

Colleen Elmora Tafoya, 89

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Colleen Elmora Tafoya, 89 passed away on January 12th, 2023, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She was born in Ronan, on September 23rd, 1933, the daughter of Richard and Gladys Carlyle.

The history of Colleen's family in Lake County goes back generations.

Her father Richard Carlyle was a farmer and rancher in Mission Valley and her mother Gladys was a local piano teacher.

After attending grade school in Pablo, Colleen went to Polson High School.

She was 21 years old when she began teaching first grade at Ronan Elementary School.

She went on to work for Pan American Airlines. While single, she enjoyed traveling and even went to Japan on vacation with her younger brother Dick Carlyle while she worked for the airline.

She moved to Manhattan Beach, California with her girlfriends, twins Dolores and Doris Jensen to experience life outside of Montana for the California coastal sunshine.

It was in Manhattan Beach where she met her future husband, Bob Tafoya.

Colleen and Bob were married on Sept. 25, 1959.

She and Bob raised three sons, Dan, Jeff and Richard in Garden



Grove, California.

The family would return to Montana every summer to vacation together on Flathead Lake and stay with family at their legacy cabin in Indian Bay.

This tradition lasted all her life and was always the highlight of her year.

Once Bob retired, they moved to Highlands Ranch, Colorado for five years and then moved back to Northern Montana and called Kalispell home for the rest of their lives.

She was a devoted mother and wife. Her family was without a doubt the most important thing in her life.

She attended every little league game watching her young boys play baseball and was active with their involvement in Cub Scouts.

The family loved camping and spent numerous weekends camping in their Prowler trailer all over Southern California and on their drives north to Montana for summer holidays at the lake.

Her Christian faith was an important part of her life. She raised her boy's saying prayers before bedtime every night growing up and made sure the family went to church on Sundays.

She loved listening to music, attending live concerts, painting, traveling and staying in

touch with friends and classmates, especially enjoying get-togethers with her lifetime girlfriends known as the "Lunch Bunch".

Colleen, Bob and Richard traveled throughout Europe twice while Richard was in the Air Force and stationed there.

They traveled to England, France, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Ireland, Holland and Scotland. These were great memories for her that she reminisced over often.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Bob Tafoya; her mother and father, Gladys and Richard Carlyle; sister, Marilyn Boyle; brother, Marvin Carlyle; and nephews, Craig Carlyle and Christian Carlyle.

She is survived by her brother, Dick Carlyle (Rosiland); sons, Dan (Shirley), Jeff (Amanda) and Richard Tafoya; a niece; six grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; family and friends.

Memorial services for Colleen will be held from 11-11:45 a.m. on Saturday, July 29, at Lakeview Cemetery, 2000 Hillcrest Dr. Polson.

Following the memorial, a celebration of life will be held from 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Polson Elks Lodge, 512 Main Street, Polson.

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

Jane Tappan, 79



Jane (Taylor) Tappan departed this life on Dec. 6, 2022, at the age of 79. She was born and raised in Whitefish, Montana. It

was here she spent her most memorable moments which included marrying the love of her life and raising two children.

She found joy in life's simple pleasures: family, home, hospitality, pets and the abundant wildlife that graced her property. She loved nothing more than spending time with grandkids.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, William Tappan, two children, Sherri Tappan and Charles Tappan, six grandchildren, Allie

Mitchell, Jacob Helzer, Sascha, Mika, Isla and Logan Tappan, two great-grandchildren, Addie and Gabbie Helzer, two sisters, Shirley Wagner and Billie Irene Hess, as well as numerous nieces and nephews who were very special to her.

Although she is gone, she will never be forgotten by those whose lives she touched. A private service will be held in her honor on June 17, 2024.

Katherine Taylor, 88



Katherine Ann (Kay Flinn) Taylor passed away of natural causes Feb. 4, 2023, with the love of family and the caring staff at both the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, Montana and Logan Health Whitefish. She lived a full life of love for family, friends, dogs, a strong faith, and a deep desire and commitment to help

other people.

Kay was born in 1935 in Helena, Montana, the fifth of five children born to Dr. James Flinn and Kathryn Meagher. She attended St. Helena grade school, Cathedral High School, and graduated from St. Mary's Notre Dame with a degree in philosophy.

In 1958 she married Thomas Hanrahan of Glendive. The couple lived in Helena during their early years and had four children: Kathy, Rorie, Tom, and Mamie.

The family relocated to Glendive, where she worked at Dawson Community College, and after completing her certification in addiction counseling (licensure No. 14th in the state) she

offered addiction counseling to many across Eastern Montana.

Kay and Thomas later divorced, and in 1978 she moved to Helena where she worked for the Montana Department of Corrections in addiction program compliance for the state. She later opened a private practice in addiction and family counseling until she retired in her 70s.

She had a deep faith life both spiritually and religiously. She volunteered with St. Helena's Cathedral as a cantor and was an active leader with the Cursillo movement.

Kay deeply loved Montana, its landscape, its people, and was proud of her Irish Heritage and the ancestors that had

come to Montana. One of them was Thomas Francis Meagher, the First Territorial Governor of Montana.

In her 60s, Kay met her great love, Dr. Jack Taylor, a retired MSU professor, whose avocations were music, writing, lecturing, and traveling. Jack is also a foremost expert on Lewis and Clark. In 1995 the two married and created a wonderful life of music, entertaining, art, travel, river trips, and picnics.

Kay will be remembered for her love of friends and family. Her brilliance and wisdom, her elegance, quick wit, musical talent, style, sense of adventure, love of convertibles, creator of beauty, kindness, and

being a warrior advocate for healing.

"I was well loved in my life and I believe I loved well. I felt very blessed to live in Montana all my life with appreciation for its beauty, people, and quality of life." - Kay Taylor

Kay is preceded in death by her parents; Dr. James Flinn and Kathryn Flinn, her siblings; Pat Verwest, Shelia Kincannon, Micheal Flinn. She is survived by her Husband Dr. Jack Taylor, her sister Mary Rathman (Stan), sister-in-law Doris Flinn, her children Kathy Crockett (Doug), Rorie Hanrahan, Tom Hanrahan, and Mamie Flinn (Neil). Her grandchildren Micheal, Tyler, Dani, Bailey,

Makenzie, Jacob, Katie, Grace, and Abi. Also her bonus children from Jack; Diana Norton (Gregg), Hillary Grant (Ian), David Taylor (Jaelyn), grandchildren Chelsea, Hannah, Riley, Nick, Quinn, Will, and 10 great-grandchildren.

A Funeral Service is planned for 12 noon, April 20, 2023 in Helena at St. Helena Cathedral. In lieu of flowers please consider a tax-deductible donation to: Boyd Andrew Community Services, Chris 406-447-3262, 60 Last Chance Gulch Helena, MT, 59601. To send online condolences please visit Kay's tribute page at www.columbiamortuary.com. Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Marilyn Young Taylor, 94

Marilyn Young Taylor, 94 of Kalispell, passed peacefully into the presence of our Lord on June 30, 2023.

She was born 1929, in Salt Lake City, Utah, the great-granddaughter of Brigham Young, second president of the LDS church; granddaughter of Alfales Young his son with wife Eliza Burgess, and the daughter of Percival and Lyle Young.

She graduated from East High School in Salt Lake City, and attended the University of Utah to study fashion design. She was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral where she met her husband, Paul J. Taylor. They married on Sept. 3, 1949. Together they raised four children, moving often between California, Utah, and Montana, as Paul pursued various career opportunities and eventually entering the Episcopal ministry.

She moved to the Flathead Valley in '73 when her husband took a position as Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Kalispell. She was very involved in the activities of the church, and pursued a career as a librarian in the children's section of the Flathead County Library from November of '73 to November '96.

She was an avid reader, talented artist, and gifted seamstress. She used her skills in fashion design and sewing to create distinctive clothing for her children and grandchildren, produce original boutique apparel, and craft beautiful quilts. Her sense of fashion was always reflected in the stylish clothing she wore. Her paintings and calligraphy works graced the walls of her families' homes, Sunday School rooms and library walls.

She encouraged her children and grandchildren to develop their talents in sketching,



painting, and sewing, and was always available to instruct them. Her work as a librarian

allowed her to pass on her love of reading and many grandchildren learned of the latest and best books through her.

She remained active after the death of her husband in '02, traveling to Ireland, Hawaii, and Alaska, as well taking numerous road trips. She was a member of Eastern Star and tutored young students in reading through the Literacy Program. She was a resident of the Heritage Place for the past six years and blessed many with her kindness and sense of humor.

She is survived by her sons, Paul Taylor, Jr. and James Taylor; daughters, Cathryn Taylor and Mary Lynn Jordt (husband Jason Jordt); her grandchildren, Autymn Taylor, Timothy Hoopingarner, Peter Hoopingarner, Christopher Cox (wife Wendy), Jonathan Cox, Erin Alexander (husband Christopher), and Sarah Jordt; and great-grandchildren Sebastian, Anisha, Owen, Sheamus, Alice, Kiara, and Grace.

Marilyn's memorial service will take place at 2 p.m. on Sept. 30, at Christ Episcopal Church. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Imagineif Library Foundation. You may donate online at www.imagineiflibraryfoundation.org/donate or my mail to Imagineif Library, 247 1st Ave. East, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

Delores Theis, 92

Delores Theis, 92, passed away on June 21, 2023, which was something she prepared us all for.

She was never afraid to leave this earth. She loved God, knew she was going to heaven, and prepared her entire family for her departure. So much so that she picked her own music for her funeral and wrote her own obituary.

We will miss her loving spirit and gentle soul. Please enjoy the obituary she wrote to commemorate her 92 years with us.

Delores was born to Helga and Ted Aaberg in Bemidji, Minnesota, in 1931.

The family moved to Columbia Falls in 1947. She was in the graduating class of 1949.

She married F. W. "Bill" Schmidt in 1950.

Four children survived her: Patsy (James) Ross, of Missoula, Marilyn (Mike) Theis, of



and he passed away in 2002.

There are several step-children and step-grandchildren from these marriages.

Music was a passion of hers. She was involved with music at church and in nursing homes.

Animals also occupied her heart and she gave so many good homes when she could.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Orville Aaberg and wife Marcia; and two nephews, Darrell Aaberg and Dulane Aaberg.

A memorial service will be held for Delores at 1 p.m. on Thursday, June 29, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell.

Kalispell, Carla Schmidt, of Kalispell, and Dale Schmidt, of Eureka. Grandchildren, Brandon (Carrie) Theis, Kacie (Chris) Elizagaray, Shae (Trevor) Trautwein and Travis Schmidt.

Delores enjoyed spending countless Sunday mornings with her great-granddaughters Claire, who shares her love of music, and Milly, who shares her love of animals.

She then married Clyde Hamilton in 1976 and he passed away in 1987.

She and Ed Theis were married in 1990

Joani Thomas, 72

We mournfully announce the passing of Joani Thomas, 72, who passed away after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Joani was born in 1950. Joani was a force to be reckoned with from the get-go. She was often described by people who knew her throughout her life as a "hoot."

Joani graduated from Williamsburg High in 1968. Shortly after, she married her high school sweetheart Paul Hathaway and they had two children together, Mark and Laura. Joani later went on to get her B.S. in accounting from the University of



Arkansas. She worked in the field until finally retiring a few years ago. She

enjoyed her retirement years with her beloved husband, Wayne.

Services will be held at Darlington Funerals on Jan. 21 at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to The Humane Society of Northwest Montana or Wings Regional Cancer Support of Kalispell.

Jeanne A. Thomas, 91

Jeanne A. Thomas, 91, passed away on Dec. 6, 2023. She was born on April 15, 1932, in Long Beach, California, to Earl and Elizabeth Hanks. Her mother later married a naval officer, Archie Morrison.

As a child raised in a career military family, Jeanne travelled all over the world. She lived in the Philippines and graduated high school at the American School in Tokyo in 1950.



She returned to Long Beach and married the love of her life, Bill Thomas. In Long

Beach she started a family, raised two daughters, and attended college for early childhood education.

After Bill passed away in 1977, she moved to Ashland, Oregon, to be closer to her parents and

sister, Sandra. She had a happy and busy life going out with friends and working for the Ashland Chamber of Commerce.

She moved to Kalispell in 2013, and for the past four years lived at Immanuel Lutheran Communities, where she enjoyed friendships with her fellow residents and staff.

She is survived by her daughters, Cynthia (Fred) and Karen; sister, Sandra (Jack); and brother, Steve

(Tami); grandson, Peter (Shelly); grandchildren, Adelaide and Finley; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A private service for the family will be held in Kalispell.

Friends are encouraged to visit our website at www.buffalohillfn.com to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Franklin R. Thompson, 89

Franklin Roosevelt Thompson Sr. of Bigfork went to be with the Lord on Jan. 14, 2023. He slipped away peacefully at home surrounded by his loving wife and children. He was 89 years old.

Frank was born to Alpheus and Mary Louise Thompson on July 22, 1933, in Pontiac, Michigan.

Frank was a go-getter his entire life. He had his first job delivering newspapers by the time he was 10 years old and eventually worked his way up to running the newspaper stand by the time he was 14. In addition to being a hard worker, Frank was a great athlete. He excelled in track, baseball, and boxing. He loved fishing, especially ice fishing and loved hunting in Michigan's U.P.

After finishing school Frank worked for several years in Pontiac at Pontiac Motors making what he would forever claim to be the best cars in the world. Holding true to that belief Frank drove his Pontiac Bonneville, the "silver bullet," for the last twenty years of his life.

When he was 25 years old, he moved to Southern California and was a manager at Thrifty Mart Grocery in San Fernando. While working there he met and married the love of his life Loraine Kinley. They were married in 1960 and were happily married for over 62 years. They went on to have four children, Leo, Shari, Frank and Lori.

In 1969 Frank and Loraine moved their family from Southern



California to the beautiful Sierra Nevada foothills. They lived in the little gold

rush town of Mariposa for the next 40 years and raised all four of their children there. Frank worked for most of those years in the local grocery store, Jack's Market, where he eventually came to know everyone in town. During his years in Mariposa, he enjoyed golfing, traveling and watching his kids and grandkids participate in sports and other school activities. He would continue to claim throughout his life that Mariposa was the best place in the world to live!

In 2007, Frank and Loraine made the decision to move to Montana to be near their youngest two children who were starting families of their own. Although they hated to leave Mariposa, their good friends and especially their older two children and grandchildren, they decided that the time was right for a new adventure.

In the years after their move, Frank got to enjoy many Montana adventures including snowmobiling, tubing on Echo Lake, riding a quad and parasailing on Flathead Lake. He enjoyed cheering on his grandchildren at football, soccer and wrestling events, as well as watching them perform in concerts and plays. He and Loraine enjoyed a wonderful trip back to Michigan to celebrate their 50th anniversary out on Mackinaw

Island, a loving gift from their children. Frank loved meeting and talking to people for hours on end. He never met a stranger! Aside from spending time with his family, Frank loved to take short road trips to the Coeur d'Alene casino, he enjoyed bowling and he loved watching television... especially if it involved sports! You would be hard pressed to have met a more avid Detroit or loyal Michigan fan. Go Blue!

Above all else though, he loved his family. He adored his wife and his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren were his pride and joy. His favorite moments were when the family would get together for holidays, birthdays and BBQ's. He treasured them all and they will miss him terribly.

Frank was preceded in death by his father Alpheus Nimrod Thompson; his mother Mary Louise Strong; his stepfather Clarence Strong; his brother Alpheus Nimrod Thompson II; and his sister Mary Leona Uloth.

Frank is survived by his loving wife Loraine; his children Leo (Darcy) Thompson, Shari (Brian) Wass, Frank (Sherry) Thompson and Lori (Dan) Elwell; his siblings Clarence Strong and Ruthann Strong; and 15 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

The family will be having a private graveside service followed by a celebration of life in the spring.

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

Mona (Tipton) Thompson, 65

Mona (Tipton) Thompson, our loving, wife, mother, sister and aunt passed on May 2, 2023 in Fairview at home with her family supporting her during the difficult time fighting Lung Cancer.



Robert Justin (Kathy); grandchildren, Trinity Thompson, Rachel Galarneau,

She was born in Kalispell to Herbert H. and Helen Tipton on Nov. 14, 1957. She was raised on a couple of different small acreage ranches in Columbia Falls and Drummond with siblings, Herb (Delcie) Tipton, Marilyn Lee (Ken) Jackshaw and Iva (Greg) Schroeder.

Molly Galarneau; and great-granddaughter, Oaklynn; plus many nieces and nephews. Mona's kids and grandchildren were the love of her life and she was so very proud of all of them. She treasured all the moments spent with them.

Mona attended Deer Park Grade School, Columbia Falls grade and high school, and Drummond High School. The family moved to Drummond in 1973 where Mona met and married Robert Thompson, her forever husband (best cook ever).

Mona worked at a number of different jobs/states. She found her special place of employment at a couple of different nursing and assisted living homes where she found where her quirky sassy sense of humor and her bright smile could bring many happy moments and laughter to all! In her spare time she loved quilting, camping, fishing and filling her fierce reading appetite. Mona will definitely be missed by all of her family and friends.

Mona was preceded in death by her father, Herbert H. Tipton in 1981; mother, Helen Taylor Tipton in 2011; and brother, James A. Tipton in 1955.

Her gravesite service will be held June 24, 2023, at Valley Cemetery outside of Drummond.

She is survived by her husband, Robert; daughter, Brandi (Dallas); son,

Mary Louise Tisdale, 86

Mary Louise Tisdale, 86, grew up in Kansas City, Missouri. She attended Kansas City's East High School, graduating in 1954. She proved to be a talented student and a capable athlete.

She earned her Bachelor's degree in Education at the University of Kansas four years later, after having been awarded several scholarships and academic accolades along the way. During one college summer, Mary studied modern dance under Martha Graham in New England. She enjoyed both intellectual and athletic pursuits while in college, and she excelled in both.

Immediately after graduation from KU, she began her career as a teacher for grades K-12. Her deep love of teaching and her naturally adventurous spirit brought her to teach in several communities in Wyoming and Hawaii over the coming years. She genuinely cared about each and every student she taught and tried to bring out the best in each of them.

She mentored and coached countless elementary, junior high, and high school students and athletes through the course of her teaching and coaching career. She even secured a chauffeur's license so that she could cart her teams around herself when these programs were short staffed. She took great joy in seeing each one of her students and

athletes improve. She was a proud teacher and coach. She had a special affinity for the underdogs and late bloomers, and she worked especially hard to help them succeed, and she was particularly heartened when they met their goals.

In the early 1970s, while teaching, she earned her Master's degree in Education, with honors, at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu. She continued to teach in Hawaii for several more years and then returned to "the mainland."

In the early 1980s, Mary and her three children moved to Alaska, looking for new career opportunities and adventures, and to enjoy the natural wonders that promised to abound in the far north. She worked as an educator for the US Dept. of Defense while simultaneously serving as an adjunct professor of English at the University of Alaska for several decades. She spent nearly 30 years in Alaska. During her time in the north, she enjoyed hiking, fishing, and camping with family and friends. She was a green thumb who excelled in gardening.

After she retired and fell ill, she returned to the "lower 48" to spend time with her daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren in



Kalispell, Montana. She cherished watching her grandchildren grow and was very proud of each of them. She was, of course, a wonderful and loving grandma. She loved western Montana's mountains, lakes, forests, and rivers. While in Montana, she especially enjoyed flying with her son-in-law to see what it all looked like from the air. She was excited to "co-pilot" those sightseeing flights when her health permitted.

In her spare time, both in her youth and in advanced age, she pursued and mastered several artistic endeavors, she was a masterful knitter and an excellent seamstress. Her skills in those departments were extraordinary. She loved sharing her works of art as gifts to loved ones and donating them to raffles and charities. She freely offered to teach the these trades to others when those opportunities presented.

She also had a lifelong love of animals and enjoyed spending time with dogs, cats, horses, chickens, and nearly anything else with fur or feathers. She adored every dog she owned during her lifetime, and her hounds adored her right back. Most of all, though, she was a loving, capable, and devoted mother. Of all of her talents, being a mom was where she shined most brightly.

She lived a full and meaningful life and will be deeply missed by her

family, friends, and former students. She was a remarkable woman with a strong will, a sharp mind, a relentless work ethic, and an exceptionally generous heart. She was a perpetual optimist and altruist. Those qualities were apparent and contagious to everyone who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Clement and Laura (Eaves) Ledgerwood; and her eldest brother, Norman (Mabel) Ledgerwood.

She is survived by her sons, Robins Davis Tisdale II and Martin Clement Tisdale, both of Wasilla, Alaska; her daughter, Elizabeth (Heath) Pendlay, of Kalispell, Montana; her beloved grandchildren, Elyse (Trevor) Blackburn, Vaughn Pendlay, and Olivia Pendlay; her brother, John Lewis (Amy) Ledgerwood; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers or cards, in the spirit of Mary's great generosity and good will, please donate to or volunteer at a charity supporting children or education or, better yet, as Mary would have suggested, simply take a little time today to extend a helpful hand or a few kind words to a fellow human being.

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

Vicki A. Tisdell, 72

Vicki A. Tisdell, 72, passed peacefully on May 5, 2023, from her home in Eureka. She was born on Dec. 1, 1950, to Larry and Maxine (Elliott) Purdy in Whitefish.

She was married to Gary Tisdell and shared 34 years together.

Vicki grew up in Eureka. She graduated from Lincoln County High School in 1969 and attended Parks School of Business. She spent 33 years in local banking and retired as the bank manager of First Interstate Bank in Eureka. She served on many committees and boards in the Tobacco Valley as well as spent time helping to organize many class reunions.

A devoted mother and grandmother, she loved to crochet, taking morning walks with her brother Doug, and sitting on her back deck enjoying the beautiful views of the valley and mountains.

Vicki was preceded



in death by her parents and infant triplets. She is survived by her husband,

Gary Tisdell; their son, Tony (Paula) Tisdell of Bluffton, S.C.; three grandchildren, Austin, Matthew and Diana; her "baby brother" Doug (Flori) Purdy of Eureka; and a large extended family. She also leaves a vast army of good friends.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in Eureka on Saturday, June 10, 2023. In lieu of flowers, donations in Vicki's memory can be made to Parents In Action, PO Box 2000 Eureka, MT 59917.

Services are under the care of the Schnackenberg Funeral Home of Eureka. Online memorials and condolences may be shared at www.schnackenbergfh.com.

Betty Dawn McCullough Trankle, 97

Betty Dawn McCullough Trankle was taken to be with her Savior Dec. 14, 2022. She was born Aug. 13, 1925 in Sigourney, Iowa, the only child of A.C. and Pearl (Kenning) McCullough. She attended Sigourney High School and Iowa Wesleyan College.

Betty was married to Donald Trankle on Aug. 20, 1946, in Sigourney. They made their home in Kalispell until the present time. They were blessed with two children, Dawnita Sue French and D. Craig Trankle. She is survived by Dawnita and Bob French; daughter-in-law, Bev Trankle; grandson Brandon

French and Katie, all of Kalispell; grandson Reg Trankle and great-grandson Andrew of Millstadt, Illinois; and cousins in Missouri, Kansas, Texas and California.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald, on their 65th wedding anniversary Aug. 20, 2011. Also by her son Craig, on Feb. 26, 2012.

Betty was a member of Bethel Baptist Church. Memorials may be given to missionaries with ABWE or Baptist Mid-Missions through the church in Kalispell or charity of your choice.

Private burial service held this spring.

Rhonda Tripp, 57

Rhonda Lee (Potter) Tripp, March 1966 to October 2023.

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Rhonda Lee Tripp. She was born in March 1966, in Whitefish and moved on to be with her lord and savior Jesus Christ in October 2023.

She was a beloved wife to Gregg Tripp and loving mother to her son, Brady and daughter, Marla. She was an enthusiastic and fun grandma to her two grandchildren, Paxton and Presley and a devoted friend to many.

She was known for her outgoing nature and cheerful smile. She didn't know any strangers because she would reach out and get to know nearly every person she locked eyes with. She would close the gap, heart first, with reckless abandon.

Those who were fortunate enough to know her knew that everything she did was in some way related to her highest priority, relationships. She cared about people in the most sincere, pure way and she was one that would act on any promptings she felt.

Most important to her was her relationship with God. She knew Jesus and wanted all her friends and loved ones to also share that relationship with her. She knew where she was ultimately headed and wanted others to someday be there with her.

She is survived by her husband, Gregg; son, Brady (Claudia); daughter, Marla (Jason); stepsons, Brandon (Easton), and Bryan (Ilaria); stepdaughter, Andrea (Joshua); brother, Bob



(Kim) Potter; parents, Allen and Marlene Potter; and two beautiful grandkids,

Paxton and Presley.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Mike.

The family will hold a memorial service to celebrate Rhonda's life at 2 p.m., on Friday, Dec. 8, at Canvas Church, 255 Summit Ridge Drive, Kalispell. All friends and family are welcome to attend and join in this celebration.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to help fight diabetes.

You may contribute to the Rhonda Tripp Memorial Fund at First National Bank of Cortez, Colorado. All donations will be further gifted to the American Diabetes Association to help fund research toward curing this disease. Alternatively, you can choose to support the ADA directly at; <https://diabetes.org/ways-to-give>. Rhonda was a warrior against diabetes. Please consider picking up your sword and carrying on this fight.

The family would like to express their gratitude for the love and support they have received during this difficult time. The magnitude of your incredible outreach has been a true blessing.

Please share your memories, impressions, and photos of Rhonda by sending them to Rhonda's email address; walkinwoman_84@hotmail.com.

Beverly Ming Twist, 82

Beverly Ming Twist was born on July 12, 1940, in Glendive, Montana, to John and Mary (Bowles) Ming. She grew up the oldest of four siblings on a farm in Bloomfield, MT.

Beverly attended a one-room country school there in Bloomfield and graduated from the Dawson County High in 1957.

She attended College in St. Paul, Minnesota, where she was the center for St. Paul Bible College Women's basketball team. Coach TeWinkle commented, "I remember her fondly as a person and as a good basketball player." Beverly graduated from St. Paul Bible College in 1961 with a BA in biblical studies.

She met and married Earl Twist and had two boys, Tod and Donald, where they lived and grew up in Kalispell.

She was known as a



pioneer among women in real estate and as the underwriter for an insurance company. But most people remember Beverly as someone who truly cared about other people.

She is survived by her brother Ken Ming of Kalispell; brother Bob (Carol - Nelson) Ming, of Missoula; sister Carol (Daryl Booker) Ming; her sons, Tod (Carrie) Twist, Hugo, Minnesota, Donald (Sheila) Twist, Lyons, Oregon; and four grandchildren, Katie Beth and Toby, and William and Thomas.

Services are to be held at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. Located at 525 S Main St, Kalispell, MT, at 1 p.m. on Monday the 22nd of May, 2023.

Denis Twohig, 83

Denis Twohig, 83, died peacefully at his home in Columbia Falls with his wife and son by his side.

He is survived by his wife Shirley of 54 years; son James, daughters Patricia and Cynthia.

He was preceded in death by his daughters Julie and Shauna.

In the early '70s, Denis became enamored with the beauty of Glacier Park and its grandiose mountains. It soon became a passion of his to start climbing its peaks. From the modest novice trails to some of the highest technical climbs. Denis and his wife, Shirley, dedicated themselves to trekking the park's beautiful mountains. In time, Denis started to plan certain mountain climbs with friends and thus began a fellowship with many other climbers to start a scheduled group date for a selective mountain summit. In 1981, Denis founded the Glacier Mountaineering Society (GMS). The society was set up so its members could select a time and date as a group(s) to trek certain mountain summits, or perhaps a trail to the lake...

Since that time Denis,



Shirley and hundreds of their mountaineering friends have climbed

countless peaks in Glacier Park, as well as numerous climbs across the country.

Denis liked to live by the words of Sir Francis Younghusband:

"To those who have struggled with them, the mountains reveal beauties that they will not disclose to those who make no effort. That is the reward the mountains give to effort. And it is because they have so much to give and give it so lavishly to those who will wrestle with them that men love the mountains and go back to them again and again.

The mountains reserve their choice gifts for those who stand upon their summits"

We want to thank North Valley Hospital and Hospice for their exceptional care and compassion. Columbia Falls Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family. A memorial service will be held this summer.