

## Hans Sacrison, 85

PAG 24 Oct 2021

Hans Sacrison passed away in his home, exactly where he wanted to be, at the age of 85 in Kalispell on the morning of Oct. 5, 2021. He is now reunited with his parents, brothers Jack, Bob and Bill, and his precious daughter, Nancy Lou Curtis.

Hans led an extraordinary life beginning in Buffalo, South Dakota, to which he always maintained a connection. There he married LeAna Lyons, and together they shared 65 devoted years. Hans attended (and, in his later years, supported) the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, South Dakota. Not only his incredible mind, but also his honesty and uncompromising integrity, led him to great success as a mining engineer. Together, he and LeAna, later joined by their daughter, Nancy, experienced working and living in many locations across the U.S., Canada and Australia. Hans also traveled to many South American countries with his work. The project closest to home was the 7-mile long Flathead Tunnel near Trego, which is the second longest tunnel in the United States, and is used to this day by freight trains and Amtrak. The most unique project was in Australia where Hans designed 27 miles of water tunnels driven to divert water to the city of Melbourne across the Great Dividing Range.

Through Hans' innovative engineering he spearheaded changes in



tunneling methods with the use of lasers for shooting grades and leveling. After

their time in the San Francisco area, Hans decided to begin another life for his family, leaving San Francisco, and finally putting down roots on their beautiful small farm in the Flathead Valley in the 1970s. Though he continued consulting, Hans became a passionate horseman, farmer and builder. While to most, he appeared as a stoic and disciplined character, those who knew him best realized that underneath his composure was a tenacious, irrev- erent, sensitive, loving soul. (And a razor sharp sense of humor when you took the time to listen.) To glimpse it was a wonder.

Hans leaves behind his beloved wife, LeAna, granddaughter Jadi Rae Curtis, son-in-law, Ray Curtis, brother-in-law Larry (Sandra) Lyons, many beloved nieces and nephews, Darci Sanborn, a friendship born of their love of horses, and his dear friends the Thoms family, who were, in reality, also family to him.

There will be no memorial service as he was not one to make a fuss.

Memorial contributions may go to Creston Fire Department and their new Fire Hall Fund.

## Larry Wayne Saksa, 78

PAG 14 Mar 2021

Larry Wayne Saksa, 78, passed away on Feb. 18, 2021, from a result of a motor vehicle accident in Kalispell.

Larry was born on Sept. 17, 1942, to John and Neoma Mildred (Scherlie) Saksa Jr. in Hanford, California.

Larry accomplished much in his life. He spent several years in the United States Army Reserve and he also worked as a choir teacher for Flathead Middle School where he shared his life passion for helping and teaching kids. After retirement Larry would listen for hours to taped choir classes of music he had taught. Larry truly missed teaching kids music.

Larry was very dedicated inside and outside of the classroom when it came to children. Larry was very active in raising money for Shriners Hospital to sponsor children's needs. He also gave his time to both the Elks Lodge and Masons. For over 40 years he helped the Elks Lodge. One of Larry's greatest memories was when he would get the bikes ready to give away to the children. He loved to see the smiles on the children's faces when they got to choose a bike, but the highlight of it all for Larry was the Hoop Shoot with the kids.

Larry loved to go fishing, camping, and would also give anyone of his friends a helping hand at any time.



Anyone who knew Larry knew he was a private man in a lot of ways, but if you were a friend it was for life. He was stub-

born at times, set in his ways and never backed down from his true beliefs, this being a reason why we loved him.

Larry was preceded in death by both his parents, John and Neoma Mildred (Scherlie) Saksa Jr.

Larry is survived by many cousins and too many friends that loved him to mention by name.

Larry, our beloved friend, you are now singing with the Angels Choir. You are so dearly loved and will be forever missed. "Sing on and enjoy the music ..."

A celebration of life and tribute of Larry and his life by Elks Lodge and Shriners will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at The Elks Lodge in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to any charity to help children.

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



## Inge Salmonsén, 96

*PA 5 2 Dec 2021*  
Inge Salmonsén, 96, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Nov. 25, 2021.

Inge was born on Sept. 24, 1925, in Denmark.

She is survived by her three children, Halie, Lee and Peter; 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grand-

*children and two great-great-grandchildren.*

She was preceded in death by her husband Carl Salmonsén, and son Oluf.

A celebration of life for Inge will take place at a later date in the spring.

## Valery Salo, 64

Valery Salo, 64, of Columbia Falls, died Nov. 17, 2021, at Logan Health in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife Zoya, and their children.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 27, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

## Mary (Rognlien) Salsbury, 76

*PA 6 9 Nov 2021*  
Mary passed Nov. 7, 2021, at 76 years old in Whitehall, Montana, surrounded by her daughters.

The long-term effects of her brain tumor that was found and removed in 2008, have finally taken her home to Jesus. She lived longer than the doctor predicted and lived a wonderful life.

She was a loving and giving woman who put everyone else in front of herself. God transformed her life and she couldn't help but share his love and grace with those around her. She planted seeds of God's love everywhere she went with her unconditional love and constant giving.

Mary was born July 21, 1945, to Gordon and Myrna Rognlien in San Francisco and grew up in Kalispell. She had two older brothers, Skip (now

*deceased)* and Phil (who lives in Bigfork with his wife Mary Margaret).

Mary graduated from Montana State University in elementary education. After years of teaching elementary in Kalispell, she moved on to receiving her Master of Special Education degree from University of Washington and spent many years teaching in Phoenix.

During that time, she was introduced to Doug Salsbury of Whitehall. They were married and had two daughters, Sarah and Emily. She cherished her time in fellowship in women's groups, church, and the Whitehall community.

After many years,



they divorced and Mary and her daughters moved to Bigfork where she began teaching special education at Bigfork Elementary School. She loved the kids and decided to help them in a new capacity as an elementary school counselor. She received her Master of Counseling degree from MSU-Northern. She retired from a wonderful teaching career in 2007.

Mary was very involved at Crossroads Christian Fellowship of Bigfork. Her church community there filled her spirit, gave her a family of fellowship, and an opportunity to share God's gifts in outreach.

In 2014, she moved to Guardian Angel Homes in Post Falls, Idaho, close to Emily, and she spent her last year in Whitehall with Sarah.

Her daughters, Sarah Salsbury (Whitehall) and Emily Black (Athol, Idaho), were able to spend the last days with Mary and call themselves blessed to have had such a wonderful mom and more time than expected with her.

Sarah and Emily will hold a celebration of life with family and friends at Mary's family cabin in Bigfork, which will be announced in the summer of 2022. Please send any cards of condolence to Emily Black, 25415 N Ramsey Road, Athol, ID 83801. We'd love to hear any stories of Mom.

Mary gave so much to so many people and organizations, we know she'd love the giving to continue. In memory of Mary R. Salsbury, please choose your favorite charity to support.



## Gwendolyn Louise Sampson, 81

Gwendolyn Louise Sampson, 81, of Kalispell, died Dec. 29, 2021, at her home.

Services will be held in the spring. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Gerald W. Sampson, 68

PAY

14 APR 2021

Gerald W. Sampson, 68, passed away on April 8, 2021, at his home in Kalispell.

Gerald was born on Sept. 23, 1952, to Paul and Juanita (Landon) Sampson, in Kalispell. He was raised in the Flathead Valley and attended grade school in Hungry Horse and middle school in Columbia Falls, and his high school years in Polson.

In 2007, Gerald married the love of his life, Deanna Drewniak-Jahnke in Las Vegas.

Gerald was a well-rounded truck driver. He logged for a time, drove logging trucks and finally became an over-the-road trucker. This



was his last and most favorite. He was making weekly trips to California for his nephew Micah

Sampson, who he thought more of a son.

Gerald not only worked hard but played hard too. He loved to spend time on his pontoon boat on Flathead Lake. When he wasn't chauffeuring all the ladies around he was pulling the kids on tubes. He also enjoyed watching NASCAR, golf, baseball and his favorite college football team Alabama - Roll Tide.

Gerald was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Rasmus and Sylvia (Bauer) Sampson; his maternal grandparents, Lloyd and Frances Landon; and his father, Paul Sampson.

Gerald is survived by his mother, Juanita Sampson; his wife, Deanna; his children, Toni Sampson, and Geri (Monty) Smith; his stepsons, Joseph and Wally Drewniak; his brother, Lloyd (Deann) Sampson; his sisters, Teri (Bob) Cothren, Carrie Sampson and Debbie Richardson; his grandchildren, Arielle (Ben) Leisman, Meghan (Adam) Strizak, and Cameron Lee (Bella) Smith; his great-grand-

children, Everette and Miller Leisman, Quinn Strizak; and numerous nieces and nephews. Gerald is very loved and will be forever missed.

Graveside services will be held 1 p.m. Saturday, April 17, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. We will have a reception following service at the Eagles in Kalispell. Everyone is invited to join us to celebrate Gerald's life.

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

## Allen Samson, 62

Allen Samson, 62, died at his home in Columbia Falls on May 25, 2021.

He is survived by his wife Maureen Samson and children Heather, Stephanie, Travis, Emily.

Per Allen's request, no services will be held. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

## Thomas Sanchez, 81

Thomas Sanchez, 81, of Eureka, died Oct. 4, 2021, at Logan Health Whitefish. Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.



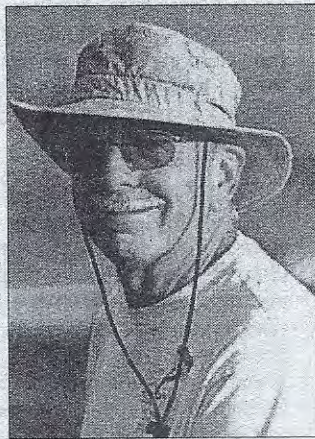
# Lost Prairie skydiving 'king' Fred Sand dies

By LYNNETTE HINTZE  
Daily Inter Lake

Fred Sand, who ran the Skydive Lost Prairie drop zone for 42 years and mentored hundreds of skydivers, died Monday at his home. He was 69.

A lifelong Flathead Valley resident, Sand was the heart and soul of the local skydiving community, with the Skydive Lost Prairie Boogie drawing hundreds of parachutists from throughout the country to the remote airstrip near Marion. He is being fondly remembered on social media this week as a caring soul, a great person and a gracious man.

"Sad day in the prairie for sure," one Facebook commenter wrote. "He



FRED SAND

will be greatly missed.

Gail Linne of Whitefish has stayed connected with Sand and the skydiving community through the years, and she fondly remembers how he was a mentor to so many sky-

divers. Her 25-year-old son Joel, a tandem-jump instructor at Lost Prairie, was one of five people killed in 2007 when their Cessna 182-C crashed while trying to make an emergency landing at Skydive Lost Prairie.

"He knew everybody in the sky family personally, and always remembered their full name, where they were from and what their credentials were," Linne recalled. "He cared deeply about other people and thought of other people first. He was a mentor to so many."

Sand participated in the final memorial "ash dive" to spread Joel's remains at Lost Prairie, and Linne tenderly recalls that special day.

Afterward, Sand told

those attending "it was a tremendous, great honor to make that jump with Joel," Sand said. "And you know, the sky was his playground, so he's there now for sure."

**SAND MADE** his first jump on the Fourth of July in 1971 after two weekends of training, and recalled his initial reaction in a Daily Inter Lake interview in 2000.

"Yeah, I was scared. That's a normal human reaction," he said, but added: "I liked the adrenaline, the freedom, the aesthetics of doing this in a beautiful area."

Sand always made a jump on the Fourth of July to commemorate

## SAND

from A1

that first jump, Linne said.

Dick Rapacilo of Kalispell, a seasoned skydiver who was featured in a U.S. Parachute Association article several years ago, was called "The King of Lost Prairie" by the publication.

"But," Rapacilo told the Inter Lake, "Fred was the REAL King of Lost Prairie.

The 2000 Inter Lake article noted how Sand met Lenni at a parachuting event in 1981 in which they both participated.

Sand stopped jumping several years ago to help care for his wife as her health declined. Though Lenni is now in an assisted-living facility, Sand was devoted to her care.

"He was a loyal, loving husband," Linne said. "He was there [at the assisted living facility] constantly."

Sand continued with rigging work until about a year ago, Rapacilo said.

A celebration in honor of Sand will be held July 4 at his drop zone in Lost Prairie. The public is invited to the gathering, which will include a potluck picnic, a flower planting in his memory and a bonfire. Hours are roughly 1 to 10 p.m.

An ash dive will be held during the Boogie later this summer; a time and date have not yet been decided.

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"He was the first one in our group to make 8,000 jumps, and that was several years ago," Rapacilo said. "To this day, he's the only one in our local group to do that."

Rapacilo recalled how Sand would fire up the big wood stove in the hangar so local skydivers could warm up and make jumps during the winter months when the weather cooperated.

"He went out of his way to make jumping happen all winter," he added.

"He was not only our drop zone owner, we trusted him with our lives, and he always got the job done correctly," Rapacilo said.

Sand was a master parachute rigger and rigger examiner, certified by the Federal Aviation Agency.

Sand's wife Lenni helped operate Skydive Lost Prairie, and was also a skydiving aficionado.



## Janet York Sandefer, 82

*PAG 28 Feb 2021*  
Janet York Sandefer, 82, of Columbia Falls, passed away peacefully at Brendan House with family at her side on Feb. 18, 2021.



Janet was born in Plentywood, Montana, to Lynn and Viola York on April 22, 1938. Janet's brother Eddy soon followed.

She met Bryant Sandefer who was working in the oilfields around Plentywood and they were married in 1954. They returned to his home state Texas where he continued to work in the oilfields and they started their family. They were blessed with three boys within three years, Lynn, Gary and Mike. In 1964 they moved to Columbia Falls. They soon bought a property on the Flathead River by the Old Red Bridge where they were able to raise horses. Janet loved horses and at one time they had 13 horses. She and Bryant were very involved in the Rocky Mountain Riders Saddle Club and were participants in O-Mok-See events across the state.

Janet worked at several restaurants during that time but her favorite was Frenchies Chinese Gardens where her mother also worked. Bryant and Janet divorced in 1978 and she moved to Yakima, Washington,

to attend school. After graduating, she returned to Columbia Falls and started building a

home on Middle Road.

Looking for some adventure, she moved to Fairbanks, Alaska. There she worked at the Sunset Bar and Grill for four years. She then returned to Columbia Falls and began working at the Montana Veterans Home where she enjoyed her work for 14 years as a certified nurse assistant until retiring. During retirement she enjoyed working in her yard and reading. She attended Our Redeemer Lutheran Church where she made a great number of friends.

Janet was preceded in death by her mother, father, brother and grandson.

She is survived by sons, Lynn Sandefer (Joan), Gary Sandefer (Pat), and Mike Sandefer (Laura), all of Columbia Falls. She also leaves behind 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life is currently pending summer 2021.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

## Arnold Quentin Sandefur

*PAG 15 Aug 2021*  
A memorial service for Arnold Quentin Sandefur, 96, who died Dec. 10, 2020, will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Aug. 20, at First Baptist Church in Whitefish. A reception will follow in the church Community Room.

## Linda Marie Sandon, 68

Linda Marie Sandon, 68, of Kalispell, died Wednesday, July 21, 2021.

She is survived by her children, Tiffany Sandon, Kayla Robinson and Wade Robinson.

A celebration of life is to be announced at a later date.

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

## Patricia Snyder, 80

Patricia Snyder, 80, of Kalispell, died Dec. 27, 2021, in Kalispell.

She is survived by her husband Bob Snyder, and her children Rebecca Smith and Ronald Snyder. Burial

took place at Sunset Memorial Park in Belgrade Dec. 30, 2021.

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

## Janet Sandefer

A memorial service for Janet Sandefer, 82, who died Feb. 18, will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, July 16, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church 640 Seventh St. W., Columbia Falls. A luncheon will follow. Burial will be in the Woodlawn Cemetery.



MARCH 9, 2021

# Blue Moon co-owner Dick Sapa dies

By CHRIS PETERSON  
Hungry Horse News



Dick Sapa

Dick Sapa, the co-owner of the iconic Blue Moon Nite Club west of Columbia Falls, died March 4 at his Columbia Falls home. He was 78.

Sapa and his wife, Charlotte, moved here from Minnesota and bought the bar from Lily Brash in 1972.

The Blue Moon Nite Club, built in 1947, one of many watering holes that sprung up as the

Sapa was also an avid hunter and fisherman.

The couple had three children, Bill, Charlene and Jimmy.

Jimmy died tragically in 1984 along with friend and fellow baseball player Ray Johnsrud when their car collided with a train. The Sapa-Johnsrud baseball fields in Columbia Falls are named after them.

The Sapas have been huge supporters of Columbia Falls school and sports events, hosting auctions at the bar for the Glacier Twins and other school functions.

Bill spent several years working various jobs in Alaska and Dick, a dedicated outdoorsman and hunter, would go up with him in the winters,

Hungry Horse Dam was being built. Old 1940s advertisements for the club in the Hungry

Horse News touted "orchestra music." Through the decades it has remained an unpretentious, rustic bar and dance hall that has stood sentry at the intersection of Montana 40 and U.S. 2.

Sapa was a musician himself, and fronted the Blue Moon's country-western house band for many years.

In his early days in his hometown of Moorhead, Minnesota,

hunting and trapping for months at a time.

Dick took trophy-sized grizzly bears and a polar bear on one hunt, as well as two Wolverines. He and Billy also nabbed a large alligator on a hunt in Florida.

On their hunt, their guide forgot a device called a "bang stick" that shoots the gator once it's caught by hook and line. The guide suggested they let the gator go.

But the Sapas were having none of that, so they wrangled the gator to the boat, taped its mouth shut and dragged it some 25 miles back to shore where they could shoot it properly.

The gator, all 11 feet of it, hangs above the

he also was the lead singer and guitar player of a rock band called "Richie Wynn and the Tornados." He was selling insurance at the time and set his sights on the Flathead Valley, which "looked like a good place to raise kids," he recalled in an earlier interview with the Daily Inter Lake.

"He wanted to grow a beard and move to Montana," Charlotte recalled with a laugh

bar today.

The Sapas were also farmers, raising cattle on their ranch off South Hilltop Road. In the summer the family could often be seen along U.S. 2 putting up hay bales for the cattle. The large pasture lots and fields greet visitors to Columbia Falls today.

Dick is survived by his wife, children and several grandchildren, many of whom work at the bar and restaurant today.

A visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 11, at Columbia Mortuary. A Mass of Christian burial will take place at 11 a.m. Friday, March 12, at St. Richard Catholic Church in Columbia Falls.

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# Blue Moon matriarch Charlotte Sapa dies

By CHRIS PETERSON  
Hungry Horse News

Charlotte Sapa, the matriarch of the Blue Moon Nite Club for nearly 50 years, has died just a few weeks after her husband, Dick, passed away.

Dick Sapa died March 4.

Charlotte and Dick Sapa bought the Blue Moon from Lily Brash in 1972.

When they first took the bar over, the couple worked tirelessly on fixing it up. The front door was a piece of plywood with a padlock on it, Charlotte recalled in a 2019 interview. They lived in a little apartment behind the bar with their three children, Bill, Charlene and Jimmy.

Charlotte could always be found at the end of the bar, a big smile on her face, with a story to tell.

"It is with a heavy heart that we let you know that Charlotte has passed away. We have now lost the matriarch to our family. Charlotte has joined Dick and Jimmy and is looking down on



Dick Sapa and his wife Charlotte are pictured at the Blue Moon Nite Club in March 2019. Dick died March 4 at age 78. (Hungry Horse News file)

all of us. Whether you have only been to the Blue Moon once or a million times, you always knew Charlotte was there, sitting at the end of the bar on her custom chair and banging her tambourine to the beat of the band. She was the face of the Blue Moon when Dick was behind the scenes and you could count on her to be there. She will be missed terribly. Please pray for our family and hold on

to your loved ones," the family posted on the Nite Club's Facebook page on Thursday.

Jimmy, their son, died tragically in 1984 along with friend and fellow baseball player Ray Johnsrud when their car collided with a train.

Even when she was in poor health, Charlotte made it a point to attend Columbia Falls sporting events. She would park her SUV in the parking lot above the football field

and cheer from her rig for the Wildcats and her grandchildren playing in the game.

The Sapas were huge supporters of Columbia Falls school and sports events, hosting auctions at the bar for the Glacier Twins and other school functions.

"The Blue Moon is my hobby," Charlotte said in a 2002 interview. "I'm here seven nights a week. There isn't anything else going on but the Blue Moon."

Charlotte spent her youth in Devil's Lake, North Dakota, while Dick called Moorhead, Minnesota home. The couple met in 1961 when she was in Fargo attending Joseph's School of Hair Design, and he was the lead singer and guitarist for a rock 'n' roll band. They were married in 1964.

The Nite Club continues to be operated by son Bill and daughter Charlene. Their grandchildren work there as well.

A service for Charlotte has not yet been announced.



## Charlotte Ann Sapa, 78

PAS 3 Apr 2021

Charlotte Ann Sapa, 78, passed away peacefully with family at Kalispell Regional Medical Center on March 23, 2021. Charlotte was born in Nortonville, North Dakota, to Donald and Effie Hanson on April 14, 1942.

Charlotte was raised in Devils Lake, North Dakota, with three brothers, Donnie, Darrell "Rocky," and Jim "Skinny," and a sister, Kimberly.

Charlotte was very active in her youth being a Bible school teacher, baton major, cheerleader, and a life-guard. She graduated from Devils Lake High School, Class of 1960. After high school she attended St. Joseph's school of hair design in Fargo, North Dakota. During this time she met the love of her life, Dick Sapa, from Moorhead, Minnesota, on a blind date. They were later married on June 13, 1964, and stayed together for 56 years until Dick's passing.

They were blessed with three children, Charlene, Jimmy and Billy. Then in 1972 they moved their family to Columbia Falls and purchased the Blue Moon Night Club on April 1, 1972, and have operated and grown the business for 49 years. Charlotte and Dick purchased a ranch just outside of Columbia Falls, and lived on the farm until their passing. Charlotte loved the Easter egg hunts at the farm for the grandkids and never missed a sporting event with her kids and grandkids. Charlotte was very active in local sports, hosing baseball, auctions, sponsoring teams and attending games for 49 years.

Charlotte along with husband Dick set up a



scholarship in memory of their late son Jimmy Sapa called the Sapa-

Johnsrud to help with school baseball players with college expense.

Charlotte was preceded in death by her parents, Donald and Effie Hanson, brothers Donnie and Jim, her husband Dick Sapa, and son Jimmy Sapa.

She is survived by her daughter Charlene King of Columbia Falls, grandchildren Chris King, Catie King, and Colin King; son Bill Sapa of Columbia Falls, grandchildren Hailey Sapa, Lane Sapa and Reggie Sapa; Brother Darrell "Rocky" Hanson of Las Vegas; and sister Kim Burdick (Joe) of Devils Lake, North Dakota.

Whether you have only been to the Blue Moon once or a million times, you always knew Charlotte was there, sitting at the end of the bar on her custom chair and banging her tambourine to the beat of the band. She was the face of the Blue Moon when Dick was behind the scenes and you could count on her to be there. She will be missed terribly.

A funeral service will be held Tuesday, April 6, at 11 a.m. at St. Richard Catholic Church. A graveside inurnment will follow with Charlotte and Dick's urn at St. Richard Catholic Cemetery on the grave of their son Jimmy Sapa. The celebration of life will be held at the Blue Moon Bar at 1 p.m.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family and will have a public viewing from 1 to 5 p.m. today, April 3.

## Richard Bruce Sapa, 78

PAS 10 Mar 2021

Richard Bruce Sapa, 78, of Columbia Falls passed away peacefully at his home with family by his side on March 4, 2021.

Richard "Dick" was born in Fargo, North Dakota, to Walt and Catherine Sapa on Feb. 20, 1943. Dick was raised in Moorhead, Minnesota, with his four brothers, Tom, Jerry, Mike and Pat.

Dick was very active as an athlete and was an all-state running back in football, and played basketball and baseball through high school. Dick taught himself to play guitar at the age of 9 and started his own rock 'n' roll band at age 15, called "Richie Wynn and the Tornadoes."

He played the Tri-state arena with rock 'n' roll legends Bobby Vec and Bill Valino. Later he would play with legendary cowboy and singer Chris Ledoux at the Blue Moon. During this time he met the love of his life, Charlotte Hanson, from Devils Lake, North Dakota, on a blind date. They were later married on June 13, 1964, and stayed together for almost 55 years until Dick's passing.

They were blessed with three children, Charlene, Jimmy and Billy. Dick sold insurance for his father at W.C. Sweeney Insurance and Real Estate until 1972. Then in April 1972 they moved their family to Columbia Falls and purchased a bar. They purchased the Blue Moon Night Club on April 1, 1972, and have operated and grown the business for 49 years. Dick loved the outdoors and horses and cattle, so in 1982 he purchased a ranch just outside of Columbia Falls and started raising cattle, horses and hay.

Dick was also an avid outdoorsman, traveling all over North America hunting and fishing with his family. Dick was recognized for obtaining numerous record book



animals, a grand slam of North American wild sheep, grand slam of

North American bears and moose, and was able to harvest all North American big game animals.

Dick was very proud of his grandchildren. He watched them compete in athletics, work in the family businesses and follow in the family footsteps of being in the outdoors with family and friends, hunting and fishing.

Dick was very active with the local sports and donated money every year for 49 years to Kidsports. He also set up a scholarship in memory of his late son Jim Sapa called the Sapa-Johnsrud to help high school baseball players with college expenses.

Dick was preceded in death by his parents, Wolf and Catherine Sapa, his brother Jerry Sapa, and son Jim Sapa.

He is survived by his wife, Charlotte Sapa; daughter, Charlene King of Columbia Falls and grandchildren Chris King, Calie King and Colin King; son, Bill Sapa of Columbia Falls and grandchildren Hailey Sapa, Lane Sapa and Reggie Sapa; and brothers, Tom (Patty) Sapa, of Park Rapids, Minnesota; Mike (Heidi) Sapa of Lindstrom, Minnesota; and Pat (Tammy) Sapa of Whitefish.

A funeral service will be held Friday, March 12, at 11 a.m. at St. Richard Catholic Church. A celebration of life will be held Friday at 1 p.m. at the Blue Moon. Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family and will have a public viewing from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 11.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the Sapa family.



## Anne Sauer, 97

PAL 9 May 2021

Anne Sauer, formerly of Lakeside, went to be with her Lord May 1, 2021. Anne lived her life steadfastly walking with Jesus and was patiently waiting for him to lead her home.

Born Dec. 23, 1923, she passed peacefully at home, with family by her side.

Anne was born in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, the sixth of eight children. Anne was the last of her siblings still living. She loved music! Anne sang and played piano for most of her life. In high school she was in choir and played several instruments, including the bassoon in band, the cello in orchestra and the glockenspiel in marching band. She attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, where she majored in home economics and graduated in 1947. Anne went on to teach home economics at Grove City High School for a short time before marrying her high school sweetheart, Jack, and moving to a cabin in the woods on Flathead Lake. In Anne's words, she "lived in the house that Jack built." She also told family "same house, same spouse for 65 years." They gradually



added on to the cabin to make room for the three boys they were blessed with— Jack Jr., Mark

and Gary Kirk.

Jack preceded Anne in death, passing in December of 2010. Anne eventually moved to town, taking an apartment at Vil Joya Independent Living. She loved her apartment and the friends she made there. Anne also had many friends through her longtime membership at Eidsvold Lutheran Church in Somers.

Anne is survived by her three boys, Jack of Lakeside, Mark of Kalispell and Kirk of Conrad. Family also includes daughters-in-law, four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the Vil Joya crew, Frontier Hospice and Pastor Andy from Eidsvold Lutheran for their loving care and support.

A family memorial service is being planned at a later date.

## Sandra Savoy, 67

Sandra Savoy, 67, of Hungry Horse, died April 20, 2021, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She is survived by her daughter, Shannon Byron.

A private burial will take place at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

## Judith Claire Wilke Saurman, 79

PAL 27 May 2021

Judith Claire Wilke Saurman, 79, passed away on May 23, 2021, from natural causes.

Born on June 18, 1941, to Carl and Dora Wilke in Conrad, Montana, Judy was the eldest of six children. She attended grade school at Lone Tree School, by Valier, and in 1952 moved to the Columbia Falls area with her family. She attended grade school at Deer Park and graduated from Flathead County High School.

She lived in Jerome, Idaho, where she raised two sons, John and Sam, before settling in Kalispell to finish her working and retirement years.

She leaves behind three sisters and two brothers, Marilyn Fox of Jacksonville, Florida, Joanne McQueen of Kalispell, Dona (Hiro) Kobayashi, of Kamloops,

British Columbia, Leonard (Karen) Wilke of Valier, and Larry (Jennifer) Wilke of Medicine Lake, Montana; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins, especially Rosie and Butch Brester of Kalispell.

Judy joins her parents Dora and Carl Wilke, brother-in-law Don McQueen, aunts and uncles, grandparents, a great-niece Valicity Faith, and great-nephew Mikey Wilke in heaven. She will be missed by her family and friends.

The family would like to acknowledge the great care Judy received while residing at the Renaissance Senior Care home since 2018. Her family will hold a private graveside service, which will be under the care and direction of Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

## Donna Joy Schafer, 92

PAS 21 Apr 2021

Donna Schafer passed at her residence at Buffalo Hill Terrace away on April 17, 2021.

Donna was born in Alpena, Michigan, on July 18, 1928. Her family moved to California when she was a child and she spent the majority of her youth in San Diego area where she attended Grossmont High

School and San Diego State University. During World War II she worked in the wartime ship manufacturing industry there.

She met her future husband Hal in San Diego and, after residing there and raising their family, moved to where he was born and raised in the Flathead Valley after his retirement. They settled into Columbia Falls, and resided there for the balance of their lives.

She was preceded in



death by her husband in 2019.

Donna was a loving mother, avid golfer

and bowler and learned to love the life style of Montana and the Flathead Valley.

She is survived by her son Gordon, stepdaughter Jackie, granddaughters Miranda and Rhiannon, six grandchildren and numerous cousins in Michigan, California and Montana.

A graveside service will be held in Columbia Falls at the Woodlawn Cemetery on Monday, April 26, at noon.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.



Family & friends are invited to  
join us in a *Celebration of Life* for

# Marguerite Schenck

on Sunday,  
September 19th, 2021

*Open House* 4 to 6 pm  
at Grouse Mountain Lodge  
Pavillion

1205 US Hwy 93 in Whitefish



## Michael G. Schilling, 70

Michael G. Schilling, 70, passed away Wednesday, May 19, 2021, in Kalispell.

He was born March 8, 1951, in Havre to George and Elizabeth (Betty) McCormick. After the untimely death of his father, he was later adopted by Jacob Schilling.

He was raised in Columbia Falls, graduating from high school in 1969. He graduated from Glendive Community College with a two-year degree in criminal justice. He spent a few



Flathead County as a custodian for 30 years.

Mike could always be seen walking all over the county on foot or on his bike. His love of walking every day was important to him.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, father George

years working at the Aluminum Plant in Columbia Falls, then went to work at

McCormick, and mother Betty Schilling, father Jacob Schilling, sister Sandi Schilling, and brother Randy Schilling.

He is survived by his sister, MaryBeth (Will) Arnold, his nieces Brooke (Mike) Brennan, and Maggie (Ean) McClure, and great-niece Eirelyn McClure.

Funeral services will be held at the VFW Club in Whitefish on Thursday, May 27, at 11:30 a.m.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

PA 7 23 May 2021



## Donald Wayne Schiltz, 83

*PAB 10 Jan 20 21*  
Donald Wayne Schiltz, 83, of Bigfork, passed away Jan. 2, 2021, unexpectedly after a brief, but heroic battle with COVID-19.

Don was born Dec. 27, 1937, in Choteau to Forrest and Zelia "Peggy" Newman. Don's father died when he was 5 years old. His mother later married Jack Schiltz, who lovingly raised him as his own son. His elementary years were spent in Townsend and Helena. His family eventually moved to Polson, where he graduated from high school. Don attended college at Eastern Washington University. While working the following summer for the Bureau of Public Roads in Glacier National Park, he met Sharon Slethaug of Bigfork who was working as a housekeeper at Apgar Lodge during her summer break from Pacific Lutheran University. They had their first dance at the well-known Dew Drop Inn. They married in 1958 and remained married for 62 years. They had four children, Heather, Mark, Heidi and Cori.

Don completed college in 1961 with a bachelor's degree in English, with minors in philosophy and music. As an ROTC recruit, he was commissioned into the U.S. Army as a 2nd lieutenant. While serving two tours in Vietnam, Don was decorated with two Bronze Stars and the Silver Star for valor. In addition, he served in the 82nd Airborne; was an ROTC instructor at University of California in Berkeley; attended the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island; served as an Army officer at NATO headquarters in Mannheim, Germany, and instructed at the United States Army Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Don retired from the U.S. Army as a lieutenant colonel in 1983.



gatherings. He had an incredible tenor voice and was a remarkable whistler. In the 1970s and '80s, he

fell in love with running, and he completed many marathons and other road races. Throughout his life he always maintained a passion for reading. He collected an extensive library of over 10,000 books, and his library is still awe inspiring.

Don was honest and outspoken, which may have appeared to some as cranky, but he had a heart of gold and would do anything for anyone. He loved his Bigfork community, especially his "second family" at Bigfork Harvest Foods, where he knew everyone by name. He deeply loved all his family, including his pets, but his wife Sharon remained the greatest love of his life.

Don was preceded in death by his fathers, Forest Newman and Jack Schiltz, mother Peggy Schiltz, daughter Heidi Schiltz Westmoreland, daughter-in-law Cindy Schiltz, and pets Bing, Scruffy, Honey, Murr and Snowy.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Sharon Schiltz; his brother, John (and Christy) Schiltz; children, Heather (and Dave) Fern, Mark Schiltz (and Cissy Klein), Cori (and Mike) Wellenstein; son-in-law, Brad Westmoreland (and Andrea Ceja); grandchildren, Holly, Daniel, Jacob, Forrest, Ahna, Taylor, Olivia, Luke, Ethan, Heidi and Gretta; great-grandchildren, Miles and Juliette; and numerous nieces and nephews.

After retiring from the military, Don and Sharon returned to Bigfork to farm the 20 acres of land they had bought from Sharon's grandmother. He became legendary for providing "practically perfect" Christmas trees for the Bigfork community and beyond for the next 38 years.

Don had other passions in his life beyond his work. He played guitar and sang folk songs, and he was a frequent request to perform at many weddings, funerals and family

The family would like to especially thank the staff at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center COVID-19 ward, medical floor and cafeteria for helping to make Don's final hours meaningful, comfortable and peaceful. Their compassion, empathy and professionalism were unmatched.

An in-person memorial will be held later when it is safe for family and friends to gather.

The family requests that donations be designated to Bigfork Quick Response Unit, or to the ImagineIF Library Foundation in Bigfork.

"A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in."



## Barbara Anne Schlabs, 80

PA4 3 Mar 2021

Our dearest wife, mother, and friend left this world to be with her heavenly Father on Feb. 24, 2021, after a long battle with dementia and Parkinson's disease.

Barbara was born on Jan. 12, 1941, in Butte to parents Merlin and Mabel Young. The family moved to the Kalispell area in 1951, where Barbara attended elementary school and Flathead High School. Barbara graduated from FHS in 1959. This is where she met her lifelong spouse, Gordon. The couple married on Aug. 26, 1960, and moved to the Bozeman area where Gordon attended Montana State University. Their first child, Jeffrey was born in 1960 in Bozeman. Barbara cared for Jeffrey and worked part-time while Gordon attended MSU and played football. The family moved to Laurel after Gordon's graduation. Later Barbara gave birth to her daughter Julie while living in Laurel and youngest son, Jay in Billings.

The couple resided in several Montana communities to include Bozeman, Laurel, Livingston, Helena, and Billings. While in Billings, she enjoyed her work in the schools as a



librarian aide and working with special needs children. In 1999, the couple returned

to the Flathead Valley and made their retirement in Lakeside where Barbara designed her lifelong dream home. Barbara was active in the Red Hat Society, Lakeside Community Club and Lakeside Chapel Community Church. Barbara was fond of the sunshine and enjoyed more than 10 years each winter traveling to Arizona. She also treasured her travels and cruises together with her husband.

Barbara was active with her grandchildren and other activities such as craft projects, painting, and designing St. Nicks for holiday bazaars. Barbara's grandchildren still recall fond memories of painting ladybug rocks and visiting grandma at the lake during holidays and summers. She instilled in them how wonderful it is to live in the state of Montana. Barbara also enjoyed her FHS 1950s class reunions and remained close with

several of her former classmates.

Barbara was a very devout Christian and donated her support to Youth with a Mission traveling to Mexico with YWAM. Although Barbara's battle with Parkinson's kept her homebound during her final years, she never lost her faith in God, family, friends, and community. Barbara was a kind and caring person and in her home for all to see is a sign referencing 1 Corinthians 13:13, which states, "And now these three remain, Faith, Hope, and Love, but the greatest of these is Love." Barbara was with her family when she passed. Her family would like to thank all of her friends and neighbors for their support during this difficult time, including staff at Frontier Hospice Care and Loyal Care of Kalispell. Barbara lived a wonderful life and leaves this world not in sadness, but in the joy that she brought to those who knew and loved her.

Barbara is preceded in death by her parents and sisters Beverly and Marilyn.

She is survived by her husband Gordon, daughter Julie and hus-

band Steve Gregoryk, son Jeff, son Jay and his wife Tanya; her six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life is currently scheduled for Aug. 21, 2021. In lieu of flowers, the family requests desired donations be made to Lakeside Chapel Community Church or Frontier Hospice Care.

## Richard Schleicher, 76

Richard Schleicher, 76, of Bigfork, died Saturday, Aug. 14, 2021.

He is survived by his wife Joan.

A private service will be held at a later date.

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



## Sue Ellen (Lee) Schmied, 74

PAS 10 Mar 2021

Sue Ellen (Lee) Schmied, 74, passed away peacefully at her home in Aurora, Colorado, on Feb. 22, 2021, with her husband William "Bill," son Jeb, and daughter Stacia at her side.

Born June 11, 1946, in Kalispell, she was forever a small town Montana girl. Sue was raised in Kalispell by her late parents, James and Ella Mae Lee, along with her three older brothers and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1964 where she was active in Student Council and served as senior class treasurer. She was Northwest Montana Centennial Queen in 1964 and a Princess in the 1965 Whitefish Winter Carnival. Sue worked in the Kalispell Mercantile china department where she cared deeply for the chinaware but also enjoyed an occasional "sample" or two from the candy displays.

She was preceded in death by brothers Bill and John Lee, and is survived by brother, Bob Lee.

Sue met and fell in love with Bill Schmied when she was working at the Conrad Bank and they married in Bigfork in December 1966. Bill, an airman in the Air Force stationed at the air defense radar warning site in Lakeside, swept her off her feet and into the adventures of a military wife. After multiple assignments in the Philippines, Japan, Denver, North and South Carolina, they landed permanently back at



Lowry Air Force Base in Denver in 1983, making their home in Aurora.

After being settled in with family and raising their two children, she began volunteering with the Aurora Public Schools and found a love for working in education. Volunteering turned into employment as a paraprofessional at her neighborhood elementary and middle schools. Sue later became the librarian at North Middle School and retired in 2005 after 20 years of service. Although retired, Sue did not slow down as she was a grandmother to three at that time and since then, a fourth. This was by far her most precious joy and she remained very involved even as she began to battle health conditions for several years including pulmonary disease and a lung cancer diagnosis in 2020, which led to her death.

Sue was remembered with a funeral Mass in Aurora on Friday, Feb. 26, surrounded by family and friends who loved her very much. She will be laid in her final resting place this summer when the sun is shining as gloriously as she did with her wonderful smiles.

We invite friends and loved ones to share a memory of Sue at [horan-cares.com](http://horan-cares.com) on the Tribute Wall.

## Lorene Schnackenberg, 82

PAL 18 Feb 2021

Lorene Schnackenberg passed away from natural causes on Feb. 5, 2021, at 82 years of age.

She was born in Kalispell on Aug. 5, 1938, to Charles and Wynona (Webster) O'Neil, their first child. She lived all but six years of her life in Kalispell. She was blessed with wonderful parents and siblings.

She met Douglas Schnackenberg on a blind date in 1957. They were married on May 21, 1958, and celebrated their 54th anniversary prior to Doug's passing in 2012. Shortly after being married, Doug was drafted into the Army and they moved to Seaside, California, while Doug was stationed at Fort Ord. A little over a year later, their daughter Kathleen was born at the Fort Ord Army hospital. Doug and Lorene moved back to Kalispell after Doug's discharge, where son Henry was born in 1960.

She had many talents, but Lorene's greatest gift was her simple kindness and unconditional love towards others. She used this gift to raise two incredibly happy and grateful children; there could be no better mother than Lorene. She saw the best in everyone and provided love and support to all she met. After her two children were grown and on their own, Lorene became a mother to many. She had a small farm at the end of Fourth Street West with a few goats, chickens, and a garden. Many of the local neighborhood children spent their after-school hours helping Lorene and absorbing her love and attention. Often, by chance, she would meet up with her "kids" years later and they would thank her for giving them a safe and loving environment.

Lorene was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, joining the



church in the early 1960s. She volunteered for many years in the RSVP "Kitchen

Band," going to nursing homes around the valley and performing old-time songs that made the residents smile. She loved the company of her fellow band members and loved to visit with the elderly residents. If she could make someone else happy, she was happy. Young or old, rich or poor, she loved and trusted everyone she met. Her hugs were the best.

Lorene was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Wynona; younger brother, Arthur; and her husband Doug.

She is survived by her two children, Kathy (Jim) Powrie and Henry (Valerie) Schnackenberg, who were fortunate to be by her side before her unexpected passing. She is also survived by her two grandchildren, Jenna Joy and Tricia, four great-grandchildren, and her siblings, Nancy Kostman, Charlene O'Neil and John O'Neil.

The family would like to extend special thanks to Barbara Stewart. After Doug's passing, Lorene's best friend, Barbara, moved in with her. They looked out for each other and shared each other's good company. Without Barbara, Lorene would have likely needed to leave her beloved Kalispell to be closer to her children.

In these difficult times, no service is planned. The family requests that memorials in Lorene's honor be directed to the Flathead 4-H Foundation, Inc., Hospice care, or the charity of your choice. Arrangements are under the care of Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory.



## Gerald D. 'Jerry' Schreck, 82

*PAT 24 Dec 2021*  
Gerald D. "Jerry" Schreck, 82, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully early in the morning on Dec. 16, 2021. He had been living at the Hidden Meadow Memory Care Center in Columbia Falls.

Jerry came into the world on Sept. 20, 1939, in Appleton, Minnesota. He was the youngest of six children born to Rose and Walter Schreck. He graduated from Appleton High School in 1957 and joined the U.S. Air Force. He was stationed in Alaska as well as the 716th Squadron Kalispell AFS in Lakeside in 1960. After his discharge, he lived in Kalispell and worked for Manions, Bell Campers, as a carpenter, and eventually became a lay minister.

He met Helen Aklestad and they were married in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, on Jan. 9, 1967. They were married for 38 years until Helen passed away in February 2005.

Jerry was led by the Holy Spirit to go to college and to become a lay minister. He worked in that capacity at Trinity Lutheran Church from 1991 until his retirement.

Jerry and Helen moved to Mission View Terrace in Lakeside in 1969. They enjoyed many years of living on Flathead Lake while caring for their yard, garden and fruit trees. After Helen passed, Jerry found the house and yard to be too much and moved back to Kalispell.

Although Jerry never had any children, he was an integral part of the Aklestad family and beloved grandpa and great-grandpa to all of the children.

Jerry was preceded in



Helen's daughter Elaine Keister and grandchildren Sheila Kettel and Bret Aklestad.

Jerry is survived by two sisters-in-law Myrtle (Ramon) Schreck, and Wilma (Ronald) Schreck, as well as many nieces and nephews. He is also mourned by the families of Gary and Beth Aklestad, Lyle and Loretta Aklestad, Robert Keister, and Doug and Cheryl Aklestad. Grandson Robert Aklestad has cared for Grandpa Jerry in his declining years. He and his family were good about visiting with him on a regular basis and keeping him supplied with a cold Bud, jerky, nuts and chocolate.

There will be a visitation held for Jerry on Tuesday, Dec. 28, from 10 to 11 a.m., with services to follow at 11 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell. A luncheon will follow the service at the church social hall followed with a burial service at 1:30 p.m., with military honors, at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery in Kalispell.

Memorials can be given to the Trinity Bible Camp, or wherever the donor desires.

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

death by his wife Helen, his parents Walter and Rose, his brothers Stanley, Ramon, Leon and Ronald, his sister Darlene, and

## Bruce Allen Schultz, 64

Bruce Allen Schultz, 64, of Columbia Falls, died Oct. 10, 2021, at home.

No services are scheduled.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

## Stephen Reed Schulze, 74

*PAT 31 Mar 2021*  
Steve "Hammer" Schulze, Retired Army Major, passed away of natural causes at his home in Kalispell on Feb. 25, 2021.

Stephen was born to Henry Schulze and Leona Williams Sept. 25, 1946, in Safford, Arizona. They later moved to Farmington, New Mexico, where Steve and his sister Shawna grew up.

He graduated high school and entered Arizona State University, eventually joining the United States Army in 1967, and graduated Officer Candidate School. He served in Vietnam, and was an expert sharpshooter. Later he was stationed in Great Falls where he delivered war death notices to family members of fallen servicemen in the Vietnam War; a job that Steve took on with respect and compassion as he carried out these difficult duties.

Steve met Mary Virginia Hoven in Great Falls and they were married in 1970. Together they had two daughters, Shawna and Kristin. Steve graduated from the University of Montana in 1973 with a degree in accounting, then passed the difficult CPA exam and opened Stephen Schulze CPA in Kalispell which he operated until his death. Steve had many clients who also became lifelong friends.

He was a true Griz fan and attended many games. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying backpacking, fishing, rafting and four-wheeling. Steve was proud to be a Flathead Valley dart champion in 1980. He was a lifetime golfer and member at Buffalo Hill since 1986. He played the



Monday Pro Am circuit for many years and was low amateur at the Larchmont, Pro Am shooting a 2 under par 70. Steve was always known to seek out and obtain the latest and best equipment or gear for

whatever activity he was participating in. When Steve started tying flies on Wednesday evenings, he would invite fishing buddies over to participate. This eventually gave way to Wednesday evenings at "Steve's Bar and Grill," which he faithfully entertained friends right up to the evening before he passed.

Steve was preceded in death by his parents, wife Mary, and best friend Mike "Jorgi" Jorgenson.

Steve is survived by his sister Shawna, daughter Kristin, son-in-law Cobey Foster, grandchildren, Savannah (Henry Fiestner) and Paige, great-grandchildren Benjamin, Lincoln and Vincent, and daughter Shawna and grandchildren Quinn and Gabrielle.

A celebration of Steve will be held at Buffalo Hill Golf Club on July 7 from 1 to 4 p.m.

So long Dad, good buddy and mentor, we hope you and Jorgi are bantering in a drift boat on a beautiful Montana trout stream.



## Jessica 'Jessie' Doney Scott, 41

PA7 22 May 2021  
Jessica "Jessie" Doney Scott left this world way too soon and unexpectedly on May 10, 2021, due to complications of pneumonia and COVID-19.

She was born March 11, 1980 in Missoula to Kerry and Mary Doney. She joined her older brother Josh and a few short years later her baby brother Lee completed the family. As the only girl in her family Jessie was the queen of the house, the twinkle in her mom's eyes, and made sure everyone knew what they were supposed to be doing and where they were supposed to be. She was an organizer and the heart of her family and held this roll until her last day and for this she will be greatly missed.

She was a lifetime resident of Arlee, a proud Scarlett, and was a three-sport athlete, graduating in 1998. After graduation Jessie wasn't quite sure what she wanted to do and followed her lifelong bestie, Wendy, to the East Coast to be a nanny. She loved her time on the East Coast and made lifelong friends, but Arlee was always where her heart belonged and she returned to Arlee in 2001. After returning she settled into her job at Ivanoff Farmers Insurance Agency in Ronan. In 2004 she met her lifelong partner, friend, tormentor, pain in her a, and true love of her life, Jody "Toad" Scott. They were yin and yang and complete opposites, but they were meant to live their lives together. She kept Toad in line and he kept her on her toes.



gave into one of her greatest fears, dogs, and surprised Janoah with a puppy for

Christmas because his want was more important than her fear. She was the true definition of what a Mamma bear is and fiercely loved her kids, and if every kid could have a Mom like her then there would be a lot less disappointments in this world.

Jessie was working at Grey Wolf Casino when she passed and thoroughly enjoyed working with all of her co-workers. She was a true friend to all that she loved. She was as real as they came and had an infectious smile and huge heart. She was dearly loved by so many friends and co-workers. She leaves a huge whole in this world and in all of the hearts that loved her. One of the biggest lessons she left on this earth is to always be true to yourself, love and fight for your family no matter what it takes, and always remember who is in your corner.

Jessie was preceded in death by her Grandpa Marvin and Grandma "Cookie" Maxine Doney; grandparents, Donna and Charlie Phoenix; uncle, John Phoenix; dear friend and cousin, Tim Kieninger; and father-in-law, Charles Mangels.

From their marriage came her true pride and joy, Kailee and Janoah. The best job Jessie ever had and that she loved with everything she had was being their mother. Jessie would give up all that she had and be known to stretch their pocket books just to make sure Kailee and Janoah never had a need, but more importantly never had a want. She truly was the mother of all mothers, always planning Christmas cookie decorating parties, sleepovers, swimming parties, — a devoted cheer mom and always made sure Kailee's hair was always beautifully done in many intricate ways. She even

She leaves behind her broken hearted family; husband Toad,

children Kailee and Janoah, parents Mary and Kerry Doney, brothers Josh (Kathi) Doney and Lee (Brittney) Doney, sister-in-law Dawnetta Morgan, nieces Ellie, Haylee, Kyla, Latisha and Allie, and nephews Drew, Sean, Kyle, Jaxson and Kyle.

A celebration of Jessie's life will be held today, May 22, at her home,

3200 Mountain Home Lane at 2 p.m. A meal is planned after the

celebration, as Jessie loved to host barbecues and gatherings at her home.

A special thank you to all of the Galaxy Elite families who have

surrounded the Scott's with love through this trying time.



## Joyce Scott, 86



PA7 30 May 2021  
Hatter and enjoyed many activities with these wonderful ladies. She attended the Lakeside Community Chapel and once again stayed busy with the Ladies of the Chapel. Many, many hours were spent serving coffee hour, preparing communion, serving funeral luncheons and was the one at 80-plus years of age who went into Kalispell to pick up the trays of food. She also helped with the senior lunch program.

Mom enjoyed reading, card games, board games, jigsaw puzzles, boating, water skiing (when she was a little younger) walks on the boulevard and the beautiful view of the lake and mountain ranges across the lake. She had a group of friends, the Peaceful Bay Group, who met for lunch often on someone's birthday where many cards were exchanged. She was a regular at tai chi.

In August of 2018 after a diagnosis of dementia she moved to Edgewood Senior Living in Helena to be closer to her daughter and grandson. She adjusted immediately, being the social butterfly she always was. Dad would often say to me after leaving an activity "Where's your mother, to which I would respond, she probably found someone to talk to. She enjoyed many activities and field trips there. Covid hit and affected her as many others with isolation, lack of activities, meals in room, etc. Her saving grace was her dog Marble — so much company. In September of 2020 she was moved down to Memory Care where she continued to decline.

She was preceded in death by her parents Jerry and Anne Sheveland, grandson Jason (Jayce), husband Bob, and her beloved lit-

Joyce Scott passed away May 19, 2021, at Edgewood Senior Living after a recent fall.

Joyce was born on Nov. 11, 1934, to Jerry and Anne Sheveland in Great Falls. They moved to a farm on the Greenfield Bench just out of Fairfield. She attended grade school in Greenfield and later graduated from Fairfield High Class of 1952, of which she was valedictorian. After graduating, she attended the Great Falls Commercial College where she met Bob Scott. They married Aug. 28, 1953, in Great Falls where they made their home. Their only child, a daughter, was born on July 31, 1954.

She worked for Nyquist Finance and later as a secretary for Lutheran Social Services, which she enjoyed immensely, especially transporting babies to their foster homes. At the age of 36 she started classes at the College of Great Falls, pursuing a degree in social work. When Dad received a promotion to state director of BAT in Helena, she transferred to Carroll College, graduating in 1975. After graduating, she went to work for the Florence Crittenton Home as a caseworker. Her career was short-lived due to her dad passing and her mom moving to Helena. Grandma called her at work a lot! It was easier to resign and be available full time.

In 1988 they bought their vacation home on Flathead Lake just outside of Lakeside, spending as much time as possible there. In 1994 when Dad retired, they sold their home in Helena and moved there permanently. Mom blossomed in her happy place. She was involved in the Lakeside Community Club and later becoming president. She worked many community fairs. She belonged to a lady's pinochle club and a couples pinochle club with Dad. She was a Red

the Yorkie, Moose, whom she adored.

She is survived by her daughter Bobbie Scott and grandson Chad Wenger of East Helena and, of course, her dog Marble who was cuddled up with her when she passed.

I would like to thank her medical providers in Kalispell and Lakeside. Mom was a two-time breast cancer survivor and, shortly before she moved, was diagnosed with liver cancer: Paul Coates, neuro who was so kind and gentle with Mom. It was like going to visit an old friend; Dr. Zuckerman, oncologist; and Dr. Pomerantz, radiologist interventionist who was able to shrink her tumor with two treatments. Best bedside manner ever!; Mona Cuthbert, PCP at the Westshore Clinic in Lakeside. Took such good care of her along with the staff at the clinic. In Helena I was able to find her another amazing PCP, Dr. Beddell. She also saw Dr. Weiner for follow up and the kindness and respect he showed her keeping her involved in her care still brings tears; Britt Ballenger for cardio.

Special thanks to Julia, Larry, Anna, Tommie, Jamie, Callie, Susan and Killian at Edgewood — too many to mention, but the CNAs who provided the direct, compassionate care. Thank you. Also, thanks for supporting me and the hugs I received and always asking if I needed something during my mom's last days.

A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1, at East Helena City Cemetery. A memorial service will be held at a later day at the Lakeside Community Chapel in Lakeside.

Memorials can be made in Joyce's name to Lakeside QRU, P.O. Box 911, Lakeside, MT 59922.

Please visit [www.aswfuneralhome.com](http://www.aswfuneralhome.com) to offer a condolence to the family or to share a memory of Joyce.



## Kenneth Sebrowsky, 73

Kenneth Sebrowsky, 73, of Whitefish, died April 16, 2021, at his home.

He is survived by his wife Peggy and daughters, Cheryl Towner and Stephanie Ngom.

No services are scheduled. Austin Funeral and Cremation Services in Whitefish is caring for the family.

## Ken Sebrowsky, 73

*PA 7 9 May 2021*  
retired he had become the building maintenance supervisor in the west side. His career spanned 36 years on both the east and west



side. Ken was spiritually at peace when he was hiking in the park, and Glacier Park was his "church."

He married his wife, Peggy, in 1981, and became the stepfather to Cheryl and Stephanie Towner. Ken and Peggy had one of those relationships that romance novels are made of. They enjoyed taking long drives to go sightseeing

Ken Sebrowsky passed away peacefully at home in Whitefish, on April 16, 2021. He was a devoted husband and father and mentor at the Whitefish hockey rink.

He was born in Detroit, Michigan, and after high school attempted to put himself through college as a pool shark. With a low draft number, he decided to enlist in the Vietnam War. After this life-changing experience, he hitchhiked through Central America and Peru. He returned and spent time in Boulder, Colorado. He had friends in Montana and came to Martin City. He found a job as a seasonal worker in Glacier National Park as a backcountry carpenter. After about 10 years, he became a permanent employee. By the time he

## Dusty Seegers, 56

Dusty Seegers, 56, died Nov. 12, 2021, at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.

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

across the northwest and traveling for Ken's hockey tournaments. They often traveled over the Beartooth Pass, enjoying Yellowstone, and spending time at Chico Hot Springs. Ken was also a huge hockey fan and player, and helped build the Whitefish Hockey Association. His fellow hockey players loved Ken's camaraderie and support on and off the rink. He recently had an all-time career high with 13 league wins and he was inducted in the WAHA Hall of Fame. Ken was a passionate bow hunter who hunted outside of Deer Lodge and Wisdom.

His daughters remember his stern, but kind and compassionate demeanor and have enjoyed spending more

and more time with him as he went into retirement. He transformed into a loving grandfather to his two granddaughters, Mame-Diarra and Marieme, and spent many summers picking raspberries, playing cards, and taking hikes in the park. His son-in-law, Fallou Ngom, also enjoyed talking about philosophy, science, history and politics with him and has fond memories of deep conversations about all aspects of life. His jovial wit and repetitive storytelling were loved by all.

He was preceded in death by both parents and is survived by his brother, Greg Sebrowsky.

If you would like to donate money in his memory, please consider giving to the youth hockey program in Whitefish.

## Clifford Lee Sedivy Jr., 80

*PA 6 3 Oct 2021*  
Clifford Lee Sedivy Jr., of Columbia Falls, passed peacefully on Sept. 25, 2021.

Clifford "Cliff" was born in Whitefish on Nov. 25, 1940, to Clifford Frank Sedivy Sr. and Ida Schweitzer Sedivy.

Cliff was raised on a farm up the North Fork with his parents until 1963 when he moved just down the road near the Aluminum Company for the remainder of his years. In 1963, Cliff married Jean Knapton at the St. Charles Catholic church in Columbia Falls. Together, they had three children, Scott, born in 1964; Mark, born in 1967; and Lisa, born in 1973. During that time, Cliff worked for 39 years at the



Plum Creek Lumber Company as a machine operator.

Fishing, hunting, garden-

ing and "tinkering" in the shop were all great joys of Cliff's. He spent many days on local rivers and reservoirs catching trout and even ventured to Mexico to chase giant bass. Cliff and Jean enjoyed boating at Hungry Horse Reservoir on weekends, too. He enjoyed riding his Honda 90 up the road to pick huckleberries at his "secret" spot and sprinkling them on his pancakes when he

returned. His most recent hobby was that of participating in and attending tractor shows. Cliff was often seen showing off his antiques and also has been in many Heritage Day parades.

Cliff had a deep faith and was frequently seen attending church service, as well as volunteering at the St. Charles Catholic Church in Columbia Falls.

Cliff is survived by his wife of 58 years, Jean Knapton Sedivy; his first son, Scott Sedivy; second son, Mark Sedivy; daughter, Lisa Sedivy Hoskins; brother, Frank Clifford Sedivy; grandsons, Zachary Sedivy, Damon Sedivy, Cameron Hoskins; granddaughters, Meredith

Hoskins, Madison Hoskins; chosen family and beloved friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

In lieu of flowers, we ask you to make a contribution to the North Valley Search and Rescue ([www.sar911.com](http://www.sar911.com)).

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 4, at St. Richard Catholic Church, followed by a graveside committal at St. Richard Catholic Cemetery and a luncheon immediately following at the church.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.



## Laura Becke Seelye, 64

Laura Lue Klein was born in Iowa City, Iowa, on Nov. 9, 1956, to Shirley Klein. Shirley passed when Laura was 6 and she was quickly welcomed into the open arms of her then aunt and uncle whom she always considered her parents. Laura grew up in Billings and, after a brief stay in Missoula and Colorado Springs, Colorado, she settled into a life in Seattle. Seattle always held a special place in her heart and many of her close friends still reside there. Seattle is also where she met her husband, Dave, and had her daughter, Ashley.

In 1992 the family decided that Montana would be the ideal place to raise their daughter; it



*PAG 11 July 2021*  
was close to family and the outdoors. Laura enjoyed camping, cooking and travel-

ing and ensured that she did those as much as possible in the years before her health began to suffer. Laura passed away on July 4, 2021.

Laura and her mother, Grace, owned a business in Columbia Falls in the '90s called "Gracie's Attic" and treated many local patrons to their baking skills. In more recent years she spent time visiting her favorite places from her years as a travel agent, frequenting the beaches of Mexico.

Though Laura had many things she enjoyed in life, there was nothing she loved more than her two grandsons, Klein and Hayes. Laura loved deeply and with her whole heart, holding nothing back, and her love for her grandkids knew no bounds.

Laura was preceded in death by her father Don Becke, brother Craig Becke, sister Robin Van Leuven, and birth mother Shirley Klein.

She is survived by her mother, Grace Becke, husband David Seelye, daughter Ashley Young, grandsons Klein Young and Hayes Young, and her sister Cheri MacRenato. Laura's absence will be felt in this community, those

lucky enough to know her knew an unconditional love and joy that can never be replaced. We will remember her always and though we mourn, we rejoice that she can dance in heaven without the burden of the broken body that held her back on earth.

The public is invited to celebrate Laura's life on Tuesday, July 13, at 11 a.m. at Fellowship Church, 1025 7th Ave W., Columbia Falls, MT 59912. There will be a potluck lunch to follow, so please join us in sharing food and memories as we remember the wonderful woman we've lost.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

## Theodore 'Ted' Seim, 81

*PAG 4 Apr 2021*  
Theodore "Ted" Seim passed away peacefully on April 2, 2021, in Kalispell, surrounded by his loving family.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Tela, and is survived by his family and friends.

Ted graduated from Michigan Tech. He and his wife were avid travelers and enjoyed the beauty of God's cre-



ations. After retiring from Aramco they moved to Coram in 2000. He

was a skilled baker and known around the world for his amazing cakes.

"Oh by the way!"

## Patricia Jean (Buck) Sevier, 91

*PAG 19 Sept 2021*  
Patty passed away Aug. 24, 2021.

She was born Dec. 11, 1929, in Kalispell to Lloyd and Katherine Buck. She grew up in the Flathead and spent summers at her grandparents' ranch in Creston, often floating down Blaine Creek in her grandmother's washtub.

Patty attended St. Matthew's grade school and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1947.

On April 4, 1948, she married Thomas Parker Sevier Sr. Together, they raised their five children



on 40 acres south of town. A tireless mother, Patty worked a full-time job, tended

her massive garden and raised chickens and turkeys. She was a lifelong devoted member of St. Matthew's Parish, giving of her time, talent and treasure. She also spent more than 60 years as a member of the Beta Sigma Phi sorority -

always helping with fundraising efforts for the community. Patty's lifelong desire to travel started in 1939 when she went to the New York World's Fair. She visited most of our 50 states as well as many countries abroad, including China, Japan, Germany, Mexico, France, Spain, Italy, Gibraltar and more.

her five children, Thomas Jr. (Sharon), David (Tami), Douglas (Melissa), Daniel (Michelle) and Kari; 15 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; brother, Steve (Rosie) Buck; sister, Judy Balas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will take place on Sept. 21 at St. Matthew's with rosary said at 11:20 a.m., followed by Mass at noon and burial directly after.

In lieu of flowers, she requested donations be made to St. Matthew's Catholic Church.

Patty is survived by



## Clinton Randall Shaddon, 59

Clinton Randall Shaddon, 59, of Marion, died at his home on Friday, Oct. 8, 2021.

He is survived by his wife Debra Shaddon, and his children Caleb Shaddon, Collin Shaddon, Cody Francis and Misty Felix.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Kenneth L. Sharpe, 63

Kenneth L. Sharpe, 63, died Dec. 5, 2021, at his home.

He is survived by his wife Judy Anne, and children Allison McCollum, Carolyn McLean and

Eric Sharpe.

No services are planned at this time.

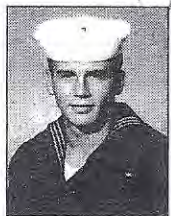
Austin Funeral & Cremation Services in Whitefish is caring for the family.

## Norman Wayne Shaw, 65

Norman Wayne Shaw, 65, passed away from natural causes Tuesday, June 22, 2021.

It is with heavy hearts his family announces his passing.

Norman Wayne was born May 15, 1956, in Seattle, Washington. He was the son of Norman W. and Vivian (Hill) Shaw. Norman spent some of his childhood in Oregon and then in Montana. He graduated from Polson High School in 1974 and proudly joined the United States Navy upon graduation. He completed basic training in San Diego and was then stationed at Davis-



Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona. He was assigned to the Military Aircraft Storage and Disposition Center. He was awarded

of the Month in February 1976. Norman was honorably discharged in 1978.

Norman's greatest accomplishments came in 1979 when his son Gareth Wayne Shaw was born and then in 1982 his daughter Alysia Kay

(Shaw) Enseleit was born. His kids were his reason for his hard work at Plum Creek Timber Co. (Weyerhaeuser) for 38 years. Norman was well known for his love of his kids and grandkids, his hard work ethic, practical jokes, and stubbornness, his need to always be "right" (don't argue with him because you wouldn't win), his deep love for the Miami Dolphins, movies, music, playing pool, and the family tradition of huckleberry picking. He was extremely proud of his five grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Vivian Faye Shaw.

Norman is survived by his children: Gareth Shaw and Alysia (Thomas) Enseleit; grandchildren: Indica and Evander Shaw; Carter, Caiden, and Caillee Enseleit. He is also survived by his beloved father Norman Shaw, sister Wanda (John) Wheeler, brother Dale Shaw, sister Valerie (Don) Bell, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins that he loved dearly.

Please keep his immediate and extended family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

There will be a memorial to celebrate Norman's life at a later date.

## James 'Jim' Shay, 84

James "Jim" Shay passed away on Oct. 11, 2021.

He was born March 26, 1937, in Iona, Michigan, to Allen "Bing" and Lillian Shay.

He lived most of his life in Trego and Eureka.

Jim served in the Army from 1960 to 1962. He worked for the Forest Service out of Murphy Lake until he retired in 1992. Then took a part-time job at NAPA in Eureka.

He always considered himself a farmer and loved his gardens, cows, orchard and hay/grain fields. John Deere tractors were a passion for him.

He is survived by his daughters Monica "Niki" (Dave) LeSoine, and Florence and Danita "Dede" Shay, of Trego, grandsons, Kevyn Fitzpatrick, of Eureka,



Cahill LeSoine of Helena, and Rees LeSoine of Missoula, brother Pete Shay (Jo), and sisters Ann Palmer of Eureka, and Sue Lee of

Kalispell, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and sister Sandra Shay Pluid.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Funeral services and reception are being held Oct. 18 at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church in Eureka.