

Phillip Leo Fadely, 91

Phillip Leo Fadely, born June 8, 1931, in Anderson, Indiana, passed away on June 10, 2022, in Bigfork. He was 91.

Phillip served in the Navy during the Korean conflict. He served two tours of duty as an electrician on multiple

aircraft carriers. Phillip was also a talented artist who enjoyed painting landscapes and owned his own hand-painted sign business. Later in life he enjoyed playing



the fiddle. Phillip is survived by his twin sister Phyllis Maynard, son Michael and wife Kathy, son Patrick, son Kevin and wife Mya, son Chad and wife Vicki, stepdaughter Karen Paulson, as well as 22 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life to be held at a later date. Friends are encouraged to visit the website www.buffalohillftn.com to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Patrick E. Farris, 63

Pat Farris passed away of renal failure at his home in Kalispell on Feb. 21, 2022.

He was born Aug. 7, 1958, in Kalispell to Andrew "Red" and Betty (Kahn) Farris. Pat graduated from Billings Senior High in 1976 and from Montana State University-Billings in 1981 with a degree in history. He was a voracious reader and researcher of Montana history. Pat enjoyed sharing time at Bitterroot Lake with family every summer since childhood. Pat's career as a tax preparer gave him the opportunity to meet many interesting people. Pat was preceded in



death by both of his parents.

He is survived by his only son, Colby Farris, daughter-in-law, Kate, and grandson Patrick John, as well as his sisters, Lynn (Mike) Farris Vollmer and Bettina (Gary) Smigaj and nieces and nephews, Marty, Kjelseh, Katelyn and Andrew; aunts, Dorothy McMillan, Carla Kahn and Sue Lopinski, as well as a host of cousins.

Pat requested that he be cremated and that no service be held.

Carlyle Ward Fauley, 94

Carlyle Ward Fauley, the heart of our family, left us on Feb. 3, 2020, from a massive heart attack, to begin his personal journey to life everlasting.

He was born on Sept. 28, 1925, in Kalispell to Clyde C. and Marie (Fratzke) Fauley. His father was a park ranger for Glacier National Park. He spent the first two years of his life at the Paola Ranger Station with his father, mother and older brother, Clyde. In 1928, his father was transferred to the Two Medicine Ranger Station. This was an idyllic life for two young boys. During the time they were at Two Medicine they were joined by sister, Alice, and brother, Howard. When the children were ready to enter elementary school they moved to nearby East Glacier Park.

Carlyle attended Browning High School from 1939 through 1943, where he was active in sports, FFA, and played in the school band. He was always proud of the fact that both the basketball and football teams in which he participated, in his graduating year, were state champions, always giving all credit to his Blackfeet teammates.

After graduating in 1943, he enlisted in the



United States Marine Corps. After completing basic training in San Diego he was sent to Guam, where he was assigned to the 3rd Marine Division and his first battle. From Guam, he was sent to Iwo Jima. With the 3rd Marine Division, he arrived on the island on the third day of the battle. After many days and nights of fierce fighting and much death around him, he knew victory the moment he saw, from a distance, that first small American flag flying atop Mount Suribachi, though it took several more weeks for total victory.

After World War II ended, he returned home but remained in the U.S. Marine Reserve. For the next three years, he became a seasonal Park employee, one of his jobs included pioneering the opening of the Going-To-The-Sun Road each spring. This was before the new safety standards were established.

He was called back to service in July, 1950, and within the week he was sent to San Diego

to await deployment to South Korea. Between the time he arrived in San Diego and two days before being deployed, he married Theresa Ritter.

After arriving in South Korea, he was immediately sent into the Chosen Reservoir Campaign with the 7th Marine Regiment, First Marine Division. "For meritorious services and bravery during operations against enemy aggressor forces," he was awarded the Bronze Star with "V."

When he returned home from the war, he and Theresa moved to San Diego, where he could pursue a year-round career in construction, achieving much success through the years for his hard work. In the following years he earned his private pilot's license, built a 14-foot runabout, boat opening up the ocean for fishing and waterskiing in the bay, enjoyed jogs on the beach, downhill skiing with family and long lasting friendships. He loved his life in California but always looked forward to his summer visits to our cabin in East Glacier.

In 1954, they welcomed son, Colin Ward, followed in 1957 by daughter, Honora Marie. He loved his children

so very much and was the best dad. He helped instill in them the love of the outdoors. He always said Colin was his favorite hiking partner and Honora was his favorite ski partner.

Life was complete and full for the little family of four, but that all changed in July, 1979, when beloved son, Colin, was in a car accident and died from his injuries three months later.

Life was so different for Carlyle after that but in 1988, when his daughter, Honora, married Jack Burns, he found a new zest for life, gained a son-in-law and new fishing partners.

After retiring in the late 1990s, after 53 years, they returned home to Montana where he enjoyed 23 years of retirement at their house in Lakeside.

He was preceded in death by his parents, son Colin, brother Clyde, brother-in-law Clayton Peterson, and sister-in-law Evelyn Fauley.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Theresa, daughter Honora, son-in-law Jack, sister Alice Peterson, brother Howard, sister-

in-law Rae Marie Fauley, sister-in-law Helen Show, and his many nieces and nephews who were always in his heart.

Life without him has been very hard these past two years. He lived his 94 years with honor, respect and kindness. He has left many wonderful memories of love for us all. He was our hero.

On a summer's day, this June 18, 2022, the family of Carlyle Ward Fauley will be holding his funeral services at the East Glacier Park Cemetery at 2 p.m. No flowers, please.

Condolences may be made to www.asperfh.com.

OhShinnah Fast Wolf, 88

OhShinnah Fast Wolf passed away on Jan. 11, 2022. She was 88 years old when she died of natural causes in a memory care facility in Columbia Falls.

She was born in Silverton, Colorado, in 1934 during the height of the Great Depression. During her life she traveled, adventured, and lived all over the United States. She was an amazing singer and songwriter, having performed at venues in Chicago, San Francisco and New York City, amongst other locations. During her life she performed in the same clubs as Muddy Waters, Nick Gravenites and Michael Bloomfield. She was also involved with the Committee Theater



in San Francisco and Chicago's Second City Theatre. She performed at Carnegie

Hall, with the artist Sting, and opened for Jerry Garcia on Jacques Cousteau's ship, the Calypso.

Starting in the 1970s, OhShinnah studied and taught natural medicines, healing, environmental activism, and applied practical spirituality. She was a pioneer in the use of crystals and partnered with her sister Dr. Dolores Krieger to teach students crystal healing in combination with ther-

apeutic touch.

OhShinnah was a delegate to the United Nations conferences on the human environment, spirituality, the decolonization of Indigenous people, the World Conference of Spiritual Leaders, and as a ceremonialist at World Water Day. She spoke on environmental issues at the invitation of various governments.

OhShinnah was awarded the Nurse's in Transition Humanitarian Award, the Helen Caldicott Humanitarian Award for Women, the Noetic Science Institute Temple Award for Creative Altruism, and her name is inscribed on the Wall of Tolerance in Birmingham, Alabama.

She was exceptionally generous and was supported by multiple native elders throughout her life. Her legacy is carried on by her students worldwide and a memorial is planned near Molas Lake, Colorado, later 2022.

She was preceded in death by her daughter Fawn, and is survived by her children James, Heather and Kaiwie, grandchildren Sky Bear, Calico, Jamie, James, Autumn and Numa, and 11 great-grandchildren.

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.

Loretta Irene Fauske, 89



Heaven welcomed another earth angel, Loretta Irene Fauske, to her forever home Dec. 8, 2022.

Loretta Irene Hudson was born to Charles (Ted) and Hazel Hudson on Sept. 26, 1933, in Kevin, Montana where Ted was working at the Texaco company. Born at just 4.5 pounds, Loretta's first bed was the bottom drawer of the family's dresser. She joined her brother, Larry, and later with Leota (Dutchie), the family was

complete.

The Hudsons moved to Pinnacle, Montana (Essex area) where Ted worked on the railroad and owned a bar with cabins that were frequented by railroad workers in the area.

Loretta first attended the little schoolhouse in Essex, Montana and later transferred to Columbia Falls High School where she graduated in 1951.

She met Elmer (Spick) Fauske while he was working on the railroad (all the live long day). The two fell in love and were married on July 21, 1951. The couple then moved to Whitefish, Montana. While Spick worked in the local Whitefish Icehouse, Loretta worked on filling their house with children. The added blessings of Diana (Dee), Rodney (Rod), Janice (Jan) and Susan (Sue) built a strong

and loving family.

In the 1970s, Spick's Cleaning Service was created. The company worked in offices, homes, clinics, bars and later it lent its services by "cleaning up" the City of Whitefish with a Super Vac (literally). The business partners and couple were successful in life and rich in love.

Elmer (Spick) and Loretta filled their weekends by playing cards with friends, bowling, cross-country skiing, and staying at their second home at Beaver Lake. The couple was notorious for welcoming new friends to their lake cabin retreat. Loretta enjoyed a fulfilling assignment in reporting the current Loon population on Beaver Lake to the local Fish and Game. She enjoyed canoeing the lake and shoreline by counting the adult Loons, finding the

nests and counting the eggs, and later concluding her report with the final Loonlet count as they hatched and swam with their parents.

Loretta was a member of the Christ Lutheran Church and later Spick joined her in baptism. Every night before going to bed, Loretta read the Daily Prayer book and the Bible to Spick. She loved it when visitors could join her in this tradition which meant so much to her.

Loretta enjoyed giving back to her community by donating to Shepherd's Hands and by knitting little caps for new babies at the North Valley Hospital. The couple also donated their time at the Golden Agers, a local organization that specialized in senior needs by making and delivering Meals on Wheels. She said they loved helping the "old

people", which was ironic as most of the recipients of their kindness were older than the couple. In 2002, the couple was honored by being crowned the Golden Agers King & Queen of the Winter Carnival.

After Spick entered the Veterans' Home, Loretta began volunteering in the craft department by helping the resident Veterans. Spick Fauske left a hole in Loretta's heart when he passed on July 4, 2009. The loving couple had been married for 58 years. He was her Spick to her Span. She missed him immensely.

Every day she recounted the events of the world, community and her personal life in her journal. Often she would write in pencil in case she made mistakes, so it wouldn't look too messy!

She is preceded in death by her parents;

Charles & Hazel Hudson, brother Lawrence Hudson, sister Leota (Dutchie) Porteus, grandsons, Chad and Bo Motichka, numerous brothers and sisters-in-law, and many friends so very dear to her.

She is survived by her children; Diana (Carl) Motichka, Rodney Fauske, Janice (Ron) Judd, and Susan Anderson (Daryl Culbert). She is also survived by numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. And too many wonderful friends to mention.

She may have been tiny, but her enormous heart was filled with love.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to your favorite charity. A celebration of Loretta's life will be held on July 21, 2023.

James John Fekete



James John Fekete, 58, our beloved brother passed away July 15, 2022 at Saint Patrick's Hospital in Missoula, Montana due to complications from surgery for a

broken ankle. Jim was born in Misawa, Japan on Dec. 2, 1963. The youngest of six children born to Frederick and Barbara Fekete (both deceased). Jim attended elementary school in Great Falls, Montana and high school in Guam, he graduated high school in Bitburg W. Germany in 1982. He received an associate's degree from Flathead Valley Community College in Natural Resource Management and Conservation in 2010. Jim spent most of his working years with Advanced Litho Printing

as a pressman in both Great Falls and Missoula, Montana. He also worked as a pressman in Whitefish, Montana and in 2006 worked at the Columbia Falls Aluminum plant until it shut down in 2008. Jim also worked seasonally for Glacier Traffic. Jim spent most of his leisure time with a lady called Mother Nature. It was a relationship he had since he was a boy. His love for her was unconditional and his respect for her was immense. He skied, camped and hiked her mountains and he fished, swam and boated

her rivers. His favorite thing to do was to raft the Flathead river with his nephew Joe and brother Fred. After each adventure you would see Jim picking up trash others left behind before heading home, that was just the kind of person he was. It was important to him to leave nature intact. He wasn't a hunter. Jim preferred viewing wildlife with all of its beauty in its living form. Although a bit shy, Jim was a

loyal friend and always mindful of other people's feelings. He was polite, honest, kind, and gracious. He loved to have a good time and with his somewhat sarcastic sense of humor, he could make people laugh effortlessly. Jim is survived by his brothers Fred (Kathy) Columbia Falls, Montana, Ted (Colleen) Butte, Montana, Tom (Kristie) Black Eagle, Montana and sisters Sandy (Steve) Columbus, Ohio, and his

sister and best friend Jacqui of Great Falls, Montana. He is also survived by nieces Rachel and Ciara, nephews Joe and Thomas, and many cousins, aunts and uncles. Cremation has taken place by "Just Cremation" Missoula, Montana. A Celebration of Life will be held on Oct. 1, 2022, in Columbia Falls, Montana. You may email Fred Fekete at jessmule@yahoo.com for more information.

Alan 'Ed' Ferrington



Alan 'Ed' Ferrington passed away on Sept. 10 at age 97. He was born in Detroit, Michigan on Feb. 21, 1925, and lived with his parents and six siblings in Mooreville,

Michigan during the Great Depression after his mother, Gertrude Ferrington had immigrated from England during the early 1900s. After graduating high school, Alan enlisted in the Navy in 1943 and served on the U.S.S. West Virginia before departing with honors and medals in 1946. Shortly after, he met and married Joyce Ferrington (deceased June 2019) and they moved to California where he attended USC studying bacteriology while Joyce was employed as a nurse. He then operated a private

medical laboratory into the 70s when they decided to relocate to Hawaii. In Hawaii, he ran and operated the Kona Hospital laboratory while Joyce was employed as a surgical RN. They loved to sail and had their sailboat transferred from California to Hawaii to be moored at Keauhou Bay, where Alan was the founding commodore of the Keauhou Yacht Club. After retiring from the Kona Hospital in their 60s, they restored a Victorian home in Northern California and operated the Santa Nella Bed and Breakfast Inn

into the 90s. Eventually, they arrived in Whitefish where they both resided for the remainder of their lives. Alan and Joyce loved to travel and went around the world during their later years, with Las Vegas being their favorite vacation destination. Alan became an avid writer in his late years with multiple books published in the last decade. He also contributed to numerous charities including animal and nature conservation organizations. Alan 'Ed' Ferrington is survived by his two remaining siblings, his

sister Elaine Cousino and his brother Dr. Richard Ferrington, and his son Michael Ferrington. He also left grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and recently three great-great-grandchildren. He will be buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls with a grave-side ceremony at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 21. A celebration of Alan's life will be held at a later date.

Brian Alexander Fichter, 30

Brian Alexander Fichter, 30, passed away Oct. 24, 2022. Brian was born March 13, 1992, in Billings to Sidney Fichter and Elaine Vyce. He grew up in Kila.

Brian had numerous jobs and was a man of many trades. His favorite was being a firefighter; he had many memories of his daughter Tabytha and himself at the fire station. At the time of his passing, he worked at Lowes as a receiving clerk. Brian enjoyed anything outdoors, camping, fishing, and just splashing around the water with his daughter Ellie. He loved his family and loved the road trips, movie nights, game nights, water fights, and just about anything as long as he was with



them. Even if it was just doing homework with his step-daughter Gabriella.

Brian was such an amazing and loving father. He loved his two girls more than anything. He always spoke so proudly when it came to talking about them. Brian is survived by his father Sidney Fichter and mother Elaine Vyce; daughters Tabytha and Ellie; Kimberly and his stepkids Isaiah, Gabriella, and Charley; his sister Rebecca, and many friends he considered family.

A memorial will be held at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home on Nov. 2 at 2 p.m.

Kenneth Field, 89

Kenneth Field, 89, passed away March 25, 2022, at his daughter's home. He was born Aug. 29, 1932, in Whitefish to Howard and Linnie Field. Ken graduated from Whitefish High School in 1951 and married fellow classmate, Arlene Dalen, in 1952.

He served four years in the U.S. Navy and then owned a barber shop in Whitefish for several years. He went to work at the aluminum plant in Columbia Falls, where retired after 29 years.

He lived his entire life in the Flathead Valley, enjoying time spent with family on Whitfish Lake and at the family property at Good Creek.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, Arlene, in October 2020. He is survived by his son, Mike Field, and wife, Lori, in Newport, Washington; daughter,



Henderson in Columbia Falls and Carrie Francisco in Spokane; and five great-grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his family and many longtime friends. It is comforting to know that he has been reunited with the love of his life.

The family will gather privately to celebrate his life, there will be no public service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell.

Kim Read, and husband, Jim, in Fortine; grandchildren, Ryan Bell in San Antonio, Texas, Cory Field in Spokane, Jessica Henderson in Columbia Falls and Carrie Francisco in Spokane; and five great-grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his family and many longtime friends. It is comforting to know that he has been reunited with the love of his life.

Alexander 'Alex' 'Al' Theadore Fichter, 86

Alexander "Alex" "Al" Theadore Fichter passed away on Feb. 19, 2022, at his Kila home. Alex was born on April 30, 1935, to Christ Fichter and Margret Roll in Taylor, North Dakota. He got his education in a one-room school in Taylor- North Dakota. After graduating from the eighth grade, he went to work for ranchers and farmers until he joined the Navy in September of 1954. He was stationed in San Diego until his reassignment to the U.S. Naval Torpedo Station in Keyport, Washington. After leaving the Navy, on Oct. 20, 1958, he married Beatrice Jirges in Dickinson, North Dakota. He worked for a dairy farmer in Taylor. He had three boys, Duane born in 1960, Sidney born in 1961, and Marvin born in 1963. In April of 1964, Alex moved his family to KallsPELL. He was a mechanic at Russ and Don's Conoco and then worked at Evergreen Texaco until he became disabled from a work-related injury. Alex enjoyed camping, fishing and playing pool with his family and

friends. Alex was the type of person who had to stay busy doing things or helping his children and friends. He loved his boys and grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He is survived by one brother Richard, and sister Josie. He is also survived by his three boys, Duane of Kila, and Sidney of Kila and his two children Rebecca of Seattle — Rebecca is expecting her first child — Brian of Kila and great-grandchildren Tabytha and Ellie Jo of KallsPELL, and Marvin of Evans, Colorado. He will be missed by his family and friends. In the spring, Mom and Dad will take their final fishing trip to the place they enjoyed fishing and camping. Alex requested no services as he was cremated. Any offerings can be made to the Veterans Food Pantry, 1349 Hwy. 2 East, Evergreen MT 59601; 406-756-7304.



John Daniel 'Danny' Fitch, 43

John Daniel "Danny" Fitch, of KallsPELL, passed away on June 21 from a rafting accident. Danny was born April 24, 1979, in Gillette, Wyoming. He graduated from the University of Wyoming, while a member of the Wyoming Army Guard. While attending the University of Wyoming, he was a member of the men's rugby team that placed second in the nation. Danny was selected as a two-time All-American Rugby Player and represented the U.S. national team as an American Eagle. He earned his doctorate of chiropractic degree from Palmer College, followed by an RN degree. He was a Registered Nurse employed by Logan Health in KallsPELL. Danny enjoyed staying physically fit, outdoor adventures, and coaching his children. He coached the Flathead High School rugby team to two Montana state



championships. Danny is survived by his wife Shannon Fitch (Hardy); children Jaylyn and Brayton; his parents Susan and Gary Whipkey and John Fitch; sister Amanda; niece Cahle; brothers Adam and Tanner; in-laws Ann and Marc Hardy; brother-in-law Colin Hardy and wife Kara; niece and nephew Maryn and Nash Hardy. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to: The Danny Fitch Memorial Fund through UW Rugby: www.givecampus.com/campaigns/29327/donations/new. Black and Blue Flathead High School Rugby 780 White Basin Rd. KallsPELL, MT 59601 www.blackandbluerugby.org. Johnson-Gloschat funeral home is caring for Danny and his family.

Billy Jack Fish, 63

Billy Jack Fish, 63, passed away at his home on Jan. 23, 2022. Bill was born on the 12th of March, 1958, to Fred and Hazel Fish. He was a beloved, loyal brother and devoted uncle. Bill was a skilled welder. His solid work ethic and driven efficiency deemed him a highly respected and



valuable member of the Ironworkers Union Local 14. Alongside his brother and best friend, Fred, he dedicated 35 years to the Iron Brotherhood. Bill used logic and reason to navigate his way through his 63 years on this planet. He was an honest man. He was a generous man. His presence is irreplaceable. Until we meet again, Ol' Fella.

Joseph E. Fisher, 65

Joseph E. Fisher, 65, of KallsPELL, passed away unexpectedly in July 2022. He was born on Jan. 10, 1957, in Anchorage, Alaska to Eleanor and Edward Fisher. When his father retired, the entire family, including his sister, Nancy Fisher of Stevensville, Montana, moved back to their family origins in Montana. Joe's perfect job was in education. He worked for the Marion School District as a librarian, computer specialist, and P.E. teacher. Joe loved his fellow educators, students, and the community



of Marion. He was very active in extracurricular activities with his school. Joe enjoyed taking part in various community activities; including folk dancing, Contra dancing, and volunteering at the Flathead Animal Shelter where he cleaned kennels twice a week. He photographed adoptable animals to help find permanent homes for them. Joe followed his sister Nancy's lead in becoming a devoted owner of standard poodles for many years; first Seamus and then Teagan. He and Nancy and their dogs participated in dog agility trials for many years. Joe took up photography. He photographed dogs at many dog agility trials. He sold his photos and videos of these trials to dog owners under his company named fisherdogshots.com. Joe was a kind man. He loved his family, dogs, job, neighbors, friends, and Montana. He will be remembered for his giving nature and soft-spoken manner.

Condolences may be sent to his sister, Nancy Fisher, at 304 9th St., Stevensville, MT 59670; or to the Whitesitt Funeral and Cremation Services at 314 Church St., Stevensville, MT 59670. Cremation has taken place. A private service will be held on September 1, 2022. Condolences and memories may be shared with the family at www.whitesittfuneralhome.com. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Joe's name to the Flathead Animal Shelter, 225 Cemetery Road, KallsPELL, MT 59601.

Marjorie I. Fisher, 89

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Marjorie I. "Marge" (Cleveland) Fisher of Whitefish, 89, died Feb. 22, 2022, at Logan Health Whitefish.

Marge was born to C. Guy Cleveland and Velma (Enfield) Cleveland on Dec. 29, 1932, at Lake Crystal, Minnesota. She attended many schools in Minnesota prior to moving to, and graduating high school, Class of 1950, at Liberty Center High School, Liberty Center, Iowa (now Southeast Warren).

Marge was an auditor and contracting officer for the U.S. Forest Service, prior to becoming a successful broker, owner and certified financial planner (CFP) with LPL, Linsco Private Ledger, with her office in Whitefish. While doing this, Marge was mayor of Whitefish and also served two terms in the Montana State Legislature as chair of the Appropriations Committee, representing Whitefish and surrounding areas.

Marge had continued to be active on numerous charitable boards and in community activities, including Flathead Economic Development Corporation, Soroptimists of Whitefish, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Chamber of Commerce, Business & Professional Women (BPW), Big Brothers/Sisters - board member and a Big Sister, United Way, Flathead County Library trustee, North Valley Music School - board member, and Whitefish Community Library volunteer.

Marge was preceded in



death by parents, Guy and Velma Cleveland, and Brother, Guy J. Cleveland.

She is survived by daughters, Virginia Goodrich and husband Rob of Driggs, Idaho, and Jennifer Hershman and husband Dan of Arlee; grandchildren, Conrad Cooper and wife Nikki, and Clair Thompson and partner Mason; great-grandchildren, Jameson Cooper and Skyler Cooper; brother, Marvin Cleveland and wife Sharon of Saint Paul, Minnesota; sister-in-law, Maxi Cleveland of New Bloomfield, Missouri; and many nephews and nieces, and many friends.

Marge was musical and played saxophone, harmonica, piano, violin, accordion and banjo. She was an author, rockhound and did genealogy. She loved to travel, going to many countries and all 50 states.

Marge loved exciting things like whitewater rafting and skydiving in her later years; she loved roller coasters and fast cars.

Family wishes to thank the doctors and staff at Logan Health Whitefish for their loving care.

A small memorial service is being planned for this spring.

Memorials may be sent to Big Brothers and Sisters of Whitefish and Shining Mountains Center for Spiritual Living, Kalispell.

Ralph Leroy Fitzpatrick



Ralph Leroy Fitzpatrick died with his daughters by his side and sunshine gleaming

through his window on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022.

Ralph was born on Leap Day, 1936. While 86 years had passed over his lifetime, he was really only 21, as evidenced by his forever youthful spirit. He was raised in Idaho and northwestern Montana, and spent his prime summers as a young man working as a trail crew leader and backcountry ranger in Glacier National Park, his favorite place to spend time over his long, abundant life.

He studied at the University of Montana and earned degrees in Business Administration and Accounting, after which he owned and operated several businesses in northwestern Montana until he retired. Ralph embodied the joys of living a simple and rich life, with many days spent hiking trails in Glacier's mountains in summer and around the Tucson, Arizona desert in winter. Some may say that Ralph picked more than his government-allotted share of

huckleberries within the park boundary, was a legendary rock-skipper and could impeccably whistle the song of a meadowlark. He married Carol McKoeber in 1966, with whom he raised two daughters that he loved deeply, Shannon and Quinn. Ralph hauled his girls around the mountains hiking, biking and skiing until they too developed their own shared love for the outdoors, for which they are forever grateful. He gave his time and energy

to his daughters as an adventurous and loving father, building them a magical tree fort in the backyard, shoveling paths on the nearby pond for ice skating, swimming and picnicking as a family at Lake McDonald and sharing his favorite fishing spots with them. Ralph's wry smile, waggish wit and generous-yet-mischievous nature will be dearly missed by many. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you spend a quiet moment on a sunny deck

sometime, as he would, sipping a morning cup of coffee or an evening cold beverage, soaking up the beauty of the moment. Ralph is survived by his sister Mary Ann Gerrish, former wife and forever-friend Carol Stevens, daughters Shannon Kimball and Quinn Fitzpatrick, son-in-law John Kimball, grandchildren Carolyn and Noah Kimball, and numerous nieces and nephews. A memorial will be held at a later date.

RH Goose Fleming, 66

Goose Fleming passed away at home with his wife by his side



after fighting his short battle with glioblastoma brain cancer on Feb. 1, 2022.

Goose was born in Kalispell on Feb. 23, 1955, to Judith Tyrone. Judy met Goose's dad, John Fleming, when Goose was only 2 years old. John adopted Goose when Goose was in his 20s, but he was always his dad from the very beginning.

Goose loved everything outdoors, from hunting, fishing, camping and horseback riding. He also loved running heavy equipment. He worked for over 41 years building highways and interstates to logging roads and housing pads, in six Western states from Montana to Washington to California. While traveling to Spokane for his treatments, he would see the big equipment running on the projects we encountered, and say "I ran that!" or "Oh, I want to run that one there!" He also rode bulls for 10 years too in his younger days. He loved watching bull riding, whether it was live or on TV.

He was proud to be a Shriner, a Mason and a Bald Eagle member. He was always the first one to volunteer for raffles

to help the charities out. Most of the time he was the top seller of raffle tickets because he certainly had the gift of gab.

Goose met the love of his life, Patti, in 2010. She was talking with a few other women when he said, "If you ladies would quit clacking your jaws, I would like to get to know this woman!" And that is how their story began.

Goose was preceded in death by his parents, John and Judy, his grandparents, and a baby sister.

He is survived by his wife Patti, sister Kim Fleming and husband Don Barta, son Donald and wife Tina Johnson, daughter Amber Tyrone, grandchildren Anna and Joe Cuthbertson, Ashley Johnson and Mikey Conneely, Louis and Sumner Johnson, and Callen Johnston, one great-grandchild, with another one on the way, due in May of 2022. He is also survived by his three best friends, Fred Marston of Spokane, and Jimmy Youso and Eddie Fish, both of Kalispell.

He will be missed by his four-legged kids, especially his goat, Princess Clementine. He just loved her and she always made him laugh!

There will be a celebration of life at the Elks Lodge on March 26 at 2 p.m.

Lucas Floerchinger

Lucas Floerchinger was born in Missoula and raised in Columbia Falls, graduating from Columbia Falls High School in 2000 and later attending Montana State University in Bozeman. He is remembered as a beautifully complex and solemn man who was also wonderfully silly and a big kid at heart.

He didn't give love and affection easily but when he did it was powerful and meaningful. He was not known by many, not deeply and to his core, but for those of us who had the privilege of getting that close, his passing has left a hole in our hearts and lives.

He was a loving son, brother, and uncle, and he leaves behind his father, two sisters, two brothers-in-law, three nieces, one nephew, and one fluffy little dog who has lost her favorite human in the world.

He is preceded from this earth by his mother. He was a forever student who loved to learn and soak up all he could on a variety of subjects. In his own words, "I wish to learn as much as possible in the time I have."

He also loved to teach, informally and in all of the littlest pockets of life. Gone suddenly and too soon, but we will remember fondly every moment that we had. He had so much left he wanted to learn, and we had so much more to learn from him.

Crystal Lynn Ford, 37

Crystal Lynn Ford, 37, left this earth to the embrace of our Lord's arms on Oct. 12, 2022. She left unexpectedly and much too soon, but surely left a piece of herself in every heart that knew her.



and high school. Crystal loved animals, especially the horses. Her first ride on horseback was when she was just 6 weeks old. She began showing interest in her mom's horse. That was all it took for her to gallop off with the wind in her hair. Before long she joined the Golden Spurs 4-H Club where she continued her love of horses and a bit of fun-loving competition. As an adult, she kept up her love of horses, constantly sending her family pictures and selfies of herself and a new horse friend. She was employed

by Town Pump and was dearly loved by her coworkers and customers. She is survived by her parents, Lester Ford, and stepmother Kathryn Ford of Kalispell, and Barbara Yerkes of Shelby; and three brothers, Jesse Ford of Vaughn, Daniel and Andrew Ford, both of Billings, and foster sister Michelle Sutherland of Columbia Falls. She is also survived by her grandmother, Joyce Ford, of Sierra Vista; aunt, Deborah Ford, of Billings; uncle, Lyle Ford and wife Alegria of Arizona; aunt, Laurie Hatleburg and husband Kirt of Mountain Brook; uncle, Charles (Butch) Yerkes and wife Mitzi of Sonoita, Arizona; cousin, Michelle Ford, of Billings; Christopher

and Jeff Yerkes, both of Kalispell, and numerous extended family members and countless friends. She was preceded in death by her brother Jason Ford, grandfathers Ronald J. Ford and Charles E. Yerkes, grandmother Margaret O. Yerkes, and dearest friends JD French and Jeff Clark.

Services will be held on Saturday, Oct. 29, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, 525 South Main Street, Kalispell, MT 59901. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a donation to Horse Haven Montana, P.O. Box 599, Frenchtown, MT 59834; 406-880-0683; info@horsehavenmt.org.

She was born to Lester and Barbara Ford in Kalispell Nov. 6, 1984. She grew up near Columbia Falls. Crystal was a dynamic soul and so full of spice. Taking care of everyone was just part of her "big as life" heart.

She attended Ruder Elementary, junior high and high school in Columbia Falls, graduating in the spring of 2003. She enjoyed playing her flute, which she started in grade six, and continued through junior high

Garry Lee Fortin, 86

Garry Lee Fortin was one of twin sons born to Louis (Bee) Fortin and Helen Rasmussen Fortin on April 10, 1936, in Malta. Garry passed away July 23, 2022.



Garry grew up on a farm in the nearby village of Wagner, where he attended a rather quaint grade school consisting of seven students.

He later attended high school in Malta. Garry learned about farm life at an early age, milking cows, cultivating the garden, riding horses and tending sheep. Garry loved to hunt pheasants with his brother and cousin, and became an expert with a shotgun. When the twins were 12 years old they welcomed a baby sister, Karen. Later his father sold the farm, and started a new adventure with an entirely different lifestyle, being employed with an oil company, which required moving numerous times, living in Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska, Texas and Oklahoma. They eventually moved back to Montana, settling in Coram where they were employed at Rex Brown Lumber Company. Garry continued his career at Superior Lumber Mill in Columbia Falls until his retirement.

In 1967 Garry married Della (Watson) Weber. They lived in Kalispell

and later moved to Columbia Falls. After the death of his wife in 2006, Garry sold their home and moved to Martin City where he remained until his death. Although Garry had no children of his own, he was always interested in his nieces and nephews and had close ties with them.

Garry was an avid walker, thinking nothing of walking five or six miles everyday. He also loved to dance. Garry was always happiest when he was with his many friends, and will be missed by all who knew him.

Garry was preceded in death by his parents, wife Della, and sister Karen Kessinger.

He is survived by his brother Larry and his wife Erna of Coram, his nieces Shelley Maguire of Coram, and Wendy Caldwell of Columbia Falls, his nephews David and Brian Fortin of Coram, and his close friend and companion Mary Ann Jones.

Services will be held at Darlington Mortuary on July 31 at 2 p.m. A private reception for family will follow at the home of Larry and Erna Fortin.

Christopher Shane Foster



Christopher Shane Foster, 46, of Whitefish, passed away on Oct. 17, 2022 due to an accidental fall.

Shane was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana to Lynn Denise Prieskop and Clarence Boyce Foster Jr. After he graduated from Walker High

School in 1996, he studied geography at Louisiana State University and California State University, Fullerton. He was proud to earn a master's degree and begin a career in healthcare.

In 2009, Shane met his husband James Cannava in Seattle, Washington. They moved to Whitefish soon after and considered it their "forever home." They were married in 2017 at a legendary event at the Big Mountain summit house surrounded by friends and family from across the country. Shane and James traveled often and hosted legions of visiting loved ones in their Whitefish home.

Shane loved the

Whitefish community and the natural beauty that envelops us. If you saw him on the trail or bike paths, he would be the first to say hello and ask how you were doing. If you were new to the area or visiting, he would usually say: "Welcome to Paradise." Shane was a kind, optimistic, strong soul who made all of us feel like he was our biggest fan. He saw the best in each of us and helped us see those things in ourselves. He gave the best hugs and leaves behind a treasure trove of hundreds of curated music playlists. He always wanted to listen to the music, dance a little and enjoy life even

more. All of those who loved Shane will forever cherish memories of his warmth, his kindness, and his joyful spirit. Shane worked at various hospitals but particularly enjoyed his work and the community at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish. While there, he earned the 2020 Jake Heckathorn Spirit of Community Award based on his volunteerism within and outside the hospital. He was a proud "Penguin Plunger" during the Whitefish Winter Carnival and was often one of the highest fundraisers for the event. For opening day on Big Mountain, he would host a gumbo

party at the house which helped "fill the boot" and raise money for Dream Adaptive. Shane leaves behind many friends and family members who will continue to share and spread the love he exuded. While he is dearly missed, he leaves behind a legacy on how to live well, how to treat others, and how to make connections with the environment and people around you. There were no barriers or walls to the way he lived life. Everything was possible and it usually started with saying "yes" to (most) everything. Shane is survived by his husband, James, his mom Lynn Prieskop

and stepmom Donna Foster, his son William, his sisters Heather and Jennifer, his brothers Josh, Reed and Sam, and numerous nieces and nephews. In memory and celebration of Shane, his family and friends will plan several events in Whitefish and beyond. Shane loved the outdoors, public lands and enjoying them with others. In his memory, donations can be made to the Shane Foster Memorial Project on Go Fund Me; donations will be used to make improvements to a local, existing public space to honor Shane's love for the outdoors and for our community.

Dustin Foster, 31

Dustin Foster sadly passed away on Aug. 7, 2022, at the age of 31. Dustin enjoyed his dirt bikes, snowmobile and playing disc golf, and always brought a smile to everyone's face.

He is survived by his mother, Julie Foster; brother, Jeremy Foster; father, David Foster; his



two grandmothers; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. A celebration of life will be held Sept. 17, 3 p.m., at 191 Castle View Road, Kalispell.

Karen Hannah Fox, 73

Karen Hannah Fox, from Columbia Falls, and formerly Billings passed away peacefully on Dec. 13, 2022 after a long illness. She was surrounded at home by her loving family and animals. Karen was born on June 29, 1949 and passed away on Dec. 13, 2023 at 73 years old.

Karen is survived by her beloved 96-year old mother, Grace Satterthwait of Billings; her three daughters, Fawn (Scott Pereira) Fox of Boston, Tammy (Joe) Hauser and Kris Scott both of Columbia Falls; her two granddaughters who she adored beyond measure - Taylor Johnson and Reese Scott - also of Columbia Falls; her two sisters of Billings, Linda Rookhuizen and Lonnie Krantz; and many loving nieces, nephews and other family members. She is preceded in death by her husband Terry Fox, her grandmother Clara "Tubby" Howard and her father Clayton "Sonny" Satterthwait.

Karen was known for her gentle soul and giving heart. Anyone that met her immediately loved her. Her true passion was spending time with her granddaughters, dogs and horses. Some of her happiest moments were spent riding her horses near



her house or the surrounding areas of the Flathead Valley with her granddaughters, Reese and attending all of Reese's barrel racing competitions. She also enjoyed long walks and meaningful discussions about life, art and spirituality with her other granddaughter Taylor.

Prior to retiring last year, Karen owned her own hair salon in Columbia Falls where many of her clients became her friends. Before that she worked for Burlington Northern railroad as a manual track laborer (aka gandy dancer) - one of few women to do so in that day and age. She was a hot ticket!

Karen's family would like to thank all of those in the medical field who helped her through this cancer journey - but especially Dr. Ryan Roop, Dr. Justin Linam and their respective teams. You always treated her with such caring and kindness. In lieu of flowers please donate to the charity of your choice in Karen's honor. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Stillman Allen Foster Jr., 82

Stillman Allen Foster Jr., Ph.D., passed away Jan. 11, 2022.

Allen was born on Nov. 10, 1939, in Pittsburgh to parents Stillman Allen Foster and Ruth Sherrard Foster. He joined his "older" sisters, Jane Elizabeth and Margaret Ann who had long wanted a baby brother. Allen graduated from South Hills High School in Pittsburgh in 1957 and Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania, in 1961, where he met his future wife, Miriam. During his college years he was well known for being a serious student and a prankster. He followed the path of his father, grandfather and uncle when becoming a Presbyterian pastor. Allen graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1964

where he won the New Testament prize, affording him and Miriam the opportunity to continue their life together in Scotland where he graduated with a Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh. Their first son, a wee Scot, Stillman Allen Foster III, was born while they were in Edinburgh. After a short stay in West Germany, Allen accepted a one-year teaching position in the philosophy department at the American University in Washington, D.C., where their second son, Robin Wallace Foster, was born.

In 1968, Allen moved his family to New Castle, Pennsylvania, where he served the Highland Presbyterian Church and they were delighted to welcome their third

son to this congregation: "His sound, scholarly interpretation of Scripture and his skillful application of it to the real problems of our times gives his preaching a memorable freshness and vitality. His sensitive and healing pastoral care provides comfort in times of greatest need to those of us who are bereaved or troubled, to a degree not often achieved by pastors. His administrative ability not only eliminates bureaucracy from our proceedings, but transforms session meetings from boring rituals to inspiring experiences..."

In 2004, after a brief time as an interim pastor at Central Church in Summit New Jersey, Allen retired and he and Miriam moved to Whitefish where they had spent many summers and fell in love with mountain living. Not quite ready for full retirement, Allen continued his ministry leading retreats for Glacier Presbytery. During these years the pastors of Glacier Presbytery enjoyed a two week trip to Israel and many retreats at Glacier Camp on Flathead Lake.

Allen is survived by his wife, Miriam; his children, Stillman Allen Foster III, Robin Wallace Foster (Christine), and Amy Ruth Foster-Wexler (Steven), grandchildren, Michaela, Maya, Marley, Quinn and Ainsley; his special brother-in-law, Randall Bostwick; as well as many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, -nephews and his lifelong friend, Father Richard E. Ward. Allen's family

to welcome their third child, daughter, Amy Ruth Foster. During his time in New Castle he was involved with various faith communities working to promote civil rights and the Office for Economic Opportunity. In 1972, Allen became the pastor of Southminster Presbyterian Church in Dayton, Ohio, as well as doing part time teaching at United Seminary.

Allen's final and longest pastorate was serving the congregation of Southminster Presbyterian Church in Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania, from 1984 to 2004. A quote from a proclamation by the clerk of session in 1994, halfway through his ministry there, might serve to demonstrate Allen's relationship with

Allen's family is especially grateful for the support they have received from Southminster Presbyterian Church, Whitefish Presbyterian Church and their new home, Immanuel Lutheran Communities.

A celebration of life service and interment will be held at Southminster Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh when weather and health issues allow for safe travel. Memorial tributes may be directed to Immanuel Lutheran Communities, Southminster Presbyterian in Pittsburgh or a charity meaningful to you. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Allen and his family.

Timothy James Fox, 69

Timothy James Fox, our loving husband, father, brother, dear friend and mentor, passed away peacefully with family by his side on the evening of Feb. 15, 2022, at the Logan Health Medical Center in the Flathead Valley of Montana.

Tim was known to his friends and family as loyal, reliable and hard-working with a big heart and an exceptional sense of humor. He spent the last several decades in Bigfork, where together with his wife Nikkiel, he built his dream home and masterpiece on Flathead Lake.

Tim was born in Golden Valley, Minnesota, on March 24, 1952, to Paula and Harold Fox, who instilled in him a strong work ethic and love for the outdoors. Every summer, the family would load up their travel trailer and tour the national parks. In 1969, after graduating high school, Tim, inspired by

the family adventures and led by his sister Suzan, came out to Glacier National Park for a summer job. He lived the remainder of his life in this spectacular place, the Flathead Valley — his home.

A conservationist at heart, Tim loved all things hunting and fishing. Together with his friends and family, he explored Montana's wild places searching for fish and game (with a special place in his heart for "the ranch" in the Sweetgrass Hills), and he reveled in his trips to the Yukon and Alaska. Always a craftsman, he created beautiful displays, including many incorporating antiques which he enjoyed collecting. Tim cared deeply for the land and the animals it supports, and he



mentored many young hunters, with whom his conservation and hunting ethic lives on.

Tim spent over 50 years in the construction industry and was truly a master of his craft. He built many homes and commercial buildings throughout the valley, including major projects at Meadow Lake, Eagle Bend and the Kootenai Lodge.

Tim is survived by his wife, Nikkiel; two children, Missy and Andrew; three stepsons, Grant, Blake and Chaser; sister, Suzan (Miko) Muldown; brother-in-law, Robert Sauer; and nieces and nephews Anna Trapani, Emily Gonsalves, Allison Servin and Karl Sauer.

He was preceded in death by his parents Paula and Harold Fox, and his sister Sherri (Fox) Sauer.

The family invites you to a service at the Church at Creston (5447 Montana Hwy 35) at 1 p.m. on

Sunday, Feb. 27. The service will be followed by a celebration of life at The Buffalo Saloon in Bigfork at 2:30 p.m.

For those wishing to make memorial gifts in Tim's name, the family suggests the American Lung Association.

Doug Fraley, 57

Doug Fraley, 57, peacefully passed away Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at his home in Bigfork. Doug courageously battled neck and throat cancer for over two years. He is remembered as a loving and devoted father, husband, son and brother.

Doug was born in Wichita, Kansas, on Dec. 10, 1964, to Don and Donna Fraley. Their family moved around the Midwest for several years before making their home in Bigfork where Doug graduated from Bigfork High School in 1983.

Doug went on to attend Western Montana College in Dillon after receiving a football scholarship. His college career included several highlights; he met his wife, Julie, graduated with a business degree, and to this day holds the record for the longest interception return for a touchdown (97 yards).

Following college graduation in 1987, Doug and Julie relocated to Mount Horeb, Wisconsin, just outside of Madison. Doug followed in his father's footsteps and began his career in the crop insurance industry. On

Nov. 17, 1990, Doug and Julie married and spent the next few years attending Badger football games and enjoying time on Lake Mendota.

Continuing his work in insurance, Doug's job took them from Wisconsin to Lexington, Kentucky, and then Cincinnati, shortly after. Doug and Julie had four children, Dillon, Madison, Abbie and Brooke. Doug always wanted to return to the Flathead Valley to raise his family, so in 2004, the Fraleys moved to Bigfork. Doug transitioned his career to flood insurance and his kids would all go on to graduate from his alma mater, Bigfork High School. Doug remained in the insurance industry and finished his career as an independent consultant for a risk management software company.

Doug became an integral part of the Bigfork community while his kids attended school, and



long thereafter. He was a member of the school board for six years and attended every event in support of his children and their friends. Every fall for the past 13 years, you could find him on the sidelines of the Bigfork High School football field as a dedicated member of the "Chain Gang." Doug's influence on his family and the community was more than just his physical presence. He was compassionate, charismatic, regal, loving, confident, easy going, welcoming and, nevertheless, sarcastic; a man who made a genuine impact on those who were fortunate to know him.

Doug was proud of the life he created with his family. He had the most pride in watching his kids grow up and celebrating each of their accomplishments. He took an active interest in his kid's favorite sports teams, their respective career fields, and their travels. Doug enjoyed skiing in the mountains and boating on Flathead Lake, his favorite place to be. Above all else, Doug cherished spending time with

his family. He was the epitome of embracing life and all it has to offer; he will be deeply missed and remembered forever.

Doug is survived by his wife, Julie Fraley; his children, Dillon, Madison, Abbie and Brooke; his mother, Donna Fraley; his father, Don Fraley; his sister, Debbie (Bob) Carbeau; numerous aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, and the dog he tried not to claim, Carmen Louise.

Doug was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Edna and Carl Knowles; paternal grandparents, George and Lynnola Fraley; and uncle, Keith Fraley.

All are invited to a celebration of life at the Bethany Lutheran Church on June 30 at 10:30 a.m., with a reception to follow.

The family would like to thank Logan Health Hospice for the exceptional care they provided while Doug was at home. Their kindness and compassion was unmatched. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in memory of Doug to Logan Health Hospice.

Dorothy "Dot" B. Framness, 98

Dorothy "Dot" B. Framness, of Columbia Falls, passed away April 5, 2022, she was 98.

She was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on June 30, 1923. She was the oldest of seven children. On Aug. 29, 1940, she was married to Nestor Framness. They had four sons: Hal, Ron, Rick and Dan. They moved to Montana in 1962.

Dot worked 14 years at the Kalispell B&B; as a waitress. She was a member of the North Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church, in Columbia Falls. She had nine grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Dot is preceded in



death by her husband, Nestor or 69 years, and their oldest sons Hal and Ron.

A memorial service will be held at the North Valley Seventh-day Adventist Church, 269 Second Ave. EN in Columbia Falls, Sunday, April 17, at 2 p.m. A reception will immediately follow the service and will be held at the church. Friends are encouraged to visit our website at buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Joan L. Frank, 86

Joan L. Frank of Columbia Falls passed away on Nov. 19, 2022 at her home surrounded by her loving family and friends at 86.

She was born on Aug. 21, 1936 in a little white house below Conrad Cemetery to Elizabeth and Leslie Zabel.

Joan was known to be a very loving and caring person and would give the shirt off her back to anyone in need. She was a banquet captain and server at the Red Lion for 31 years. She didn't want to retire but boldly said yes to it. She loved camp-

ing, fishing and playing games and she would do a little jiggle dance every time she would win. Her family and friends say she was known to burn up two cords of wood when camping; she loved her camp fires. She was also quick-witted with a great sense of humor.

Joan was preceded in death by both her parents Elizabeth and Leslie Zabel, brother Kenneth Zabel and her husband



Herman Frank.

She is survived by her sister Connie Anderson and family of Mountain Home, Arkansas; brother Allen (Jackie) and family of Helena; brother Gary (Clarice) and family of Florence; brother Robert (Linda) and family of Columbia Falls; brother John (Donna) and family, also of Helena. She is also survived by her children from her first marriage, daughter LaDawn Weed of Columbia Falls; son Daniel (Debbie) Weed and their kids; Jason (Desiree); daughter Sarah (Josh) and great-grand-

kids Aiden and Auston; son Randy (Patti) Weed and daughter Jill (James) Ney, along with their children Dustin Fox (Mykell) and great-grand-kids Jorlynn, Joslynn and Jaxsynn; and son Justin (Megan) Fox.

A celebration of Joan's life will be held in the spring of 2023 and will be announced at a later date.

She will truly be missed by everyone whose hearts she has touched.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Dr. Robert James Frank



Dr. Robert "Bob" James Frank, age 80, passed away surrounded by loved ones on Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2022, in Columbia Falls, Montana. Bob was born Dec. 19, 1941, in Billings, Montana to Ruben "Snubby" & Blanche (Rosean) Frank. Bob moved to Whitefish, Montana

with his parents in 1942, where they opened a small grocery store called Snappy's, he worked there until he was 18 years old. Bob also worked as a smoke chaser for the U.S. Forest Service and Railroad work crew during the summers.

Bob graduated from Whitefish High School in 1961 where he played football in various positions and was even homecoming king. He loved sports and continued to play football for the University of Montana Western in Dillon. He then moved to Chicago to attend Northwestern University and received his certificate of physical therapy. Bob continued his studies and received his Doctor of Dental Surgery, at

West Virginia Dental School.

Bob moved his family from West Virginia to Greeley, Colorado to open his dental practice. Bob had two very successful dental practices, in Greeley and Johnstown, Colorado. He was accepted into the International College of Cranio-Mandibular Orthopedics prestigious worldwide society of health care professionals. Bob continued to lecture across the United States on TMJ-temporal mandibular joint syndrome, while maintaining both practices. Bob also began Fro-Perlo, a management consulting company that offered skills in soft tissue procedures across Colorado. Bob retired in 1991 due to a bicep injury

while picking up a piece of heavy dental equipment.

Although he was quite young to retire, it gave him an opportunity to enjoy many activities. Bob moved back to Whitefish, Montana in 1993 and proceeded to build two homes and opened a Restaurant/Bar called Coaches Corner and Club Central.

Bob's pride and joy were his kids (Robin, Marty, Kristen, and Tyler), he spent many hours watching his kids play football, basketball, baseball, countless wrestling matches and numerous tennis matches. His favorite stories include when he took Marty and Tyler to Europe and hunting in Alaska. He would spend numerous summers

in Colorado to spend time with family. He loved to golf and try new courses. He especially enjoyed living on the golf course at Meadow Lake and watching his lab, Molly, run after golf balls on the course. He had a witty sense of humor and loved to tell stories (true or exaggerated), collect movies, woodworking, hunting and fishing. He always offered words of encouragement and would say "Whatever your goals may be, you are only a decision away".

He is survived by his daughter, Robin Harris (Paul), son, Martin Frank (Melanie), grandsons, Mason Frank and Maddox Frank, daughter Kristen Bruce (Shane) grandsons, Caleb Bruce, Clay Bruce, Brennen Bruce

and granddaughter Shiloh Bruce, son Tyler Frank (Meagan), granddaughter Lilly Frank, Charlotte Frank and grandson Jaxton Frank, and nieces, nephews, and friends.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held on Oct. 22 from noon to 3 p.m. at Grouse Mountain Lodge, 2 Fairway Drive, Whitefish, Montana.

Claire Ellen Langlois (Baker) Fraser, 50



Claire Fraser, 50, passed at her residence in Kalispell on Dec. 18, 2021.

A memorial is scheduled for March 4, 2022, 10 a.m., to be held at Crossroads Christian Fellowship, 7465 Montana Hwy. 35, Bigfork. All friends of Claire and the family are invited to attend.

Claire was born Aug. 3, 1971, in Port Angeles, Washington, to Ira Thomas Langlois Sr. and Lavora "Tommy" Mae Curtis. Her father passed just prior to her birth and she was raised by her mother and stepfather, Robert "Bob" D. Baker Sr. The family moved to the Kalispell area in 1975, purchased Kienas Ranch west of town and made it their home.

Being the youngest, and probably the cutest of the family, meant that Claire was often the favorite. However, growing up on a farm in Montana meant that she was not exempt from farm chores. Actively involved in a busy 4-H Club, she participated in classes and demonstrated her skills with pigs, dairy calves, rabbits, and more. Due to Claire being the smallest, she was given a little Shetland pony to ride, "Pony-Bo," who gave her many a joyride, ending in her being unceremoniously unseated and mad as could be. She got back on the little fiend because she wasn't one to give up easily — and that notion became a consistent virtue that Claire held on to — a fine attri-

bute for a small girl in a big world.

Even as a child, Claire was generally a more quiet, self-possessed person. Even so, that didn't prevent her from dancing in the family living room with siblings and parents alike and, on occasion, friends joined in, dancing for hours, or simply listening to her favorite country songs. As a teen she was actively involved in her local church, serving as a camp counselor and teen leader.

As an adult, she married and had two beautiful children, Christopher and Tamara.

Unfortunately, in her mid-20s, Claire began suffering from serious medical issues that prevented her from doing many of the things that she'd eagerly dreamt about as a child and had hoped for as a young woman. Despite her health challenges, she managed to earn an associate degree from Flathead Valley Community College, before moving to New York state, then on to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where she settled for many years before returning to Kalispell.

Claire enjoyed making art, mostly coloring as she'd lost most of her eyesight but could manage with pre-made lines. She had a sweet little dog she named "Ollie" whom she doted on. He

was her constant companion for many years. She became involved with her church, The River, and attended Bible study with her sister, Sheila, also a Kalispell resident and several other local friends. Claire enjoyed reading Scripture and had several favorite passages that helped keep her going.

On a cold December day, the littlest sister, Claire, breathed her last. She joined her parents, Ollie, and those who have gone before her. With tenderness and joy, they greeted her, welcoming her into her new home where there is no more sickness, lack, or pain. She is free. She is home.

However, this is not the end of her story. Claire always longed for family. Yet, during her lifetime, all her siblings and family were living quite busy, separate lives. Through her, she did for her family what they could not have done without her — she brought them together, uniting them in a way that was not possible before. Living all across the United States, her siblings and her children were reunited through technology, travel and love; the very essence of what family is built upon. And soon most will be coming home — to her hometown, Kalispell, for her memorial.

It would be the pleasure and the wish of her family that those who remember Claire and/or the family, that you

would join them as they grieve Claire's gone-too-soon life. Those who might like to share any thoughts or memories of her, please do, and help them celebrate new moments that will be created because of her life, her tenacity and always with her gentle presence in our hearts.

Claire was preceded in death by her father, Ira Thomas Langlois Sr., mother Lavora "Tommy" Mae Curtis, and step father Robert "Bob" D. Baker Sr., as well as siblings, Ira Thomas Langlois Jr., Jacquelyn King and Barbara Rippee.

She is survived by two children, Christopher Berlinger (son Keith) and Tamara Ross (daughter Olivia) and son Elijah; siblings, Sherryl Eknes (Knut), Scott Baker (Debbie), Sheila Lawrence (Neil), April Taulbee (Dan), Robert "Rob" D. Baker Jr. (Chom), Abigail Crisp (Troy) and Laurie Bridge (Randy), as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Condolences and remembrances may be posted on Claire's tribute page at: <https://www.columbiamortuary.com/tributes/Claire-Fraser>.

Gherald 'Jerry' Ray Fredericks, 75

Gherald "Jerry" Ray Fredericks, at 75 years of age, went to live with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Sept. 3rd, 2022, in the midst of ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or Lou Gehrig's Disease).



Jerry was born on May 22, 1947, to Floyd Fredericks and Phyllis Baker Fredericks in Stanley, North Dakota. He joined a sister, Connie Lea, and later became big brother to Sidney Eugene. After his parents' divorce and remarriages, another brother joined the family, Robert Lee Joe Bosley II. Jerry's father's new marriage gave him two more sisters, Christine and Corby.

During many family moves, including to Idaho and back to Kallispell, Jerry attended various area schools where he made lifelong friends. Jerry never learned the definition of "stranger" — there weren't any in his life. Growing up, Jerry also had the privilege of spending his summers in his mother's home town of Parshall, North Dakota. Here he was able to live with his many cousins as brothers and sisters. The family's final move was in 1960 to Valley Drive in Kallispell.

This neighborhood had several kids his age, but his eye was on a young gal, who was also in his sixth grade class at Cornelius Hedges. He made a point to walk to school with her as much



as possible. Her brother Ken also had a motorcycle which kept his interest in spending time with Ken, and keeping his eye on someone in that household.

After pursuing all the possibilities of young girls in junior high and high school, he decided to go back to his first choice, Leola Kaufman. She and her family had a big influence on his spiritual walk with the Lord Jesus. At 17, Jerry asked Jesus to take away his sin and become one of God's children. Not growing up in a church-going family, Jerry found a new connection in the youth group of about 60 kids and supportive adults. During this time his relationship with Leola became more solid and they were married at the end of 1966.

Jerry pursued a meat cutting career and was able to receive a journeyman's card under the influence of another great man, Jesse Eayrs. Jerry knew the draft board would send him a letter for military service at the culmination of his meat cutting school. They sent letters to all young men 18 years old and older who were not in school and had no children

to serve in the Armed Forces. Immediately upon receiving one of these letters, Jerry went straight to the Naval recruiter and asked for duty in Naval Aviation. Passing all his tests with flying colors allowed him to join the service area he wanted. After signing enlistment papers, he found out that he would soon be a father. Cory joined the ranks to bring much delight to the family. Jerry would soon learn to operate the instruments for detecting submarines. He flew on and off the Ticonderoga and many other carriers, giving him four busy and enjoyable years. He also volunteered to go to Vietnam when asked to go support our forces there.

At the end of his four years of service to his country, the four seasons of Montana were calling his name. Jerry worked at several types of work after he returned home from his military duty. This included meat cutting, radiator repair, real estate sales, car sales, and driving an 18-wheeler. His desire to be free of the structure of the military took him to the mountains with a rifle, and fishing pole.

Jerry hunted successfully with his horses for many years, riding in and packing out. He even bagged a whitetail buck in the 2021 season. With his health failing, he knew it would be his last chance, so he pushed himself to fulfill his hunting bucket list. With the help of his sister-in-law, Shirley, her husband, Bob, and his brother-in-law Ken, he once again brought home his wild game.

Jerry loved fishing as well as hunting and was able to continue catching fish for several more trips. He continually out fished those who had joined him for the day. When someone caught more than he did there was always the reminder with a chuckle, "You know, when you out-fish

the boat owner you don't get asked again!" And then to be found out with the same fellows next time, most notably his best friends John Stefanatz, Chris Miller and Craig Mackey. After all, John was the one who taught Jerry to fish in the first place.

Jerry had a deep love for his home in Kallispell. The house was located where a lot of wildlife roamed. He was so excited to see the baby deer in the spring and watch them all summer as their spots began to fade. Jerry never lost his desire to "hunt." Now he kept his eye on windows to see the deer, raccoons, fox and birds perusing through his yard. God made them for us to enjoy and enjoy he did.

Jerry was preceded in death by his mother Phyllis and stepfather Bob, father Floyd and stepmother Barbara; and younger brother Rob.

He is survived by his wife Leola, son Cory (Amy), sisters Connie, Christine and Corby (Aaron), brother Sidney (Shawn), sister-in-law Debbie Bosley, father-in-law Joe Kaufman at 99 years young, also many sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many dear friends.

Services will be held at Aletheia Christian Fellowship, 330 North Somers Road in Kallispell on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 1 p.m., followed by a light luncheon in the fellowship hall with time for your memories and stories of Jerry. At 3 p.m., we will caravan/carpool to the boat launch area

on Ashley Lake for the spreading of his ashes. The family is being cared for by Pastor Scott Keller of Aletheia Christian Fellowship and the Buffalo Hill Funeral

Home. Friends are encouraged to visit the website www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolence for the family.

Thomas 'Tom' Wesley Freeman, 75

Thomas "Tom" Wesley Freeman, 75, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 20, 2022, surrounded by loved ones at Logan Health Medical Center in Kalispell from multiple health complications.

Tom was born Sept. 3, 1946, as the second to oldest of seven sons to George and Kathleen Freeman.

Tom was born, raised and graduated high school in Deer Lodge, Montana. Shortly after, he enlisted into the Navy, serving in the Vietnam war as a DC6 fireman on the USS Forrestal.

Soon after retiring from serving his country, Tom was hired to assist and construct the Snake River Bridge that was erected just outside of Twin Falls, Idaho.

Tom moved to



Columbia Falls to work as a welder at the aluminum plant in 1977 where he met and married his wife Kathryn Kartheiser, of 44 years, in 1978. Together they had two children, Kasy and Tiffany and three other children from previous marriages Tabitha, Timothy and Brandi that made up their blended family.

In 1992, chasing a dream, Tom moved his wife and two youngest children to Alaska to work as a diesel mechanic and welder, living off

of a floating log camp in Tolstoi Bay. Their life was very unique and they continued to move around with the logging company keeping them in Alaska for 24 years before moving back home to Columbia Falls to be closer to family and grandkids.

He was very talented at woodcarving and braiding and also enjoyed fishing, hunting and playing cards while camping with friends and family. He was very giving to those in need as he often spent time finding ways he could give back to friends and neighbors. Seeing him out and about providing snow removal to the neighborhood was never a surprise. His energy, laughter and smile will be greatly missed by all who were fortunate enough to

know him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Andy, daughter Tiffany Stocks, and grandson Trevor Fehrenbach.

He is survived by his wife Kathryn, brothers George, Art, Gus, Elmer and Eddy, daughters Tabitha Roth and Brandi Fehrenbach (Chad), sons Timothy (Shawna) and Kasy, grandchildren Mitchel, Jacob, Haylie and Korren Fehrenbach, Knox and Nash, and many other nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held and announced at a later date this summer. Memorial gifts and/or condolences can be sent to 1234 16th Ave. W., Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

Heather Marie Fritz, 35

Our beautiful Heather Marie Fritz passed away on Aug. 14, 2022, in Great Falls.

Heather was born Nov. 25, 1986, to Kevin and Karla Fritz in Incirlik, Air Base, Turkey. She was the second of four children.

Heather had an infectious personality. She was always spunky and loved doing things with her son. She loved barbecuing with her family and friends; also, ax throwing with her co-workers in Great Falls and her son in Kalispell. Anyone who met or worked with her loved her immediately.

We so miss her smile and laugh.

Heather is survived by her son, Ryan Kitzmiller and his father Jesse



Kitzmiller; her father, Kevin Fritz (wife Cindy); her mother, Karla Fritz; brother Shadeau

Fritz; two sisters, Jessica Fritz (Chuck McLoud) of Great Falls and Mariah Mariett (Tanner) of Kalispell; two grandmothers, Stella Rhodes and Darlene Fritz; and many cousins, nieces and nephews; also, two very important extended family members, Sarah Kitzmiller and Shari Culbert.

Please join us to celebrate her life and beautiful soul on Oct. 13 at 1 p.m. at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Don Ira Frownfelter, 81

Don Frownfelter, beloved father, Dad to three girls, Danette, Kimberly and Connie, and his stepson Kevin, Grandpa to 18 beautiful grandchildren and one great-grandchild, loved his family and friends deeply and was fortunate to have many of them by his side when he passed away Saturday evening April 2, 2022.

Don was born in Jamestown, North



Dakota, in 1940 and grew up on the family farm with five of his siblings, Raphael, Bernadine, Kenneth, Dennis and Christine. After high school he enlisted in the Army where he spent four years

mostly in Germany before moving to Montana in 1969. Don was a well-respected carpenter. He owned his own businesses, Frownfelter Construction and Quality Home Construction, building custom homes in the Flathead Valley for over 35 years. Don was also a member of the Back Country Horsemen Association and loved to pack and ride his horses in the Bob Marshall

Wilderness.

He is survived by his daughters, stepson, grandchildren, great-grandchild, siblings, nieces, nephew and longtime companion, Linda.

No service is planned at this time.

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, to please consider donating to the local veterans pantry and/or local food bank.

Douglas Allen Furrow, 70

Beloved brother Douglas Allen Furrow, 70, passed away at Logan Health Medical Center on Jan. 27, 2022, following a sudden illness.

Doug was born on Jan. 22, 1952, in Pasadena, California, to Allen and Dorothy (Bordeaux) Furrow. He attended St. Raphael's Grade School in Glasgow, Montana, and Little Flower Parish School in Billings. He graduated from Billings Central Catholic High School in 1970, where he was on the wrestling team. His most mem-

orable employment was building geodesic domes. Disabled in his 20s, Doug lived

quietly with his parents in their later years, where he was a tremendous support to them. He was a caring sibling and uncle to his nieces and nephews. Doug enjoyed self-fi novels and movies, puzzles, games and dinners with his extended family.

His parents, Allen and



Dorothy, and brother-in-law, Albert Bjornrud, preceded him in death, whose losses affected him greatly.

He is survived by siblings, Rebecca Furrow Casey (Timothy) of Casper, Wyoming, Kenneth Furrow of Missoula, and Teri Furrow Bjornrud (Albert) of Kalispell. He is also survived by nephews, Brandon (Andrea) and Dane Bjornrud (Ashley), and nieces Caitlin, Alissa and Brianna Casey, Amanda

Bjornrud White (Dustin), great-nephew, Dawson Bjornrud, and great-nieces, Teagan White and Amber Bjornrud.

The family would like to thank the paramedics and Logan Health for their care.

A private family memorial will be held.

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