

Merv W. Yadon, 79

Merv W. Yadon, 79, died peacefully at home on June 25, 2020.



Merv was born July 29, 1940, in Fairview, Montana. He was a long-time resident of Rollins.

He is survived by his wife, Joyce Funda, of Rollins; two daughters, Leslye Yadon Baldwin of Grand Junction,

Colorado, and Jennifer Rae Perkins of Columbia, Kentucky; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services will be announced at a later date.

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.

Jane E. Yantis, 99

Jane E. Yantis, 99, died Feb. 20, 2020, at her home in Kalispell.

Her body was donated to science. No services

are planned at this time.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Diane Lynn Yeats, 61

Diane Lynn Yeats was born May 1, 1958, in Whitefish to Albert and Helen (Garland) Yeats.

She passed away on Feb. 17, 2020, at North Valley Hospital.

Diane grew up in Whitefish and graduated from Whitefish High School in 1976. She continued her education at the beauty college in Kalispell and with this skill gave many haircuts to her family and friends over the years. Her brother Glenn didn't allow anyone else to touch his hair for 25 years!

Diane moved to the Seattle area in the early 1990s and had a successful career as a dispatcher with AAA until her health made her unable to continue working.

Diane has resided at Genesis Health Care in Whitefish for the past two years. They took loving care of her.

As a child Diane was always bringing home stray dogs and as an adult she rescued and



loved Autumn, Einstein, Bandit and Otee.

Diane is survived by her six sib-

lings, Don (Sandy) Yeats of Mesa, Arizona, Dave (Luci) Yeats of Columbia Falls, George (Jodi) Yeats, Judi Yeats and Marcy Carr, all of Kalispell, and Glenn Andersen of Seattle; her Uncle Bill (Annie) Garland of Seattle and Aunt Jean Schrieber of Corvallis, Oregon.

Diane is also survived by numerous nephews and nieces and their families.

Diane was preceded in death by her parents and her great-nephew Carter Allen.

A family service is planned for Aug. 1 in Glacier Park.

Donations can be made in Diane's name to the Flathead County Animal Shelter and the Flathead Food Bank.

Judith 'Judy' M. Russo Yates, 84

Judith "Judy" M. Russo Yates, 84, of Columbia Falls, died Thursday, Nov. 26, 2020, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

Private family services are being planned. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

Daisy (Burk) Yerian, 82

Daisy (Burk) Yerian, 82, passed away on March 2, 2020, at North Valley Hospital surrounded by her loved ones.

She was born in Kalispell to Ted and Louise Burk on July 31, 1937. She attended school in Kalispell until her seventh grade.

After leaving Kalispell, the family moved to Trego, where her father, Ted, had his logging business. She graduated from Trego School in 1953. Being the oldest girl of five children, she learned the chores of motherhood early, helping with her younger siblings. During her sophomore year she left formal education to help her grandmother, Lena Jane Talbot, in the wigwam, as a cook hand.

She married Keith Burgess in February 1956. They had three children together before separating. She worked many years as a waitress in many places, including The Buffalo Café, Knott's Café, Rubattino's in Renton, Washington, and in Great Falls where she had her own restaurant until she was forced to retire after being injured on the job.

Daisy enjoyed jigsaw



puzzles and playing cards with the girls. She loved to collect knick-knacks,

sew doll clothes, bake and fish, but was not a fan of eating her catch.

She was preceded in death by her parents Ted and Louise Burk, her son-in-law Mike Lindquist, grandson Jeremy Lindquist, daughter-in-law Gail Jean Burgess, sister-in-law Jeannine Burk, great-grandchildren Pyper and Paisley Bernethy, nephews Ted Burk and Bruce Burk, special friend Katie Kondo and life friend Jim Pouch.

She is survived by her children Sheila Beeman (James) of Fortine, Linda Lindquist (Kristine Mitchell) of Whitefish and Dawain Burgess of Fortine, 10 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Due to the current recommendation that gatherings be reduced or canceled, a memorial will take place at a later date.

Joyce O. Young, 92

Joyce O. Young, 92, of Kalispell, died at Echo View Assisted Living on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2020.

Private family services are being held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27, at Darlington Cremation and Burial Service, 3408 U.S. 2 E., Kalispell.

Shirley Yeats, 91

PAT 12 Aug 2020

Shirley Yeats, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend to all who knew her, passed away peacefully with her son by her side, on July 21, 2020, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Shirley was born in Whitefish on Nov. 7, 1928, the youngest of four daughters to parents Reuben and Fern Larson. She joined Delores, Eleanor and Pearl. She was known most of her life as "Shirlee" because there were three Shirley's in her second grade class and her teacher provided spelling variations to differentiate them. She graduated from Whitefish High School in 1946 and shortly after that married Myron Schwenke, also of Whitefish. They were blessed by the birth of their first son, Larry, on July 25, 1947, followed by Don on Dec. 4, 1948. They later divorced and she became, in those days, a not so common single mom. She made sure the boys didn't miss out on scouting, sports and church activities. She instilled in them a strong work ethic and a sense of responsibility and respect for others. The house on Kalispell Avenue adjoined the school and playfields, which allowed them to hone their athletic skills



with the neighborhood gang. Her shrill whistles were legendary as she called them in

for lunch and again for dinner.

She married Bill Yeats on March 25, 1959, and welcomed Len and Linda to the family. Bill was an avid outdoorsman and they had many adventures camping, hunting, fishing and traveling. Often, the family returned in the VW bus with moose, elk, deer or other game bound for the butcher table in the basement. Shirlee, whose eyesight gradually failed her in later years, had an amazing talent of spotting the game for the hunters.

During her years in Whitefish, she developed many, many lasting relationships. Among them was an endearing friendship with Joyce Bergstrom. Some of their antics and situations reminded people of Lucy and Ethel! She worked as a nurses' aide and as a clerk at a pharmacy, Snappy Foods, Flathead County Treasurer's Office and the Montana Liquor Store in Whitefish. Shirlee was a survivor at heart, enduring many losses and health issues. She was

greatly saddened by the tragic death of son, Don, in 1969.

She and Bill both retired in 1981 and loved to travel, often with the Bergstrom's or one of Shirlee's sisters and their husbands. Among their favorite places were all of Montana, Hawaii, Canada, Branson, Florida and the Oregon Coast. They also treasured many opportunities to follow and their children's, grandchildren's, and great-grandchildren's high school and college sports and activities.

Shirlee was a very caring person who always put others' needs ahead of her own. She provided care for her mother and father, mothers-in-law, sister Pearl, and her stepson, Len, during his courageous battle with cancer. She enjoyed a very special relationship with her daughter-in-law, Mary, who was a great friend and companion. They traveled together to Washington, D.C., and Europe to visit granddaughter Jen, and also to Santa Barbara for grandson Tyler and Brett's graduations.

Shirlee was often recognized for her contributions to the community. She was named the Co-Worker of the Year by the Women of the Moose for 1998-1999. She was honored and hum-

bled in 2006 to be chosen First Lady of Whitefish based on her volunteer work and service. She also was named the Senior Queen of the Whitefish Winter Carnival Royalty in 2010. She volunteered many years for the Meals on Wheels program at the senior center and was very active in the Moose Lodge. She and Bill were presented the Mr. and Mrs. Moose Award in 1999. She also served many years on the VFW Auxiliary color guard and enjoyed participating in Red Hats and Friendship Club, as well as countless card games with her friends. She had a passion for baking, and loved to provide cookies or other treats for all occasions.

Shirlee was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters Delores, Ellie and Pearl, her son Donny, husband Bill, stepson Len, and stepdaughter Linda.

She is survived by her son, Larry Schwenke, his

wife, Laurie, and their children, Ann (Doug) Jaworski and children, Julia, Justin, and Cole; Keri (Scott) Carter and her daughters, Bailey and Jaime Jaworski; Andrea (Jay) Sadler and sons Aaron and Ian, all of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; daughter-in-law, Mary Yeats of Whitefish and her children, Jen (Josh) Cinq-Mars of Great Falls, and Jeff Yeats (Michelle) Kyle, and Tate of Glendive; granddaughter Anita (Tom) Patton and sons Tyler and Brett of Santa Barbara, as well as numerous nieces and nephews and their families.

At the age of 87, Shirlee made the decision to move to Coeur d'Alene where she was surrounded by Larry's loving family and friends. She also enjoyed an extended family with all of her neighbors at Orchard Ridge Independent Senior Living Community. It seems only

fitting that she completed her long earthly journey while visiting in Whitefish. Once a Montanan, always a Montanan! While we are all saddened by her passing, we are content in knowing that she was welcomed home to heaven by her son, and the many other loved ones who left before her.

The family wishes to extend their heartfelt thanks to the staff at North Valley Hospital, Heritage Place, Kalispell Regional Medical Center, and Hospice Services, for their expert and loving, compassionate care.

A celebration of Shirlee's Life is planned for noon on Sept. 5, at the Whitefish Moose Lodge. Lunch will be provided.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to the charity of your choice or a hospice organization is suggested.

Austin Funeral Home is entrusted with the final arrangements.