

## W.R. 'Butch' Cady, 84

W. R. "Butch" Cady, 84, a longtime resident of the Flathead Valley, passed away Tuesday, July 8, 2008, in Las Vegas. He was born March 14, 1924, in North Dakota.

Butch owned and operated his own construction company with his family for many years. He was a country-western singer and spent many nights entertaining throughout the valley.

He is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Mary; sons, Rick, Mike and Dick; and granddaughter, Erika.

Butch is survived by his daughter, Margie, and son-in-law, Larry, in Las Vegas; daughter, Connie; grandchildren, Meagan and Shawn; great-grandchildren, Taylor, Grace, Ella, and A.J. of Columbia Falls; and sisters, Bonnie of Chinook, Jean of Havre, and Beverly.

A funeral service will be at 2 p.m. today, July 14, 2008, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Burial will be afterward in Woodlawn Cemetery, with military graveside rites.

## Rena Jean (Caldbeck) Cain, 57

Rena Jean (Caldbeck) Cain, 57, died Dec. 8, 2008, in Columbia Falls. She was born Jan. 13, 1951, in Kalispell. Rena was a loving mother, grandmother,



daughter and sister. She grew up in the Kalispell area with seven siblings.

Rena went on to marry and raise four daughters. Her daughters filled her life with music, joy and grandkids. With 15 grandchildren, her life was filled with macaroni necklaces, butterfly kisses and a little bit of chaotic entertainment. Rena will be missed but never forgotten by many family and friends. She will be in our hearts and on our minds each day.

Rena was preceded in death

by her brother, Geoffrey Caldbeck.

She is survived by her parents, Ronald and Phyllis Caldbeck, of Big Arm; daughters, Shellie Rostad and Bobbi Jo Cain, both of Butte, Terah Young of Kalispell, and Kristi Hoerner of Columbia Falls; brothers and sisters, Vicki Ewing, Byram Caldbeck, Steven Caldbeck, Becky McGinnis, Valerie Dennison and Ron Caldbeck; grandchildren, Brittney and Jade Herman; Brittini, Justina, Makayla, Morghan and Kristan Rostad; Tayler and Tanah Jakeway; Desirae, Anthony and Kaleb Dorsey; and Sean, Summer and Hunter Hoerner; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. There will be no public visitation. Burial will be afterward at Woodlawn Cemetery.

## George Anthony Caffrey, 86

George Anthony Caffrey was born in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 6, 1922, to George Sr. and Clara (Dressman) Caffrey. He was their second child, with older sister Catherine and younger sister Mary.



When his health failed in 2002, he moved to the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, where he was well-liked by the staff, until his death on Nov. 6, 2008.

After his father died in a firefighting mishap in 1926, the family moved to Cumberland, Md. There he spent his young years, growing up during the Great Depression. As he became a young man, he spent some time in the Civilian Conservation Corps and hoboing around the country.

In 1942, he joined the U.S. Army, where he participated in the Allied invasions of North Africa and Southern France. As a member of the 45th "Thunderbird" Division, he participated in the liberation of the Nazi death camp at Dachau. Even many years later he would speak of what he saw there with a deep and somber passion.

After World War II, he spent most of the next five years in Europe as both a civilian and a soldier. There he met his wife-to-be in Heidelberg, Germany, and while living in Venice, Italy, he had some adventures that were the basis for many fond tales. He married Waltraud "Wally" Margarete Oeftering in 1950 in Germany.

The young couple moved to Denver shortly thereafter. After a spell of civilian life, he re-enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and soon set off with Wally and two young sons on a two-decade career around the world: Japan, Okinawa, South Dakota, Spain, Montana, Arizona and California, with temporary assignments in Greenland and Saudi Arabia. Whether fishing and hunting in northeastern Montana, serving as a Boy

Scout leader or discovering the rich cultural fabric of Spain, he always made the most of wherever he was.

After achieving the highest enlisted rank of chief master sergeant, he retired from the Air Force in 1971. Within a year he and Wally purchased a modest home in the Mission Valley, which they set about turning into their own little piece of Eden.

George was not one to dawdle away his "golden years." He went to college on the GI Bill, earning a bachelor's degree in anthropology from the University of Montana in Missoula in 1976.

He loved fishing throughout western Montana, especially when accompanied by his irrepressible black lab Boris. He was also an avid gardener and a self-taught carpenter. He worked overseas for a year each, in Iran and Saudi Arabia, went on archaeological digs, taught geography at Salish-Kootenai College, was active in local environmental and peace groups, and loved to give gifts of homemade wine. In his later years he traveled regularly, visiting every continent to sample the world's folkways and cultural glories.

He was a man who achieved the goals he set for himself. He provided for his family, loved his wife, encouraged his sons, delighted in his grandchildren, served his country, and mastered many challenges. He was never afraid to have and speak his own mind. He will be admired, remembered and missed.

He is survived by his wife, Wally, of Columbia Falls; his sister, Mary Stephens, of Clearwater, Fla.; sons, Patrick Caffrey and Jeannie of Seeley Lake, and Gregory Caffrey of Helena; granddaughters, Marlayna Caffrey of Helena, and Krista Caffrey, Sarah Caffrey and Jannah Caffrey, all of Missoula; grandson, Daniel Caffrey, of Missoula; and great-grandson, Bryan Caffrey, of Helena.

Following cremation, burial will follow at a later date in view of his beloved Mission Mountains.

## George Campbell, 65

George Campbell, 65, a friend to many muzzleloader enthusiasts in the Flathead, passed over on Sept. 10, 2007, on the Boulder Road in Big Timber.

Born July 24, 1942, in Missouri, he was the son of Mary Susan and George Washington Campbell. He attended the University of Missouri and was a Delta Sigma Phi. Before moving to Montana, he was a bouncer at Whiskey a Go Go, owned a bar in St. Charles, Mo., and raced flat-track motorcycles.

He was an extra in several movies and was a hunter, fisherman and guide. He once rode a horse from the Canadian border to the southern tip of Mexico.

He was an inline racer and broke records at Bonneville Salt Flats and El Mirage Dry Lakes in California. As part of the Salt Circus racing team with the late Hank Lawshe of Kalispell, he raced a 1929 Ford Model A Roadster with a flathead motor. He held memberships in Bonneville Nationals, Southern California Timing Association, Nostalgia Drag Racing Association, Inliners International and was

a lifetime member of National Street Rod Association.

As a member of the Weapons Collectors Society of Montana he was also a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association. He enjoyed traveling to the National Rendezvous across the United States and operated the Medicine Springs Trading Post, dealing primarily in trade beads, and period guns and costumes. It was at one of these that he met the local Flathead Freetrappers, who remained his friends for more than 30 years. He attended numerous local shoots, trade blankets and gatherings.

He leaves behind his sister and her family in St. Charles. Locally he is survived by the remainder of the Salt Circus Racing Team, Kym Dimmer, Melanie Riedinger, Jared Lawshe, Jodi Marsh and Hawke Lawshe. He also leaves his grandson, Jared Lawshe Dimmer, of whom he was very proud.

He was happiest in the mountains and lived his life to the fullest. He was a good man and a dependable friend. "He is in the wind."

## Frances Dodge 'Candy' Cantrel

Frances Dodge "Candy" Cantrel, 89, passed away on Wednesday, March 26, 2008, at the Heritage Place in Kalispell. She was born on Nov. 8, 1918, at Plains, to Wilbur and Nell (Clark) Cameron.

Frances was raised on the family ranch in the Little Bitterroot area near Hot Springs, where she attended a one-room school house until moving to Plains for high school. After graduation, Frances went to Kinnman Business College in Spokane. She decided that teaching was her calling and went on to get her Bachelor of Arts degree in education from the University of Montana.

Frances met George Dodge while teaching at Noxon. They married in November of 1943. After the death of her husband George in 1958 she accepted a teaching position at Dixon grade school where she met and later married Gerald "Ed" Cantrel.

Frances taught school at Noxon, Heron, Dixon, Arlee, Charlo and Ronan. She dedicated her life to her students up to her retirement in 1986 from the Ronan School District. At that time she moved to Kalispell to be near her family.

Frances was preceded in



death by her husband George, with whom she had her four children; her second husband, Ed; her brothers, Phil Cameron and Richard Cameron; and a sister, Virginia Erchul.

She is survived by her children, Deanna Mathison and husband, Steve, of Kalispell, Patricia Murphy and husband, Ron, of Whitefish, Jon Dodge and wife, Ann, of Laramie, Wyo., and George Dodge Jr., of Kalispell; and grandchildren, Stephanie Bell and husband, Charlie, of Pearl City, Hawaii, Rebecca Mathison of Kalispell, Jessica Curry of Butte, Bryan Dodge and Dan Dodge and wife, Karrah, of Fresno, Calif.; and great-grandchildren, Hannah Bell and Owen Burwell.

A memorial service for Frances will be held in June of 2008 at the Noxon Cemetery.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Frances' family. You are invited to go to [www.johnsonmortuary.com](http://www.johnsonmortuary.com) to offer condolences and sign Frances' guest book.

## Ronald L. Canada, 67

Ronald L. Canada, 67, died Monday, Oct. 6, 2008, at his residence in Kalispell. Private memorial services

will be held.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Trapper Capell, infant

Trapper Capell died Thursday, May 22, 2008, in Eureka. He was born March 26, 2008, in Whitefish to Robbie and Keli Capell.

He is survived by his parents, Robbie and Keli Capell, of Eureka; brother, Tucker, of Eureka; and grandparents, Rick Marshall of Granite Falls, Wash.; Linda Lake

of Arlington, Wash.; and Michael Lake of Hayden Lake, Idaho.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 28, at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Eureka. Visitation will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday at the Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

## Irene Capozzoli, 86

Irene Capozzoli, 86, died Thursday, Dec. 25, 2008, at Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork.

No services are scheduled

at this time.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Cleo Harriet Caraway, 91

Cleo Harriet Caraway, 91, died Saturday, March 8, 2008, at her home on Lake Creek Road near Troy.

Surviving are her children, Gladstone R. Caraway of Benton City, Wash., Frances Campbell of Troy, Raye H. Caraway of Graham, Wash., and

Mary Karen Caraway of Libby.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at the City of Libby Cemetery. Family and friends may call at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday and until 1 p.m. Saturday.

## Lilian Anna Carlson, 94

Lilian, 94, passed away Oct. 19, 2008, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born Nov. 15, 1913, in Neillsville, Wis., the daughter of Art and Anna Epp.

She eloped with Carl J. Carlson on April 25, 1931.

She moved to Montana to be closer to her only son and family in 1971.

Lilian is survived by her son, Art, and his wife, Donna, and their five children, Ken of California, Dave of Kalispell, Susanne

of Columbia Falls, Tim of Colorado and Jim of Washington; seven great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.

Lilian loved the outdoors and gardening. She was very active in Eastside Grange in Creston, AARP, and RSVP for many years.

As she requested, there was no funeral. Instead, family and friends will have a celebration of life at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21, to be held at Risen Christ Church in Evergreen.

## Christopher Carroll, 18

Christopher Carroll, 18, passed away Jan. 3, 2008.

He was born in Raleigh, N.C., on Jan. 30, 1989. Christopher attended schools in Bigfork and was in his senior year at Anaconda High School this year.

When Christopher was young, he wanted to live by himself in the woods with a bear and an alligator. He once caught a 3 pound trout in a small creek across the road from his house. As an avid hunter, he had harvested two big bucks, a bear, and a badger. He owned turtles, salamanders, geckos, and tarantulas.

Christopher was kind and quiet, and had a big heart. He was known by many as a hard worker and was always willing to help people even if he did not know them. His favorite foods included Tater Tot casserole, chicken cordon bleu, steaks, green beans, and Dinty Moore stew. Christopher loved so many things such as snowboarding, the mountains, camping, music, racing cars, mud bogging, working on cars (his favorite, the



Camaro), riding horses, fire flies, climbing trees, bonfires, a good challenge, taxidermy, four-wheeling, rock climbing, playing Nintendo, the movies "Rocky" and "A Knight's Tale," welding, carpentry, metal fabrication, the color blue, animals, his friends, and his family.

Preceding him in death was his grandmother, Marjorie Baumann of Conrad.

Christopher is survived by his parents, mother, Kay, and Les Saari of Bigfork, and father, David Carroll, of Anaconda; sisters, Jennifer Carroll of Bozeman, and Rebecca Saari of Bigfork; grandparents, Lewis Carroll of Garrison, Alberta Carroll of Anaconda, and Floyd Baumann of Conrad; aunts, Susan Trueax of Anaconda, Laura LaTray of Tacoma, Wash., and Linda and Edwin Ries of Sidney; uncle, Sam and Cheryl Carroll of Oxnard, Calif.; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A service of remembrance will be held at 2:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 7, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Anaconda.

Service and cremation arrangements are under the care of KT Riddle Funeral Home.

## Clarence E. Carter, 85

Clarence E. Carter, 85, passed away on Monday, Aug. 11, 2008, at his home in Kalispell. Clarence was born on June 7, 1923, in Sumner, Wash., to Charles and Liza (Lauerman) Carter. He was raised in Sumner and graduated from Sumner High School.

Clarence worked as a federal guard on Pier 91 in Seattle, and also as a federal guard at Grand Coulee Dam. He was promoted to power house operator at Grand Coulee Dam; later, Clarence was transferred to the Hungry Horse Dam in 1962, where he worked as the power house operator. He retired in 1978.

Clarence married Ann Harshbarger on Oct. 18, 1970, in Hungry Horse.

He was very active in the Central Bible Church in Kalispell. He was a past grand master of Mason for the state of Montana, and was an active member of the York Rite.

He loved collecting guns, and enjoyed embroidery, sewing and quilting. He also loved to just tinker on the computer.



Clarence was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Liza Carter; his first wife, Edra N. Akin; and a son, Daniel R. Rose.

He is survived by his wife, Ann Carter, of Kalispell; daughter, Alecia Schmidt, and husband, Jeff, of Lexington, Mo.; Gordon Rose of Coram; Vicki Kirby and her husband, Robert, of Brady; Julie Hamm of Great Falls; a son and daughter in Seattle, and a son in Helena; 12 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren, and one on the way.

A celebration of Clarence's life will be at 1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, at Central Bible Church in Kalispell, with the Rev. Ron Youde officiating. Private family urn burial will be held later at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family. Condolences may be left for the family at [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com).

## Charles A. 'Chuck' Carlson, 84

Charles A. 'Chuck' Carlson, 84, of Kent, Wash., passed away July 24, 2008, at Veterans Hospital in Seattle after a lengthy battle with cancer.

He was born Sept. 3, 1923, in Eau Claire, Wis., to Ralph and Lona Carlson.

Chuck served in the Army during World War II.

He moved to Whitefish in 1942. He was employed by the Great Northern Railway until 1960, then worked in construction, and later moved to Kent and became a real-estate broker.

Chuck enjoyed fishing and hunting, especially ducks. He



traveled many miles in his motor home.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Ed Carlson; sister, Heleen Reardon; former wife, Peggy Stimer Carlson; and granddaughter, Lori Kaber.

Chuck is survived by his wife, Lois, at the family home in Kent; daughters, Charlotte Kaber of Kalispell, and Linda Kajiwara of Anchorage, Alaska; stepdaughters, Linda Henry, Glenda Harrell and Rosanne Vansteenvoort; stepsons, Bryan Arsenault and Daryn Arsenault of Kent; 14 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Aug. 4 at the Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent, with military graveside honors.

## Ray Edward Carter Jr., 59

Ray Edward Carter Jr., born April 29, 1948, in Bremerton, Wash., passed away Feb. 26, 2008, in Pierre, S.D., after a valiant struggle with pancreatic cancer.

Ray is the son of Ray Edward Carter Sr., and Gladys Virginia Johnson of Columbia Falls.

He is survived by brothers, Larry Len Carter of Newton, Kan., and Jack Lee Carter of Broken Arrow, Okla.; his daughter, Roxanne Lynn Carter, in Chicago; and his son, Jeremiah Church, in Pierre.

His sister, Sherry Ann Kline, preceded him in passing.

Ray was a Montana native and loved the sports of hunting and fishing from an early age.

Ray had a distinguished military career in the Army during



the Vietnam War era, having served two tours.

He was an avid camera buff from the late 1960s throughout his life. His devout interest in fish-

ing led him to Pierre, where he lived the last 20 years of his life. He was employed by Dakota Mart in the Sporting Section for 15 years.

"I remember you always as a friend, confidant, counselor, inspiration and deeply beloved brother. I know you have found some new fishing ground and will be waiting until we meet again."

## Maynard A. Carlson, 91

Maynard A. Carlson, 91, a longtime Libby resident, died of natural causes Saturday, Dec. 6, 2008, at St. John's Lutheran Hospital in Libby.

He had worked for J. Neil's Lumber Company and St. Regis Paper Company, and retired after 20-plus years of

service as a mechanic.

Survivors include his daughter, Joy Carlson, of Calgary, Alberta.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, at Faith Bible Church in Libby.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## Evelyn Casne, 92

Evelyn Casne, 92, "passed from this earth to her new heavenly home" at 8 p.m. Nov. 26, 2008. She died peacefully at the dinner table in the home of her son, Robert, on Camano Island, Wash. She died as she loved to live, surrounded by family and celebrating an evening meal. Evelyn Casne was born in Butte on June 6, 1916. She was the youngest of 11 children born to her parents, Peter and Elizabeth Sologub.



She received an eighth-grade education at the Elk Park School, just north of Butte. She grew up working on the family dairy farm in Elk Park. It was there that she met Sam Casne and they were married in Butte in 1936. Sam Casne worked in the Butte mines until their three sons were born.

Not wanting their sons to grow up to be Butte miners, Sam and Evelyn Casne bought a small farm in 1945 in the Flathead Valley, and they and their three young sons moved to the Kalispell area. Evelyn and Sam raised their family there. Evelyn assisted with the family dairy farming effort and also became very active in the Birch Grove School community, the Birch Grove Willing Workers Club, the Farmers Union, the REA, Saint Mathew's Church, and the Risen Christ Church. She served in officer positions for many of those organizations, and was very active in community activities.

When her sons went off to college, Evelyn went to work providing janitorial services at Glacier Park International Airport. She continued serving in that capacity until she retired from service at the age of 70.

Evelyn also made and decorated cakes for weddings and special occasions. Her cakes were renowned throughout the Flathead Valley for tasting as good as they looked.

Evelyn did not retire into quiet obscurity. She continued to remain active in family, church and community activities in the Flathead Valley until she was 90 years old.

In her later years, she was the primary caregiver for Sam Casne. After Sam passed away in 2002, she remained on the family farm until November 2006, when she moved to Camano Island, Wash.

Evelyn Casne was a woman small in stature, but mighty in spirit, with a very warm, loving heart. She connected intimately to all with whom she came in contact. She loved being around and with people.

She had a deep, abiding faith in God and she passed that source of infinite love through to all she came in contact with. Evelyn enjoyed laughter. She was always ready to tell a little humorous story to willing listeners. As she proceeded into her '90s, her slogan was, "Growing old is not for sissies." Evelyn, though the youngest, was the nucleus of a very large Sologub family. She was the instigator of repeating family reunions. She always encouraged a sharing of talent in a skit or performance by family members for the enjoyment of all.

Evelyn was preceded in death by her husband, Sam Casne; and her eldest son, Edward Casne, of Helena.

She is survived by her sister, Lillian Cortner, of Spokane, who is 95; her immediate family, Robert and Janet Casne of Camano Island, Samuel and Martha Casne of Seattle, and daughter-in-law, Patti Casne, of Helena; as well as 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Friends and family are invited to celebrate Evelyn's life. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, at Risen Christ Catholic Church. Interment will be afterward at Glacier Memorial Gardens. A rosary and vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

The family requests, in lieu of flowers, that donations be made to the Birch Grove Community Center, c/o Ruth Bushby, 479 Birch Grove Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Evelyn's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneral-home.com](http://www.jgfuneral-home.com) to offer condolences and sign Evelyn's guest book.

## Margery 'Pudgie' Peck Cavalari, 76

Margery "Pudgie" Peck Cavalari, 76, died Oct. 11, 2008, at St. Luke Hospital in Ronan of complications from surgery. She was born July 20, 1932, in Columbia Falls to Pearl and Asa Peck. She was number 12 of 14 children. Her older brothers gave her the nickname "Pudgie" for her pudgy nose as a young girl. She grew up in Columbia Falls and later moved to Polson with her family.

She married Richard Cavalari on July 23, 1949. They just celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary. They had four children, Marilyn, and Ted Laine; Rick Cavalari, and Marla; Steve Cavalari, and Maureen; and Michelle, and Arnie Hayes.

Pudgie was a fierce competitor, enjoying water skiing in her younger years, golf, bowling and bridge with her many friends.

She was known for winning the "Price is Right" TV game show, as well as numerous club championships in golf.

She loved going to the casinos with Richard looking over her shoulder.

Pudgie faced adversity saying, "I'm a tough old bird." She



was a spirited person who loved her family and cared about her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, children, nine grandchildren,

and three great-grandchildren; brothers, Jack, Ray and Tom; sisters, Katie, Helen and Jackie; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Her mother and father, brothers, Chuck, Bud, Ed, and Frank; sisters Naomi, Virginia and Mary Lou preceded her in death.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be given to the Junior Golf League at the Whitefish Credit Union in Polson.

A vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16, in the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 17, in the church with Father James Connor officiating. Inurnment will follow at a later date. Condolences to the family at [www.groganfuneralhome.com](http://www.groganfuneralhome.com)

## Willard L. Cheyney, 75

Willard L. Cheyney, 75, of Trout Creek, died in the afternoon on Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2008, at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula.

Survivors include his wife, MaryAnn Cheyney, of Trout Creek; a son, Ralph

Dennis Cheyney, of Libby; and other relatives in the Flathead Valley.

Services are entrusted to the care and direction of Brothers Mortuary and Crematory in Hamilton.

## Riley William Childers, 89

Riley William Childers, 89, passed away Friday, June 13, 2008, at Lake View Care Center in Bigfork. Riley was born to Van and Ethel Childers at Galata on May 16, 1919. He attended rural grade school through grade eight and graduated from Galata High School in 1938.



Riley worked on the family farm until 1940 when he married his high school sweetheart, Nell Asselstine. They continued farming and began their family of three children, Riley Gordon, Vern Alan and Donna May. In 1951, they divorced.

Riley later married Alice Peterson-Berg and they had one son, Cecil Howard. Riley was widowed in 1959.

Riley was actively involved in cooperatives throughout his life. He served 31 years on the board of directors of the Union Elevator Company. He was a charter member and organizer of the Galata Cooperative Oil Company and a charter member of both the Marias River Electric Cooperative and the Northern Telephone Cooperative Association, all located in Toole County.

In 1962, Riley became the CEO of the Montana Associated Utilities, an association of Rural Electric Cooperatives, and served in this position until his retirement in 1982. Since that time he spent his sum-

mers at his home in Great Falls and the winters in Mesa and Apache Junction, Ariz., where he pursued his main hobby and lifelong passion of playing and singing country western music.

Riley was a very active person and enjoyed involvement with people, music and politics. The farm was always a great place for family gatherings. He loved his family and his grandchildren always held a special place in his heart.

Riley is survived by one brother, Elmer Childers, of Bozeman; one sister, Doris, and Darwin Snuffer, of Great Falls; his sons, Riley Childers of Bigfork, Vern and Marla Childers of Bigfork, and Cecil Childers of Evansville, Wyo.; and one daughter, Donna, and John Ganiere, of Bigfork. He has nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, Suzanne Childers; Steve and Kristen Childers, and son Cody; Debora and Gregg Hanzel, and daughters Ellie and Hanna; Kristine Arndt; Lori and Jeff Cormier, and son Garrett; Cathy and Tom Adolph, and children Seth and Lauren; Cheryl and Jack Saunders, and daughters Julia and Jaclyn; Michelle and Jesse Remington, and children Blake and Sierra; and Bret and Sara Childers; also numerous nieces and nephews.

A family memorial service celebrating Riley's life is planned for later this summer. To leave a condolence message, go to [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com)

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Frances I. Chipman, 94

Frances I. Chipman, 94, died on Sunday, May 18, 2008, at the home of her son in Kalispell.

She is survived by sons Jerry Chipman of Kalispell and Fred Armstrong of Ste-

vensville.

No services are planned at this time.

Johnson - Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Mae Enga Christensen, 69

Mae Enga Christensen, 69, passed away at home on April 23, 2008, surrounded by her family. She had fought a hard battle with cancer. Mae was born May 16, 1938, in Kalispell to Olaf and Julia Erickson. She was raised in the Flathead Valley of Montana.

She married Kenneth Christensen on Aug. 13, 1955. They had two children, Dennis and Tammy. She worked as a nurse's aide at the Kalispell Regional Hospital for many years until moving to Alaska in 1983. She was employed at McPeak's Badger Store until she retired. She attended Fairhill Community Church of God in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Mae enjoyed knitting, sewing, cooking, canning foods, cards, her friends from church and her family. She was always ready to take care of guests with food and conversation. She was always concerned for others. She worked right alongside her husband building their homes in Alaska and Montana.

She was preceded in death

by her husband, Kenneth; her father, Olaf Erickson; her mother, Julia Erickson; her stepmothers, Alice Erickson and Agnes Erickson; her sister, Julia Erickson Weber; her brother, John Erickson; her grandson, Kevin Krause; and her grandson-in-law, Sean Hill.

Mae is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Tammy and John Phillips; son and daughter-in-law, Dennis and Betty Christensen; grandchildren, Kristina Hill, Melissa Gray, Cindy Shurte and husband Rob, and Doug and Heidi Christensen; great-grandchildren, Rowan Hill, Zachary Gray, Gabriel Shurte and Keegan Coghill; sisters and brother-in-law, Bertha Watson and Ellen and Bob Rickard; brothers, Orlee, Leslie and Larry Erickson; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held April 26 at Fairhill Community Church of God in Fairbanks. Inurnment will follow in May when she will be laid to rest next to her husband.

## Craig Kenneth Chute, 63

Craig Kenneth Chute, 63, of Kalispell, passed away at his family home Monday, July 28, 2008. He was born Feb. 4, 1945, in Arlington, Va., the youngest of three children, to Kenneth and Virginia Chute.



With his father, Kenneth, working as an engineer in the U.S. Geological Survey, Craig and his family moved frequently between states, from New England to Florida. Although the Chute's roots were in Harrison, Maine, Craig experienced new towns and new schools 25 times in his childhood years. He spent his last two years of high school in Arlington, but his heart was in "small town" Indiana with its warmth of community and enthusiasm for basketball.

Always industrious, Craig excelled as a student and athlete wherever he went. He delivered newspapers and mowed lawns as a boy, and later took summer employment in Maine, developing and maintaining campsites for his Uncle Glenn and logging pulp wood with his Uncle Hartley. He also earned money for college working for the Geological Survey in Tennessee, as well as the Forest Service in New Hampshire. He was recognized for his natural athletic abilities and good sportsmanship at every school he attended; his enjoyment of playing basketball followed him everywhere.

After graduating from high school in 1963, Craig headed west on the train to attend Colorado State University for a short time. Disappointed with the area and the size of the school, he bought an old 1948 Willy's Jeep for \$500 and ventured north to Montana. With his sights on going to the smoke-jumper's school, he arrived in Missoula in mid-November, only to find that there weren't many fires to worry about during the winter time in Montana. By *happstance*, he discovered the university (then Montana State University) in its magnificent setting and made arrangements to return as a student the following year. Fall quarter 1964, Craig not only entered the "U" as a freshman, but was a walk-on for the Grizzly basketball program.

It was at the university that he met the girl that would later become his wife, Pamela Phillips of Kalispell.

He had found the person to watch beautiful sunsets with, but with the draft, the 1960s were a tumultuous era for college students. After much thought, in the spring of 1966, Craig decided to leave college and sign up for a tour of duty with the Marine Corps. As his family's first representative in the military in several generations, Craig went off to boot camp at Camp Pendleton. He received numerous platoon honors, went on to be trained in an artillery division and served in Vietnam, Stateside, and recovering at Bethesda, he was reassigned to Camp LeJeune in North Carolina.

Craig and Pam were married in the First Presbyterian Church of Kalispell on Oct. 9, 1967. The return journey to North Carolina (honeymoon) was via the Trans-Canadian Highway to his grandparents' farm in Maine and then south along the eastern seaboard to the Marine base.

After numerous training missions to the Caribbean and Mediterranean, Craig received an early honorable discharge from the Marine Corps in December 1968. Pam and Craig returned to live and work in Montana and to re-enter college, where Craig rekindled his love for literature.

His first civilian job after the military was finding employment at a small electrical wholesale company, Mountain West Electric. This was the beginning of the Craig that most people know. He truly enjoyed the challenges, as well as the folks that he came in contact with. It was the beginning of a lifelong passion and an all-consuming occupation. When the business sold, Craig was asked to open a branch in Kalispell, becoming the youngest manager in the company's large system. Whether working as an electrician or managing an electrical wholesale branch, Craig was always generous with his time and knowledge, being a friend and problem-solver to all. The 24 years with Crescent Electric and his past seven years with Kalispell Electric brought him great pleasure. His quick wit and silly jokes will always be remembered. Of course, he never tired of frustrating his family with reminding them that his favorite day of the week was Monday.

With family and animals waiting for him at home along the Stillwater River, Craig carved out a Chute niche, building shelters, barns and fences for cattle, horses and hay. He constructed a cabin in 1973 from a 100-year-old barn that he dismantled at Skyline Dairy; later designing and building the house on the hill for his growing brood. He loved his pastoral surrounding, marveling at the geese overhead and the resident deer population, with new fawns appearing every spring. It all served as a soothing respite from the busy work schedule that he kept.

His three children and their personal accomplishments were the pride of his life. The hectic years of baseball, softball, soccer and football were fun and filled with traveling. Coaching PeeWee baseball and hauling loads of grinning kids to various sporting events was his idea of the perfect vacation. He has lovingly followed their young adult adventures with as much enthusiasm. Craig always said that one of his greatest rewards has been to see each one finish college and go on to a career.

Now with a new generation of babies in the family tree, Craig took loving pleasure in being a grandpa. Reading stories with grandchildren on his lap, having a cribbage contest with team Ethan-Caleb, coloring with Carter and Emma (Carter and grandpa's favorite color is black), or working a puzzle with Carissa, was gentle fun for everyone.

One of his greatest pleasures, outside of work, was taking family road trips, seeking out alternate routes on less-traveled highways. He was a genius at many things, but unsurpassed was his innate knowledge and memory of places, people, and the U.S. road systems. The planning process was extensive, and the family's rewards for his efforts were great. Most recently, Craig and Pam celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a trip to Maine and the Maritime provinces, finding lighthouses and covered bridges along the way.

Craig was a wonderfully complex man — a great friend to many and a lover of solitude, and a deep thinker who found joy in the simple pleasures of life. He loved literature, art, music and historical study, particularly of the Northwest and Native American culture. He was an honest and gracious person who will be missed by his family and all the friends he made along the way.

Craig was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Pam, at the family home in Kalispell; his brother, Philip Chute, of Eau Claire, Wis.; his brother, Clifton Chute, of Bristol, Ind.; his son, Ethan, and wife, Lisa Chute,

of Otsego, Minn.; his daughter, Jessica Chute, of Kalispell; his son, Ira Chute, of San Francisco; and his four grandchildren, Caleb and Carissa Chute of Otsego, and Carter and Emma Chute of Kalispell.

Kalispell Electric hosted a wonderful celebration of his life Friday, Aug. 1, including a Marine Corps dedication. Craig was interred at his family plot at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery at a private family gathering Saturday, Aug. 2.

Because he was a great philanthropist who regularly donated to many charitable organizations, Craig's family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to two of his favorite organizations:

St. Joseph's Indian School, Chamberlain, S.D. 57326 ([www.stjo.org](http://www.stjo.org)); or St. Labre Indian School, P.O. Box 216, Ashland, MT 59003 ([www.stlabre.org](http://www.stlabre.org)).

## Dorothy Clapper, 84

Dorothy Clapper, 84, beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, passed away on Oct. 25, 2008, in Lewistown at Central Montana Medical Center.

She was born May 2, 1924, at the family home to Reu and Mauna Loa Carr, who told her sisters she was their little May basket.

After graduating Flathead County High School, she worked at the Columbia Falls Veterans Home where she met Eugene Clapper. She also worked at the telegraph office in Kalispell, Conrad Bank, Snowline Trees, Cherry Warehouse, Flathead Milk Tester and City Plumbing and Heating of Columbia Falls.

She married Eugene F. Clapper on May 3, 1945, while Gene was on leave from the Army. She and Gene resided and worked the Carr farm in Creston until 1963, and then moved to Evergreen.

Dorothy loved to roller skate and she and Gene were the envy of the floor. They were also active square dancers for years. She was involved in 4-H and a current member of Eastside Grange in Creston.

Dorothy loved doing all kinds of crafts, crocheting, gardening and especially loved getting together with family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and sisters, Berna-



dine Burtfield, Maurine Johnson and Ruth Jones.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Eugene Clapper; two sisters, Mary Leighty and

Helen Cascaden; her daughter, Barbara, and husband, Scott Young, granddaughter Darcey Young and Jeff Hall, granddaughter Brandi Young, and great-grandson, Trey Soucie; daughter, Connie Melton, grandson Jerimi Melton and wife Mandy, two great-grandsons, Ricker and Lane, grandson Justin Melton and wife Shoni, great-granddaughter Cody, great-grandson Wyatt, granddaughter Cora Burleigh and husband Jessie, great-grandson Landon, great-granddaughter Avila, and grandson Jason Melton; and son, Donald Clapper, and wife, Linda.

Memorial services will be held at 6:30 p.m. today, Oct. 28, at the Remington Central Montana Chapel in Lewistown. A memorial service is planned for 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31, at the Faith Alliance Church in Kalispell.

Condolences may be shared with Dorothy's family at [www.remingtonletchertfuneralservices.com](http://www.remingtonletchertfuneralservices.com).

## Angeline 'Val' Clarke, 59

Angeline "Val" Clarke, 59, died Feb. 28, 2008, at her home in Eureka.

Survivors include her husband, David Clarke, of Eureka; son, Ken Gausnell, of Ketchikan, Alaska; daughter, Kim Monday, of Fort Jones, Calif.; and stepdaughter, Heather

Clarke, of Deer Park, Wash.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday, March 3, at the Church of Praise in Eureka, with Keith Lambertsen officiating. Inurnment and burial of cremains will be Wednesday, March 5, at Tobacco Valley Cemetery.

## Duane Lee Clark Jr., 52

Duane Lee Clark Jr., 52, of Whitefish, died Feb. 28, 2008.

He is survived by his wife, Beth Clark, of Whitefish; daughter, Janie Clark, of Whitefish; son, Richy Clark, of Illinois; stepson, C.J. Celaya, of Arizona; and mother,

Bernice Clark, of Whitefish.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 12, at the Church of the Nazarene in Whitefish.

Cremation was by Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish.

## Carol Ruth (Klay) Clark, 78



Carol Ruth (Klay) Clark, 78, passed away of natural causes on Dec. 28, 2008, at a Missoula Extended Care Facility.

Carol was born Dec.

4, 1930, in Great Falls to Lawrence and Cora Klay. She has one surviving sister.

She graduated from high school in Great Falls in 1949.

Carol married Kenneth Nelson Clark on June 13, 1949, and lived on a wheat farm just north of Fort Benton near the Goose Bill. They had four children. She lived there until 1975, when her husband Kenneth passed away. She then lived in Chester for a while and worked at the nursing home there.

She moved to Helena to be closer to her son, Bruce, and worked as a caregiver for many years, taking care of Jane Tobin as a personal care attendant for many years.

Carol moved to Kalispell in 1987, where she retired and was involved in several activities. She had some health problems and moved to Missoula in 1999 to be close to her daughter, Nancy, where she lived in an assisted living facility.

Carol had a love for birds and music. She was a caregiver, a homemaker, had been retired

for many years and had a love of the Lord. She loved to sing, and it wasn't uncommon to see her playing her records and dancing around in her apartment in Missoula. You could often see her writing letters to her friends she had left behind, and she tried to keep in touch with them.

She is survived by one sister, Margaret Klay Carver; four children, Nancy Clark Rishoff of Missoula, Ruth Clark Warner of Abbottstown, Pa., Ella Clark Jones of Chester, and Bruce Clark of Missoula; eight grandchildren, Marvin Rishoff of Trinidad, Calif., Cindy Rishoff of Kalispell, Richelle Warner Simerly of Abbottstown, Renee Warner Snyder of Dover, Pa., Ryan Warner of East Berlin, Pa., Brent Clark of Billings, Mitchell Clark of Bozeman, and Matthew Clark of Missoula; and five great-grandchildren, Hunter Snyder, Ethan Snyder, Callie Simerly, Austin Warner and Morgan Warner.

She was well-loved by all of her many friends and family and will be missed by everyone she touched in her life. She will always be remembered as the sweet lady with a great sense of humor and a song in her heart.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 3, at the Benton Funeral Home in Fort Benton, with a reception to follow after the service. Burial will be afterward in Riverside Cemetery.

## Violet Clark, 87



Violet Clark, 87, of Columbia Falls, passed away March 17, 2008, while visiting in Arizona. She was born April 9, 1920, in Meadowcreek, Idaho.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Louis Clark.

Violet is survived by her chil-

dren, Barbara Fix of Columbia Falls, Louis Clark Jr., and wife, Alice, of Lewistown, LaVern Clark and wife, Alice, of Coram, and Dan Clark of Kalispell; sister, Marge Belcher, of Tacoma, Wash.; brother, George Gould, of Thompson Falls; 13 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was the heart of our family and will be loved and missed by everyone.

## Vicky Clawson, 54

Vicky Clawson, 54, formerly of Libby and Kalispell, died Aug. 6, 2008, in Cedar City, Utah, of natural causes.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m., Friday, Aug. 15,

at the Libby Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, followed by burial at the City of Libby Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

## Dan William Clower, 53

Dan William Clower, 53, died Jan. 1, 2008, at his home in Bigfork.

He is survived by his daughter, Kaitlan Mountain Clower; his son, Lucian Burke Clower; and his mother, Irene "Renie" Clower, all

of Amelia Island, Fla.

No local ceremony will be held.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for the family. An online guest book is available online at [www.johnsonsmortuary.com](http://www.johnsonsmortuary.com).

## Howard Charles Clearlite, 69

Howard Charles Clearlite, 69, died Thursday, Nov. 27, 2008, at his home in Bigfork.

Arrangements are pending with Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Don Raymond Clothier, 85

Don Raymond Clothier, 85, passed away at his Lakeside residence, surrounded by loving family, on Sunday, April 6, 2008. Don was born Sept. 3, 1922, in Lakeside to Asa and Leah (Jones) Clothier. He attended Lakeside and Somers schools, graduating from Flathead County High School.

Don married Hester (Posie) Hutchens in Libby on July 30, 1945. They were together for 36 years.

Don enlisted in the U.S. Army but was medically discharged after only four months. He then became a journeyman, Ironworker Local No. 14, in 1951, and worked throughout the Northwest. He had just received his 55-year plaque.

Don had worked on many construction projects, including the Hungry Horse Dam, Libby Dam, Libby School, atomic energy plant in Pasco, Wash., the Moiese Springs Bridge, which was 564 feet in the air, often without a safety net, the Madison Street Bridge in Missoula, and various other construction sites.

He was involved in the Great Northern tunnel at Stryker, which was seven miles long.

In 1947-48, Don took second for the entire season in the nightly Wild Horse Race in Cody, Wyo., with Chuck Sanders and George Clothier.

Don had been a member of the Eagles for 23 years.

Don loved to dance, water ski, camp and snowmobile, and had fond memories of hunting trips



with his brothers. He was an excellent cribbage player. He loved animals, especially his dog Jake.

Don was preceded in death by his loving wife, Posie;

and his long-time friend Tommy Eppe; his parents; brothers George, Neil, Kenneth and William.

Don is survived by his children, Cynthia and Michael Moore of Victor, Sherry and Bruce Beck of Port Orchard, Wash., and Carol and Melvin Kraft of Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. He has eight grandchildren, six great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his brothers, Darrel and Delores, and Stan and Lu; as well as a sister, Emma Lu and Allen Reed; and is also survived by two sisters-in-law, Myrtle Hutchens and Beulah Clothier.

All who came in contact with Don enjoyed his humor, sharp wit and generosity.

A celebration of Don's Life will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 10, at Lakeside Community Chapel, with dinner to follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Home Options Hospice of Kalispell, Lakeside Community Chapel or a charity of the donor's choice.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Ann P. Clunn, 88

Ann P. Clunn, 88, died on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2008, at Mountain View Manor Good Samaritan Home in

Eureka.

Arrangements are pending with Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Gordon Coe, 76

Gordon Coe was born Feb. 25, 1931, in Sioux City, Iowa, to Floyd and Vivia (Lake) Coe. He walked this way in his own time and rhythm, savoring his moments, until a lengthy battle with prostate cancer pulled him from us on Jan. 11, 2008.

He delighted in taking time to talk, listen, and joke with everyone he met, being particularly fond of politics and social issues. If he wasn't listening and talking, he was avidly people watching.

He supported Native American tribal sovereignty and advocated for the oppressed. A self-described iconoclast, he challenged others to think independently, to question and resist the dominant paradigm, and to



recognize the interconnection and sanctity of the earth and all her inhabitants.

He is survived by his mother, Vivia Coe; his long-time companion

and wife, Eloise Wiebe; his four children, Mark, Robin, Tammerly and Jordan; six grandchildren; and a plethora of loving and supportive friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to Home Options Care Hospice of Flathead County (406) 751-4200.

## Michelle A. Cole, 38

Michelle A. Cole, 38, died Monday, Oct. 13, 2008, at her home in Hungry Horse.

She was employed at T & C Maintenance.

Survivors include her husband, George, of Hungry Horse; her daughter, Shelby, of Hungry Horse;

her mother and stepfather, Charlyn and Edward O'Neil, of Crescent City, Calif.; and her father, Julio Pina, of Cheyenne, Wyo.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 18, at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.



## Thomasine Collins, 68

Thomasine Collins, 68, formerly of Kalispell, died peacefully at her home in Green Grove Springs, Fla., on Sept. 28, 2008, after a short battle with lung cancer.

Thomasine moved to Kalispell in May 1992 to begin working for the Western Montana Community Mental Health Center as a mental-health professional.

Thomasine was known in the Flathead Valley for her great public-relations work and her professionalism in resolving mental-health crises.



When Managed Care entered in Montana, Thomasine moved back to Florida and went to work for Public Health Services as a lecturer in preventing sexually transmitted diseases. She retired from that position in August 2007.

Thomasine is survived by her son, Thomas Collins, and wife, Olga, of Seattle; daughter, Sally D'Marie, and husband, Adam Dalman, and three grandchildren, Emily, Michael and Tyler, all of Keystone Heights, Fla.; cousins; and numerous friends. She also leaves behind her two companion cats, Wylie and Maggie.

Thomasine's Kalispell friends are planning a memorial gathering, which will be announced at a later date.

## Wava Combs, 85

Wava Combs, 85, "went to be with her beloved Lord Jesus" on Feb. 15, 2008.

"We, her friends and family, will miss her greatly; however we rejoice that she is in a better place."

Wava was born May 9, 1922, to Ova and Esther Combs in LaGrange County, Ind.

Wava loved to read, paint, and do craft and art projects. Doing jigsaw puzzles was an all-time favorite.

In her younger days she did



missionary work in Haiti and Mexico. She also enjoyed fishing and picking huckleberries in the high country.

Wava loved spending time with her adopted family, Jeff, Linda, Jesse, Bethany and Casey Arneson, of Eureka.

She had many other dear friends in the Whitefish and Kalispell area who loved and cared about her.

Wava is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Wil-lowdean and Clarence Franklin, of LaGrange, Ind.

Memorial services will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25, at Wel-Life Assisted Living Center on Three Mile Drive in Kalispell.

## Perry Lee Collins, 71

Perry Lee Collins, 71, passed away Sunday, March 2, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. He had battled coronary artery disease for 30 years but died from a yet-to-be-determined disease. He was born Dec. 29, 1936, in Seeley, Calif., to Andrew and Blanche (Hunga) Collins.

He attended high school in Imperial, Calif., and attended Arizona State University. His career was as a supervisor and manager for UPS and several freight lines in Southern California.

Perry retired to the Kalispell area, where he married his second wife, Sandra. Together they enjoyed hiking, fishing, gardening and playing with their beagles, Dusty and Heidi.

Perry was a radio-controlled model-airplane enthusiast and flew his planes in Montana with the Glacier RC'ers, and in



Brenda, Ariz., where they spent their winters among their many friends, including Perry's best friend, Marvin.

Perry was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Barbara; and his beloved daughter, Jewelene.

He is survived by his wife, Sandy Collins, of Kalispell; her daughter, Linda Flickinger, and grandchildren, Brian and Shyanne, all of Whitefish; his first wife, Reba; his two sons, Andrew Collins and wife, Lisa, and grandchildren, Zachary, Presli, Baxter and Baylie, all of Brea, Calif., and son, Walter Collins, of Yorba Linda, Calif.; and also one sister, Beverly Leslie, of Barstow, Calif.

Memorial services for Perry Collins will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 8, in the Johnson Mortuary chapel, with Pastor Darold Reiner officiating.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Perry's family. You are invited to go to [www.johnsonmortuary.com](http://www.johnsonmortuary.com) to offer condolences and sign Perry's guest book.

## Mary Jane Conley, 80

Mary Jane Conley, known to some as Janie, passed away Friday, Oct. 17, 2008, in Bigfork. She was 80 years old.

Janie was born in Battle Creek, Mich., on Oct. 8, 1928, to Mortimer O. and Marguerite D. (Whitney) Pickle.

Janie was a beloved wife, mother, aunt, grandmother and great-grandmother. In her younger years she loved to sing and was a member of Maple Methodist Church in Battle Creek.

In 1962, Janie, her husband, Ancil "Hank" Conley, and their two children moved to San Jose, Calif., where they lived for many years. While in San Jose, Janie was an avid golfer. She even scored a hole-in-one at her favorite golf course, Fairway Glenn.

Janie and Hank traveled extensively throughout the U.S. with their motor home and for many years belonged to the San Jose Blackjacks, a local square-dance and Good Sam Club.

Janie was an excellent crafter — her dolls and afghans are works of art that will be her continuing legacy. In later years, Hank and Janie moved to



Kalispell, where she continued to make crafted items that were often donated to local nursing homes.

Janie was preceded in death by her sisters, Marjorie (Pickle) Stone and Marguerite (Pickle) Cary.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Ancil A. "Hank" Conley; sister, Wanda Pickle; daughter, Sandra (Conley) Taylor and her husband, Kenneth Taylor; her son, Edward Conley, and his wife, Sharon (Wolff) Conley; granddaughters, Christina (Conley) Hiestand, Sharlene Conley, Sheena Conley, and Shawna Conley; and great-granddaughter, Tamara Perron.

A celebration of Janie's life will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral chapel in Kalispell. Pastor Kathy Young will officiate. Interment will be the next day at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Lakeview Resident Memorial Fund, 1050 Grand Ave., Bigfork, MT 59911.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Mary's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Mary's guest book.

## Robert Earl Conway, 70

After a three-year battle with cancer Robert "Bob" Early Conway passed away peacefully on Oct. 16, 2008.

Bob was born in Indianapolis on May 9, 1938, the second child of Earl H. and Edith B. Conway. He attended Indianapolis schools and served as student body president of Shortridge High School (over 1,500 students.) Bob attended Indiana University where he made the football team as a walk-on and earned his degree in industrial engineering in 1961.

He married Martha Jane Litherland on June 16, 1962, and the 31-year union gave him his two children. In 1976, in search of a better place to raise his family, Bob moved to Whitefish where he was a member of Whitefish Rotary, Big Mountain Ski Foundation, and the Board of Glacier Orchestra and Chorus. He enjoyed watching his children grow and pursued his love of anything to do with the outdoors.

On May 9, 2002, he married Marguerite Lincoln in a Hawaiian oceanside wedding. Bob and Marg's children and grandchildren joined them for the ceremony and a week-long celebration on Maui.

Bob's varied hobbies made him an interesting person. He competed in field trials with the Labrador retrievers he raised and trained. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, hiking, time on his sailboat, golfing, biking, skiing, riding horses, kayaking, scuba diving and most of all, he enjoyed flying his plane.

Bob's expert photography chronicled the lives and achievements of his grandchildren. He was an avid birdwatcher who won "Best of Show" for one of his many bird photographs and he even traveled to Africa on a birdwatching adventure. Bob was a member and past president of the Five Valley Audubon Society (or "Head Bird Nerd" according to his grandchildren.) Bob was a lifelong learner and most recently furthered his photography interests with classes at Rocky Mountain School of Photography.

Bob loved summers on Flathead Lake at the family lakehouse, attending his grand-



daughters' annual dog show, visiting Glacier Park and biking the Hiawatha Trail. He was nearly famous for the homemade ice cream he

prepared every year on the Fourth of July.

Bob was from the Midwest and took pride in expressing his values and conservative political views. A loyal fan of Hoosier basketball, he defended and admired the discipline of coach Bobby Knight.

Bob had a gentle demeanor and was thoughtful, courteous and kind. Above all, Bob will be remembered as a man with unwavering grace and a true gentleman.

He was preceded in death by his father, mother, and sister, Alice Hannon.

He is survived by his wife, Marg, of Missoula; his son, Bryan Conway, of Salem, Ore., wife Shannon, and children, Shelby and Logan; and his daughter, Cathy Ingraham of Seattle, husband Michael, and children, Sida, Tate, Audrey, Ashleigh and Johnny. Marg's family includes Grant Lincoln of Missoula, wife Jennifer, and children, Kendell and Jack; Ladd Lincoln of Missoula, wife Vicki, and children, Kaden and Karis; and Maureen "Muffy" Bullock of Superior, husband Gary, and children Hank and Kate. He was affectionately called "Papa Bob" or "GB" (short for Grandpa Bob) by his grandchildren.

At his request, there will no funeral service but a celebration of Bob's life will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 24 in Missoula. Please e-mail [kmbullock@blackfoot.net](mailto:kmbullock@blackfoot.net) for directions.

Bob appreciated the hope and comfort provided by the nurses, staff and Dr. Beatty and Dr. Markette at the Montana Cancer Center. He was touched by the care and sharing with other patients encountered at each treatment.

In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to the Montana Cancer Center Fund, c/o St. Patrick Hospital, Box 4587, Missoula.

## Merle C. Cook, 78

Merle C. Cook, 78, died Friday, Aug. 8, 2008, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

He is survived by his wife, Bernice, of Kalispell; and two daughters, Joyce Welliv-

er of Kalispell, and Kelly Cook of Raymond, Wash.

There are no services planned at this time.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Dennis Dale Cook, 54

Dennis Dale Cook, 54, passed away on Friday, June 20, 2008, at home in Columbia Falls after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born in Dallas on Aug. 17, 1953, to Anna Belle and Donald Cook, who both preceded him in death.

Dale received his bachelor's degree from Southern Methodist University in 1975.

He was married to Beth Sauder in January of 1976 and they opened their own business, a frame shop and art gallery in Richardson, Texas. After the birth of their son they sold the business, and he owned a printing business in downtown Dallas before moving to the Flathead Valley in 1992.

His dream was to live in the mountains of Montana. He enjoyed the outdoors, especially fishing and hunting.

He worked at Semitool for approximately eight years and also guided fishing trips for a short time on the Flathead River. He so enjoyed the beauty



of the mountains and the experience of floating the rivers and catching wild trout with special flies that he had tied himself. One of his favorite places was the South Fork of the Flathead River.

Dale had an abiding faith in Jesus Christ and the hope of being with Him forever. His family has a peace beyond understanding "that he is in the chief Shepherd's loving arms."

He is survived by his wife, Beth Cook, of Columbia Falls; and his son, Aaron Cook, and his wife, Krista, and granddaughter, Emma, of Great Falls. He is also survived by his brother, David Cook, and his wife, Laura, of Dallas.

A memorial service will be held for Dale at 1 p.m. today, June 25, at North Valley Baptist Church, 1750 Talbot Road in Columbia Falls, with Pastor Rick Rhubottom officiating.

The family suggests memorial gifts be given to North Valley Baptist Church, Columbia Falls; or to Grace Hospice, 1117 S. Main Street, Kalispell.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is in charge of the arrangements.

## Lucy Jane (Endsley) Corbett, 77

Lucy Jane (Endsley) Corbett, 77, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2008, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born in Quinton, Okla., on Nov. 4, 1930, the daughter of George Belton and Ocie (Brooks) Endsley. Lucy's family moved from Oklahoma to Texas in about 1939, settling in rural east Texas. Lucy completed 11 years of schooling, marrying a few weeks prior to graduation.

On March 3, 1949, she married Robert Lee Corbett at Linden, Texas. Robert was in the Army, and his career meant the family would make many moves until his retirement in 1962. The moves included duty in New Jersey, the Philippines, California, Alabama, Texas and Okinawa, Japan, so Lucy's children were born in far-flung places.

After Robert's retirement from the Army, the family came back home to rural east Texas, settling on a small farm. There were difficult times because of Robert's poor health and disability related to his military service. Lucy faced many obstacles, including caring for her youngest daughter, Penny, who was born with severe developmental problems. Through it all, she kept the family together, passing on to each one some of the good qualities she possessed. Lucy loved helping others, often sacrificing her own needs to serve family and friends in need.

She loved to travel, and in her later years was able to take several cross-country trips by plane, bus and automobile with her sisters and sister-in-law. She loved to entertain family and friends with her stories, which she could embellish better and better over time.

Over the years Lucy compiled several cookbooks and was always searching for new recipes. Hundreds of church friends enjoyed her delicious cooking, which she loved to share at church socials. She enjoyed quilting, gardening, can-



ning, tracing the family history and catalog shopping.

Lucy was a member for many years of Worldwide Church of God, and later of United Church of God. In her last few months it was remarkable to witness the spiritual growth Lucy was granted, as she was able to "lay aside the cares of this life and look forward with full assurance of faith to the eternal life that will follow."

A verse that applies now to Lucy Corbett is in 2 Timothy 4:8: "Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved His appearing."

She was preceded in death by her father, George Belton Endsley, and her mother Ocie (Brooks) Endsley; husband, Robert Lee Corbett; two sisters, Georgia Lundy and Inez Vickery; and a brother, Neely Endsley.

Lucy is survived by all seven of her children, Joyce Shelton of Linden, Texas, Roc Corbett of Bigfork, Robert Corbett of Woodland, Wash., Rebecca Francis of Atlanta, Texas, Jabez Corbett of Portland, Texas, Richard Corbett of Rock Hill, S.C., and Penny Corbett of Brenham, Texas. Lucy is also survived by 14 grandchildren; and 28 great-grandchildren; she is also survived by her siblings, Cranford Endsley of Marshall, Texas, Guyola Carr of Conroe, Texas, Greathel Corman of Avinger, Texas, Almeta Lee of Mineral Wells, Texas; and a sister-in-law, Mammie Ruth Endsley of Gary, Texas.

Memorial services for Lucy will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 29, at Johnson Mortuary chapel, with Glen White officiating. There will be no visitation. Urn burial will be afterward in C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. There will be a memorial service at a later date in Texas for her numerous family and friends there.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Lucy's family. You are invited to go to [www.johnson-mortuary.com](http://www.johnson-mortuary.com) to offer condolences and sign Lucy's guest book.

## Gary Charles Clive 'Corky' Corkins, 72

Gary Charles Clive "Corky" Corkins, 72, passed away on Sunday, March 30, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. Corky was born in Sidney to William and Helene (Ford) Corkins on Oct. 7, 1935. He attended high school at Sidney, and graduated from Browning High School.

He spent his youth in Browning, and later worked as a railroad conductor.

He graduated from Western Montana College, and earned a Master of Business Administration degree at Columbus College in Georgia.

He served 32 years in the U.S. Army including a tour to Vietnam, and retired as a lieutenant colonel.

He was preceded in death by

his wife, Roberta Weis; his parents; and three brothers, Bill, Jack and Kenneth.

He is survived by three children, Gary Corkins and his wife, Vanese, Tamara Vasquez, and Ronald Corkins; one granddaughter, Victoria Vasquez; and by nieces and nephews.

A private family service is planned. "Corky" requested that his ashes be forever joined with those of his beloved Roberta in the Moab area of southern Utah.

The family suggests that donations be made to St. Vincent DePaul Homeless Center, 427 W. 200 South, Salt Lake City UT 84101.

Johnson & Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Madeline Rose Coverdell, 89

Madeline Rose Coverdell, 89, went quietly, with joy in her heart, "to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ" on Friday, June 6, 2008, in Whitefish.

She was born in Liverpool, England, on Dec. 13, 1918, to Frank and Annie McLean. She came to America when she was 18 months old. She only had an eighth grade education but you would have never known that, because she read everything she could get her hands on and she self taught herself everything. She had five half brothers and one half sister.

She always told us her mom would always sing and make hard times as happy as she could. As a young woman she and her brothers had to spend a lot of time in Moose Heart, Father Bakers, and other orphanages. When she was old enough to work she worked in the orphanages to be close to her brothers. She took care of 50 babies at one time and loved every minute of it.

She met and married Joe Mrgich in 1942. They spent years apart because of the war but had three children, Mike, John Alan and Judy. Joe was one of the first inventors of the saddle gas tank for semi-trucks. When his business failed, they moved to California only for a short time.

Joe found work in Montana in 1952 and upon arriving announced, "This is where we will raise our children." Mady went along with him and when she arrived here she totally agreed. They were city folk but set out to learn how to fish and hunt with the best of them. They became true Montanans. They didn't have a fancy life, but it sure was a happy one. They had to move back to California due to Joe's health problems. Joe passed away in 1965 while living back in California. Mady said after his funeral that she had to come back to her beloved Montana, so she packed up her daughter and came back



to remain here forever.

In 1972 she met and married her second beloved husband, Arell Coverdell. Together they raised Arell's youngest son

Kevin. They fished, gardened, raised dogs and traveled to their hearts' content. It was the happiest of years for the both of them.

In 1993 she lost her beloved Arell. She then moved next door to her daughter Judy in Martin City, where she remained the rest of her life.

She lost both her sons to early deaths, and we all admired how she could always find joy in getting up in the morning to another day. After all, she buried two husbands, two sons, two grandchildren, her mom, two of her brothers and a sister; but she always found the positive and beauty in life.

She is survived by her daughter, Judy Rabidue, and her stepson, Kevin Coverdell. She is also survived by four other stepchildren, three brothers, daughters-in-law, seven grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren — definitely more if you count all the stepkids and stepgrandkids.

She loved a lot of people and things in life — her husbands, her dogs, fishing, music, everyone that worked at the stores she shopped at, her doctors; but she said that most of all she loved her Father in Heaven, Jesus Christ.

She got to see and tell everyone she loved good-bye and her last words were, "Please do not have a big fancy funeral. But be sure to tell everyone I said for them to love God, take care of and love each other and above all, be happy." She will be missed by all.

So, there will be no funeral. A graveside service for the family will be held at a later date.

## Winifred Ladeine 'Winnie' Cowman, 91

Winifred Ladeine "Winnie" Cowman, 91, died Thursday, February 28, 2008, at her Buffalo Terrace home in Kalispell. Winnie was born June 17, 1916, in Mitchell, S.D., to Merle and Mildred Ball, and spent her childhood there with her brother, Bruce.



After high school, she moved to Santa Monica, Calif., where she married Varner Burdette Cowman, also of South Dakota. Together they raised their two daughters through high school and college. Later Winnie moved to San Diego and finally, in 1996, to Kalispell, where she so enjoyed being near family, Glacier Park and the beautiful Montana scenery.

Most of all in life, Winnie loved her family, Dixieland jazz, Montana, and laughing.

Mother of Jeannine Dolson and Ladeine Thompson, Winnie was a dearly loved grandma to her six grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

She will be missed by her grandchildren, Steve and Sharon Thompson, Mike and Julie Thompson, Gina and Thomas Sulzbacher, Lori and Andre Risse, David and Sandra Dolson, and Julie and Jack Epsteen; her 18 great-grandchildren, Steven, Sara, Stacia, Shannon, Samantha, Scott, Melanie, Ryan, Anna, Stephan, Max, Alex, Nicholas, Sophia, Andrew, Dean, David and Levon; and her two sons-in-law, Ray Thompson of Kalispell and David Dolson of Valencia, Calif.

Funeral services for Winnie will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 3, in the Johnson Mortuary chapel, with Pastor Chris Miller officiating. Burial will be afterward at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to Buffalo Hill Terrace, 40 Claremont St., Kalispell, MT 59901, or to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Way, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for Winnie's family. You are invited to go to [www.johnsonmortuary.com](http://www.johnsonmortuary.com) to offer condolences and sign Winnie's guest book.

## Robert M. 'Robin' Cox, 60

Robert M. "Robin" Cox passed away June 25, 2008, in Polebridge. He was born July 19, 1947, in Cody, Wyo. His parents were Robert M. Cox Sr., of Fries, Va., and Kathryn E. Cox (Hall) of Bismarck, N.D.



Upon completion of his public education, Robin enlisted in the U.S. Army for six years. He spent three years as a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division and three as a medic in the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne). During his military years, he served two tours of duty in Vietnam and was decorated with a Bronze Star.

After being discharged from the Army, Robin enrolled in the Physician's Assistant Training Program at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, and graduated in 1974. He worked as a physician's assistant in Chamberlain and Lower Brule, S.D., and for the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

Robin's passion for the outdoors eventually led to a career with

the National Park Service, where he was employed for 20 years in Yellowstone and Glacier national parks. He worked as a backcountry ranger, area ranger, field botanist and in resource management, as well.

Robin obtained a bachelor's degree in behavioral science from Westminster College in Salt Lake City, and went on to do graduate work in botany at Montana State University in Bozeman.

In 1975, he married Valerie K. Cox (Levernier) of Union, Ill., at Jenny Lake in Grand Teton National Park. Their son, Samuel C. Cox, was born in 1980.

Robin was preceded in death by his parents, and two sisters.

He is survived by his wife and son; as well as nephew, John S. Cooper, of Columbia Falls; and nieces, Judy Van Auker of Evergreen, Colo., and Sara Flanagan of Bethel, Conn.

Robin had many passions in life, and was an avid backcountry skier, whitewater kayaker and mountain biker. He also enjoyed hunting, fly fishing, traveling and spending time with his family.

A memorial service with military honors will be held in Bozeman in the fall.

## Joseph 'Joe' M. Cox, 63

Joseph "Joe" M. Cox, 63, passed from this life on Friday, Nov. 21, 2008, due to complications from pneumonia, at Brendan House in Kalispell. He was born Nov. 7, 1945 in Lewistown, to Charles B and Rose Ann (Spence) Cox.

The family moved to Lakeside in 1948, where Joe grew up helping his parents in their marina business. He attended Lakeside School, including the original building on North Lakeside Boulevard, which later became the Little Red Schoolhouse Restaurant. Joe graduated from Flathead High School in 1965, and attended classes at Flathead Valley Community College.

Joe had many jobs over the years, probably his favorite being the maintenance of all the Kalispell Little League Baseball fields for many summers under the supervision of his long-time friend Huz Jensen. Most recently, Joe was employed at the Pita Pit in Kalispell.

Joe loved sports, and was a faithful fan of the Flathead Braves, rarely missing a football or basketball game. He also attended every possible sporting event of his beloved niece, nephew and grandniece and nephew, invariably encouraging no matter what the outcome. He was an avid Griz fan, and enjoyed their games with many of his Lakeside buddies. Joe also enjoyed playing on the Shortbranch Dart team, where he was reportedly an intense competitor.

Joe was a very kind, loyal and patient man, and was always willing to be of service if someone needed help or errands run, thoughtfully noticing when help was needed or a kindness could be given.

Joe had been a member of the Kalispell Jaycees, working with service projects through this group, and volunteered through church for the Commu-



nity Kitchen. Despite a life hampered by numerous handicaps, Joe always gave much more than he took, and gave with a joyful heart.

Joe was an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church, and of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Ferndale for many years previous to that. From a very young age, Joe clearly understood the sacrifice which Jesus Christ made for him and all people, and was an active ambassador in bringing his family and friends to accept that gift.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and three uncles, Paul Ellsworth and Pete Lytle of Lakeside, and Jack Spence of Tacoma, Wash.

He is survived by his sister, Libby Moothart, and her husband, Boyd, of Lakeside; his two aunts, Mona Ellsworth Lytle of Kalispell, and Betty Spence of Tacoma; one nephew, Jason Moothart, and wife, Drena, and their children; Seth and Jillian, of Libby; also one niece, Amanda Moothart, of Lakeside; and many special friends.

A celebration of life for Joseph M. Cox will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell.

The family suggests memorials be given in his name to: Kidsports Inc., P.O. Box 1205, Kalispell, MT 59901; Healing Arts Project, c/o Libby Moothart, P.O. Box 43, Lakeside, MT 59922; or West Shore Food Bank, P.O. Box 582, Lakeside, MT 59922.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Joe's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Joe's guest book.

## Goldena W. 'Dena' Craig, 72

Goldena W. "Dena" Craig, 72, of Polson died Feb. 12, 2008, at home among family and friends.

Dena is survived by her sisters, Julie Maquire, Sharon Tipton and Carol Fischer; sons, David Craig, Jim Craig, Richard Craig and Kevin Craig; 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. In addition, there are multitudes of "spiritual" family members that have a deep, eternal bond with Dena. She will be greatly missed.

She was born in Leadville, Colo., on May 19, 1935, to Roy Forrest and Julia Willene Amell.

As a child, Dena grew up in Fullerton, Calif. She excelled in school, was editor of the school newspaper, president of the French Club, and was very active in the Methodist Church. She graduated from San Fernando High School. Later, she moved to Sacramento, Calif., where she met and married Richard E. "Dick" Craig on March 12, 1960.

In 1967, Dena and husband, Dick, moved from California to Gresham, Ore., where they bought a small country grocery store, which they owned for 10 years. She served as clerk and treasurer of the Lusted Water District for the next 20 years.

In 1995, Dena, Dick and oldest son, David, moved to Big Arm where they enjoyed the diverse beauty of Montana.

Dena and Dick worked with local churches, ministries and missions wherever home was at the time. They ministered to and with the Messianic Jewish, Romanian, Hungarian and Native American communities and mission agencies. They facilitated seminars, retreats and conferences in Portland, and eventually the Mission Valley in Montana. Dena and Dick worked with Youth With A Mission for 17 years in YWAM's Portland inner-city ministry, counseling and youth center where they taught English as a second language and tutored students, with mission outreaches to Japan and the Philippines.

After moving to Montana, they were deeply involved with various ministries such as Montana Intercessors, First Nations to the Nations, Father Heart of



God, Freedom in Christ and Ancient Paths. Dena was the area coordinator of Equip21, a ministry to equip people for life and service in the 21st Century, and

the Polson office administrator for the Guinea Bissau, West Africa Mission Project led by Emosi Tatukeyel.

Dena Craig was generous in spirit, secure in her faith, joyous in friendships, supportive in love, provided example in daily living, and felt rewarded in reaching out to others in faith. She was a friend, mentor, and "spiritual mother" to young and old alike. She was a well-respected and sought-out woman of God, who gave a listening ear to thoughts, dreams, concerns and gave wise counsel that was incredibly significant to the lives of many.

Dena's heart and home were always open and available — welcoming hurting folks, encouraging them to find hope and help in Jesus. She hosted many Bible studies and prayer gatherings, including her treasured Wednesday night ladies fellowship group. Her gifts of hospitality and organization were greatly appreciated.

Dena had a heartfelt connection to the Jewish and Native American people. She appreciated their customs, culture and view of life. Dena was deeply moved by the acceptance of the Native American community. In her closing days, she mentioned that this was considered one of the highest honors in her life.

A memorial celebration in honor of Dena will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 23, at New Life Christian Church in Polson. People are invited to bring salads or desserts for the reception following the celebration service.

Dena asked that donations be made to Equip21, for it was her desire to see people be equipped to fulfill God's call and purpose for their lives. You can make donations payable to Equip21, P.O. Box 777, Ronan, MT 59864, and designate for "Dena."

## Franklin C. Crain, 91

Franklin C. Crain, 91, passed away Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. He was born Dec. 7, 1916, in Camden, N.J., to Charles and Florence Crain.

On April 25, 1942, he married Mildred Wolvin in Burlington, N.J. They had four children.

He was preceded in death by his parents, siblings, and an infant daughter.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred, at the family home in Bigfork; and sons, Jeffery, and his daughters, Raina and Millie Rose, and son, Dalton, of Helena; Tim and his wife, Peggy, and

daughter, Stefanie, of Dallas; and Eric Buck and his wife, JoAnn, of Choteau.

His long military career began in the New Jersey National Guard. He was activated into the Army Air Corps (later becoming the U.S. Air Force) and became a fighter pilot. He loved flying and disliked being behind a desk and not in the air. He retired as a colonel from Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls. After his retirement, he and Mildred moved to Bigfork.

He spent many hours on the shores of Flathead Lake and Flathead River gathering driftwood

that he made into small decorative objects.

The family suggests that memorials be made to the Bigfork QRU; or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Honoring his request, there will be no services.

Arrangements are with Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

## Irene Joyce (Smith) Crohn, 87

Irene Joyce (Smith) Crohn, 87, of Bigfork, passed away on Oct. 20, 2008, at the Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork. She was born on Aug. 7, 1921, at Swan River, to James



"Duff" and Jessie (Rost) Smith. Irene was the granddaughter of Carl and Inger Rost, who were one of the earliest homesteading families in the Flathead Valley.

She attended Swan River Grade School and graduated from Bigfork High School. When school wasn't in session during the summer months, Irene worked at the Kelly and Evans and J.C. Ryan Swan Lake Estates. Following high school graduation, Irene attended Great Falls Business College.

She married Louis Crohn on Oct. 15, 1939, in Missoula.

Irene was a member of the Order of Eastern Star, Flathead Lake Chapter No. 128 for 54 years. She also was a county officer for County Home Extension. For over 40 years, she worked at the general election polls in Bigfork. While her two daughters were attending school, she was an active volunteer in the Bigfork public school system and a member of the local PTA chapter. Irene was a Girl Scout leader and a member of the Bigfork United Methodist Church, where she taught Sunday school.

Her many hobbies included a love of gardening, genealogy, sewing, arts and crafts projects, and playing bridge. Irene also had a true love of animals and was especially concerned for their welfare when animal abuse may have been involved.

Throughout Louis and Irene's married life, she enjoyed entertaining their friends with dinner parties, which she planned and prepared.

When Louis retired, they became "snow birds" and traveled to their home in Quartzsite, Ariz., to escape the winter months in Montana. They welcomed to their home friends and relatives who were traveling through the area and made many new friends as a result of their involvement in the Quartzsite community. The change in locale also brought about new hobbies, such as rock hunting and camping in the desert.

Irene was preceded in death 20 days ago by her husband of 68 years, Louis; her parents; her brothers, Lloyd, Leo, Leonard and Stanley "Doc"; and two great-grandsons.

She is survived by two daughters, Rita Ford and husband, Ken, of Gig Harbor, Wash., and Kathy McAllister and husband, Bruce, of Kalispell; two grandchildren, Jessica Takehara and Aaron Ford; three great-grandsons; one sister, Doris Stempin, of Columbia Falls; and several nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to thank the caring staff at Lakeview Care Center.

A memorial service for Irene's family and friends will be held at a future date.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, 3499 N. U.S. 93, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Mortuary is caring for Irene's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer a condolence and sign Irene's guest book.

## Louis Crohn, 92

Louis Crohn, 92, of Bigfork passed away Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. He was born Feb. 25, 1916, in Antelope, to William and Nellie (Brown) Crohn, the youngest of eight children.



After graduation from Antelope Public Schools, he attended the University of Minnesota on a football scholarship. After a stint in the U.S. Army, he attended the University of Montana.

Louis married Irene Smith in Missoula on Oct. 15, 1939. They were a few days shy of celebrating their 69th wedding anniversary this year.

Louis was a contractor and left a legacy of many well-built houses and cabins in the area. His heavy-construction experience began when he worked briefly as a young man on the construction of Fort Peck Dam. From that point on, he was involved with a number of dam and bridge projects in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. He had a very strong work ethic which was best described by his often repeated statement, "What you do in your spare time is how you get ahead."

He was a life member of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters (Kalispell) and a secretary of the organization for a number of years. Louis was also a lifetime member and past master of the Bigfork Masonic Lodge No.150 AF and AM. After joining the Masonic Order, he became a member of the local York Rite and the Shriners.

Louis' "hobbies" were always work-related; two prime examples were constructing any type of dwelling and pouring cement. But, one other hobby emerged later in his life. He began tinkering with cars that needed more than a spring tune-up and

fully renovated a '47 Dodge.

Louis and Irene joined an old-car club and drove the old Dodge on many jaunts in Montana with other club members.

In the mid-1970s, Louis and Irene began spending winters in a comfortable home he built for them in Quartsite, Ariz. They loved the flavor of the nearby desert and enjoyed many camping and rock hunting trips with friends. They also traveled to various historical sites in the state to satisfy Louis' love of history.

While they wintered in Arizona, Louis satisfied a lifelong love of music and began writing songs. Some of his songs were performed by musicians at informal concerts (Desert Music) in Quartsite.

Louis was preceded in death by his parents; seven brothers and sisters; and two great-grandsons.

He is survived by his wife, Irene Crohn, of Bigfork; and his two daughters, Rita Ford and husband, Ken, of Gig Harbor, Wash., and Kathy McAllister and husband, Bruce, of Kalispell; two grandchildren, Jessica Takehara and Aaron Ford; three great-grandsons; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services for Louis will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, at the Bigfork Masonic Lodge, with Pastor Ron Pierce officiating. Masonic committal services will be conducted by the Bigfork Masonic Lodge No.150 AF and AM. Urn burial will be at 3 p.m. at Lonepine Cemetery in Bigfork. There will be no visitation.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to Shodair Children's Hospital, P.O. Box 5539, Helena, MT 59604.

The family wishes to thank the caring staff at Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Louis' family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Louis' guest book.

## Marvle Elaine Croskrey, 93

John Croskrey.

Marvle loved God, her family and bingo. She was a member of First Baptist Church since her baptism at the age of 14 (79 years!). Her faith was a very important part of her life, and she had a true love for God, Jesus and the Bible.

Marvle and John were "snowbirds," spending many winters in Las Vegas. There she loved playing bingo at Sam's Town. Before she lost her eyesight, she enjoyed sewing, cross stitch, quilting and making afghans. Her afghans grace many homes, as she loved giving them as gifts.

Marvle was game for anything and had a marvelous sense of humor; she was quick-witted and most always got in the last word. She will be missed.

Marvle was preceded in death



Marvle Elaine Croskrey, 93,

passed away

Monday, March

31, 2008, at

the Immanuel

Lutheran Home

in Kalispell.

She was born

Aug. 20, 1914, in

Rutland, N.D.

to Walter and Gena Criswell. She

moved to the Flathead Valley at

the age of 8, and then to Kalispell

when she was 14 years old.

Marvle worked at Hooper's

Nursery for a few seasons and

then started working in retail.

She worked at Woolworths, the

Diana Shop and at the B&B

Store.

In 1938, Marvle married Jack

Passey, who preceded her in

death in 1971. In 1974, she married

by her husband, John, in 1997, and a daughter, Betty Day, in 1999.

She is survived by a sister, Lucille Kringlen, of Spokane; a daughter, Donna Alton, and husband, John (affectionately known as "JSL" — favorite son-in-law), of Kalispell; a son, Robert Passey, and his wife, Donna, of Arizona; and a son-in-law, Les Day, of

Hitelish. Marvle is also survived by grandchildren, Marlene Horsfall, Don Alton, Charla Rettinger, Darla Voigt, Rod Day, LeAnn Purbough, Robbie Passey and Judy Perry; great-granddaughter, Farah Perry; 17 other great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and two nephews and a niece.

Marvle was very grateful for the exceptional care she received by the nurses in "Center" at

Immanuel Lutheran Home, where she spent her last years.

Funeral services for Marvle will be held at 1:30 p.m. today, April 4, in the Johnson-Gloschat Chapel, with Pastor Jim Sandholt of Kalispell First Baptist Church officiating. Burial will be after-ward in the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

The family suggests that donations be made in her name to the recreation fund at Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline Ave., Kalispell, MT 59901, or to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, No. 100, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Marvle's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Marvle's guest book.

## Eugene C. Cross, 74

Eugene C. Cross, 74, of Eureka, died Saturday, April 26, 2008, at Mountain View Manor in Eureka from natural causes.

He had worked as a machinist for over 30 years.

Survivors include his children, Tad Cross of Eureka, Brad Cross of Simi Valley,

Calif., and Jody Cross of Kalispell.

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, May 2, at the Tobacco Valley Cemetery in Eureka.

Local arrangements are by Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

## Abbie M. Crowell, 89

Abbie M. Crowell, 89, passed away on Monday, April 7, 2008, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. She was born July 24, 1918, in Akeley, Minn., to Jay and Myrtle (Kimball) Carver. Abbie received her early education in Minnesota.



She married Allen Crowell on Dec. 11, 1937, in Ponsford, Minn., and they began their family. In 1941, they moved to Anacortes, Wash., and in 1947, they moved to Monroe, Wash. There she worked seasonally in the flower industry. In 1964, they moved to Kalispell, where she has lived until her passing.

She loved flowers and birds of all kinds and would feed the birds all winter. She was an animal lover, especially dogs and horses. She and Allen loved to travel throughout the U.S.

Abbie had many hours of

volunteer work with the Salvation Army and different nursing homes.

Abbie was preceded in death by her husband, Allen, after 57 years of marriage, in June of 1994; also, four brothers; two sisters; and her parents.

She is now survived by two daughters, Sharon Johnson of Kalispell, and LaVerne Joyce of Puyallup, Wash.; and a son, Max Crowell, of Molalla, Ore.; also, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Graveside services for Abbie Crowell will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, April 11, at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

The family suggests memorials be given to ALERT, 310 Sunnyview Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Abbie's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and sign Abbie's guest book.

## Jane K. Crowell, 90

Jane K. Crowell, 90, passed away Nov. 17, 2008, in Monroe, Wash., at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Donna and Rick Drivstuen.



Jane was born March 15, 1918, in Bemidji, Minn., to Hiram and Rose Harris. She was the second of 11 children.

Jane met and married Stan Crowell in 1935. Jane and Stan had four children. In 1947, they moved from Minnesota to Monroe, Wash., where they owned and operated Crowell Logging and Shake Mill.

After the death of Stan in 1980, Jane moved to their property on the Bitterroot Lake. Jane loved the peaceful beautiful lake and with the help of her sons, she continued to live there until she became ill. Jane recently moved back to Monroe to be cared for by her daughter and son-in-law.

Jane was preceded in death by her husband, Stan Crowell.

sons, Doug and Jerry Crowell; grandsons, Randy and Rick Crowell; great-grandchildren, Taylor Washington, Samantha Crowell and Troy Boggs; also her parents, Hiram and Rose; brothers, Rich, Bob, Don, Harold and Lorie Harris; and sisters, Lenore Rhodi and Bert Wright.

She is survived by her daughter, Donna, and Rick Drivstuen, of Monroe; son, Bruce, and Judy Crowell, and daughter-in-law, Barbara Crowell, all of Kalispell; brothers, Jack and Darrel Harris, and sister, Ruth Larkey, all of Minnesota. She leaves 18 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

Jane was a wonderful mother and grandmother, and we will miss her greatly.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Providence Hospice of Snohomish County, 2731 Wetmore Ave., No. 500, Everett, WA 98201.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at Riverside Vineyard Church, 859 W. Reserve Drive, in

## Jerald L. 'Jerry' Culbert, 75

Jerald L. "Jerry" Culbert, 75, of Missoula passed away Monday, Dec. 15, 2008, at St. Patrick Hospital. He was born Aug. 4, 1933, in Minnesota, the son of Bessie and Francis Culbert. At an early age, he moved with his family to the Wood's Bay area, where he was reared and educated.



He enjoyed reading and was an avid Grizzly fan, being a longtime supportive member of the Grizzly Den.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

His family includes his wife, Judy, of the family home, three children, Jeff Culbert of Missoula, Brian and wife, June Culbert, of Illinois, and Kim and husband, John Peterson, of Missoula; brother, Lee, and wife, Bonnie Culbert, of Wood's Bay; a sister, Mary Layne and husband, Ken Fitzgerald, of Lewistown, Idaho; five grandchildren, Gary, Jennifer, Christopher, Krysten and Jacob; and five great-grandchildren.

Cremation is under the care of Garden City Funeral Home of Missoula. At this time, no services are planned. A celebration of Jerry's life will be held at Red's Bar and Curley's Broiler at a date to be announced later.

He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War and was honorably discharged.

He later married Judy Halbom on June 30, 1956.

Jerry worked as a design engineer throughout the Northwest, including Western Montana, where he worked on the construction of the mill in Frenchtown and several other large construction projects.

## Marian L. Cullen, 87

Former teacher and homemaker, Marian L. Cullen, 87, of Great Falls died of natural causes Saturday, Nov. 29, 2008, at a long-term care facility.



No services are planned at her request. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Thomas and Laurie Cullen, of Whitefish; two granddaughters, Holly and McCara Cullen; a brother, Ed, and his wife, Norma Lamberg, of San Diego; a sister, Jean, and her husband, John Hughes of LaJolla, Calif.

Marian was born March 29, 1921, in Elk Park, the daughter

of Swan and Ruth (Swan) Lamberg.

After graduating from Butte High School in 1939, Marian attended Montana State College and graduated with a degree in home economics. Marian taught at Whitehall before marrying William T. Cullen, Jr. on June 16, 1946, in Butte. In the early 1950s, they moved to Scobey, where they taught school, and later moved to Great Falls.

She was a member of Pi Beta Phi while attending Montana State College, as well as a life member of the Montana State Alumni Association. Marian volunteered many hours with RSVP, and the Visitors Information Center.

She was preceded in death by her husband on July 13, 1990; and her parents.

Condolences may be left at [www.schniderfuneralhome.com](http://www.schniderfuneralhome.com)

## Florence Frances Cummings, 90

Florence Frances Cummings, 90, a longtime resident of Whitefish, passed away Wednesday evening, March 19, 2008.



Frances was born and raised in Walkerville. She married Robert James on Aug. 8, 1953, and they moved to Whitefish in 1955, where they raised their children: son, James, and daughter, Joani.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Cummings.

Florence is survived by her children, Jim Cummings of Boise, Idaho, and Joani Cummings of Stevensville; a nephew, John Osborne, of Twin Bridges; four grandchildren, John M. Timmons, Casy R. and spouse, Allison Timmons, Jim Cummings and Michael Cummings; four great-grandchildren, Kestin Tyra, Casy and Cain Timmons; as well as extended family in Slovenia.

A private family celebration will be held at a later date.

Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish is in charge of the arrangements.



## James Donald Cummings Sr., 59

James Donald Cummings, Sr., 59, of Troy died Jan. 1, 2009, after a hard battle against kidney/bone cancer.

He is survived by his wife, Jeanette Cummings, of Troy; and children, Nikki Ramirez of Troy, Tammi Francis of Winnemucca, Nev., Jamie Bernhart of Rathdrum, Idaho, James Cummings Jr.

of Great Falls, and Jessica Munts of Troy.

Viewing will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, and from 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Jan. 8, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Church of God in Troy, with a potluck afterward.

## Ella F. Cunningham, 91

Ella F. Cunningham, 91, passed on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008 at Brendan House in Kalispell.

Ella was born Aug. 14, 1916, in Ekalaka to Ed and Nellie (Ripley) Robinson. She was raised in Ekalaka, where she attended school, graduating from Ekalaka High School.

Ella married Charles P. Cunningham on Oct. 28, 1946, in Great Falls. Charles passed away Dec. 14, 1977.

Ella was in the restaurant business for her entire adult life. She owned and operated the Bears Cafe and the Temple Dining Room, which was in the old Elks building. After retiring, she did home health care for the elderly, and sometimes took care of people much younger than herself.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband,



Charles; daughter, Virginia Stammel; stepdaughters, Eula Lovic of Mill Iron, Charlotte Pelham of Tampa, Fla., Gladys Miller of Great Falls, and Bonnie Wolverton.

She is survived by her children, Beverly Cuvillier of Trout Creek; Charles Cunningham Jr., Art Cunningham and Ron Cunningham, all of Kalispell; stepdaughters, Bertha Davidson of Great Falls, Mary Cunningham of Navarre, Ohio, and Caroline Bevans of St. Regis; siblings, Clare Watson of Twin Falls, Idaho, Eva Vantella of Spokane, Chester "Bud" Robinson of Ione, Wash., and Mary Bourn of Oroville, Wash.; numerous grandchildren; great-grandchildren; great-great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Ella's life will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2008, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Interment will be after the service at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Michael Lee Currie, 27

Michael Lee Currie, 27, of Helena, passed away Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008, at his home. He was born Dec. 5, 1980, in St. Ignatius, to Ronald Lee Currie and Kathleen Kay Weingart.

Mike was so full of life and love. He loved the outdoors. He was a mountain man at heart and a Jack-of-all-trades.

He loved his daughter Alexi and thought the world of her.

Mike was a great person. He was very generous and a free spirit who lived life spontaneously and believed you should love everyone for whom they are.

When things got hard he would always say, "Just another bump in the road." He would give you the last dollar in his pocket and the shirt off his back.

He was one heck of a good cook and the life of the party with his animated stories and silly voices. Those who knew him say he had the heart and strength of a grizzly.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Roy Lee Currie; and uncle, Dale James Lloyd.

Mike is survived by his daughter, Alexi Currie, of Ogden, Utah; and significant other, Anita Myhre, and her three children, Rosemary,



Mercedes and Aston, of Helena; his mother, Kathy Weingart, and Terry, of Helena; father, Ron Currie, and Lisa, of Trout Creek; his sister,

Jennifer Fritz, and Blayne, of Helena, and their children, Kayla, Gavin, Eric, William and Stephen; sister, Jessica Baker, and Jeff, of Kalispell, and their children, Colt, Desiree and Alyssa; his brother, Joseph Currie, and Kaylene, and son, Skyler, of Salt Lake City; his brothers, Alex and Aiden Currie, of Trout Creek; grandparents, Zon and Martha Lloyd of Ronan, and Julia Landry of Polson; and numerous uncles, aunts, cousins and friends.

Viewing will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 7, and a funeral service will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 8, at the Helena Funeral Chapel, at 314 N. Rodney in Helena. Burial will take place in Polson at the Lake View Cemetery at 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 9.

Helena Funeral Chapel is assisting the family.

## Marvin George Currier, 89

Marvin George Currier, 89, died on Sunday, Nov. 16, 2008, at his home in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, Genevieve; and four sons, Patrick, Jim and Tom, all

of Kalispell, and Bill of Arizona.

There are no services planned.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Lavina Robb Curtiss, 96

Lavina Robb Curtiss, 96, died Friday, Feb. 22, 2008, at the Brendan House in Kalispell. She is survived by three sons, Richard of Boytan Beach, Fla.; Thomas of Erie, Pa.; and Halden of Bigfork.

Funeral services for Lavina are pending with Burton's Mortuary in Erie. Burial will be in the Laurell Hill Cemetery in Erie.

Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is caring for the family locally.