

Ronald Duane Palmer, 82

Ronald Duane Palmer, 82, of Kalispell, passed away Jan. 21, 2022, at the Whitefish Care and Rehab Center in Whitefish.

He was born Aug. 12, 1930, in Conrad, Montana, to Joseph Wesley Palmer and Minnie Agnes Wittmier.

Ron graduated from Conrad High School in Conrad and worked at Buttreys in Conrad, and the Husky Station in Shelby, and then worked for Dick Irvin Trucking for many years. He sold and built grain bins and steel buildings in the area for a few years. He then moved to Yuma, Arizona, and worked for Jack Thompson Steel Buildings. He then moved to Kalispell and worked for Treweek Construction building a building for Lee Distributing. He worked for Lee Distributing until it was sold, and started Flathead Truck Repair with Cristi Lee and Brian Reed. Ron worked until he was 79 and then sold the business.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents Minnie and Wes Palmer,



brother Leo Palmer, sisters Sharry Carlson, Carol Gillis and Connie

Palmer, and nephews Terry Palmer and Kerry Seidler.

He is survived by his wife Sharon of Kalispell, children Tim (Mona) Palmer of Idaho Falls, Idaho, Becky (Elias) Delos Reyes of Vacaville, California, and Wendy (Danny) Wrenn of Yuma. He is also survived by seven grandchildren, Cassie (Thom) Costello, Hannah (Packy) Tagliaferro, Emily (Cole) Edginton, Christina (Casey) Blair, Elias (PJ) Delos Reyes, Tony Delos Reyes and Tim Delos Reyes and 8 Great Grand Children and several nieces and nephews.

Ron will be laid to rest on Saturday, June 11, at the Sunburst Cemetery in Sunburst, Montana. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. with a luncheon following the service at the United Methodist Church in Sunburst.

Lowell Panasuk, 62

Lowell Panasuk was born Dec. 9, 1959, to Andrew and Leona Panasuk in Deer Lodge, Montana. On Feb. 7, 2022, he died suddenly of a heart attack while out on his mail route. He was a mailman for 22 years.

Lowell grew up in Butte alongside his three siblings and lifelong friends. He graduated from Butte High in 1978. He was proudly the "flanker" for the Butte High Bulldogs football team. They won the Class AA state championship in 1977. After high school and between semesters,

Lowell worked in the oil fields to pay for college. He lived in his car at times and traveled wherever there was work. He attended Montana Tech, Montana State University, and graduated from the University of Montana in 1984.

After college, he and his two best friends sat in the Paradise Bar in Butte, rolled the dice, and decided to move to Denver. He worked as a landscaper in Denver before working for Porter McLeod Construction. The Labor Day Golf Tournament brought Lowell home to Butte every year and that weekend in 1991

at the Laz't Call Bar, he met his wife, Laurie Levensgood. She sat on his lap and he asked her to be his wife. They were married on Aug. 28, 1993, in Bigfork.

Together they built the Deli and raised their three children in Columbia Falls.

Lowell loved his kids and he always made sure they knew it. He took pride in always being there for them. As they grew up and moved away, he always made time to stop by wherever they were in life to buy them lunch and hand them a hundred dollar bill as he said goodbye.

Lowell planned to retire on March 31, 2022. He was so excited to have time to do all of the things he loved to do.



He was always in for a round of golf with good friends, a card game,

a trip up to the cabin, a few hours at a Keno machine, a Kansas City Chiefs football game, a cup of Baileys and coffee, and a nice dinner out with his family. Lowell had friends in all places. He loved to tell a good story and to make people laugh. Lowell was a simple guy and he genuinely enjoyed life. He left us too soon.

Lowell is survived by his wife Laurie and their three kids Maggie, Sadie and L.J. He is also survived by his mother-in-law, Arlene Levensgood, his siblings, Les Panasuk and DaNette Rule; in-laws Sandy and Randy O'Connell, Debbie and Joe Sidor, Christine and Steve Blair, and Karla and Dewy Swank. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews and friends he considered family.

Lowell was preceded in death by his parents, Andrew and Leona Panasuk, his brother Lane, sister-in-law Laurie, father-in-law Chris Levensgood, and brother-in-laws, Scott and Abe Levensgood.

There will be a vigil service with rosary on Friday, Feb. 11, at 6 p.m. at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A graveside service will be held Saturday, Feb. 12, at 10 a.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. A reception will be held from 11:30 to 3 p.m. at the Back Room of the Nite Owl in Columbia Falls. All are welcome.

Lowell was an active member of the Flathead Valley Shrine Club. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Flathead Valley Shrine Club at P.O. Box 762, Kalispell, MT, 59903.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

James Allen Parker, 75

James Allen Parker passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on May 23, 2022. He went to feed the pigs and they ate him.

Jim loved music, Vespas, VWs and his BMW motorcycle and Morris Minor. He was happiest telling jokes and playing cribbage with friends and strangers on the road in

Harvey the RV or one of his many Westfalias. His sense of humor was one of his best qualities. Even his family couldn't always tell when he was joking and he kept on joking right up until the end. He could be seen across Montana tearing up the dance floor with his sweetheart and wife of 40 years, Christelle.

He is survived by his beautiful daughters, Cierra (Brian) and Brynne (Dustin), who he was so proud of. He carried a photo of them in his wallet until the day he died. He's also survived by four grandsons who were the light of his life (Paul, Evan, Adam and especially Parker).

He was a voracious reader and crossword champion and is probably sitting now with a beer doing a NY Times Sunday crossword perfectly in pen. After he's done, he'll mow the lawn with tunes on and beer in hand, dropping in fresh raspberries as he cruises by the bushes.

Jim was born in Angola, Indiana, to Fred 'Bud' and Bernadette Parker on Nov. 1, 1946. He moved to Southern California in 1959. The second of five children, he was very close to his siblings, Patsy,

Kathy and the twins, Bobby and Billy, and his cousin Dick Fisher. After high school, Jim joined the Air Force and married Terry Hansler. Later, while living in Santa Cruz, he explored Mexico and hiked the John Muir trail, culmi-



nating in climbing Mount Whitney. Eventually he came to Kalispell in 1979 to ski and help his dad manage his apartment. He remained an avid skier until 70 despite health issues. He met Christelle in 1980 at the VFW in Libby. They married in 1981 on a boat on Lake Union in Seattle and honeymooned riding their bikes and camping in the San Juan Islands. Jim and Christelle took their family on many vacations that included camping, biking and rafting across Canada, the United States and Mexico. They road tripped from hot spring to hot spring as long as the VW van kept running. Jim was happy to retire from UPS after 18 years in 2005 (He would remind everyone to follow safe driving habits) and enjoyed regaling his customers with jokes.

Fittingly, he passed away on the 143rd day of the year, or "143 day." Since high school, 143 was his code for "I love you," a numerical shorthand from the number of letters that make up each word.

Jim really appreciated the care that he got from Dr. Obermiller and his nurse, Ann Rigg. Their compassion and humor gave him additional good years.

Jim liked to say, "You've gotta have good news, if you want to have good wases." And he certainly had a life full of them!

His family and friends are planning a big celebration of remembrance to be held this fall, one worthy of the life Jim lived.

Sharon Marie Parker, 81

Sharon Marie Parker passed away peacefully on March 21, 2022, with her children around her at St. Pat's Hospital in Puyallup, Washington. Sharon was born on July 25, 1940, in Kalispell, the second daughter of Neil and Helen (Maier) Parker. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1959. In 1961 she married Glen T. McManus and they had three children. After the children were raised, she attended Flathead Valley



Community College, then the University of Montana, graduating with a Bachelor in Social Services degree. She moved to Sumner, Washington, and worked for the Social Security Administration, retiring after 19 years.

She is survived by sons Keith of Columbia Falls, Tom of Kent,

Washington, and her daughter Pam Nuckolls of Kalispell; her sister, Gloria Hellman, (Bernie) of Kalispell; six grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

She will be put to rest next to her mother in C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A memorial will be scheduled at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to your favorite charity in her name.

Loren Kennth Parmer, 63

Loren Kennth Parmer, 63, of Kalispell passed away on Aug. 12, 2022, at Logan Health Medical Center.

He was born Nov. 19, 1958, in Whittier, California, to Leslie and Sharron (Siedel) Parmer. He moved to the Flathead Valley with his family around 1985. He met his wife Karla Franklin in 1975 and they were married in 1981. They welcomed their daughter, Trisha, in 1983 and their son, Joshua, in 1985. Loren and Karla start-

ed Loren's Carpet Care in 1992 and have run it together ever since.

He was preceded in death by his father, Leslie Parmer.

Loren is survived by his wife Karla, son Joshua and his wife Brianna and their children of Kalispell; his daughter Trisha, Lelois and her children of Great Falls; his mother, Sharon Parmer of Kalispell; and his three sisters and their families. Loren loved his family and will be greatly missed.

Loren enjoyed working with and talking to his clients.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Loren's name to Shriners Hospital.

There will be a private family service at a later date.

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

Elizabeth Diane Thomas Ware Paustian, 93



Our beloved mother, 93, passed peacefully of lung cancer on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, in Longmont, Colorado, at her daughter Dana Ware Willett's home. She was surrounded the preceding weeks by her adult children and was cheerful and comfortable to the end with the great help of Trail Winds Hospice.

From the start Diane was headstrong, intelligent and determined. Diane was born Feb. 24, 1929, and raised during the heart of the Great Depression in Kansas City, Missouri, and in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, to Lewis and Opal Thomas (both deceased). She and her sister Carolyn Sue Thomas (deceased) moved 16 times in as many years as Lew Thomas worked to build the Fruehauf Trailer Company prior to and during World War II. When Diane was age 14, the family moved to Omaha, Nebraska, where Lew founded and served as CEO of Omaha Body and Equipment Company (OBECO). Diane attended Brownell School, Bradford College, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, majoring in mathematics, and she was

actively involved in the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. It was at UNL she met Frederick "Fritz" Ware. Fritz and Diane were married in 1950, settled in Omaha, and had five children, Frederick Abbott Ware (Julie Cates); Mary Diane Ware Treloar, (deceased); Sally Elizabeth Ware Waters (Susan Waters); Thomas Newbranch Ware (Naomi Craven Ware); and Dana Louise Ware Willett (Jim Willett). She is also survived by 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She spent 30 years in Omaha managing a growing family and later became a real estate agent and managed rental properties. She moved to Bigfork in 1983 with daughter Mary to operate The Grand Hotel, a restaurant and inn. Mary was killed in an automobile accident in 1990, and Diane raised Luke Treloar, Mary's 4-year-old son. After Luke was grown, Diane moved back to Omaha to be near her other children. There, she became reacquainted with

widower Fred Paustian, who had not only been a medical colleague of Fritz Ware's, but had also been a member of Fritz and Diane's wedding party. Diane and Fred quickly fell in love and were married in his home in Omaha in 2009, attended by dozens of children, grandchildren, and family and friends. Fred Paustian died in 2014. Diane stayed in Omaha in an independent living apartment until her move to Dana's Longmont home in the winter of 2022.

Throughout her life, Diane was highly skilled at many endeavors, including architecture, design, finance, fashion, politics, and the arts. While concurrently putting her husband through medical school and raising five children, she worked as a teacher (in a one-room schoolhouse), became renowned as a costume maker in Omaha's theater circle, taught herself classical music and opera appreciation, excelled at chess and bridge, restored antiques, designed and built the family home (a five story redwood landmark on North River Road in Omaha), led alternative energy policy

efforts, bought/renovated/resold real estate investments, taught herself financial investing, and became an expert at doll collecting and restoration—all while painting, cooking, sewing, and always reading.

In her final days, Diane commented she wished she could draw up plans for one more home renovation, design and sew one more set of doll clothing, or paint one more picture. Despite rapidly falling vision and suffering many underlying ailments, she was actively creative in her mind until the very end. She told her children, whatever this next phase is for her spirit, the first thing she'd like to do is build a house.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Flathead Valley Community College Foundation for the benefit of the Mary Treloar Endowed Scholarship Fund, www.fvcc.edu.

A celebration of life will be held later this year.

Edy Paxman, 89

Edy Paxman, 89, passed peacefully on April 4, 2022.

She made Kalispell her home for over three decades and has loved living in this unique town, where she made her mark as a therapist, assisting those in need of her wise counsel. She is survived by

two daughters, three sons and seven grandchildren who will be celebrating her life on the 16th of April at 1 pm. All friends and associates are welcome to attend and participate. It will be a casual, outdoor service on her front lawn, 735 4th Ave. E.

Carolyn Edith Pearson, 89

Carolyn Edith Pearson, 89, passed away peacefully at Doctors Hospital in Sarasota, Florida, on Aug. 1, 2022.

Carolyn was born March 21, 1933, in Saugerties, New York, to Frank and Sadie Whitehead. Carolyn was active in Bethany Lutheran Church in Bigfork, Montana, and Ascension Lutheran Church in Sarasota, Florida.

Carolyn was married to Don Pearson until his passing on Aug. 31, 2019. Don and Carolyn were married for 65 years and made their home in Sarasota. They spent their summers in



beautiful Bigfork. They loved to travel, fish, collect antiques and entertain family and friends.

Carolyn was preceded in death by her husband, Don Pearson, her son Jerry, her son John, and her son Gary.

She is survived by her daughter, Debbie Mendenhall, and by her six grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, Sept. 22, at 3 p.m. at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

Clyde A. Pederson, 89



Clyde A. Pederson, 89, lifelong Flathead Valley resident and grandson of Kalispell pioneers, died on Feb. 8, 2022, at the age of 89. Clyde was born on April 20, 1932, the son of Adolph and Anna (DeYong) Pederson, and began farming south of Creston upon his father's death during his senior year at Flathead County High School. He grew up during an era where most folks didn't have much by way of possessions but were rich in friendships — getting together with neighbors for dinner, playing cards, going for drives, supporting the grade school and fire department, making phone calls on party lines, huckleberry picking, and picnics and softball.

After a few years of milking cows and raising chickens, Clyde transitioned to beef cattle and hogs to supplement grain, hay and specialty crops. He stayed at the forefront of agricultural developments, collaborated with the Northwestern Agricultural Research Center (MSU) to advance farming practices, and he was one of the first farmers in the region to computerize his business. As a young man, Clyde was awarded the top Future Farmers of America honor, the American Star Farmer Award, and he received many FFA and 4-H awards and recognitions. Forever a man of the soil, when he stepped into the Cologne Cathedral in Germany, Clyde said, "Wow! Just think of how many haybales could be stacked in here!"

Clyde's recreational pursuits included elk hunting in the Southfork with Miles "Pat" Harbin and Paul Morton, fly fishing in mountain streams and rivers, and saddling up his favorite horse and taking pack trips through the mountains of Western Montana. He belonged to the Backcountry Horsemen, packed for Forest Service trail crews, and built feed bunks and refurbished campsites.

Clyde was a respected community leader, volunteered in numerous organizations, and served on various boards including First Interstate Bank, Equity Supply Company, Creston School, Soil Conservation Service, Production Credit Association, Northwest Antique Power Association, Farm Home Administration, and the Creston Fire Department. Clyde was a founding member of CFD in 1957, helped build the first fire truck, was the department chief for almost 20 years, and gave up his turnout gear in 1982.

Clyde will be remembered as a storyteller with an affable person-

ality and an unpretentious way of inspiring the organizations of which he was a part. Clyde's word and a handshake were bonds of integrity. Clyde was hopelessly unmusical, but could whistle to rival any songbird.

In retirement, Clyde and Jeanine spent many winters in Yuma, Arizona. When he wasn't packing in the hills, Clyde restored antique tractors and farm implements. He revived his high school pastime of whittling into the art of wood carving, belonged to carving clubs, attended carving rendezvous, and occasionally taught the craft.

Clyde and his high school sweetheart, A. Jeanine (Jensen), shared 68 years of married life and were partners in all aspects of their farming operation. Clyde is survived by Jeanine, two children, Duane (Charlene) Pederson of Trumbull, Connecticut, and Bonnie Pederson of Kalispell. Clyde delighted in four grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

A memorial celebration of the resurrection to eternal life in Christ will be held on Saturday, March 19, 11 a.m., at Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Kalispell, where Clyde's grandparents were charter members, with the Rev. Scott Thompson officiating. Interment will be at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials in Clyde's honor be made to Creston Fire Fighter's Association (4488 Hwy. 35, Kalispell, MT 59901), a 501(c)(3).

Lloyd Albert Peiffer, 84



Lloyd Albert Peiffer passed away on Monday, Nov. 14, 2022, surrounded by lots of love and comfort from his family.

Lloyd was born in Fort Benton, Montana, on Nov. 18, 1937. He later moved to Potomac, Montana, where he lived with his family on a ranch and developed a love for horses. He moved a few more times before meeting the love of his life, Carol Jeanne Timblin-Peiffer, who also loved horses.

Lloyd lived larger than life. He enjoyed working in the woods as a logger and a heavy equipment operator. Lloyd found joy spending time with his family outdoors. He loved fishing, hunting, and horseback riding. He could often be found tinkering in his son's shop. He was a proud supporter of his family's activities, attending sporting events, graduations, birthdays, and more.

Lloyd was loved by many and left an enormous legacy. The world is better just by having known him. He was always quick to laugh and had the best sense of humor. Lloyd loved to help others whenever

er they needed a hand and he will be missed tremendously. He is survived

by his brother Gary Peiffer and family, his sister Carly Barta and family, as well as his children Bill and Val Peiffer, Pam and Duane Wendt, Ken and Rita Peiffer, Dale and Marlyn, and his former daughter-in-law, Judy Peiffer. He is also survived by his grandchildren Sara, Amanda, Nathaniel, Heather, Kali, Kimberly, Dusty, Nicole, Ashley, Phillip, and Matthias as well as many great-grandchildren.

Lloyd was preceded in death by his wife Carol Peiffer, nephew Scott Peiffer, and his parents, Lorretta and Albert Peiffer.

A graveside service will be held at Fairview Cemetery at 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 18. A celebration of life will be held at the Hampton Inn on Saturday, Nov. 19, at 4 p.m.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Lloyd and his family.

Elaine Marie Brandt Pelton, 88



Elaine Marie Brandt Pelton passed away early Sunday morning, Feb. 13, 2022, at home surrounded by her family.

Elaine was born on Dec. 31, 1933. She was one of the first babies born in the "new" Pierce Hospital! She grew up in and around Orofino, Idaho, where her parents built sawmills, finally building JW Brandt and Son, Inc., on Orofino Creek. Elaine graduated from the University of Idaho in 1955 with a bachelor's degree in education. Later that summer she married Dale Pelton. They settled in Orofino, where Elaine taught third grade and Dale worked at the pole yard in Ahsahka, Idaho. Their three sons, Douglas Dale - 1957, Gary Dean - 1959 and Dana Bradley - 1961, were all born in Orofino. The fam-

ily later moved to Sandpoint, Idaho, where Melinda was born. And later to Kalispell where all four children graduated from high school. Elaine became a substitute teacher and began her quilting career!

Elaine was the "soul" of her family, spending many summer vacations and holidays with extended family, including grandparents; Adron and Nellie Pelton of Ahsahka, Walter and Bessie Brandt; of Orofino along with John Brandt and family; Norma, Lucky, Ameer and Skipper of Kooskia and Dean Brandt and family; Judy and Alison of Orofino, Clarence Johnson and family;

Bertha, Ann, Eileen, Carl and Kaye of Orofino, and so many others!

Elaine was a daughter, sister, cousin, aunt, mother, grandma, great-grandma and friend. Strong, talented, and smart, Elaine was a wickedly sarcastic conversationalist! A feminist, teacher, pianist, master seamstress and quilter, she loved to be on the go, to be in the middle of a project or 10 and had more real friendships than most! She nourished all of those around her with her home-made cookies, soups, quilts, strong opinions, and sage advice.

As a mother, Elaine was simply the best! Quick to correct, happy to help, and easy to love. She loved her children fiercely and recovered from both the loss of Dougie in 1978 after a

terrible car accident and Gary in 2019 after a complicated illness. She relished her visits with son, Dana and family, Dana, Nathan, Chris, Douglas, Ava, and Wyatt, of Collinsville, Oklahoma. She moved in with daughter Mindy, and family, Kiefer, Carson and Zavier, in San Antonio, Texas, in 2015 where she continued to be on the go, traveling, shopping, and enjoying time with her grandsons, who affectionately dubbed her, Great!

Great, indeed. The family will be gathering for a memorial on May 21 at the Orofino Senior Center at 930 Michigan Ave. in Orofino, ID 83544.

In lieu of flowers, please do something fun, in memory of this wonderful woman!

Arthur Prall Perina

Arthur Prall Perina Art was born Sept. 19, 1954, to parents John and Marion Perina in Staten Island, New York. In 1968 Art relocated to Minnesota with his mom and sister Edith. Art attended and graduated from Battle Lake High School. It was in high school that Art met his lifelong sweetheart in Noreen Boen but wouldn't successfully win her heart until 1976.

Art and Noreen were married on Sept. 12, 1978, in Milbank, Minnesota. Together they raised children Rachelle, Joey, Dan, Andrew, and Kristi. They relocated to Whitefish, Montana in 1982 to help family



operate the Whitefish Dairy Queen. Art and Noreen moved the family to Gretna, Nebraska in 1997 where Art would live out his remaining 25 years. Some would say the man never

could be fully removed from the mountains as he missed Montana very much.

Through the years trucking was a long-term fixture in Art's career. He spent upwards of 35 years in long-haul trucking culminating in the ownership of his own business Perina Custom Hauling until his health took him away from the road. Art also worked for the Gretna Public Schools as a custodian for approximately three years.

In life, Art was driven by the knowledge of his risen savior Jesus Christ and he was dedicated to glorifying his Lord. It was his great joy to

earn a Certificate in Biblical Studies from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 2020. Arthur Prall Perina was a treasure to know in life and though missed dearly in death all can rejoice at the knowledge that he opened his eyes to worship in the presence of God on July 18, 2022.

Preceding Art in death are his parents John and Marion Perina, sister Joan Ryckman, brother John(Sonny), brother Robert Sr., brother-in-law Raymond Ryckman, brother-in-law Lou Swigert, sister-in-law Beverly Perina, nephew Earrol Ryckman, niece Shirley Ryckman, nephew Robert

Perina Jr.

He is survived by his wife Noreen, and children Rachelle(Danny), Joey(Carrie), Dan(Jessica), Andrew(Joy) and Kristi(John); 22 grandchildren, Amanda(Derek), Bryar(Paige), Brandon, Brittney(Lance), Nate(Blake), Ashton(Dustin), Lilli, Cameron, Kaden, Emily, Sydney, Isabella, Riley, Pyppe, Cole, Avery, Kinley, Jazmyn, Titus, Aspen, Caleb and Kase; five great-grandchildren, Holly, Atlas, Blair, Leighton, and Jordyn.

John 'Jack' Robert Perry, 82

John "Jack" Robert Perry, 82, passed away April 10, 2022 in San Antonio, TX.

He was born May 25, 1939, in Seattle to George "Whitey" and Maxine Perry.

He spent his life as a laborer and contractor working at Plum Creek Lumber, Boeing, Alaskan Pipeline, and Superior Lumber. It was at Plum Creek that he met the love of his life, Michele Lamoreaux.

John and Michele celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last June.

John enjoyed wood-working and hunting but loved fishing. He loved telling stories and jokes, but he could never get to the end of his jokes because he would start laughing so hard. His laughter was infectious, so everyone else in the



room was laughing right along with him.

John is survived by his wife,

Michele "Mickey" Perry; daughter Allison and husband Allen Solenberg of San Antonio, Texas; daughter Lindsay and husband J.B. O'Neal of Clovis, California; grandsons Cameron and Riley Solenberg; granddaughters Jaelyn and Morgan O'Neal; and three sons, David, Dennis, and Dean Perry.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by brother Ron Perry.

Burial will be at a later date in Montana. Please visit www.missionparks.com to leave notes of condolences.

Keven Allen Perry, 58

Keven Allen Perry died peacefully in his sleep of natural causes on Friday May 6, 2022. He was 58 years old.

A graveside service will be held on June 3 at 11 a.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Details of the service are being arranged by Darlington Crematorium and Funeral Home and will be presided by Pastor Phil Alspaw of

Libby Christian Church.

Keven was born on Janu. 14, 1964, to Judith Kaye Perry and Donald Earl Perry in Cut Bank. He was the second child of a growing family that would eventually total four children. He was a precociously creative child, which only developed more as he grew older. At the age of 15 he moved with the family to Libby where he finished high school. He was very active in band and Key Club.

After graduation he moved to Phoenix, originally to study computer



programming, but drifted away from that and worked at the famous Phoenix Country Club, which was designed by the architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

Keven would fall in love with Lloyd's style of architecture and design. Keven would fall in love with Lloyd's style of architecture and design. Keven would fall in love with Lloyd's style of architecture and design.

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In 2007 he decided it was time to return to Montana to live simpler and be closer to his family. He settled in Kalispell and quickly joined Smith's grocery where he worked until his passing.

Keven loved architecture and design. He would create utilitarian items with the simplest of material -- a wall hanging and screen made of table placemats, and an exterior chandelier surrounded with clear plastic utensils. He loved to create decorations for the holidays -- wreaths for every season were a favorite -- and would always create very intricate and personal gift baskets.

He will be missed dearly by his family and friends. Keven is survived by his father, Donald Perry; sister, Crystal Ferguson and family; brothers, Curt Perry and Kent Perry; along with nieces and nephews, Caitlyn Bolster and family and Cole

Paulsen; also numerous close cousins, Cathy Lauenstein and family, Peggy Erickson and family, Judy Smith, Kim Dykman and family, Zenda Beecroft and Lori Ward.

The family has asked that any donations in Keven's name be given to Flathead County Animal Shelter for his love of cats ...

Robert 'Bob' Richard Perzinski, 82

Robert "Bob" Richard Perzinski, passed away on Aug. 19, 2022, at the age of 82 in Lake Havasu City, Arizona.

He was born in Belfield, North Dakota, on July 8, 1940, to Joseph Perzinski and Pauline Palauck. He grew up in South Heart, North Dakota, and moved to Baker, Montana. He married his lovely wife Virginia on Oct. 13, 1962, in Leoti, Kansas. He then moved to Kalispell in 1963.

He worked for Lawrence Transportation, C&C; Plywood, Bell Mfg., and worked for S&S; Mfg. for 32 years.

Bob loved Corvette cars and owned many in his lifetime. He enjoyed keeping his yard and acreage landscaped. His favorite thing to do was spending time with his friends and family.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Pauline Perzinski; his brothers, Mike and Roger; and his sisters, Margaret, Evelyn,



Louise and Daphne.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia Perzinski; daughter,

Deborah Wright (Harlan); grandson, Austin Wright (Amy) and Olivia; granddaughter, Megan (Kyle) Gainer and Karson; brother, Joseph Perzinski; sisters, Carol Reiger, Georgiann Warne and Charlene Bronson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A private celebration of life will take place at a later date at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

Services were entrusted to the care of Lietz-Fraze Funeral Home in Lake Havasu City.

Thoughts and condolences can be sent to the family at www.lietz-fraze-funeralhome.com.

To send a free card, go to www.sendoutcards.com/lietzfrazefuneralhome.com.

Tim Allen Peters, 57

Tim Allen Peters, 57, passed away on Feb. 12, 2022, at his home in Kalispell.

Tim was born in Astoria, Oregon, on April 29, 1964. He grew up in Tacoma, Washington, and graduated from Foss High School. In 1983, Tim joined the United States Air Force where he became a munitions systems specialist.

Following his service and honorable discharge, Tim became certified in atitek welding and structural steel. He created for himself a career that would allow him to work in many states. This eventually led him



to the Flathead Valley. Kalispell is where he built his home, made lasting friendships, and enjoyed his favorite hobbies of hunting, fishing, and "wrenching" on vehicles.

Tim was a true friend with an unforgettable and inspired sense of humor. He is greatly missed by his family and many close friends. A celebration of life will be held at Darlington Funeral Home in Kalispell on May 7 at 1 p.m.

Tim is survived by his mother, Joanie Scotson, his sisters, Shirley (Terry) Lee and Diane (Chuck) Dearfield, their daughter, Lindsey Dearfield and her children, Anthony and Abby.

Arnold Carl Peterson, 100

Arnold Carl Peterson passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Wednesday, April 6, 2022, just after celebrating his 100th birthday.

Born in Irvington, New Jersey, he lived in Maplewood, Ocean, and then in Lincroft, New Jersey, for the next 59 years until moving to Whitefish in 2018 with his wife, Lois, to be near his granddaughter and family.

At a young age he became interested in amateur radio and for the next 80 years became his lifelong hobby with the call sign of AB2N.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, serving onboard the U.S.S. Healy as a chief petty officer. He was a graduate of Newark College of Engineering, now the New Jersey Institute of Technology, and went on to work as an engineer at the Signal Corps Engineering Laboratories, now known as the Communications and Electronics Command, Fort Monmouth. Upon retirement from CECOM in 1978, he worked as a self-employed consultant until 1992. He was a member of the ARRL and Quarter Century Wireless Association. He was also a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees and the U.S.S. Healy Association. He was a longtime member of the United Methodist Church



in Red Bank and served on the property committee for a number of years.

Born to parents that had immigrated from Sweden, he was proud

of his Swedish heritage.

He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. His greatest joy was his granddaughter, Christine, and great-grandchildren John and Autumn.

He will always be remembered for his kind and caring ways and being there for family and friends.

He was predeceased by his parents, Carl and Lilly Peterson, and his beloved wife of 69 years, Lois Kammerer Peterson.

Surviving are his daughter, Nancy MacDonald of Whitefish; a daughter and son-in-law, Barbara and John Foley of Whitefish; a granddaughter and husband Christine and John Nelson of Whitefish; and two great-grandchildren, John and Autumn Nelson of Whitefish.

Funeral services will be held at Saint Peter Lutheran Church in Whitefish at 11 a.m., Wednesday, April 13. Interment and military honors will follow at Fairview Cemetery.

Michael Henry Perzan

Michael Henry Perzan passed away unexpectedly of natural causes at his house on April 24, 2022.

He was born in Meriden, Connecticut, lived in New Britain, Connecticut, and moved to Montana in 1978. When back East he always introduced himself as "Mike from Montana"; he adopted the Big Sky country as his own. He resided in Kila and, most recently, in Columbia Falls.

Michael attended Goodwin Technical School in New Britain where he studied culinary arts and then honed his skills under various master chefs. He was head chef and partner of First Avenue in Kalispell in the 1980s and 1990s;



worked at various other restaurants and was involved in the Doug Betters annual charity event.

Michael loved many things in life; family, friends, pets, nature, birds, hiking Glacier Park, gardening and photography. In past years he also enjoyed soccer, climbing the Northern with friends and, of course, always music, playing the guitar and piano. Michael marveled at the setting sun, birds in the trees, flowers in the garden, and being with the many people he loved.

Michael will be greatly missed by his beloved son Gaven Meyer; and his faithful dog Henry; his siblings, David Perzan and partner Laura, Denise Kominas and husband John, Mary Owens and husband Gary, and Laura Perzan; his niece, three nephews and their families; his aunt, Anne Nowakowski; and many cousins and extended relations.

He was predeceased by his parents, Henry J. and Genevieve T. (Nowakowski) Perzan; and a beloved niece, Sheri Ann Kominas.

A celebration of Life is being planned for a later date this summer.

For online condolences visit <https://www.jgfuneralhome.com>

Patricia Ann Phillips, 85

Patricia Ann Phillips was born July 24, 1936, in Wolf Point, Montana, to Edwin and Lucille Sillerud.

She passed away March 30, 2022, in Spokane.

Pat had four children, Denise Erbezniak, Becky (Brian) Croucher, Don (Dorothy) Lofgren and Brenda Lofgren. In 1975, Pat married Donald Phillips and inherited three additional children, Brenda, Susan and Carl. She had numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents,

her brother Jeri, her husband Don and two children Steven and Ronald Bishop.

A graveside service will be held at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls on Tuesday, April 5, at 11 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice of Spokane at 121 S. Arthur St., Spokane WA, 99202.

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

Raymond 'Ray' Alan Phillips, 62



Raymond "Ray" Alan Phillips aka "Raybo" or "Ray Ders," age 62, died suddenly on Oct. 5, 2022, at Logan Health Center in Kalispell.

Ray was born October 15, 1959, in Aurora, Colorado to Jerry and Beverly Phillips, the oldest

son of five siblings. He was raised the majority of his childhood by his grandparents, Floyd and Ruth Vetter, in Strasburg, Colorado, on the family cattle ranch where he learned hard work,

accountability, and perseverance.

Ray graduated from Strasburg High in 1977.

He was an avid sports fan, lettering in baseball, football, and wrestling and belonged to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Football was his number one sport and he started following the Raiders when he was 10, partially to compete with Grandma who was

a die-hard Broncos fan. He had to be different.

He also loved college football and became a huge Alabama fan, as well.

He moved to California in 1978 where he attended College of the Canyons, studying

criminal justice but his poor eyesight kept him from pursuing his dream career in law

enforcement. Ray then worked for LA Water and Power as a heavy equipment operator. He

met his wife, Susie, in Kagel Canyon, California, where they were part of a large group of lifelong friends. They married in

1986 and had many adventures, traveling in their motor home all over the western states with their three Rottweilers. In 1993 they moved to Kalispell,

settling down in their long-

term home in the Flathead Valley. Here they had a happy, peaceful life

for the last 29 years. Ray worked for Kirby for years and owned the store in Evergreen for

two years. He honed his skills as a salesman, enjoying dealing with people and in 2002, Ray went to work as the bar

manager at the Montana Nugget Casino in Kalispell where he worked for the last 20

years. He developed a long list of return customers who would come into the bar just to see him

and hear him quote some sports statistics.

Ray and Susie became parents to their daughter, Aryn, in 2005. Ray and Aryn developed

such a close father-daughter bond; she was Daddy's girl and he was her dear Daddy. Like

his grandparents taught him, he taught Aryn to be independent, hardworking, and

resourceful. He always encouraged her to chase her dreams.

Ray was a man of honor, integrity and fiercely loyal. He loved to make people laugh. His dry

sense of humor and sarcasm caught many off guard as he cracked jokes, played pranks,

and kept everyone on their toes. He loved golfing with his friends, his brother and his

daughter. He is survived by his wife, Susie Phillips of Kalispell; his mother, Beverly Phillips of

Springfield, Kentucky; and his daughter, Aryn Phillips of Milwaukie,

Oregon; as well as numerous other family members.

Ray will be cremated. Services will be held on Saturday, Oct. 15, at Family Life Christian Church, 1075 Foy's Lake Rd, Kalispell, MT 59901, at 12:30 p.m.

Dale R. Pierce, 79



Dale R. Pierce left us all on Jan. 6, 2022. He passed away at Logan Health Medical Center in Kalispell.

Dale was born in Malta June 29, 1942, to Dale R. Pierce Sr. and Leota May Bartlett Pierce. The family traveled around the country when he was a youngster. They made a home near Glacier Park in the early part of his life. The family did eventually settle in the Flathead Valley.

Dale graduated from Flathead High School. After graduating he became a welding student and also a student of mechanical engineering. He became proficient at both of these professions.

In 1974 Dale bought a blacksmith shop in

Kalispell. The blacksmith at the time taught him a few things about using the forge.

As a young business owner, he would help the local farmers with their farm equipment. Hence, the start of Pierce Manufacturing.

In the winters when business was slow and he was struggling to get his new business off the ground, he would work in Canada. He also worked at the Libby Dam and the nuclear plant in Portland.

There were many challenges while working to build the successful business we all know today as

Pierce Manufacturing. As a Kalispell resident and business owner he was an active member of this community in many different aspects during his lifetime.

Dale was a race car enthusiast. He followed the circuit for many years. He would travel far for his passion for racing.

Dale never did anything halfway. It was all or nothing. That's how he raced.

He was preceded in passing by his parents, Dale R. Pierce Sr. and his mother Leota May Bartlett Pierce; sister,

Kora Lynn; and his wife, Cheryl A. Pierce.

He is survived by his two children, Charles Pierce and Rita Pierce; his brother, James Pierce

of Kalispell; his sisters, Lynette Dyk of Toston, Montana, and Tamara Thompson of Wyoming.

He was a grandfather, and an uncle to many nieces and nephews.

Dale finally slowed down some two years ago. He let the family run the business for the most part.

He is with our good Lord in heaven now. He is at peace. May the good Lord have mercy on us, for it is we who are left behind that suffer from the loss of our loved ones.

Love you my husband, my friend — your wife, Carmen.

We will be celebrating Dale's life on June 25 at Pierce Manufacturing, 3445 U.S. Hwy. 93 South. It will be from 1 to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Loren Dean Pierson, 53



Loren Pierson, 53, of Kalispell passed away in Minot, North Dakota, Jan. 10, 2022, of complications from Covid-19.

He was born and raised in Kalispell and attended Helena Flats School and Flathead High. Upon graduation in 1986, he served with distinction in the U.S. Army - Seventh Army, 2d Armored Division, in Europe and Virginia.

Upon his discharge, he returned to Kalispell and worked as a diesel mechanic and truck driver. The family started Pierson Truck Parts and Loren went to work there as a parts manager. After the economic downturn in 2008, he moved to Tioga, North Dakota, to work in the equipment repair industry. Moving back to Kalispell in 2021, he continued to work as a truck driver and mechanic.

Loren had a lifelong love of mechanics and trucks. He enjoyed the outdoors and working on his grandfather's farm. He was a faithful and loyal friend and was always ready to help



anyone in need, often going the extra mile in serving others.

He is survived by his wife Rose, daughter Jessica Pierson,

son Jacob

(Brandee) Pierson, daughter Jackie (Dan) Smith, stepson Van Vesquiso, grandchildren Hudson and Evelyn Smith, and Preslee Pierson, parents Lloyd and Eileen Pierson, and brothers Mike (Deb), and Lloyd (Laura) Pierson.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Jan. 22, at 4 p.m. at Faith Covenant Presbyterian Church, with a reception to follow.

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.

Clemens Louis Platt Jr., 83

Lou passed away on Aug. 27, 2022, in Kalispell surrounded by his beloved wife and caring staff at Brendan House.

He was born on Sept. 13, 1938, to Clemens Sr. and Edith Platt in Glen Cove, New York, and was the youngest of three children who were raised on beautiful Long Island Sound. Lou grew up loving everything related to nautical pursuits. He graduated from Oyster Bay High School, then enlisted in the U.S. Air Force where he proudly served at Bergstrom and George AFBs before being honorably discharged in 1962. Lou went on to graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science degree from California State University Northridge (CSUN) where he was recruited by the Carnation Co.

Lou began his career in sales for Southern California's Fresh Milk & Ice Cream Division, rose to supervisor at branches

in Long Beach and Fullerton before being promoted to retail sales manager in Fontana. In 1970, he was tapped as advertising manager for the western United States based at Carnation World Headquarters in Los Angeles where he helped create some of the company's most iconic print and broadcast advertising campaigns of the time. Later, he acquired a Carnation wholesale distributorship in Victorville where over the next 25 years, he successfully built the business and expanded it into wholesale food service. He leaves behind a legacy of business leadership and stewardship within the high desert region of Southern California.



Lou believed he was the luckiest man to have a career he loved for many decades and to be able to give back to the community that supported him.

Forever drawn to the ocean, Lou looked forward to spending time at Marina del Rey and Cat Harbor with friends and family where he and Betsy sailed for over 30 years. He savored years of retirement in captivating Northwest Montana. Lou will always be remembered as humble and engaging with everyone he met, possessing a unique ability to connect with people of all ages and from all walks of life. His wit and dry sense of humor were matched only by his keen intellect.

To be around Lou was to know just how good it feels to laugh. He loved his family dearly as they did him and he will be greatly missed.

Lou was preceded in death by his parents, sister Mary Ann Pippin, and brother-in-law Gerald

Frederick.

He is survived by his wife Betsy, and beloved family including his sister Dorothy Frederick, brother-in-law Hal Pippin, nieces Sharon (Dirk) Cimarik, Pamela (Charles) Stuard, Jenifer (William) Santoro, nephews Craig (Renee) Pippin and cherished friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests consideration of donations to either the Humane Society of Northwest Montana (humanesocietypets.com), Wounded Warrior Foundation (woundedwarriorproject.org), or Tunnel To Towers Foundation (T2T.org).

Private services will be held and a celebration of life will be scheduled at a later time.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family. Condolences for Lou's family may be made online at www.igfuneralhome.com

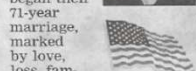
Charles Eugene Plummer, 95

After a weekend surrounded by loved ones, on Monday, Dec. 20, 2021, handheld by his daughter Kim, and sleeping nearby his wife, Charles Eugene Plummer passed peacefully into eternity.

Chuck, as he was known to most, was born Sept. 5, 1926, in Missoula to Charles Plummer and Olive Price. The oldest of three, Chuck grew up on property along the Bitterroot River outside of Lolo, Montana, with his brother, Ted, and sister, Gail. His early years were spent adventuring with his siblings — hunting, fishing, camping, and raising animals. Growing up, Chuck and Ted worked together alongside their father, at different times harvesting ice from Plummer's Slough behind their house, haying for the neighbor, or running telephone wire for the U.S. Forest Service. In 1944, at 17 years old, Chuck enlisted in the United States Navy, serving during World War II on the USS Rowan in both Hawaii and Japan. He turned 18 on the Gearing-class destroyer at sea in Japan, before returning home and being honorably discharged in June 1946.

Sometime after returning from the war, Chuck earned his high school diploma in Missoula and then began working at a meat shop in Stevensville called Livergood's. As a budding meat cutter, he began to develop the craft that eventually became his lifelong career. Across the street was a diner named Smiley's where he frequently went for lunch. In 1948, Chuck met Sylvia Fern Mitchell, a waitress, who was "prettier than a palomino in the moonlight" according to him. Married on May 28,

1950, at a little church in Stevensville, Chuck and Sylvia began their 71-year marriage, marked by love, loss, family, hard work, and adventure. In July 1951 their firstborn, William "Bill" Russell was born in Missoula. The young family moved briefly to Helena, where Chuck worked at a grocery store meat counter, before moving to Kalispell where their second child, Patricia "Patty" Ann was born in July 1953 and Chuck worked on a crew building the Hungry Horse Dam. After moving to Bozeman to work for Montana Fish and Game at a fish hatchery, their third child, Sylvia "Kim" was born in December 1959. In 1960 the growing family moved back to Kalispell, where Chuck and Sylvia would purchase 40 acres of land along Church Slough, fed by the Flathead River for their 10-year anniversary. Their fourth child, Wesley "Wes" Greg was born April 1962. For the next couple of years, Chuck worked at the nearby aluminum plant, before starting as a meat cutter at Sykes Market.



Falling closely behind their incredible marriage, raising four children and traveling the world, Chuck and Sylvia's most notable achievement was opening Lower Valley Meat Processing in 1974 out of their three-car garage. As it grew into a premier meat processing plant, Chuck never really retired, greeting customers with his signature smile and heartfelt wave until November 2020, when he would be reunited with Sylvia at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork; well-loved and well cared for by the compassionate nurses and staff.

It should be noted that Chuck was a man of many talents. He and Sylvia maintained a large garden and orchard, as well as raised bees for honey. They enjoyed cooking and canning, sharing with anyone who would indulge their gifts. They were talented dancers and loved traveling, visiting all 50 states and 19 countries. Their favorite pastimes, camping and fishing, took them to Wrangell, Alaska, several times, as well as Lake Mary Ronan most summers of their marriage. More than anything, Chuck delighted in his family, never passing up the opportunity to share a bowl of ice cream or rum and coke together. He will



be missed dearly, though his legacy of hard work and having fun remains. Chuck was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Olive Plummer; brothers-in-law, Glen Derrickson, Larry Mitchell, Jim Mitchell and George Mainwaring; sister-in-law, Virginia Mitchell; children, Bill Plummer and Patty Perry.

He is survived by his wife, Sylvia; siblings, Ted (Joyce) Plummer and Gail Derrickson; daughter, Kim (Joe) Lavadure; son, Wes (Sue) Plummer; grandson, Jeremy (Janell) Plummer and their kids Sam, Ione and Sadie; granddaughter, Amy (Eric) Gardner and their kids Walter, Charlie, Norman, Stanley and Clyde; grandson, Grant (Jaima) Hughes; and granddaughter, Patty Hughes.

The Plummer family would like to thank the community for the outpouring of support they have received and will announce when funeral plans are finalized, which are being made for spring. If you would like to send Sylvia a card, you may address it to her at Lake View Care Center, 1050 Grand Drive, Bigfork, Montana, 59911.

Sylvia Plummer, 91



Sylvia Fern (Mitchell) Plummer was born on Oct. 23, 1931 and passed away on Dec. 20, 2022, handheld by her daughter, Kim, and granddaughter, Amy. Her passing came exactly one year after her husband, Chuck Plummer. Her family takes comfort, imagining them greeting each other with a youthful, "Well hello, Mrs. Nice" and "Hello, Mr. Nice," and a lively two-step dance.

Sylvia was born in Roman, Montana on Oct. 23, 1931 to Richard Mitchell and Ellen Keller. The oldest of seven, Sylvia grew up enjoying the Montana outdoors, working hard, and helping care for her siblings: Jim, Anne, Janet, Larry, Donald, and Lonnie, often entertained by the pranks of her youngest three brothers. Throughout her childhood, she lived in Independence, Oregon and Roman, Choteau, and Polson, Montana. She played basketball in high school, as well as ran track and field, telling her family stories about training in Polson by running back and forth across the bridge at the south end of Flathead Lake. At some point, the family moved to Stevensville, Montana, where she graduated from Stevensville High School in 1949.

As a teenager, she worked at a bowling alley setting up pins and had her own paper route. After high school, she worked at a diner called Smileys, where she would meet the love of her life. In 1949, Sylvia met Charles Eugene Plummer, who would frequent the diner on his lunch breaks from the butcher shop across the street. According to Chuck, Sylvia was "prettier than a palomino in the moonlight." Married on May 28, 1950, at a little church in Stevensville, Chuck and Sylvia began their 71-year marriage, marked by love, loss, hard work, and adventure. In July 1951 their firstborn, William "Bill" Russell was born in Missoula. The young family moved briefly to Helena, then to Kallispell, where their second child, Patricia "Patty" Ann was born in July 1953. After moving to Bozeman, their third child, Sylvia "Kim" was born in Dec. 1959. In 1960 the growing family made their final move back to Kallispell, where Chuck and Sylvia purchased 40 acres of land along Church Slough, fed by the Flathead River, for their 10-year anniversary. Their fourth child, Wesley "Wes" Greg was born in April 1962.

Sylvia was a dedicated wife and mother, maintaining the family home and teaching her children to enjoy all of life. When Kim and Wes were in elementary school, she worked at Sykes Diner in town. Falling closely behind their incredible

marriage, raising four children, and traveling the world, Chuck and Sylvia's most notable achievement was opening Lower Valley Meat Processing in 1974 out of their three-car garage. What has grown into a premier meat processing facility, Chuck would always boast that Sylvia was the main reason behind its success. She was an incredibly hard worker, tougher than most, and had the sass to match. Family was the most important to her; often saying that as long as she had her family and her health, that she had everything she needed. It should be noted that Sylvia was a woman of many talents. She was a gifted seamstress and baker. Her and Chuck maintained a large garden and orchard, as well as raised bees for honey. They enjoyed cooking and canning together. They were talented dancers and loved traveling, visiting all 50 states and 19 countries. Their favorite pastimes, camping and fishing, took them all over Montana, Alaska, and beyond, often with grandchildren in tow. Sylvia loved playing cards, reading, and crafting. She took every opportunity to teach her grandchildren and great-grandchildren something new. She will be deeply missed, though her family delights in knowing her and Chuck are reunited, and will celebrate her incredible life with a "snort," as she called them (whiskey and Squirrel). Her cinnamon rolls on opening duck hunting day and ham

and split pea soup will also be missed—family or guest, no one ever went hungry or uncared for at her table. Growing up without much, and working hard for everything she had, she embodied grit, resiliency, and compassion. She was truly incredible.

Sylvia is preceded in death by her honey, Charles Plummer; parents, Richard and Ellen Mitchell; brothers, Jim and Larry Mitchell; sister Anne Mainwaring; brothers-in-law, George Mainwaring and Glen Derrickson, sisters-in-law, Virginia Mitchell and Joyce Plummer; and children, Bill Plummer and Patty Perry.

She is survived by her siblings; Janet (Marion) Huston, Donald (Ruby) Mitchell, brother-in-law, Ted Plummer; sisters-in-law, Dorothy Mitchell and Gail Derrickson; daughter, Kim (Joe) Lavadure; son, Wes (Sue) Plummer; grandson, Jeremy (Janell) Plummer and their kids, Sam, Ione, and Sadie; granddaughter, Amy (Eric) Gardner and their kids, Walter, Charlie, Norman, Stanley, and Clyde; grandson, Grant (Jaima) Hughes; and granddaughter, Patty Hughes.

The Plummer family would like to thank the community for the outpouring of support they have received. The funeral will be held this Thursday, Dec. 29, at 10 a.m. at Kallispell Elks Club, 1820 U.S. Highway 93 S. As she was a friend to all, we invite you to celebrate her life with us!

LaVonda 'Sugar' (Mills) Poor, 81



On July 8th, 2022, we said our final farewell to our loving mother LaVonda "Sugar" Poor.

LaVonda was born on Aug. 13, 1960, in Idaho to Howard and Rayola Mills but was raised in Essex. She was one of seven children. She graduated from Flathead High School in 1978. In 1982 she married her high school sweetheart Eugene Poor. Together they raised two daughters, Chantel and Desiree. LaVonda touched many lives through her daycare/preschool which she ran until 2001. She had many friends that she made in the Lake Blaine area through her job at Woody's.

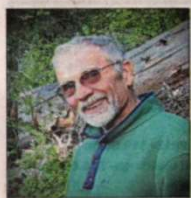
In her free time, LaVonda enjoyed her garden, restoring old furniture, painting and interior decorating. She loved spending time with her grandchildren, family, and friends. She often had company around her bonfire pit and played

horse shoes. She is survived by her daughter Chantel; her husband Micheal; and their son Alexander Babcock of San Antonio and daughter Desiree; her husband Chris; and their sons Theron and Ryan Huston of Kallispell; as well as Eugene Poor of Shingletown. Additionally, she is survived by her siblings Ron, Roy, Bobby, Vickie, Franny, and Tina.

She was preceded in death by her stepfather Raymond Fredericks of Kallispell father Howard Mills of Albuquerque and mother Rayola Harman of Missoula.

Celebration of life to be announced. To share a memory or plant a tree in her honor, please contact Darlington Cremation and Burial Service.

Alan Priebe, 75



Alan Priebe of Whitefish, Montana died on Nov. 25, 2022. He was 75.

Al was born on a farm in Iowa to parents Clyde and Gladys. He was the second of three children, older sister Patti and younger sister Kim, both of whom survive him and live with their families in the Midwest. His sisters would tell you that he was mischievous from childhood, likely thanks to his dad who had him driving a combine on the highway before he could see over the steering wheel. He was a multi-sport athlete, excelling in basketball, football and softball. He loved cars and driving from a young age and could name the year and model of any car by sight from the 1940s on. He was outgoing and magnetic and made friends in high school that he had until the day he died. He was always very loved.

After several years of college, Al left the

Midwest to pursue a big adventure on a boat in the Bering Sea and followed that up with an even bigger adventure to Montana, where he lived for almost 50 years. He met and married his wife, Natalie, in 1975 who started as a cook for his outfitting business in the Bob Marshall Wilderness and ended up being his partner and chef for life. Al loved a lot of things, but perhaps the two he loved most were food and his family and friends. He was a loving and fun and supportive husband and father, a devoted grandfather and a once-in-a-life-time friend.

Al was the hardest worker anyone could know. He spent decades running just about every machine imaginable while farming his own land during his downtime. He instilled his work ethic and pride of place in his kids and grandkids, something for which they are thankful every day.

It's no surprise that Al didn't ever really retire, which he would blame on lawn mowing and ground squirrel eradication, so even when he wasn't working, he stayed busy. Al attended every single one of his kids' sporting events over the years and many of his grandkids' events. He loved watching birds and battling bear break-ins and riding

bikes and yelling at basketball on TV. He was an avid pheasant hunter but his true passion was fishing, tying his own flies and building his own rods for both himself and Natalie (though she always seemed to catch the bigger fish). He had an eagle eye for game and was always the first to spot any critter. He didn't like the cold, or being patient, or the time he missed his pull-out while float tubing and Search and Rescue had to be called. Al was a true Montanan in every sense of the word, from his unending kindness and generosity to his work ethic, from his courage and sense of adventure to his passion for everything outdoors.

Al was preceded in death by his wife Natalie and survived by his son Gabe (wife Lori and sons Liam and Kellen), daughter Genevieve, and best friend Bela the dog, all of whom are extremely proud to have called him their family. Al hated the winter but loved the spring, so a celebration of Al's life will take place in Whitefish then. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to The North Valley Food Bank or The Wounded Warrior Project. Cards may be sent to Darlington Cremation and Burial Service in Kalispell, Montana.

Erma J. (Mapston) Davis Prier, 91

Erma J. (Mapston) Davis Prier, 91, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 20, 2022, at her residence.

She was born on April 5, 1931, in Stockett, Montana, the daughter of Raymond and Grace (Muntz) Mapston.

In 1948, Erma married Ernie Davis and together they raised three children, Gayle Rose (Ray), Dana Blush (Ken), and Dean Davis.

After Ernie's death and Erma's retirement from the U.S. Post Office in Big Arm, Montana,

she moved to Arizona to pursue her love of music! On Dec. 12, 1996, she married Gil Prier and together they made a life of music throughout Arizona. In May of 2018, Gil and Erma moved back to Montana and made their home in Columbia Falls until her death.

Erma was a wonderful mother, grandmother



and great-grandmother to Diana Hughes (Chris), Derek Davis (Alea), K.C. Hutchin (deceased), Taylor Davis (deceased) and Dara Davis (deceased).

Erma has joined her loved ones in heaven, Raymond and Grace Mapston, Ernie Davis, grandchildren, K.C. Hutchin, Taylor Davis and Dara Davis.

Erma is survived by her husband, Gil Prier, of Columbia Falls; her brother, Wes Mapston (Kathy) of Arlee; her

three children and her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and her two special puppies, Benji and Puggi.

Erma will be laid to rest in St. Ignatius with her loved ones at Pleasant View Cemetery at a later date.

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.

Marilee Mae Pritchett, 79

Marilee Mae Pritchett, age 79 of Kalispell passed away peacefully on Saturday, Jan. 29, 2022.

Marilee was born Aug. 30, 1942, in Kalispell. She was one of two children. She was the daughter of Dean and Geneva Lockhart. Marilee married William Pritchett, the love of her life, on July 9, 1965. She was an amazing wife, mother, grandmother, sister, friend and neighbor. Her kids, include Judith Peters, Elaine Packer, Eugene Pritchett, and Cynthia Rogers. She loved going to the Moose Lodge, collecting cardinals, and carousels. She loved all of her many grandchildren and great-grand-



children. Marilee always had a smile on her face and a warm hug.

She was preceded in death by her husband William; her parents Geneva & Dean Lockhart; daughter Judith, and brother Denny.

She will be dearly missed by her family and friends. A warm thank you to all the staff at the Brendan House for caring for her these past several years.

A celebration of life will take place on Feb. 11 between 3-5pm, at the Moose Lodge in Evergreen.

Benjamin N. Proodian, 79

Benjamin N. Proodian, 79, of Eureka, passed away May 27,

2022, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

He was born Jan. 27, 1943, in ALX, France, to Samuel Proodian and Margaret Proodian (Kelendairy).

Ben was a member of the United States Air Force. He loved eating and dining out. His favorite restaurant was Applebee's. Ben worked



as a computer analyst for Hugh & Packer. He loved fishing for perch and northern. Ben also enjoyed playing pool. He was a manager of the VFW Canteen in Eureka and loved classic rock, country, rock 'n' roll and Western music.

He is survived by brother, Joseph; niece, Michelle; good friend, Melody Casey; and very close friend, A.G. Casey Jr.

In addition to his parents, Ben was preceded in death by two sisters.

Services for Benjamin N. Proodian will be held privately at the convenience of the family.