

Diann M. Baier

Diann M. Baier of Kalispell passed away Feb. 8, 2022.



She was born to Truman and Marjorie (Castello) Twet in Billings and was the fourth of seven children. The three sisters all had names starting with the letter D (Darlene, Donna, Diann) because their dad wanted a girl band named the 3D's. Diann attended Billings schools and joined the Army at age 17.

Diann is survived by her companion of 20 years, Paul Martin; her siblings, Janice (Mike) of Roundup, Bill (Kathy) of Billings, and Louise Underwood of Billings; her children, Terri (Luko) Burton of Laurel, David (Julvie) Baier of Billings, Daniel (Amy) Baier of Missoula, Jason (Katie) Baier of Billings and Pamela Martin of Joshua, Texas. She is also survived by 11 1/2 grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by both her parents, and her siblings Darlene, Donna and Bob.

Diann has been a caregiver her entire life. She raised three hellions and an angel by herself and raised them to be as tough and life loving as she was. Her father had instilled the love of fishing in her and she passed this on to her children through fishing and camping adventures every weekend. Diann loved animals. Many stories are told of her rescuing owls, attempting to save injured squirrels, and even cleaning up poor dead skunks off the road. There were many pets in her life also, including Shelby and Ellie.

Diann loved the outdoors in every aspect. She was an avid gardener who enjoyed sharing her knowledge and skills with her family. Everyone benefited from her produce, but not everyone was successful implementing her skills. She also enjoyed the outdoors while being a successful bowhunter. She and Paul founded Montana Bowhunters Education Foundation where they worked to encourage families to get out and enjoy bow hunting. They held regular 3D shoots on their prop-

erty and were planning to open a Bow Hunting Museum in the future. During the shoots Diann sometimes used illuminocs to help retrieve straying arrows.

Diann was an extraordinarily passionate person. She was passionate in her feelings for her family, her love of animals and the outdoors, her love of babies, and her amazing talent as a quilter. She touched the lives of everyone she met and had a way of accepting others into her family as if they were her own. Her grandchildren say she was a nice grandma. She made each of them a quilt and gave each of them a bow on their eighth birthday, hoping to instill the love of bowhunting in the next generation.

To say that Diann will be missed is a huge understatement. As her family gathered, the stories and laughter abounded. Everyone has memories and hilarious moments that will stay with them. Everyone also has plans they had made with her that are sadly left undone; however, the strength and resiliency she passed on will continue to drive them towards their plans for the future.

A celebration of life will be planned for April 9 at the Montana Bowhunters Education Foundation property. All are welcome to come share in Diann's passion, share stories, memories, laughs and tears.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the American Diabetes Association or MBEF in Diann's name.

Goodbye for now Mom, we love you.

Ruth Elaine (Judd) Baer, 95

April 6, 1927, to May 12, 2022, is just over 95 years; Ruth Elaine (Judd) Baer fully lived every minute of that long life.

Ruth's family moved frequently. Her father worked border patrol, including undercover work ferreting out bad guys. Ruth had two older sisters, Lois and Florence, who spoiled their baby sister. When Ruth turned 13, her father died of appendicitis.

A few years later her mother remarried. The family traveled to the World War II busy Portland shipyards, where Ruth, now a junior in high school, welded steel onto battleships — until a freak intestinal growth nearly killed her. A world class surgeon operated on her.

At one point Ruth was legally dead, but the doctor kept working, refusing to give up on the young teenage girl. Ruth's mother, Laura (Thornton) (Judd) Salhus said, "Don't make it so she can't have children. She would kill herself if she can't have children." Ruth's four children are proof the surgeon heeded her mother's plea.

Ruth's senior year, her family moved to Lewiston, Idaho, where Winston K. Baer decided she was "The One." Four months after high school graduation, they married. Winston promised Ruth an exciting life, and he succeeded. They never stopped dreaming; never stopped learning and never lost faith in each other or God.

Their four children were born in different states. Frances Elaine, 1948, Idaho; Larry Michael, 1951, Washington; Winstenia Kay, 1953, Montana; and Winston Keith the II, 1962, Ohio. They had 15 grandchildren, many great-grandchildren and several great-great-grandchildren, plus dozens of nieces and nephews.

In 1992, Ruth and Winston retired to Polson. They helped found Polson Community Church. Ruth eagerly volunteered at The Country Store and was active in Kiwanis. Her fellow church members, store workers and "Kiwanians" frequently mention her big smile. Ruth brought hap-

piness to every place she lived. Few knew her father died so young, her sister Florence



died in her early 20s, or that Ruth's mother died just two years after Florence. Ruth chose faith. Her children and husband gave her purpose. Life itself inspired her great smile.

Ten years and one month after the death of her husband, Ruth joined Winston in life's final great journey. Her smile is not gone. All who knew her, carry her smile in their hearts.

Messages of condolence

es may be shared with the family online at www.lakefuneralhomeandcremation.com.

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

Nerma D. Barbo, 88

Nerma D. Barbo was born at the Talbot Mansion in Columbia Falls to Arvilla and Charles (Elwin) Reed on Aug. 27, 1933, where they were employed as caretakers. She joined her parents and other family members in heaven on June 6, 2022.

With the exception of a few years during



scrapbooks chronicling the numerous family gatherings over several decades, Nerma and husband John immensely enjoyed the many summer camping excursions

young adulthood and later in life. Nerma lived her entire life in Coram, Martin City and Columbia Falls. She had many friends and acquaintances in each community.

Nerma was a longtime member of Eastern Star and was involved with mentoring and advising Rainbow Girls for several years. She also volunteered with organizing and promoting Heritage Days during the 1980s and '90s.

Family was very important to her. Throughout her childhood and adulthood she often visited the numerous aunts, uncles and cousins of the extended families of her parents. She devoted countless hours compiling extensive photo albums and

at Koocanusa Reservoir with lifelong friends. To everyone's delight, a great number of tall tales, reminiscing about the "good old days" and stories about the fish that got away were circulated numerous times around the campfire.

Nerma was preceded in death by her husband John, daughter Arles (Chris) Earwood, and parents Arvilla and Charles (Elwin) Reed.

She is survived by her son John Barbo (Jackie), daughter Deana Salfen, and numerous grand- and great-grandchildren.

Heartfelt gratitude to the staff of Beehive Homes of Columbia Falls and Enhabit Hospice for the care and compassion Nerma received during her residency.

14 Dec 2022- online Hungry Horse News- Barnes, Doug

My friends Doug and Whiskey.

Doug Barnes and his well-known dirt-stained yellow lab named Whiskey, were some of the most iconic characters on the North Fork. Doug constantly walked along the North Fork with Whiskey trailing by every summer, ignoring oncoming traffic while his dog happily approached each car driving by to the point where drivers were forced to stop.

I had the luxury of spending time with the two. Whether it be occasional visits, driving them to town, or doing some odd jobs for them.

Doug loved to tell me stories about his past jobs, projects to keep the North Fork less industrialized, and his adventurous trips to Belize.

What I remember most fondly of the two, were Doug and Whiskey's relationship. I would drive them to town, and Whiskey would begin licking my face intensely, and all I would hear Doug scream was "NOOO!!!!" Loud enough for all the critters outside to hear. Which made it so fun, was after Whiskey got bored licking my face, Doug would immediately tell me, with a soft and blissful voice "aren't dogs just magical creatures."

That was Doug. On the outside, stern and eccentric, but when you got to know him he was kindhearted, emotional, philosophic, and a loving man. And Whiskey was a reflection of his true internal values. He loved his dog Whiskey, more than anything, and it showed.

Doug and Whiskey passed away together recently in a house fire on the North Fork. Although I believe many did not know Doug or Whiskey all too well, I feel the stories I had with them should properly reflect who they were. A kind-hearted, appreciative, and selfless team. They will be missed more than they know.

31 Jul 2022 pA8- Daily Inter Lake- Barr, John Robert

John Robert Barr, 75

On July 10, 2022, John Robert Barr passed away peacefully after a long battle with cancer.

He was born on May 8, 1947, in Great Falls to Philip and Catherine Barr, the third of four children. He grew up in Stanford and Lewistown and received his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering from Montana State University.

In 1967, John married Mary Ellen Harmon and they had one son, David. They were blessed with 55 years of marriage.

John's career began in Los Angeles working for Hughes Aircraft as an engineer. One project he enjoyed involved the creation of integrated circuit designs for the passenger entertainment system on the new DC-10. During his period, John earned his Ph.D. degree in computer science from UCLA as a Hughes graduate fellow. In 1978, his career changed directions as he became a professor with the newly formed Department of Computer Science at the University of Montana. His career took another turn in 1984 when he started working with a start-up company of Motorola called Computer X, Inc., located in Schaumburg, Illinois. A few years later, he



tech to home tech." He taught himself wood-working and built cabinets and furniture for their home. His favorite hobby was restoring antique cars and creating a network of car buddies who could enjoy exchanging advice and stories. He served on the Model T Ford Club International board and co-chaired the Model T Ford Club International Tour held in our valley in 2017, and he was treasurer for the Flathead Pioneer Automobile Club. As a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Whitefish, John served on the session as a technology advisor.

A rewarding benefit to living in the Flathead Valley was the opportunity to have time with his son's family. He treasured family dinners and hikes together in Glacier Park. He was there for Glacier High School band concerts directed by his son, and for Flathead High School choir concerts accompanied by his daughter-in-law on piano. He was there to admire the artwork of his granddaughter and to applaud

joined Motorola Corp. as a fellow of the technical staff working on research and development, and served on and led several professional boards, including Bluetooth SIG, the standards board for IEEE Communications Society, and the World Wide Web Consortium. As director of Standards Realization, he worked within these organizations that allowed companies to work together on new technology and introduce new products and services. During this time, he also served on the MSU College of Engineering Advisory Council.

In 2010, John and Mary Ellen moved back home to Montana for their retirement years. John's focus changed from "high

his grandson as U of M jazz concerts. Of course, his shop was always open, and he was the one they came to for advice when their cars needed repairs!

John is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen, his son David, and wife Ginny Reese, and his two grandchildren, Nicholas, and Emily Barr.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Philip and William, and his sister Catherine.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Flathead Lake Band Camp or Glacier Presbyterian Camp.

A memorial service will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Whitefish on Aug. 25 at 11 a.m.

17 Jul 2022 pA5- Daily Inter Lake- Barranger, Tom

Tom Barranger, 79

Tom Barranger, 79, passed away May 22, 2022, surrounded by his son, daughter and wife of 50 years.



Tom was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on June 1, 1942 to Thomas L. Barranger II and Virginia (Biser) Barranger. He moved to Roundup, Montana, at the age of 15, when his father was appointed as priest of the Episcopal church. His senior year of high school, his family moved to Whitefish where his father became the priest of All Saints' Episcopal Church.

Tom attended high school in Roundup from 1958 to 1959 and graduated from Whitefish High School in 1960. He went to Montana State University before attending X-ray



and lab school in Minneapolis. He worked at the hospital in Red Lodge but, when Tom's father died in 1962, Tom returned to Whitefish to take care of his mom and three siblings and began working for Burlington Northern Railroad. He worked there until his retirement in 2002. Tom also served in the National Guard from 1969 to 1983.

Tom met and married the love of his life, Gail DeGoller, in 1971. His daughter, Brynn, was

born in 1979 and his son, Kyle, in 1981. He spent countless hours shooting baskets, playing catch and sitting in the stands watching his kids play sports. Tom enjoyed hiking and fly fishing with friends and family. His most remembered and regaled hikes were in the Jewel Basin. Tom was a lifelong baseball fan and he passed down his love of the sport to his kids. Some of his family's favorite memories are vacations to watch baseball. In the past two years he traveled to Denver with Kyle's family and to Arizona with Brynn's family to enjoy baseball games. He knew endless baseball trivia, especially about his beloved Baltimore Orioles. Tom enjoyed traveling. He

especially liked warm weather and beaches and traveled to Hawaii, the Bahamas and Mexico.

Tom's favorite place was his home on Flathead Lake. He took pride in caring for the property and always had a project going on. He also enjoyed watching the birds at the birdfeeders, deer walking on the lawn and just taking in the view. Tom was not one to just sit and relax, until it was 4 p.m. At 4:00, he would sit in his chair at the shore and crack open an IPA. He would then grab his fishing pole and head to the end of the dock.

Although Tom was a quiet, humble observer, he never met a stranger. He would talk to people in line at the grocery store, Uber drivers, store

clerks and he never forgot a person's story. He would help anyone in need, and even at his sickest was worrying about taking care of others.

Tom's greatest joys in life were his two grandsons, Bronson (13) and Brooks (7 months). He never missed one of Bronson's plays, concerts or sporting events and he was especially happy that Bronson loved the lake so much. Tom was overjoyed when Brooks was born in November, 2021. His smile and giggles brought happiness to Tom's last days.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Gail Barranger, daughter, Brynn Willcut (Johnny), son, Kyle Barranger (Regan), grand-

sons, Bronson Thomas Willcut and Brooks Thomas Barranger; brothers, Mark Barranger and Jay Barranger (Heather); and sister, Lois Andersen; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

A celebration of Tom's life will be held on July 22 at 11 a.m. at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 2948 Conn Road, Columbia Falls, MT. Following the celebration there will be a luncheon in the reception hall of the church. Everyone is encouraged to wear black and orange, in honor of Tom's love for the Baltimore Orioles.

To honor Tom's kind and caring spirit, please show an act of kindness towards a neighbor.

23 Jun 2022 pA5- Daily Inter Lake- Barrier, William Arthur (Bill)

William 'Bill' Arthur Barrier, 80

Mild Bill Barrier passed away on June 5, 2022, in Spokane, at the age of 80. The cause of death was congestive sawdust in the lungs.



Bill was born March 21, 1942, in Wallace, Idaho, to J. Marvin Barrier and Helen L. Barrier; he joined his sister Janice, Brother Jim, and later sister Brenda. They were raised in North Idaho, Spokane and Kalispell.

Wild Bill was an alpine ski racer, water-skiier, trombone and bugle player, ski coach and instructor, music teacher, ski area manager and owner (as Marshal Bill), insurance agent, private pilot and lastly, a woodworker where he changed his name to Mild Bill.

Alpine skiing was a huge part of Bill's life. In 1962 he was the National Slalom champion and was placed on the U.S. Ski Team Training Squad. He tried out for the 1964 Olympic Team but had too many crashes in 1962-'63 with

a crash so spectacular it made the Associated Press. Bill raced for four years with Montana State College and coached for a total of 15 years including two winters with the U.S. Ski Team. Later in life, he taught skiing and trained ski instructors at Mount Spokane, then enjoyed speeding past the Prime Timers at Lookout Pass.

His most enjoyable and important times were spent with family, especially his favorite granddaughters and our big Montana gatherings playing the bugle and being up-staged several times.

He is survived by sisters Janice Erickson and Brenda Probert, daughter Karen Barrier, son-in-law Joe Flynn, his favorite granddaughters Lucille and Farron, and many cherished nieces and nephews.

11 Sep 2022 pA7- Daily Inter Lake- Bartleson, Rod

Rod Bartleson, 83

Rod Bartleson, of Cut Bank, 83, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022.

He is survived by his longtime companion, Jeannie Schroedel; son, Neal Bartleson (April); daughter, Colleen Billman (Dennis); his brother, Warner Bartleson; and grandchildren, Austin Bartleson, Madeline Bartleson, Ashley Billman and Whitney Billman.

Rod was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Mardean Bartleson; his eldest son, Mark



Bartleson; and his brother, Vance Bartleson. Rod along with his wife, Mardean,

successfully owned and operated Browning Lumber and Hardware in Browning for 39 years. In true Montana fashion, Rod will be remembered for his love of the outdoors, horses, hunting and fishing. Music and his volunteer work with

Immanuel Lutheran Communities were also his passion.

Services will be held Tuesday, Sept. 13, at Prairie Peace Lutheran Church in Cut Bank. Viewing will begin at noon, service at 2 p.m., and graveside to follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to the Glacier County Historical Society or Prairie Peace Lutheran Church.

Candolences can be made to www.asperfh.com.

Ann Catherine Bassett, 85

Ann Catherine Bassett died at 85, peacefully in her home in Kalispell, with her husband, Dick, by her side after a long battle with Parkinson's disease on the morning of March 9, 2022.

Ann was born on Sept. 28, 1936, in Erie, Pennsylvania, to Lillian and James Fitzpatrick. Ann spent her early years in the Northeast, making countless memories with her eight brothers and sisters; forming bonds that would last for the rest of their lives. She married Bob Cox and welcomed two sons, Alan and Dan. In 1964, she married Richard "Dick" Bassett and they welcomed a daughter, Julie.

Ann and Dick lived all over the West coast, from



Washington, a small town nestled in the foothills of the Cascade mountains.

As a result of her abundant love of travel, Ann opened Enumclaw Travel with her friend, and partner, Judy, in 1981. She and Judy went on countless trips over their years as business partners, spanning the globe from Korea to Ireland.

Ann was a dedicated Navy wife, supporting her husband through years of service until his retire-

ment in 2001. California to Washington to Alaska, before settling in Enumclaw,

ment in 2001.

Ann and Dick spent the next 42 years in Enumclaw, raising their daughter and watching their daughter marry and raise her children. Over the years Ann made frequent trips to see her sons, grandchildren, siblings, nieces and nephews, maintaining deep and lasting relationships with them all.

In 2013, Ann and Dick followed their daughter to Northwest Montana where she spent the remainder of her years.

Ann was loved by all who met her and made lasting impacts on all her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ann was preceded in death by her parents, Lillian and James; and

her siblings, Betts, Mary Lou, Patricia, Tom, Ed, Jim, Dick and Bill.

She is survived by her husband, Dick; her children, Alan Cox, Dan Cox, his wife Marlinda, Julie Early and her husband Rick; and her grandchildren, Ricky, Melissa, Michelle, Julia, Samantha and James; and great-grandchildren, Scott, Sidney, Shelby, William, Caleb, Joshua and Henry.

A service celebrating her life will be at 11 a.m. on Monday, March 21, at First Presbyterian Church in Kalispell.

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

F. Roy Bauer, 91

F. Roy Bauer, 91 years of age, peacefully passed away Jan. 16, 2022, at his home in Hurricane, Utah, with his loving wife Flossie Bauer by his side, whom he was married to for 17 years.



Road that is still used today. Roy sold cookware for a time, worked for

Roy was a loving husband, father, grandfather and brother.

Schillinger Construction as a crusher, mechanic and welder. Finally he finished his career working with his son running heavy equipment. Right up to the age of 86 he renewed his CDL — just in case he may need to haul a load of rock — hard working 'til the bitter end.

He was preceded in death by his parents John Bauer and Patsy Medearis, and brother Carl. He was also preceded in death by his late wife Donna Bauer, whom he was married to for 54 years and is survived by their five children, Marie Stover, Dan Bauer, Howard Bauer, Karen Hulford and Debi Jones. He is also survived by his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren along with his sister Barbara Anderson and brother Robert Bauer.

Roy was the patriarch of a large family whom he loved very much.

Roy was born in May 1930 in Kalispell. He was raised and lived most of his life here in the Flathead Valley. He lived three years in Bend, Oregon. Finally he lived out his days in Hurricane, where he made some great memories with his wife Flossie and friends exploring the landscape on the back of his four-wheeler.

He loved spending time with his family while hunting and camping up the South Fork. He also enjoyed spending his time in the skies — he owned many airplanes and piloted many flights.

Roy lived a full and happy life. He was a kind and gentle man with an extreme hard working ethic that he made certain to instill in his children. Roy spent over 50 years doing what he loved — logging in the woods and even running his own saw mill for a time. Many summers were spent up the North Fork where he and his brother Carl cut in the Teepee Creek

Lastly, but most certainly not least, was his deep love and respect for his God Jehovah. Roy counted it a privilege to be one of Jehovah's Witnesses for 65 years.

He valued the Bible and lived his life accordingly. Roy also kept very busy in sharing the Bible's hope of the future with others. He had confidence in this hope that very soon, Jehovah's will would be done here on earth and he would restore the earth to a paradise where man could live on it forever in perfect health, peace and happiness (Psalms 37:10,11,29). "Just around the corner" we look forward to welcoming our dear friend back in the new world. (Acts 24:15)

3 Aug 2022- online Hungry Horse News- Bauer, Tim Wayne

Tim Wayne Bauer entered into rest on Dec. 15, 2020 at his home in Columbia Falls where has had resided since 2002.

Tim was born in Santa Cruz, California on Aug. 6, 1967. He moved with his parents and siblings to Montana when he was 5 years old. Tim graduated from Stevensville High School in 1985. Tim was a Master Carpenter. He could build anything!

He loved teaching anyone that wanted to learn the trade. He built many homes and commercial buildings in the Flathead along with Missoula and Ravalli counties.

Tim is survived by his three beautiful daughters, Sierra Hankinson (Tyler), Casey Bauer (Mike) and Sophie Bauer; his parents Karen Moore (Buck) and Tom Bauer (Connie); Tim's brother Bob Bauer (Martha) and sister Debbie Johnson (Frank); grandson Knox Hankinson; nephews Trevor Johnson and Mathew Bauer and niece Taylor Johnson; grandmother Mabel Baker; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Tim is preceded in death by his grandfathers Jay Baker and Jerry Bauer; grandmother Wanda Thomas and cousin Joe McGregor.

Daniel 'Danny' Herbert Baxter, 80

It is with extreme sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved Daniel "Danny" Herbert Baxter on Jan. 10, 2022.

Dan was born in Livingston on July 10, 1941. At a very young age he moved with his family to Hot Springs where he was raised on the family farm and attended elementary and high school. Dan was very interested in photography in high school and built his own darkroom to develop pictures at home. Dan was also proud to be one of the founding members of the National Honor Society at Hot Springs High School.

After graduating from high school in 1959, he joined the U.S. Navy and served on the USS George K Mackenzie (DD-836), a destroyer, home port of Yokosuka, Japan. Dan later served on the USS Sylvania (AFS-2), a combat stores ship, home port of Norfolk, Virginia. Dan was trained to be a fire control technician and he

maintained, aimed, and fired the 5-inch 38 caliber guns onboard ship. After six years of active duty in the Navy, Dan was honorably discharged and joined the Navy Reserves, from which he later retired.

After military service Dan worked as an electronic technician for several companies at various locations. He was married to Roberta Brennan in New York in 1966 and they traveled back to Montana and on to Sunnyvale, California, for a short period of time before returning to Middle Island, New York. In 1976 they moved to Polson with their three children and Dan continued electronic technician work for several years. In 1983 Dan moved to Kalispell where he was employed with Semi-tool and lived alone



for the next 30 years. Dan loved gardening and canning. He was especially proud of his pickled string beans.

In 2011 Dan rekindled a childhood romance with Ruth Patton Campbell and she would become the love of his life as they were married in January 2012 and they resided in Stevensville.

Dan was preceded in death by his parents Marie and Ira Baxter, Hot Springs; baby brother Frank Baxter, Hot Springs; and sister Barbara Baxter Fay, Polson.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Baxter, Stevensville; his wonderful Aunt Lila Baxter, Simms; brothers Samuel Baxter, Spokane Valley, Washington, and George Baxter (Maggie), Liberty, New York; daughters Kathryn Chalfin, Tampa, Florida, and Barbara Baxter, Corvallis, Oregon; and son Daniel Baxter (Gyna) and grandson Noah, Albany, Oregon;

and several nieces and nephews and cousins.

Dementia took its toll on Dan and in July 2019 he was moved to Pine Ridge Alzheimer's Special Care Center in Spokane Valley to get the excellent care that he needed. He was still mobile and in reasonably good health until his final days. Dan always had a witty sense of humor and teased with a twinkle in his eye. He enjoyed playing practical jokes and good, clean fun. Dan earned the nickname of Doughboy in a brotherly competition. He also earned a reputation at Pine Ridge for stealing apples and bacon from the nurse and whistling in the halls. Dan was a great husband, brother, father, uncle and friend and a real pleasure to all. He will be dearly missed. You made us proud, Danny Boy, we love you. Condolences and memories may be shared with the family at www.white-sittfuneralhome.com.

Richard 'Rick' Bean, 73

Richard "Rick" Bean, 73, of Kalispell, passed away May 17, 2022, at his home surrounded by his family.



He attended Montana State University and received a Bachelor of Science degree. He was a member of the Bobcat Football and Track and Field Clubs. "Go Blue."

Rick taught school for 30-plus years. Sports and coaching were his passion. He enjoyed helping athletes achieve their sports and life goals. At various times throughout his career, he ran the gauntlet of coaching positions from Little League baseball in Helena, basketball in Ryegate, Lakeside, Bigfork, Cayuse Prairie and Eureka, football and track in Eureka and, after his retirement, he volunteered with the track program in Columbia Falls. Many students past and present

member of the Montana Officials Association, officiating at many venues around the valley and the state. He made many lasting friendships during this time.

Rick was kindhearted and generous, always willing to help whomever needed it. He was the president of the Eureka Lion's Booster Club for many years, working tirelessly to raise money to help the various sports and other school programs. For many Lincoln County Fairs, he would be found in the Booster Club food booth flipping pancakes and working in the concession stands at various sports events. He was recently honored with the naming of the Rick Bean Shot and Discus Field in Eureka.

He enjoyed his family, wife and two sons and, most importantly, his two granddaughters.

A memorial service will be held at Darlington Funeral Home, Kalispell, Montana on May 26, at

have thanked him for the help and guidance he provided to make them a better athlete and a better person. Rick was a

1 p.m. Inurnment and graveside services will be in Sunset Memorial Gardens in Billings, to be determined later.

Ray Leonard Bear, 83

Ray Leonard Bear, 83, passed away peacefully with family in attendance on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021, at Logan Health from Covid-19.

Ray was born on April 22, 1938, in Kalispell to Raymond Bear and Lila Johnson. He graduated from Flathead County High School in 1956 and then served in the National Guard for 12 years. He worked for Burlington Northern Railroad as a brakeman and conductor for 32 years until his retirement in 2003. He often said that retirement was the life he always wanted.

He married Joyce Vorhies on June 13, 1959. They were later divorced.



Ray loved good food and big family get-togethers. Holidays were a particular favorite of his, when family and friends would gather, and Bette would prepare a feast. He had a deep love of cars, when driving down the road he would know the make, model and year of every classic

He married Bette Brown on Jan. 9, 1963, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. He and Bette were happily married for almost 55 years.

car you came across. He also loved his own cars and really anything on wheels with a motor. Ray was a true Montanan. He loved hunting, camping, and exploring the beautiful Montana scenery. He and Bette often enjoyed just driving around the back roads of western Montana, choosing a new route every trip. He and Bette also shared a love of the Oregon coast and made an annual trip in the camper, often with one of their grandchildren in tow.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents, his sister Hazel Marie Dawdy, and his wife Bette Bear.

Ray is survived by his sister Shirley Hughes,

his children Kelly and Mike Cannon, Diana and Kelly McIntyre, Sheryl and Russ Walter, David and Latasha Bear. He is survived by 14 grandchildren, many great-grandchildren, and other family members and friends.

Ray's memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 28, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. He will be buried at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, June 1.

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

Joan 'Jo' Lucille Soller Beck, 91

On Thursday afternoon, April 14, 2022, Joan "Jo" Lucille Soller Beck, loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother, passed away in the presence of her loving family at the age of 91.

Jo was born in Kearney, Nebraska, on June 6, 1930, to Elmer and Doris Soller. Her early years were spent at the family farm in Nebraska. Like many farmers during the Great Depression, her family moved west looking for better opportunities and eventually settled in Northern California for several years, where Jo spent her later childhood and teenage years. Upon graduating high school she rented a small apartment in San Francisco with a few other girls and began her career working as a receptionist at an insurance agency. True to her selfless nature, she followed her family to Montana to help care for her father after an injury while working at the Hungry Horse Dam.

Montana soon became Jo's permanent home when she met and fell in love with Bob Beck from Kalispell. Bob would later recall how Jo, wearing a green suit that matched her eyes, immediately captivated him upon meeting her for the first time at a card game. They married and eventually welcomed their children, Roger, Bobby, Gordon and Lorraine. And in 1956 the family made Columbia Falls their permanent home.

Jo embraced life in the Flathead; she and Bob enjoyed weekend drives around the Flathead, picking berries and picnicking along the way. An old school bus converted into a camper was the vessel and curator of the family's adventures for nearly three decades and is the subject of many of the family's fond memories. Bob and Jo



instilled the love of the outdoors to their children and raised the family on hunting, fishing and

camping in the wilds of Northwest Montana, with huckleberry pancakes and cut-throat trout the early morning fare at every beloved campsite.

While living a full and busy life as a wife and mother, Jo also managed to distinguish herself through a 25-year career as deputy of the Platt Department at the Flathead County Courthouse. She greatly enjoyed the daily commute to Kalispell in her red, '68 Mustang, working full time, and then returning home to cook, clean and care for her loved ones.

Jo was also an able and avid golfer and boasted a hole-in-one shot in her 85th year. A serious bridge player, she was known as a card shark at home. Never one to turn down the opportunity to demolish her opponents, she was highly competitive, sassy, and never missed a beat when it came to her games. Jo loved a good day at the golf course, followed by a home cooked meal around her kitchen table or warm campfire, and to end the night at the card table.

Jo was a woman of strong opinions but had a quiet voice about them. She was full of grace, kindness, glamour and bravery; also, funny yet direct. She was loyal and our best friend; always in our corner. Jo never gossiped or was unkind. She was truly the soul we all aspire to be. She was a woman of few words but every one of them held wisdom and great value; we listened and held them close to our hearts. Jo was a remarkable individual; she was not just a woman's woman but was esteemed by all.

She held her head high, never complained and maintained an optimistic outlook throughout life's obstacles. She enjoyed every moment, each day and every person she knew and loved. As a mother to four, grandmother to seven, and great-grandmother several times over she had a way that made her loved ones feel so special and unique; her relationships with each will be remembered and cherished. She was so much more than the family's matriarch; always constant, reliable and stable — she was the anchor. And her legacy of love will continue to be the family's anchor.

Jo was a woman of faith in God and strong relationships. She emulated the values of her faith in how she treated others. Her church family and friends at United Methodist Church were lifelong and devoted. She loved you all.

After bravely fighting a third bout of cancer, Jo made the decision to move on to her heavenly home, joining her husband, Bob and son, Bobby. We will forever be amazed at her courage and determination and inspired by her essence. Jo would soon have been 92 years young; she tried so hard to make it to that special day. We will forever miss her. Her passing means the end of an age for her family and has left the family with heavy hearts. However, she's gone home to be with her Lord and her family. There won't be a day that goes by that we don't think of her. But the sun will always set on Hungry Horse Reservoir and we will meet her there someday soon.

There will be a service for Joan on Thursday, April 28, at 11 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Columbia Falls. A viewing precedes the service from 10 to 11 a.m. Private burial services take place later.

V



It is with so much sadness we lost our Beloved Mom. Doris Ann Becker, 78, passed away May 16, 2022. Doris was born July 27, 1943 in Havre, MT to Raymond Wesley and Eva Elizabeth Ellis. It was there that she met the Love of her Life, Ronald Arthur Becker during his time in the Air Force.

Doris and Ronald were Married June 18, 1960. Because of their Love of Glacier Park, they moved to Columbia Falls in 1967.

Our Mom Loved to tell the Stories of Jesus, creating several Bible Study groups. Doris received her Degree at IVCC in 1976. She worked at Kalispell Regional Hospital as PRX Operator. Doris Loved Traveling, Studying

History, Singing, Writing Poetry, Collecting Dolls and Christmas! Our Mom Loved her Family, her Home and her pets Melo and Rose. Mom is Forever in our Hearts. She is Deeply Missed.

Doris is preceded in death by her Husband Ronald A. Becker, her Daughter Renee Marie McCune, her Parents Raymond and Eva Ellis and her Brother Earl Ellis.

Doris is survived by her Children, Rhonda (Terry) Fields, Ray (Geneva) Becker, Rusty (Kelly) Becker and Ronald (Cheryl) Becker. Grandchildren: Travis, Terra Fields, Tavia LaBerge, Casey, Christopher and Jace Becker, Ryan McCune, Garrett, Jerry and Mari Becker, Zach Becker. Beginning with Bradley and Brooklynde, "Grams" had several Great-Grand-Children. Her Sister Rayella Boucher, Brother Ron Ellis and Sister Dorothy Cochran.

We Love You Mom. You are Dearly Missed.

A graveside service will be held 1 p.m., Monday, June 6th at Woodlawn Cemetery. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for Doris' family.

Wilma Jean Beckman, 85

Wilma Jean Beckman, 85, was born on March 16, 1937, to Esther and Clarence Pope in Terry, Montana. The second daughter of three, they lived a happy childhood in a small town until the family moved to Miles City.

On June 6, 1958, Wilma married Robert "Bob" Beckman and lived in various places with his work for the Soil Conservation Service. Their favorite place to live was Swaziland, Africa. They went there twice for the State Department, and they loved it. It afforded them the opportunity to travel all over Europe as well as South America. From Africa, she collected copper artwork and plates, even bringing them back for family.

The highlight of their lives was the birth of their only child, Eric. Eric was the light of their lives, and very doted on, and they were a happy family together.

In 2009 while in Arizona, Bob passed away and Wilma returned to Bozeman to live full time with her son; sadly Eric became very ill and passed away in 2011. Wilma remained there for a time and made the decision to move to Kalispell to be near remaining family. She bought a townhouse and proceeded to make a life for herself here. Her favorite color was pink; we could always count on her pink nails. She enjoyed cruises she took with family and friends. She enjoyed playing cards, so much

so that she played six days a week with all her newfound friends. Wilma joined Central Christian Church where she made even more friends and a sense of community with them. She also belonged to the Kalispell Senior Center where a lot of card playing went on. She embraced her new life alone and was active right up to the moment she became ill.

Wilma was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Bob, son Eric, and her sister Gloria Miller.

She is survived by her sister Barbara Armstrong, and nieces and nephews as follows: Jami Clark, Janna Weldele, Marri Clark, Julia Webster, Ronda Reed, Brenda Harper, Donald Rose, Kevin Miller and Keith

Miller. Also surviving her are several great-nieces and -nephews as well as great-great-nieces and -nephews.

A special thanks to her nieces Brianne Steele and Amber Wynn who so lovingly cared for her in her final days. She left surrounded by them in the early morning of May 27, 2022. She has many waiting for her in heaven, and here she will be greatly missed.

A celebration of life will be held Friday, June 3, at 11 a.m. at the Central Christian Church.

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

Lauren Dawn Behm, 58

Lauren Dawn Behm, 58, of Temple, Texas, passed away peacefully on Sunday, Sept. 25, 2022, after a lengthy battle with cancer.

Laurie's strong faith, positive outlook, generous spirit, and kind heart left a lasting impression with whom ever she met. She went out of her way to help anyone in need and had a heart for the hurting. Laurie was not able to have her own children; she spent every ounce of love that she had on her numerous nieces, nephews and her beloved cats.

Laurie was prede-



ceased by her grandparents, Wiferd and Elsine Pedersen, and Elmer and Dorothy Colby; and her mother, Melba Pedersen. Laurie is survived by her father Curtis Pedersen, husband Michael Lopez, sisters Pati (Mike), Leslie, and Layna (John), and brothers Danny (Angie) and Mike.

We invite you to celebrate Laurie's memory in your own special way.

Sylvester Martin 'Shorty' Bekier, 82

Sylvester "Shorty" Bekier, 82, passed away on Jan. 27, 2022, in Columbia Falls at home.

Shorty was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, on July 8, 1939.

He is survived by his wife, Linda; sons, Patrick and Martin and his wife Sarah; six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren who loved him dearly and will miss him a lot.

Shorty also had an abundance of good



friends and acquaintances over the years. Also surviving are many family members who live out of state.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of Shorty's life will take place at a later date.

Darlington Funeral Home in Kalispell is caring for the family.

Jeffrey Wayne Bronson, 63

Jeffrey Wayne Bronson, 63, passed away on Nov. 9, 2022.

Jeff was born Oct. 27, 1959, in Kalispell to Vernon and Jessie Bronson. Jeff had many nicknames that he went by. Some people knew him by Mr. Bronson, Mr. B and, for those who knew him outside of Montana, he was referred to as "Montana." He had a love for hunting, fishing, building homes and projects. He always wanted to stay busy whether

it was working or helping out others. He was talented at many things and a jack-of-all-trades. Jeff lived in the valley for most of his life where he had the majority of his family. In his younger years, he spent a great deal of time in the Swan where he created many unforgettable memories with friends and family. He had moved



away to take on new adventures in Hawaii for a few years and later moved to Washington for a short period of time. He ended up back in the Flathead Valley where he spent the rest of his years and continued building, set up Mr. B's Snack Shack in front of Home Depot for a short time, and many other adventures.

Jeff was preceded in death by both of his parents.

He is survived by his

three daughters, Brittney Holden, Irene Garvin and Abby Mitchell; his two grandchildren; his siblings, Cindy Pluid, Val Bronson, Mitch Bronson, Steve Bronson, Terri Denzer and Gordon Bronson; and aunts, nieces and nephews, as well as many close friends and acquaintances. Jeff was a kind and loving man with a gruff exterior. He will be dearly missed by his friends, caregivers and family.

June Elizabeth Brooker, 92

On Sept. 4, 2022, June Elizabeth (Barton) Brooker passed away at Immanuel Lutheran Home of natural causes, at the age of 92.

June was born June 11, 1930, in Musselshell, Montana, to Ruben Clyde and Florence May (Burton) Barton. She attended school in Musselshell and Billings, and married Carl Richard Hinrichs on Nov. 8, 1947. They had one son, Rocky Ray Hinrichs. Divorced on Nov. 14, 1949, she and Rocky moved to the Flathead Valley where she met and married Claude Eugene Brooker on Sept. 3, 1955. June worked as a cashier at Safeway in Kalispell and Fred Meyer in Columbia Falls and at the Bank of Columbia. She became deputy clerk for School District 6 and retired from there in February of 1988.

After retiring, the Brookers moved to Badrock Drive in Columbia Falls where they raised cattle and chickens, planted a large garden and made their own salsa and Bloody Mary Mix.

Claude and June enjoyed many years camping, boating and fishing on the Hungry Horse Reservoir and the Kooacanusa. Winter time they traveled south to Arizona in their motor home with other Flathead Valley friends where they enjoyed socializing and meeting new friends.

June is survived by her sister-in-law, Joan (Bryan) Stahlberg; nieces, Sandra



(Jerry) Kiger of Kalispell, and Beverly (Todd) Wellman of Henderson, Nevada; nephews, Frank (Anne) McPherson of Lewiston, Idaho, and Bradley (Laurie) Barton of Meridian, Idaho; granddaughters, Carrie Mackins of Taylors, South Carolina, Pavielle (Mike) Browning of Stevensville, Brooke Hinrichs of Spokane Valley, and Leslee Hinrichs of Kalispell; great-granddaughters, Arianna Browning, and Cayla, Raven and Jada Mackins; and great-great-granddaughter, Camille.

June was preceded in death by her husband Claude, son Rocky, brother Tom Barton, and sister Lorene McPherson.

June's wishes are to have everyone make a donation in her name to the Columbia Falls School District snack program to pay past due lunches for kids in need. Please send donations to Columbia Falls School District Six, Attn: Business Manager Dustin Zuffelato, P.O. Box 1259, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

A celebration of Life for June will be scheduled at a later date.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Dennis Brooks, 87

Delmas Deloraine "Dennis" Brooks passed away at Logan Health Medical Center in Kalispell on March 29, 2022.



Dennis was born in Kalispell on Nov. 23, 1934, to Charles and Eudaline (Converse) Brooks.

Dennis enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1957. Dennis also worked for the railroad as a foreman

for many years.

Dennis was preceded in death by both of his parents Charlie and Eudaline Brooks, and son Dennis Wesley Brooks.

Dennis is survived by his daughter Denise Willis-Brooks, son Delmas Deloraine Brooks Jr., grandson Justin Cole Lugo, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Dennis are scheduled for 2 p.m. Friday, April 8, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls, followed by a graveside interment with military honors at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

Joyce Jeannette Brooks-Pasha, 89

Joyce Jeannette Brooks-Pasha peacefully left behind her earthly body early Thursday morning, Nov. 10, 2022, surrounded by loved ones and in the comfort of her home. Joyce lived an adventurous and memory filled life in her 89 years. Waiting to greet her in the heavens, is her beloved daughter Jaymee, along with her childhood family.

Joyce Jeannette Brooks-Pasha born to Charles "Charlie" and Eulalie Brooks on March 18, 1933, in Kalispell. Joyce was fond of her childhood memories and enjoyed revisiting and reminiscing about the "old days." She was proud of her father and how important his ice business was to the development of Kalispell's emerging community.

Joyce graduated from Flathead County High School, Class of 1951. Known for being the "life of the party," Joyce had many friends who adored her charm and wit. She participated in Youth Fair and Flathead High's baton twirling. Joyce strived to be the best at everything she did in life.



As a young adult, Joyce was full of spunk and truly hell on wheels. She spent many

hours at the Speedway, driving stock cars, or at the local bowling alley. In the summer of 1953 Joyce took first place in the Mid-season Powderpuff Derby, winning five out of the six races, and taking second in the race she lost. The Daily Inter Lake's article said, "Joyce wants to race against the men. She's looking for some competition." When she wasn't on the race track, she was leading her bowling team to many victories, including the (1954) State Bowling Championship, where she was awarded first place for her individual high score.

In 1960 Joyce met and married James Shepard (divorced in '73), delivering their first-born child, a daughter, Jaymee, in 1963; followed by their son, Damon, in 1966. Joyce was a devoted mother, and in addition to her own children, she

cared for many fostered children. Joyce also enjoyed working and maintaining a career in dentistry for nearly 40 years in both Kalispell and Great Falls.

In 1983 she moved back to the Flathead Valley to tend to her elderly parents. While there, Joyce rekindled her relationship with her soulmate James Pasha (first husband), and they eventually remarried. They enjoyed living in various cities in Montana, including Bozeman, where Jim was born and raised, Ronan, Polson, and eventually ventured back to Great Falls, where she spent her final days.

Joyce continued her dedication and love to her grandchildren. "Grandma JJ" always ensured they had everything they needed or wanted. Today she is survived by her husband James "Jim" Pasha of Great Falls; son Damon Johnson (Angie) of Ronan; her grandchildren, Charla Johnson of Whitefish, Tory Bick (Sam) of Billings, Michael Sluder (Heather) of Whitefish, Dillen Johnson of Great Falls, Dustin Johnson of Ronan,

Melissa Allen of Olympia, Washington, and Michelle Gutierrez of Salt Lake City; and great-grandchildren, Jaylynn, Bella, Ryder and Daxton. She is also survived by several loving friends and extended family.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents Charles W. and Eulalie Brooks of Kalispell, brother Delmus (Bowie) Brooks of Columbia Falls, and daughter Jaymee Johnson of Kalispell.

The family wishes to thank all of those who gave support, love and friendship throughout her life and during this difficult time. She left her mark on everyone she knew. They want to extend a special thank you to Joyce's physician, Kathy Jorgenson and hospice care of Great Falls, for the love and support they gave her during her journey.

Interment is by Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. On Nov. 23, a viewing will be held at the funeral home from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and a graveside service will directly follow at 2 p.m. in Kalispell at the C.E Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Nancy Lorraine Brosten, 73

Nancy Lorraine Eastman was born to Fred and Alyce Eastman on Nov. 14, 1948, in Glasgow, Montana. She was the first of six children born to the Eastman family. The small family moved to Somers in 1950. Nancy attended Somers Grade School and Flathead High School, graduating in June of 1966. While living in Somers she started to attend Eidsvold Lutheran Church and brought her brothers and sisters with her. Growing up she was actively involved in 4-H and Luther League. While Nancy and Terry didn't officially start their love story until her senior year of high school, they competed against each other showing pigs at the Flathead County Fair. Nancy won Grand Champion and Terry came in second. It was more than just the showmanship that caught Terry's eye, and in 1966 they exchanged Valentines and in June he accompanied her to her Senior Prom.

After graduating from Flathead High School with honors, she attended college at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington, for two years. With Terry in the Army, Nancy returned to Somers and began her career in accounting by working at First Federal Bank in Kalispell. Terry came home from the Army and

proposed to Nancy on the shores of Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park. The two were married on June 14, 1968. This last June they celebrated 54 years married.

Several things stand out in Nancy's life as a foundation of who she was and why everyone loved her — family, adventure, strength, and making a difference by giving back.

Family: While Nancy and Terry did not have any children of their own, they spent time and energy engaging in the lives of their nieces and nephews as well as children of their friends. Family was important to Nancy and you could see that through so many things she accomplished including supporting her parents and Terry's parents in their later years.

Adventure: They say life is an adventure and Nancy and Terry lived that adventure together traveling to 12 countries, 44 states, and one of their favorites, Hawaii, some 14 times. In 1993 they picked up and did one of the craziest things they had done together, bought the Swan Village Market in Swan Lake, Montana. They owned this store, gas station, post office and campground for nine years. While it brought about big challenges, it also brought them closer to family and back to Montana. Throughout their lives together, but

especially in retirement, Nancy and Terry's adventures took them to the water, where they loved sailing and taking in the scenery along the shores of many bodies of water.

Strength: Nancy was a force of strength for her family, friends, and in the business world. She never stopped using her accounting degree — even through making sure Terry had a stockpile of food to get him through the challenging times. After their move to California Nancy worked her way to a vice president of accounting and computers for a big construction company. After leaving California and moving to Washington, Nancy started her own business in 1988 called COMAC Consulting services. This had her traveling up and down the West Coast training companies and consulting on accounting and computer software.

Making a difference: Throughout their life together Nancy supported Terry, a disabled veteran, and was active in supporting all veterans. In 2002 Nancy retired and turned to giving back to her community. She spent time active in several organizations including Sons of Norway, Disabled American Veterans, and their home church Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell. Nancy served as the congregation president and

helped run the Vacation Bible School youth program.

Nancy was known for her smile, the twinkle in her eye, and the occasional eye roll — usually toward Terry. She was always baking or cooking something and she even supervised Terry, learning to cook after her stroke in 2018.

Nancy went to be with the Lord on July 23, 2022.

She is survived by her husband, Terry D. Brosten, brothers Rick (Mary) Eastman, James (Nancy Jo) Eastman, sisters Kathy (Mark) Hinrichs and Marci (Steve) Whitham, and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and -nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents Fred and Alyce Eastman, and her brother Michael.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making donations in Nancy's name to Bethlehem Lutheran Church or a charity of your choice.

A service to celebrate Nancy's life will be held on Aug. 20 at 2 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell. This is open to all and will be followed by a reception at the church.

Gary H. Brothers, 82

Gary H. Brothers, 82, of Hamilton, Montana, peacefully passed away on April 15, 2022, after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis.



Gary was born on Feb. 19, 1940, to Howard and Helen Brothers in Havre. During his high school years, Gary played football, basketball, and golf, for the Blue Ponies. Gary was passionate about sports, and it showed during his senior year as team captain of the basketball and football team.

Gary graduated from Havre High in 1958 and joined the U.S. Army where he became a member of the K-9 Corps and served at the Nike Missile Site in California. After the service, Gary returned to Havre to play football for the Northern Lights and receive a two-year degree in Distributive Education at MSU — Northern. He went on to finish his education at the University of Oregon, receiving a B.S. degree in Health and Physical Education, in 1968. With that degree, he taught physical education and coached basketball in Camas, Washington and at Billings Senior in Billings.

After several years in education, he decided to get into the real estate business and moved back to Eugene, Oregon, in 1974. Gary spent the

next 20 years as broker/owner of Brothers Real Estate and Northwest Waterfront Properties in Oregon. In 1991, he moved back to Montana with his kids, Whitney and Tyler, and planted roots in Whitefish. There, Gary continued to work as a Realtor and specialized on waterfront properties in Oregon and Montana, which brought him much joy to travel and see the great places Montana showcased. Gary earned the recognition of Broker Emeritus with over 40 years in the real estate profession. When he wasn't watching his beloved Oregon Ducks in sports, he was an avid fly fisherman and loved to spend time on the water with his dogs and loving partner, Ali DeBellis.

Gary is survived by two children, Whitney Brothers, of Hailey, Idaho and Tyler (Kali) Brothers, of Hamilton; younger brother, Bruce (Carol) Brothers, of Bend, Oregon; younger sister, Sheri Brothers, of Madison, Wisconsin; loving grandchildren: Keller, Taylor, Carter, and Harper. He has had a wonderful partner for over 20 years, Ali DeBellis. He also leaves many other family members, dear friends, and sweet dog Oliver.

No services will be held at this time, Gary wishes are to have a gathering on the banks of the Bitterroot River with family in July. The family would like you to support your local hospice organization, they are all Angels. Condolences may be left for the family at www.dalyleach-chapel.com.

William 'Bill' George Bruce, 78

William "Bill" George Bruce, 78, passed away April 2, 2022.



He was born Feb. 8, 1944, in Great Falls to Herb and Dorothy Bruce.

In 1963, Bill started his 41-year career with the BNSF Railroad as a district lineman. It was through this career that he met and married the love of his life, Rose. Bill and Rose were married in 1965 and spent a wonderful 57 years together. A product of their love are their two daughters, three grandchildren, and great-granddaughter.

Bill enjoyed reading, hunting, golfing, and was an avid bowler. He bowled his entire life, including 44 years with Rose, and he was the first person to bowl a 300 game on a sanctioned league at the Pin and

Cue in Whitefish. He had a wonderful sense of humor and loved to joke and make people laugh. He had a witty comeback for just about everything.

Bill is survived by his loving wife, Rose Bruce (Herman); daughter, Shelly Hobbs; daughter, Lorrie Jones (Eddie); three grandchildren, Shelby Fitchett (Matthew), Jordan Jones, and Jaycee Jones; and great-granddaughter, Rylee Fitchett.

In addition to his parents, Bill was preceded in death by sister, Donna; and brother, Richard.

A celebration of Bill's life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 30, at Columbia Mortuary, 1010 4th Avenue West, Columbia Falls, MT 59912. Family and friends may begin arriving on Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

To send online condolences, please visit www.columbiamortuary.com.

Donna Mae Bruner, 85

Donna Mae Bruner, 85, of Whitefish, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Oct. 25, 2022.

She was born June 10, 1937, in Wolf Point to Charles William Rathert and Frances E. (Lund) Rathert.

Donna deeply loved her family and family gatherings and her time traveling with her husband Merv to their home in Arizona for the winter months. Donna was an easygoing, kind, generous and loving soul. She was a member of Summit Life Church in Whitefish. Before becoming a full-time homemaker, Donna pursued a profession in the banking business. Donna loved animals, especially her dog Gracie. She enjoyed gardening, traveling, playing piano, rummage sale shopping, lunch and game dates with her friends, and her stained glass classes when she and Merv lived in Arizona.

Donna is survived by



daughter, Kim Porter (Russ); daughter, Karen Koday (Mark); son,

Chuck Freeman (Heidi); son, Mike Freeman (Heidi); eight grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brother, William Rathert; brother, Chuck Rathert; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Donna was preceded in death by her husband, Mervin Bruner; and brother, Fred Rathert.

A celebration of Donna's life will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, July 20, 2023, at Easthaven Baptist Church, 2010 Whitefish Stage Road, Kalispell, MT 59901. A reception will follow services.

To send online condolences, please visit www.austinfh.com.

Frances 'Fran' Buck, 85

Frances "Fran" Dianne Buck, 85, passed away peacefully on Dec. 4, 2022, at Edgewood Vista Memory Care surrounded by her loved ones.

Fran was born on Dec. 25, 1936, in St. Ignatius, Montana to Harry and Vera Voorhies. She graduated from Polson High School. She married and had three children. She later remarried and had one more child.

Fran was a homemaker and full-time mother. She did a wonderful job making sure the home was always clean and tidy along with home-made meals. She loved reading, gardening, animals, and mostly she loved her family.

Fran also enjoyed going to Saturday evening Mass where, most often, she greeted others at the door. She was a friend to many. A mom and grandma to many whom she loved. She is



loved and will be greatly missed.

She is preceded in death by her father and

mother. She is survived by her loving husband, Daniel, of 53 years; her children Michael, Danielle, Richard, and Jared (Melanie); her sisters, Madge and Dawna; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services will be held Thursday, Dec. 15 at Risen Christ Parish in Evergreen at 11 a.m. followed by a luncheon and burial at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Friends are encouraged to visit the website www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family.

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

Blair Thomas Buckley, 62

Blair Thomas Buckley was born on Dec. 17, 1959, in Spencer, Iowa. He grew up in Minnesota where a deep love of hockey, Minnesota sports, and walleye fishing was instilled in him. In 1991, he and Paula heard the call of the mountains and moved to Kalispell where they raised their two sons. An avid outdoorsman, Blair took opening day of deer season as a personal challenge to who could be up the earliest and get the most lost in the woods. Winter found him on the slopes of Big Mountain telling his two boys that it wasn't actually too cold to ski, and the summer consisted almost entirely of him and Paula passing over pristine camping spots in search of the perfect one.

Blair was also a hard worker. Rising well before the dawn to work the morning shift so that he could pick up the boys from school, get them to practice, and cook dinner — another one of his passions.

In 2004, Blair suffered severe medical complications from a brain tumor and was given 10 years to live. A man of unique resolve and indomitable spirit, Blair held on for 18 more years, fought his



way back to health, and blessed his family with more time together than they had ever

hoped to get.

A man of few words, a dry sense of humor, and honest values, he will be greatly missed on this earth.

On Wednesday, May 4, 2022, Blair decided he was ready to go and passed peacefully in his home surrounded by family. He is survived by two adoring children, Reid and JT; two exceptional daughters-in-law, Kassandra and Jessica; his loving wife, Paula; and four grandchildren, plus numerous extended family and wonderful friends.

A big thank you to the neighbors, friends, and family who provided support. Much love to you.

Blair donated his body to science. No services are planned. His ashes will be spread throughout his favorite rivers.

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

Richard 'Max' Bullock, 29

When asked how he would want to be celebrated, Lt. TJ Hall, Max's Wingman, said, "Fast, Loud and Awesome!" While he'll be celebrated this way, he'll be remembered as generous beyond belief, a genuine friend, passionate and relentlessly positive, and fearless.

Lt. Richard Max Bullock was born on Feb. 13, 1993, in Butte, Montana, and died on June 3, 2022, during a training exercise, when the FA-18 Super Hornet he was flying crashed near Trona, California. While taken far too soon, Max packed more into 29 years than most could ever imagine. He would start everyday with an intent on figuring out how to make the world a better place.

Max was generous. He spent his early life in Butte, helping his family build the Jeremy Bullock Memorial Soccer fields, a tribute to his brother who was also taken too soon. He continued to support the Jeremy Bullock Foundation throughout his life. Max was also an entrepreneur. By age 4, he was caught tolling his dad's coworkers for access to their offices, by 15 he formed his first company, and when he passed, he had multiple real estate holdings and was the force behind an investment collaborative with his siblings and parents.

Max was genuine. He would strike up a conversation and build a friendship with everyone crossing his path, he would listen with interest and appreciation to any story. He gave the gift of long-term friendship openly and without reservation. While attending University of Alaska Anchorage, Max founded a chapter of TKE fraternity, a group dedicated to emphasizing personal worth and character.



Many continue to remain close friends.

Max was passionate and relentlessly positive. He would dream of ideas that

seemed crazy to most people but would shock them again when he presented a step-by-step solution to achieving them. He joined the Navy ... to become a pilot ... to become an astronaut ... to get into space ... to fulfill his dream of mining asteroids. From bikes to trains to planes to space, he always had a plan in motion to make the world a better place. His belief in himself was only matched by his belief in the goodness and equal ability of others. In every action and conversation, he conveyed that there are no limits on potential and possibility.

Max was fearless. No dream was too big, he was never afraid to hear no and never concerned by the unknown. He would give 100% of himself to the task at hand and was never afraid to try. One of his favorite sayings was "The answer is always no if you don't ask." He also lacked a fear of heights, constructing an observatory platform over 60 feet off the ground to better see the stars — to this day most of his family is still too afraid to make the climb which Max called the "Ladder of Destiny."

Max began his military career in Rhode Island where he was commissioned as an ensign after completing Officer Candidate School. He received the Lieutenant Thomas Eadie, USN Congressional Medal of Honor Award for receiving

the highest average for academic and military training.

In 2017 Lieutenant Bullock reported to Naval Aviation Schools Command in Pensacola, Florida, for Aviation Preflight Indoctrination; upon completion he subsequently moved to NAS Whiting Field, Florida, and primary flight school in the Beechcraft T-6B Texan II with the VT-6 Shooters. The Commander of Air Wing Five presented Max with a Certificate of Merit in recognition of his superior performance. He next reported to NAS Meridian, Mississippi, and the VT-7 Eagles for Intermediate and Advanced Jet training flying the McDonnell Douglas T-45C Goshawk. Lieutenant Bullock received his Wings of Gold and designation as a Naval Aviator in August 2019 upon which he reported to NAS Lemoore, California, and the VFA-122 Flying Eagles for fleet replacement training in the F/A-18E-F Super Hornet.

Lieutenant Bullock began his operational flying with Strike Fighter Squadron 113 (VFA-113) Stingers in April 2021, flying the F/A-18E Super Hornet as a part of Carrier Air Wing 2 (CVW-2). Deploying with CVW-2 onboard the USS Carl Vinson (CVN-70) during the 2021/2022 WESTPAC Deployment, Lt. Bullock earned his Strike Fighter Weapons and Tactics Level II Combat Wingman Qualification. Lieutenant Bullock accumulated over 600 hours in the T-6B, T-45C, F/A-18E-F, as well as over 125 carrier arrested landings.

Max lived his life by his personal values of humility and gratitude; continuous growth and education; and honor, courage and commitment. Humility and gratitude

shown through his positive attitude and his genuine love of and interest in people, and never expecting anything in return other than friendship. Continuous growth and education exhibited from receipt of his bachelor's degree from University of Alaska in Anchorage and his current work toward a second degree in engineering from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Space mining from the Colorado School of Mines. Honor, courage and commitment every day of his life.

Max is survived by his parents, Bill and Robin Bullock, his siblings Josh (and Janice), Sam (and Jackie), and Kaitlyn and his puppy Amelia. He is also survived by grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his brother Jeremy Bullock, Grandmother Pat Thornell, Uncle Rob Thornell and Grandpa Mike Bullock.

A celebration of Max's life will be held at 2 p.m. on June 25 at the Montana National Guard Army Aviation Support Facility, 3333 Skyway Drive in Helena, and on June 22 at the NAS Lemoore in California. Friends are asked to share their stories and memories of Max at the celebration, in conversation with family and friends, and online at <https://everloved.com/life-of/richard-max-bullock/> so that we can share Max's life.

Memorial contributions can be made in Max's honor to the Wingman Foundation, a program supporting the Bullock family in creating a foundation to support dreamers and entrepreneurs like Max in reaching their ambitions.

Daniel 'Dan' Todd Bungay, 47

Dan fought to live, yet the world was too much to bear. Dan was born Nov. 10, 1974, in Great Falls to Iris Russell Bungay and Bruce Bungay. Dan passed away in one of his favorite places on Oct. 18, 2022.



in death by his mom Iris Russell Bungay, his father Bruce Bungay, his uncle

Jim Karr, and three of his close friends Corey Harrison, Kris Harrison and Branden Boggs. Dan is survived by his wife Erica Bungay, sons Brady Bungay and Jamison Thurgood, bonus daughters Makaylynn and Lynlee Thurgood, and brothers Corey (Kelli) Bungay, Troy (Debbie) Bungay and their families.

A celebration of life is being held on Oct. 29 at the Flathead fairgrounds under the grandstand at 2 p.m. This will be a potluck, so bring your favorite dish.

In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to the GoFundMe for Dan's family or any local suicide prevention group. "Though you had to let go of this world to find peace, we hold on to your memory in our hearts. So you live forever." Friends are encouraged to visit the website www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Dan was preceded

Billy Ann Burch

Billy Ann Burch departed Feb. 5, 2022, on the next part of her journey. She leaves us with strong memories of her grace and calm wisdom. Her many friends and family were blessed to have shared in Billy Ann's quiet intelligence and poise.



the young boat captains who became part of the Glacier Park Boat Co. family and many

Billy's many interests and passions included horse riding, hiking, huckleberries, her church and theology, birding and birds (especially her little parrot Jade), books of many kinds, political intrigue and malfeasance, current news and trends.

To her last days she was engaged and inquisitive and attuned to the world outside. Her legacy of calm equanimity and patience is an example to us all.

Billy Ann Hurley was born in Berwyn, Illinois, and raised in Danville, Illinois. She graduated from Carleton College with a degree in economics. Newly graduated, she worked in Denver where she met her future husband Art Burch who whisked her away to his home in the Montana mountains. She was married to Art for 55 years.

She and Art made their home and raised their four children in Kalispell. She enjoyed church and school activities while her family was growing. Summers were spent at Lake McDonald and later at Many Glacier where she and her dear friend Joy Paulsen were gracious ambassadors for the Burch's tour boat concession. She charmed

remain friends to this day.

In town she was active in Epworth Methodist Church, PTA and served two terms on the school board. She was a past president of the local AAUW branch and enjoyed her friends in Sewing Club as well as Foreign Dinner Club.

She overcame a stroke in her early 60s and continued to travel and lead an active life with her beloved husband.

She will be missed by her four children, Art Jr. (Susie), Scott, Kathy VanDyke (Lawrence), and Susan (Will Parker); four grandchildren, Cristina Burch Knoble (Cody), Sandra Burch, Sam Burch and Sara Burch; her siblings, Patricia Righter, Sam Hurley (Jane), and Mike Hurley (Claudia); beloved nieces and nephews; many dear friends; and her sweet bird Jade. Billy Ann was preceded in death by her parents Samuel C. and Wilmina Hurley, her husband Arthur Burch, and her dear daughter-in-law Barbara K. Burch.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations to Epworth Methodist Church, 329 2nd Ave. East, Kalispell, MT 59901.

A celebration of life for Billy Ann was held on Feb. 11.

Gary Andrew Burden, 60

Gary Andrew Burden, 60, passed away peacefully in his home on April 16, 2022.

He was born April 28, 1961, in Lima, Ohio, to Patricia and Joseph Burden. Gary attended Bath High School in Lima. He enjoyed running cross country and track. He survived playing junior high football at Bath, occasionally playing quarterback, as he was the only person on the team at the time who could throw a pass far enough. After graduating high school, he enlisted in the Ohio National Guard, where he



Hocking Hills Technical College.

In 1988, after the typical decade of dating, he married Kathy Loughrin. The newlyweds loaded up a van and horse trailer with all of their life pos-

sessions and moved to Kalispell. Their son, Ben, was born in 1995. Ben continues to be the apple of their eye.

Gary enjoyed fishing and woodworking. He loved the great outdoors. An avid canoeist, he and his brother, Dan, cut more than one canoe from log jams. How no one got hurt mystifies many. Gary was a wonderful cook. He truly enjoyed serving good people good food. He was a great listener and friend. When his heart stopped, ours did, too.

Gary is survived by his wife, Kathy, his son, Ben,

along with Gary's sister Cheryl (Dick) Fullmer of Lima, and brother Dan (Sheri) Burden of Swan Lake, Montana, and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers at the service, the family is suggesting that you give flowers to someone who helps to make your life brighter.

Please join us on Sunday, June 12, at 1 p.m., at Bigfork Christian Church, 110 Shawnee Drive, as we celebrate Gary's life.

He is loved and missed. His gentle nature continues to comfort his family.

Barry John Burghardt, 59

Barry John Burghardt passed away unexpectedly on Nov. 2, 2022. He was 59 years old.



Barry was born Sept. 11, 1963 to Edward and Lois Burghardt in Sioux City, Iowa. At the age of 9 years old, the family moved to Missoula and he was able to settle into the town he would always feel was his true home. Barry was a true Montanan and loved Missoula with his heart and soul.

After a childhood of camping, hunting and lots of outdoor activities with family and friends, he graduated from Sentinel High School in 1982. He served our country as a member of the United States Air Force from 1983 to 1993. While in the military, one of his proud moments was the fact that he worked on the B2 stealth bomber out of Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas. He was deployed to Iraq twice during Desert Storm.

Upon his honorable discharge from the military, Barry returned to Missoula to find his next career path. He worked many jobs from the Sweetheart Bread Co. to

driving and delivering for Pepsi. He graduated from the Missoula Vocational Technical school in 2000 with a degree in respiratory therapy. He spent the next 17 years living in Polson and working for hospitals and clinics throughout the Flathead Valley.

Barry's career path changed once again in 2018 when he decided to go into the trucking industry. He had talked about it since he was a kid and was a long haul trucker for the past four years. He worked for numerous companies and made lots of friends and contacts. During his time on the road, he enjoyed seeing parts of the country he had never seen before and loved witnessing the beauty of the USA.

He is survived by his sisters Deanna Burghardt and Rhonda Burghardt (Mike O'Malley), his son Zachary Frndack, his aunts and numerous cousins in Nebraska, and friends he met along his journey through life.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ed and Lois Burghardt.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of life will be planned for the summer of 2023 when friends and family can meet and honor his memory.

Alan James Burland, 72

Alan James Burland, 72, of Ronan, passed away Saturday, July 2, 2022, of natural causes.

He was born on Feb. 4, 1950, in St. Ignatius to Richard and Faye (Stinger) Burland.

One of his passions throughout his life was boxing. He was a Golden Glove boxer as a teenager and boxed across Montana. He was a craftsman finisher and had a part of many of the buildings and structures on and off the reservation,



enjoyed playing cards, dice, pool and sharing stories of his experiences in life.

He was a loving father, grandfather, brother and friend to all that knew him. He was a generous man who was willing to help others when he could. Alan was loved by many and will be missed greatly.

Survivors include his children, Kurt (Lena), Denise (John), and Miranda; Jeannie Nowotny, the mother of his children; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews; brother Tom, and sisters Diane (Dave) and Wendy (Tony), along with many cousins and Corinne Irvine, his special companion over the past 30 years.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Dee Barland; daughter, Ruby

Dawn Burland; mother, Faye Burland; father, Richard Burland; and brother, Bryan Burland.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, Aug. 6, 2022, at 1 p.m. at Charlene Burland's residence.

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

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

Harry Burnell, 91

Harry A. Burnell, 91, passed away on Sept. 14, 2022, at Logan Health Medical Center Kalispell.

He put on his brown cowboy hat, his neon yellow jacket, and rode into the sunset on his Brompton folding bicycle. His great passions in life were skiing, Glacier Park, San Francisco, Lake Blaine and traveling the world. He skied until he was 78, rode his bike to age 85, and his only regret in life was turning down a summer job at the Hearst Castle in San Simeon. Not bad for 91 1/2 years.

Harry Allison Burnell was born on Feb. 6, 1931, in Kalispell. His parents were Arthur and Inez Burnell, but everyone in the family knew them as Grandpa Art and Grandma Art. His siblings were brothers Leslie and Don and sisters PeeWee (Lucille) and Harry's twin, Shirley. He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings and is survived by three generations of loving nieces and nephews as well as friends around the world.

Harry's first job was at Apgar at the foot of Lake McDonald when he was 14. It kindled a love affair with Glacier Park that lasted a lifetime. After graduation from Flathead County High School in 1949, Harry finished his first year of college at Northern Montana in Havre. This earned him his first teaching position at Mountain View, a one-

room country school near Ashley Lake, at the age of 19. On weekends, he worked and skied at Big Mountain as a member of the ski patrol, which fostered another of his life's passions. He finished college at Montana State University (now U of M) in Missoula in 1954.

PFC Harry served in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956, stationed in Germany, where he worked his way out of his job as a company clerk and into one on the Army ski patrol in the German Alps of Garmisch. After his stint in the Army, Harry was accepted into law school, but decided that a career in teaching offered him more flexibil-



The bulk of his teaching career took place in California, and he moved to San Francisco in 1965.

At the age of 29, Harry embarked on his first real estate venture with the purchase of a property in Evergreen, Montana. He built a house on the lot during the summer and rented it to family members for many years. He bought his lovely Edwardian house on Irving Street in San Francisco in 1968, one block from Golden Gate Park. He lived in that home until 2020 when he moved back to Kalispell. In 1970, Harry's twin sister Shirley died at the age of 39. That same year, he bought his beautiful summer residence on Lake Blaine near Kalispell. It continues to be the gathering place for his ever-expanding extended family. In 1974, he also bought and rented a five-unit, city view building on Laidley Street in San Francisco which he owned for 25 years. Tenants in that building became another extended family of friends.

Harry's wise investments and constant property improvement provided the means for him to retire from teaching at age 54. He skied, he hiked, and he traveled the world, including over 40 trips to Thailand where he established another family of friends. Frugality was part of his DNA, but he supported so many young relatives and friends, especially in the areas of education or the purchase of a first home. He lived by his own advice, "Follow your bliss." There will never be another like him.

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

ity to ski and travel. He completed his teaching credentials in 1958 and worked 24 years as an educator, mainly as a high school business education teacher.

Ronald Eugene Burnes, 78

Ronald Eugene Burnes, 78, of Bigfork, returned to his heavenly father on Jan. 25, 2022, after suffering a massive stroke.

Ron was born to Ruth and William Burnes in Napa, California on Nov. 1, 1943. He grew up there and attended school there.

After attending college Ron joined the Marines. From there he went into the Army where he joined the Special Forces. During that time he was stationed various places, including Okinawa and Panama. After seven years with the Special Forces he became a trainer for the Army Reserve. Ron retired from the military in 2002.



Ron married Linda Johnson from 1967 until 1999 and they had 11 children. They lived in Napa, California, Grass Valley, California, and Heber, Utah. In 2013 Ron moved to Bigfork. Ron had been active in his church community at Crossroads Christian Fellowship.

After and during a total of 27 years in the military, Ron became The Freeze

Dry Guy where he helped folks prepare by selling freeze-dried foods and other needed items.

Ron is survived by his great love, Elaine, his children Christine, Julie, Jennifer, Ronald, James, Sarah, Ruth, John, Lori, Michael, many beloved grandchildren and two

great-grandchildren.

Ron was preceded in death by his sister Sandra Kay on Aug. 22, 1946, and his son William on March 13, 2006.

Funeral services are at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home at 1890 Hwy. 93 North in Kalispell on Wednesday, Feb. 2, at 1 p.m.

Stuart Bushby, 56

Stuart Bushby, 56, passed away of natural causes at his home in Kalispell on Sunday, Feb. 13, 2022.

Born September 12, 1965, in Philipsburg, Montana, he was the son of the Eldon and Karen Bushby.

Stuart lived in Hall, Montana, before moving to Spokane with his mother. He returned to Montana in 1976. He graduated from Flathead High School in 1984 and remained a dedicated Flathead Braves football fan up to his passing, attending every football game he could. His passion for the Denver Broncos was known by all. Being a coach was his dream. He loved the Montana outdoors, especially camping, fishing, hunting and growing pumpkins with the help of his stepfather, Larry Dahlke, whom he idolized.

He is survived by his mother and stepfather, Karen and Larry Dahlke;



his brother Craig Bushby, his stepbrother Larry F. Dahlke (Carrie), and sev-

eral aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was predeceased by his father Eldon Bushby, and grandparents Basil and Utahna Kennedy, Lloyd and Helen Bushby and Betty Dolezal.

A service will be held for family and friends on June 11 at 11 a.m. at the cemetery in Philipsburg. A reception will be held after the service with location to be announced.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Stuart's name may be made to The Shriners Hospital for Children at: LoveToTheRescue.org or to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital at: StJude.org

Barbara (Broeder) Byrd, 75

Barbara (Broeder) Byrd, 75, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully on Aug. 7, 2022, from cancer, with her husband of 49 years by her side. Barbara was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend. Family was of the utmost importance to Barbara, and she felt fortunate that in the weeks leading up to her death she had the opportunity to see and say goodbye to her children, grandchildren, and her siblings and their spouses. Throughout her journey with cancer, she put up an incredible fight. Never backing down from a treatment opportunity, she maintained her positive attitude until the end.

Barbara was born the third child of seven to Gordon and Hazel Broeder on July 30, 1947, in Kalispell. She grew up in Creston where she attended grade school and made many lifelong friends. She graduated in 1965 from Flathead High School, then attended Pacific Lutheran University where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Education degree. Barbara taught elementary school in Helena for two years before her adventurous spirit led her and a grade school friend to move to San Francisco for work and travel. It was there she met Nathan Byrd, an Army soldier stationed at the Presidio. Upon his discharge from the Army, the couple moved to Fresno,

California, where Nathan finished his college degree and Barbara worked as a substitute teacher. They were married on June 2, 1973, in Bakersfield, California, prior to moving to Cambria, California, where Nathan had taken a teaching assignment. While in Cambria the couple lived on, and were caretakers for, a private vacation ranch. Barbara had many fond memories of entertaining friends and family on the ranch with horseback riding, hiking and Jeep excursions.

In 1977, their son Zachary was born, and the young family made the decision to move to Montana in 1979 to be closer to her family. Barbara took pleasure and delight in her role as a stay-at-home mother and homemaker. Their daughter, Stacie, was born in 1981. Barbara was an attentive and supportive mother, who was involved in her children's activities, everything from baseball to ballet. While her children were growing up, Barbara actively volunteered in their schools, the local library, and with her church, Northridge Lutheran. After her children were grown, Barbara returned



to the field of education and worked in the developmental preschool at Edgerton School until her retirement in 2002.

In retirement, Barbara was very active. Whether golfing at Buffalo Hill Golf Course, boating on Flathead Lake, swimming, doing yoga, or walking, Barbara was always on the move and enjoying life. She and Nathan took numerous trips to visit family and friends, with notable adventures including a cross-country road trip and a two-month vacation to New Zealand. Travels also frequently took them to Bellingham, Washington, to visit their daughter and her family. Barbara's best buddy was found in her granddaughter Noelle, with whom she shared a special bond.

Following her diagnosis with multiple myeloma in 2017, travel became limited to times between treatments, but Barbara still made the best of the situation. She looked forward to heading over to Washington to see her grandkids, including her grandson, Simon, who was born in 2018. With the additional diagnoses of ovarian cancer in 2021 and breast cancer in 2022, Barbara didn't lose hope, but kept fighting for each day. She will be remembered as a loving, thoughtful, well-liked, and caring woman who had a great sense of humor, was an exceptional gift giver, and

a grandma extraordinaire.

She is survived by her husband Nathan Byrd of Kalispell, son Zachary Byrd of Kalispell, daughter Stacie Erfle (Tim) of Bellingham, and her beloved grandchildren Noelle and Simon. Barb is also survived by her six siblings, Carol Seddon of St. Augustine, Florida, Gary Broeder (Karen) of Billings, Sandi Hall (Bill) of Bozeman, Diane Todd (Chip) of Butte, Dale Broeder (Janis) of Goodyear, Arizona, and Dave Broeder (Jude) of Kalispell.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and her brother-in-law Dick Seddon.

An immediate family viewing and memorial service was held at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home prior to Barbara's cremation. No further services are planned at this time, however Barbara will continue to be loved and celebrated for many years to come by her friends and family.

Memorials can be made in Barbara's name to the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance/Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center at: Fred Hutch, 1100 Fairview Ave. N., Mailstop J5-200, Seattle, WA 98109.

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