

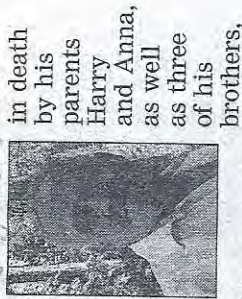
## Walter D. Okken, 83

Walter D. Okken passed away peacefully in the early morning hours on Monday, Jan. 25, 2021.

Walter was born in Burt, North Dakota, on Dec. 17, 1937, to Harry and Anna Okken and grew up in New Leipzig, North Dakota. Walt had five siblings, Elmer, Arvin, George, Lavern and Gary. Later his family moved to Anaconda where he met and fell in love with Mary E. Potter from Butte.

Walt and Mary were later married on July 25, 1958. Walt, Mary, George and his wife Claudine traveled together "working iron" for six years before settling down in Kalispell where he was with the local Ironworkers Union. As an ironworker, Walt worked jobs such as the Libby Dam project; he spent two years in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, building the pipeline; he built the new Edgerton school in Kalispell; and many other jobs in locations such as Albuquerque, New Mexico, Colstrip, Montana, and Rapid City, South Dakota.

Walt and Mary have two daughters, Kathy and Carol. They raised their family in Lakeside on the beautiful Flathead Lake, where they still have the family home. Walter was preceded



in death by his parents Harry and Anna, as well as three of his brothers, Elmer, Arvin and George.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, at the family home in Lakeside; his daughters, Kathy (Paris) Wright and Carol Parkman; his grandson, Jon (Sarah) Parkman; two great-grandchildren, Ryker and Isley; his sister, Lavern (Ken) Woosley, and brother Gary Okken; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Walt chose his friends carefully and wisely, but once you were his friend you were a friend for life. He would do anything for you and was always more than willing to do a "welding job" as a favor to someone in need. He adored Ryker and Isley and they are the true reason he remained with us these past years. We will truly miss our wonderful husband, Dad, Grandpa and Great-grandpa. We will see you again in heaven one day.

The family will be having a small private memorial service due to Covid later this summer with family and close friends.

## Melvin Oftedahl, 85 and JoAnn Oftedahl, 81

Melvin and JoAnn Oftedahl celebrated 63 years of devotion to each other on Aug. 22, 2021. They lived a life of love, service and hard work that was centered on family and Christian values. They passed away 12 days apart, Melvin on Nov. 17, 2021, and JoAnn on Nov. 29, 2021, both from breathing complications due to covid.



Melvin Leonard was the first child born to Oscar and Edna Oftedahl on Oct. 4, 1936, in Jefferson, Iowa.

His family moved to Kalispell in 1947 where they settled near Foys Lake. Melvin spent his life working with his father, son, and other family members on the ranch, milling lumber and selling Christmas trees in North Dakota and Arizona. He and his son Leonard were logging partners as Oftedahl Logging for 45 years, and he fought wildland fires until he was in his 70s. Melvin loved to play the accordion and waltz with his wife. He loved sledding and spontaneous adventures with his kids

and grandkids. He had three brothers (one died at birth) and four sisters, Harold (John), Jerry, Joan, Donna, Dianne and Connie.

JoAnn Geraldine Riedinger was the second child born to Arthur and Jane Riedinger on July 14, 1940, in Minneapolis. Her family moved to the Flathead Valley in 1948. JoAnn was a wonderful wife, mother, homemaker, 4-H leader, and friend to all. Among her many talents, she was gifted at sewing, baking, knitting, art, photography, gardening, canning, and had a special gift with children. She loved and welcomed all who entered her home and made everyone feel

special. JoAnn served as an election judge for many years and worked at Gardner Auction for 20 years. She had two sisters, Patricia "Pat" and Bonnie, and three brothers, Arthur "Art," Richard and Michael.

Melvin and JoAnn met through a mutual friend while attending Flathead County High and married in 1958. They had three children, Leonard (1958), Karen (1959) and Susan (1962). In 1964 they embarked on an 18-month adventure to Australia, where Melvin worked various jobs as they moved around. They returned to Kalispell in 1966 and joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints with a desire to raise their family with a strong moral base and Christian principles. It has blessed their life and the lives of their posterity. They have 12 grandchildren and will have 18 great-grandchildren by Christmas.

Melvin is survived by brother Jerry (Vicki) Oftedahl, and sisters Joan (Richard) McAdams, Donna (Jack) Paulsen,

and Dianne Oftedahl. He was preceded in death by brother Harold and sister Connie.

JoAnn is survived by sister Pat Swanberg, sister-in-law Ardy Riedinger and brothers Art (Mary), and Mike Riedinger. She was preceded in death by brother-in-law Ted Swanberg, brother Richard, sister-in-law Melanie and sister Bonnie.

Together they are survived by their children, Leonard Oftedahl, Karen (Doug) Thurston and Susan (Mark) Robison, 12 grandchildren (seven with spouses) and 16 great-grandchildren. They were preceded in death by great-granddaughter Mary Oftedahl.

They are also survived by many beloved nieces and nephews and their families.

All were profoundly loved!

Memorial services will be Monday, Dec. 13, at 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1380 Whitefish Stage, Kalispell. Interment will be at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

# Robert 'Bob' O'Lexey, 78

PA7

17 Feb 2021

Robert "Bob" O'Lexey was born here in Kalispell on Feb. 19, 1942, to parents William and Ruby (Hall) O'Lexey, the fifth of six children. He passed away peacefully at home on Jan. 7, 2021.

He attended school and worked around the valley in lumber mills and for the forest service in his younger years. He then joined the U.S. Army and volunteered to go to Vietnam. Although a mortar hit and he lost his right leg on his third day there, May 11, 1968 ... he still tried to convince the doctors to let him stay to "fight off the enemy while his fellow soldiers could get cover."

Bob loved the outdoors. After returning from Vietnam, he spent a lot of time hunting, fishing, driving in the mountains. He often took his son and grandson hunting and fishing, although we often wondered if there was more eating and drinking pop than hunting or fishing going on!

Bob was a very kind, generous and giving man, maybe a fault. It was not uncommon for him to pick up a random stranger and give him (or her) a ride to Missoula or to a motel, and pay for a night at the motel for them ... no matter the warnings he would get from those close to him. We were always worried about him getting mugged, robbed, or worse. Bob loved to drive and drive and drive. One of his favorite places to go was around the Hungry Horse Reservoir to see wildlife, particularly bears. He just loved those bears!

He was preceded in




death by both of his parents, his infant brother Billy Jr., his sister Vivian Vlasak, brother Richard, and also his beloved wife

"Corky" O'Lexey, and his stepdaughter Katie Hardesty. He is survived by his daughter Melody Carlon of Choteau, son Travis O'Lexey, his stepdaughter Cheryl (Rudy) Hueneke, stepson Mark (Karen) Hardesty, and granddaughter Arisa O'Lexey, all of Kalispell, and many, many other grandchildren, nieces, nephews and greats. He is also survived by his brother Marvin (Mary) O'Lexey of Rock Springs, Wyoming, and sister Helen McLouth of Columbia Falls, and their respective families, as well as another stepson, Scott Hardesty and his family of the San Diego area.

Due to the Covid pandemic, we will have a celebration of life for Bob later this year with military honors. Details will be announced once they are finalized. He has been cremated and his ashes will be scattered along with his late wife Corky's ashes, so they can be together again, in one of their favorite places in the woods.

A special thank you to those who took such good care of him at The Scoreboard restaurant and the Shamrock Casino.



*PA 7 16 Feb 2021*

## Celebration of Life

**ROBERT "BOB" O'LEXEY | 1942-2021**  
SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2021 - 1-4PM

Kalispell VFW 2252, in the back room For a Happy Send Off for our Bob, As we play his favorite music, tell some of his stories, Jokes and eat some of his favorite foods. Please bring a dish to share as well as some of your favorite stories and jokes!

There will also be Military Honors for Bob, but after that, It's ALL FUN, FOOD and LAUGHTER, Just like Bob would have wanted!!

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## Robert M. O'Neil, 93

PA 6 310 22 2021

Dr. Robert "Bob" M. O'Neil, Emeritus Professor of English at California State University, Fresno and in retirement a resident again of his native Kalispell and Lakeside, died peacefully on Oct. 22, 2021, at the age of 93.

Bob O'Neil, a mountain of a man, spent his retirement in the Kalispell area in ways that furthered his interests in history, land preservation and community service. He provided important support as a very active volunteer with the Northwest Montana History Museum in Kalispell, as well as doing volunteer work for the Flathead Land Trust and the Flathead Valley Food Bank. Continuing his academic involvement, Dr. O'Neil generously sponsored and judged The Ted Crail and Della Ve Carr Poetry Contest for local high school students. Nor did Bob neglect the literary needs of older writers, as he held small classes in memoir writing for residents of the Buffalo Hill Terrace retirement community in Kalispell. Bob was a gung ho gardener and a passionate fan of classical music. He especially enjoyed attending concerts performed by the Glacier Symphony.

Bob is survived by his wife, Barbara "Bobbie" Louise Wilson Truckner, whom he married in Kalispell on July 20, 2003. Both had been previously married to spouses who had died.

Dr. O'Neil is survived by his daughter, Anita O'Neil, of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and his son, Sean O'Neil, of Pico Rivera, California, as well as Maeve Kaufman, his granddaughter. Survivors also include Sean's



spouse, Cesar Martinez, and Anita's husband, John Kaufman.

Other surviving members of the Truckner family are Bobbie's daugh-

ters, Jeannette Pisk and Karen Marshall, both of Kalispell, as well as Bobbie's son David Truckner of Williston, North Dakota. Their spouses are, respectively, Chuck Pisk, Randy Marshall and Jeri Truckner. Bob was fortunate to have lots of grandchildren on the Truckner side of the family Elizabeth, Kayla, Rachel, Heather, Jaclynn, Mallory, Jackson, Truman, Kordell, Jenna and Landon. Furthermore, there are 11 great-grandchildren in the Truckner family.

Karin Gudrin Friedrich, of Cologne, Germany, whom Bob met and married while serving in the U.S. Army in Germany, died tragically early of cancer in Fresno in 1994.

Bob's sister, Kathryn Farrington of Kalispell, also died too young of cancer.

Bob's parents were Byron and Mabel O'Neil. They owned and operated the O'Neil Printers in Kalispell and bought land and built a modest second house on Flathead Lake that the O'Neil family enjoyed for decades until Bob, upon his retirement, had it burnt to the ground (with help from the fire department) and then arranged for the building of a new house

on the same exceedingly scenic spot on Hughes Bay. There Dr. O'Neil retired in comfort, surrounded by all the books, art and music CDs he and Karin had accumulated over the years. Once they married, Bob and Bobbie lived primarily at Bobbie's house in Kalispell.

Robert O'Neil was born in Kalispell on Aug. 11, 1928, and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1946. Upon graduating from high school, Bob attended the University of Montana at Missoula. When he wasn't in a classroom, some of Bob's best moments as a young man were spent tramping over the mountains of Western Montana doing work for the U.S. Forest Service. This rugged experience instilled in him a love of hiking and nature in general, which he continued to pursue in the Sierra Nevada Range east of Fresno and back home in retirement with his wife, Bobbie, in Glacier National Park.

After his military service, Bob completed his Ph.D. in English at the University of Washington at Seattle before accepting a teaching position at California State University at Fresno. He taught at Cal State Fresno for 35 years and was awarded the title of Emeritus for distinguished service to the university and his students.

No public services or memorials will be held, but the families encourage donations in honor of Dr. O'Neil's life and service to the Northwest Montana History Museum in Kalispell or any environmental or educational charity of your choice.

## Frances L. Olsen, 87

Frances Louise Olsen, 87, passed away peacefully at her home with family by her side on Jan. 2, 2021.

Frances was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, on Oct. 16, 1933, to Carl and Lola (Russell) Eller. She and her family moved several times before settling in Cottage Grove, Oregon.

Frances met her husband Francis A. Olsen from Kalispell in Cottage Grove while he was working there. They married Dec. 24, 1953. While in Oregon they had two



children, Lorraine and Wyatt. They then moved to Montpelier, Idaho, for a short time

where their third child, Cynthia, was born. They lived there for one year before making the permanent move to Kalispell in 1965.

Frances was always artistic and was part owner of Clay House Ceramics and very involved with various crafting clubs and the

Northwest Montana Fair. She continued to paint and craft for the rest of her life. She was very active with her children's school events and, later, her greatest joy was her grandchildren. She went to work for the state of Montana as a home attendant where she retired in 1998. She loved shopping, crafting, gardening and cooking for her family. She was a friend to many and loved by all that knew her.

Frances was preceded in death by her parents, her brothers Harold,

Henry Rudolph and Ray, and her sisters Inez and Charlotte, and her husband Francis. She is survived by her children, Lorraine Ford (husband Derek), Wyatt Olsen (wife Mary) and Cindy Olsen; her grandkids, Nicole, Ann, Terrance, Hailey, Forrest and Rebecca; and seven great-grand kids.

Services are not planned at this time.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Richard Timothy Olsen, 48

Richard Timothy Olsen, 48, of Kalispell, died on July 21, 2021, at Logan Health Medical Center. Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Beverly A. Olson, 91

PAG 6 AM 2021

Beverly A. Olson, 91, passed away in Kalispell on March 31, 2021.

Beverly was born in Bismarck, North Dakota. She and her husband

Norman farmed in Lark, North Dakota, for a number years before

moving to Missoula in 1966 for a different life with their five children. She and Norman were lifelong members of the University Congregation Church. They moved to The Springs in Whitefish in 2017 to be closer to family, and Norman passed away in 2017.



She is survived by her son, Darryl Olson, and wife, Bonnie, of Marion;

daughter, Deborah Noyes, and husband, Rick, of Salt Lake City; and son, Randy Olson, and wife, Shawn, of Kalispell; her sister, Venita Well, of Kalispell, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held later this year.

## William J. 'Bill' Olsen, 77

William J. "Bill" Olsen, 77, of Kalispell, died Jan. 4, 2021, in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife Virginia, and his stepchildren.

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

## Lorraine A. Olsen, 90

Lorraine A. Olsen, 90, of Kalispell, died May 4, 2021, at Brendan House. Services are pending.

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

## Dollie V. (Ayers) Olson, 89

PAT 8 Sept 2021

Dollie V. (Ayers) Olson was welcomed into heaven on Sept. 4, 2021, at the age of 89.

She was born Nov. 17, 1931, in Moorcroft, Wyoming.

Dollie was preceded in death by her former husband Morris, her brothers Jack and Ron, her sons Jack and Bill, her daughter Kelli, and her grandsons Jack, Jordan and Kyle.

Dollie attended and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1950. She attended Flathead Valley Community College where she studied nursing, and went on to



work as a licensed practical nurse for 20 years in California, which suited her servant's

heart until 1990 when she moved back to Columbia Falls.

Dollie lived her life for the Lord and especially loved the Bible verse John 14:1-3: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my father's house are many rooms, if it were not so, I would have told you, and if I go and prepare a place

for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

Dollie is survived by her sons Kirk, Don and Scott, her daughters Tracy and Sandra, many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews and all of these are loved deeply.

Dollie has had a meaningful impact in the lives of her family and friends and will be sincerely missed.

A viewing will be held starting at 11 a.m. prior to the funeral service beginning at 1 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 13, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A graveside committal will follow at Fairview Cemetery.

## Esther Beatrice Olson

PA 7 13 June 2021  
Esther Beatrice Olson passed away in her sleep May 10, 2021.

She is survived by her sisters, Sally Cooper and Kathy Moffit; children, Lois Murdock, Gordon Olson, Ronald Olson and Glen Olson; as well as many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Esther was born in Fairfield, Montana, to Erwin Woessner and Beatrice Arlene Parker. She loved horses, coloring, photography and playing keno. She lived with her husband Ron in Columbia Falls and worked at Columbia Falls Aluminum Co. as a pot tender for many years. Esther was a proficient piano player



and loved to play. Esther also loved to cook big meals for a full house.

Her grandchildren loved to visit and be spoiled by special meals and late night movies from Esther's big collection. Esther was almost always smiling and enjoying life. She will be missed.

A memorial service is going to be held June 19 at 2:30 p.m. at Jerry's Saloon in Fortine, which is owned by her nephew.

Cards may be mailed to Olson Family, c/o Glen Olson, Post Office Box 9851, Kalispell, MT 59904.

## Frances L. Olsen, 87

PA 4 6 Jan 2021  
Frances Louise Olsen, 87, passed away peacefully at her home with family by her side on Jan. 2, 2021.

Frances was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, on Oct. 16, 1933, to Carl and Lola (Russell) Eller. She and her family moved several times before settling in Cottage Grove, Oregon.

Frances met her husband Francis A. Olsen from Kalispell in Cottage Grove while he was working there. They married Dec. 24, 1953. While in Oregon they had two



children, Lorraine and Wyatt. They then moved to Montpelier, Idaho, for a short time

where their third child, Cynthia, was born. They lived there for one year before making the permanent move to Kalispell in 1965.

Frances was always artistic and was part owner of Clay House Ceramics and very involved with various crafting clubs and the

Northwest Montana Fair. She continued to paint and craft for the rest of her life. She was very active with her children's school events and, later, her greatest joy was her grandchildren. She went to work for the state of Montana as a home attendant where she retired in 1998. She loved shopping, crafting, gardening and cooking for her family. She was a friend to many and loved by all that knew her.

Frances was preceded in death by her parents, her brothers Harold,

Henry Rudolph and Ray, and her sisters Inez and Charlotte, and her husband Francis. She is survived by her children, Lorraine Ford (husband Derek), Wyatt Olsen (wife Mary) and Cindy Olsen; her grandkids, Nicole, Ann, Terrance, Hailey, Forrest and Rebecca; and seven great-grand kids.

Services are not planned at this time.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Roger Leeland Olson, 84

Roger Leeland Olson, 84, died on March 22, 2021, at his home in Kalispell.

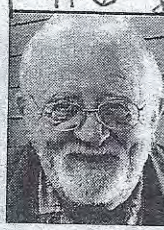
Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Jerry W. Olson, 77

PAG 8 Sept 2021

Jerry passed away peacefully on Aug. 9, 2021, at his home in Somers, at the age of 77. Jerry suffered a stroke in March and had spent the last several months working to recover with the help of some amazing therapists and caregivers. We are so grateful for all of the quality time we got to spend with him up to the end of his life.

Jerry was born June 20, 1944, in Plentywood to Walter and Demerit (Mickey) Olson (Murphy). The summer of '45 brought tragedy to the young family, as Walter Olson was killed in a house moving accident. Times were tough and the family moved to Washington to support themselves. When Jerry was nine his mother married Calvin Cleveland, and he inherited seven new brothers and two sisters whom he adored. At this time, he went to live with his maternal grandparents, John and Anna Murphy. Jerry attended Plentywood schools and graduated from Plentywood High School in 1962. A talented singer, Jerry was part of a trio called The Classmates, playing many high school dances, local gigs, on KUMV TV.



Daneka Marie Olson. While the girls were still young, they made the decision to move back to Montana, settling in Kalispell, where they opened their own travel agency, Montana Tour and Travel. They built a successful business, catering to both leisure and business travelers alike. They quickly started planning and leading bus tours and group travel tours to locations near and far. Jerry was always a natural host and entertainer and enjoyed all the people who became loyal customers and guests, considering many of them part of the family.

Jerry and Carolee wanted to raise their family in the country and bought a farm in Creston when the girls were small. Jerry was a "gentleman farmer" with some cattle, horses, pigs, chickens, and a small alfalfa operation. His daughters have many fond memories of life on the farm, from playing in the creek to building hay forts in the barn to sleeping in the loft of the tack shed. Both girls were involved in 4-H and developed a lifelong love for animals, big and small. In '84 Jerry discovered he had two half sisters. He so enjoyed getting to know Sandy and Lindy and their husbands and extending his family even more.

Carolee worked for University Travel. Soon they welcomed a daughter, Nicole Jolene Olson, and three years later, a second daughter,

to their beloved Montana, building a house in Somers on property they had purchased in 1989. Not one to sit still, Jerry got his commercial drivers license and did some long and short haul trucking, worked for Eisinger Motors delivering vehicles, drove shuttles in Glacier Park, and spent time volunteering with the VVA and VFW. A lifelong entertainer, he used his musical talents to bring joy to many, often singing at parties, and for residents at retirement homes, nursing homes, and veterans' facilities. He loved karaoke and family gatherings frequently included singing and dancing well into the night. The last several years, Jerry also became full-time caregiver for his wife Carolee as she experienced some increasing mobility issues and other health challenges. He was a great cook, host, and party planner and always enjoyed having guests at their beautiful home in Somers, right up to the time he passed. He will be deeply missed by all of us ... the "Travelin' Man."

Jerry is survived by his wife Carolee, daughters Nicole McDonald (Mark McDonald) and Daneka Keith (Jeff Keith), and his beloved grandchildren Jessica McDonald Stewart, Hailey McDonald, Jacob Keith, and Jonah Keith.

An interment service was held Monday, Aug. 30, at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Medical Lake, Washington, with military honors and flag presentation. A memorial will be held Saturday, Sept. 18, at 2 p.m. at Creston Fish Hatchery Pavilion on Kauffman Lane in Creston.

Jerry W. Olson, 77 (cont)

After graduation, Jerry left for Billings to attend business school, but by December he felt the call to serve his country and enlisted in the U.S. Navy. His naval career was in radio communications cryptography, and he was deployed to Vietnam on the USS Piedmont, serving until December 1966. It was during this time of his life that he developed his love of travel and adventure. He returned home to Plentywood at Christmas and renewed an old friendship with Carolee Rasmussen, a Dagmar Dane. Over the next few months, their romance blossomed, and they were married on Sept. 2, 1967, at Nathaniel Church in Dagmar in a big double wedding celebration that included Carolee's sister JoAnn Rasmussen and fiance Leo Jurica.

Jerry and Carolee then moved to Seattle where Jerry went to work for Braniff Airlines and

In the early '90s, Jerry and Carolee sold Montana Tour and Travel and relocated to Spokane where Jerry went to work for Alaska Airlines. There they made many new friends and were able to be close as grandchildren began arriving. Jerry retired from Alaska in 2007. A few years and a few "side jobs" later, he and Carolee moved back

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jerry's name to Children's Cancer Association, whose mission is to bring joy to seriously ill kids and teens. Jerry loved volunteering for and supporting CCA (where his daughter Nicole works); [www.joyrx.org/](http://www.joyrx.org/) JerryOlson

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

### Howard Dave Olmsted, 62

Howard Dave Olmsted, 62, of Kalispell, died Sept. 12, 2021, at Logan Health Medical Center.

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

### Delores Orhn, 80

Delores Orhn, 80, of Columbia Falls, died on Sept. 4, 2021, at Beehive Home.

Arrangements are pending.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.



## Ronald Lee Orr, 63

Ronald Lee Orr, 63, of St. Ignatius, passed away on Friday, Oct. 15, 2021, at his home in St. Ignatius surrounded by his loving family.

He was born on April 6, 1958, at Holy Family Hospital in St. Ignatius to Ike and June (Wheeler) Orr. He graduated from St. Ignatius High School in 1977. Ron lived his whole life in the Mission Valley except for a short stint in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Ron was a member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribe. His passion for logging spanned throughout his life. He worked for George Biggs Logging before he started working alongside his brothers Chuck and George (Orr Logging). He also worked in logging with his uncles Tom Wheeler, John Wheeler and Dennis Wheeler. Ron was employed at Tribal Forestry before his health forced him to retire.

He took great pride in taking care of his yard. His other passions were spending time with family at family dinners, camping, hunting, and keeping us in laughter telling stories. Ron also loved to spoil his nephews and nieces.

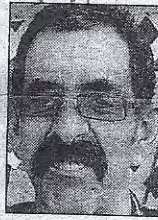
His parents Ike and June Orr preceded him in death.

Survivors include his brothers and hunting partners, Chuck Orr and George Orr; his sisters, Julie (Larry) Wilkinson, Tracy Orr, Barbara Orr and Brenda (Jess) Dillard. He is also survived by his nephews and nieces, Jason and Justin Orr, Kevin Wilkinson and

Staci (Alex) Ebadirad, Jennifer, Ethan, Megan, Amy, Alyssia and Brianna Dillard; and his great-nephews and -niece, Lucas, Courtnae and Leo Wilkinson.

We want to acknowledge his other family, Uncle Bob and Aunt MaryAnn Weingart who Ron considered as his other mom and dad; his cousins (brothers and sisters) Rob Weingart, Dee Dee Weingart, Terri Biggs, Linda Jacobson, Lisa Jacobson, Kelly Anderson, and Steven Weingart. Others that survive Ron are his uncles, Tom and Dennis Wheeler, aunts, Jeannine Wheeler and Connie Suttin, and his cousins from the Orr, Wheeler, Cote and Felsman side of the family.

A rosary will be said on Thursday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m. and Mass held



PA7  
19 Oct 2021  
on Friday, Oct. 22, at 11 a.m. at the St. Ignatius Catholic Church with Father Craig Hightower S.J. officiating. Burial will follow at the St. Ignatius Catholic Cemetery.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at

[www.lakefuneralhome-andcremation.com](http://www.lakefuneralhome-andcremation.com).

A special thank you to Ron's medical caregiv-

ers. Dr. Siobahn Lynch and staff at Community Center in Missoula, and Dialysis Clinic, Inc., in Polson, Sheila Vine, Jennifer Harris and Cissy Robertson.

We will always be thankful for the compassion and care that he was given.

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

## Johann 'John' Ortgies, 77

Johann "John" Ortgies, 77, of Redmond, Oregon, formerly of Proctor and Polson, died Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2020, of lung cancer.

He is survived by his wife, Phyllis; and children, Valerie Ortgies of Kalispell, Joni Chavez of Corvallis, Oregon and Anthony (Katie) Ortgies of Redmond.

The family will plan a memorial in Montana and Iowa in the summer.

## Carol Ann Ost, 74

Carol Ann Ost, 74, of Whitefish, died Oct. 15, 2021, at Whitefish Care.

No services are scheduled.

Austin Funeral and Cremation Services in Whitefish is caring for the family.

## Betty Louise (Hovey) Ott, 92

Betty Hovey Ott, 92, of Columbia Falls, passed away on Dec. 26, 2020, at Kalispell Healthcare Center from complications following a heart stent surgery.

Betty was born in Bemidji, Minnesota, to Milton and Laura Hovey on Jan. 22, 1928. Betty worked as a telephone operator in Salt Lake City during World War II before returning to Bemidji to continue working for "Ma."

Betty met Floyd Ott upon his return from the South Pacific War arena. They were married on June 17, 1946. They were married for 70 years just before Floyd passed away on Oct. 15, 2016.

Betty was a member of Whitefish Women of the Moose. She loved playing bingo, camping and fishing, but most of all playing cards with her family.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, three sisters, and her husband Floyd.

Betty had three children, Keith of Columbia Falls, Carol of Columbia



Falls, and Art (Vickie) of Columbia Falls; five grandchildren, Jerry Ren (Michael)

of Kalispell, Glenn (Sandy) of Columbia Falls, Angela (Vern) of Columbia Falls, Michael (Amber) of Florida, and Edward (Ginger) of New York; nine great-grandchildren, Nick, Josh, Kyler, Lexi, R.J, Katara, Josh, James and Jason; three great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She has one sister, Pat (Fred) living in Arizona.

A memorial service and reception will be held at the Whitefish Moose Lodge, 230 10th St., Whitefish, Jan. 9 at 1p.m. Burial will be private for her family Jan. 22 at 1 p.m.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Mark Ottey, 78

PA1 20 June 2021



Mark, 78, passed away peacefully at his home on June 17, 2021, after a four year battle with cancer. We all cherish the quality time we had with him up to the end of his life.

Mark was born Sept. 27, 1942, in Quincy, Illinois, to Mary Miller and Russell E Ottey. His family, including his brother Russell and sister Marcia, moved to Salisbury, Connecticut, during Mark's first year of life. He attended Hotchkiss School and Vermont Academy. Mark was a part of the community of ski jumpers and spent many hours on the local 60 M jump and traveled throughout the east competing. Mark also had a great passion for hiking and the outdoors, spending several summers working in New Hampshire's White Mountains.

He attended St. Lawrence University in New York where he met his future wife Connie. Their shared love of skiing, hiking and the outdoors fueled their romance and spanned their 61 years of marriage. He briefly spent time in Snoqualmie, Washington, logging and ski jumping. Mark then returned to New England where he and Connie were married and, shortly afterwards, their daughter April was born. The allure of the wide-open spaces drew Mark and Connie west to Colorado. They settled in Boulder where their son Chris was born. After hearing about the untamed beauty of Montana, the Otteys explored the area and fell in love with the Flathead Valley. In 1971 they packed up their Ford

pickup and settled on a farm in Creston. They spent many enjoyable years on the farm

raising animals and gardening as the kids grew up.

Mark worked as a master carpenter around the valley for 30 years when he decided to pursue his passion for gardening. He ran a business as a market gardener, selling vegetables and bedding plants at farmers markets around the valley. He shared his love for gardening with all those in his life, including his customers, who became like family. His children and grandchildren have fond memories of working in the greenhouses in the spring and harvesting vegetables in the summer.

Mark was an incredibly hard worker and inspired his family to work hard alongside him. He had a remarkable way of banding together with family, friends, or even strangers to experience nature and adventure through hiking, biking, running, backpacking and fishing in the mountains of western Montana. He and Connie took the family on many hikes and camping trips over the years, starting out with a tipi for a tent in the early years. Backpacking throughout Glacier, Yellowstone and Montana's mountain ranges was memorable. He continued to hike until the end, and especially loved the Swan and Mission Mountain Ranges where he often hiked solo to high mountain lakes

on sparse trails until late in his life.

Mark cross-country skied all of his life and enjoyed skiing with his friends, family and grandkids. Skiing and racing with the Glacier Nordic Club for many years, as well as touring in Glacier National Park was a wintertime favorite. He enjoyed several long-distance bike tours across the U.S. and throughout Canada. Upon cycling back into the Flathead Valley from one cross-country ride, he expressed his overwhelming love for the land, people and sense of home in this valley.

Mark lived a life of simplicity in connection with nature, cutting wood to heat their home, and raising and preserving their own food. Mark was kind and gentle to those around him, seeing the needs of others and meeting them without regard to personal cost. He will be deeply missed.

Mark is survived by his wife Connie, daughter April Ottey (Geoff McMichael), son Christopher Ottey (Peggy Ottey), grandchildren Finn and Porter McMichael, and Laurel, Eric, and Timothy Ottey, sister Marcia Raushenbush (John).

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Russell Ottey Jr.

A memorial will be held Saturday, June 26, at 3 p.m. at Creston Fish Hatchery Pavilion on Kauffman Lane, in Creston.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for donations to be made in Mark's name to Montana Land Reliance or the Ray of Hope.

## Anna Louise Oursland, 93

PAT 6 June 2021

Anna Louise Oursland passed into the presence of her Savior Jesus Christ on the first of June 2021. She was 93. She will be greatly missed by her family whose lives were enriched by her unwavering love and devotion. Saturday morning breakfasts, birthday party scavenger hunts, Easter egg hunts, Halloween parties, Christmas Eve gatherings, Fourth of July picnics, all celebrated at the family log home, Stonecroft, on Flathead Lake. She was the memory keeper of the people and traditions that the family holds dear. Her influence and love reached down through three generations — beloved aunt, grandaunt, great-grandaunt to so many. Her influence is immeasurable.

Anna Lou was born at home in Somers on March 14, 1928, to Gideon and Edna Oursland. When she was a year old, the family moved to Southern California. After four years, they returned to the Flathead Valley. Anna Lou attended school in Somers with her three brothers and graduat-



ed from Flathead County High School with the Class of 1946. Anna Lou was a graduate of Prairie Bible Institute in Three Hills, Alberta. She also graduated from Western Montana College in Dillon, Montana. Anna Lou taught in a local rural School (Kuhns) and also in Libby before going to the mission field.

In 1955, Anna Lou began a 25-year missionary service with Sudan Interior Mission in Nigeria. Her instructions from the mission were to pack her belongings in a pine coffin for that is what she would be buried in, should she die in Africa. She traveled by train to New York, then by freighter to Nigeria. When she struggled with seasickness on that long voyage, the Norwegian captain said to her, "No Norwegian is going to be sick on my boat!" Her first assignment was teaching men at the Teacher Training College

in Kagoro, Nigeria. After that Anna Lou served as principal and teacher in a school for girls in Kwoi, Nigeria. Finally, she became the first-grade teacher of missionary children at Kent Academy in Miango, Nigeria. They were the recipients of her love both in and out of the classroom as they lived away from their parents. While in Miango, she was also involved in an outreach to the Fulani people in that region. Anna Lou loved Africa and that love was contagious. Her nieces and nephews grew up hearing of her adventures there, learning the songs in the Hausa language, sampling the food, and dressing up in the clothes of the people and place she loved.

After 25 years in Nigeria, Anna Lou returned to the Flathead Valley to care for her parents. She resumed her ministries at Central Bible Church, which included service on the Missions Committee and organizing the CBC Library, as well as participation in the ladies' missionary circles, Bible studies and various

women's ministries. Anna Lou was preceded in death by her parents Gideon and Edna, as well as her brothers Albert Oursland and Laurence Oursland. Anna Lou is survived by her brother David Oursland, and several nieces and nephews, Kathryn Brownell, Rebecca Jackson, William Oursland, Mary Driver, Sarah Huxford, Larry Oursland, Daniel Oursland, Rose Therrien, Ann Tucker, James Oursland, Cheryl Getty, Mark Oursland, and Marcia Snyder. She is also survived by 32 grandnieces and -nephews and 48 great-grandnieces and -nephews.

A visitation is scheduled for Wednesday, June 9, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home from 5 to 7 p.m. Burial will be held at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, June 10, at Glacier Memorial Gardens followed by a memorial service at Central Bible Church beginning at 12:30 p.m., with a luncheon following the service. (Suggested memorials: Central Bible Church Missions Fund or Gideon Bibles)

## Jack Dore Overby, 84

PA4 9 Feb 2021

Jack Dore Overby, 84, passed away Nov. 9, 2020.

Memorial services were held Dec. 3 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Plainview, Texas, with Pastor Michael Heckman officiating. At a later date there will be an interment at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

Jack was born Aug. 20, 1936, and raised in his beloved Montana. The Overby history is centered in the Northwest town of Kalispell. Earning



a degree at Rocky Mountain College in Billings, he entered the U.S. Army in 1958 and served in Korea prior to his honorable

discharge in 1960. It was at that time he found employment working at

a couple of golf courses in Arizona prior to entering the newspaper business and worked in Montana and Texas, before settling into his long-term home of Plainview.

While working for the Plainview Daily Herald he became involved in several local organizations. He enjoyed active memberships at the Elks Club and Plainview Country Club. In his day he was an avid golfer and enjoyed the outdoors where he could hunt

and fish as the seasons allowed him. He also had a love of baseball playing into college and while in the military. Jack was a solitary individual but did enjoy the company of those he worked with and the friends close to him.

Jack is survived by nephews Michael and family of Omaha, Nebraska, and Brian and family of Sarasota, Florida.

He was preceded in death by parents Arthur and Loretta Overby, and brother Ronald.

## Robert 'Bob' Bernard Owen, 74

PA7 20 July 2021

Bob went to the Lord on July 14, 2021, while vacationing at Garnet ghost town with his son Roger and family.

He survived by his son Robert Jr., (Joyce), granddaughter Nicole from Florence, Montana, son Roger, (Lisa) grandsons Baylee and Rhys, granddaughter Meygan from California, brother Edward, and sisters Patsy, Bernadette and Kathleen.

He was preceded in death by his wife Gina, brother Charley, and sister Jeanine.



Bob was born in Missoula on Oct. 6, 1946, to Bernard and Elanora Owen. The

family moved to Kalispell. Bob grew up working hard on the family farm and taking up the slack to help out when his mother became ill. Bob worked at Skyline Dairy for more than 35 years and retired. Bob and Gina co-owned and operated several businesses in Kalispell.

Being around Bob was always fun and interesting. He strived to make meaningful connections with those he encountered and was guaranteed to tell a joke or wisecrack to make you laugh. Fishing the Flathead River was one of his passions. He and Gina spent countless days on the river with family and friends.

Bob loved Dachshund (wiener) dogs, which was a source of many of his colorful stories and jokes. Bob loved cars and owned several hot rods over the

years, including a 1957 Chevrolet Nomad that was his dream car.

A memorial service to celebrate Bob's life will be held on Saturday, July 24, at 3 p.m. at the Smith Valley Grange, on Highway 2, Kalispell. A memorial Flathead river float is scheduled for Sunday, July 25, at 10 a.m. The float will begin at the river access on Highway 2 and River Road, Hungry Horse, and finish at Teakettle Fishing Access in Columbia Falls.

## Arline Jane Owens, 86

PAS 10 Mar 2021

Arline Jane Owens, 86, beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, went to join her husband and son in heaven on March 6, 2021.

Arline was born July 13, 1934, in New Braunfels, Texas. She met her husband, Dennis Owens, there and they married on March 6, 1954. Together they had four children. She was a military spouse for 18 years and worked at home as the family moved between assignments in Texas and California. They moved to Montana after Denny retired from the Air Force in 1972.

They raised their children in Kalispell and eventually settled at McGregor Lake. There they created so many happy memories for their kids, grandkids, great-grandkids, nieces,



nephews, cousins and friends.

Arline loved to play cards, word games and the nickel slot machines. She enjoyed being outdoors and was a dedicated walker. She liked to go camping, fishing in the creeks, and became an avid hunter. She always made time for her grandchildren, whether it was to swim, shoot gophers or catch crawdads and tadpoles.

Denny and Arline were snowbirds and spent many years travelling to Yuma, Arizona, where they made many close friends. She may have lived in Montana for almost 50 years but she was always a Texan at

heart. She enjoyed spending time with her family in Texas whenever she could. She never met a stranger and made everyone feel welcome. Even though she didn't like to cook, she was known for her Texas cake and lemon meringue pie and always made sure one didn't leave hungry. She will be remembered for her kindness, beautiful smile, and loving ways.

Arline was preceded in death by her husband Dennis, son Brandan, her parents George and Edna Moeller, and brothers George Edward and Raymond Moeller.

Arline is survived by her children, Scott Owens (Donna), Randal Owens (Peggy), and Kelly (Tony) Hines. Arline is also survived by nine grandchildren, 10 great-grand-

children (and was thrilled that another is on the way), her sister-in-law Shirley Druedow, and her brother-in-law Michael Hoover (Cindy), as well as numerous nephews, nieces and cousins.

A private family graveside service will be held at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. Arrangements are being made through The Lake Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Alert Foundation or charity of your choice.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at [www.lakefuneralhomeandcremation.com](http://www.lakefuneralhomeandcremation.com). Arrangements are under the care of The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

## David Quentin Oyen, 78

PAT 19 Oct 2021

David Quentin Oyen, 78, of Kalispell, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021.

Dave was born April 15, 1943, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and raised in Baltic, South Dakota.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Adolph and Marie, his sisters Ada, Bertha Mae, and Gladys, and his brother Nels.

Dave is survived by his wife Kathy, daughters Cassandra, Stacia and Nicole, son-in-law Robert, his grandchildren Alexis, Jesse, Hailey, Bella, Savannah, Londyn, Logan and Aurora, sister-in-law JoAnne, as well as nieces, nephews, cousins, and many dear friends and fans.

Dave was a proud Marine veteran who loved America, serving his country from 1962 to 1966. Dave was also an accom-

plished country singer and guitarist, and he was inducted into the South Dakota Country Music Hall of Fame in 2009, as well as the Legends of South Dakota Country Music Hall of Fame in 2011.

Dave additionally won South Dakota Country Music Hall of Fame's Acoustic CD of the Year/Album of the Year in 2018. Dave's impressive voice can still be enjoyed on Pandora, YouTube, Spotify, and many other streaming services.

Dave and his wife Kathy (a Montana native) retired to Kalispell in 2010. Dave absolutely



loved living in Montana, and he was actively engaged with the Kalispell Lions Club for the past several years.

Dave was committed to supporting other veterans and community members, as he sought to honor and serve others.

Most importantly, Dave was a devout Christian, and attended the Glacier Church of Christ in Columbia Falls for many years prior to his passing, where he led singing for the congregation. Dave's loved ones are comforted knowing he is celebrating in heaven, and they will be reunited with him one day.

"Papa Dave," also lovingly nicknamed "Old Sprout," was a jokester until his final day. He brought joy to thousands with his music, laughter to everyone who met him, and provided constant

comic relief and lots of love to his family. He even brought the magic of Christmas and put smiles on the faces of thousands of children over the past seven years as "Santa" in malls in Arkansas, Wyoming and Montana. He will be deeply and genuinely missed.

Dave's memorial service will be held Saturday, Oct. 23, at 2 p.m. at the Glacier Church of Christ in Columbia Falls. All who would like to pay their respects are welcome to attend. Dave's service will also be livestreamed on the Glacier Church of Christ Facebook page.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made directly to the Kalispell Lions Club or the Flathead Marines, in Dave's name, for any who wish to do so.