provided by the Buffalo Hill Terrace for the last six years, and the attentive and loving care provided by Home Options Hospice and Agape Home Care during the last months of her life.

A memorial celebration of Jo's life will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday,

Aug. 31, in the Buffalo Room at Buffalo Hill Terrace, 40 Claremont Street, Kalispell, with Pastor Larry Stappler officiating.

In lieu of flowers,

donations may be sent to Buffalo Hill Terrace of Kalispell, or a charity of your choice.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Flora "Sissy" Sorley, 66, of Hungry Horse, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, auntie, cousin, and friend to many, was un-expectantly "called home to be with our Lord and Savior" on March 12, 2018.

Flora was born in April of 1951, in Browning to Severino DeVera and Emma McGillis-DeVera. As a young girl she became known to all of her siblings, cousins, aunts and uncles as "Sissy." She lived in many places, from East Glacier to Kalispell. Flora graduated in the spring of 1971 from Columbia Falls High School. A short month later, on June 5th of 1971 she married the love of her life, Kenneth E. Sorley, in Woodland Park in Kalispell, Montana.

In her younger years you could find her playing softball and riding trail bikes on trails, leading out fishing and hunting camps, or pulling weeds from the garden. Later on she graduated from riding bike on trails to road trips either as a passenger or solo on her own Honda 900 CB Custom, camping along the way, to relaxing in the South Fork of the Bob Marshall picking morels, chokecherries and huckleberries. At home if she wasn't spending time with family, she would bake, crochet, knit, cross stitch, tat, sew, bead and scrapbook. As of just recently, she took up quilting.

She was a proud member of the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe. When their girls were elementary age she volunteered to be a Girl Scout leader and helped mold many young girls to become young women. Flora would also be found on search and rescue missions with the North Valley Search and Rescue. Each win-



ter Flora would spend many hours baking and volunteering with the Canyon Fishing Derby, raising funds for the Canyon Kids Christmas Fund.

Flora "was welcomed home into heaven" by her father and mother, her little brother "Phillip," and her granddaughter "Samantha."

She will be dearly missed by her loving husband of 46 years; her daughters, Annette (Eric), Laura (Hank), and Pauline "Poe" (Justin); eight grandchildren, Kenneth (20), Breana (17), Brailyn (15), Michael (14), Kindi (8), Shianne (7), Byron (5), and Bailey (2); three brothers, John (Laurie), George (MaryLynn), and Elmer (Monica); three sisters, Laura (Steve), Mary and Debbie; and many nieces and nephews.

Family and friends are welcomed to join the immediately family for a viewing from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, March 18, at Darlington Funeral Home, located at 3408 U.S. Hwy. 2 East, Kalispell; with services at 11 a.m. on Monday, March 19, at Crossroads Church, located at 7465 Montana 35, Bigfork. Interment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls. A potluck reception will follow at North Valley Community Center at 235 Nucleus Ave., Columbia Falls.

Flowers can be sent to Darlington Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, a monetary donation may be made to Canyon Kids Christmas Fund at Glacier Bank in memory of "Flora Sorley."

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

Robert 'Bob' Stahlberg, 80

Robert "Bob" Stahlberg, 80, passed away at his home in Columbia Falls on Nov. 13, 2018.

Bob was born on July 29, 1938, in Strathcona, Minnesota, to Theodore and Gladys (Sands) Stahlberg. The family moved to the Flathead Valley area in 1945. Bob spent most of his early years in Somers. He graduated Flathead County High School in 1956, and joined the Army in 1958. He met Patricia (the love of his life) while attending Army school in Chicago. Pat and Bob married on Sept. 25, 1958, in New Jersey shortly after they moved to Verdun, France, where Bob finished his Army service in 1960. Bob worked for four years in Chicago then moved his family back to the Flathead area where he was hired at the Aluminum Plant, as a millwright, retiring in December of 2000.

Bob enjoyed camping, water skiing, big game hunting, traveling, and boating.

He was a jack-of-all-trades and enjoyed woodworking. He was a member at the First Baptist Church of Kalispell, the Nazarene Church in Whitefish, the Hillside Church in Whitefish, and Bible Study Fellowship of Kalispell. He loved his



family deeply and enjoyed spending time with all of them.

He was preceded in death by his son Jeffrey

(May 17, 1958), his father Ted and mother Gladys, sister Iris, and other siblings in the mid-1930s.

Bob is survived by his wife, Pat, of 60 years; children, Cheryl Bower and her husband Larry, Steven Stahlberg and his wife Mary, Keith Stahlberg and his wife Tracey, Denise Reed and her husband David; and 15 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one due on Monday, Nov. 19.

A funeral service will be held for Robert at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, at the Hillside Church, 5685 Highway 93 South in Whitefish. There will be a visitation from 7 to 9 p.m. on Friday Nov. 16, at Columbia Mortuary. Burial will take place at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, with full military honors.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Mr. Stahlberg's family.

James "Jim" Earl Stanard, 73

James "Jim" Earl Stanard, of Kalispell, passed away in his home on Feb. 22, 2018.

He was born on Aug. 12, 1944, in Great Falls, to Earl Watt Stanard and Cora Retta Klingler. He is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Jeana Dee (Stowell) Stanard, their children: Sherrilyn Jean (Stanard) McDonald, Christina Ann (Stanard) Souza and Jonathon Earl Stanard, along with their spouses, 11 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, and dear sister, Carol (Stanard) Abercrombie. He is predeceased by his parents, his sister Lynn (Stanard) Lund and great-grandchild Devont McDonald Beckstrand.

Jim was a devoted member of the LDS church and served in the LDS South American Andes mission as well as numerous callings throughout his life. Education was highly valued by Jim. He attended Brigham Young University, Montana State University and earned a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the University of Oregon. He then enjoyed teaching others and delighted in interacting with colleagues and hundreds of students during his career of 35 years as a professor of voice and composition at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California. Jim was a founding member of the Humboldt Light Opera Company. He enjoyed the many roles he played as well as directing numerous works. After retiring from HSU, he returned to Montana where he directed the Glacier Chorale for eight seasons. Jim loved composing hymns, anthems, choral works and programs, several of which were selected to be performed



and recognized on Temple Square of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Jim had a great love of nature and animals that he enjoyed sharing with others. He especially appreciated having time with his family camping, fly fishing, golfing, having picnics and exploring the beautiful natural scenery of North Western United States, Canada and Alaska.

Family was central to Jim's life. He helped create meaningful family memories due to his priority for maintaining traditions and creating special occasions. He leaves a legacy of compositions, recordings, and also children, grandchildren, students and friends who now enjoy music in their own lives. Jim was a quick wit and loved to laugh and help others to laugh. Jim spent the last five days of his life in his home, surrounded by his beloved wife and three children. They enjoyed prayer, meals, games, conversations, and humor.

There will be a visitation held for James from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory. Funeral service for James will be held Friday, March 2, in Salt Lake City. Burial will take place at Bountiful City Cemetery. The Salt Lake City funeral arrangements are being handled by Stark's Funeral Home. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Please visit www.jgfuneralhome.com to leave condolences for the family.

Jean Foster Steckmyer, 96

Jean Foster Steckmyer of Grand Island and Central City, Nebraska, died Oct. 26, 2018, in Kalispell. He was 96.

A graveside service will be held next spring, 2019, in Grand Island.

Jean was born Aug. 10, 1922, in Grand Island to John Albert "Jack" and Maude Irene (nee Thayer) Steckmyer. He grew up there, graduating from Grand Island Senior High School in 1940.

During World War II, Jean enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces. He flew with the 15th Air Force, 779th Bombardment Squadron, as a B-24 pilot in the European Theater, earning a medal with three Bronze Stars and an Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. Jean served in the U.S. Air Force Reserve for 40 years, retiring as a major in 1982.

He married Joyce Elaine (nee Enger) Johnsen on May 20, 1949, in Grand Island. They farmed for six years in Iowa near Atlantic, and over nine years in Nebraska near Chapman. In 1964 they opened the NAPA Auto Parts store in Central City, which they owned and operated until retirement in 1982.

Jean's lifetime civic duties included school board, city council, Central City Airport Authority, and Chamber of Commerce. He was an active member of VFW, American Legion, and the First Pres-byterian Church in Grand Island and Central City.

Jean was and avid



bowler, golfer and pool player; he retained a life-long love of flying, and spent his 95th birthday in the cockpit of a small plane flying over Flathead Lake and

Valley in Montana.

Joyce and Jean spent their last years together at Primrose Retirement Community in Grand Island after time living in Texas and traveling widely. Joyce died in 2016, and Jean moved to Montana to be near his daughter in 2017.

Jean Steckmyer will be remembered as a witty, gracious man who loved to joke; he was a man of integrity and generosity, a loyal friend always willing to lend a hand, and a real gentleman.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers (John and Gerald), sister (Shirley), wife, and son (Steven Charles "Steve" Steckmyer).

He is survived by his daughter, Sharyn and her husband David Curtis of Kalispell, and their sons and daughter-in-law, Adam Curtis of Salt Lake City, and Aaron and Alison Curtis of Minneapolis, plus numerous nieces and nephews.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Howard Haldeman Steel, 97

Dr. Howard Haldeman Steel of Villanova, Pennsylvania, and Coram, died in Kalispell Sept. 5, 2018, at the age of 97 of complications from a stroke suffered two weeks earlier.

An internationally renowned innovator in the field of pediatric orthopedics, Dr. Steel developed a lifelong love for Montana after marrying Elizabeth "Betty Jo" Clack at her family's summer place on Lake McDonald in 1964. Camping, fly fishing and horseback riding were passions he loved to share with his extended family and many visiting friends over the years. He especially enjoyed organizing pack trips into the backcountry of Glacier or the Bob Marshall Wilderness to camp and fish. He loved nothing more than to teach and impart his outdoor skills to his extended family and many grandchildren.

Born in Philadelphia in 1921, he graduated from Colgate University in 1942 and served in the Navy during World War II before attending Temple University School of Medicine. Following an orthopedic residency at Temple in 1951, Dr. Steel joined the staff as professor of orthopedics. Through Temple's affiliation, he became chief surgeon at the Philadelphia Shriners Hospital for Children in 1966, a position he held for 20 years and chief surgeon emeritus until 2010. At Shriners, he established the nation's first pediatric spinal cord injury center in 1980 and a visiting clinic in San Juan, Puerto Rico, where parents brought their children with orthopedic disorders to be diagnosed and transported to Shriners for life-changing treatment. Besides inventing many surgical proce-



American Orthopedic Association from 1977 to 1978.

In 1999, an opportunity arose to reclaim the original Green family homestead in Coram, which had belonged to Betty Jo's mother's family until 1948. Howard and Betty Jo envisioned a

year-round family retreat with handsome log structures to complement the log barn and pole barn, horses in the meadow beneath Desert Mountain, cross-country ski trails in winter and endless horseback riding trails in summer. Their vision resulted in the restoration of Green Valley Ranch, an idyllic spot designed for the multi-generational family to gather and enjoy ever since.

Dr. Steel, known in the community as "Doc," cut a colorful figure at the wheel of his white 1969 Ford LTD wagon that the family referred to as The Coffin (with a license plate that read "Coughin"). A typical "day in town" involved a detailed list of essential supplies, starting with a visit to the Coram "post-mistress" to pick up mail, moving on to NAPA for fuses or spray paint for auto upholstery, then to Cardinal for mothballs for keeping critters out of his car and tennis balls for his grass tennis court, followed by a long-winded visit to North Valley Ag with Mike and Lidell for hay and horse pellets, a stop into Halfmoon Ranch Supply to compare notes

recalled how many times he called on the Doc for medical emergencies when they were staying up at the lake, from horse accidents to vehicles driving off the Going-to-the Sun Road to backpackers with strange ailments.

Howard is survived by his wife, Betty Jo; children, Anna and Josh Steel; stepchildren, Celia Smith Carroll (Brian), Turner Smith (Nancy), and Tad Smith (Eileen); children from a previous marriage, Michael, Kathy and Patrick Steel; grandchildren, Will (Michelle), Graham and Anna Carroll, Turner and Libby Smith, Townsend, Tori and Ella Smith, and Candace, Corinne and Michael Steel; and two great-granddaughters.

A local remembrance of his life will take place over the Christmas holidays.

dures that bear his name, he authored multiple research papers, had over 70 visiting professorships and founded the Eastern Orthopedic Association in 1970 where he served two terms as president. He was a founding member of the Pediatric Orthopedic Society, later known as POSNA, and vice-president of the

with Les and Marty, and if there was time, a quick perusal of the Evergreen pawn shops to find that perfect balky backcountry Coleman stove. Driving home, he would often make a quick stop at John's Auto to shoot the breeze with Matt. Former Lake McDonald ranger Michael Ober, a close family friend, recently

Paula Jane Ellis Stephenson, 89

Paula Jane Ellis was born April 7, 1929, and died May 19, 2018.

She grew up in Wallace, Idaho, and went to high school at St. Paul's Episcopal School for girls in Walla Walla, Washington. Paula started attending her beloved Camp Sweyolakan, the Campfire Girls camp on Lake Coeur d'Alene at the age of 10. She continued through many summers, some as a counselor, to the age of 20. She had fond memories of expeditions in the war canoes, swimming, star gazing, campfires and songs. She made lasting friends at camp and kept in touch with Ruby Hill. Paula heard the news of the end of hostilities with Germany while at camp. The camp had no phone, and so the news was delivered by boat, and "the counselors were dancing and clapping on the dock."

Paul attended Northwestern University and graduated in 1952. She was a member of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority. She met David G. Pettengill while attending university, and they were married at Holy Trinity Church in Wallace on Sept. 4, 1952. Paula and David had four children, and raised their family in Libertyville, Illinois. Paula and her children spent their summers at the Pettengill summer home on Lake Charlevoix in Michigan. Those were good summers at the lake. Paula's Camp Sweyolakan skills of canoeing, walking in the woods, wildflower identification, swimming, star gazing and a formidable repertoire of campfire songs made for many happy family memories.



had almost 15 wonderful years together. Paula enjoyed being married to a man whose

church was important to him. They spent many summers at Babbin's RV Park on the North Fork of the Coeur D'Alene. Tom was a kind and patient man, a good cook and a wonderful husband.

After Tom's passing, Paula stayed active in her church as a lay reader and chalice bearer. The Book of Common Prayer and the services at Holy Trinity were deeply meaningful to Paula and were the basis for a delight in the church that stayed with her always.

Paula continued to live in Osburn, Idaho, for the next 11 years, and in the early part of the decade of 2000 was courted by and fell in love with a local man named Don Springer. Don was a retired mining geologist and engineer, and a barbershop quartet singer and participant in community theater. He treated Paula to many fun nights out before being diagnosed with a fast-acting cancer that caused his death on May 17, 2002. Paula was mentioned as his companion in Don's obituary. When Don passed way, Paula had out-lived her last companion, except for the dogs that she kept until the year before her own death.

Paula's travels included two especially memorable trips with son David and his partner Sue. The first to mention is their trip to canoe in the Quetico Provincial

Paula was warmly welcomed by Chapter D of the PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization), the Whitefish Chapter of the Women of the Moose, and the All Saints Community Episcopal Church. Whitefish was kind to Paula and she enjoyed the lively atmosphere of the town, the parades by her front door, the active and diverse church, Father Bradley's Christmas story, and the kind staffs at Bookworks, Montana Coffee Traders and Third Street Market.

Paula hopes to be greeted in heaven by her parents, Dr. Paul Marvin Ellis and Elizabeth Davies Ellis; her brother, David Thomas Ellis; her late husband, Thomas Lee Stephenson (who will say his famous "don't overdo"); her beloved sister, Marcia Gertrude Ellis Hicks (bearing an empty huckleberry picking bucket); and her nephew, Gwin Simmons Hicks.

Paula leaves behind her daughter Laura Pettengill and husband Byron Lanphear; her son Paul Pettengill and wife Claress Pettengill; her son David Pettengill and partner Susan Novak; her daughter Susan Pettengill; and her brother-in-law Gwin Jackie Hicks. Paula's two beloved nieces, daughters of her sister Marcia, are Elizabeth Hicks Klingler (husband Dan) and Mary Hicks Miller (husband Bret). Paula's nieces have blessed the family with the next generation in the Ellis line, Aubry and

David Klingler, and Mark and Jack Miller.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 25, at All Saints Episcopal Church, 2048 Conn Rd, Columbia Falls, MT 59912 (406-862-2863) <https://www.allsaintsmt.org/>.

In lieu of flowers Paula's wish is for donations to be sent to All Saints' Episcopal Church, Whitefish-Columbia Falls, P.O. Box 1923 Whitefish, MT 59937 — <https://www.allsaintsmt.org/>; Doctors Without Borders — <https://donate.doctorswithoutborders.org/>; or Frontier Hospice-Friends of Hospice, Kalispell, 42 Bruyer Way, Kalispell, MT 59901 — <http://www.frontierhhh.com/donate-friends-hospice-foundations>

Austin Funeral Home is caring for Paula's family. Visit www.austinfh.com to share memories and leave condolences.

Continued next page

When the marriage of Paula and David ended in 1976, Paula stayed in Libertyville through her daughter Susan's high school graduation in 1978 and they then went on a fabulous summer trip together to Britain. After her mother had passed away in 1979, Paula returned to Wallace to care for her father, Dr. Paul Ellis. Paula worked as the payroll supervisor at the Sunshine Mine. Paula and her father lived at the family home at 107 Cedar Street known as the Beale House, now a bed and breakfast. The entire Ellis clan has many happy memories of that home as well. Dr. Ellis passed away in 1984.

Soon after her father's passing, Paula met the Tom Stephenson, a fellow church member at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Wallace. They were married in 1985, and they

traveled to Glacier National Park in Canada, fulfilling a long-desired wish to see that country. Later, after the death of her husband Tom, she visited New Zealand with both David and Sue. During the years 2003 to 2016, Paula also traveled, canoed and camped with her children in Idaho and Montana. Camping trips into the back-country of the Bitterroot Range at Sand Basin with her daughter Laura were a highlight. She hiked into Granite Park Chalet in Glacier Park at the age of 74 and rode a horse to Sperry Chalet in Glacier Park at the age of 84. All her children can remember spending afternoons with Paula at Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park.

In April 2011, Paula moved to Whitefish to be closer to her family, and rented the nice house at 927 Second Street East provided by Sue Novak.

Clayton LeRoy 'Red' Sterner, 64

Clayton LeRoy "Red" Sterner passed away Feb. 7, 2018, at 1 p.m. in the comfort of his own home surrounded by loved ones.

"As his soul soars in the sky with the eagles, he left behind words for us to share:"

Clayton LeRoy "Red" Sterner, 64 years of age, was born March 17, 1953, in Kalispell to Dale Clayton Knaus and Naomie Jean Sterner. He and his brother Garold were adopted by William A. and Vella B. Sterner (Naomie's parents) in 1957 and remained Flathead Valley natives throughout their lives. Elementary school was at Cornelius Hedges, middle school was at Central and Linderman, and then on to Flathead High School.

Clayton had a short stint in the U.S. Navy and received an honorable discharge. He was a sonar technician in nuclear electronics. Clayton loved all that the Flathead Valley had to offer. He held many jobs including the Burlington Northern Railroad, C&C Plywood Corporation, Plum Creek Plywood, American Timber Company and Stillwater Forest Products. He also fell timber for Royal Logging & Canyon Logging and finished his employment career working as a groundskeeper for his beloved friends, William and Julia Bosic, on their estate in Woods Bay for 14 years. When he wasn't working at his primary job he loved to cut firewood with his brother Garold and had hundreds of satisfied customers.

Clayton loved NASCAR and his favorite racer was Jeff Gordon. He was a huge



fan of the Seattle Seahawks and Seattle Mariners. Besides sports, he loved hunting, fishing and traveling whenever possible.

Clayton was preceded in death by his father Clayton Dale "Rusty" Knaus, stepmother "Tiny" Knaus, mother Naomie Shaw, stepfather Robert Shaw, grandparents William and Vella Belle Sterner, four brothers Jack, Claude, Kenny and Todd; and last but not least, his first born son, Deleno John "Jack" Sterner, who was taken from this earth at the prime of his life.

Clayton is survived by brothers, Garold R. Sterner, William G. Good and Craig Knaus; sisters, Rockanna Rand, Carrie Knaus, Ranae Oya and Helen Oya; and life partner, Mary Schopp; son, Doolie Sterner; and his tribe of nieces, nephews and countless loved ones who will miss him dearly.

In closing, Clayton and his family would like to provide a great thanks to Darlington Funeral Home for their incredible kindness, understanding and professionalism.

A celebration of Clayton's life will be held in the facilities provided by Darlington Funeral Home at 1 p.m. on Feb. 25. Clayton's family asks that all who join please try to wear something red or green, if possible, to honor Clayton as we all celebrate his life.

Philip C. Stertz, 88

Philip C. Stertz, 88, passed away peacefully in his sleep Feb. 22, 2018, at Wel-life in Kalispell.

He was born Dec. 9, 1929, in Hastings, Nebraska, to Carl F. Stertz and his wife Marjorie. Soon after his graduation from high school, the family moved to Omaha, Nebraska.

Phil enlisted with the Navy and served during the Korean War. While he never saw any action, he always said it had been a great life experience and made him a better man. After his discharge and returning home, he met Mary Ann Potter of Omaha, and they were wed in the fall of 1951.

Phil had a number of artistic talents, sketching, painting, carving small figures from wood and even a little bit of metal working, which he used to make a flying pig copper weather vein. He was also a very skilled carpenter. He built his family's first house, a cute little pink thing in Omaha where the growing family lived until 1968.

From this little pink house in Omaha, Phil went on the road to work on various projects across the country and Canada. In Langdon, North Dakota, he worked on the missile silos as well as the silos in Conrad, Montana, but that job was short-lived, so off to Fairfax, Virginia, he went to work on the D.C. Metro system. With the system complete, his next journey took him to Mica Creek in British Columbia, to work on a hydroelectric dam on the



Columbia River.

Phil and Mary Ann took a vacation

to the Flathead area, and decided that this little town called Kalispell would be just the right place to retire, and they did so in 1976. Phil wasn't quite ready to call it quits and retire, so he found work with Matlich Construction and then a little later with Stewart and James. He had one last cross country job in New York to work on another dam before he finally decided to give up the construction gig and live the retired life of fishing, reading, wood whittling, boating and napping. He was a hard worker, who did his best and lived life to the fullest of his potential.

Phil was preceded in death by both parents, his sister Kay Cano, his loving wife Mary Ann, and son-in-law Dale Howell.

He is survived by son, Steve Stertz, and wife Susie, of Meridian, Idaho; son, Mike Stertz, and wife Karen, of Longmont, Colorado; daughter, Becky Bellinger, and son-in-law Dick, of Pueblo, Colorado; and daughter, Sueann Howell, of Kalispell; his grandchildren, Raina Howell Wanless and husband Ryan of Kalispell, Elizabeth Howell St. Marie and husband Latigo of Kalispell, Matthew Stertz and wife Sarah of Denver, Kelley Stertz of Seattle, and Sarah Bellinger of Pueblo; and two great-grandchildren whom he absolutely cherished and adored, Julian and Saylor St. Marie.

A memorial service is planned for 2 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at Johnson and Gloschat Funeral Home.

The family would like to thank all the people at the Wel-life community who helped to care for him.

Donald William Stetson, 90

Donald William Stetson passed away July 26, 2018, at home in Kalispell, following an extended illness.

Don was born Nov. 27, 1927, in Hazen, North Dakota, to Irene and Ora Stetson. The family lived in North Dakota on a dairy farm until they moved to Goldendale, Washington. This move was followed by a further move to Kittitas, Washington. After graduation from Kittitas High School in 1945, Don joined the Merchant Marines.

On return from his service, Don attended Central Washington College in Ellensburg, Washington.

On Aug. 12, 1949, Don married Patricia Powers in Ellensburg at the Presbyterian Church. While attending Central Washington, he played basketball and studied education. Their first son Scott Orié was born in August 1950. In 1952, Don and family moved to Los Angeles where he attended California College of Mortuary Science. Following graduation, Don returned to Washington, where he was employed at Thornhill's Funeral Home in Spokane Valley. He later joined Hazen and Jaeger Funeral Homes in Spokane and the Valley.

Susan and Kirk were born to Don and Pat while in Spokane Valley. Don was a Past Master of the Order of Masons, as well as Past Patron of Eastern Star. He was also a dad advisor to Valley DeMolay group. In addition, he was involved in the community, coaching and playing sports. Don enjoyed working with his hands, building a boat, which became the center of many family outings and camping trips to the Columbia River and many lakes.

In 1969, Don and his family moved to Havre where he became a partner in the Holland-Bonine



Funeral Home. His compassion and caring for those he served in his community went with him everywhere and in everything he touched. Don was a devoted husband and father to his family.

He coached baseball and attended every game his sons played. His daughter was his special princess. Don was actively involved in the Havre Presbyterian Church and was the Past President of the Havre Rotary Club.

After retiring from the funeral home, he and Pat opened Stetson's Custom Frame Shop in Havre, serving the community for 11 years.

In 1993, Don and Pat moved to Village Greens in Kalispell where they built their home, golfed and enjoyed retirement with family and friends.

Don is survived by his loving wife, Patricia Stetson, of 68 years; his children, Scott Stetson of Red Deer, Alberta, Susan Stetson Johnston (Scot) of Mount Vernon, Washington, and Kirk Stetson (Lori) of Colorado Springs, Colorado; and his brother, Lloyd Stetson of San Diego. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Shawn Stetson, Mark Stetson, Cara Stetson Reck, Cameron Johnston, Domenic Easton, and Megan Collins-Schaber; and 11 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Don was predeceased by his parents; his brothers, Robert and Russ Stetson; his sister, Marge Stetson Eastburn; and daughter-in-law, Sharon Stetson.

The internment service

will be held in Ellensburg at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in September.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website, www.buffalohillfh.com, to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and

Crematory is caring for the family.

Laura 'Lauri' Ann Stevens, 52

Laura "Lauri" Ann Stevens, 52, passed early morning Thursday, July 12, 2018, in her home in Lakeside after a long fight with cancer.

Laura was born Sept. 27, 1965, to Clayton and Janet Green in Duluth, Minnesota. Clayton's career in the Air Force brought Laura to Montana. When she wasn't out and about, she was helping to care for her brothers and working toward her education.

Graduating from Charles M. Russell High School in Great Falls was only the beginning for Laura. She went on to pursue a degree in nursing at Northern Montana College and graduated in 1986 with her bachelor's. She shared her love for nursing and cared for many people throughout 22 years at Kalispell



Regional Medical Center and for another six years at Immanuel Lutheran Home, including

their expansion, The Retreat.

On Jan. 26, 1990, Laura said "I do" to Michael Stevens. Four years later, they added a third member to their family, their daughter Rachel.

Laura was preceded in death by her father Clayton, and her step-brother Eric.

She is survived by her husband, Michael; daughter, Rachel; mother, Janet; stepmother, Margaret; brothers, Jesse and Matthew; and stepbrother, Ty.

A memorial service will be held from 2 to 4

p.m. Sunday, July 22, at the Vista Linda, 240 Boon Road, Somers, MT 59932. Beverages, including beer and wine, and snacks will be provided.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is taking care of the family.

Linda Lee (Voigt) Stevens, 70

Linda Lee (Voigt) Stevens passed away Thursday, April 26, 2018, with family and friends at her side.

She was born Feb. 19, 1948, in Whitefish to Vincent and Merle Voigt. She joined older brother Michael and the family was soon completed with younger brother Steven. She attended Whitefish Schools through high school graduation, and her younger years were filled with adventure and fun as "Lee-Lee" was surrounded by her many cousins and family. Her teenage summers she spent working at the Sperry Chalet, in the place that would become one of the loves of her life, Glacier National Park.

Linda then attended the University of Montana, from which she graduated in June of 1972 with a Bachelor of the Arts degree in history. She married Gregory Stevens in September of 1971, they moved back from Missoula to Whitefish, where her daughter, Julia Amanda Stevens, was born in January of 1978. After her divorce Linda and Julie resided in Kalispell. It was there that Linda spent many years working at KOFI Radio and then with the City of Kalispell Water Department.

During these years, Linda spent much time with her beloved mother and began enjoying what became her passions — hiking, kayaking and camping in Glacier Park. Over the years she hiked thousands of miles



through Glacier, tackling 20-plus mile treks with ease. Linda also started taking pictures

of the natural beauty around her, and became an amazing amateur photographer. She was rarely seen without her camera hanging from her neck. She also started painting, both wall art and crafts, a hobby that would bring her joy for the rest of her years. Linda was an avid reader her entire life — her book collection rivals that of a library.

In June of 2007 Linda was overjoyed when she became a grandmother to Taylor Aubrey William, becoming known as Grandma Lady — a nickname Taylor called her since she was a toddler. Linda was an amazing grandmother, instilling her love of the outdoors, photography and painting in her granddaughter. She cherished the time spent with her.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents Bill and Jen England, and William and Margaret Voigt, parents Vincent and Merle, and big brother Michael.

She is survived by loving daughter Julie Stevens, granddaughter Taylor William, and step-granddaughter Maddison William, and younger brother Steven Voigt. Her memory will also live on in her uncle, Glenn England, cousin Cheryl Frye, and best friend of more than three decades, Vickie Poynter.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations made to the Sperry Action Fund (glacier.org); this fund is to rebuild Sperry Chalet, which was badly damaged in the forest fires last year.

A celebration of Linda's wonderful life will be held 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 2, at the Hampton Inn, 6340 U.S. 93, Whitefish, MT 59937.

Austin Funeral & Cremation Services in Whitefish is caring for Linda's family.

Condolences for the family may be submitted on Linda's webpage at www.austinfh.com.

"The sun will rise and set regardless. What we choose to do with the

light while it's here is up to us. Journey wisely."

Donald L. Stevlingson, 77

Colonel (retired) Donald L. Stevlingson of Bigfork passed away from natural causes on Friday, Nov. 23 at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish at the age of 77.

Don was born in Great Falls on March 31, 1941 to Donald M. and Irene Brown Stevlingson. He grew up in Great Falls and graduated from Great Falls High School in 1959. He attended the University of Montana in Missoula and the University of Providence in Great Falls, graduating in business administration. Don married his high school sweetheart, Joy Tovson, on July 15, 1962. They were best friends and partners in life for 56 years.

Don joined the Montana Air National Guard in 1963, served three years with the Air Police, was commissioned in 1966 and entered flight training. He served as a squadron pilot and rose to deputy commander of operations for the 120th Fighter Interceptor Squadron in 1984.

He served as Wing Commander from 1989 until 1991. During his 28-year career he flew the F-102, F-106 and the F-16 accumulating nearly 5000 hours of flight time. He graduated from Air Command and Staff College and Air War College.



Don had played for the Montana Grizzlies football team and was a loyal Griz fan. He and Joy held season

tickets for 20 years. He was a member of the Sons of Norway and Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Don was a great husband and father, giving his family his love, full support and wise counsel, especially in looking at the big picture. When he became a grandfather he said it made his life complete. He loved his grandchildren, Max and Anna, wholeheartedly.

The family is deeply grateful to Hidden Meadow Memory Care Home for the patient, kind and loving care he received there for the past two years. The staff and other residents were like a second family to us.

Don is survived by his wife, Joy; his daughter and son-in-law Julie and Jon Sims of Lakeside; his son and daughter-in-law, Eric and Katya Stevlingson and grandchildren Max Stevlingson and Anna Stevlingson, all of Moscow, Russia.

In 1992, Don and Joy fulfilled a life long dream and moved to the Flathead Valley where they built a log home near Bigfork. Don was a partner in a home building business, Parkwood Construction. When Don retired in 2001, he and Joy traveled to Russia, Spain, Germany and throughout the United States, but he preferred being at home with a task at hand. He built cedar strip canoes, completed numerous home and yard projects and took great satisfaction in a job well done. His numerous projects were completed with verve and purpose. Missing his flying career, he took lessons and began flying a Cessna 175. He joined the Flathead Flyers and served as their president in 2008. Don served for five years as a volunteer delivering Meals on Wheels for the Bigfork Senior Center.

He is also survived by his sisters- and brothers-in-law, Jackie Berger of Helena, Hugh Van Swearingen and Nancy Marx of Townsend, Steve and Jean Johnson of Des Moines, Washington, Jon and Gloria Tovson of Great Falls and Jeri Anne O'Neil and Nick Terhaar of Polson. In addition he is survived by a loving extended family of cousins, nieces and nephews, all of whom are very dear to him.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, brothers-in-law James Canfield, Dick Berger and Gary Clapshaw and a sister-in-law, Janet van Swearingen.

A memorial service for Don will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 30, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Meals on Wheels or the charity of your choice.

Vern R. Stewart, 92

Vern R. Stewart died peacefully in his sleep at Immanuel Lutheran Home Dec. 15, 2018.

Vern, born Oct. 11, 1926, to Gilbert and Stella (Sheely) Stewart in St. Edward, Nebraska, was raised on a farm near Newman Grove, Nebraska, along with seven siblings. Vern graduated from Newman Grove High School in 1944. During his high school years, his involvement in drama included lead parts in several plays. He also belonged to the Future Farmers of America.

Immediately after high school, Vern entered the military and served until November 1948. He began his enlistment by attending the University of Wyoming, majoring in engineering for three quarters, and then went on active duty with the U.S. Army Air Force. After his discharge, Vern returned to the University of Wyoming and graduated in 1951 with a B.S. in animal science. As a charter member of the Wyoming Chapter of FarmHouse Fraternity, he served as chapter secretary. Continuing his education at Wyoming, he received an M.S. in agronomy in 1952 and later did additional graduate work at the University of Minnesota from 1958 to 1960.

After earning his M.S., Vern accepted an appointment as assistant in agronomy at the Montana State University Northwestern Agricultural Research Center, located near Kalispell. In 1970, MSU selected him to be superintendent. Throughout his tenure he advanced through the academic ranks and became full professor in 1982. He retired as professor emeritus of agronomy on January 31, 1991, after 39 years of service to Montana State University.



Bible studies, and served as an elder at the church for many years.

Vern's involve-

ment in community activities lasted throughout his lifetime. He was a charter member of the Creston Volunteer Fire Department, clerk of the local school board, and a member of the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce, serving as chair of the program for the Flathead Farm Show for several years. He held several offices in the Eastside Grange and volunteered at Kalispell Regional Medical Center for many years. He also served as the local coordinator for AARP tax aid.

Vern, known as a good friend to many, also faithfully attended his children's and grandchildren's school activities. Well respected for his integrity and willingness to serve others, Vern will be sorely missed.

Vern was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Lyle and Keith Stewart, and sisters Wilma Schultz and Carol Brashear.

He is survived by the following family members: his wife Carol; his son Roger and Gayl Stewart of Dodgeville, Wisconsin; granddaughter Heidi and Dave Gering; great-grandchildren Kailey, Kendra, Keegan, and Korbin of Waunakee, Wisconsin; daughter Kathy and Tom Holkeboer; grandchild Timothy of Bellevue, Nebraska; Benjamin of Rapid City, South Dakota; and Naomi of Kansas City, Kansas; granddaughter Hannah and Dan Tate; great-grandchildren Jonathan, Luke, Philip, Issac, Mathew and Samuel of Omaha, Nebraska; daughter Tamie and Tom Jentz; and grandchildren

During his career, Vern was an active member of the American Society of Agronomy, the Crop Science Society of America, the Weed Science Society of America, and the Western Weed Science Society. He received a number of awards during his career, including the prestigious Blue and Gold Award from Montana State University and an Honorary Chapter Farmer Award from Flathead High School.

Vern married his college sweetheart, Carol Yocum, on April 7, 1946 in Gering, Nebraska. They subsequently celebrated the birth of three children: Roger in 1947, Kathleen in 1950, and Tamera in 1960. Throughout his life, Vern's priorities were God, family, career, and church. He spent 50 years at Central Christian Church where he taught Sunday school, led youth groups and conducted

Patrick and Kathryn of Kalispell; and Daniel and Stefanie Jentz of Anchorage, Alaska. He is also survived by his sister Laurel Morris, of Omaha, Nebraska; his brothers Guy Stewart of Green Valley, Arizona, and Glen Stewart of Albion, Nebraska, and many nieces and nephews.

The funeral will be held at the new Chapel at Buffalo Hill Terrace, 40 Claremont Street, Kalispell, at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2018. Burial will be in the Conard Memorial Cemetery followed by a lunch at Faith Covenant Presbyterian Church 611 Third Ave. E., Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers Vern had requested that donations be sent to: Stillwater Christian School, 255 FFA Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson and Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Vern's Family.

Christopher John Stinauer, 45

Christopher John Stinauer passed away peacefully in his sleep at home on the early morning of Aug. 13, 2018, due to multiple complications after a long history of medical issues over the last 19 years. He was 45 years old at his time of passing.

He is survived by his wife Nikki Stinauer, and daughter Lexi and son Colton at the family home in Kalispell. He is also survived by his mother, Helen Stinauer, of Kalispell; sister JoEllyn (Scott) Swanson and their children Morgan and Elise, of Weatherford, Texas; mother- and father-in-law, Ken and Chris Kettinger of Kalispell; his sister-in-law, Terri (Dominick) Paxinos and their children Sydney and Addie of Lolo; and his brother-in-law Ryan (Stephanie) Kettinger of Kalispell; and many other aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Joe Stinauer, maternal grandparents Joe and Geraldine Martinez, and paternal grandparents Frank and Caroline Stinauer.

Chris was born in Kalispell to Joe and Helen Stinauer on Sept. 3, 1972. He attended Cayuse Prairie School from kindergarten to eighth grade, then onto Flathead High School, graduating from there in 1990. After high school he attended the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks from 1990 to 1993. About that time he met his future wife Nikki Kettinger and transferred to Montana State



University in Bozeman, graduating in 1996 with a bachelor's degree in accounting.

On July 27, 1996, he married Nikki Kettinger. They resided in Bozeman and he worked as a roofer until they moved back home to Kalispell in 1997. He roofed for Alan Olson at Advanced Roofing here in Kalispell until April of 1998, at which time he started his sales career with IKO Roofing. Chris was a very dedicated and hard-working employee for them for 19 years, until he was forced into medical retirement in February of 2017.

Chris and Nikki had a great life together. They recently celebrated their 22nd wedding anniversary at the end of July. Together they welcomed two beautiful children into this world, Alexis Grace, born in 2005, and Colton James, born in 2007. Chris was a very dedicated and loving husband and father. He thoroughly enjoyed spending time with his family and they spent many summer vacations in Saskatchewan fishing, hunting in Eastern Montana and had a wonderful vacation in January of 2017 to Cancun, Mexico. Chris was such a kind and caring soul. He loved his cats, dogs and horses very much. They are all missing him and wondering where he has gone, especially his dogs Sage and Sugar.

Chris was a true Montana cowboy. He

loved to ride and train horses. He was an avid team penner and sorter for many years, winning many belt buckles and other miscellaneous prizes. He also loved to work cows on various ranches and helped rope and drag calves to the fire at many local brandings. Chris also loved to team rope and was quite good at it but was never able to compete like he hoped because his medical issues got in the way. One of his most proud moments with horses was when he took his daughter Lexi to her first cattle drive here in Kalispell. It melted his heart that she especially loves the horses and he knows that her passion for horses will continue for the rest of her life.

Chris was also a very avid and passionate hunter and fisherman. Through the years he has acquired quite the collection of firearms. He had an extreme soft spot for Pre-64 Winchesters, especially Model 70s. He spent many summers in his younger years fishing with his family in northern Saskatchewan. He loved catching northern pike because of the excitement of the fight. He was always in search of what his dad referred to as "the Monuker," also known as the big one! Hunting was also a huge enjoyment for Chris. He especially enjoyed hunting elk with his buddies in the Gravelly Mountains in the southwestern part of the state, and he had harvested several nice animals over the years. He also loved hunting big mule deer bucks and antelope too.

He was quite passionate about it and his family and friends will fondly remember their countless trips east of the mountains. But the proudest moment he ever had was last fall when his son Colton got his first mule deer buck in Chester. He was so happy because Colton had to work to fill his tag and it wasn't just an easy opportunity. Colton we are sure will continue his dad's legacy and go on to harvest many more animals as he grows up.

Chris also loved his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It was important to him that his children knew about God's love. We take great comfort knowing he is in heaven, fully healed and enjoying the reunion with many people, especially his dad, Joe.

A celebration of life for Chris will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 23, at Easthaven Baptist Church, 2010 Whitefish Stage Road in Kalispell. Following the service, a light lunch will be served so friends and family can enjoy sharing their favorite stories of Chris.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make a donation to a charity of your choice in Chris's name, or teach a child to hunt or fish so that those privileges continue on for generations to come.

R.I.P. Chris. Until we meet again!

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

Barbara 'Bobbie' Stocking, 98

Barbara "Bobbie" Stocking, 98, of Whitefish, was born in Steelman, Saskatchewan, on Jan. 11, 1920, and went to meet her Lord and Savior on Aug. 10, 2018.

Within days of her birth, Bobbie's mother died and Bobbie was left in the loving arms of her uncle and aunt, Frank and Magdalena Frank. Nine years later, auntie and uncle took in two other nephews after the death of their mother. From that point, the three kids were raised as brothers and sister by these dedicated parents.



Living on a dairy farm, the family survived the Depression with the ability to raise their own meat, grow fruits, vegetables and grain to mill for baked goods. At the age of 5, Bobbie started her educational experience at a one room school less than 2 miles from home, gradu-

ating from grade eight at the age of 12. With no high school in the area, Bobbie felt her lot in life was to live on the farm, knitting, crocheting, baking, cooking and doing chores.

In 1939, relatives visiting from Froid, Montana, invited Bobbie to return with their family and to attend high school with their oldest daughter. A dream come true for Bobbie, she finished high school in three years while working summers.

In February 1943, in Blackfoot, Montana, (a railroad terminal near Browning) Bobbie worked

as a waitress in a cafe that catered to train crews, and a temporary job turned into a lifetime commitment. Bobbie fell in love with and married a railroader. In October 1943, she married Miner Stocking. Miner's family had nine brothers and sisters. Bobbie was the last of that family and spouses to pass away. Miner's family had too many nephews and nieces to mention without missing someone.

The family planted their roots in Whitefish, where Bobbie is survived by her daughter, Judy Doxtater, and sons Glen (Joy) and Tom Stocking; grandchildren, Krista Clawson, Jeremy Doxtater, Jed (Molly) Doxtater and Geoffrey (Nicole) Stocking; great-grand-

children, Brady and Lizzie Clawson, Anna and Jackson Doxtater, and Sebastian and Benedict Stocking. In Canada, she is survived by her brother, Henry (May) Lischka, and their children.

Bobbie was preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Miner; daughter-in-law, Lynn Follett-Stocking; parents, Frank and Magdalena Frank; brother, Tony (Anne) Lischka; and nephew, Rodney Lischka.

Although Bobbie stopped attending church, the Lord was always in her heart. She would meet with close friends for Bible study and weekly prayer sessions. Bobbie had a sixth sense and would often call and ask "Are you OK?" Whether you told her the truth or

not, you would be on that week's prayer list. She will be in our hearts forever.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Bobbie's name, to the Shepherd's Hand of Whitefish; University of Montana-Lynn Stocking Memorial Endowed Scholarship; the Umbrella Ministry; or a charity of your choice.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15, at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish.

"I am so thankful and blessed for my loving and caring family, friends and neighbors. Because of you, I was able to live in my home on Somers Avenue as long as I did. God bless all of you," — Bobbie

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

Michael J. Stocklin, 74

Michael J. Stocklin, 74, a much-loved father, mentor and friend, has passed away today Jan. 13, 2018, in Twin Falls, Idaho.

He was an amazing man with a story so long it would fill this whole newspaper with some of the situations he found himself in. From such humble beginnings in small town Havre, no one could have expected him to succeed in the careers he had chose. His love of movies and



jazz had sparked his long career in entertainment and broadcasting. He did it all,

from hosting his own television programs, a news anchor, a concert promoter, an author, and a quick run in politics. He had countless other endeavors over time, everything from dealing with Mel Torme throw-

ing a temper tantrum over an antique pistol to private dinners with Don Ho in Hawaii.

He was also an encyclopedia on baseball, and obscure Hollywood knowledge. Up until his death he enjoyed working with CSN Christian radio stations.

Mike is survived by his sister, Nikki and Paul Westergard and niece Amy Westergard, of Arizona; brother, John and Lou Ann Harris, of Montana;

sister, Sally Harris, of California; son, Tim and Andrea Stocklin, of Montana; and grandchildren, Parker and Peyton Stocklin, of Montana; plus countless friends and coworkers.

He lived a full life, filled with love, kindness, success and failures. No matter what, he was always there for his family.

"We will miss you, Dad! And congratulations on your final promotion. We love you."

Phyllis Rae Stockwell, 87

Phyllis Rae Stockwell passed away peacefully surrounded by her loved ones at The HealthCenter in Kalispell on Jan. 28, 2018.

Phyllis was born in 1930 in Indianapolis to Clarence and Sally Westmoreland.

In 1951, she married Lyle Long from Shelby and together they managed a small retail store in Cut Bank. After the untimely death of her husband Lyle, Phyllis moved to Kalispell to be close to her parents.

In 1975 she married Willard Stockwell of Kalispell. Together they were staunch supporters of, and contributors to, the community. Together Phyllis and Willard taught Hunter's Safety in Kalispell and both were members of South Kalispell Volunteer Fire Department, where Phyllis was very active in the ladies' auxiliary.

Phyllis was very creative and her hobbies included cooking, quilting, sewing, needlework, knitting and gardening. As much as she loved these activities, being a wife, mother, grandmother and friend is



where her true passion was, and where she excelled the most.

Phyllis was the very definition of hospitality and a cheerful giver. She was always willing to lend a hand whenever needed, whether it be a home cooked meal, a word of advice, or a shoulder to cry on. The love and compassion that filled her heart was a shining example to all she encountered.

She is survived by her four children, Michael Long, Linda Long and Lisa Burton, all residents of Kalispell, and Earl Long of Seattle. She is also survived by numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Phyllis will be deeply missed by all those who had the blessing of knowing her.

There will be a graveside service to honor her passing held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell.

A. David Stoddard, 70

A. David Stoddard, 70, a resident of Bigfork, passed away at 7:45 a.m. on July 22, 2018, after several difficult months dealing with inoperable pancreatic cancer. He was surrounded by his surviving family during this time, his wife, Pamela, and their children, Benjamin, Michelle, Michael, Lisa and Zachary, and grandchildren, Corben, Beauden, Ashton, Fletcher, Duncan and Sophia, who all loved him so much.

A. David was born on Nov. 29, 1947, to Ray and Edith Stoddard of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and was married to Pamela Ruth Jensen on Sept. 10, 1971.

A. David was a beloved husband and father that has left behind the legacy of a true teacher and creator. He found value in everything he touched and found lessons in life's challenges. His unique vision allowed him to create the extraordinary from the ordinary.

He lived every day to the fullest, never forgetting to enjoy the moment. An advocate for the underdog, he was always quietly helping a stranger or friend in need. He was never afraid to stand alone or face his fears if he felt it was the right thing to do. He taught honesty, sacrifice and respect by example. As an accomplished businessman and craftsman, he had owned and actively managed and worked in his own businesses, from hardware stores like Coast to Coast hardware to framing and construction companies, such as T & S Frame & Finish and Stoddard Builders over the past 30 years. Beyond that, he has been a chairman of city planning commissions, a church leader, a youth role model, an agriculturist, and inde-



pendent thought leader. His free time was always spent with his family or working on his many projects and hobbies. He could often be found in his shop working on cars like his

own Ford Model "A" and Dodge Dart as a past time, a love that developed early in his youth. As an avid big game sportsman, marksman and fisherman, he dedicated time in Wyoming, Montana and Alaska. He lived his life the way he designed it.

A. David taught his children by example, to always be charitable, kind, selfless, independent, industrious, resilient and relentless in their pursuits. But most importantly, his passion for always doing the right thing was his greatest teaching. Faced with the most challenging situations, he taught to use a strict moral compass to guide you through even the most impossible situations, turning every negative into a positive. He believed that with the power of faith, focused attention, hard work and imagination, he could achieve anything and overcome any obstacle. He used this gift not only for the teachings in his own family, but to always actively serve the less fortunate every day without being asked to do so first. Those that know him were touched by this act of love and selflessness and will always remember him.

Special thanks to

everyone who has provided support to A. David and his family during these last few months. The family sends their sincere gratitude for the generosity and outpouring of love that they have received from everyone.

An intimate event to celebrate his life will take place on Aug. 19. Details

will be announced.

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

Nolan Maddix Stolz, 16 months

On Aug. 29, 2018, we lost precious Nolan Maddix Stolz. His beautiful smile touched many hearts.

Baby Nolan will be remembered by his beloved brother, Darien Stolz; parents, Stephen Stolz and Allison Stolz, formerly of Kalispell; paternal grandparents, Christopher Stolz and his wife, Cheri, and Pamela Stolz and Cheryl Perkins; maternal grandparents, Brock Short and Melissa Short of Kalispell; great-grandmothers, Stella Rhodes and Joan Cassidy; aunts, Sierra Brown, Kimberly Stolz, and Jennifer Stolz; uncle,



Daniel Stolz; and numerous other extended family and friends.

Baby Nolan

enjoyed playing with his big brother, Darien, and their many toys, drinking his bottle of milk and eating French fries. He will be dearly missed by his loving family.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 4, at the Petersburg Chapel of J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home in Petersburg, Virginia. The family will

receive friends following the service until 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be donated to Ronald McDonald House, 2330 Monument Ave, Richmond, VA 23220; or Richmond Fisher House, C/O Brent Wilkinson 300 Arboretum Place, Suite 660, Richmond, VA 23236.

Condolences may be registered at www.jtmorris.com.

A line from his favorite bed time story, "The moon is high, the sea is deep, we rock, and rock, and rock to sleep."

Mildred Elizabeth (Bahr) Storie, 92

Mildred Elizabeth (Bahr) Storie, 92, passed away on June 25, 2018, in Kalispell.

She was born on June 11, 1926, in the LaSalle community near Kalispell. Mildred was the oldest of five children. She was raised in Bigfork and graduated from Bigfork High School.

Mildred married Kenneth G. Storie at the Bigfork Methodist Church in 1949, and was married for 66 years at the time of Kenny's death in 2015.

Mildred worked for many years at the First National Bank, which became Norwest Bank and then, Wells Fargo Bank, from which she retired.

Mildred was a member of the Epworth United



Methodist Church, a past Guardian of Bethel No. 14 of the International Order of

Job's Daughters, and also a member of the Adah Chapter 17 of the Order of Eastern Star.

Mildred was a very social lady who loved to participate in neighborhood gatherings. She loved time with family and friends at lake homes, first on Bitterroot Lake and later on Flathead Lake. She also enjoyed spending winters in Arizona with Kenny. Mildred loved fresh flowers and almost always had a bouquet in her liv-

ing room.

Her favorite food was pizza from Moose's with a cold beer, and she always looked forward to cherries from Flathead Lake.

Mildred was preceded in death by her parents Robert and Caroline (Jellison) Bahr, husband Kenneth Storie, and a sister Eleanor May Bahr.

Mildred is survived by her daughter, Karen (Storie) Dean, of Kalispell and Lake Havasu City, Arizona; son, Glenn Alan Storie, of Kalispell; brothers, Walter (Joann) Bahr and Stephen (June) Bahr; and sister, Roberta (Russell) Brooks; grandchildren, Zachary (Vanessa) Wheat of Spokane and Brooke Dean of Oakland, California; great-grand-

children, Emery, Tucker and Presley Wheat of Spokane; and by numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

A celebration of Mildred's life will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 3, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Her ashes will be placed with those of her husband at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to Flathead Lakers, P.O. Box 70, Polson, MT 59860.

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

Carl T. Storkson, 69

Carl T. Storkson passed away on March 17, 2018, at his home in Hot Springs.

He was born on May 19, 1948, to George William and Margaret Katherine Miller Storkson in Whitefish.

He graduated from high school in Whitefish and served in the United States Army in Germany.

He is survived by four children, Charles (Cindy) Storkson, Scott (Donna) Storkson, Trisha (Jeff) Trump and Angela Storkson; his brother, Richard Storkson; and three sisters, Eloise Storkson Black Egtvedt, Shirley Storkson Hake Emery, and Betty Lou Storkson Whitman; grandchildren, Kye Weber, Edd Trump, Anthony Sundh, Steele Mikesell, Cody Mikesell, Travis Mikesell, Victoria Mikesell, Shyla Storkson and Leya Storkson Anderson; and five great-grandchildren, Jaden Storkson, Lilly Storkson, Aumen Mikesell, Cameron and Alex Mikesell.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Joan D. Hutchinson Storkson; one son, C.J. (Carl John) Storkson; his parents; three brothers, Mike (Marvin) D. Storkson, Delbert R. Storkson and William Russell Peter Storkson; and two sisters, Ada Loretta Joyce Storkson Edwards and Vivian Laverne Storkson.

While serving in the Army, Carl worked another job to save



money so he could purchase a sawmill when he returned home. This dream became reality and Carl was in the lumber

business, which later became known as C & D Lumber and then Good Creek Lumber in Olney. In the beginning, he logged his own timber and hauled it back to the mill where he processed it.

He and his wife Joan raised their family in Olney.

It is hard to find a more generous, compassionate person than Carl was. He died believing in a handshake.

He ran for county commissioner in 1996 and was very much a conservative and believed in people's rights.

In 2006, Carl and Joan moved to Hot Springs where he set up his lumber mill and continued his business.

He has touched many, many lives in his 69 years and will be greatly missed by his friends and family.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. on April 4 at the VFW, 20 Baker Avenue, in Whitefish.

Donations can be made to the Storkson family at 1896 Highway 28, Hot Springs, MT 59845.

Marilyn Jeannine Strand, 86

Marilyn Jeannine Strand passed away Jan. 27, 2018, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born in Hardin, the fourth child of Art and Effie Koebbe. She graduated from Hardin High School. While attending Montana State College she met the love of her life. Myron and Marilyn were married in 1952. Following their marriage they were stationed in Texas, Alabama, Alaska and Kansas while Myron learned to fly with the U.S. Army.

In 1964 they settled in Kalispell where Marilyn put her skills to work making a home for them, raising their five children and supporting Myron as they operated the family business, Strand Aviation.

They were members of the First Presbyterian Church where she served in the Stephen Ministry and was a deacon. She was active in PEO, Rainbow Girls, MPA, bridge, poker and sewing clubs, and she volunteered her time in recent years at the Museum at Central School.

Marilyn is survived by husband, Myron Strand; and her children, Daya (John) Horine, Deanna



(Don) Dyk, Dwayne (Carol) Strand, Danette (Ty) Adams, and Darryl (Christy)

Strand. She is also survived by 12 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters Arleyne and Joyce, and her brother Ronald Koebbe.

Marilyn is best known for her love of family, her skills at organizing family events, time with friends, and her love for travel.

In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to her some favorite charities: Wings Regional Cancer Support or the Montana Pilots Association.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Christopher Gill and the loving caregivers and staff at the Bee Hive Homes of Kalispell.

A celebration of her life will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 3, at the Elks Lodge, 1820 U.S. Hwy. 93 South in Kalispell.

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

CRAIG STRANDBERG, 61

March 18, 2018 at 5:00 am |



Craig Strandberg, a resident of Lakeside, died on March 8, 2018, at the age of 61, after a long fight with cancer.

Craig is survived by his beloved wife, Sue; daughters, Tara and Chris (Carmichael), Mariah (Connolly) and Joe (Zumwalt), and son, Ian (Chrisman) and MJ (Santamas); cherished grandchildren, Violet, Charlotte, Declan, Oliver and Keir; loving mother, Darlene; mother-in law, Sarah Sally (Bowman); aunts, Norma (Long), Yvonne (Bishop), and Geraldine (Johnson); brothers, Bruce, Tony and Michael; and his sister, Dee (Bradford).

He was predeceased by his brothers, Dave, Mark and Kevin; and father Vern. Known to his family and friends as a man with endless capacity for love, he leaves behind many nieces, nephews, a large extended family, and friends too great to number.

Craig was born in Williston, North Dakota, on July 23, 1956, to Vern and Darlene Strandberg. Serving in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War as a sonar operator on submarines, he went on to have a distinguished career at the Department of Defense.

On May 19, 1999, he married his best friend, Sue, took in her family as his own, and soon found his calling as the world's best Grandpa and Pop-Pop.

Craig retired in 2016, with a Distinguished Service Medal, to devote his time completely to his family.

Craig was an avid skier, who enjoyed hiking and backpacking in the Bob Marshall wilderness, traveled the globe, and loved fishing and hunting. A problem-solver who often took on projects at work and around the house, he always helped others. A winning smile and open personality made others feel loved and accepted, and he was friend to all he met. He will be deeply missed by his friends, family, and all who knew him.

No funeral will be held, but a memorial is pending.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the charity of your choice, and strike up a conversation with a stranger, if possible, on a chair lift. Friends are encouraged to visit the website www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

James E. Strodbeck, 85

Our father, our grandfather, our brother and our friend, James Edwin Strodbeck, passed away April 11, 2018 in Glasgow. He is now at peace and pain-free as an angel high in the mountaintops of Montana. We were blessed to have "Jimmy" in our lives for 85 years and he touched the lives of so many across the Big Sky Country. He was a master with his hands as a stonemason for over 50 years, creating masterpieces throughout the states of Washington, Idaho and Montana. If he wasn't building a stone wall, he was remodeling or building a house. He was a lover of nature and avid outdoorsman, always hunting, packing or fishing. He knew the mountains of Montana and could tell you some amazing stories of the woods. He was a master gardener and had a pas-



sion for growing the best flowers and vegetables. Most of all, Jim was one with a generous heart, helping and giving to all.

Jim was born in Missoula on Jan. 18, 1933. After graduating from high school in 1952, he played college football for the Eastern Washington Eagles. Shortly after starting college, he began serving with the Army and served during the Korean War. He settled in Kalispell where he began a masonry apprenticeship with Louis Phillips. After his apprenticeship, he owned his own business for six years and even-

tually started working with Bud Anderson at Anderson Masonry until retirement. He perfected his trade, becoming an expert and revered artist of mason work. He built a home in East Glacier where he lived for twenty years. He eventually settled in Nashua, next to the "Mighty Milk River," as he called it, for the last 15 years.

What will we do without your creative ideas to make things work? What will we do without your salty humor? What will we do without having you here to flick your nose? What will we do without your presence? You will be missed father, grandfather, brother and friend.

Jim is survived by his children, Kathy Ray, Mark (Lori) Strodbeck, Teri (Wayne) McMichael, Tim (Chris) Strodbeck, and Cindy (Mike)

Donohue; 11 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and sisters, Marilyn and Jean. He was preceded in death by his parents, Vernon and Marjorie; brother, Russell; sister, Virginia; son-in-law, Kirby.

Family, friends and loved ones whose lives Jim touched are invited to visit from 10:00 to 11 a.m. at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home at 525 S Main St. in Kalispell on Friday, April 20, 2018. Funeral Services follow at 11 a.m. A Celebration of Life event will be at 1:30 p.m. at the Eagles Club on 37 1st St. W in Kalispell. A second Celebration of Life luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. for his friends in Nashua at the Nashua Senior Center on 70 Temple St.

Brian Sullivan, 71

Brian Francis Sullivan, a longtime resident of Whitefish, passed away in the early morning of March 20, 2018, under the tender care of his wife Gail and supported by hospice, family and friends.

Brian was born in Brooklyn, New York, on Jan. 31, 1947, the first child of Roger and Elizabeth Sullivan. He was joined in quick succession by sister Maurie, brother Roger Jr., sister Deirdre, and later, brother Terry.

Although Brian spent his first nine years on Long Island in striking distance of LaGuardia and Idlewild Airports (JFK) where his father worked as chief of tower, there was rarely a vacant field, pond or puddle that escaped his attention. When the family relocated to Colorado Springs in 1956, it vastly expanded the range of Brian's explorations. His bedroom was filled with aquariums and cages holding snakes, amphibians and reptiles brought home from his forays in the foothills and along the creeks of Cheyenne Canyon. Brian wasted little of his keen intelligence on school, which he often found too confining for his interests. Like many of his generation he received a draft notice. He then enlisted in the Air Force where he served four years, for much of which he was sta-



tioned in Thailand and the Philippines on crews supplying bases in Vietnam.

His lessons from these experiences were reflected in his deep respect for all peoples and his abiding sense of the tragedy of war.

Soon after returning to Colorado, Brian struck gold. He met Gail Underdahl, a student at the local community college. They were married on May 25, 1974, and together became known for their enduring kindness, community service and hospitality, including at numerous backyard barbecues and RV outings that found Brian at the grill.

Brian made his living as a registered land surveyor, and for many years operated F&H Surveying of Whitefish with his partner Bob Hanger. Surveying suited Brian's skills and interests as it required him to spend a lot of time outside and called on his considerable skill with geometry and math.

Brian discovered his deepest passion and joy paddling on the rivers and lakes of Western Montana.

He spent countless "river days" on our classic whitewater streams, usually with kayaking buddies and great friends Mike Fitzgerald, Craig Drynan, and others. Brian always enjoyed sharing his knowledge and in his easy-going and supportive manner instructed scores of novices who went on to become accomplished paddlers. Once the snow hit, Brian was out on cross-country skis. He volunteered as a coach with Glacier Nordic's youth league programs for more than 30 years. More enduring than what Brian did is how he did it. He was unfailingly kind to all he encountered, including the dogs and cats lucky enough to be rescued by Brian and Gail. He was the best friend that you could hope for — the one who didn't need to say much, yet you always knew cared deeply — and he was a beloved uncle to Shinnah, Sean, Jason, Chad, Brian, Tara, Conor, Logan and Sam. A celebration of Brian's life will be held Saturday, June 16, at the Moose Lodge in Whitefish, beginning at 4 p.m. It will be an opportunity to celebrate Brian's life and share stories about our experiences and memories of him.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Brian's name to Montana Kayak Academy (www.mon-tanakayakacademy.com) to support their free youth programs.

James N. Sutton, 86

James Nelson Sutton, age 86, passed away on Jan. 28, 2018 in Kirkland, Wash. James was born March 7, 1931 in Stafford, Ohio to William Brady and Freeda (Van Fossen) Sutton. Then the family moved to Montana, where James graduated from Flathead High School in 1950. He entered the U.S. Navy in 1950 and was honorably discharged in 1955. On Oct. 20, 1956 he married Shirley (Cramer) in Kalispell. They celebrated 61 years of marriage. James worked at Ross Shipyard and Alaska Ships as a Mechanical Engineer. He loved planting and all things to do with gardening. James



was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Shirley. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018 at 1 p.m. at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home with burial to follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Friends are encouraged to send notes of condolence to www.buffalohillfh.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Mary Melinda 'Mindy' Swan, 50

Mary Melinda "Mindy" Swan passed away at home in her sleep on Dec. 31, 2017, surrounded by her family.

Mindy was born in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, on July 26, 1967. She grew up in State College, Pennsylvania, with her wonderful parents Bill and Mary Lou Swan, and her protective big brother Dave. Mindy graduated from State College Area High School in 1985 where she excelled in art, field hockey and swimming. She loved working summers at Krislund Camp where she made many lifelong friends.

Mindy attended Gettysburg College, graduating in 1989 with a major in psychology and studio art or, in her own words, "Do you want fries with that?" During her college years, Mindy was involved with social justice issues and received the Edwin and Leander M. Zimmerman Senior Prize for her character, influence on students, and contribution to the well-being of the college.

After graduating, she loaded up her Mazda truck with her guitar and bike and set out for a summer job in Glacier National Park. While working in the park she fell in love with the mountains and decided to make Montana her new home.

Mindy worked for School District No. 6 in Columbia Falls, Northwest Montana Human Resources, and Montessori School in Whitefish.

She married Dan Frankino in the summer of 1991, and two years



later they welcomed their amazing daughter Maggie.

Despite a 24-year battle

with cancer, Mindy always had a positive outlook on life and looked forward to the next adventure. She knew how to have fun and live each day to the fullest, and she inspired others to do the same.

She loved to garden, hike, ski and camp with family and friends.

She was an artistic and creative soul and always had a project or two in play.

Mindy was preceded in death by her dad Bill Swan, her father-in-law John Frankino, and her brother-in-law Steve Frankino.

Mindy is survived by her husband Dan, daughter Maggie, mom Mary Lou, brother Dave, mother-in-law Aggie, sisters-in-law Janice (Stuart) Doggett, and Kathi, brother-in-law Dave, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. She also leaves behind her dog Toby.

If you would like to send a memorial in honor of Mindy, the family would suggest WINGS, P.O. Box 7852, Kalispell, MT 59904, Camp Mak-A-Dream: campdream.org, and/or First Descents: first-descents.org; or a charity of your choice.

At Mindy's request, a celebration of her life will be held on Saturday, July 21, in Whitefish.

Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish is caring for the family.

Lynda Gay More Swartzenberger, 74

Lynda Gay More Swartzenberger, 74, lost her battle with cancer on June 26, 2018.

She was at home with her husband, Danny Swartzenberger, her children, Bill Franklin, Tony Swartzenberger and Lisa Franklin Nicholls, her sister, Carol Crismore and brother-in-law William Crismore.

Lynda is survived by her husband, Danny, son Bill Franklin, of Kalispell, daughter Lisa Franklin Nichols (Tory) of Helena, and Tony Swartzenberger (Stephanie) of Kalispell, her sisters Carol Crismore (William) of Libby and Jackie Wells of Fort Myers, Florida, step-brother Roger Wells of Spokane, and stepson Bradley Swartzenberger of Washington. She is

also survived by seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Donald More, mother, Bertha Wells, stepfather George Wells and step-brother Larry Wells.

Lynda was a great and loving caregiver to her mother and her stepfather in their final stages of life.



Her family was the highlight of her life. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Lynda had two cats, Puddy and Bozo. Puddy especially was a comfort to her.

Lynda was born June 6, 1944, in Hot Springs. She was raised and attended school in Hot Springs. She married Michael Franklin in 1964 and the couple had two children, William R. Franklin and Lisa M. Franklin. Lynda was remarried to Dan Swartzenberger in 1972. The couple had one son, Anthony G. Swartzenberger.

Lynda and Danny lived for many years in Kalispell while raising their family. During her last years the couple lived in Polson next door to her parents and were a great help to them.

A memorial service is planned for 3 p.m. Aug. 10 at the Eagles at 37 First St. W., Kalispell. Her family and friends are all welcome to attend.

Melvin Switzler, 88

Melvin "Mugsy" Switzler was born in Renton, Washington, Aug. 31, 1929, to George and Opal Switzler.

He passed peacefully at Heritage Place in Kalispell on June 20, 2018, after spending three years at Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork.

Mel's early years were spent in Renton with siblings, Charles, Helen and Roy. His first job was logging with his dad. He also worked alongside his dad in the construction of Hungry Horse Dam.

He developed a love of the great outdoors and the mountains. Mel and his first wife Gladys were members of Green River Valley Jeep Club. They spent many happy days exploring the mountains of Washington.

Mel worked many years at Pacific Car and Foundry. When it closed, he worked for Kenworth Truck Co., until his retirement.

After Gladys' death, Mel met and married his dear wife Rosalee, "Rosie" not only gave

Mel a loving family, but also had a love of the mountains. After retiring, they moved to Montana and settled in Bigfork. Mel spent 30-plus years hunting and fishing with son-in-law Silvestre.

Mel will long be remembered as a generous man and was always there for friends and family. He loved the wildlife around his place, and loved supplying nutrition to young does and fawns.

When health permitted, they attended Bigfork Chapel where Mel and Rose enjoyed the fellowship.

The family would like to thank friends and staff at Lakeview and Heritage Place for their loving care of both Mel and Rosie. A special thanks to Silvestre "Chivete" and Kathy "Kat" Rodriguez for being the loving family he needed in his later years.

Mel requested no services be held. A memorial is planned for later this summer.