

Patricia Ann (Dragonfly) Clark, 84

PA 5 18 Dec 20 21
Patricia Ann (Dragonfly) Clark, 84, went to meet her Lord the morning of Dec. 13, 2021. Freed from her struggles with Parkinson's disease and dementia, she has joined her family and friends in heaven.



belt buckles, and jewelry for many of her friends and family.

Pat was preceded in death by her parents, John and Edith Dragonfly, infant son Larry David, six of her siblings, and son-in-law Wayne.

Pat was born on Oct. 14, 1937, in Harlem, Montana, on the Fort Belknap Reservation, she was one of eight children, six sisters and two brothers. As a child she moved with her family first to Fort Peck, then to western Montana, between the Swan Lake area and the Coram and Martin City area. She graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1956.

Pat met the love of her life while she was cooking at the Dew Drop Inn near Martin City. She met Leon "Bud" Clark, who smoked a pipe at that time. She always said that she fell in love with his pipe!

Bud followed Pat to California for a short time, and they were married on March 25, 1961, in San Diego. Shortly after, they moved back to Montana and started their family.

Pat spent many years as part of the Bissell Homemakers Club and the Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary group. She did love those years spent with her friends. She provided childcare for many children over the years and loved them all.

Pat was very proud of her Native American Assiniboine heritage and made beaded dresses,

She is survived by her husband, Bud Clark; her sister, Margaret (Maurice) Burns; her children, LaVonne (Kevin) Basson, Lori (Charles) DeRosier, and Lorne (Denise) Clark; grandchildren, Jarrod (Cherylynn) Kinsey, Kristina (Wayne) Bieber, Michael Riddle, Logan Clark, James DeRosier, Jenna (Tanner) Dana, and Lauren Clark' and seven great-grandchildren. She was "Aunt Pat" to many nieces and nephews.

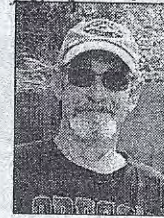
Pat loved and cherished her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and the time they got to spend together.

Bud and the family request that in lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Michael J. Fox Foundation or any other Parkinson disease research foundation.

There will be a viewing for family and friends at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home on Monday, Dec. 20, from 9 to 11 a.m. The memorial service will be held the same day at 3:30 p.m.

Dwain Allen Clarke

PA 14 Sept 20 21
Dwain Allen Clarke was born on Nov. 24th in 1955 to Richard and Arlene Clarke on Travis Air Force Base located in Fairfield, California.



Clarke, their four children, Jessica, Tony, Cassie and Cindy.

On Sept. 5, 2021, Dwain left behind his mother, Arlene Clarke, his brother, Steve Clarke, and his two sisters, Linda Howell, and Judy Schwan. He shared a wonderful marriage and family with the love of his life, Rhonda

Dwain is meeting his brother Jimmy Clarke and father Dick Clarke in heaven to catch the "Big Ones."

A service is pending.

Joyce A. Clayton, 87

Joyce A. Clayton, 87, of Kalispell, died on Aug. 31, 2021, at Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Services are pending.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Andrea Clements, 67

PA 6 15 May 20 21
Andrea Clements, 67, lost her battle with cancer on Feb. 21, 2021.

She passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones.

She is survived by her two children, her son Eric Miletich, his wife Megan, and granddaughter Katie, and her daughter Rebecca Miletich, her partner Dustin, and granddaughter VaNora, all from Kalispell.

There will be a celebration of life for Andrea on May 22 at 2 p.m. held at 427 Ezy Drive in Evergreen. Please call Nancy at 406-250-7426 if directions are needed. There will be a reception to follow; this



will be held outdoors.

We want to welcome any friends and family

that would like to join us in celebrating her life, to come and share your stories and memories you have of Andrea. We will be releasing balloons to help send Andrea's spirit back home to heaven.

We love and we miss you dear lady.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating funds to Wings Regional Cancer Support in Kalispell.

Marjorie Elaine Clemens, 96

PA 7 9 May 2021

Marge "left this world on her own terms" on March 23, 2018. She passed in her sleep and so quietly slipped the bounds of this earth.

Marge was born Nov. 2, 1921, in Bainville. She attended the University of Minnesota, met and married Robert Clemens. Their union produced three children, Thomas,



Cheryl and Roger. Marge was 96 years of age at her passing.

She worked for the university system in Dillon and in Kalispell at the Clerk and Recorders office. She often lamented to me her

love for Kalispell, and especially her fellow associates at the Recorders office. She said it was the best place she ever worked.

Marge and Bob moved to Kalispell 40 years ago.

Bob passed in 1999 and now, after waiting all these years, they are together at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Marge is survived by her three children, 22 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Mother always sent them a little something on their birthday.

We will miss Mother in the years to come, but will do so with a broad smile on our faces knowing Mother enjoyed her life and lived it to the fullest.

Robert M. Clithero, 91

Robert M. Clithero, 91, of Bigfork, died in Kalispell Nov. 18, 2021.

No services are being held at this time.

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

Carlton Clunn, 70

Carlton Clunn, 70, of Eureka, died Oct. 19, 2021, at his home.

Services are pending.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Stephen 'Steve' Ross Clogg, 73

PA 5

30 Dec 2021

Stephen "Steve" Ross Clogg, 73, passed away peacefully on Dec. 26, 2021.

He suffered from Alzheimer's disease for several years until ultimately losing his battle to brain cancer.

Steve was born on Feb. 1, 1948, in Detroit, Michigan, to William and Glenna Clogg. He graduated high school from North Farmington High School in 1966. He continued his education in Ann Arbor at the University of Michigan. He remained an avid Michigan Wolverines fan until his dying day. He later moved to Minnesota and became an air traffic controller in Farmington, Minnesota. He had his daughter, Josalyn Stephanie Clogg, in 1977. He moved to Bozeman in 1982, where his love for Montana all began. He met his wife Marcie in Pocatello, Idaho, and they were married on Valentine's Day in 1984. They moved to West Glacier, where they had their son Jamie Montana Clogg on April 21, 1989. They moved to other places over those years;



Idaho, Washington, Alaska, Georgia, Alabama, and Wisconsin, just to

name a few. They missed Montana and moved back to Whitefish in 2001 to settle down. Montana is where they shared their love for the outdoors and wildlife. He lost his beloved wife of 23 years, Marcie, to cancer in 2007.

Steve loved dogs, especially Great Danes. They had many over the years. He dabbled into photography and was good at it. He enjoyed fine art and pottery. He was handy and could be found working on miscellaneous projects around the house. He loved watching sports! Go Blue! College football and basketball were two of his favorites. He enjoyed catching Jamie's baseball Little League. He always made a point to never miss a Whitefish Bulldogs basketball game. It wasn't uncommon to find him traveling several miles around the state of

Montana to watch them play. He golfed regularly at the Whitefish Golf Course and loved going to breakfast at The Buffalo Cafe every morning to visit with the locals. He was fascinated with people's stories and meeting new people from all over the world. He traveled a lot. Some would call him a wanderer. He would get bored in one spot. He didn't want to miss an opportunity to gain a new experience. He loved old classic cars. He was a sponge for knowledge and extremely wise beyond his years. He dreamed of going back to school to be a nurse or doctor someday. He worked as an air traffic controller until he retired after over 30 years in 2009 as the Air Traffic Manager at Glacier Park International Airport.

Due to his illness, Steve moved back to Minnesota in 2013, where he got the opportunity to see his grandchildren more. Although his last years were not as he planned, he always maintained a positive attitude. Jamie moved to

Michigan and went on to graduate as a nurse, an accomplishment he was undeniably so proud of!

We will all miss Steve and his warm heart, big hugs, burly beard, and his many stories of world travel. He has made many good friends over the years who live near and far.

He was preceded in death by his best friend and wife Marcellyn (Marcie) Clogg; parents William and Glenna Clogg; and brother William Clogg Jr. Survivors include his children, 44-year-old daughter Josalyn Brick of Minnesota and 31-year-old son Jamie Clogg (Kristin) of Michigan; his two grandchildren AJ Nordenstrom and Paislee Brick; brother Troy Clogg (Linda); nieces, nephews, cousins, and many dear friends.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date in Michigan. Cremation has taken place. Cards may be sent to 13241 US Highway 10 #2, Elk River, Minnesota 55330.

Tommy A. Cockerham Jr., 75

Tommy A. Cockerham Jr., 75, of Somers, died Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He is survived by wife Tish; and a son, Tommy Cockerham III.

Services are not planned at the present time. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is assisting the family.

Robin Coe, 65

PA4 30 Mar 2021
A finer man never walked this earth. Robin Coe passed on to another realm on March 24, 2021. He never met another person who wasn't a friend. He loved life, spirit and the beautiful planet on which we live. More than anything, he loved to fish. He expressed his creativity in all aspects of his life. His drawings, paintings, pottery and woodworking were all extraordinary.

He grew up in the Lower Flathead, as well as in the greater Seattle area, receiving a double degree in fine arts and education from Western Washington University in Ellensburg. Shortly after graduating, he moved his family to Fairbanks, Alaska, where he spent 23 years raising his two sons and becoming a fine finish carpenter.

In 2008 he moved back to Montana and married Eloise Wiebe. They spent the time they had



together on their small farm working on building projects, gardening, camping and, of

course, fishing.

Robin was preceded in death by his parents, Gordon Coe and Joyce Flynn, and his oldest son, Raif.

He is survived by his wife Eloise, son Kyle (Silvia), granddaughter Ares, and many, many friends.

There will be a celebration of Robin's life later in the year.

"But since it fell into my lot. That I should rise and you should not, I'll gently rise and softly call, Good night and joy be to you all.

So fill to me the parting glass, And drink a health whate'er befalls, Then gently rise and softly call, Good night and joy be to you all." — traditional Scottish song

Gene A. Colcord, 83

Gene A. Colcord, 83, of Kennewick, Washington, died on July 15, 2021, at Logan Health Medical Center.

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

Vincent Ray Cole, 33

Vincent Ray Cole, 33, of Kalispell, died on April 14, 2021, as a result of a motorcycle accident.

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

Donald John 'Big D' Collier, 60

PA4 14 May 2021
Donald John "Big D" Collier, 60, passed away on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, due to prolonged illness.

Donnie was born in Kalispell on Feb. 18, 1961.

He is survived by his son DJ Buck Collier, his parents Sharon (Tootie) and Gary Collier, sister Connie (Craig) Ronan, and brother Tyler (Shannon) Collier, his only aunt, Norma Montoya, and cousins, nieces, nephews, and large extended family.

Donnie graduated from Flathead High School in 1979. Donnie worked at Kalispell Neon for his dad until his stroke in 2009. He also guided for Shawn Little in the Middle Fork where many adventures were found. Donnie also had a share in the Diamond R Guest Ranch



in Spotted Bear. He was an avid outdoorsman, spending much of his youth and adult

life hunting and fishing with family and friends.

Donnie had an infectious laugh, and we are going to miss that twinkle in his eye when he smiled. He had a big heart, and always showed kindness to everyone he met.

Love you, Big D. Rest in peace. We hope you are catching the big fish up there with Dave.

A celebration of life is tentatively planned for July 17.

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



**Please join us
in Celebrating
the life of
Donald J
Collier**

**Saturday,
July 17th, 4pm
161 Willow Glen Dr
(River Bottom
Ranch)**

Loretta Jean 'Rita' Collins, 93

PAG 4 Feb 2021
Loretta Jean "Rita" Collins, 93, left this world to join the love of her life, Dale Collins, on Feb. 1, 2021. Mom will also join her mother Leona Pagel, father Edward Pagel, brother Oren Bud Pagel, and her second daughter, Linda Day.

Rita is survived by Pat and Guy Lavoie, Sharon Collins, Don and Penny Collins, Dorothy and Tim Stensrud. She has eight grandchildren, Jeff LaVoie, Ryan LaVoie, Nicky LaVoie McGarity, Travis Collins, Jarrod Collins, Nathan Collins, Lauren Stensrud, Morgan Stensrud, and three great-grandchildren.

Rita came to the Flathead Valley with her parents at the age of 18 and met Dale, serving him a malted milkshake at the local soda shop. They fell in love and married in 1947 and enjoyed 55 years of marriage. Rita has been looking forward to reuniting with him after 18 years of separation.

Rita loved to laugh and enjoyed to laugh and enjoyed sarcastic humor. She felt blessed to live in the Flathead Valley as she absolutely loved nature. Dale and Rita were regulars on Big Mountain where she enjoyed skiing with fam-



ily and friends.

From the mountain down to Flathead Lake, she loved every day spent at their cabin, and took up sailing. They took their first sailboat out on Flathead in February, wearing down coats and learned to trim the sails.

Their Arabian horses were a big part of her life. She often would wander into the barn to pet her favorites. It was her treasured quiet time. She loved RVing with Dale and friends ... bottom line ... she loved people and she loved her relationship with God.

You are welcome to join the family for a funeral Mass at St. Matthew's today, Feb. 4, at 12:10 p.m., with rosary service preceding at 11:30 a.m.

A celebration of life memorial reception and interment will be announced summer of 2021.

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.

Randolph C. 'Randy' Collier 67

PAG 31 Mar 2021
Randolph C. "Randy" Collier 67, of Marion, died March 25, 2021, in Marion.

Randy is survived by his brother, Robb Collier.

No services to be held.

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

Roger Morris Cooley, 55

Roger Morris Cooley, 55, formerly of Kalispell, died July 9, 2021, in Bella Vista, Arkansas, due to a motorcycle accident.

He is survived by his wife, Twila, of Bella Vista; son, Frank, of

California; and parents, Frank and Pat Cooley, of Kalispell.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of life was held July 16 at Bella Vista Funeral Home Chapel in Bella Vista.

Leslie 'Les' Cooper, 82

PAG 25 Apr 2021
Leslie "Les" Cooper, of Dove Creek, Colorado, passed away on April 2, 2021.

He was preceded by sisters Margaret Cooper and Louis Frye (Cooper).

Les is survived by his wife, Sally; son, Ian; daughter-in-law, Audrey; and grandson, Sean.

He was born to Homer and Margerie (Larson) Cooper, in Glasgow, Montana, Jan. 17, 1939. Les and his

family moved around Montana for much of his early childhood, until finally settling in the Flathead Valley. Coop, as he was known to family and friends, was born to the land, and he would dedicate his life to agriculture. He worked on the family farm as a boy, where he developed a love of the land: After graduating from Flathead County High School, Coop attended Montana State University Northern in Havre. He pursued, and graduated with, a degree in agricultural studies.

Les went on to become a successful and highly regarded farmer for the next 40 years. He served where he could, from a hitch in the U.S. Army Reserve, to being



a member of several local boards of directors. Early in his career he met the love of his life, Sally Woesner, whom he married in 1966.

They would be together, through many ups and downs, for nearly 55 years. In 1975, Les and Sally had their only child, Ian. In 2004 Les and Sally sold their farm in the valley, and in 2005, moved to their new home, Dove Creek, Colorado.

Les was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He will be sorely missed by those he left behind.

A celebration of life for Les will be held at 11 a.m. June 5 at the Pioneer Center in Dove Creek.

Arrangements are being made through Ertel Funeral Home in Cortez, Colorado. To send condolences or to view the obituary, log on to www.ertelfuneralhome.com and click on the obituary section.

Norma Coote, 86

P44 5 Mar 2021
Norma, who was known for her quick smile and hearty laugh, passed away peacefully at home in the presence of family on Feb. 25, 2021.



She spent 15 years sharing her love of travel with others while at the same time

Norma was born on Dec. 10, 1934, the second of four daughters to Ivan and Mary Lightbody.

She grew up in Glasgow, Scotland spending summers and holidays in a place dear to her heart, Brodick, on the Isle of Arran. Climbing Goat Fell, fishing in Brodick Bay, and time spent with family on this island stayed with her all her life.

Norma went on to study nursing at Kings College Hospital, Camberwell, London, and Midwifery at Rottenrow Hospital, Glasgow. She was proud to have personally delivered 33 babies. It was during these years that the travel bug captured Norma. She explored areas of England and France during vacations with her girlfriends, but in 1959 broadened her horizons and traveled to Winnipeg, Canada. A second trip to the United States in 1960 proved more successful by providing the chance meeting of Englishman, Malcolm Coote, over the grave of Paul Revere. Six months later they were married making their home and starting their family in Westford, Massachusetts.

Norma and Malcolm moved to Redlands, California, for a few years but ultimately settled in Bellevue, Washington, in order to raise their three daughters. Norma instilled in her daughters the love of beach time and was a loyal follower of their swimming and running endeavors. Once the girls were old enough Norma, being the adventurous woman she was, went back to school and became a travel agent.

exploring the world with Malcolm.

After retiring, Norma and Malcolm pulled up tent stakes and moved to Surprise, Arizona, where they spent 16 glorious years in the sun. Norma enjoyed reading, pool time and putting with girlfriends, and volunteering during her years in Arizona. In 2018 Norma and Malcolm's final move was to Kalispell in order to be closer to family.

Regardless of where she went, Norma made friends and welcomed people into her life. You always knew Norma was near because you could smell her perfume and hear her laugh. She could liven up a party reading palms or telling a funny story and with a giggle cheat her way through a game of croquet. Put simple, she will be greatly missed.

Norma is survived by her husband, Malcolm; daughters, Alyson Olson (Ken), Debbie Ploeger (Nol) and Fiona Clauson (Marc); grandchildren, Alec, Liam, David, Olivia, Evan, Marc and Debbie; as well as countless family and friends around the world.

Caring for Norma was a family affair, but for those of us who couldn't always be there, we are eternally grateful for daughter Debbie's unwavering and loving care during Norma's illness. Special thanks also goes out to Olivia at Home Options Hospice for pampering Norma and making her feel special.

The funeral Mass will be at the Risen Christ Catholic Church today, March 5, at 11 a.m.

Dean Conklin

A memorial service for Dean Conklin, 84, who died Jan. 6, will be held at noon June 24 at Glacier Mountain Lodge conference room at Glacier Bible Camp in Hungry Horse. A lunch will follow.

Orrin Conklin, 78

Orrin Conklin, 78, formerly of Columbia Falls, died in Casper, Wyoming, Feb. 15, 2021.

He is survived by his wife Marjean, and children Carrie and Kelly.

A graveside service with military honors will be held Saturday, Feb. 27, at 11 a.m. at Woodlawn Cemetery. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Andrea Jean (Schlabs) Connor, 82

P46 16 Jan 2022
Andrea Jean (Schlabs) Connor from Marysville, Washington, born Sept. 30, 1939, in Plentywood, Montana, passed Nov. 30, 2021, in Everett, Washington.



was always open and she will be sorely missed each and every day.

Andrea was preceded in death by her husband of 40 years, Lyle Connor; her sister, Vicki (Schlabs) Jones; and sister-in-law Barbara (Young) Schlabs.

She lived a full and happy life surrounded by her four children, Harold Connor, Lavonne Sheldon (Randy), Michael Connor (Kim), and Mark Connor (Nancy); her 13 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother Gordon Schlabs of Lakeside, and her sister Karen Saurey (Gary) of Columbia Falls.

Andrea was a fun and loving aunt to countless nieces and nephews. She worked as a dental assistant for 30 years while raising her family. She and Lyle were involved in the Lynnwood Elks for many years, and Andrea was an active member in the Emblem Club where she met several women who became lifelong friends.

Andrea was the matriarch of a large, busy, loving family. Her door

Kenneth John Connors, 75

PAC 23 Jan 2022

Kenneth, or as he preferred to be known as Ken, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, on Dec. 26, 1946. He passed away Jan. 7, 2022.



and New London, Connecticut. Ken was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy in July of 1971 after achieving the rank of radioman third class

Ken was employed there for 31 years and retired in December of 2001. During his time there he obtained an Associate in Applied Science - Telecommunications Technology degree.

Great Falls, Doris Marie Palicz of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, his sister-in-law Dorothy Connors of Kalispell, and his brother-in-law John (Deirdre) Curran of Palm Coast, Florida.

At the age of 6 months after his father's discharge from the Navy, the family relocated to Kalispell.



(RM3)

Ken attended Helena Flats Rural School and Flathead County High School, both in Kalispell.

In October of 1970, Ken joined what was then New York Telephone Company, which then became NYNEX, Bell Atlantic and ultimately Verizon Communications as a systems technician.

Ken is survived by his wife of 41 years, Karen (Ann Curran) of Daytona Beach, Florida, his son and daughter-in-law Kenneth M. (Tracy) Connors, as well as his three beloved grandsons, Kenny, Ronan and Finn Connors all of Edison, New Jersey. In addition, he is survived by his brother, Donald (Becky) Connors, of Libby, Floris (James) Dyke of

Ken is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

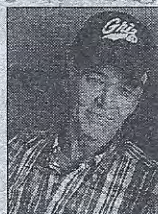
Ken was loved by all of them and was affectionately called "Uncle Teasy."

[Editor's note: This obituary is being run again to correct an error made in the typing process.]

Timothy Connolly, 65

PAC 16 Apr 2021

Tim Connolly passed away unexpectedly Sunday, April 4, 2021, with his family by his side.



Tommy, two daughters Desauri and Miranda, 10 grandchildren Tyler,

He was born March 29, 1956, in Anaconda to Thomas Connolly and Jane Weidler.

Noah, Preston, Linley, Indya, Ireland, Abigail, Keller, Reid and Pippa, mother Jane Weidler, sisters Ruth Small and Kathleen Connolly, his nephew and sports buddy Khoy Ridings, along with numerous nieces and nephews.

In his early years he was employed at Columbia Falls Aluminum Co. (CFAC) before starting his career in pest elimination.

Tim was a devoted father, husband, and Papa.

"I walk into a field of blue to play the lonely part, your love it grows, in my thoughts I know. I'll wait for you"

He loved to fish and hunt, but his favorite passion was playing his guitar. Any given day you could hear him strumming away. He enjoyed his family to the fullest and never hesitated to show his kindness and love. He will be greatly missed.

No service is scheduled at this time. Condolences can be sent to the family at P.O. Box 3393 Columbia Falls MT 59912.

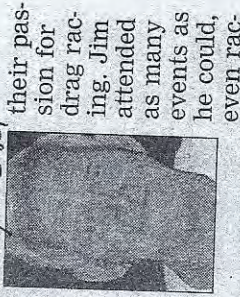
He was preceded in death by his father Thomas, his stepfather Perry, and sister Geralann.

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.

He is survived by the love of his life Penny, three sons Josh Fields and wife Carla, Kris, and

James 'Jim' W. Corbett, 80

PAG 7 July 2021



James "Jim" W. Corbett, formerly of Polson and Kalispell, passed away on June 17, 2021, at Cedar Wood Villa in Red Lodge.

Jim was born on July 21, 1940, in Kalispell to Irene (Diseth) and Charles Corbett of Coram. He was raised in Coram, graduated from Columbia Falls High School, Northern Montana College in Havre and earned his Master's degree in education from Eastern Montana College in Billings in 1969.

Jim returned to Polson where he taught special education and sixth grade. While in Polson he was instrumental in the founding of the Kicking Horse Job Corps in Ronan, helping many young adults succeed.

In 1973 the family moved to Kalispell, where he taught special education at Flathead Valley Community College and helped people earn their GEDs.

In 1978, Jim, his wife Deanne and son Mike moved to Sidney, Montana, to join Deanne's father and brother in the Gem City Motors car dealership. They returned to Polson in the late 1980s. One of Jim's greatest joys in life was joining his son Mike and wife Linda with

their passion for drag racing. Jim attended as many events as he could, even racing with his own race car.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, infant brother Charles, and older brother Gerald (Jerry) at age 49.

Jim is survived by his wife Deanne of Polson, son Mike (Linda) of Miles City, sister Bonnie (Fred) Kirkpatrick of Kalispell, brother Jack (Lori) of Columbia Falls, sister-in-law Joyce (Jerry) of Kalispell, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services for Jim were held in Miles City, Montana, on Friday, June 25, at Stevenson and Sons Funeral Chapel. The family would like to thank them for helping with his final care. Also, special thanks to the staff at Cedar Wood Villa for their excellent care. They took special care of Jim and we thank them for loving him as we did. Your work is tremendously challenging and does not go unnoticed. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.stevensonandsons.com.

Margie Lorraine Puckett Corbett, 84

PAG 27 June 2021



Margie Puckett, 84, ran into the arms of Jesus on Thursday, June 10, 2021, at her she-shed in Kalispell, with her daughter Becky, son-in-law Keith and ever faithful cat Saco by her side.

Born Feb. 27, 1937, on a farm near Harrisburg, South Dakota, to Lorenz and Laura Messner, Margie was the youngest of six children. Margie attended a one-room schoolhouse until seventh grade. She attended school in Harrisburg for seventh through ninth grade. To get a better education, Margie moved from the family home to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, at the age of 16.

She loved old time dancing and it was at a dance she met the love of her life Allan Puckett.

They married in 1956. Allan and Margie lived in Sioux Falls where she worked at a bank. They relocated to Seattle, then Whidbey Island, Washington, where she worked at her favorite job as a personnel assistant for Boeing. After relocating back to the South Dakota area, they lived in Canistota and Margie worked for the Farmers Home Administration in

Salem where she received top accolades for superior work.

In 1979 the family relocated to Libby, Montana, where Margie worked at First National Bank until her retirement in 1998.

Allan and Margie had four children, Michael Allan, Brenda Sue, Karee Lynn and Becky Faye. Allan passed away Nov. 6, 1994. Margie subsequently married Marshall Corbett in 2002. They relocated to Kalispell where he passed away Jan. 4, 2020.

Margie was preceded in death by her two husbands, son-in-law David Hacke, granddaughter Nikki Karim and three of her siblings, Donna, Betty

and Shirley.

Margie is survived by her sister Lavonn Anderson, brother Bob Messner, children Michael (Tina) Puckett, Brenda Herbst, Karee (Frank) Sweedman and Becky (Keith) Cassel; 14 grandchildren, four step-grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and her beloved cat Saco.

Celebration of life services for Margie will be July 2 at 2 p.m. at the Libby Christian Church.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg Funeral Home in Libby. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.schnackenbergfh.com.

Kay Louise Corley, 67

Kay Louise Corley, 67, of Kalispell, died on July 20, 2021, at her home.

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

Joanne Shaw Corning, 90

PAL 25 Nov 2021

Joanne Shaw Corning passed away peacefully at her home on Nov. 19, 2021, at the age of 90. All who knew her were touched by her genuine warmth, quick laugh, optimism and graciousness.

Joanne Shaw was born in Dillon on March 19, 1931, to Esther "Chris" Christensen and Joseph Warren Shaw, who raised sheep on a high swath of land in the nearby Big Hole Valley. Growing up in Wisdom, Montana, in the 1930s without electricity or running water, Joanne's early days laid the foundation for who she would become: hard working, whip-smart, level headed, and gracious — with an absolute focus on family. Joanne exemplified the best of Montana ranch values. She loved to share the lore of the Big Hole with stories of her cherished parents, brother Joe and lifelong friends like the Huntleys. After her father's sudden death when Joanne was only 12, the family moved to Missoula, where she thrived in school with numerous accomplishments. To the ongoing delight of her children and grandchildren (and probably a few cowboys at the time), the barrel-racing redhead, Joanne Shaw, was crowned the Missoula Jaycee Stampede Rodeo Queen of 1948. She attended the University of Montana, where she made lifelong friends as a member of the Delta Gamma sorority and met the dashing Jim Corning who lived in the Phi Delt house across the street.

Joanne and Jim mar-



ried in 1949 and soon moved to Billings as opportunity called. Over the next 16 years, the couple

expanded their family with six children while building Radio Equipment Company. Never forgetting the mountains of western Montana, Joanne made Billings her home and jumped heart-first into the community. She was a tireless parent-volunteer for the countless activities of her children and their friends. Joanne was also a founding member of Chapter BL PEO, a Stephens Minister at the First Presbyterian Church, and a perennial volunteer with Billings Young Families. She embodied the generosity and grace which she inspired in others.

In addition to her charitable and volunteer work, Joanne lovingly nurtured and maintained friendships from all stages of her life. Stacks of correspondences, mountains of Christmas cards, and a phone cord that could span the length of the house evidenced her strength of community. Like her mother before her, Joanne opened her home to the world. Always centered around the kitchen, she created a space for people to relax and be themselves. She cooked with love and always had room for

one more. Joanne's relationships were precious, authentic and reciprocated.

No one benefited more from Joanne's joy of togetherness than her own family. Between Joanne and Jim, their family cultivated a love of laughing, sharing life's little outrages and storytelling. (Have you heard the story of Grammy enchanting Arnold Palmer in Palm Springs?) Time together has always been graced by a chorus of laughter and conversation that grows steadily louder as the evening draws on. No one could possibly accuse the Cornings of being a quiet people.

When not at home in Billings, Jim and Joanne split their time between Indian Wells, California, and Flathead Lake. For 38 years, the entire extended family reconnected at "Camp Corning" on Finley Point in the Flathead. Those 38 summers on the lake forever bonded four generations of her family who remain close, connected and inspired by her legacy.

Joanne will be missed by her many, many friends, but especially by her six children, 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, all of whom adored their "Grammy Jo."

She was predeceased by her husband, Jim, of 71 years; her parents; her brother, Joe; and her son-in-law, Mark Hoard.

She is survived by five daughters and one son, Sherri Eastman, Steve Corning (Jennifer), Suzanne Goan, Cynthia Hoard, Sally Corning (Ted), and Carolyn Mitchell (Jeff).

Her 12 grandchildren, and their love for their grandparents and one another, were her greatest pleasure, Andrew Eastman (Candace), Elizabeth Mogno (Nick), John Philip Goan (Anna), Caroline Goan, Joe Corning, Lilly Corning Thompson (Will), Elinor Mitchell (Andrew), Harry Mitchell, Lauren Buchanan (Ben), Jimmy Buchanan, Alec Hoard and Will Hoard; and three great-grandchildren, Lola Eastman, Evie Mogno and Max Mogno.

Our family sends its sincere gratitude to Denise Rivette, Bernadine Grays, and the St. Johns At Home team who entered Joanne's life after Jim died and so lovingly cared for her over the past 14 months.

A celebration of Joanne and Jim's life together will take place at the Yellowstone Country Club on Thursday, Dec. 9, from noon to 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the University of Montana Foundation, Young Families Head Start, First Presbyterian Church, or the Alberta Bair Theatre.

Condolences may be made at www.michelottisawyers.com.

Violet Gertrude Cossey, 88

Violet Gertrude Cossey, 88, of Kalispell, died Oct. 6, 2021, at Logan Health Medical Center.

Services are pending.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Dave Samuel Coulter, 62

Dave Samuel Coulter, 62, passed away Oct. 23, 2021.

He was born Oct. 10, 1959.

Dave is survived by two daughters, Jessica and Jennifer; and four granddaughters; his neph-



ew, Calvin; two nieces, Kyla and

Samantha, and two sisters.

Dave will always be remembered as a caring and loving man.

We will always remember Dave and his love for the Green Bay Packers and sports!

Dave was a veteran, having served in the U.S. Air Force and Army for eight years.

He will be missed by many, including his wife of 38 years, Sue.

Sandra Council

Sandra Council, 71, died at her home on Saturday, March 13, 2021.

She is survived by her daughter Tammy Saunders.

A graveside ser-

vice will be held at Woodlawn Cemetery on Friday, March 19, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for Sandra's family.

George Burton Cox III, 57

George Burton Cox III, 57, passed away due to lung complications caused by Covid-19 on Aug. 25, 2021, at Logan Health Hospital in Kalispell, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on July 11, 1964, in Ojai, California, to Patsy Cox and George Cox Jr., he traveled with his two younger brothers Garrett and Gerald while his father served as a distinguished Marine veteran for 26 years.

While living in Japan, his little sister, Tandra, was



adopted and passed away soon after due to an illness.

George started his career at Costco in 1985 where

he met his wife, Gina, whom he then married at Lake Tahoe on Oct. 4, 1997. After developing a career there and being named an assistant warehouse manager, George transferred to Kalispell in 1999 where he continued his success-

ful career for a total of 36 years with Costco.

George raised his stepson Jamee with his wife before they had their own children, Cameron and Heather. George was a long-time resident of Montana and raised his children at the foot of the Rocky Mountains while taking part in elk hunting, fishing, and tending to an extensive and thriving garden.

In 2008, George and Heather began training in shotokan karate where they formed a special

bond over the course of being awarded every belt together up to their black belts in 2015. George and his family also founded a homestead outside of Kalispell in 2017 where he planned to retire surrounded by the beautiful view of mountains and wildlife.

He is survived by his children Jamee, Cameron and Heather, and his loving wife Gina.

A service will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Convention Center in Kalispell on Sept. 5 at 6 p.m.

MEMORIALS

Violet Cranmer

A graveside service for Violet Cranmer, 88, who died Nov. 23, 2020, will be held at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, July 24, at Lone Pine Cemetery in Bigfork. A celebration of life will follow at the Swan River Community Hall.

Maurice Eugene Crawford, 83

PAL 18 APR 2021
Maurice Eugene Crawford, age 83, passed away on April 10, 2021, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Maurice was born on July 20, 1937, in Detroit, Kansas to Roy and Lolita (Berger) Crawford.

Maurice was raised and attended school in Kansas. He worked as an electronic engineer for the Department of Defense.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife Judith; daughters Kimberly A. Murphy of Bainbridge, Washington; Laura E. Hennes of Huntington Beach, California; and son Charles E. Crawford of Bremerton, Washington.

He is also survived by Aleksandar Jankovic, Annabel Jankovic, Teddy Hennes, Emily Hennes, Lucas Hennes, Katherine Grant (Noah) and Joe



Crawford, sisters Dorothy Bromaghim and Eleanor Matis; stepchildren Jeffrey A

(Susan) Franklin, Karen L. (Steve) Franklin, and Reyanna (Rich) Denier; stepgrandchildren Colton Franklin, Jakob Schnededberger, Summer Santos, Alahna Henry; nephews Daron Bromaghim, and Joel Matis; grandnephews Derek, Bryant and Trevor.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Friends are encouraged to visit the website www.buffalohill-fh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

William Dale Crawford

PAL 25 July 2021
William Dale Crawford, father, husband, grandfather, comrade and friend of the Earth, passed on peacefully to his next adventure, Saturday morning, July 10, 2021.

Bill squeezed every drop out of life for three quarters of a century, from learning to ski in Canada, to flying hang gliders above Flathead Lake, to tasting cheese and skiing through the Alps with his wife Sue, to raising three children and three grandchildren, hiking, biking, and picnicking his way from coast to coast.

Bill was kind to all, and passionate about supporting human, animal and environmental rights. A lifelong learner, Bill had an unquenchable curiosity for almost everything including space exploration, blues and jazz, international cuisine, and great literature. With an engineering mind, he was a master of



precision, insisting "measure twice, cut once."

Bill worked as a conductor for Burlington Northern Railroad for 47 years and was a



legend among the rails. Bill was a veteran of the Army Special Forces — Airborne Division, and strongly advocated for peace. He loved skiing, swooshing elegantly down the slopes, ever chasing his bride. He taught his family to ski, sail, camp, hike, cook, to love, to learn, and to be kind. Bill liked to stay informed by listening to Montana and National Public Radio and participated in politics by regularly writing to elected officials.

Please toast an espres-

so to Bill, the gourmet, the exquisite soul, eclectic, daring, gentle, sophisticated — a true Montanan. Bill's legacy lives on through the people that were lucky enough to befriend him.

Bill's family includes wife Sue Crawford, sister Linda Owen, brother Tom Crawford, daughter Emily Crawford, sons Andrew and Ian Crawford, grandsons Nico and Andrew (Roo) Crawford, and granddaughter Zoe Crawford.

A small private family gathering will take place.

Memorials can be sent to the Flathead Lakers to help preserve our beautiful Montana treasure.

Messages of condolences may be shared with the family online at www.lakefuneralhomeandcremation.com.

Arrangements are under the care of The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

Thomas Steven Crofts, 18

The world is a little less bright today as we announce the passing of Thomas Steven Crofts on the night of Feb. 2, 2021, as a result of a motor vehicle accident. He was 18 years old.

Tommy came into this world on June 16, 2002. He was the apple of his father's eye and the answer to his mother's prayers. From that first grand and rapid entrance, Tommy was all boy and all smiles and personality.

As a child, Tommy was always adventurous and excited about everything. He was not afraid to tell you all about his latest interest or ask you a million questions until his curiosity was satisfied, which it never was.

Family was important to Tommy. Working alongside his father, he learned the value of hard work and fostered an enjoyment of and proficiency for working on and fixing up trucks and dirt bikes. Tommy learned the importance of education and respect for



er, a role which he felt a great responsibility for and took great pride in. He was Anna's protector and as they got older he couldn't wait to start scaring off potential boyfriends. Family time with the four of them was sacred and consistent. It is a bond that will stand the test of time.

Tommy attended school at West Valley Elementary followed by Glacier High School, graduating in 2020. While at Glacier he found amazing friendships, a love for wrestling and took seventh in his weight class at State. He had plans to join the Marines and was proud to be an American.

Growing up, Tommy's family taught him the values of respect, loyalty and hard work. He had many jobs and gave

family by following his mother's example. At the age of 4 Tommy became a big broth-

each of them his all. Last summer he joined Fire Management as a wild-land firefighter and loved his crew and his company. It was a job he had to work hard at to succeed and he did. It was a work ethic he was and should be proud of. Tommy also enjoyed his venture into construction. Manual labor and learning the trades was another source of pride for him.

Tommy enjoyed life. Outdoor adventures were his greatest source of enjoyment: everything from dirt bike riding, hunting, fishing, kayaking, swimming, hiking, 4-wheeling, shooting, baseball, camping and driving. Tommy could often be found by a fire surrounded by friends. He was the light of the room, the first to make you laugh and loved by anyone who met him.

Tommy is survived by his parents Steven and Jean Crofts, sister Anna, paternal grandfather Dean Crofts, maternal grandparents Ken and Irene Cleveland,

great-grandmother Irma Cleveland, along with his many aunts, uncles, great-aunts and uncles, cousins and friends, which are too numerous to name.

Those that passed before him include great-grandparents, Ben Cleveland, Charles and Ruth Fishburn, grandmother Jean Crofts, aunts and uncles including Terry Crofts, Russ and Rosemary Earp, Patti Fishburn, Francis Fishburn and cousins Dustin Fishburn and Sarah and Laura Gardner.

Services will be held Monday, Feb. 8, at Hope Church Kalispell, 436 Birch Grove Road at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers please send the family a memory or note on how Tommy affected your life.

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

Travis John Crosby, 41

Travis John Crosby, 41, died Jan. 2, 2021.

He is survived by his son.

A celebration of life is being held at Birch Grove Community Center in Kalispell at 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 17.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

John M. Crowley, 87

John M. Crowley, 87, died March 1, 2021, at the Montana Veterans Home.

No services are planned at this time.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Jeffrey Alan Crowston, 53

PAG 15 Sept 2021

Jeffrey Crowston, 53, of Whitefish, formerly of Reiles Acres, Fargo, North Dakota, died Monday, Sept. 6, 2021, at Logan Health Whitefish. He fought a courageous battle with cancer but succumbed to Covid-19. He was surrounded by his loving family.

Jeffrey Crowston, the son of Darrell and Irene (Zick) Crowston, was born June 8, 1968, in Fargo. Jeff attended and graduated from West Fargo High School. He attended North Dakota State University and worked at Harley Davidson in West Fargo before moving to Whitefish in 1996. While living in Whitefish, he had a business partnership in 2 Dog Pizza food truck for eight years. He also worked at Truby's Restaurant and Bar, and for Deer Lodge County, in Anaconda. He attended and graduated from Flathead Valley Community College, receiving a surgical tech degree. He came home for many years for beet harvest at Felton, Minnesota, as an operator and later as a foreman.

Jeff was an avid hunter, enjoyed snowboarding on Big Mountain, and played in a co-ed adult Ice Hockey Association,



as a goalie. He traveled to many places such as Hawaii, England,

and backpacked around Normandy, France, as he was a big history buff. He lived a full life in his short years and will be greatly missed by many.

He is survived by his mother, Irene (Zick) Crowston, father Darrell Crowston, of Reiles Acres, Fargo, a sister, Michelle (Bradley) Cusey, two nephews, Tanner and Carter Cusey, as well as many aunts, uncles, cousins, and a special friend Becky.

He was preceded in death by his fraternal and maternal grandparents, an uncle and a cousin.

A celebration of life will be held in Fargo at Courtyard by Marriott at 1080 28th Ave. S, Moorhead, Minnesota, on Sept. 30, Thursday, between 1 and 5 p.m.

There will be a celebration of life in Whitefish at a later date.

Family asks any donations be given to the American Cancer Society in his name.

Lori Ann Crum, 58

PAG 14 Feb 2021

Lori Ann Crum, 58, passed away on Jan. 29, 2021, at The HealthCenter in Kalispell.

Lori was born on March 24, 1962, to John and Sammy (Burman) Crum, in Santa Barbara, California.

Lori was a humorous, creative, gentle, loving, kind person, who loved animals, to see the beauty around her and in others, to paint hearts, feed hummingbirds, and work in the garden. Her favorite flower was the tuberose, which reminded her of living in Hawaii with views of the ocean. Her favorite time of the year was winter because it gave her time for self reflection. She loved to explore spirituality, natural remedies, cross country ski, fish, write, take photographs and paint.

Lori grew up on the Monterey peninsula where she, like most, worked in the hospital industry. She decided that this wasn't for her and she headed for Colorado where she and a friend owned an art gallery. This is where she developed her love for winter, snow and quiet, peaceful moments.

Cross-country skiing in the Rocky Mountains led her to the Flathead



Valley in Montana. Here she continued as a waitress for a few years. While still in the

Flathead Valley she left waitressing and began to pursue her spiritual and creative side. She then met Navar Swift while selling subscriptions at the Bigfork IGA. After only seven fishing dates they spent 14 years of their life exploring nature and spirituality in Montana. Lori developed her spiritual quest, as well as her writing, painting, photography and other creative endeavors. Lori touched many lives while working at Electric Avenue Gifts in Bigfork. She wrote a blog for years under the pen name, Starla. It can be found at <https://starlaschat.wordpress.com/>

Very few people who met Lori didn't admire her gentle, caring nature. She was loved, and will be missed.

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.

Jenny Crough, 41

Jenny Crough, 41, of Kalispell, died at her home on Saturday, March 20, 2021.

She is survived by her partner Aaron Killian and her children: Dailyn Crough, Dana Goldy, Gabi Crough and Liam Saunders.

Services are to be announced at a later date. Arrangements are under the care of Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory.

Sheila Margaret Cummerford, 85

Sheila Margaret Cummerford, 85, of Kalispell, died Aug. 18, 2021, at Beehive Homes.

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

John Steven 'Big John' Czajkowski, 74

John Steven "Big John" Czajkowski, 74, of Kalispell, died in Kalispell Sept. 10, 2021. He is survived by his wife Cathy, and his chil-

dren.

Services will be held at a later date. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Donnell Lee Crumley, 79

Donnell Lee Crumley, 79, a business owner, landowner and entrepreneur, died of natural causes Tuesday evening, Feb. 9, 2021, at Peace Hospice in Conrad.

Cremation has taken place under the direction of Asper Funeral Home in Shelby. At this time the family has postponed funeral services until spring when traveling restrictions have been lifted.

Donn is survived by his sister, Arlettia Fyfe (Crumley); sister-in-law, Georganne Crumley (Thien); sons, Robert (Erika Myers), Jozef (Leslie West), and Michael (Sherrie Sorenson) Crumley; son-in-law, Bruce Lutz; grandkids, Nellie Lutz-Wolf, Jacob Lutz, Jaime Eppich, Rawland, Kincaid, Luree, Rogan, Natalee, Jozef,



and Codee Crumley; and great-grandkids, Charlotte A. and Levi Crumley.

Donn was preceded in death by wife, Charlotte Crumley (Lipps); brother, Alonzo R. Crumley; brother-in-law, William Fyfe; and daughter, Nellie Colleen Crumley (Lutz).

Donn was born on Aug. 30, 1941, in Shelby to parents, Rolland Crumley and Nellie B. Crumley (Grout). He was raised in Shelby where he graduated from Shelby High School. A major highlight of his childhood was being on the Shelby Coyote first-string basketball team. 437860

Donn began his beau-

tiful family thereafter, welcoming his first daughter, Nellie Colleen Crumley (Lutz), and son, Robert Crumley. Donn then moved to Spokane where he continued his education and graduated college with an Associate of Science in Computers degree. It was in Spokane that Donn met the love of his life, Charlotte E. Crumley (Lipps), whom he married in 1966 and spent 43 wonderful years with. Donn welcomed his second son, Jozef Crumley.

Donn and his family returned to Montana where he began his career under First Interstate Bank in their computer department, shortly thereafter welcoming his third son, Michael Crumley. Donn later became a local business owner at Keneco

Petroleum Equipment in Great Falls alongside sons, Jozef and Michael Crumley, while additionally becoming a proprietor of land with son, Dr. Robert Crumley, Ph.D.

Donn had a passion for family, friends and the great outdoors. He enjoyed camping, fishing, woodworking, sporting events, and competitive games of cards. He was most happy laughing and joking, surrounded by his kids and grandkids. Donn loved his family deeply, sharing his wisdom and humor with them and those who called him friend. He will be greatly missed.

Condolences can be sent to Keneco Petroleum Equipment, 1827 6th Street NE, Great Falls, MT 59404 Joe Crumley or online at www.asperfh.com.

James Joseph 'Jimmy' Curtis, 39

James Joseph "Jimmy" Curtis, 39, of Kalispell, died at Logan Health Medical Center in Kalispell on Sunday, July 11, 2021.

A celebration of life will be held Sunday, July 18, at 11 a.m. at Darlington Cremation and Burial Services Chapel, 3408 U.S. 2 E., Kalispell.

Carol A. Curry, 85

Carol A. Curry, 85, passed away peacefully in Kalispell on Sept. 14, 2021.

Carol was born in Hamilton, Montana, on Aug. 18, 1936, the only child of Clarence and Jenny Bullock. She graduated from Hamilton High School and received her nursing degree from Northern Montana College. Carol worked as a nurse until meeting and marrying the love of her life, Chuck Curry. Carol lived in numerous states in their early married years as Chuck's job required them to move around the country frequently. In the late 1960s, the Currys moved to Lakeside and Carol declared it to be their permanent home. There, they raised their two sons, Chuck and Scott.



Carol was the ever-watchful matriarch of the family, always keeping an eye

on her children as they plied the shores of the lake in search of trout or ventured up Blacktail on bikes in search of grouse or deer. Summers were spent salmon fishing, cutting firewood, camping, and going on adventures. Winters were spent bundling her sons for their next adventure, keeping the fire stoked, and cooking every possible salmon dish.

The Currys, along with other members of the Lakeside community, recognized the need for

emergency medical service on the West Shore and, working together, founded the Lakeside QRU. Carol continued her involvement with the organization for the next 30-plus years. She was proud to see the "one car barn" grow and become the professional organization it is today.

Carol was very involved in the Lakeside community and spent many summers manning a cherry stand in Lakeside and working at the Lakeside Elementary School cafeteria as assistant cook so she could watch over not only her sons, but also the adventurous flock of "Lakeside kids," which were all considered family.

She was very grateful for the lifelong friend-

ships she built over the years.

Carol was a strong, loving friend to all who knew her, a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother to her family, and a proud member of the Lakeside community. Carol will be missed by her many dear friends and neighbors as well as her two sons, Chuck and Scott, her granddaughter, Jessica and partner Cori, and grandchildren, Owen and Devyn.

A private burial will be held in Hamilton.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Lakeside QRU would be appreciated.

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

Arlene Curtis

P 34 27 Oct 2021

Whitefish Pilot

Arlene Curtis, 99, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loved ones on the afternoon on Sept. 29, 2021, after a week-long stay at North Valley Hospital.

She was discharged and was then in the care of Hospice a week before her death. She returned to her beloved home where she lived with her older son, Randall and daughter-in-law, Kristi for more than 20 years. Her younger son, Terry, and his wife Anne were also with her, as were two of her grandchildren, Kelly and Max.

Kelly had given birth to her first child, Castin, on Sept. 24 and Arlene lived long enough to meet, hold and kiss him and marvel at her great fortune. Everyone was thankful that great-grandmother Arlene got to see her handsome great-grandson Castin just five days before she passed.

Arlene was also the grandmother of Jeff and Lindsey Curtis, Terry and Anne's son and daughter, whom she loved dearly. Arlene had a large group of extended family and friends and was everyone's favorite because of her authentic kindness and sweet, giving nature. She will be greatly missed by all, but never forgotten.

Arlene was born July 29, 1922, in St. Joseph, Missouri, to Archie and



Ruth Coffey, followed shortly thereafter by her brother, Carmen. The family moved to Neosho when she was about four years old and where she and Carmen graduated from high school. For reasons known only to him, Archie left his wife and family when Arlene was four and Carmen only two. He never contacted them again. Within about a year, however, Ruth remarried a widower, Don Sechrist, who was the father of Clifton and Helen who would become Arlene and Carmen's step-brother and sister. Arlene's childhood was modest, but it provided the foundation that would make her the person she was; a kind and generous soul who had deep feelings for and always wanted to help others. Those qualities would become the core of her adult life.

The desire to help others manifested itself with Arlene becoming a registered nurse, gradu-

ating near the top of her class in 1943 from the Drury College Nursing 1 Program, which was located in Springfield. After graduation, she worked at a hospital in Joplin for about a year and then decided that she would join the Army Nurse Corps to help her country's fight against tyranny; World War II. She trained at Camp Carson in Colorado and graduated a 2nd Lieutenant. After graduation, she traveled extensively in the European Theater during the war. She was in England, France, Belgium, Italy, and Germany from May 1944 to March 1946. In December 1945, she was working in the hospital in Heidelberg, Germany where General George Patton had been admitted for injuries sustained from a vehicle accident and who died shortly thereafter. Arlene received two Overseas Bars and the Theater Victory medal.

Her brother, Carmen, was also a decorated World War II veteran and was a fighter pilot in the Air Force, flying both the P-47 and P-52 combat aircraft. He received three Bronze Stars. Arlene and Carmen were part of the "Greatest Generation" and are true American heroes.

Arlene's travels in Europe ignited her love of travel. Once she'd seen the Swiss Alps and had been to places like London, Brussels, La Havre and Paris, Neosho Missouri came up a little short by comparison. So at age 24 she took a train to Seattle by herself and found employment with a local hospital. After about a year of living in Seattle, she took the train to San Francisco on a lark with no job prospects, but quickly found employment with a publishing company. She loved taking the trolley car to work. After a short stay in San Francisco, she again took the train heading to San Diego, but there was a little slip up on the way. The train derailed just outside of Santa Barbara, and she wound up liking that city so much she stayed and found a nursing job with Cottage Hospital in short order. Then, one Friday evening, her roommate, fellow train traveler and best friend, Juanita,

suggested they go to a dance. Arlene didn't really want to go but didn't want to disappoint her friend either, so she went. There, a handsome war veteran named Dale Curtis asked to dance. They talked too and amazingly found that they had something in common; Neosho! Who would have thought? When she told Dale that Neosho was her hometown, it floored him because he had been discharged from the Army at Camp Crowder, which was just on the outskirts of Neosho. They both agreed that it was a small world and were thankful for it. Dale was fond of joking that it was their destiny to be together. All that fate needed, he said, was a little help from a train wreck and a world war! Arlene and Dale married June 3, 1950, and lived in Santa Barbara for the next almost 50 years. They had two sons, Randall and Terry, and were close to Dale's mother and two brothers who also lived in Santa Barbara. When Dale passed away in December 1998 Arlene then came to live with Randall and his family in Redwood City and when they moved to Montana in September 2000, she was as excited to move there as they were. The house they moved into had a wonderful view of everything Montana has to offer and

as an animal lover, her room provided her with a front-row seat to watch and enjoy all types of wildlife passing by her picture window on a daily basis. She loved Montana and all of its beauty and charm. She was also an avid Griz football fan and watched all of their televised games.

Arlene was happy to be able to take care of herself for all but about the last two weeks of her long and amazing life. With 21 years of it in Montana, she was very appreciative of the doctors and nurses who took such excellent care of her, especially Dr. Daniel Munzing.

Arlene was a kind and generous person, and she touched many lives with her desire to make others happy. In her memory, please donate to any animal support group or Hospice. She is survived by her sons, Randall and Terry, and their wives, Kristi and Anne, grandchildren Jeff Curtis, Kelly Curtis, Lindsey Curtis and Max Curtis and great-grandson, Castin Rimmel.

The Columbia Mortuary is taking care of the family. They would also like to thank the wonderful nurses of North Valley Hospital and Logan Hospice who took such good care of her in her final days.

A memorial will be held sometime during the spring of 2022.