

Billie Joyce LaBudde, 77

PAY 12 Jan 2019
Billie Joyce LaBudde, 77, passed away peacefully in her sleep at home the morning of Friday, Jan. 18, 2019.



An outstanding entrepreneur and business woman specializing in finance, she achieved the rank of vice president in five high tech compa-

nies. She is survived by her husband of 41 years, Edward; and daughters, Angela, Laura, Amanda and Kim; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

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.

Buddy Roy Lancaster, 56

Buddy Roy Lancaster, 56, of Thompson Falls, formerly of Bigfork, died Feb. 7, 2019, at home of

natural causes.

He was a contractor. Services will be held in late spring.

Launa Crede Lackey, 74

Launa Crede Lackey, 74, passed away at home on Nov. 2, 2019, after an 18-month battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Launa was born to Joe and Marcy Crede on Jan. 30, 1945, in Sargent, Nebraska. She joined brother John. Joe was a flight engineer for TWA and as a result the family moved several times. Preschool years were spent in Cairo, Egypt, grade school years in Prairie View, Kansas, and high school years in Fullerton, California. Along the way Launa became a champion swimmer, and avid surfer and skier. She decided on a career in education helping young people.

Launa earned a bachelor's degree from Northern Arizona University and master's degree from the University of Colorado - Boulder. She spent close to 30 years teaching, inspiring, and counseling students in elementary, high school and college settings. She was an advocate for education and children.

Launa met Jim Lackey in a bar in Boulder. They wed two years later on April Fool's Day and began a 45-year adventure together. They decided to move north and spent eight years in the Gallatin Valley. Sons Jebb and Cole were



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born in Bozeman. The family lived in Sitka, Alaska, for six years and spent one year in

Prescott, Arizona. They have lived in the Flathead Valley since 1989.

Launa greeted everyone with a smile. Her enthusiasm and fun personality were an addition to any group.

Launa was creative and artistic. Her passion was metal sculpture and her piece, "Marcy Mae," has greeted thousands of women as they enter the Image Center in Kalispell. Her creations grace many homes and make people smile.

Launa was a giving person. She liked to make life better for other people. She enjoyed being an active member of the Lakeside Community Club and looked forward to weekly games of mah-jong. She loved to talk on the phone with her friends and was not above a bit of gossip.

Launa and Jim have spent the last dozen winters with their Canadian and Mexican friends at the Flamingo Trailer Park in Rincon De Guayabitos, Mexico. A gathering will be held in her honor at the Flamingo next January.

After learning of her

terminal disease, Launa decided she wanted to attend her own celebration of life party. On March 31, friends and family, of all ages, joined for a Mexican potluck, dancing and many hugs. The party also celebrated the 45th anniversary of her marriage to Jim.

During the last several months Launa was blessed to receive many cards, flowers, prayers and visits from old and new friends. Some of the words said about Launa include: fun, gracious, giving, smart, inspirational, creative, amazing, kind, thoughtful, compassionate, loving and talented. A tribute to a wonderful woman.

She is survived by the most important thing in her life and her legacy: her family. Husband and best friend Jim; son Jebb and wife Shanti, grandson Tayen and granddaughter Carys; son Cole and wife Heather, grandsons Jax and Bo; and her beloved goldendoodle Hank. This group, affectionately known as the LacPac, will deeply miss her guidance,

wit, passion for having fun and her unconditional love. In her words Launa said, "Parenting is the most difficult job I have ever done and a lot of the time I was not sure I was doing it right - but my two sons are the joy of my life."

The family thanks the Kalispell Regional Healthcare system for their excellent care. Special thanks go to the entire staff at Woodland Clinic and the team at Home Options.

The family will have a private service in the future.

Donations in Launa's honor may be made to the Lakeside Community Club, P.O. Box 481, Lakeside, MT 59922.

Betty Mae (Bush) LaCroix, 92

Betty Mae (Bush) LaCroix, 92, passed away peacefully on June



7, 2019, at the Immanuel Lutheran home in Kalispell with her family by her side.

Born in Overly, North Dakota, to Victor and Alice (Ricketts) Bush, Betty was the second of seven children and a bit of a tomboy. In her youth she loved riding the family horses Topsy and Queenie and always preferred milking the cows and shucking wheat instead of sewing.

She had many talents, among them being a gifted portrait artist and poet. She was an avid reader and a wonderful cook and baker. She was also a devoted wife and a loving mother to seven children as well as a foster mom to children needing a loving home.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, sisters Dorothy Langenfeld and Evelyn Timmerman, and brother Lloyd Bush, husband Oscar LaCroix, second husband Alfred LaCroix, and sons Daniel

LaCroix and Michael LaCroix.

She is survived by her children, Rick (Kathy) LaCroix of Overland Park, Kansas, Ted (Wanda) LaCroix of Grecia, Costa Rica, Anne LaCroix of Missoula, Laurie LaCroix of Kalispell, and Robin (Carolyn) LaCroix of Kalispell; as well as 12 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Her surviving siblings are Helen (Buck) Ruppelius of Saint John, North Dakota, Lois Green of Yakima, Washington, and Donnie (Joni) Bush of Langdon, North Dakota.

A memorial Mass will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 13, at Risen Christ Catholic Church. A graveside service will be held in North Dakota at a later date.

The family would like to thank the Immanuel Lutheran Home staff for all their care.

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.

Shawn Lake, 63

Shawn Lake, 63, died Thursday, July 4, 2019 at Brendan House in Kalispell. Shawn was born on June 10, 1956.

Services are currently pending at this time. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Ray Lagleder Sr., 98

Raymond Edward Lagleder, Sr., 98, of Kalispell, died Friday, Nov. 8, 2019.

Ray was born Oct. 13, 1921, in Smithville, Bastrop County, Texas, to Alvis and Mary Lagleder.

He married Mary Edith McSween on Dec. 20, 1951.

He retired from Moore Business Forms after 40 years of service. His career in IBM punched card machine accounting started with the U.S. Ordinance Department in March 1940. He was named in the 1962 Who's Who in Data Processing and maintained a lifelong



interest in accounting machines and computers. He served four years on the Denton (Texas) Planning and Zoning commission; one year as chairman, during development of the first Denton Master Plan. He also served two years on the Denton City Council.

Ray loved music; big band, boogie woogie, blues and country. His music collection numbered over 20,000 songs.

As a teenager, he played and sang at local rodeos in and around the San Antonio (Texas) area.

He was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife Mary, his son Raymond Lagleder Jr. and wife Margie, granddaughter Brittany Weese and her husband Kenny, all of Kalispell, grandson Bradley Graves of Denton, Texas, five great-grandchildren, brother Louis Lagleder of Castroville, Texas, brother George Lagleder and his wife Patricia of La Coste, Texas, and

numerous nieces and nephews. A Memorial Mass will be held at 3 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Immaculate Conception Church of Denton, Texas, Peppermint Ridge, or St. Jude.

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.

Brenda M. Lamb, 37



Brenda M. Lamb passed away Oct. 5, 2019, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center with her loving family by her side.

Brenda was born in Wyoming to Dave and Debbie Lamb. She was born April 5, 1982, well before her due date. She was tiny, but mighty. From day one, she had her daddy wrapped around her little finger according to her older siblings. She had a fierce independent streak and always did things her own way.

When she was in first grade, her family moved to Columbia Falls, where she spent most of her school years attending Deer Park and Columbia Falls schools. Brenda's loving daughter, Emily, was born in 2000. After Emily was born she became Brenda's little sidekick, especially in the later years. Even though they had immense family support it was often Brenda and Emily against the world right up to the very end. Brenda taught her daughter how to be strong and independent.

Brenda was fun loving and was always up for a good time. She loved to spend time at many of the local lakes with her daughter and friends. Her all-time favorite was Flathead Lake. Brenda played a mean game of Uno and Sorry! She always seemed to have

the winning luck, much to her older brother's exasperation! In her quiet time she practically wore out her library card reading anything she could get her hands on.

Brenda was preceded in death by her Grams, Jack Lamb, her Uncle Ted Mahana, and her best friend Lindsay Johnstone.

Brenda is survived by her daughter Emily Lamb and fiancé Connor Graham of Kalispell; mother, Debbie Lamb; father, Dave Lamb; brother, Chet (Katrina) and his sons Joe and Luke Lamb, all of Columbia Falls; sister, Jessie (Jamie) Farrar, and her children Ashley, Tyler and Justin, of Florida; grandmother, Dolores Lamb, of Columbia Falls, and grandparents Sid and Marge Whitford of Colorado. She is also survived by her best friend Jean Johnstone of Columbia Falls, as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Special thank you to those who cared for her at KMRC. Private family services are planned. Buffalo Hills Funeral Home is caring for her family.

Carter Scott Lamoreaux, 5



Carter Scott Lamoreaux was welcomed into the loving arms of Jesus on Feb. 19, 2019.

"If love could have saved you, you would have lived forever."

What a joyful day it was when he first started brightening our world on Nov. 15, 2013. Carter was born in Kalispell to parents Shawn Lamoreaux and Mileah Roberts.

This beautiful, loving little boy will be remembered for being joyful, helpful, courageous and always loving. Carter enjoyed building with Legos, reading books, challenging himself with difficult puzzles, singing nursery rhymes and dancing. He had the biggest heart for absolutely everyone he knew. Carter was extremely intelligent and was always eager to learn new things. His smile and laughter were contagious and will never be forgotten. Carter's greatest joy was being a big brother to three younger siblings. His eyes would light up and he loved sharing with them and teaching them everything he could. Carter could be found kissing his baby sister's cheeks and hugging his brother Blake, his eyes twinkling like theirs.

Carter was a very energetic little boy with the biggest heart.

Everyone that met him couldn't help but fall in love with his spunky personality. Carter was always busy. He loved to dance, play sports, sled, kayak, hike, play board games, go on carnival rides, go to the park and finally learned to love water and swimming. At the end of the day, he loved his cuddles while reading him a book (or all of the books). He loved apple juice, strawberry milk, chicken nuggets and French fries along with all the candy in the world, especially Sour Patch Kids, his favorite. He started school this year at Head Start.

He was above average in his class, he could count past 100, do simple addition, sing his ABCs, write his own name as well as spell out other words by sounding them out. Ryan's Toy Adventure was always on his iPad. Last but not least, Carter loved his family, hanging out and having sleepovers. He loved to pretend cook food and serve it to you. His bear hugs and nonstop kisses went around a couple times before he would leave. Then it was off to bed with his Pikachu.

Carter is survived by his daddy Shawn Lamoreaux and his fiancée Megan Baker, and mommy Mileah Roberts and her fiancée Austin Young; his little brother, Blake Lamoreaux; his baby sisters, Sylvia Young and Ava Lamoreaux; his grandparents, Heidi Long, Jeff Lamoreaux, Kari Hooper and her husband Mark, Shane Roberts; aunt, Seonna Lamoreaux; uncle, Brock Hooper; great-grandparents, John and Sonja Emerson, Ron Lamoreaux, Renee Berner, Jerry Hanson, Jo Roberts Danell and Jack Roberts; great-great-grandparent, Jean Emerson; as well as countless other family, extended family and friends.

Carter was preceded in death by his great-grandpa Bryce Berner, and his great-grandma Vicki Lamoreaux.

The Roberts family invites friends and family to a celebration of Carter's life at 10 a.m. this Thursday, Feb. 28, at Northridge Lutheran Church, 323 Northridge Drive in Kalispell. A lunch reception will immediately follow at Northridge Lutheran's

Celebration Hall.

The Lamoreaux family will hold a celebration of Carter's life at 1 p.m. this Thursday, Feb. 28, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, 525 Main Street in Kalispell. A reception at Grouse Mountain Lodge, 2 Fairway Drive, will be held at 4 p.m. in Whitefish.

Memorials can be made to the Kalispell Regional Healthcare Foundation for its Pediatrics Unit or a charity of your choice.

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

Margaret Joan Langel, 67

Margaret Joan Langel, 67, died Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

No services are planned at this time. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

S. Elizabeth 'Libby' Larned, 99

Libby Larned, 99, of Surprise, Arizona, and formerly of Kalispell, died Aug. 20, 2019.

She is survived by her stepdaughter Denise Shanks of Kalispell, and stepson Terry Larned of Hemet, California.

Per her request, there will be no services. Cremation has taken place by Camino del Sol Funeral Chapel in Sun City, Arizona. Interment will be at VA National Cemetery in Missoula.

Deborah Rae Langford

April 25, 1956-April 30, 2019

Deborah Rae Langford of Whitefish died Tuesday, April 30, 2019 following an illness that took her life at her home in Stonecreek Apartments.

She was the daughter of Rachael K. Baus and Gerhard G. Baus of Billings, Montana.

She is survived by her three children:

Jason Daniel Calvin and Casey Danielle Calvin of Montana, and Corey Darnell Calvin of Whitefish.

Debbie was a good friend and neighbor. She was always helpful, friendly and kind-hearted. She loved animal and had many pets that were very, very close to her, especially her latest Cordero — the big orange cat. She loved Glacier

National Park and took many drives up there. She was very fond of the bears. You can see that in her beautiful decor and many puzzles put up inside her home.

Debbie you are safe in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ. You will be missed this summer, hope there is tomatoes up there!



Donald R. Larsen, 93

Donald R. Larsen, 93, passed away June 17, 2019, at Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork.

He was born July 23, 1925, near Culbertson, Montana, to Harry and Sena Larsen. He grew up on the family farm near Culbertson learning how to farm and work hard at a young age. His elementary school education included attending the McCabe School and a country school near the family farm. He graduated from Culbertson High School.

In 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served honorably during World War II. After discharge, he earned a degree in accounting from Kinman Business College in Spokane. Not liking office work, he began his career in surveying and engineering with the Montana Department of Highways (MDH) in 1950. He worked from 1950 until 1968 with the MDH and the Washington Department of Transportation. In 1968, the family moved to Kalispell and he worked for private land surveying firms in the Kalispell area. From 1973 until 1993 he owned a private land surveying business in Kalispell. In 1993 he semi-retired and his son Jeff took over his business. He continued to do surveying field and office work well



as an advisor into his 90s. Surveying was the passion and love of his life and up until his death he wished he could be out in the field doing survey work. He was a tremendous influence and mentor for his son Jeff who followed in his footsteps with a career in surveying and engineering.

In 1954 he married the love of his life, Isabel Lapp; they had two children, daughter Kim Larsen Snell and son Jeff Larsen. He was a wonderful father and grandfather and there was nothing more important to him than his family.

He is survived by daughter Kim Larsen Snell (Jim) of Kalispell; son Jeff Larsen (Ardis) of Lakeside; granddaughter Megan Larsen of Puyallup, Washington; and sister Ruby Beshara of Akron, Ohio.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Aug. 17 at Faith Free Lutheran Church, 405 Liberty Street, Kalispell. In lieu of flowers, please make any donations to Faith Free Lutheran Church or the Veterans Pantry.

Linda Rae (Kienas) Larson, 69

^{R A E 25 Dec 2019}
Linda Rae (Kienas) Larson passed away peacefully, surrounded by her family and loved ones at her home in Kalispell on Dec. 21, 2019.

Linda was born to Alice and Edward Kienas in Wallace, Idaho, on Aug. 6, 1950, and the world would never be the same again. Linda shared a life with six siblings; brothers Art, Bud, Kenny and Robert and sisters Cherris and Rosalie. At the age of 2 Linda and family moved to Kalispell, where she would create a life for herself.

At the age of 15 Linda met the love of her life, Calvin Larson, and they dated all through high school. On July 11, 1970, in a simple backyard wedding, she and Calvin said their I do's. With this union Linda gained an enormous family and the best in-laws a girl could have ever asked for (Leroy and Thelma Larson).

It was a short two years later that Calvin and Linda welcomed their first child into this world. On Dec. 2, 1972, Jeff arrived. Then on May 12, 1976, their daughter Cami was born. Chasing these two hellions around would keep Linda and Calvin busy for many years to come.

Linda was preceded in death by both her parents, Edward and Alice; her husband, Calvin; her in-laws, Leroy and



Thelma; and brothers, Art, Bud, Robert and Kenny, as well as sister

Rosalie.

She is survived by her children, Jeff and his spouse Susie, and Cami and her boyfriend Garrett; grandchildren, Keyawna and Ryder Larson and Melissa Nye; and great-grandchildren, Emery and Adalynn. Also surviving Linda is her sister Cherris Collier (Bill); sisters-in-law, Debbie (Greg) Mellum, and Charlotte (Jim) Wendt; and brother-in-law, Mike Larson; as well as too many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and loved ones to count — unless we took out a full-page ad in the newspaper.

Linda may be gone from this earth but never from the memories of her family.

There will be a graveside service at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 28, at Glacier Memorial Gardens. The family wishes to invite all of you to her celebration of life at the Moose Lodge, 5125 Hwy. 2 East on Saturday the 28th of December from 3 to 6 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making donations to one of the many charitable causes organized by the Moose Lodge.

Melvin Duane Larson, 82

FAS 26 May 2019

Melvin Duane Larson was born on May 20, 1937 in Hamilton to Melvin and Mary Larson. Duane passed away peacefully in his home, surrounded by his loved ones, after a short, courageous battle with pancreatic cancer on May 23, 2019.

He grew up in Great Falls, Seattle and Athol, Idaho. He graduated from Spirit Lake High School in 1954 as valedictorian of his class. He married Beverly Von Wald on June 28, 1954 in Athol. They enjoyed a beautiful marriage of 64 years until his recent passing. Duane and Beverly were blessed with three children: Darrell (deceased in 2016) and wife Pamela from Cheney, Washington, Tim (Chelsea), Kelly (Dale)



both living in Kalispell; and four grandchildren, Kyle of Portland, Ore.,

Claire of Helena, Paul and wife Brandy of Nashville, Tenn., Richard and wife Haley of Kalispell; and great-grandchildren, Jude, Kila, Kendall, Oliver, and Clint.

Duane was preceded in death by his son, Darrell; his parents, Melvin and Mary; sister, Darlene; in-laws, George and Maxine Von Wald; and brother in-law, Tom Von Wald; as well as several aunts, uncles and cousins and many good friends.

Duane held many

different jobs throughout his life, mostly two or three at a time. He worked at Jet Oil, Anaconda Aluminum, Kaiser Aluminum, Sears and Allstate Insurance. His real love and passion, though, was found in his career as a firefighter. Duane began as an Evergreen volunteer firefighter and, shortly after, joined the Kalispell Fire Department. He eventually retired as Fire Chief in 1988. During that time, he taught many classes locally, statewide, as well as several fire safety classes outside the state. He attended the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland nine times for further training.

After retiring from Kalispell Fire

Department, Duane worked at A&A Transport as the safety officer and bookkeeper.

Duane was also incredibly active and generous with his time in the community. He served on the Kalispell City Council for 23 years, was on the City County Health Department Board for 22 years, contributed to the Community Health Board for nearly 10 years as well as the Central School Museum Board for 10 years, just to name a few. He was also active at Northridge Lutheran Church. He lived a life of generosity and believed in acts of service with all of his heart.

Duane's hobbies included raising tropical fish, collecting stamps and coins, gardening and

spending quality time with his friends and family. He was also a prolific Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy master.

Duane touched the lives of many and will be greatly missed by all, especially his wife, Beverly, who will continue to carry on their legacy of community service and unconditional love for all.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. on May 28 at Northridge Lutheran Church with a reception to follow. Buffalo Hills Funeral Home is caring for the family. Memorials may be given to Northridge Lutheran Church or to the charity of your choice.

Judy Lynn Roquette Larson, 61

PA 6 6 Nov 2019

On Nov. 2, 2019, at approximately 8:15 p.m., the world lost its brightest light. Judy Lynn Roquette Larson (Kalispell) passed away peacefully surrounded by her family. Her sharp wit and love of joking carried with her all the way up to the end.



Judy, daughter of the late Ellen Verdelle "Vert" Roquette and the late Francis "Stub" Roquette, was born May 6, 1958, in South Dakota. She was the youngest of three girls, and as the baby she was loved tremendously by her parents and her two sisters, Sandy and Sue. As a young girl, her love for horses and competing was evident by the large amount of trophies and ribbons that her family proudly displayed at their home in Bismarck, North Dakota. After high school, she went on to compete at rodeos and would have two children, Anne "Annie" and Brad from her union with Gary Hepper (Fort Klamath,

Oregon).

She would eventually marry her life partner, Kim Larson, and would spend the remaining 23 years of her life being loved dearly by him. They had Scott Thomas Larson from this union and he would forever be her "baby boy."

Judy loved all three of her children deeply and spent many moments attending all their events, throwing amazing birthday parties, and spoiling them rotten on holidays. She also loved her three grandchildren, Adam, Allie and Dylan Hepper with all of her being. She loved to spoil them with toys and goodies that she knew would defy their parents' wishes because she believed that "Grandmas are supposed to be fun!"

She spent many years as a pillar of the Kalispell community through her partnership with Tamara Williams as owners of Insty Prints on Main. Those lucky to have encountered her there remember her as warm, fun, and always smiling with a quick wit that kept everyone

on their toes. She also loved spending every Halloween celebrating her love of Dolly Parton with her many variations of Dolly costumes that her co-workers and customers always loved. Her relationship with Tamara was far more than business partners; they were best friends and this bond would hold strong up until the day she passed.

Judy loved with all of her heart and never met a stranger. She loved entertaining, laughing and joking, and spending time with her many friends and family. She lived a life so full of love that it could have filled many lifetimes. She was an amazing, magical and loving woman and her absence will be felt tremendously by those that loved her.

Judy will be missed greatly by her family and friends, husband Kim Larson (Kalispell), daughter Anne Roquette (Dallas, son Brad Hepper (Klamath Falls) and his wife Rita Chappell, son Scott Larson (Billings), her three grandchildren, Adam, Allie and Dylan (all of Klamath Falls),

sister Sandy Helgeson (Windsor, Colorado) and her husband Jerry Helgeson, sister Sue Gersick (Colorado Springs, Colorado) and her husband Joe Gersick, Tamara Williams (Kalispell) and her husband Chuck Williams, her Insty Prints family, and her many, many friends and family throughout the Flathead Valley and the rest of the U.S.

Instead of a funeral service, the family will be holding a celebration of life party with the date to be announced, for all of those that wish to express their love for this remarkable woman and share our many stories.

Since she loved her rescued animals so much as well, in lieu of flowers, the family asks that you please make a donation in her name to your local animal shelter.

We love and miss you Mom! And this isn't a "goodbye" but a "see you later" as we know you are looking down on us from heaven with a smile, a heart full of love, and waiting to pull her next prank!

Wendy 'Booth' Larson, 51

Wendy "Booth" Larson, 51, of Bigfork, died Friday, Jan. 11, 2019, at her home.

She is survived by her husband Ryan, and children Abby Jean Pilati and Kammi Anne Pilati.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday,

Jan. 18, at Bethany Lutheran Church in Bigfork, with a graveside service Monday, Jan. 21, in Choteau.

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

Jessica Dawn Larter-Stephens, 42

On Saturday, Nov. 30, 2019, Jessica Dawn Larter-Stephens went to be with our Lord and Savior at the age of 42. Jessica was born to Alvan Larter Jr. and Deanne Baker-Krause Dec. 22, 1976. She was raised in Whitefish until she was 14 and at that time the family moved to North Pole, Alaska.

She was a very loving, caring, and mischievous person. She was always there to help when anybody needed a helping hand and she loved with all of her heart. Her family was her life and she was a very proud mother of her three children, Alexandria Stephens (Fairbanks, Alaska), Courtney Stephens, and



Trentan Stephens of Westport, Indiana.

Jessica loved people and got along with many through her job as a cook at the Nenana Student Living Center and co-owner of Arctic Sweets & Treat, with her daughter Alexandria, serving the community and a lot of tourists. She had the gift of gab and loved meeting and interacting with many different people.

She is survived by her children, Alexandria, Courtney and Trentan; her mother, Deanne Baker-Krause, (Deryl)

of Nenana, Alaska; her father, Alvan "Butch" Larter Jr. (Liza) of St. Paul, Minnesota; her brothers, Travis Banning (Patti) of North Pole, Micheal Larter of Free Port, Illinois, Zachery Larter (Kristen) of Waverley Iowa, Kyle Krause (Anesha) of Anchorage, Alaska, David Banning (Lori), Josh Banning, Jim Banning, all in Spokane, and Jesse Banning (Katie) of Bonners Ferry, Idaho; sister, Kelly Nee-Skinner (Shawn) of Lewiston, Idaho; her grandparents, Norman and Mary Davis, of Kalispell; uncles, Ron Davis (Brenda), Kenneth Baker (Karen), Clint Baker (Yiting) and Ross Baker; aunts, Rebecca

Padgett, Ramona Pieper (Hank), and Mary "Missy" Davis-Vance; numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Erling and Veda Engebretson; grandfather, Roger Baker; uncles, Dean Baker and Ordean Engebretson; and aunts, Bonnie Anderson and Geraldine Baker.

Our loving angel, Jessica, will be missed by family, friends and anyone who knew her.

A celebration of her life will be at 10 a.m. on Dec. 14 at St. Matthew's Catholic School, with a potluck to follow.

Thank you for your love and prayers.

Janet Rae (Barnard) Lasater, 75

PAG 27 NOV 2019
Janet Rae (Barnard) Lasater, 75, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully Thursday, Nov. 21 with her family by her side after a long and courageous battle with multiple sclerosis. Janet's strength and determination were an inspiration to all and she will be deeply missed.

Janet was born March 22, 1944 in Kalispell and was a lifelong resident. She graduated from Flathead High School in 1962.

She married her true love and husband of 57 years, Ed, in 1962 and their family grew with the adoption of Justin in 1973 and Jesse in 1977.

Janet is survived by her husband Ed, daughter and son-in-law Jesse and Kris Keller, son and daughter-in-law Justin and Amber and granddaughter Madison, sisters-in-law Sandra Rosetti, Olivia Pauli and niece Jamie Lyman, stepsiblings, numerous relatives and many dear friends.

Janet loved all outdoor activities, horses



and dancing but was happiest spending time with her family, friends and her

beloved dogs.

The family would like to thank the staff at Heritage Place for the kindness and care given to Janet.

A celebration of life will be held at the family home from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1, with a bonfire to honor Janet's love of the outdoors. All are welcome to come and share your favorite memories.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to Save a Sister Flathead County or the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

Ruth Laugen, 81

Ruth Laugen, 81, died April 28, 2019, at Invigorate of Whitefish.

She is survived by her husband Al Fernandez, and her chil-

dren.

No services are planned at this time.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

Dale W. Lauman, 80

Feb 8 Dec 2019



Dale W. Lauman, 80, a third-generation Montanan and lifelong Somers/Lakeside resident, died Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center after a courageous 10-year battle with cancer and other serious health challenges.

Though we will miss him terribly, we are thankful that his earthly struggles are over and that he is safely in the presence of the God he faithfully loved and served.

The words of the Apostle Paul in the book of 2 Timothy can certainly be applied to Dale: "He fought the good fight, he finished the race, he kept the faith."

Well done, good and faithful servant.

Dale W. Lauman was born in Kalispell on July 4, 1939, the only child of Willis and Florence Bruce Lauman. He attended Somers schools and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1958. He worked at Montgomery Ward in Kalispell and at Sliter's in Somers before beginning his 30-year career with the U.S. Postal Service.

He married Lois LaBrant on Dec. 31, 1965, at Bethany Lutheran Church in Bigfork. They had no children. Their marriage was a loving partnership that spanned nearly 54 years. Lois was a fierce advocate for Dale throughout his life, especially during the decade after he was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma in 2009, during his term as Flathead County Commissioner.

Throughout his health challenges, Dale never complained, and when asked how he felt, he would say "great" on good days and "pretty good" on the bad days. He kept his positive attitude, steady disposition and sweet smile through his last breath.

Dale's career with the Postal Service included a number of special assign-

ments that took him around the country, including 18 months in Washington, D.C.,

as interim director of Human Resources. He also coordinated and facilitated a Quality of Work Life/Employee and Employer-involved project. He served as postmaster in Somers and Bigfork for 19 years. He retired from the Postal Service in 1992.

Dale's community involvement included a litany of boards, commissions and local projects. He was a charter member of the Flathead Lake Lions, headed up the Frosty project in Somers and Lakeside, was a charter member of the Somers Fire Department, and was active in the Republican Party, the Somers Town Project and Lakeside Community Chapel.

He sat on many boards, including the Somers County Water and Sewer District, Flathead County Solid Waste, Western Montana Mental Health, Agency on Aging and Lakeside Community Council.

He was a Flathead County Commissioner from 2007 to 2012 and loved working for the people of Flathead County.

Wherever he served, he brought a calming presence and wisdom that defined his personality.

The family would like to thank the team of doctors who provided health care during the time of his illness: Dr. Goodman, Dr. Roop, Dr. Obermiller, Dr. Hoppes and Dr. Peterson. Special thanks go to the nurses at the KRMC Infusion Room. He thought every one of them was special and he looked forward to seeing them. The day he died, several of his nurses came to check on him and say good-bye.

Dale was preceded in

death by his grandparents; his dad, Bill (1986); mom Flora (2018); in-laws Duane LaBrant (1971); Virginia (2010); his brother-in-law Harlan LaBrant (1968) and nephew Darron Baker (2018).

In addition to his wife, Lois, he is survived by his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Don and Ardis Baker of Prescott, Arizona; Floyd and Toni LaBrant of Corvallis; Larry and Nancy LaBrant of Burnett, Texas; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He is also survived by a legion

of friends.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Lakeside Ambulance/QRU, P.O. Box 911, Lakeside, MT 59922; the Somers Town Project (Somers Museum) at P.O. Box 65, Somers, MT 59932; or the charity of the donor's choice.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service is planned for January. The date will be announced later.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Fredrick "Jr." L. Leas Jr., 51

Fredrick "Jr." L. Leas, Jr., 51, of Kalispell, died Nov. 5, 2019 at his home. A celebration of life potluck will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 23 at the Kalispell Eagles Club, 37 First Street West. Memorial contributions

in his name can be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or the Flathead Valley Food Bank. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a contribution.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for his family.

Shiela Kite-LeCount, 48

PAG 28 Sept 2019
Shiela Kite-LeCount was born on March 2, 1971.

On Sept. 9, 2019, she went to be with her oldest son Larry in heaven.

Her husband Steve and two remaining kids, Brandin and Mariah Penner, would like to invite family and friends to her memorial/potluck



at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, in Marantette park in Columbia Falls. Please come and celebrate her life with us.

Kristen Anderson Ledyard, 46

Pg 17 20 Jan 2019
Kristen Ledyard, 46, of Whitefish, passed away on Jan. 10, 2019.

Kristen was a native of Columbia Falls, attending Columbia Falls High School, graduating valedictorian, and subsequently attending Montana State University. Following school, Kristen followed her love of horses and began her professional career as a show rider and trainer, eventually competing at the highest level of International Grand Prix Show Jumping and giving a start to numerous equine professionals.

Following a career-ending injury, Kristen changed gears and formed John's Angels Catering, LLC, where she served as executive chef and owner.

At the time of her death she was in the process of creating Battlefields to Business, a nonprofit organization aimed at bringing veterans into the workplace through apprenticeship programs.

In addition, she was crowned Little Miss Montana, Miss Montana Teen USA, Miss Montana USA, and Mrs. Montana.

Kristen is survived by her husband of 18 years, John; stepchildren, Nathan (Kathy) of San Diego, Jamie (Kayla) of Atlanta, and Lucy of Burlington, Vermont;



three grandchildren; her parents, Margaret "Peggy" Wood of Columbia Falls,

and David Anderson of Lakeside; and sister, Mandi Anderson of Kalispell.

A celebration of Kristen's life will be held this coming April in Whitefish.

Memorial donations in memory of Kristen can be made to a veterans group of your choice.

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.

Doris 'Dolly' M. (Warner) Lee 88

PA 6 15 May 2019

Doris "Dolly" M. (Warner) Lee, a longtime resident of Columbia Falls, died unexpectedly Monday the 13th of May, 2019, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

Born in 1930 in Manchester, Montana, Dolly spent part of her growing up years in Auburn, Washington, before moving to Columbia Falls with her parents and three older brothers. She graduated from Columbia Falls High school in 1949. While in high school, Dolly served as the newspaper and yearbook editor and was well-known as a great dancer.

Dolly married George "Pat" Lee in 1952 at the Methodist Church in Columbia Falls. The newlyweds moved to Port Townsend, Washington, where Pat finished out his four of duty with the U.S. Army. In the years that followed, the couple lived in various parts of Washington and Montana, settling down for a time with their four daughters, Patricia, Vicki, Cheri and Kerri, in Bigfork. While living in Bigfork, Dolly was the editor of the local paper. Dolly and Pat raised



Hereford cattle and grew Christmas trees. Moving to Conrad, in the early 1970s, Dolly

worked as an office manager for a local accounting firm for many years. Eventually Dolly and Pat made their way back to home to Columbia Falls where they have lived since 1983.

For much of the time since returning to Columbia Falls, Dolly found her passion and pursued her creative ambitions. She took up oil painting. Her talent was rewarded with many sales of her beautiful work. Dolly took creative writing classes at Flathead Valley Community College and eventually had her poetry published. She received recognition from the International Society of Poets at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. Not only did she paint and write, but Dolly loved playing the piano.

Dolly was a loyal patriot. She was instrumental in the fundraising to save "Old Main" at the

Montana Veterans Home. She was an active supporter for the installation of the Veterans Memorial Wall at Marantette Park in Columbia Falls and proudly showed off the names of her brother, husband, grandson and nephew on the wall.

Besides her civic and career successes, Dolly's true spirit was in her unwavering Christianity. She was up every day at 3 a.m. to pray for family and friends. She believed all things are possible through Christ our Savior. She was faith in action every day of her life. Prior to her passing, Dolly was a regular attendee at Journey Church in Columbia Falls.

Dolly is survived by her husband, Pat; her daughters, Patricia Lee Jenkins (Michael) of Tacoma, Washington, Vicki R. Lee of Columbia Falls, Cheri Lee Mamuzich (Michael) of Missoula, and Kerri Lee O'Farrell (Chuck) of Tacoma, Washington; her grandchildren, Chad (Sarah) Baumann, Travis (Annie) Baumann, Ricky McKnight, Daniel (Carmen) McKnight, Nicole Mamuzich, BriAnn

Mamuzich Waddell, Jillian Mamuzich, Andrew O'Farrell, Heather O'Farrell and Sean O'Farrell; and her great-grandchildren, Brylee Baumann, Aiden Baumann, Cortlyn Baumann, Jozlyn Baumann, Tannin Baumann, Jai Baumann, Malaysia Baumann, Anthony McKnight, Teah McKnight, Shia Crawford, Persia Crawford and Michael Mamuzich.

Dolly was preceded in death by Ben and Leota Walton (parents), her brothers Parley, Benny and Bob Walton, and their wives, Bernie, Norma and Irma Walton.

Graveside services will be held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell, followed by a reception with family and friends at Journey Church, 5091 U.S. 2, Columbia Falls.

In lieu of flowers, her daughters request donations be made in the honor of Doris M. Lee to Montana Veterans Home Memorial Foundation.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

George Patrick 'Pat' Lee, 88

"The future doesn't belong to the faint-hearted; it belongs to the brave." — Ronald Reagan

George Patrick Lee was the brave - living a life full of challenges, successes and adoration. For all who knew him, he was "Pat." At age 88, Pat passed peacefully from the living into the waiting arms of his God and his beloved wife Doris "Dolly" Walton Lee on Monday, Aug. 12, 2019, at Kalispell Regional Healthcare in Kalispell.

Pat was born the middle of eight children on April 18, 1931, in Ogden, Utah. He spent his growing up years in Utah, New Mexico, Arizona and Oregon. He left home at an early age to work on ranches and the Forest Service. Pat was a man who longed for adventure and enlisted in the United States Army on Sept. 2, 1950. Shortly thereafter, Pat went to Fort Ord, California, for boot camp where he met Robert "Bob" Walton who would become a lifelong friend and the brother of his future wife, Dolly. Pat and Bob were sent to Korea together where Pat was assigned to the 10th Engineer Combat Battalion. During his tour, Pat and his squad were clearing mines for an assault. When Pat saw a wounded soldier lying defenseless and alone surrounded by mortar fire, he dashed 50 yards to the man's side, administered first aid, and carried the soldier to safety. This heroic, selfless act would earn Pat a Silver Star for bravery, the nation's third highest combat decoration.

After Korea, Pat went to Fort Flagler near Port Townsend, Washington, to serve the rest of his time with the U.S. Army. In spring of 1952, he traveled to Columbia Falls to be the best man in his Army buddy's wedding — six weeks later he would marry Bob's sister, Dolly. The newlyweds started the beginning of their 67 years together in Port Townsend. On Aug. 24, 1956, Pat was discharged from active duty and returned to the cattle business he so dearly loved in Montana where he and Dolly raised four daughters. Through the years Pat worked ranches in the Flathead Valley, Conrad area and Dutton. Pat often said the best years of his life were spent on the Teton



to Arizona and to Nevada, the couple returned to Columbia Falls in 1983 where they purchased a home and remained until their final days.

Pat was a cattleman, a welder, an inventor and a patriot. He was a favorite uncle, a beloved son and son-in-law, a treasured friend, and a mighty man of God.

He leaves behind many who loved and adored him. Pat is survived by his four daughters, Patricia (Mike) Jenkins of Tacoma, Washington, Vicki Lee of Columbia Falls, Cheri (Mike) Mamuzich of Missoula, and Kerri (Chuck) O'Farrell of Tacoma; and his grandchildren, Chad (Sara) Baumann, Travis (Annie) Baumann, Ricky McKnight, Daniel McKnight, Nicole Mamuzich, BriAnn Mamuzich, Jillian Mamuzich, Andrew O'Farrell, Heather O'Farrell, and Sean O'Farrell. Pat's legacy lives on in them and in his great-grandchildren, Brylee, Aiden and Cortlyn Baumann; Jozlyn, Tannin, Jai and Malaysia Baumann; Anthony and Teah McKnight; and, Michael Mamuzich.

Valley Ranch near Dutton. After years of adventures together that took them from Washington state to Montana

15 Aug 2019

Pat was preceded in death by his wife Dolly whom he lost exactly three months prior; John and Clara Lee (parents), brother Robert, and sisters Cathy and Ruth.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 17, at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell, followed by a lunch reception with family and friends at Journey Church, 5091 U.S. 2, Columbia Falls.

In lieu of flowers, Pat's daughters request donations be made in honor of their beloved father and United States Army veteran, George P. Lee, to Montana Veterans Home Memorial Foundation (P.O. Box 250, Columbia Falls, MT 59912).

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

George Patrick 'Pat' Lee, 88

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George Patrick Lee was the brave – living a life full of challenges, successes and adoration. For all who knew him, he was "Pat." At age 88, Pat passed peacefully from the living into the waiting arms of his God and his beloved wife Doris "Dolly" Walton Lee on Monday, Aug. 12, 2019, at Kalispell Regional Healthcare in Kalispell.

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Judy Ann Leglend, 70

Judy Ann Leglend, 70, died Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 5, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home with graveside service at 2 p.m. at Bigfork Community Cemetery.

Carolyn Ruth Lehman, 94

Born July 28, 1924, Carolyn Ruth Lehman passed away peacefully at her home in Olympia, Washington, on March 21, 2019.

She loved her family, friends, and being active in the First Presbyterian Church when she lived in Kalispell.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, April 12, at the Fort Vancouver Barracks Post Cemetery on Fourth Plain in Vancouver, Washington. Carolyn is survived



by her sons, Rick (Brenda) Lehman of Olympia, and Ken Lehman of Spokane,

Washington; and daughters, Ruth Lehman of Olympia, and Marie (Gary) Bricker of Kea'au, Hawaii.

To read the full obituary or share memories, please visit www.FuneralAlternatives.org.

After Korea, Pat went to Fort Flagler near Port Townsend, Washington, to serve the rest of his time with the U.S. Army. In spring of 1952, he traveled to Columbia Falls to be the best man in his Army buddy's wedding — six weeks later he would marry Bob's sister, Dolly. The newlyweds started the beginning of their 67 years together in Port Townsend. On Aug. 24, 1956, Pat was discharged from active duty and returned to the cattle business he so dearly loved in Montana where he and Dolly raised four daughters. Through the years Pat worked ranches in the Flathead Valley, Conrad area and Dutton. Pat often said the best years of his life were spent on the Teton

Pat was preceded in death by his wife Dolly whom he lost exactly three months prior; John and Clóra Lee (parents), brother Robert, and sisters Cathy and Ruth.

Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 17, at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell, followed by a lunch reception with family and friends at Journey Church, 5091 U.S. 2, Columbia Falls.

In lieu of flowers, Pat's daughters request donations be made in honor of their beloved father and United States Army veteran, George P. Lee, to Montana Veterans Home Memorial Foundation (P.O. Box 250, Columbia Falls, MT 59912).

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

Ellen Lehman, 64

Ellen Lehman, 64, was unexpectedly called home to be with the Lord on Dec. 22, 2019.

Ellen Lehman was born June 13, 1955, in San Francisco. She was adopted by Ezra and Marjorie Birky of Kalispell. She was raised in Kalispell and graduated from Flathead High School in 1973. She was very involved in her church where she grew up with many close friends from Mountain View Mennonite Church in Creston.

After graduating from high school, Ellen became a service volunteer for Mennonite Central Community in Eureka, Illinois, where she met her husband, Del Lehman. They were married in 1975 and had three children. They returned to the Flathead to raise their children and they later divorced. Ellen loved to read, cook



and host parties. She was always on the go.

Ellen moved to Brookings, Oregon,

to enjoy her retirement. She loved the ocean and the salty air.

She is survived by her brothers, Ian (Bev) Birky and Michael (Marie) Birky, sister Susan Birky, and her children Corbin (Lindsey) Lehman, Sarah (Jon) Parkman and Trisha (Eric) Harding, six beautiful grandchildren and many more friends and family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ezra and Marjorie Birky, her brothers Philip and Vance Birky, and nephew Braydon Birky.

Edith Ann Leonis, 82

Surrounded by her loving family, Edith Ann Leonis passed away unexpectedly on Feb. 15, 2019, at the age of 82 in Newport Beach, California.

Edith was born on Dec. 17, 1936, in Detroit to Wayne Pattison and Edith McNally. She was the third of four children, Albert, Charles and Francis. Edith moved to California as a young child, where she resided for the rest of her life. It was there that she met the love of her life, John Michael Leonis, while studying at Los Angeles City College. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Southern California and began a career as a teacher. Later she received a special education credential and taught for the Los Angeles Unified School District.

In addition to being a devoted wife, Edith was a loving mother to her three daughters, Susan, Carolyn and Linda. She lived a full life filled with extensive travel, philanthropy, and many outdoor activities including skiing, hiking and tennis.



After retirement, Edith and John spent their summers in Whitefish, enjoying long days on the lake with family and dear friends.

Edith is survived by her husband of 60 years, siblings Albert Pattison and Francis Taylor, daughters Susan Leonis-Jensen, Carolyn Niman and Linda Post, seven grandchildren, and four great-granddaughters.

Edith was a kind, humble, and caring woman who will truly be missed.

A service for Edith will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 22, at Pacific View Memorial Park in Corona del Mar, California.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Edith's memory to her favorite nonprofit organization, ARCS Foundation, focusing on boosting American leadership and aid advancement in science and technology.

Russell Frederick Leonard, 54

Russell Frederick Leonard, also known as Russell Evjene, 54, formerly of the Kalispell area, died in La Mesa, California, on Sunday,

Dec. 1, 2019.

He is survived by his parents, Don and Phyllis Focht of Kalispell.

No services are planned at this time.

Timothy John Leskosky, 59

Timothy John Leskosky, 59, died March 24, 2019, at his home in Bigfork.

Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

James Henry Leslie, 85

James Henry Leslie, 85, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully with his son at his bedside on Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019. He was born on December 24, 1933 to Harold and Helen Leslie in Stoughton, Wisconsin. In 1970, he arrived sight unseen in Kalispell with his first wife and Patrick,

and he called it his home and never left. Jim divorced and then remarried the love of his life, Betty (Bozarth) Leslie. She passed away in 2015. He is survived by his son, Patrick Leslie and wife Pam, his sister, Donna Olsen of Stoughton, Wisconsin, nieces and

nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister Barbara. Per

Jim's request, there will be no funeral service.

Daisy Louise (Sears) Leuning, 96

Daisy Louise (Sears) Leuning, 96, of Kalispell, died July 17, 2019 at Prestige Assisted Living.

Graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, July 23, at the Zillah Cemetery in Washington.

A gathering will follow the service at 3 p.m. at J Bell Cellars Winery, 73 Knight Hill Road, Buena Heights, Zillah, Washington.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Barbara Florence Collins nee Lester, 92

Barbara Florence Collins nee Lester has slipped the surly bonds of earth and joined her beloved husband on Oct. 6, 2019, in the great adventures that lie in the next life.

Born Sept. 19, 1927, in Croyden, England, Barbara lived a full and fascinating life. As a teen she endured Germany's war against England, living through the Nazi Blitzkrieg against England; remembered terrifying nights in their Anderson bomb shelter with her mother, brother and sister as her father worked through the bombing as an air raid civil warden. In 1945 she joined the Royal Air Force and served seven years. It was during this time that she met Bob at a military leave center in the idyllic and beautiful Hartz Mountains of Germany. They were married in Karlsruhe, Germany, in August of 1952.

For the next 23 years Barbara and Bob traveled the world as members of the U.S. Army. From Africa to Germany to Thailand to the United States they served our nation wherever needed. Barbara "held down the fort" many times as Bob served multiple extended, unaccompanied tours in Vietnam. Upon retirement from the service they built a home in Mineral, Virginia, later moving to Lacey, Washington, and then to Whitefish.

Barbara was an avid gardener, animal lover, accomplished Girl Scout leader and world traveler. Barbara worked her entire life. From the



early days helping her father in his corner "sweet shop" business to managing a stereo equipment store to city manager for Mineral, Virginia. Her last work was as a travel agent, which included guiding countless groups on tours to fascinating destinations all over the world.

Barbara is survived by her children, Chris Zignego and husband Doug, and Bob Collins Jr. and wife Lori; grandchildren, Matthew Zignego, Petty Officer Nick Zignego and wife Mary, Katie Pieterick and husband Kenan, Petty Officer Jake Collins and Emily Collins; and three great-grandchildren Ava, Kealie and Taylin; additionally, in England, her brother Jo Lester and numerous nieces and nephews.

A funeral for both Barbara and Bob will be celebrated at 3 p.m. this Saturday at All Saints Episcopal Church in Columbia Falls. Interment will follow at the Veterans Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Donations may be made in Barbara's honor at the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, 100 Adopt A Pet Way, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family on Barbara's webpage at austinhf.com. Austin Funeral and Cremation Services in Whitefish is caring for the family.

Christian 'Chris' Levensgood, 80

FAE

23 June 2019

Christian "Chris" Levensgood was born March 13, 1939 to Mike and Anna Mary Fahn in Balfour, N.D. Chris was the 12th of 13 children. After the passing of his mother when he was 7 years old, his father moved Chris and his youngest brother, Vern to Anaconda.

At the age of 13 Chris was adopted by two angels, Harold and Bess Levensgood. Presbyterians themselves, Harold and Bess encouraged Chris to practice his Catholic faith. It's that faith that sustained him throughout his life.

After graduating from Anaconda High school in 1959, Chris served at Fort Ord in California and remained in the Army Reserve for several years. He then cooked at the Marcus Daly Hotel in Anaconda and at the Club Cafeteria in Great Falls. He also worked for Gold Ring Meat Packing in L.A. Chris returned to Anaconda in 1961 where he met up with a girl he knew in high school, Arlene Curnow. They were married in Moses Lake, Washington in 1962.



Chris followed construction as a millwright moving his young family around for five years. In 1967 Chris and Arlene put roots down in Somers.

In the same year Chris and Arlene purchased 13 acres at the intersection of U.S. 93 and Montana 82. It was there in 1968 that Chris followed his passion and opened The Flathead Gun and Trap Club. Five years and many shoots later, Chris added on to the trap club. He opened a dinner buffet upstairs and a bar and café downstairs. A fire destroyed the building but in true Chris fashion he rebuilt a larger building in its place and called it Levensgood's.

Chris took great pride in his six children and their ability to work. To this day patrons of Levensgood's remember the kids working in the hotel and restaurant. In

1983 Chris helped his son Scott open Scotty's Bar. Not too long after he sold Levensgood's in 1986, Chris opened an antique and gun shop next door.

Somewhere along the way he decided he liked boats. The boats Chris built were big. His flagship, The Lady Arlene, burned but he built several other boats, two of which can still be seen in Somers Bay.

Chris leaves behind an unforgettable footprint on the Flathead Valley but his greatest legacy is his love for his family. He was a tough disciplinarian to his children but he will be remembered by his grandchildren as a tender-hearted man they all call Papa C.

Both of Chris' sons Scott and Abe passed away at the age of 41 after battles with cancer. Chris succumbed to his own four-and-a-half year fight against Ocular Melanoma at home on June 20, 2019 surrounded by his family.

Chris is survived by his wife Arlene and four daughters, whom he lovingly called his "bosses," and their husbands:

Sandy (Randy) O'Connell, Christine (Steve) Blair, Debbie (Joe) Sidor and Laurie (Lowell) Panasuk. He is also survived by his daughters-in-law Karla Levensgood-Swank and Heather Levensgood, his brother Rich (Jan) Levensgood as well as his grandkids Colt, Luke, Lindsay, Chris, Zane, Mandy, Kelly, Bob, Josh, Jenna and their spouses, Maggie, Sadie, L.J., Nikki and 27 great-grandchildren.

There will be a visitation held for Chris from 3-7 p.m. on Monday, June 24 at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home with a Mass of Christian Burial to be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 25 at St. John Paul II Catholic Church in Bigfork, officiated By Father Hanley. Following Mass, burial will take place at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Reception will follow burial at Buffalo Hill Golf Course. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to a charity of your choice.

Donald L. Lewis, 86

FAL 27 Mar 2019

Donald L. Lewis, 86, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Saturday, March 23, 2019, at Whitefish Center.

Don is survived by his wife, Carole, three children, Wayne Lewis and wife, Jan; Tony Lewis; Donna O'Rear and husband, Lee; his stepdaughter Jill Preston, and partner Dennis; five grandchildren, Chris Lewis and wife, Emily; Kira Hufford and husband, Steven; Tiffany Mitchell and husband, Joel; Reilly O'Rear and fiancée, Alicia Williamson; Paige O'Rear; step-grandson, Chad Eaton; and three great-grandchildren.

Don was born on Nov. 3, 1932, in Fairview, Montana. He was the son of Joseph and Mamie Lewis and was the youngest of 11 children. He graduated from Fairview High School in 1951, and upon graduation, entered the United States Air Force. He served in the military for four years and was stationed at Fukuoka, Japan, during the Korean War where he worked as a diesel mechanic maintaining the power sources to the code breaking machines.

After his time in Japan, he was stationed in Wichita Falls, Texas, where he met and married Robbie Johnston on Feb. 19, 1956. The couple moved to Kalispell where they lived together for 22 years. Don married Carole Brick on June 23, 1985, and the couple lived together in Kalispell until his death. Don cherished his family. He was a loving father to his three children and quickly became "Pops" to Carole's two children. He also enjoyed spending time with his sisters and brothers and their children at family get-togethers and reunions.

Don was a dedicated



small business owner in Kalispell. He owned and operated Chainsaw Sales and Service and served the community and

local logging industry for nearly 50 years. He sold the business and retired in the mid-1990s but continued to work at the shop for several years.

Don loved people. He never met a stranger and enjoyed sharing stories and good conversation with his friends and family. He loved to laugh and was an eternal optimist. He cared deeply about people in the Flathead Valley and served as a volunteer firefighter for the West Valley Volunteer Fire Department for 23 years.

The most important part of Don's life was his walk with the Lord. He was a devout Christian who loved to sing hymns and songs about his faith. He had a beautiful baritone voice and began leading worship in church as a teenager. He has been a member of the Kalispell and Columbia Falls Churches of Christ and the Family Life Christian Church. His love for God was obvious in how he treated others.

A memorial service celebrating his life will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, March 29, at the Family Life Christian Church, 1075 Foy's Lake Road.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that Don be honored through donations to the West Valley Volunteer Fire Department, 2413 Farm to Market Road, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Dorothy Jean 'Jean' Battin Linne, 94

Dorothy Jean Linne passed away on March 7, 2019.

Dorothy Jean was born on Feb. 8, 1925, in Evanston, Illinois, and grew up in Minneapolis. She met James M. Linne, whom she married at the Episcopal church in Edina, Minnesota.

They raised five children, all of whom have survived her. They are James M. "Mitch" Linne Jr., Katherine Fleming, Mary Jane Hillstrom, Mark Linne and Stephen Linne. She is also survived by four grandsons, Justin, William, Jacob and Kevin, as well as great-granddaughter Brooklyn.

While raising her children, Jean taught elementary school. Education for herself and for others was always a critical part of her life. She had graduated from the University

of Minnesota, and later attained a master's in teaching reading from Eastern Montana College in Billings.

Jean also loved the out of doors. She hiked and camped in the forests of California to the Appalachian Trail, at times with Girls Scouts and Boy Scouts.

Although she lived in many parts of the country, including Clearwater, Florida; her final place of residence was Whitefish.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on March 30 at All Saints'

Episcopal Church in Whitefish.

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.

Raymond 'Bud' G. Linrude, 84



Ray Linrude passed away on May 19, 2019, in Kalispell. He was born on Dec. 4, 1934, to hardworking immigrant parents Hoken and Jessie Linrude in Kalispell. While attending Flathead County High School he met his future wife, Jeanne C. Monk. She knew he was interested in her when he continued to ride circles on his motorcycle around her and her horse. They were married on Dec. 3, 1955.

There was not a "rig" Bud could not drive or an appliance he could not fix ... except for the Keurig single cup coffee makers ... those were still a mystery. With only his wits and Norwegian stubbornness he became a 30-year steel contractor and builder for Stan Steel and later Garco construction companies. He built over 20 steel buildings in the Flathead Valley, including Grosswiler Feed Lot, St. Matthew's Fair booth/kitchen, Pacific Hide and Fur, Glacier Horse Ranch Arena, Executive Auto and many more.

He was not a patient

man, but if you could get by his remarks about your lack of intelligence and ability, you could

learn how to pour a perfect cement foundation, track a deer or find the best fishing places in the Northwest. He was happiest when he hunted the woods and meadows of Pleasant Valley with his son Kevin and nephews Doug and Mark Stancill for elk. Over the years he took his share of not only elk, but deer and moose as well. He also loved fishing with his buddies Lefty, Chainsaw George, Louie and Bob. No fish was safe when he put his boat into the waters of any lake, from Bitterroot to the Pacific Ocean to the streams of western Alaska.

Ray often preferred dogs to people. With the likes of Sparky, Ben and Chip riding shotgun in his truck, tractor or even a stool at the Finish Line

Bar and Grill, his love for animals and the outdoors kept him centered and grounded. However, anyone who knew Bud knew he could never be half the man he was without his wife Jeanne. She was his rock and many times his strength.

He was a man who lived by simple rules: 1. Work hard. 2. Always put the tools back where you found them. 3. Don't buy what you can't afford. 4. Never let your gas gauge dip below a quarter of a tank. 5. Work harder. Many local and world problems were solved in his shop over a cold beer, a sleeping dog and a fire in the stove.

Bud's last five years of life were hard. He fought against diseases that took away his mobility and gave him incredible amounts of pain. He tried to remain relevant and in touch with his family. His grandchildren were often instructed on how to mow a lawn with golf course precision, change the oil when you rotate the tires, and where the best places

to gamble and have a good hamburger were located.

Ray is survived by his wife Jeanne, his son Kevin Linrude and wife Melissa (who is an angel to our family) along with their children Allix, Taylor, Carsen and Rylie Kate.

Sadly, he was preceded in death by his first grandchild, Kyle Linrude, in 1994.

He is also survived by his daughter Kristyn Morin and her daughter Jillian Lehr who tried their best to let him know he still counted in the scheme of life. His sisters are Dorothy Nelson of Tucson, Arizona, Ardith Weatherford (his favorite) of Issaquah, Washington, and Carol Eckholt of Kalispell. Ray was always very proud of his family.

By his request, there will be no funeral. He did not like funerals and especially the thought of his own. He has instructed his family to spread his ashes when the lakes are warm and the grass is green somewhere in Montana.

Jeanette 'Gail' Litchfield, 81

PHW 27 Jan 2019

Jeanette "Gail" Litchfield, 81, of Whitefish, passed away peacefully on Jan. 20, 2019, at The Springs where she resided.

Gail was a very giving person. She worked tirelessly as a nurse for most of her life. She always had people whom she was watching at the hospital over to the house for Christmas or Thanksgiving. Some of them most likely weren't even supposed to be out of the hospital. It was joked about that she just kidnapped them because they didn't have anyone else to be with during



those special times. Regardless of how she made it happen, it definitely took her amazing effort and determination to get four to five of them over to the house and back to the hospital. She loved to make their holidays special and graciously knew it was worth the effort.

Gail's soulmate Darrel was taken from her within a few years of their marriage. He had three children that Gail raised

herself along with her own children, Keith and Kevin. Not an easy feat raising five kids all by yourself.

Instead of complaining, she would take the summers when kids were out of school and drive them to see their grandmother in Michigan. All the kids would pile into a station wagon and drive across the United States, a different way each time, so they could see the entire country.

She drove as fast as she could go while diligently relying on her CB radio in the car. Her handle was Wendy G. She

would talk to the truckers and get information on where the police were hanging out so she could slow down.

Although she had a blast on that radio it is unknown if she really needed it. When the police did pull her over and saw her car packed full with five kids they would let her go anyway. Any police that had witnessed that car load most likely would have thought that she had more than enough problems already and certainly wouldn't write her a ticket.

Gail took those kids to the Grand Canyon,

Niagara Falls, the Badlands in North Dakota, Mount Rushmore and a lot of other great places.

At the time, all of the kids may not have thought it was the best times, but fortunately she knew better. Now they appreciate how wonderful those trips were and are grateful for her extraordinary patience and commitment to do it every year.

Her son Kevin DeMeritt says, "Thank you for taking care of us. Thank you for taking care of me. I couldn't have asked for a better

Mom. I know the Lord has a good person up there to help him out. I miss you more than I can say and I will never forget all the things you did and gave up for me. I love you Mom."

A service will be held in Michigan. The service details will be announced at a later date.

Condolences may be shared with the family online on Gail's tribute page at www.austinfh.com

Austin Funeral and Cremation Services in Whitefish is caring for Gail's family.

Gareth Roger Llewellyn, 61

Gareth Roger Llewellyn, 61, of Whitefish, died Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019, at his home. Private services are

being planned at this time. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

Robert Edmund Litchfield, 77

Robert Edmund Litchfield, 77 years old, passed away on Monday, May 20, 2019.

Born in Dracut, Massachusetts, Dec. 30, 1941, to Harold and Christine Litchfield, Bob was the oldest of four boys. As a child he spent his time with his brothers and cousins swimming and biking on Peaks Island, Maine. He always had a love for music and started playing piano at a young age. Bob loved entertaining people at gatherings with a variety of music from Jerry Lee Lewis to Elvis Presley, as well as original songs he composed himself. Later in life, he was passionate about playing his ukulele and he traveled yearly to Hawaii to play. Bob attended Dracut High where he played football and acquired the name the Mighty Flea; he was small, but strong and quick on his feet.

After high school he moved west to Montana to pursue his dream of becoming a cowboy and attend Rocky Mountain College in Billings. In 1963 he followed in his father's footsteps and joined the United States Naval Academy. He served in the Navy as a Submariner from 1963 to 1969 and was commissioned on the USS Haddock. After his time in the service he returned to Montana and started a career with the United States Postal Service, first in Missoula and then in Whitefish where he ultimately retired in 1992. In addition to being a postmaster, he spent his winter months working on Big Mountain teaching ski lessons.

Bob was wed to Marcia on Feb. 14, 1987. Together they lovingly raised three daughters from previous marriages. They shared 32 years loving life to the fullest together before his passing. The two had many hobbies and interests in common including



golf, skiing, playing at their lake cabin and traveling together. They were blessed with many friends to share their time with across the globe.

Bob had a love for life and adventure. He enjoyed spending his time skiing, riding his Harley, traveling with his wife, playing his ukulele, horseback riding, golfing, hunting, fishing, dancing and woodworking. Above all else, Bob loved spending his time with his family. He found joy cheering his grandchildren on in all of their sports and activities. He was proud to be able to teach his grandchildren to ski, hunt and fish. His New England roots ran deep and he cherished the many back shore cookouts on Peaks Island with his brothers, their families, and his numerous cousins, aunts and uncles. Bob was quick to smile and full of life until the end.

He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Marcia Litchfield; his daughters, Nikki Schriver of Whitefish, Terri Christy (Jason) of Kalispell and Holly Graham (Chris) of Bend, Oregon; his three brothers, Joe, Mark and Dave Litchfield; his grandchildren, Nicole Carpenter (Michael), Cassie and Quintin Schriver, Spencer, Aiden and Kyler Christy, Samuel and Jameson Graham; and his great-grandchildren, Brayden and Monica Carpenter.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation where Bob was an active member.

There will be a celebration of life on July 28.

MEMORIALS

Robert Litchfield, 77

An open house celebration of life for Robert Litchfield, 77, who died May 20, will be from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, July 28 at 221 Whitetail Lane in Whitefish.

Gerene Clark Little, 86

Gerene Clark Little has passed from our worldly sphere (March 16, the day of her mother's birth). Her abundant energy, creative talent and bold ventures touched all the lives of those fortunate enough to know her – friends and family alike. Gerene was an icon in the Flathead valley having lived here nearly her entire life. She was lucky to have lived at all. Born on Dec. 23, 1933 in Columbia Missouri to Eloise and Clifton C. Clark (who founded the Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Kalispell in 1935), she came in to this world with a potentially terminal heart defect – a valve that would not close. As a child, she could not run, play, or get excited. At the age of 11, however, her parents took her to the Mayo clinic in New York for an experimental open-heart procedure that gave her new life and it lasted far longer than the doctor who performed the procedure could have dreamt (he was flabbergasted to see her upon his retirement).

Gerene met her husband, Tom (Dr. Tom D. Little, the renowned dentist in Kalispell), as high-school sweethearts while attending Flathead High School. Gerene was a varsity cheerleader while Tom was a star athlete on the team. After a stint in Oregon where Tom earned his bachelor's degree at Oregon State and a DMD from Oregon, they returned to Kalispell with their first born daughter Debi and second born son Jay (sadly deceased in 1983) to settle in and rear three more children, Todd, Amy, and Chris.

Gerene's creative side was evident in everything she touched or put her mind to. Craft-wise, she could make anything out of anything but even on a larger scale her creative vision was remarkable. She designed and oversaw construction of the home

that served as her command center as a wife, mother, creative spirit, and business entrepreneur. Completed in 1966, the home that Gerene built is still visionary in both its subtle and obvious architectural features.

As a consummate interior designer, the home was always changing – staying just ahead of the times when it came to style and décor. Seasonally, Gerene would envelop our home with thematic décor for Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter, Fourth of July, Halloween, Thanksgiving and back to Christmas – easily the most favorite time of the year for both Tom and Gerene, with usually three trees fully decorated and a plethora of ornaments, figurines, wreaths, lights and the like.

In 1970, Gerene opened the Strawberry Patch in the former Gateway West Mall and later moved it to Center Street before selling it in 2008. For those 38 years, the Strawberry Patch was a mainstay of home enthusiasts who valued the aesthetic and enriching benefits that a well-decorated home and apportioned kitchen affords – the warmth and welcome that truly feels like home. How many homes in Montana and beyond have Gerene's vision of home, we can't know; but we do know that those who do have also been touched by the amazing vision that Gerene brought to her love. And love it she did. From the joy she got traveling to markets from Seattle to New York to our tradition of family joining her to operate the store for last-minute shoppers on Christmas Eve.

Gerene also embraced the kitchen in her life and in her entrepreneurial efforts. She was instrumental in Gourmet



Club for many years and later offered cooking lessons through one of her ventures,

Pasta To Go, which she opened in the Gateway West Mall in 1980s. Though it thrived for a short time as a go to restaurant for catering and eating, she did sell the restaurant. With her love of cooking and sense of style, Gerene's parties always provided a warm ambiance and hearty bounty for her many guests and loving friends.

"To make a friend, you need to be a friend," characterized Gerene's life. She was always surrounded by numerous friends, many of whom, in one way or another, participated in her love of food, craft, design, remodel, decoration, and/or shopping. Gerene was generous and thoughtful; always there for her friends – whether crying with them until they laugh or laughing with them until they cry; and her laugh – oh, her laugh – it was the most genuine and infectious laugh that would light up your heart and bring a smile to your face. It will ring in the memories of all who knew Gerene.

With her endless energy, Gerene made the most of every single day. A hallmark trait of hers was her ability to plan and organize – from as simple as her day ahead to small activities, large events, and life in general – never stopping until a task was done and then effortlessly moving on to the next. In fact, we affectionately referred to her as General Gerene, even though it was her brother Clifton C. "Tip" Clark, Jr. who was an actual general. She marched

to a gentle hum we all enjoyed and effortlessly guided those around her to march also to the steady beat of her hum. We, as Gerene's children, having accomplished lives and professions, attribute much of our success to skills Gerene passed along to us and the example of the life she led – a life well lived, filled with joy, mirth and love.

Gerene is survived by her loving husband Tom, who cared for her at home to the very end with the constant love and support of their angelic granddaughter, Amanda Little. Tom and Gerene were married 65 years. She has four surviving children, Debi Little (husband Marty Bridenstine), Todd Little (fiancée April Doyal), Amy Besel (husband Darrell), and Chris Little (wife Carline); nine grandchildren, Chasen Little (wife Lauren), Shayla Curlott, Amanda Little, Danny Little (fiancée Bryka Peterson), Tommy Little, Molly Little (fiancée Westen Bich), Abby Little, Marlee Besel, Roslynn Besel; four great-grandchildren, Sierra Curlott, Myah Curlott, Mabrey Little, and Rowan Little; and one brother, Clifton C. "Tip" Clark, Jr. (wife Diane Almini Clark).

In lieu of flowers, Tom asks that you simply make a donation to a charity of your choice. This summer, around the time that would have been their 66th wedding anniversary (June 21st), there will be a celebration of Gerene's life. Announcement will follow.

Gerene will be missed but never forgotten as the tears we shed stand testament to our abiding love and remembrance. Godspeed Gerene Clark Little; Godspeed, mom ...

– Debi, Todd, Amy, and Chris

Judith Lee Loberg, 68

July 9 AM 2019
Judith Lee Loberg, 68, passed away on March 28, 2019, in St. Ignatius.

She was born on July 9, 1950, in St. Ignatius at Holy Family Hospital, the daughter of Omer Dennis Garrett and Frances (Markle) . Garrett.

During her working career, whatever work she did, she was the master of it. She worked for SLAM, family services and Indian Health Services. She always wanted to help people, especially the children. She later worked with the disabled to get them on Social Security.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and brothers William Worley and Bobby Snyder.

She is survived by



her children, Troy Marquardt, Raelynn Peterson, Christy Rhine and Brian Loberg;

and her brother, Omer Snyder; as well as numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

There will be a celebration of life service for Judith at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 9, at The Lake Funeral Home.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at www.thelakefuneralhome-andcrematory.com. Arrangements are under the direction of The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

Laurie Anne Stewart Locascio, 62

Laurie Anne Stewart Locascio, 62, of Hungry Horse, died May 2, 2019 at North Valley Hospital. Laurie is survived by her sister, Debra

Stewart.

No services are scheduled at this time. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for Laurie's family.

Samuel P. Lockwood, 24

Samuel P. Lockwood, 24, of Whitefish, died Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, at his home.

A viewing and celebration of Sam's life will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 15, at

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service, 3408 U.S. 2 E., Kalispell. Interment will be in Oregon.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

William 'Bub' Lodinoff, 74

1946 5/11/19 2019
William "Bub" Lodinoff, 74, of Kalispell, passed away from a sudden heart attack on April 18, 2019, in ICU at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. He was the son of Alex and Maxine Lodinoff.

Bub was born, raised and educated in Whitefish. He graduated from Whitefish High School in 1964. While attending high school he had the distinction of earning 10 letters, three in football, three in basketball, and four in track. In 1964 he set the school record for the shot put and the javelin, which still stand today. He also set the state record for javelin the same year, which has been broken.



During the summers he played for the American Legion baseball team pitching and in an outfield position. He was inducted into the Whitefish High School Hall of Fame in 2006.

After high school he joined the Navy and served

as a Seabee at Whidbey Island in Washington.

When his service ended he returned to Whitefish and was employed by BNSF Railroad in a variety of positions culminating as an engineer for many years.

Bub enjoyed many outdoor activities including hunting, fly fishing, jogging, snowmobiling, gold panning, golfing, fly tying, and raising horses. He also adopted several unwanted dogs that became a huge part of his life.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alex and Maxine, and his sister, Carol.

He is survived by his significant other and soul mate, Barb Norlander, his two children, his brother, Bob Robertson (Marie),

nieces and several cousins. He leaves behind several close friends — Susan Peterson, Rick Kimbell, Mike Muldown, Moke, and the Sapa family, to name a few, and a great group of neighbors on Airport Road. He is also survived by his little Maltese dog, Pistol.

No formal services are planned per Bub's request. A private gathering will be held at a later date.

Memorials can be sent to the Flathead County Animal Shelter, the Flathead Spay and Neuter Clinic, or the charity of your choice.

Darlington Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Theresa Logan, 75

PAY 4 Aug 2019

Theresa Logan, devoted wife, loving mother, cherished sister and dear friend, left us to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on August 1, 2019.

Theresa was born April 20, 1944 in Kalispell to her parents Russell ("Bub") and Amber Mero. Theresa was a lifetime resident of the Flathead Valley. She left behind her husband of over 56 years, John Logan; three daughters and their husbands, Holly and Greg McGiffney, Wendy and Jeff Cicierski, and Jacques and Nick Aemisegger; seven grandchildren, Kyle and Kelly McGiffney; Wade, Madison and Brooke Cicierski; Nicholas Aemisegger and Aly Friesen (with her husband Nick), and



two great-grandchildren, Blaire and Quinn Friesen; and her siblings, David Mero and Lucille Long.

Theresa was predeceased by her parents, Bub and Amber Mero, and her brother Don Mero.

After marrying the love of her life, John Logan, in 1962, Theresa devoted herself to caring for her family. Theresa was known for her award-winning bread, her large garden, and her heart for hosting dinners and social events with friends and family.

Theresa's life was marked by a tremendous passion and zeal to expe-

rience all this life had to offer. Whether she was water skiing, racing go-carts, driving tractor on the family farm or a truck fully loaded with railroad ties from her father's sawmill, Theresa embraced each fearlessly.

Theresa's love for others defined the way she gave her time. During her younger years, she threw herself into a variety of activities, including teaching Bible Study class to children at Fair-Mont-Egan, serving her church, Beta Sigma Phi, Christian Business Women's Association, being involved in community theater, as well as serving as 4-H leader and camp counselor, just to name a few.

Theresa's life was one marked by devotion - to

her husband of 56 years, her children, grandchildren and friends, but most of all to her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She finished the race strong. After spending more than 30 years confined to a wheelchair as a result of her battle with MS, she left this world running into the arms of her Father in heaven, who undoubtedly looked into her sparkling hazel eyes and said, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

There will be a Celebration of Life at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 7 at Faith Covenant Church, 611 3rd Ave E, Kalispell. The family invites everyone to attend.

Faye Hilary Lomax, 71

PAY 30 Jan 2019

Faye Hilary Lomax, 71, passed away on Monday Jan. 21, 2019, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

Faye was born on April 28, 1947, in San Francisco to Harry and Euphemia (Torres) Sowle.

She was a distinguished graphic designer and artist.

Faye is survived by daughter Hillary Von Limbach, son Cameron

and his wife Elizabeth Lomax, and grandsons Nik and Blaze.

A celebration of Faye's life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 2, at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Ferndale.

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 Mitchell Long, 81

James Mitchell Long, 81, of Kalispell, died March 23, 2019, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He was born Nov. 5, 1937, in Red Lodge, the eldest son of Charley and Frances O'Shea Long. His early years were spent on ranches in the Luther-Roscoe-Fishtail area of Carbon County where he learned the finer arts and sciences of fishing, hunting, and horseback riding, including — at one point — learning responsibility by guiding — quite alone — hunters as a sophomore in high school. When he was 15, the family moved to Big Timber where he attended and graduated from Sweet Grass County High School in 1955.

After high school, he found employment with Citizen's Bank and Trust Company where he worked for 23 years. Among other exploits in his post-high school years, he tried his hand as a rodeo cowboy, with some degree of success. However, his banker's mentality soon convinced him that rodeo payouts and X-ray bills don't usually add up to a positive balance sheet.

In 1961 he married Linda Hammersmark in Big Timber. Their only child, Pamela Ann Long, was born in 1962.

Jim believed in — and lived — the unwritten social contract wherein one contributes positively to one's community, the results being a better commonality for all. He was deeply involved in the Big Timber community, serving in the Volunteer Fire Department, the Jaycees, the Sweet Grass County Sheriff's posse and other organizations.

In 1978, Jim, Linda and Pam moved to Hysham where he became an owner of the First National Bank. They left Hysham in 1987 to

move to Kalispell where they owned and operated Long's Conoco west of Kalispell.

Jim lost his beloved Linda in 1999 after lovingly caring for her throughout her long, tragic illness.

After selling the store, Jim lived a quiet life of retirement, enjoying his granddaughter.

Throughout his life he carried on the family tradition of positive extroversion. He had never met a stranger. Whether bowling, golfing, running a string of pack animals, making a bank loan on a handshake (as it was done back in the day), racing snowmobiles or simply spending time with friends, Jim always found the way to a laugh, always lived with alacrity, always tried to find the fun in life. He would want that to be his legacy.

He faced his own protracted ailments with a philosophy of acceptance and optimism, which added years to his life and a bit of life to his years.

He was preceded in death by his mother, his father and his wife Linda.

He is survived by brothers, Jerry Long of Big Timber (sister-in-law Betty) and Mike Long of Bozeman (brother-in-law Rich Parker); daughter, Pam Long of Kalispell, and granddaughter Delani Long of Kalispell; also numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Cremation has taken place. The remains will be buried at Mountain View Cemetery in Big Timber, including a graveside service at 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 8.

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

Noxon Tommy Long, 2 months

PAL 13 MAR 2019

Noxon Tommy Long, 2 months, of Missoula passed away on Thursday, March 7, 2019, at St. Patrick Hospital.

Noxon was born on Dec. 31, 2018, to Tyler and Kaemyn Long and was the light of their lives, moving mountains from the day he arrived. Noxon came into this world in a hurry, surprising his parents three weeks early. He loved being sung to and music was always present in his life; he enjoyed listening to Jim Croce records from the day he came home from the hospital. Noxon's cautious looks left everyone wondering what was on his mind. He was fascinated with ceiling fans, lights, and his momma's and daddy's faces. Noxon's light touched



everyone who knew him and will continue to shine in those who hold him in their hearts.

hearts.

Noxon was preceded in death by his grandpa, William E. "Tommy" Long; his great-great-grandparents, Lois Sandefur, Ray Howell, Amy and Phil Cyr, Fannie and Fred Carper, and Oscar and Lilian King; and his great-grandparents, Charles and Vernice King.

Noxon is survived by his parents, Tyler and Kaemyn, of Missoula; grandparents, Mark and Desiree Meagher of

Bigfork, and Kristina Long of Kingman, Arizona; great-great-grandmother, Laura Howell, of Frenchtown; great-grandparents, Renie and Jim Cyr of Frenchtown, and Vicky and Herb "Pidge" Meagher of Thompson Falls; aunts, and uncles and their families, Raelynn and Rob Cameron, and cousins Everett and Ettalyn of Missoula; Kallister Meagher and Mitchel Harsh of Missoula; Nicole and Brad Hutchison and cousin Xander of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and Wayne Armstrong of Fort Drum, New York, currently serving in Afghanistan. Noxon is also survived by great-aunts and -uncles, cousins, numerous other

extended family members, and his Wildland Fire family, U.S. Forest Service - Lolo National Forest.

A celebration of Noxon's beautiful life will occur at 3 p.m. on Friday, March 15, at Garden City Funeral Home, Missoula. Family and friends are invited to continue the celebration at Imagine Nation Brewing, Missoula. Noxon's family wishes all who can to come celebrate with us.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Noxon's honor to the Lucky Fin Project (<https://luckyfinproject.org/>) or the Wildland Firefighter Foundation (<https://wffoundation.org/>).

Richard Dale Lorenz, 91

Richard Dale Lorenz, 91, of Kalispell, died July 23, 2019, in Kalispell.

Services are pending arrangements.

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

Lisa Jo Lovelace, 60

Lisa Jo Lovelace, 60, died Dec. 31, 2019 at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. Services

are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Earl Eugene Lowery, 76

PAL 11 Aug 2019

Earl Eugene Lowery, 76, passed away Wednesday, August 7, 2019, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center surrounded by his family, after succumbing to his battle with kidney and heart disease.

Earl was born as the second of two sons to Frank and Agnes Lowery in Springfield, Illinois, on August 19, 1942. Earl spent his childhood and early adult life in Lincoln, Illinois, and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps upon graduating from high school. He spent four years serving his country as a Marine in the Vietnam War from 1961 to 1965 and would proudly recount the times he was on the USS Valley Forge and the USS Iwo Jima. Upon honorable discharge, he used the bonds he earned to buy one of his most prized possessions, a blue 1968 Camaro which he had for several years.

Earl made his way to Montana after meeting one of his life-long friends — Clyde, who grew up in Kalispell — in Illinois. Once Earl was in Montana, he was hooked. In the spring of 1969, Earl met his wife of 49 years, Darlene Ballenger, at Flathead Valley Community College, and in June of 1970 they were married in Kalispell. In 1972, Earl earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Montana and in August of 1973, Earl and Darlene welcomed their first daughter, Crystal, followed by Lindsey in 1979 and Brianne in 1983.



selor and retired from that service to become a full-time rural letter carrier with the United States Postal Service in 2001, until he retired

on July 31, 2019.

Earl loved many things. He loved the color pink, appropriate for him as he raised three daughters and was the proud grandfather of five granddaughters. He loved going to Burger Town in Bigfork; thank you, Andy. He loved to umpire softball, pick huckleberries, eat ice cream, travel to see and take adventures with his daughters, dance, the St. Louis Cardinals, visiting with his brother-in-law, Bob, and going out to eat. He hated snakes even though the pretend restaurant that his girls made was named "Sneaky Snakes." He was their best customer.

Earl is preceded in death by his father Frank, his mother Agnes and his brother Ernest. He is survived by his wife, Darlene Lowery, daughter Crystal MacInnes (Dwayne), daughter Lindsey Tuffy (Brian), daughter Brianne Fahie (McAlister), granddaughters Aoife, Rebekah, Hollis, Vivian and Vera, his beloved Dozer Dog and numerous other family members.

3

Throughout his adult and married life, Earl was diligent in teaching his children the meaning of hard work. Knowing the importance of having the responsibility of raising a family, Earl often worked jobs that were not glamorous, but provided for his family. His exceptional work ethic was something gleaned from the USMC and from the hard work learned from his father-in-law on the farm where Darlene and her brother Bob were raised, and where Earl and Darlene would ultimately raise their family. The farm remained home for Earl up until his passing. He spent 20 years working for the Flathead Job Service as a coun-

Services will be held at C.E. Conrad Memorial cemetery at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 15. There will be a celebration of his life immediately following at the Evergreen Fire Hall. One of dad's favorite things to do was to eat and share food and stories with each other, so please bring along your favorite dish to share.

"Mr. Lowery," we miss you, and life won't be the same without you here. We love you, "Pops," forever and unequivocally.

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

Delbert 'Bud' Lowitz, 80

Delbert "Bud" Lowitz, 80, went to be with the Lord, surrounded by family on Aug. 4, 2019. Bud now has answers to all of the questions that Pastor Reiner and Pastor Cutler told him to ask when he gets there.

He was born on the farm outside of Whitefish on July 25, 1939, to Delbert J. and Lucille A. Lowitz. He attended Whitefish High School, graduated in 1957, and received a football scholarship to Eastern College in Billings.

He worked side by side with his dad learning the upholstery trade, which they did for several years together. Bud decided to take a few years off from upholstery and drove log truck for Lyman Claridge Logging. He realized

upholstery was his true calling, leading up to his own business, Lowitz Custom Shoppe, where he worked closely with family until his retirement, at which point his son Dave took over the business.

He married Lamona in 1960, and together they had three children, Rod, Dave and Lisa. In his early years he loved farming and golfing, as well anything with wheels and motors. He also spent a lot of time riding motorcycles and snowmobiling with the boys.

In 1992 he and Toni were married. Together they enjoyed camping,



fishing and traveling to swim meets. He was actively involved at Trinity Lutheran Church,

where he served as an elder, usher and on the Evangelism board. His relationship with Jesus was very important to him.

Bud was preceded in death by his parents, brother Ernest, sister Gloria, and son Rod.

He is survived by his wife Toni, son Dave (Melanie), daughter Lisa (Charlie), daughter-in-law Karen, stepchildren Wayne (Debbie), Robin (Irving), and Kelly, 13 grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren. He is

also survived by brothers Richard and Mark, and sisters Frieda and Naomi.

There will be a grave side committal service at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 8, at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery (corner of Whitefish Stage and Rose Crossing), with a memorial service at Trinity Lutheran Church, 400 W. California, in Kalispell, at 11:30 a.m., with a lun-

cheon immediately following.

"May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace."

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Bud and his family.

Bill Lowthian, 73

Kalispell resident Bill Lowthian passed away peacefully at home on Nov. 5, 2019, holding the hands of his two daughters, Lee and Jill. He was 73.

Bill was born in Peru in 1946, spent his younger years in Arizona and California, and settled in Jackson, Wyoming, in 1970 where he stayed until 2018. He then moved to Kalispell to be closer to his oldest daughter.

Bill spent his career as a classically trained bartender. Other interests included billiards, boxing and fishing. Bill cherished his quiet and peaceful time on beautiful lakes in Teton National Park.



His daughters will always remember their dad as a source of constant,

unwavering love and support.

Bill was preceded in death by his mother, Ilene Lowthian, father, John Lowthian, and sister, Peggy Applegate.

He is survived by his two sisters, Pat Foster and Johnna Sharples, and his two daughters, Lee Daugherty and Jill Mendez.

A gathering with friends was held in Jackson on Nov. 12 in celebration of Bill's life.

Fredrick 'Jerry' Lubbers, 84

Fredrick 'Jerry' Lubbers, 84, died at his home in Columbia Falls on Aug. 22, 2019. He is survived by his wife Helen and children: Jacqueline Lynn, Jeri Elaine, Jayne Gaye, Jill Rhonda, Mary Flora, Jeffery Baiar, Thomas

Baiar and Ron Baiar. A graveside service with Military Honors will be held at 11 a.m. on August 28 at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for Jerry's family.

Helen Lubbers, 78

Helen Lubbers, 78, of Columbia Falls, died Nov. 26, 2019. Helen is survived by her children Jeffery, Thomas Baiar and Ron Baiar. A graveside service will be held

at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at Woodlawn Cemetery. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for her family.

Carrie Jean Lucas, 60

Carrie Jean Lucas, 60, died at her home in Bigfork, Jan. 30, 2019. Funeral Services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 8, 2019, at Niswonger/Reynolds Funeral Home in Bend,

Oregon with burial at Pilot Butte Cemetery, Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Niswonger/Reynolds Funeral Home are caring for the family.

Jerry A. Luce, 62

Jerry A. Luce, 62, of Columbia Falls passed away on April 19, 2019 at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center ICU. Arrangements

are being planned. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Jerry and his family.

Carol Ruth (Wright) Lucero, 67

Carol Ruth (Wright) Lucero, 67, passed away in Kalispell on May 11, 2019. Carol was born on Dec. 11, 1951, in Kansas City, Missouri, to Melvin and Muriel (Dement) Wright.

Carol married Sam Lucero in San Leandro, California, in 1971. From this 48-year marriage came two children, Samuel Lucero IV and Amoreena Lucero.

During her life, Carol

had many interests. She worked in management and care-giving, but her heart was in the community. She was actively involved in Canvas Church and did outreach in the community such as "Lunch Buddies" and even spent some time doing mission work in Mexico with the Santa Fe, New Mexico Church.

Carol was preceded in death by her father, Melvin Wright; mother,

Muriel Wright; father-in-law, Samuel Lucero; and mother-in-law, Ida Lucero.

She is survived by her husband, Sam Lucero III; son, Sam (Lindsey) Lucero IV; daughter, Amoreena (Greg) Brown; sister, Elayne Powell; and her grandchildren, Dominic, Daniel and Charlotte.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Canvas Church 24/7 Mission in

her remembrance. There will be no services.

Friends are encouraged to visit www.buffalohillfh.com to leave a note of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Roger Ludwig Jr., 63

Roger Ludwig Jr., 63, passed away in his home in Columbia Falls on Aug. 10, 2019, from cancer after a courageous fight, surrounded by his loving family.

Roger was born in Erie, Pennsylvania, on April 12, 1956, the son of Evelyn (Zattosky) and Roger Ludwig Sr. He graduated high school in Erie, and soon afterwards made his way to the Pacific Northwest. He lived briefly in The Dalles, Oregon, and Bingen, Washington.

In 1978, he met the love of his life, Mary Camuso, and together they moved to Columbia Falls where they settled down and



that Roger lived out the rest of his life. He worked at Plum Creek Timber Co. for 29 years and then became a certified nursing assistant for the Montana Veterans Home before retiring. He was a member of St. Richard Catholic Church, and enjoyed spending his time helping those in his community. He enjoyed music and was an avid reader, gardener and outdoors-

started a family. Their two daughters were raised in Columbia Falls, and it was here

man. He loved hiking, backpacking, cross country skiing, fishing and hunting, all in Northwest Montana.

In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by several brothers-in-law, as well as many aunts and uncles.

Roger is survived by his loving wife, Mary, of Columbia Falls; his two daughters, Clara McFadden and her husband Mike of Eugene, Oregon, and Stella Ludwig of Eugene; his mother, Evelyn (Zattosky) Ludwig of Erie; two sisters, Jean Frey of Tulum, Mexico, and her son, Jason Frey of Boston, and Beth McLaughlin

and her husband David of Lewisville, Texas; along with many aunts, an uncle, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Roger will be greatly missed and forever remembered in the hearts of his large family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to the Columbia Falls Food Bank.

A rosary vigil will be held 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 15, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Mass of Christian Burial will be at noon Friday, Aug. 16, at St. Richard Catholic Church.

Mary S. Luff, 87

Mary S. Luff, 87, of Kalispell, died Sunday, June 30, 2019, at her home in Kalispell.

Inurnment is being planned and will be held

at the Missouri State Veterans Cemetery in Higginsville, Missouri. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

Eddie Wayne Luke, 80

PAGE 21 July 2019

Eddie Wayne Luke, born June 12, 1939, passed away June 30, 2019, after a long, courageous battle with cancer.

He was born to Charlie and Lena Luke in Whitefish and was the youngest of five children. Eddie fell in love with Betty Bleick at the age of 15. They married young and bought a farm in 1962. Both worked multiple jobs to make ends meet. He began working on the railroad at the age of 18 and held several positions throughout his 34-year career.

Eddie joined the National Guard and Army Reserve. He proudly shot on the 6th Army Rifle Team which afforded him many adventures during his 27 years of his military service. During his tenure of service for his country, he carried identification



from the Pentagon which allowed him security clearance and special privileges. He earned many expert marksman medals and taught several accurate shooting techniques to many members of the Armed Forces.

Eddie was a man of many talents, which he shared with his "Best Friends," his children. He instilled the value of hard work into them while they worked the farm yet also had time to share with them the fun family times which included hunting, fishing, camping, snowmobiling and gun shows.

Eddie was a man of many talents, which he shared with his "Best Friends," his children. He instilled the value of hard work into them while they worked the farm yet also had time to share with them the fun family times which included hunting, fishing, camping, snowmobiling and gun shows.

Eddie is best known for his expertise and passion of antique firearms of which he amassed into one of the finest collections respected worldwide. He started from nothing and made it into an exceptional collection of art and history.

There is something special about a father. He was indeed an outstanding father, husband, uncle and grandfather. He was our "Fun Time" friend and was the best teacher and storyteller a family could have. On the tallest peak, while snowmobiling when invited to attend a friend's church Eddie's response, was "I am as close to God

here as I'll ever get." He did believe in God and the afterlife, but the mountains and outdoors were his church. Eddie had a full life well lived and will be missed by many.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and siblings Bob, Helen, Ike, Norma and Bela, who passed away at the age of 3.

Eddie is survived by his wife of 63 years, Betty; his son, Bryan (Velma) and their children David (Amy) and Carmen (Collin); and his daughter, Denise.

A celebration of his life at 11 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 5, at the Moose Lodge in Whitefish.

Scott O. Lyford, 61

July 2019

Scott Lyford passed from this life to his permanent home in heaven in the late afternoon of March 20, 2019. He was surrounded by members of his family.



Born in Kalispell on Jan. 26, 1958, to Bob and Gloria Lyford, Scott spent his early years at the family home near Helena Flats School, where he also attended grade and elementary schools. He excelled in sports including baseball (Kalispell Lakers) and football (Flathead Braves). Scott graduated from Flathead High School in 1976.

At the age of 19, he traveled to Alaska, then Wyoming to pursue a career in the oil business. A few years later, he moved to Las Vegas, where he had a long, successful career as a skilled Union Masoner working on multiple large casino projects.

After retiring, he moved back to Kalispell in 2017 upon the passing of his father to tend to the family home and pursue his passions for hunting, shooting, and various outdoor activities. Scott was a caring, thoughtful man, and was happy to spend his last years at home in the great Northwest Montana.

Scott was preceded in death by his wife Carleen of Indian Springs.

Nevada; parents, Bob and Gloria; five uncles, Wilbur and Ronnie Lyford, Wayne, Dale, and Clayton Logan; and aunt Viola

Kluender. Scott is survived by his Uncle Jerry and wife Gail, and Aunt Lois, as well as three brothers, one sister, and 12 nieces and nephews; Mark and wife Irene, and children, Christa, Amanda and Nathan, of Stanwood, Washington; Daniel and wife Jill, and daughters, Kelsey and Kimi, of Columbia Falls; Tom and wife Martha, and children, Jordyn, Chase, Sydney and Zachary of Laguna Niguel, California; and sister Jewel, and husband Matt Dyson, and children, Chandler, McKynzie and Colton, of Placentia, California.

The family would like to thank the staff at Brendan House Skilled Nursing Facility for their unfailing care and assistance, and to acknowledge and thank many special friends for their support as well. We request memorial donations be given to the The Cowboy Church, Brendan House, or a charity of your choice.

Alexander Luna, 87

pg A 7

9 Jan 2019

Alexander Luna of Lakeside died of a heart attack in the very early morning of Jan. 5, 2019. As the result of a mower accident a few years ago, he had been suffering from extreme back and leg pain that greatly affected his mobility.

Alexander was also known as Alejandro, Al, Alex or Hando, and he leaves behind a large host of broken-hearted family and friends, including his wife, Cora, of Lakeside, children, Rene of Denver, Carlos of Bigfork, and Lita and Orlando of Los Angeles; daughters-in-law, and grandchildren.

Al was lovingly known for his many "short stories" so, as my father's daughter, I feel compelled to share his story.

Born in 1931 in Kansas to Mexican-American parents, he attended Topeka



High School, lettering in football and playing basketball and baseball. He married Cora Barron in Topeka in 1952; they celebrated their 66th anniversary last Halloween.

As an Air Force tech sergeant specializing in radar, he served during the Korean War. While in, he toured

Morocco and Alaska remotely, then was stationed in various mid-west U.S. sites, landing in Lakeside in 1963.

He fell in love with Montana and remained, raising his family until reaching his 20 years of service. After retiring from the U.S. Air Force, he served as an electrician at the Anaconda Aluminum Plant in Columbia Falls for 22 years.

While he always held a full-time job, he also worked odd jobs to further support the family. He had a large list of lawn mowing/landscaping customers throughout Lakeside, pumped gas at the old Lakeside station, and labored at the Rollins chicken farm. At the air base, he ran the movies, the bowling alley with its adult and

kids leagues, regularly drove his shift's bus to the top site of Blacktail Mountain and drove us kids to Saturday morning catechism in Bigfork (in all kinds of weather and road conditions). "Big Al, the kiddies pal," was also a volunteer girls basketball coach for Lakeside Elementary and a umpire/coach for Lakeside/Somers Boys Little League Baseball. He owned and managed the Lakeside Trailer Park (a job that will now transfer to the family).

In our adult years we, his children, have thanked him for passing on to us his love of family, animals, sports, music, movies, art, and laughter. Also for teaching us to respect and honor the church, an education, an occupation and diversity in people.

He holds the reputation of an extremely skilled/hard worker, a happy, cheerful, good-natured and optimistic family man (known for his laugh) who would help, if he could, anyone or anything in need.

For example, he proudly donated land for the Lakeside QRU a few years ago.

He was a soft-hearted dad who would get a lump in his throat when he would see a "Kodak moment" on TV of a child or an animal, or when proudly speaking of his children's or grandchildren's accomplishments or work ethics.

Al not only worked hard, he played hard too. He considered most of his volunteer activities as playing but he also loved Flathead Lake.

While swimming, boat-

ing and fishing, he was in heaven in Lakeside ... and now he's in heaven with relatives who have previously passed, waiting to see us all again.

A "short story" for you dad! You will be terribly missed, we love you Hando!

On Friday, Jan. 11, at St. John Paul's Catholic Church in Bigfork, a 9 a.m. rosary and viewing is scheduled, followed by a Mass at 10 a.m. and a friends and family gathering at 11 a.m. Please come and share your "short stories" about Hando with us.

There will be a short burial of ashes at the Bigfork Community Cemetery at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 12

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