

Curtis David Cain, 57

Curtis was taken from us due to a tragic accident on Nov. 12, 2022, in Lakeside.

Curtis was a man of many talents. He was very unique, sensitive, kind and loving. Although he lived in many places, Lakeside was his home. He loved nature and all animals. He never met a dog that he didn't fall instantly in love with.

He is survived by the love of his life, companion, partner and best friend, Dolly of Lakeside and their dog/daughter "Tiger," his mother "Liz" and brother "Cameron" of Sunset, Utah, brother Calvin



(Valerie), nephews Alex and Phillip of South Weber, Utah, brother Cory (Rachel), nephews Arlo and Theo of Missoula, sister Charisse Duchardt (Scott), nephew Kona of Whitefish, and a multitude of friends too numerous to mention here in Lakeside and everywhere.

He will never be forgotten, and his spirit will live on in Lakeside.

We all love you Curtis and miss you terribly.

Timothy John Calaway, 69

Timothy John Calaway, 69, left a massive hole in the world this March 30, 2022, when he was called home to his Lord and Savior. Tim lived out loud, unfiltered and full of rip roaring love for life from hunting, golfing, skiing, fishing, riding horses, building the beautiful houses he built and loving the family he raised. He cherished his family above all else and let them know it every day.

Tim was born on Dec. 6, 1952, in Great Falls to Timothy and Mary Jo Calaway. He was the seventh born of nine kids. The family owned and worked a potato chip and French fry company in Great Falls called Big Stack Potato Chips that was started on Mary Jo's stove and later grew into a thriving company that sent potato chips all across Montana. As a kid Tim worked the fields, changing irrigation, planting, harvesting and dragging potato sacks loaded down with spuds that were heavier than him. He graduated Great Falls High School in 1971, attended both Montana State University and

University of Montana before deciding to work in various fields of construction.

Tim later moved to the Flathead to pursue construction and found and married the love of his life, Sherrie Whitaker, on June 28, 1980, in Bigfork. They together created a beautiful life and brought two daughters into the world, Katie in 1982, and Kaci in 1985. Building was his art and he poured his life and soul into contracting and built Calaway Construction into a thriving well-respected business of 45 years. Tim was a true craftsman and built many dream homes for people all over Montana, leaving his signature craftsmanship on every one of his jobs. Tim always chose family first and loved being involved in everything his wife and daughters pursued. You could hear his booming voice above any crowd as he cheered his heart out for the ones he loved. His other passions were



golfing, shooting trap, riding horses and skiing; you could find him happiest while he was tearing down the slopes or sitting playing with one of his three grandchildren.

An avid outdoorsman, Tim was in love with the beauty of the world around him and he took the time to appreciate the great Montana woods by riding horses across the Great Bob Marshall Wilderness with his wife Sherrie. He also joined her on many of her endurance horse riding adventures, happy to be beside his wife. Eighteen holes of golf was his idea of relaxation; you could find him at peace with a golf club or celebrating God with his group of "Dirt Bags." Tim lived life without fear; there was never a challenge he couldn't face down and he helped raise two daughters, Katie and Kaci, with his principles of hard work, determination and perseverance. Tim made time for the people in his life, and always tried to give people the benefit of the doubt, believing in giving people second chances and he loved rooting for underdogs.

Tim had a heart of gold, always trying to take care of those around him and he will be dearly missed by his wife of 42 years and his daughters and grandchildren. He cherished his grandbabies and loved being the best Bumpa to each one of them. He lived a full and beautiful life and never failed to let the ones he loved know how much they meant to him.

He is survived by his wife Sherrie, his daughters Katie and Kaci, and grandchildren Irelynn, Jamison and Aurelia. He is also survived by his brothers and sisters, Joanne, Mike, Mary, Meghan, Steven, Katie and Geoff.

He was preceded in death by his parents Timothy Sr. and Mary Jo, and sister Patricia.

A celebration of life will be held on Friday, May 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Snowline Acres at 3315 U.S. Hwy. 93 S., Kalispell.

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.

Michael Thomas Calnan, 55

Michael "Mike" Thomas Calnan, 55, passed away in Seattle on Nov. 10, 2022, after a long and valiant battle with brain cancer. At the time of his passing our warrior was surrounded by the loving arms of his family.

Mike, along with his ever-present twin brother Mark, was born on Jan. 21, 1967, in Libby to Kevin and Coletta Calnan. The family moved to Kalispell in 1970. Mike attended local schools and graduated from Flathead High School in 1985. Mike excelled in both the classroom and the football field. He was chosen captain of the Braves his senior year and selected to play in the annual East-West Shrine Game at the safety position.

Carroll College, a college near and dear to the Calnan family, came calling and offered Mike a football scholarship. Mike again excelled. He started at safety for the Saints for four years earning 1st Team All-Conference. Mike graduated with honors from Carroll College in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration degree. In 2009 Mike was inducted into the Carroll College Football Hall of Fame. He

was proud to have played for the "Fighting Saints" and religiously followed the team's success the rest of his life.

After graduation Mike made his way to Seattle with his brother Mark. Seattle would be home to Mike for the remainder of his life. Mike held several jobs early in his career including AT&T; Wireless before settling in with Boeing where he had a successful 2-plus tenure career as a material planner. In 1997 he met the love of his life, Paige Corley. Mike and Paige were married in 2005 and together they built a beautiful life. They welcomed their son Conor to the world in 2009. Simply put, Conor was Mike's greatest joy.

Mike was a quiet, humble, gentle soul. If you knew Mike, you loved Mike. It did not take much to make him happy — it was always the little things that meant the most to him: trips to the Coast with his wife and son, Pearl Jam concerts with his brother, antiqu-



ing with his dad, head and neck rubs from his mom, backyard barbecues at his sister's, a bowl of Nibs licorice, Grandma Ida's popcorn balls, perfectly placed Christmas tree ornaments and football games on any given Sunday.

Mike was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents Clem and Ida Weiland from Whitefish, and his paternal grandparents Tim and Mary Calnan from Anaconda.

He is survived by his wife, Paige, and their son Conor from Seattle; his mother, Coletta Calnan, from Kalispell; his father, Kevin Calnan and step-mother Terri Haueter, from Kalispell; his brother and best friend, Mark Calnan from Seattle; his sister, Christie Calnan-Gersack and her husband Brett and their family from Seattle; his stepsiblings, Leif Thorsen and Cliff Thorsen and their families; along with his many loving aunts, uncles and cousins.

In the last 10 years, Mike endured many health challenges. Mike never complained. He faced each challenge with determination and grace — right to the very end. His love for his family

ran deep, often ending conversations with, "I love you with all my heart." Mike, you will be missed beyond measure. Your absence hurts. May you rest in peace, and just as we have heard from you so many times before, we now say to you, "We love you with all our hearts."

A celebration of life will be held in Seattle this winter and Kalispell this spring. At that time family and friends will be invited to come share memories and stories of our Mike.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the National Brain Tumor Society in Mike's name to honor his brave fight against brain cancer. Donations can be made online at www.brain-tumor.org or mailed to:

National Brain Tumor Society, 55 Chapel Street, Suite 006, Newton, MA 02458.

"There's no need to say goodbye, All the friends and family, All the memories going round, round, round, round, I have wished for so long, how I wish for you today, And the sun is set, The sun will rise another day" — Pearl Jam, "Long Road"

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Alta Fay Cameron, 84

Alta Fay Cameron, beloved mother, grandma and friend, moved on to her heavenly home on Feb. 24, 2022, at Logan Health Whitefish, surrounded by her loving family.

Alta was a lifetime native to the Flathead Valley, born Dec. 31, 1937, to Charles and Frances Hesse, which is where her great love of family began. She was raised with her brother and two sisters and had many childhood stories to tell. She went on to have three children of her own Franny, Vickie and Shane. She has five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Alta was involved in every and any way possible with her family. She was known to be the official/unofficial umpire, score keeper, trainer, coach and grandma at every sporting event she attended. Alta enjoyed being outdoors, going for car rides, fishing, hunting and camping and always found the beauty in the sky, the mountains and the great outdoors. She would often remind us that her daddy always said the Flathead Valley was going to change and so on those many drives she marveled at the changes.

Alta had a longtime career in the waitress world and could tell many stories about the restaurants and interesting people that used to be in the Flathead Valley. She also has a long run of working at Flathead High School as a hall monitor and kept



a drawer full of pictures from students that considered her grandma. Never would you know a harder working lady.

Alta never met a stranger and no matter your age, older or younger, to her you were known as "sweetie." She loved being helpful. After her open heart surgery we had to repossess her snow shovel to keep her from shoveling her neighbors' sidewalks.

Alta was preceded in death by her father, her mother, brother, sister and son-in-law.

She is survived by her daughters, Franny (Jerry) Auger and Vickie Fuselier, and son Shane (Marcy) Corpron; her sister, Etta (Dave) Wyman, two nieces, Wanda Costello and Carmen Wyman; three nephews, Corwin Wyman, Chad Wyman and Jeff Whittlake; one granddaughter, Kourtney (Jeremiah) Jack; four grandsons, Cory (Leslie) Fredericks, Drew Pidino, Derrek (Danielle) Pidino and Heath (Jade) Corpron; nine great-grandchildren, Dorien, Adrien and Beaux Fredericks, Samantha and Axel Pidino, Beau and Dax Corpron, and Kinsley and Kember Jack.

A celebration of life to be held at a warmer date.

—May the winds of heaven blow softly and whisper in your ear.

Duane Carlson, 86

Duane Carlson of Whitefish was born June 9, 1936, in North Dakota to Arthur and Genevieve Carlson. He died at home on July 26, 2022.

He is survived by his wife Kathleen, son Mark (Debbie), and daughter Naomi; grandchildren, Travis (Sophie) Carlson, Elizabeth (Cam) Foster, Abby (Mitchell) Church, Coby Carlson, and Samuel Carlson.

Duane was preceded in death by his son, Dean Carlson, in June of 2013. After high school he served in the United States Marine Corps. He will be remembered for his sense of humor, storytelling (true or make believe), and his love of firearms and gunpowder.

A service will be held at Christ Lutheran Church, Whitefish, on Saturday, July 30, at 10:30 a.m.

Marcus Eugene Carlson, 72



Marcus Eugene Carlson, 72, of Kalispell, died on Jan. 21, 2022, in Phoenix from complications after a double lung transplant due to IPF. He passed away peacefully and was surrounded by the love of his family.

Marc was born in Rockford, Illinois, on Nov. 27, 1949, to Donald and Betty Carlson. As a young man, he enjoyed Scouting, especially camping and canoe trips in Wisconsin and in the Boundary Waters of Minnesota. He and his family were active members at Salem Lutheran Church, where he was confirmed. His family went on summer vacation trips together, visiting many areas of the country. Marc graduated from Rockford East High School in 1967 and then went on to receive a bachelor's degree in psychology from Northern Illinois University in 1973.

In the summer of 1969 while working at the Chiclet Gum Factory, Marc met the love of his life, Jeanne Benkovich, of Roscoe, Illinois. After a few years of long distance dating while attending different universities, they tied the knot on Aug. 18, 1973, in Rockton, Illinois. Marc and Jeanne were happily married for 48 years! They made their first big move from Rockford in 1975 to attend graduate school at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. Marc completed his studies there and received a master's degree in school psychology. While in graduate school, Marc made lifelong friends and learned the importance of building community. After attaining his degree in 1977, Marc hopped on the train heading west for a job interview as a school psychologist in Kalispell. He got the job! He worked in School District 5 for 34 years, retiring in 2011.

Throughout his career he worked with children of all ages and abilities, dedicating himself to building positive and respectful relationships with them. On behalf of the teaching staff of District 5, Marc served as head spokesperson with the negotiation team for the Kalispell Education Association for many years.

Once in Montana, Marc and Jeanne started their great Western adventure full of family, friends, community and beautiful Montana landscapes. In time they had four children, Ture, Evan, Eric and Annie, whom they raised in their home on the Flathead River in the beautiful farmland area of Creston, near Kalispell. Marc shared his enthusiasm and appreciation of nature and the outdoors with his children through hiking, hunting, downhill skiing, cross country skiing and picnicking with them over the years. Some of the family's favorite hiking spots were in the Jewel Basin, Glacier Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness area. When Ture and Evan wanted to learn to downhill ski, he thought he would learn too! Through a class at Flathead Valley Community College, he learned to ski, developing a lifelong passion. He went on to ski with Eric and Annie as well, and spent many fun days together. In addition to skiing with his own family, he taught ski lessons with the Kalispell Ski Club, DREAM Adaptive Skiing Program and Special Olympics on Big Mountain in Whitefish. Marc was a ski coach for special education students at Kalispell Middle School

for many years, celebrating their skiing accomplishments culminating in the Special Olympics Winter Games on the mountain every year.

After retirement, Marc and Jeanne enjoyed traveling to visit their adult children, far and near. Marc loved his family. He was a quiet, intelligent man who expressed his wisdom often with a witty, dry sense of humor. He loved to spend time with his colleagues and friends, having lots of fun and laughter. As a diehard Chicago Cubs fan, Marc was so happy when the team won the World Series Championship in 2016.

Marc and Jeanne were charter members of Northridge Lutheran Church and valued their faith and relationships with their church family. Marc took an active part in his faith journey. He was admired for his listening ear and considerate, thoughtful speaking, holding his comments to meaningful things. Words were very important and he chose them wisely.

During Marc's final years, he and his family experienced an outpouring of generosity and love from their extended Carlson and Benkovich families, friends, neighbors, the Northridge Lutheran Church family, and the Flathead community. The family would like to give their sincere thanks to everyone that helped them travel to Phoenix for Marc's lung transplant, tended to their home and garden while they were away, brought and cooked them nourishing food, and supported Marc and family with thoughts and prayers. The love and support has been overwhelming and the family is so grateful. The family would also like to thank Marc's medical team at Rocky Mountain Heart

and Lung in Kalispell and the Norton Thoracic Institute Medical Team in Phoenix for their excellent, skilled and compassionate care of Marc and our family.

Marc is survived by his wife Jeanne (Kalispell); children Ture (partner Lauren Hopley, Melbourne, Australia), Evan (partner Alex Chavez, Oxnard, California), Eric (wife Jessi Mulowney and daughter Retta, Butte), and Annie (Kalispell); his sisters Gwen Bildahl (husband Richard, Rockford) and Donna Weiden (Gallatin, Tennessee); niece Carrie Summers and family (Rockford), nephew Brian Shimaitis (wife Suzanne and family, Gallatin) and Benkovich family in-laws, niece and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at Northridge Lutheran Church in Kalispell on June 28 at 11 a.m., when the sun is warm and the grass is green. A private family inurnment of Marc's ashes, will be held at a separate time.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in Marc's name may be sent, if desired, to Northridge Lutheran Church, the DREAM program, or the Kalispell Ski Club.

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Amanda Eileen Prichard Cannon

November 23, 2022 8:35 AM

Amanda Eileen Prichard Cannon

Born Dec. 25, 1972 in Kalispell to Darrell and Sandy (Zabel) Prichard. She went to school in Columbia Falls.

She worked a number of years at Freys Meats. She had recently started working at the Deer Park School as a teacher's helper for the kindergarten class — a job she absolutely loved.

She married Martin Cannon on July 10, 1993. She passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on Nov. 14, 2022. She was preceded in death by Father Darrell Prichard, mother-in-law Marlene Cannon, and sister-in-law Kelly Bigoness.

She is survived by husband Martin Cannon; parents Irv and Sandy Coultts of Mississippi; sons Travis and Bri Cannon; David and Ella Cannon; daughter Debra and Eli Scheeler; son Bridger Cannon and daughter Grace Cannon; brother Tom and Kathy Prichard; father-in-law James Cannon; granddaughters Alli-Mai and Rebecca Cannon; and grandson Paxton Scheeler. She is also survived by brother-in-laws James Cannon and Paula Workman; Gary Cannon and Sherie Kuhl, James Bigoness; sister-in-law Sandra Cannon; niece and best friend Mary and Gary Nelson; honorary sister Mandy and Brett Howard; and honorary daughter Kaylee Flanigan; as well as many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

She will be missed by all who knew or met her. She had the biggest heart and loved her family. They were her pride and joy.

There will be a potluck memorial Nov. 26, 2022 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Columbia Falls Senior Citizens Center. All are welcome to come celebrate the life of an amazing woman.



John Charles (Jack) Carabin passed away on March the 12th, 2022 at Logan Hospital in Kalispell of mesothelioma lung cancer. Memorial services were held at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls on March 18th. Pastor Craig Seavo presiding.

Jack was born in Butte May 25th 1942 to Tom and Ann Carabin. When he was 8 his family moved to Libby where he would grow up. Jack's life was almost cut short at 18 in a mountain climbing accident. Jack was in a coma for weeks, the hospital for months and it would be a year before he learned how to walk again. After recovering from his accident he became a deputy sheriff and served in Lincoln County for five years. During this time he met the love of his life, Jan Sherrick. After being married for a couple years Jack and Jan moved to Kalispell and where Jack got a job at the Anaconda Aluminum factory, where he would work for the next 40 years.

Jack was a dedicated husband, father and Christian. He was a scout master, a peeewe baseball coach and helped raise countless chickens and rabbits for his boys to take to the fair. Jack loved to hunt and taught both his boys the love of hunting as well as a love of firearms. Jack also taught his boys to fish and camp and would spend almost every weekend with his family at Talley Lake.

While Jack didn't have a lot of personal hobbies he was an avid fan of John Wayne and he collected all things John Wayne from movie posters, to statues, to guns and knives and anything else based on the movies.

Jack's spiritual life was important to him and he wore out multiple Bibles. His relationship with Christ would guide most of his adult life. Jack was a giving man. He never had much but what he did have he made sure that he shared with others.

When he wasn't giving he was serving first at home, then in the church and in his later years at the senior center and as a meals on wheels driver.

Jack is preceded in death by his wife Jan, his mother and father and his sister Bobbie. Jack is survived by his eldest son JD Carabin and his wife Nicci and their son Thomas; his youngest son John Carabin and his two sons Elijah and Marshall; his younger brother Jim Carabin as well as multiple nieces and nephews.

Kenneth V. Carpenter, 74

Kenneth V. Carpenter, MD, 74, passed away March 7, 2022, at his home.

Ken was born March 22, 1947, to Kenneth and Jean Carpenter in Ponca City, Oklahoma, in 1947. The family soon moved to Great Bend, Kansas, and then to Idaho Falls, Idaho. Ken attended high school at St. Lawrence Seminary in Mt. Calvary, Wisconsin. He attended Carroll College and then Creighton University School of Medicine. He completed a surgical internship and orthopedic surgery residency at the Phoenix Orthopedic Residency Program in Phoenix.

He married Linda Thomas. They had two sons, Jason and Joshua. They later divorced. After completing residency they returned to Helena where he joined Dr. Harris Hanson at the Helena Orthopedic Clinic. Dr. Carpenter served the greater Helena community for 28 years. He was a dedicated and caring surgeon who always enjoyed a good laugh with his OR crew, colleagues and office staff. After retiring from private practice he went to work at VA Montana, retiring in 2017. He took great pride in caring for Montana veterans



Glacier Park. They loved floating the forks of the Flathead River.

Ken took great pride in refining Theresa's fly fishing skills. He always took the oars and put her on the fish. In deciding on the best trip they ever took, Ken chose the five day float/fish trip in the Great Bear Wilderness on the Middle Fork of the Flathead with Ol' Lary and crew. They liked it so much they did it twice. His great joy was downhill skiing with Josh, Amber and his grandchildren every weekend at Big Mountain. He also looked forward to attending his grandkids sporting events and dance performances.

A year ago his diagnosis required he and Theresa to relocate to Salt Lake City. They were so very grateful for the doctors, medical team and researchers at Huntsman Cancer Institute. They had amazing support from their friends Carmen and Gunnar; Pete and Jenni; and "Peam Carpenter." His brother Mike was able to spend a couple weeks as his caregiver in SLC. He

and forming some of his greatest friendships with his orthopedic colleagues and nurses.

He had the privilege of serving on the board of directors of Valley Bank of Helena for 15 years. It was one of the great experiences of his life. Earlier he had served on the board of directors of St. Peter's Hospital, becoming the first physician to be chosen chairman. He worked as a medical advisor/peer review physician for Montana State Fund, where he made many good friends. He also worked in the same capacity for Montana School Groups Interlocal Authority and the Montana Mutual Interlocal Authority.

He partnered with Theresa Vonada and embarked on a 17-year adventure. Riley Sheldon and Kailey Sheldon were added to the family. The ensuing years were filled with satisfying work and a lot of play. There was biking, hiking, floating, fishing, golfing, traveling and trips to his brother Mike's cabin on the Madison River. There was the yearly pilgrimage to see son Jason in Eugene, Oregon, and root for the Ducks. Ken and Theresa loved college football season. They planned their fall schedules around all their favorite teams. They subsequently moved to Columbia Falls and made many more lasting friendships. They enjoyed the adventures of Northwest Montana, particularly exploring

and Kailey formed their own special bond as she supported him in multiple ways throughout his cancer journey. Ken chose to spend the last several weeks of his life back in his beloved Montana surrounded by friends and family. He particularly enjoyed reading the cards from former co-workers at St. Peter's Hospital, VA Montana and the Helena Orthopedic Clinic.

Ken is survived by his wife, Theresa; sons, Jason, Josh (Amber, Owen, Marlo and Lola), and Riley; and daughter, Kailey. He is also survived by his siblings, Jane Ruggiero, Mary Buttolph (Tom), Mike (Kimberly), Amy Geary (Dave), and Pat; Ray Van Dyke; Ray Vonada; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Phyllis Van Dyke, and mother-in-law Ella Vonada.

Per his request there will be no funeral service. The family is planning a celebration of life in Helena this summer.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials in his honor to Kenneth V. Carpenter Scholarship Fund, Carroll College, 1601 N. Benton Avenue, Helena, MT 59625; Huntsman Cancer Institute, <https://give.huntsman-cancer.org/page/30815/donate/1>; or Be the Match, <https://www.bethematchfoundation.org>. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Charles 'Chas' Stewart Cartwright, 72

Charles "Chas" Stewart Cartwright passed away on Sept. 24, 2022, at the age of 72 in Cortez, Colorado. His characteristic grit and strength shone through as he battled serious medical issues. While he finally succumbed to his health challenges, he was able to find relief surrounded by some of his loved ones at the time of his passing.

Chas had the perfect career because he could combine his love for the outdoors, fitness and environmental advocacy through 40 years of service! After he got his degree in archeology from Michigan State in 1972, he headed west to pursue his dream.

He started as a fire lookout, river ranger and firefighter. He became the first permanent archae-



ologist at Natural Bridges National Monument, as well as at Canyonlands and Arches National Parks. His career also included superintendent positions at Hovenweep National Monument, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, Devils Tower National Monument, Dinosaur National Monument, Shenandoah National Park and Glacier National Park.

He was also the acting superintendent at Carlsbad Caverns National Park and National Bridges National Monument. He additionally served as the associate

to the deputy director of the National Park Service in Washington, D.C.

One of his proudest achievements was leading and spearheading the creation of the Glacier National Park Conservancy, which has successfully funded multiple projects to strengthen and protect the environment.

He enjoyed biking, skiing, swimming, hiking and kayaking with his family and friends. Being the athlete he was, he also competed in triathlons and won many events. His great (and yes, sometimes silly) sense of humor will be missed. He was always up for a good laugh!

Chas met the love of his life, Lynda, when she bought a kayak from him. That purchase turned

into so much more! As they say, the rest is history! During their 32-plus years of marriage, they lived all over the U.S. enjoying their outdoor adventures and meeting great people along the way.

Chas is survived by his wife, Lynda Stocks; his son John Visser (Sara) and daughter Monique McDermott (Patrick); six grandchildren, Tyson, Jordan (Sydney), Logan (Sierra), Sydney (Ethan), Jackson and London; and by two great-granddaughters, Sloane and Shiloh. He is also survived by his sister, Lynn Cartwright; and his uncle, Bill Cartwright (Sandy).

A celebration of life with his family will happen at a future date not yet determined.

Frank Carson Castles, Jr., 75

Frank Carson Castles, Jr. passed away unexpectedly on Monday, June 20, 2022 in Lakeside doing what he loved: giving of his time and skills to Mission Builders International where he had been a longtime board member and contributor.

Born Dec. 31, 1946, in Starkville, Mississippi, Frank was an avid Mississippi State fan. He served overseas as a Navy Seabee during the Vietnam War. After returning to the states, he enrolled in Mississippi State University earning a B.S. degree in civil engineering. He owned a civil engineering firm in both Tupelo and Saittilo, Mississippi before serving as the Associate City Engineer for Kaispell for several years.



A loving family man, Frank was known affectionately as Big Daddy. He was strong in his Christian faith and passed those values to his family along with his love for the outdoors and fishing. He and his wife, Relda enjoyed life to the fullest, taking many trips to Montana and Israel where they shared their faith and spiritual gifts, resulting in countless adventures, wonderful memories, and lifetime friendships.

Frank is survived by

his loving wife of 50 years, Relda Castles of Oxford, MS, three children, Kenny Castles (Donna) of Tupelo, Darlene Castles of Saittilo and Robby Castles of Phoenix, AZ, six grandchildren, Kyle Castles (Lauren) of Franklin, TN, Caitlyn Dulaney (Hunter) of Tuscaloosa, AL, Joshua Vandyke (Vanessa) of Guntown, MS, Chandler Castles (Cheyenne) of Guntown, MS, Zoe Melton of Tupelo and Dakota Melton of Tupelo; seven great grandchildren; two brothers, Hugh Castles (Rosa) of Arkansas, David Castles (Debbie) of Tupelo and one sister, Peggy Groves of Pass Christian, MS.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Carson and Iris Castles of Starkville, MS and by his

youngest daughter, Ruby Michelle (Shelle) Castles Melton of Tupelo.

Services will be 1 p.m., Friday, July 1, 2022, at Holland Funeral home in Tupelo, Mississippi, with burial immediately following at Lee Memorial Park in Verona, Mississippi.

Visitation will be two hours prior to the funeral service at the funeral home. Pallbearers will be Joshua Vandyke, Kyle Castles, Chandler Castles, Hunter Dulaney, Hugh Castles, and David Castles.

Flowers are welcome or memorials can be made to Mission Builders International at PO Box 406, Lakeside, MT 59922, www.missionbuilders.org/ donate or Fields of Wheat, PO Box 729, Middlefield, OH 44062.

Jason Lee Catron, 47

Jason Lee Catron, 47, of Bigfork, left us to pursue other adventures on Sept. 2, 2022, as the result of a tragic accident.

He was born April 9, 1975, in Sweeney, Texas, to Oren Lee Catron and Thorma Rhea (Lounsbury) Catron. Jason graduated in 1993 from Selah High School in Selah, Washington, as salutatorian of his class. He joined the Marine Corps after high school and graduated Company Honor Man.

Jason was one of the fortunate few to have found his dream career at an early age. His unique experiences in the commercial construction world enabled him to lead a variety of projects and he was particularly proud of the project that brought him to Montana: the 2003-2004 remodel of the Grizzly Stadium in Missoula. He lived in many states in the Pacific Northwest, but during childhood Jason enjoyed rodeo activities and hunting with his father and brother. Later, he enjoyed paddleboarding with his dog, Thor, in the summer as well as golfing. He was an avid skier and loved

riding his sled up in the powder in the mountains in the winter. There was no activity that Jason wouldn't try and he had a love of adventure rarely seen. On his first hunting trip to Africa, he used a traditional recurve bow to take five trophy animals and his favorite was the nyala that beat Fred Bear's earlier record by 1/16."



Jason placed high importance on personal growth and education and he married Gina Raye Bjorkman on May 20, 2022, in a beautiful ceremony in Whitefish.

Jason is survived by his loving wife, Gina, of Bigfork; his parents, Oren and Thorma (Lounsbury) Catron, of Hamilton; two sisters, Donna and Debra (Don) Russell; a brother, Daniel (Gina) Catron; and two stepchildren from a previous marriage, Brandon (Lynda) Isaacson of Yakima, Washington, and Shashomie Earhardt of Hamilton.

He is also survived

by many, many loving friends, especially Bill and Rhonda (Tupper) Randall of Kaispell, and colleagues.

Jason was preceded in death by a brother, Ora Catron, who died in infancy; paternal grandmother, Della Maye Catron, of Seligman, Missouri; maternal grandmother, Lila Lounsbury and maternal grandfather Ervin Lounsbury, of Naches, Washington.

An outdoor service is planned for Saturday, Sept 17, between 2 and 5 p.m. at the Harbor Village Pavilion in Bigfork. John Creamer will officiate.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the charity of your choice or to Jason's non-profit organization, The Catron Foundation, so that we may continue his good works in the community.

The family is asking for pictures, stories, and memories of Jason to preserve the vitality he possessed.

Jason was a man of many talents, a genuine and generous person who wanted to see everyone achieve their best self. He was truly one of a kind and will be missed by so

many.
In his words that will outlive us all: Let's get to work!

Thomas D. Caudill, 86

Thomas D. Caudill passed away May 25, 2022.

Tom was born May 11, 1937, in Fort Peck, Montana, to Oscar and Emma Caudill. He was the fifth child of seven. His family moved to Kalispell during his early childhood. He remained in Kalispell, going to Elrod and Flathead County High School. He graduated with the Class of 1956. During high school he met Gloria Harshbarger and fell in love. They married in 1958. Tom and Gloria had three children, Wade, Rodney and Kimberly. After 52 years of marriage, Gloria passed in 2010.

Tom was always interested in machines and started with his first bicycle cobbled together from two cast offs when he was 8 years old. He had his bicycle repair shop for the neighborhood from then on. Tom's generosity

and helpful nature carried on into high school with studying auto/body ... always helping and sharing his ever-increasing knowledge of cars. Cars were his passion (after Gloria and family). Tom was a self-made man with the ability to fix anything. He never met a stranger, which made him a "natural car salesman," at the auto dealerships he worked. His opinion was valued by friends and customers. During the last 20 years of his working career, Tom worked for the Flathead County Road Department as an auto/body mechanic. After his retirement he spent time volunteering at Trinity Lutheran Church and School and Flathead Lutherans For Life using his lifelong skills of repairing and building. He was a member of the Glacier Street Rod Association and Pioneer

Auto Club.

In 2014 Tom met and married Geraldine Young. Together they enjoyed car shows and traveling throughout the United States and Mexico. Tom especially enjoyed spending winters in Arizona, going to the music concerts, car shows and other snowbird entertainment.

Tom was preceded in death by his first wife, Gloria, brothers Gerald, Norman and Clarence, sisters Lorraine Clothier and Ellen Baker, his son Rodney, grandson Jeremy McVicker, and several nieces and nephews.

Tom is survived by his wife, Geraldine, his sister Helen Lancaster (Jim), sister-in-law Helen Caudill, his son Wade Caudill (Ruth),



daughter Kim McVicker (Bob), grandsons Andy McVicker (Barbie) and Ben Caudill (Amy), granddaughter Katie Foreman (Tom), and many nieces and nephews, all of Western Montana. He also is survived by grandsons Cody Caudill and Ryan Caudill of Post Falls, Idaho, and granddaughter LeighAnn Caudill of Spokane, nine great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews whom he dearly loved.

A memorial celebration of Tom's life will be held June 11 at 2 p.m. at 190 Meadow Vista Loop, Meadow Condos Club House, Four Mile Drive, Kalispell. Please bring your favorite "Tom Story" and a plate of cookies to share.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in Tom's name may be sent, if desired, to Lutherans For Life or Trinity Lutheran Church.

DIL P, A5 9 MAR 2022
John 'Bunky' Cavalal, 92

John "Bunky" Cavalal passed away March 3, 2022, in Columbia Falls.

He was born Dec. 23, 1929, in Kalispell to Otta Cavalal from Old Country-Austria and Lena Mengon of Butte.

Bunky came from a large family including cousins, uncles, aunts, nieces, and nephews. He loved those large family gatherings with delicious home cooked meals by his mother.

Bunky graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1949 and went straight to work in the United States Army from August 1951 to August 1953. Bunky received the Good Conduct medal and stayed enlisted in the Reserves for eight more years. He was a general operator and taught the troops how to run radars.

Bunky worked for Plum Creek for 17 years and also worked road construction in the Laborers Union for



over 10 years. He enjoyed telling stories and reminiscing about his past.

Bunky loved strawberry milkshakes, hamburgers and Chips Ahoy cookies. He would enjoy an occasional Budweiser. He loved watching his favorite player, Mickey Mantle, play for his favorite team, the Yankees.

In addition to his parents, Bunky was preceded in death by his brother, Richard Cavalal.

A celebration of John "Bunky" Cavalal's life will be held at a later date. Columbia Mortuary will be handling services for the family. To send online condolences, please visit www.columbiamortuary.com.



Floretta 'Flossie' L. Barnard Caverly, 82

Floretta "Flossie" L. Barnard Caverly passed into the loving arms of our heavenly Father on Dec. 15, 2021, at the age of 82, at her family home in Bigfork after a long battle with cancer. She was surrounded by her loving family.

Floretta was born in Polson on Aug. 9, 1939, to Montana and Margaret Hahn Barnard. She was raised in Kalispell, Bigfork and Polson. She married Kenneth E. Caverly on Sept. 22, 1956, and they had three children, Katherine, Karon and Kenneth L. They raised their family in Bigfork, Polson and Pablo, finally returning back to Bigfork.


Floretta worked as a waitress at the Pablo Cafe and the South Shore Inn in Polson, a nurse's aide at the St. Joseph Hospital in Polson, and was later a homemaker for the Lake County Social Services for 25 years. They moved back to Bigfork and she worked at the Lakeview Care Center, Harvest Foods and The Korner Kitchen.

She was involved with the Bigfork 4-H for 26 years and the Bigfork Piecemakers Quilt Guild.

She was a loving wife, sister, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt and sister-in-law. She was a friend to everyone and would do anything for anyone. She was a caregiver — she loved caring for and helping people. She was quick to forgive and encourage. She loved spending time with her family and friends. She was truly a beautiful soul.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Montana J. Barnard and Margaret Beatty, her husband of 48 years, Kenneth E. Caverly; daughter, Karon Caverly; son-in-law, Rodney Standley; great-grandson, Sawyer Caverly; brother, Robert Barnard; and brother-in-law, James Caverly.

She is survived by her daughter, Katherine



Standley; son, Kenneth Caverly, and great-grandchild, Zack Caverly of family home in Bigfork; brother, Montana (Jud) Barnard of Deer Park, Washington; sister, Al (LaVern) Clark of Libby; sister, Christina Hall of Lincoln City, Oregon; brother, Christ (Louis) Sarroff of Shelton, Washington; sister-in-law and best friend, Sherry Caverly of Bigfork; sister-in-law, Penny Barnard of Quartzite, Arizona; nine grandchildren, Pat Standley of Missoula, Shana (Bob) Wolfe of Lewiston, Idaho, Genn Cook (Jeremy Prior) of Wenatchee, Washington, Tim (Billie Sue) Caverly of Mineral, Washington and Travis Caverly (Sue Weaver) of Polson; nine great-grandchildren and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

A celebration of life for Floretta "Flossie" will be held on Saturday, June 11, at the Lone Pine Cemetery in Bigfork at 11 a.m., with a potluck gathering to follow at Swan River Hall.

Benton C. Cavin

WP P. B4 13 APR 2022

Benton Cavin, lover of okra, sugar pines, and country roads, died at his home in Whitefish, Montana, March 8, 2022.

Born in California, Ben grew up in Madera County, where he developed a lifelong passion for hiking among the trees and mountains. He attended Hawkins School, a one-room schoolhouse, graduated from Sierra High, went on to Stanford University, and worked as a civil engineer and cost estimator. He made many close friends throughout his career and worked on projects that took him around the world. In 1970, he married Doreen Ibsen, with whom he raised three children in the San Francisco Bay Area. After retiring, they returned to Doreen's family home in Whitefish, where he hiked every day and "got heavy into local politics," as he would say.

Ben loved people. He chatted with folks everywhere he went, befriending baristas, joking with the ladies at the Post Office (typically arriving moments before they



closed), and querying passersby about where they were from and who they were related to. He adored his aunts, uncles, and cousins, and when he married Doreen, he memorialized her family tree, paid homage to her ancestors, and looked forward to Ibsen get-togethers ("I always like to see a gathering of the blood!" he would say.)

Ben revered trees. Before his kids could tie their shoes, he was already teaching them how to recognize a ponderosa pine and how to distinguish between a white fir and a red fir,

and explaining that the best tree of all was the sugar pine. His first memories were of running through the forest at Soquel, the family timber property where he spent much of his youth. He devoted 32 years to winning a legal dispute over the property with the U.S. Forest Service, who clearly hadn't anticipated such a stubborn opponent.

Ben craved exploration, and when he was driving he could not resist turning off onto dirt roads or, when he was hiking, simply abandoning the trail. Every summer, he took his boys on backpacking trips, scouting routes over formidable passes and sleeping under the stars or - when it rained - under the meager shelter of a decades-old "tent" that was really just a piece of ragged plastic ineffectually patched with duct tape. One of his favorite journeys to recount was a 127-hour train ride across Sudan in 1968, where he slept on top of a moving train and ran through miles of desert trying to

find a place that served cold beer.

Ben was preceded in death by his wife Doreen, and is survived by his daughter Lise, his son Andrew and his wife Catherine, his son Aaron and his wife Katie, his niece Roberta and her husband Ray, nephew Mitchell and his wife Erika, three grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and a pet plecostomus.

Ben requested that half his ashes be buried in California and half in Whitefish, and accordingly two memorial services will be held.

Sunday, May 29, 2 p.m. at Soquel, Ben's property near Oakhurst, California.

Saturday, July 30, noon, interment of Ben's ashes at the Whitefish Cemetery, followed by a reception and toasts to Ben at the Moose Lodge in Whitefish, Montana from 1-3 p.m.

Donations to the Whitebark Pine Foundation can be made in Ben's honor.

Marilyn Ann (Gray) Champoux, 89



taught for a school district in the area. They had their first child, Carolyn. The young family

moved to Kalispell in the fall of 1967 so Rick could be a founding professor of history and political science at Flathead Valley Community College.

Daughter Carla and son Mark followed after the family was settled in Kalispell. Marilyn was hired as a teacher at Evergreen Junior High and worked there for over 30 years until her retirement. She would have loved to continue-teaching forever. She liked to talk with her daughters and granddaughter who also became teachers about their classes. She couldn't fathom how computers had anything to do with learning and what teaching classes online meant!

Marilyn was known for her delicious homemade dessert bars, hospitality, love of gardening, walking, and deeply caring for others, which included students, family, friends and neighbors. Everyone

looked forward to her Halloween, Valentine and Easter care packages that arrived in the mail regularly each year. She was a lifelong church goer and her Bible study group of over 10 years was very important to her. She missed their weekly get-togethers over the last two years during Covid. She and Rick were also Griz football season ticket holders and looked forward to the fall games and opportunities to tailgate with Bev and her husband Bob. Marilyn loved living in the Flathead Valley, attending Flathead High School band and Glacier Symphony and Chorale concerts, lectures at FVCC, plays in Bigfork, P.E.O. meetings, tending to her garden at the family cabin on Echo Lake, and monthly lunches with the retired Evergreen teachers group.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents, sister Carol, spouse Rick and friend Bev.

She is survived by her daughter Carolyn (Gary) Kinniburgh, Hannah and Courtney (grandkids) of Enumclaw, Washington; daughter Carla (Eric) Woehler, Elise and

Daniel of Missoula; and son Mark (Leah) Champoux, Zoe and Mila of Minneapolis. None of us would be who we are today without the constant support our mom gave us throughout our lives. She was always there to help with a paper route, pick us up from work in high school, attend any function that involved her kids/grandkids and instill the importance of showing up when others are in need.

The family would like to express appreciation to the staff at Prestige Assisted Living and Home Hospice in Kalispell for their compassionate care of our mom.

The family is planning a service at a later date.

Online condolences can be sent to the family at Johnson-Gloschat Mortuary in Kalispell.

Memorials can be sent to the Evergreen School District Student College Scholarship fund at Evergreen SD 18, W. Evergreen Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901 Attn: Business Office/Scholarship Fund. Marilyn would also love to know you planted gladiolus bulbs in a garden in her memory. They were her favorite flower.

Judee (Fish) Channell, 74

Judee M. (Fish) Channell, born June 12, 1948, passed away peacefully Jan. 20, 2022, in Sonora, California.

Raised in Columbia Falls, the oldest child of legendary Bill and Maxine Fish, she would graduate high school there in 1966 as a national honor society student. Continuing her education, she graduated Montana State University before going on to earn her Master of Business Administration degree from Oklahoma State University.

In 1971 she married Loren Brown, having two children together, Russell and Darrell Brown. Moving to California in 1976, she taught at a business school in Modesto before settling in Sonora where she was welcomed into a local law firm. It was there she met and happily married Hal Channell, the two of them starting their own successful firm and running it together until retirement.

A devoted sports fan, Judee supported the San Francisco Giants and, especially, the 49ers all her years in California. It's been speculated however her pining for home led her to love a quarter-



back named Montana in the first place. She was also an avid softball player and a fantasy football fanatic. A lover of books, puzzles, and cats of all sizes, Judee was kind, with a pleasant, easy laugh her family and friends will always remember.

She is survived by her loving husband of 33 years Hal Channell of Sonora, stepdaughter Leslie Channell of San Diego, two sons, Russell Brown with wife Sara of Anchorage, Alaska, and Darrell Brown of Kalspell; along with two grandchildren Levi Brown with wife Charlotte, and Carson Brown. She is also survived by three notorious brothers, Rance, Eddy and Kenny Fish — all wanted and still at large in the Flathead Valley.

She was preceded in death by her father Al Sitrer, her dad Bill Fish, and mother Maxine Freeman. A celebration of life will be held July 30 at the family farm at 2020 Trumble Creek Road in Kalspell.

Gary 'Fats' Chapman, 75

Gary "Fats" Chapman, 75, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022 at his home in Kalspell, after a courageous five year battle with cancer. He was born on June 6, 1947, in Butte, Montana.

Fats moved from Butte to Salt Lake City, Utah when he was five. He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps (USMC) in January 1967. He served his time in Vietnam, achieving the rank of corporal. He received the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" for saving a fellow marine while in the field. He was proud to be a marine. His passing happened on the 24th USMC birthday. It was very fitting for a former marine. Semper Parati Fats. When he was discharged from the Marine



Corps, he followed in his stepdad's footsteps and became a roofing contractor. He finally retired from the roofing business when he was 65.

In 1992, Fats met the love of his life, Diane Hoopes. In 1997, they moved to Kalspell, which was a dream of his. He loved to hunt and fish — what better place than Montana. Fats got to be with his grandson Brock when he shot his first deer. What a proud moment that was for him. One thing he wanted to do was take his granddaughter Bree hunting this year but his health did not allow it. He loved taking young kids under

his wing to teach them how to hunt and fish, always looking to take someone on the youth hunts. He took his young cousin, Jake Culver, on such hunts, both the migratory bird and big-game hunt. What a joy he had doing this. He also taught Jake the love of ice fishing. The love of these things will live on through Jake. Jake shared his love of hunting and ice fishing with his dad. Fats also had a love of watching his grandkids play sports. He would watch them play whenever he could. Fats had a love for softball and would follow Kalspell county recreation teams around the state to play in tournaments as well as the weekly games played at the Conrad complex in Kalspell.

Fats was preceded

in death by his mother, Peggy White; stepdad Ken White; sisters Judy Taylor and Patty Jo Gier; brother Larry White; and his grandson Brock Danowski.

Fats is survived by his best friend of 30 years, Diane Hoopes; daughter Kellie (Jeff) Saارين; son Josh (Gynelle) Danowski; grandchildren Bree Saارين, Jet Danowski, Beau Danowski and Quinalan Nevin.

A celebration of life will be held late spring/early summer of 2023. Friends are encouraged to visit our website at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

Darrell Joseph Christofferson, 75

Darrell Joseph Christofferson went to be with the Lord at home in Kalspell on Aug. 8, 2022, following complications from cancer treatment.

Darrell was born on Nov. 7, 1946, in Kalspell to Jack and Barbara Christofferson. He spent his early childhood with his brother, Bruce, in Halfmoon, near Columbia Falls, where his dad worked at Stoltz Lumber Co. At age 11, the family moved to Polson, where his dad worked as a lumber broker. When Darrell was 12 he lost his mother due to an aneurysm. Darrell's father remarried and a younger brother, Don, joined the family.

After high school graduation, Darrell joined the Navy at age 17. He loved serving his country, and spent 22 years doing so, mostly as an avionics technician and then as a drug and alcohol counselor. As a technician he was a radioman on P-2 and P-3 airplanes, which were being used to track Soviet submarines at the time. He was stationed in Florida most of the time, but spent time in Washington, D.C., some time on the Forrestal aircraft carrier, and his final time in Bermuda before retiring. During his military service he traveled to many countries, his favorites being Spain, Norway and Iceland. He also became an airplane pilot and, with friends, owned an airplane for



several years. Darrell's son, Jason, was born in 1972, to Darrell and his first wife. They divorced, but Darrell cherished his son, and spent as much time as possible with him. After Navy retirement Darrell moved back to Montana, and went to work as a press operator at the Daily Inter Lake. He worked there for 20 years. During this time he met Ardis, and after dating for a year, they were married in July of 1991, and celebrated 31 years of marriage a month before he passed away. Darrell loved the four stepchildren who joined him as his own, and raised his youngest, Ashley.

After retiring from the newspaper, Darrell became a bus driver. He loved driving tour buses, and made many trips up to Canada, Colorado, and much of the Northwest. He also drove a school bus route for a while, and then drove buses mostly for school activities, his favorite being sports and eighth grade Montana history trips. He was a Montana history buff, with many history books, and loved to do narrative

on the trips. Darrell's hobbies included sailing, fishing, camping, hunting, horseback riding, flying airplanes and traveling. He also was a licensed Ham radio operator, and enjoyed talking to people all over the world. He loved animals, especially his dogs, cats and horses.

Darrell was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Barbara; his beloved grandparents, Henning, Anna and Beulah; his uncle, Ted; and aunt, Eva; and a great-grandchild, Forrest. He is survived by his wife, Ardis; his brothers, Bruce (Carla) and Don; his son, Jason (Sierra); stepchildren, Clint (Mendi), Shawnee (Scott), Jeremy, and Ashley (Brandon); 11 grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and a niece and nephew with their spouses and children, plus many extended family members.

A celebration of life will be held on Sept. 24 at 10:30 a.m. at Canvas Church in Kalspell. Darrell loved his Lord, Canvas Church, and his church family. He was a door host for many years and loved meeting and greeting everyone who came through his door.

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

Thale Ileen Chubb-Balding, 86

Born in Wolf Point, Montana, November 14th 1935, Thale Ileen Chubb-Balding went to the Lord on June 30, 2022, at the age of 86.

Thale moved with her parents, Howard and Gertrude Chubb, to property they purchased in 1936 from Stoltz Lumber Company. She attended Columbia Falls Schools and graduated in 1954. She married Samuel Deardurff in 1954. They had three sons, Michael, Daniel and Timothy. They lived in Montana and California, Camp Pendleton where Sam was in the Marines; they later divorced.

Living in the Flathead most of her adult life, Thale worked various jobs while raising her three sons. Her most notable position was activity director at Brendan House in Kalspell. Her retirement was spent volunteering for R.S.Y.P. She led the Sunshine Chorus and Kitchen Band as they entertained at nursing homes.

Thale married Donald Balding Feb. 14, 2001. They spent many happy hours enjoying Flathead Lake at their home on Angel Point. He passed May 13, 2008. Thale then returned to her home on Chubb Lane.

She is survived by her two sons Michael (Karen) Deardurff and Timothy Deardurff; six grandchildren and multiple great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be on Friday, July 8, at First Baptist Church, 827 9th St. W. Columbia Falls, with viewing at 10 a.m., and the service beginning at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, Thale requested to please donate to the Parkinson's Foundation.

Ryan Anthony Cislo, 43

Ryan Anthony Cislo, 43, passed away unexpectedly on June 6, 2022, in Panama City Beach, Florida.

Ryan was born in Polson on Nov. 3, 1978, to the late Brian A. Cislo and Kimberlee Cislo Ross. Ryan and his family moved to Kalspell in 1979.



He attended grade schools at Evergreen and Somers and later in Kalspell. Ryan always had an adventurous spirit and a heart of gold; not to mention a pretty witty sense of humor.

Ryan was very talented. He enjoyed working with rocks and operating all kinds of heavy equipment and creating beautiful outdoor and indoor spaces with natural stone as well as concrete. He had jobs in landscaping, sandblast-

ing, installing sprinkler systems, road building and many other things.

He loved being at the ocean in Panama City Beach where he lived with his girlfriend Janell Armstrong.

Ryan's pride and joys were his daughters, Jade Sherman and Alexis Cislo. You could see his soul shine when he spoke of his children.

Ryan is survived by his loving mother, Kimberlee Ross, his stepdad Jay Jacobson, two sisters Ashlee Cislo Pickering and Amy Cislo Downing, Ryan's daughters Jade Sherman and Alexis Cislo, as well as his girlfriend Janell Armstrong, and many loved ones.

There will be a celebration of life for Ryan Anthony Cislo on Sept. 24 at 2 p.m. in Lakeside at Volunteer Park. Please join us to share stories, memories and enjoy time with family and friends at the lake.

Leon 'Bud' Clark, 94

Leon Dale Clark passed away on Aug. 11, 2022.

Leon was born Oct. 1, 1927, on the farm of LD and Merle Clark in Lodgepole, South Dakota. Leon's older sister (Carol) couldn't say "brother," so she called him Bud, which followed him through his life. At 1 year old Leon contracted spinal meningitis which affected his motor skills for the rest of his life.

In 1935 Bud's family moved to Kalspell. At that time he had two more sisters (Phyllis and Rita), and his last sister (Karen) in 1945. He was the thorn amongst the roses.

Bud graduated from Flathead County High School in 1945, at which time he enlisted in the Army. He was honorably discharged in 1947 from Fort Monroe, Virginia. He was very proud to be one of the few World War II vets left in the valley.

Through his life he had many different jobs; lumber mills, logging,

farmer/rancher, railroad, highway department, delivery truck driver in LA, and school bus owner and operator. He went to work in Glacier National Park in 1957 and retired as trails maintenance foreman in 1990. After retirement he worked for Arctic Circle in Kalspell from 1993 to 2005.

He felt blessed for his years spent in Glacier Park and the backcountry, and the friends he made over the years. He was tough as nails, but it was said he could be as stubborn as some of the mules he rode in Glacier National Park. But he was respected by most every one who crossed paths with him.

In 1961 Bud married his sweetie, Patricia Dragonfly, in San Diego. They had three children, Lori, Lorne and LaVonne. Pat enjoyed years of family time. They spoke fondly of the time spent with their many nieces and nephews at the farm and in Glacier Park.



Bud was preceded in death by his loving wife, Pat, in December 2021. He was also preceded in death by his parents, LD and Merle Clark, infant son Larry David, sisters Carol Hodgson and Phyllis Claridge, and son-in-law Wayne Riddle.

He is survived by his sisters, Karen (Bill) Obermayer and Rita (Herb) White; sister-in-law, Margaret (Maurice) Burns; brother-in-law, Paul Fossler; children, LaVonne (Kevin) Basson, Lori (Charles) DeRosier, and Lorne (Donise) Clark; grandchildren, Jarrod (Cherylynn) Kinsey, Kristina (Wayne) Bieber, Michael Riddle, Logan Clark, James DeRosier, Jenna (Tanner) Dana,

and Lauren Clark; and seven great-grandchildren, JoHanna, Cheyenne, Ayana, Acaydia, Kingston, Jaxon and Braelynn.

Bud loved and cherished his grandchildren and great-grandchildren and the time they got to spend together.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Michael J. Fox Foundation or any other Parkinson's disease research foundation, in honor of his late wife, Pat.

There will be a viewing for family and friends at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home on Friday, Aug. 19, from 10 a.m. to noon. The funeral and burial service will be held at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home on Monday, Aug. 22, at 11 a.m., with burial services at Glacier Gardens to follow. A luncheon will follow at Lavonne and Kevin's house to follow.

Phyllis Claridge, 89

Phyllis Maxine Claridge passed peacefully into the presence of Jesus, March 13, 2022, in Kalspell.

Phyllis was born May 7, 1932 in Lodgepole, South Dakota, at home with the help of a midwife. She was the third of five children born to L.D. and Merle Clark. The family moved from South Dakota, to the Flathead Bissell area in 1935. She attended Bissell School and graduated from Flathead County High School in May, 1950.

June 4, 1950, she married Lorren Claridge at Lorren's grandparents, Joe and Carrie Claridge's West Valley home. 50 years later they renewed their wedding vows in front of the same fireplace at the same home with all their family in attendance! They were married 54 years until Lorren's passing in 2005.

Lorren's work with the State Highway Department kept them moving until they put down roots back in Kalspell so the children could stay in one school district.

Phyllis felt the family they raised was their greatest accomplishment.

Phyllis loved her work as a licensed practical nurse at Kalspell General Hospital. When she could no longer work because of a diagnosis of MS, she volunteered for Hospice. Phyllis was a very loving caregiver.

Phyllis was an accomplished knitter, crocheter, seamstress and artist. She made each of her 10 grandchildren a custom sweater that suited each little personality. They were all so proud of their very own "made by grandma" sweater! She cherished her 10 grands plus 26 great-grands.

Grandma Phyllis was known for her always full jelly bean jar and yummy molasses cookies for the "old" and the young kids! Phyllis was an active

member of the Methodist Church where she had many precious friends. She also treasured her Wednesday morning group of Bible study gals who graciously met at her house when she could no longer drive.

Phyllis was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, her older sister Carol and, recently, her sister-in-law Pat Clark.

Phyllis' son Don, wife Naomi, son Jerry, wife Melody, daughter Debi Willcut, husband John, son Greg and wife Paula survive her, along with her grandchildren, Kimberly Helseth (Chris), Tanner Claridge (Katie), Angie Dederda (Danny), JD Claridge (Kara), Tiffany Warren (Barry), Justin Willcut (Deann), Johnny Willcut (Brynn), Stryder Claridge (Sarah), Spencer Claridge (Taalyr), and Sierra Claridge. And never to be forgotten, her beloved great grandchildren!

She is survived by her brother Bud Clark, sisters Rita White (Herb) and Karen Obermayer (Bill); also, her sisters-in-law Ervie Houscher, Verla Guerrero and Marilyn Cartwright (Bob) along with many nieces and nephews.

Our mom loved the Lord. Her quiet faith was apparent and influenced her family. She was a loyal and faithful servant. Her example spoke volumes. Mom was so cherished and loved.

A celebration of Mom's life will be held in the early spring. There will be a notification in the Daily Inter Lake.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the MS Society or the donor's choice.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.



Douglas Earl Clarke, 72

Douglas Earl Clarke, 72, passed away on July 14, 2022, in Newton, Massachusetts.

Doug was the only son born to Verma Lou White on April 1, 1950, in Somers, Montana. He attended elementary school in Somers and graduated from Flathead High School in 1968. After graduation, he enrolled in classes at Flathead Valley Community College and served in the National Guard. He transferred to the University of Montana before earning a bachelor's degree from National College in Rapid City, South Dakota, after which he moved to Phoenix with his wife, Glenda Lee Kelly, and three sons.

Doug worked in the heavy-duty trucking industry for more than 30 years. While living in Arizona, he became an avid fan of the Phoenix Suns and the Arizona Diamondbacks, and enjoyed golfing, off-roading, and car shows with a close circle of friends.

When his marriage ended, he dedicated his life to his sons Jaime, Jeremy and Jared. As a boy living in Montana, he never thought he'd go east of the Mississippi, but he traveled with his



sons to England, Scotland and Ireland, to New York City, and all throughout New England.

Upon retirement, he moved to Newton to be close to his only grandson, and to work part time for his son and daughter-in-law's bookstore, Newtonville Books. He also became a fervent Boston Red Sox fan and enjoyed many games at Fenway Park.

Universally loved for his kindness and selflessness, he will be greatly missed by those whose lives he touched. He leaves behind three sons, Jaime Clarke (Mary Cotton), Jeremy Clarke, and Jared Clarke; a grandson, Max; and many cherished cousins with whom he grew up.

Doug was preceded in death by his mother; his grandfather, Murlen White; grandmother, Beryl White; and a aunt and uncle.

A private memorial will be held at a later date.

Bruce Clark Clear, 72

The Rev. Dr. Bruce Clark Clear, passed away in his sleep at his Wel-life residence in Kalispell on Oct. 9, 2022. The cause was a heart attack. He was 72 years old. Bruce had moved to Kalispell in 2019, following a stroke in 2011 that had left him partially paralyzed and suffering from aphasia.

Bruce was born in Anderson, Indiana, the youngest of three sons of Dr. Valorous B. Clear and Evelyn R. Clear. Val Clear was a long-term professor of sociology and Anderson College. Evelyn Clear was an English teacher at nearby Alexandria High School. Although Bruce's formative years were spent in Anderson, the family lived for a year each in Cuba and Puerto Rico, during Val's sabbatical years — experiences that Bruce cherished.

Bruce was always one of the most popular students in his school. This was, in those times, remarkable, because he was decidedly not an athlete. His popularity stemmed from what would be a lifelong trait — his sincere affection for people of all backgrounds and his ability to make people feel heard and understood. At Anderson High, Bruce was a standout on the debate team and was active in the school's Thespians Society. He was elected class president in his junior year.

After completing high school in 1968, Bruce enrolled in the local college—Anderson College (later Anderson University) where he majored in political science. In his sophomore year of college, Bruce married his high school sweetheart, Linda

to full-time ministry and, eventually, a new church building. In 1993, he returned to his roots in Indiana, becoming the pastor of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Bruce's work as a theologian and minister was defined by an abiding passion for social justice as the foundation for church community. As pastor in each of his churches, he became an active member of the local council of churches and an outspoken community advocate for progressive and humanitarian causes. Known for his elegant and informed sermons, Bruce's talks from the pulpit have been published and re-delivered by admirers. Though he was gifted at giving sermons, he always saw his most important work as that of building community in his congregation and advancing tolerance and understanding among his fellow citizens.

In 1996, he married Nancy Renner, and became stepfather to her five children, whom he loved and cherished: Carly, Edward, Gregory, Shane and Kelsey. Together with his son Cam, Carly, Edward and Shane eventually added eight grandchildren to the family, each of whom he adored in the proudest possible way.

Bruce is survived by two brothers Scott (Laura) and Todd (Dina); his wife Nancy Renner; his son, Cameron; four stepchildren (Carly/Brandon, Edward/Traci, Shane/Deirdre, and Gregory); and eight grandchildren, and his former wife, Linda Peyton.

He is predeceased by stepdaughter, Kelsey. A lovely, kind, and generous man, Bruce was loved by many and will be deeply missed. A mark of Bruce's grace was that nobody seemed to have a bad word to say about him, even those who found themselves in disagreement with his views about social policy and theological teachings. The message of his life — to live in peace and harmony with your neighbors — will live on in the many people who were touched by him. A celebration of life will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Glacier Unitarian Universalist Church, 1515 Trumble Creek, Kalispell.

Donations in Bruce's honor can be made to Trinity Haven in Indianapolis: <http://www.trinityhavenindy.org/about/>. Friends are encouraged to visit the website www.buffalohillfuneralhome.com to leave notes of condolences for the family.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

LeRoy A. Cobler, 80

Gone fishing. LeRoy was born on Nov. 27, 1941, in Paonia, Colorado, to Leonard L. Cobler and Anna A. Cobler (Gaswint), and passed on to his favorite fishing hole on June 2, 2022.

LeRoy was the first born, and brother Leonard and sister Lois followed a few years later. He also has two adopted brothers, Melvin and Malcolm.

LeRoy was preceded in death by his father Leonard, mother Anna, and brother Leonard A. He is survived by

daughters Lori Bartley, Arleen Turk (Michael) and Carolyn Moore (Lyle), sister-in-law Barbara Cobler, and sister Lois Ann Cobler, as well as seven grandkids, 17 great-grandchildren, and his faithful companion Blue.

His final resting place will be determined at a later date. At his request no services will be held.

For any donations in LeRoy's name, please consider St. Jude's.

Buffalo Hill Crematory will take care of his final wishes.

Frances Elaine Cole, 100

Frances Elaine Cole, 100, of Libby, passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 24, 2022, at Logan Health Medical Center in Kalispell.

She was preceded in death by her parents John and Beatrice Ried, her two husbands Ralph Cole and Loyal Brooks, three brothers, a sister, two sons, and her grandson.

She is survived by her daughters Barbara, Juanita, Alice, Carol, Jerry, Mary Susan and two sons Ronnie and Robert "Bobby," two



sisters Camille and Dolores and one brother David, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Inurnment will take place at a later date at Lake View Cemetery, Polson, Montana.

Arrangements are under the care of Darlington Cremation and Burial Service.

Cherris Janelle (Kienas) Collier, 77

Cherris Janelle (Kienas) Collier, 77, passed away peacefully on Aug. 30, 2022, in Kalispell.

Cherris was born to Alice and Edward Kienas on Nov. 1, 1944, in Kalispell. Cherris shared a life with six siblings: brothers Art, Robert, Bud, Keith and Kenny, and sisters Rosalie Ayars and Linda Larson.

Cherris married Ervin "Bill" Collier on Aug. 22, 1970, and they have three children: Kristi, Dec. 28, 1964; Robert, Sept. 8, 1955, and Chad, May 7, 1972.

She was preceded in death by both parents and her siblings: brothers



Art, Robert, Bud, Keith and Kenny and sisters Rosalie "Rosie" Ayars and Linda Larson; and son, Robert Collier.

She is survived by her husband Ervin "Bill" Collier, and children Kristi and her spouse Richard, and Chad and his spouse Tracy (Osler) Collier; as well as grandchildren, Kourtney, Robert, Amanda, Andrew and Kord, all whom she adored; and a special sister-in-law, JoAnne Kienas; and numerous

nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Cherris found immense joy in gardening, reading, shopping, collecting Thomas Kincaid paintings, and loved spending time with her family; family was everything to her.

Cherris was a fiery redhead, both physically and in spirit, and known as a force to be reckoned with. She is gone out of our sight but not out of our hearts and forever missed by all who knew her.

A celebration of life will be held later in the San Juan Islands, a place she loved to spend time

Kevin Paul Collom, 58

Kevin Paul Collom passed away unexpectedly on Oct. 22, 2022, while hunting with friends. Living his life to the fullest, he died doing something he loved.

He was born on Nov. 8, 1963, in Helmet, California, to Pearl (Vouhof) and Gerell Collom, the second of two sons. He spent his early years in Dillon, and moved to the Flathead in 1979, where he finished his school years. Kevin, his father and brother worked together to build their home in Kalispell. He was a wonderful husband, father, son and grandfather.



Kevin was a well-respected third generation plasterer who started his own company, Panelcrete Construction. His crew was family and he was a mentor to many. He was a local celebrity, achieving seven years as an undefeated Whitefish Oktoberfest Stein Holding Champion who went on to the National Championships, representing Whitefish at the National Championships in New York City three times. In addition, he mentored the National Champion of 2022 who is also from Whitefish. As an avid outdoorsman and hunter, he loved Montana in all her rugged glory. With two friends, he once floated the North Fork River from the interior of Canada to Polebridge, making him one of the few who made that international trip in a kayak.

In his endeavor to earn a pilot's license, Kevin and Mike Whitehill, another pilot, formed the Bald Eagle Aviation Club, the Flathead Valley's only aviation club. The club now has a membership of nine pilots who were written up in AOPA (Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association) as the 150th club in the United States.

He was known for his big smile, unforgettable dimples, infectious laugh and his gigantic, big hugs. His peers once voted him, "The Most Likely to Talk Your Ear Off." He was an honest man with a solid work ethic who made friends effortlessly and will be remembered for his boisterous laugh and for how much he loved Jamee. He

will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Jamee Cole Collom, of Whitefish, his son, Justin Collom, granddaughter, Teagan, her grandmother, Becky Collom, parents, Pearl and Gerell Collom, his brother, Bryan and wife Cathy Collom, and their sons, Joshua and Ryane, and daughters, Bryanna and Brandi, all of Kalispell.

He was preceded in death by daughter, Chelsea Collom.

A celebration of life will be held at the Great Northern Bar in Whitefish on Nov. 16 from 5 to 8 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please hug those you love and "Pay it Forward" giving a kind word or doing a kind deed as Kevin would have done.

Andrea Jean (Schlabs) Connor, 82

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



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

Andrea was preceded in death by her husband of 40 years, Lyle Connor; her sister, Vicki (Schlabs)

Jones; and sister-in-law Barbara (Young) Schlabs.

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

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

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

Diane Lyn (Harkness) Conner, 79

Diane Lyn (Harkness) Conner, 79, was born on Aug. 22, 1942, in Tacoma, Washington, to Jim and Dorothy Harkness, the eldest of three children. Diane graduated from Lincoln High school in Tacoma in 1960. Diane was the associate editor for the school newspaper and a worthy advisor of Rainbow Girls. Diane was crowned Queen of the 1960 Puyallup Valley Daffodil Festival.



Diane attended college at Washington State University and was a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. She met her future husband Michael "Mike" Conner at WSU, and they were married on June 9, 1963. Diane graduated from WSU in 1964 with a degree in English education.

Over the next 16 years, Diane followed Mike in his career with the U.S. Forest Service. During this time, they were blessed with three daughters, Debbie, Tina and Susan.

Diane taught high school at both the Naches and Yakima school districts in Washington state. They moved to Pendleton, Oregon, in 1970, then Corvallis, Oregon, in 1974. She completed her master's degree in English, education and journalism at Oregon State University in 1977. Diane and Mike were active members of the Episcopal church during their years in Washington and Oregon.

In 1976, Mike, Diane and the family moved to Kalispell. Diane worked at Flathead High School where she taught English, journalism, and advised the high school yearbook and newspaper staffs for 10 years. Diane fondly remembered the wonderful young people who touched her life as she touched theirs. Diane retired from teaching in

1989 and started a small desktop publishing business.

In 1990, Diane and Mike became active members of Northridge Lutheran Church. In 2002, Diane and Mike were recognized as Lay Pastoral Associates for the Montana Synod, ELCA Lutheran church, and worked as a team. Diane specialized in sermons which shared the love that God had given her and her family. Diane and Mike served as interim pastors in Thompson Falls, Plains and Big Sandy. They continued to provide support to other Lutheran churches in Northwest Montana, as well as their home congregation.

Diane passed on Thursday, Jan. 6, 2022, surrounded by her husband, and three daughters. She is survived by her husband Mike Conner, her daughters Debbie Richter (significant other Rick Kitchens), Tina Wigen (husband

Gregg) and Susan Stark (husband Jamie), as well as her grandchildren, Rebekah, J.J. (wife Lauren), Kaitlyn, Daniel, Alex, Alli, Timothy, Ethan, and great-grandson John Clyde. Other surviving family members include her brothers Jamie (wife Patti), and David (wife Cyndi), sisters-in-law Barbara Conner, Cherie Conner, and Mary Conner Tugaw Harner, plus many loving nieces and nephews.

Proceeding her in death were her mother and father Jim and Dorothy Harkness, and brothers-in-law Skip Conner, Terry Conner, Joe Tugaw and Sherm Harner.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, 603 S. Main Street, Kalispell, MT 59901; or Northridge Lutheran Church, 323 Northridge Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Kenneth John Connors, 75

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



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



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

Ken attended Helena Flats Rural School and Flathead County High School, both in Kalispell. Upon high school graduation in 1965, Ken enlisted in the U.S. Navy, receiving his training in San Diego. Among his duty stations were Morocco, St. Thomas and New London, Connecticut. Ken was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy in July of 1971 after achieving the rank of radioman third class (RM3).

In October of 1970, Ken joined what was then New York Telephone Company, which then became NYNEX, Bell Atlantic and ultimately Verizon Communications as a systems technician. Ken was employed there for 31 years and retired in December of 2001. During his time there he obtained an Associate in Applied Science -

Telecommunications Technology degree.

Ken is survived by his wife of 41 years, Karen (Ann Curran) of Daytona Beach, Florida, his son and daughter-in-law Kenneth M. (Tracy) Connors, as well as his three beloved grandsons, Kenny, Ronan and Finn Connors all of Edison, New Jersey. In addition, he is survived by his brother, Donald (Becky) Connors, of Libby, Floris (James) Dyke of Great Falls, Doris Marie Palicz of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, his sister-in-law Dorothy Connors of Kalispell, and his brother-in-law John (Deirdre) Curran of Palm Coast, Florida.

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

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

Bruce Patrick Conrad

Bruce Patrick Conrad passed away on the evening of July 8, 2022, surrounded by his family after a brief but aggressive bout with Covid pneumonia.



Bruce was born in Manhattan, Kansas, in 1941, to Maxine McCormick and Leonard Conrad. His parents divorced early in his childhood and Bruce was then surrounded by his mother and his sister, strong women who would help shape his exceptional character and ability to meaningfully connect with a wide range of people. Bruce's stepfather Alvin Garansson played a strong supporting role in his life.

Bruce studied biology at Kansas State University. During his 35-year career with the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management, Bruce contributed significantly to the long-term preservation of the country's public landscape. He served in the states of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Virginia, California, and Arizona.

Bruce was the driving force of love, support, and stability for his family, which all started when he met Margaret Ann Paulson in Malta, Montana, while dining at a restaurant where she was a waitress. He instantly fell in love with Margie and proposed shortly after. Margie was Bruce's partner in love and life for 57 of his 81 years. From Malta, Bruce and Margie relocated to Wyoming where their son Brent was born. And, only two years later, during

their time in Craig, Colorado, their second son Blaine was born.

Upon his retirement in 1996, Bruce and Margie returned to Bigfork where they enjoyed a life full of travel, outdoor adventures, time with family, and community involvement.

Known for his incredible charisma and a heart of gold, every interaction with Bruce felt like the best part of the day. Pockets filled with dog treats and ever-present enthusiasm for others ensured every individual Bruce encountered was sure to feel special. Bruce's weekends were devoted to sports, teachings about car tune-ups, and time with family.

Bruce is survived by his beloved wife Margie; son Brent and his children Gretchen and Tristan; son Blaine, his wife Maggie, and their children, Aidan, Gavin and Clara.

May we all aim to emulate Bruce's example of kindness, devotion and love in our interactions with others. Bruce is greatly missed, but his spirit lives on in the lives of those he touched.

Friends are invited to attend a celebration of life gathering on Saturday, July 30, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Lake Baked, 191 Mill St. in Bigfork.

Those wishing to honor Bruce can send a donation to the Bigfork Playhouse Children's Theater or Bethany Lutheran Church in Bigfork.

Gary W. Cook Jr., 56

It is with great sadness that we announce Gary W. Cook Jr., 56, unexpectedly passed away on Saturday, July 16, 2022.



Born July 9, 1966, in Spokane, Gary grew up in the Hauser Lake area near Coeur D'Alene, Idaho. He met his wife, Jodi, while visiting the big island of Hawaii in December 1988. It was love at first sight and 10 months later, in October 1989, they were married.

In 1999, Gary decided to move his growing family to Whitefish to start his own pole building company, as well as to fulfill a vision of building/selling homes. He fell in love with the Flathead Valley, and spent the last 23 years raising his two children and became an integral part of the community.

Gary will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his wonderful, sometimes quirky sense of humor, and his honest and hardworking mindset in everything he set his mind to. Gary was the embodiment of a self-made man. A man to be admired, who would always choose the right path, not the easy path. Those who knew him could always count on him. He was a selfless and reliable person who would never hesitate to help someone in need.

When Gary wasn't working to run his busi-

ness and provide for his family, he enjoyed living life to the fullest. He only seemed to

know how to move at one speed: fast! Throughout the year you'd find him out on Flathead Lake riding a jet ski, side by side riding in Arizona, or enjoying the sunsets and beaches in Hawaii.

Gary is survived by his wife Jodi, his daughter Leah and her spouse Kyler Felton, son Austin and his spouse Courtney Cook, his parents Gary Sr. and Betty Cook, mother-in-law Donna Richards, brother Scott and his spouse Sharon Cook, sister Shannon Cook-Burton, sister-in-law Rheba and her spouse Jordy Vaughan, as well as several nieces and nephews, Karsten, Kaydence, Mason, Brendan and Katie.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Robert and Lorraine Hughes and James W. and Leah G. Cook.

A celebration of life is planned at the Muth family residence at 1160 Martin Creek Lane, Whitefish, MT 59937 on Saturday, Sept. 3, at 1 p.m. He was a beautiful, spirited soul and will be dearly, deeply missed.

Earl Coriell, 97

The community of Polson — and well beyond — grieves the loss of Dr. Earl Coriell on Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022. Ninety-seven years was not long enough for those who knew this incredible individual. Earl wore the hat as a husband, father, grandpa, great-grandpa, doctor, and dear friend to many.

Born on a farm in Stanford, Montana, to Lewis Alfonso Coriell and Effie M. Lemon on April 4, 1924, Earl was the youngest of five children. He began his undergraduate education at the University of Montana before joining the United States Navy V-12 program in 1944. He was on active duty serving in the Korean War as a lieutenant until 1952. He finished his Naval reserve duties in 1956.

While in the Navy, Earl completed his studies at the University of Washington. He earned his medical degree at the University of Kansas from 1946 to 1949. After a year of visiting his parents in Ohio, Earl set out to find a place to practice. With roots in Montana, when he saw Polson in 1953, he knew it was where he wanted to live and practice medicine. He spent his life as an old-style country doctor, working 24/7 doing surgeries, delivering babies, office visits and house calls. To his last days, he never lost his passion for medicine.

Earl married Grace Hickman in 1949, with divorce following a decade later. On July 30, 1966, he and Betty Ardell wed and made the most of their 56 years together. They welcomed family and friends to their home on Flathead Lake and enjoyed a lively social life. Earl loved skiing, fishing and hunting, and was always game for a concert on Big Mountain or University of Montana football game, Go Griz!

Traveling was also a passion, and he particularly loved Australia, South Africa and Belize. Over the years, Betty and Earl fell in love with a few schmuzzers and enjoyed feeding

them table scraps at the dinner table and swimming in Flathead Lake.

Earl was also passionate about a well-maintained yard, including mowing the lawn on a steep hill that led to the dock, where you could also find him enjoying a cocktail with family in the sun on a boat. There was also no pie crust that was safe in his presence, for he was known for one to eat all the crust before ever consuming an actual piece of the pie. Following a stroke in early January, Earl accepted Jesus into his heart, providing so much comfort to the family, knowing they will all be reunited one day.

His career and civic-minded nature coincided with the multiple organizations that benefited from his time and expertise. Earl served as the mayor of Polson from 1960 to 1964 and held leadership positions in the Elks Club, Rotary Club and the Junior Chamber of Congress. He was also president of the American Heart Association for over eight years. He served as Trustee Emeritus for the Coriell Institute for Medical Research, created by his brother, Dr. Lewis L. Coriell.

Earl established the Polson Family Medical Clinic in 1953 and served there as a trusted and much-loved physician until his retirement at age 82 in 2006. Stories can fill a book on the people he helped throughout his career. Even beyond retirement, those around him valued his deep well of knowledge and expertise. His superpower was that he could diagnose anyone with a few questions and palpations.

Earl was preceded in death by his parents, and his siblings Myrtle, Lewis, Viola and Judith, and his daughters Marilyn Beck Weingart and Janet Lynn Coriell Womack.



deceased wife, Betty, and their children, Karen Beck Vergeront (Chp), Rita Coriell Chase, Steve Beck (Sharon), Randy Coriell (Olivia), and Brian Beck; as well as many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Memorial services for Earl will be held on Saturday, March 5, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers,

rather with a donation to the Coriell Institute for Medical Research. The institute was founded by Earl's brother Lewis. Donations can be accepted at coriell.org.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at www.lakefuneralhomeandcremation.com.

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

Kenneth L. Cornelius, 61

Kenneth L. Cornelius passed away on March 28, 2022, at Logan Health in Kallispell, Montana after sustaining serious injury from a bicycle accident. He was surrounded by the love of his wife and children.

Ken was born in Roman on Nov. 5, 1960, to Lawrence and Lorraine (Salomon) Cornelius as the fifth and youngest child in the family. He grew up on his father's dairy farm in Round Butte and graduated from Roman High School in 1978. He began college at Montana State University but returned to Roman to eventually to run Cornelius Cattle Co. He sold the dairy herd in 1998 and continued to farm the land until 2019. He ran the farm as efficiently as possible and loved being outside with the view of the Mission Mountains.

He married his high school sweetheart, Renae Sampson, on Sept. 6, 1984, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. He was a devoted husband and father to their two daughters Brooke and Lindsey and enjoyed many family adventures together.

Ken loved being in the outdoors, especially in the Mission Mountain Range. He climbed nearly every peak and even backcountry skied as time allowed. His friends and family joined him as he enjoyed hiking, skiing, kayaking, bicycling, fishing, rafting, hunting, photography, and taught anyone willing those skills to have their own adventures. He was nicknamed "Yukon Cornelius," and it was well known that he wouldn't slow down for anyone, so plan accordingly. He would share his routes with anyone who dared, and sometimes the instructions included going off trail where, "The turn is here in the brush, and you just have to know." He loved Grey Wolf Peak, Piper Lake, Lucifer Lake, and a certain spot where you must crawl on your belly through a hole rimmed with mountain goat hair as those creatures do the same.

He was known to summit the tallest peaks and call his friends when cell phone reception allowed just to say, "Hello, down there!" Ken got a natural high from helping his



follow adventures to push their own limits and accomplish what they

didn't perceive as possible. He volunteered for Lake County Search and Rescue for years and would drop everything to help when the call came in. One skill he taught was how to ropel off the granaries on the farm. He would put Brooke and Lindsey in the harnesses, telling them that he trusted their skills enough to bring his own daughters down. He continued his adventures with his treasured grandchildren who carry on some of his traits including hiking off-trail, bicycling, and skiing through the trees.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Lorraine Cornelius.

He is survived by his wife, Renae, and the families of his daughters, Brooke and Jerry Nahring with children Luko and Elaina, and Lindsey and Sage Dorrington with their children Rosalind, Eloise, Genevieve and James. He is also survived by his four siblings: Carlene (Gene) Vey, Diana Cornelius, Kathy Cornelius, and Bill (Marla) Cornelius, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

The family extends deep gratitude to his loyal friends who immediately helped Ken after his accident, as well as those who sent their love and prayers during our time of need. Their skill and care allowed him to have his last wishes granted and to say goodbye to his family.

Funeral services for Ken will be held on Saturday, April 2, at 10 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Polson with burial to follow at the Roman Cemetery. A prayer vigil will be held on Friday, April 1, at 6 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Roman.

Memoagoo of condolence may be shared with the family online at www.shriderthompson.com. Arrangements are under the care of Shrider-Thompson Funeral Home.

Lois Louise Corpron, 87

Lois left us at the age of 87 on Feb. 2, 2022, at her home in the arms of her family.

Lois Louise Lee was born Oct. 28, 1934, in Newburg, North Dakota, one of seven children. She was the last of her siblings to survive.

She was 16 when she met her lifelong sweetheart, Laverne Corpron. He was the handsome older man, leaning on his Chevy truck, too hard to resist. They were married in 1959 while Vern was stationed in Tacoma, Washington, in the Army.

They were an amazing couple, raising five kids together. They will forever be remembered for opening the door of their home or Echo Lake cabin to any and all, always making everyone feel welcome with open arms, love and plenty of food. Many heart-warming memories are with all the cousins that came from Tennessee and California, spending summer months at their home.

Every holiday was spent at their tiny house, packed full of family and friends. It was loud, crowded and wonderful! Lois and Vern enjoyed each other's company until 1990 when Vern died from a heart attack, just a few weeks away from their 40th anniversary.

Lois wore many hats. She was first and foremost a homemaker to her kids or anyone else that needed a place to stay. She was a member of the Moose Lodge, the Women's Auxiliary for the Evergreen Fire Department, and worked in the kitchen at Evergreen School. Let's not forget her cooking — fried chicken every Sunday, her famous potato salad, and her goulash with mashed potatoes, among a few. Never a table was set without a glass full of green onions. If you went hungry, it was your own fault!



She was a baby whisperer, always the first to get a baby to smile. She loved her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren with her whole heart. She was a quiet woman but you knew whatever you needed, she was there for you.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Laverne, her daughter Pam, her son-in-law Ray Young, and granddaughter Andrea.

She is survived by her children, Vicki, Steve, Bruce (Tana) and Jay (Ron); along with her 16 grandchildren: Raymond, Kristi, Jason, Jolene, Brianna, Laci, BJ, Jessica, Jacob and Kayla; and her 16 great grandkids. We will miss you dearly sweet Mother, but we have comfort in knowing you're in the arms of our heavenly family.

A private burial was held for immediate family. A celebration of life will be planned for a later date.

Sue was born Oct. 5, 1951, at St. Luke Hospital in Pasadena, California, and grew up in the foothills of Altadena with the Angeles National Forest as her backyard. She would forever be a "Mountain Girl" and Western equestrian.

In about 1971 at age 20 she set out for Tooele, Utah, with her good friend Mary Skinner and set up a clothing store there. She remained in the Salt Lake region working in banking, transportation and other endeavors she enjoyed and amassed a broad base of lifelong friends while enjoying skiing, horseback riding and hiking in the mountains.

Sometime about 1996 the wanderlust struck again, and Sue relocated to Kalispell to be near her little sister Teri who, unbeknownst, was preparing to head back to Altadena after over 10 years around the Great Northwest and Kalispell. Undeterred, she bought a small ranch property

Robert Lee 'Bob' Croucher, 96

Robert Lee "Bob" Croucher quietly passed away on Feb. 4, 2022, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

Bob was born on Sept. 16, 1925, in Libby to parents Ed and Ladessa Croucher. He was the youngest of six children, Hazel Davis (Dunwebber), Howard Davis, Ellen Croucher, Gladys Croucher (Evans, Adams) and Frank Croucher. His father died when Bob was 5 and his mother married Bert Walbridge. Bob remembered Bert as his father. The family moved from Libby to Fowler, Montana, and Bob attended school in Libby, Conrad and Shelby. In 1943 Bob enlisted in the U.S. Navy and saw combat action in the Western Pacific during the war.

After the war he returned to Montana and began his lifetime profession as a logger. In his lifetime Bob worked in every phase of the lumber industry, i.e., sawyer, equipment operator, small



mill operator, teamster, truck driver, millwright, welder

and mechanic. For a short time, Bob worked as a miner at a hydraulic gold mine in Alaska, where he discovered and brought back to Montana a mastodon tusk. This remains a family treasure to this day. During his life Bob lived throughout the Pacific Northwest, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Idaho but always returned to his roots in Montana. Upon retirement he settled in the Flathead Valley, often traveling to Yuma, Arizona, during the colder months.

Bob was an avid sportsman with a passion for hunting and fishing. He never passed up on a chance to fish, even after losing his eyesight while in his 70s. A favorite fishing memory of Bob and brother Frank occurred on Lake Koocanusa.

Fishing was quite good with multiple hook-ups common. The brothers

were very competitive over who was ahead in the fish count. Being blind, Bob could not see Frank reach up and tug on Bob's line, simulating a "bite." Bob spent a lot of time reeling in without catching any fish. One of Bob's nephews caught on to what was happening and would sneak a fish out of Frank's bucket and put it in Bob's every time Frank would pull his little trick. Frank never did figure out how Bob caught the most fish. Bob loved a good venison or fish dinner. It was known that he preferred fresh venison over frozen. Bob loved to dance. In the days that each small community hall had frequent dances, Bob was always in attendance and seldom missed a dance. He was known to travel long distances to find a dance. He also loved to play cards, particularly cribbage and pinocle, and never passed up a chance to

take on all challengers.

Bob was preceded in death by his father, mother, all five siblings, and wives Jean (Bennett) and Mona (Sheldon).

He is survived by his wife Dorothy (Gillet), sons Wally Bennett (Paula) of Columbia Falls and George Croucher of Libby, and daughter Beverly Bassett (Earl) of Deer Park Washington, nine grandchildren, and numerous great- and great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Bob was the patriarch of the Croucher family.

A memorial service will be conducted at the Montana Veterans Home Chapel in Columbia Falls on Thursday, Feb. 17, at 3 p.m.

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

Sinowa M. Cruz, 75

Sinowa was born in Chelsea, Massachusetts, and passed away March 3, 2022, in Kalispell at the age of 75.

He graduated college with earned degrees in English and Spanish.

Sinowa served two tours in Vietnam. He received the Medal of Honor, Army Achievement award, Vietnam Service award, Vietnam President's award and Rifle Marksman with 2 Bars (M-4). He was an accredited archer, with awards. He also was a deep-sea hard hat diver with an underwater welding certification. He was an accomplished poet with awards and recognition.

Rest in peace, my friend, you will be

missed and remembered by us all.

No services are planned at this time.

In lieu of flowers, you may donate to the: Sinowa Archery Range at Camp Ponderosa in the Swan Valley, 1349 Hwy. 2 West, Kalispell, MT 59901, or online at veteransfoodpantry.org

All donations in Sinowa's name will be used for the archery range.

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.



Steven Evans Cummings, 71

Steve was born Sept. 28, 1950. He was all those labels that people his age could acquire. He was a baby boomer, a teenage husband, a hippie, a yuppie. He was a proud father to two boys and grandpa to five grandchildren. Steve was kind, with a great sense of humor. He was the sort of person that everyone liked. He seldom raised his voice or argued with anyone.

He died June 7, 2022. Steve was the son of Bayliss and Rausie Cummings and grew up in Kalispell. He went to Russell grade school, Flathead High School, and Montana State University. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics in 1972. He was an exchange student to Denmark in 1968-69. He married his high school sweetheart, Susan O'Connell, in 1970. They were married for 52 years.

Steve worked as a computer programmer for Texas Instruments in Dallas, Texas until 1975. He then went to the University of Washington law school and received a doctorate in law in 1979. He worked in Seattle for two years for the Roberts, Sheffelman firm as an attorney. In 1981, he joined the Murphy, Robinson, Heckathorn and Phillips law firm in Kalispell. He worked there until 1996 when he and Sue decided to take a year-long sabbatical and travel. When they returned a year later, he joined up with the group of Christensen, Moore, Cockrell and Cummings where he spent a number of very enjoyable and worthwhile years practicing law until he retired in 2012.

Steve was a brilliant



lawyer who said his job was not to represent people in a lawsuit but to get the

documents correct so no one would need to go to court. Steve made top grades in high school and college and was second in his law school class at the University of Washington. He was on the Bar Review, a high honor for law students.

Steve was a dad who put his family first and was always there for Pee Woe baseball, soccer, swim team, or speech and debate. He was the running leg on the family triathlon team. He showed up when grandchildren played ice hockey, sang in choirs, performed in plays, and played in bands.

Steve was loving, patient, kind, respectful, and brilliant. He found joy in his family, his friends, his vineyard, wine making, and a well-earned retirement. Steve suffered from Lewy body dementia, which is an under-recognized and under-diagnosed condition. We request that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association as they are actively seeking a cure for this common dementia that is second only to Alzheimer's in frequency of occurrence.

Steve is survived by his wife, Sue; his sons, David (his wife Dawn) and Jay; and his grandchildren, Emma, Margo, Bayliss, Beckett and Oliver.

Please join friends and family for a memorial service at 10 a.m. on June 23 at the FVCC Arts and Technology Building.

Gary James Cusick, 72

Gary James Cusick was born Aug. 5, 1949, in Kalispell, and passed away on March 23, 2022, in Reno, Nevada.

Gary was raised in Kalispell where he became interested in flying and achieved his private pilot's license at the age of 15. He joined the Marine Corps on Oct. 1, 1967, in hopes of being able to fly but instead was educated in communications and navigation for F-4 Phantoms and sent to Vietnam. He was honorably discharged on Oct. 1, 1971, and was



married to Linda Leeper of Westminster, California, on Oct. 8, 1971, just seven days later. They had two sons, Kristoffer, born in 1974, and Cameron, born in 1977. They lived in many places as Gary spent time as a supervisor for UPS, in insurance sales for John Hancock

Life Insurance Company, as the owner of a paint and coatings manufacturing company in Ontario, California, and finally as an Los Angeles Police Department officer. He retired from the LAPD in 2017. Prior to his retirement he traveled to China where he met his second wife, Xia. They were married in March of 2017.

He was preceded in death by his parents Edith and Edwin, sister Jeanne Graham, brother John, and brother Gregory, all of Kalispell.

Gary is survived by his wife Xia, his son Kristoffer and husband Dan, his son Cameron and wife Amber and three grandchildren, Gabrielle, Ariel and Nathaniel. He is also survived by his brother, Doug Cusick and wife Linda, and sisters-in-law Linda Cusick (widow of brother John) and Susan Cusick (widow of brother Greg), all of Kalispell, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He lived an adventurous life ... may he rest in peace.