

Shirley Anne Earnest, 72

Shirley Anne Earnest, 72, of Kalispell passed away Wednesday, May 15, 2013, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She was born in Malta to James and Carolyn Misener on June 30, 1940.

She is survived by one son, Randy Wygant, of Albany, Ore.; two daughters, Vicki Sandoval and husband Dan of Concord, Calif., and Della Curda and husband Tak of Kalispell; as well as seven grandchildren, Nichole, David, Cassandra, Aaron, Laura, Charise and Amanda. She also had six great-grandchildren.

She is also survived by her mother, Carolyn Misener-Roselli; brother, Jimmy Misener, and wife, Diane, of Kalispell; and sister, Linda Boyd, of Medford, Ore.

Shirley was born and



raised in Montana, and although her family moved to California when she was 9, her

heart always belonged to the Treasure State. She moved to back to Montana in 1993 where her roots were.

She retired from National Flood Services in 2005. She loved family, friends, life and her beloved pets.

Memorial services will be conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 18, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

To send condolences to the family, please go to www.buffalohillfh.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Lowell 'Eck' Carter Eckelberry, 67

Lowell "Eck" Carter Eckelberry, 67, of Columbia Falls passed peacefully at the Montana Veterans Home on July 16, 2013, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Lowell was born April 15, 1946, in Kalispell to Henry and Cora (Downs) Eckelberry.

He attended school in Columbia Falls until he joined the U.S. Navy at the age of 17, in 1963. He served our country proudly and ended his service in 1967, after a tour in Vietnam.

In 1968, he married Karen Mattheisen and in 1969, they had a son, "Skeeter."

Lowell worked for a short time at Plum Creek until he gained employment with Anaconda Aluminum (CFAC) in Columbia Falls 1968. He was very active in the Union and held various offices with the Aluminum Trades Council. He eventually became president of Local 320 Aluminum Workers of America. He retired in 2008.

Lowell loved the outdoors. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He particularly enjoyed spending time in Wynonna Ridge in the North Fork and camping and fishing at Hungry Horse Reservoir. He loved to pick and eat huckleberries.

"Eck" was also a long-



time member of the North Valley Eagles Club. He was a very

fun-loving man and had an infectious laugh. He loved life, family, friends and animals.

Lowell was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

He is survived by his son, Henry "Skeeter" and Jenny, and grandchildren, Brady, Mackenzie, Haley and Jaylee of Green River, Wyo.; grandson, Taylor of Missoula; sister, Winona Burns, and niece, Linda Van Dyne, of Reno, Nev.; great-niece, Nona Smith of Fallon, Nev.; great-nephew, Sean Erb of Elko, Nev.; dear friends, Dennis Corbett and Chuck Pond of Columbia Falls; as well as numerous cousins and extended family.

He will be dearly missed by all who loved him. His friends and family would like to greatly thank the Montana Veterans Home for the exceptional care and compassion he received while in their facility.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the United Veterans of Flathead Valley, P.O. Box 3061 Kalispell, MT 59901.

There will be a graveside service at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 10 at Fairview Cemetery.

Matthew James Edwards, 19

Matthew James Edwards of Bigfork, known to most as "Matty," died on Oct. 28, 2013 in Swan Lake, from injuries after being ejected from his vehicle, at the young age of 19.

Matt was born on May 9, 1994 in Springfield, Mo. to Ira Edwards and Katie Edwards. Matt had two adoring sisters, CharLee and Hannah, who he loved to pick on and tease but most of all protect and support.

The family moved to Montana after his little sister, Hannah, was born. Here, in Bigfork, a love began that would shape him into the adrenaline junky we all knew him to be. As a boy, he taught his sisters how to play rough and have a love for the dirt. From the beginning, he could always be found beside anything that had wheels or a motor.

Matt attended Swan River Elementary and Middle School. After graduating from there as a "true-Swany," he went to Bigfork High School. Matt was not the type of person to love school or homework, but he loved learning. He loved sports, playing basketball, football, golf and track and field for the school. On the Bigfork football team, Matt was always the guy who knocked you off your feet but then, would stand there and pull you back up.

Mechanics and motors were something that always interested him. He was always working alongside his dad, sharing a love that bonded them forever. Matt began racing endurance races on his dirt bike and ended up seventh in the nation in his class at the end of his senior year. He loved snowmobiling and being up in the mountains. Matt also had a love for hunting and fishing. He would always say that he never wanted to leave this val-



ley. After graduation, Matt started a course at the community college to get his CNC certificate.

He once told his younger sister that he wanted to build the parts for jumbo jets. Matt was all about family and friends. He had such a huge heart; anyone who met him instantly liked him. He was always there when you needed something and would drop anything to help you out. Matt loved his family and was always a part of every one's lives. He had many friends that became like brothers and sisters to him.

Matt was always "wide open," black smoke clouding up behind him. He had a spirit of life like no other person. He could make anyone smile and laugh and always kept things lively. He took care of all he loved and could be counted on for anything. He never did anything unless he could give it 100 percent. He was good at everything he did and worked hard to do better in areas that were lacking. Matt touched so many lives and hearts. He will always be remembered for his constant smile, his quick jokes and his measure of respect that so many people looked up to. He was an amazing friend, brother, and son.

Matt is survived by his friends and by all his family in the states of Montana, Missouri, Arkansas, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming and North Carolina.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Matthew's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Matthew's guest book, offer condolences and share memories.



MATT EDWARDS, who was Bigfork High School homecoming king last year, died Monday in a pickup-truck crash on Montana 83.

Bigfork teen dies in crash

The Daily Inter Lake and The Bigfork Eagle

A young Bigfork man returning from a successful elk-hunting trip died in a traffic accident Monday morning on the Swan Highway.

Matthew James Edwards, 19, died after his pickup truck rolled on Montana 83 about 10 miles north of Condon. Edwards, a 2012 Bigfork High School graduate, had been hunting in the Dillon area, according to Bigfork football coach Todd Emslie.

Edwards had an elk in the back of his Ford F-150 pickup, according to Montana Highway Patrol Trooper Jim Hawkins.

Hawkins said Edwards was driving north when he drifted off the right shoulder of the highway, overcorrected and rolled his pickup. Edwards, who was not wearing a seat belt, was ejected from the vehicle and was pronounced dead at the scene of the crash that occurred around 8:30 a.m.

Aiconoi was not a factor, but speed was, a Montana Highway Patrol dispatcher said.

"He was a great kid," Emslie said. "He was a super kid with a giant heart."

Emslie coached Edwards in football and taught him at Swan River Elementary School. Edwards was Bigfork High School's homecoming king last year.

Bigfork Principal Matt Porrovecchio said Edwards was a friend to everyone he met. "Matt will be sorely missed," he said.

Edwards was a volunteer with Swan Search and Rescue, Lake County Undersheriff Dan Yonkin said. He turned 19 in September.

He is survived by his father, Ira Edwards, his mother, Katie Edwards, and two sisters, CharLee and Hannah.

Irene (Grigas) Edwards, 57

Irene (Grigas) Edwards, 57, passed away on Monday, Feb. 4, 2013, at the Health Center Northwest in Kalispell.

She was born in Augsburg, Germany, on Oct. 13, 1955, to Charlie and Hilda Grigas.

Irene was the older of two children. The family moved to Fort Hood, Texas, when she was 6 years old, and to Marina, Calif., when she was 16. She graduated in 1973 from Seaside High School.

The family then moved to Salinas, where Irene met and married Pete Edwards in 1975. Their son, Bryan, was born May 14, 1992. In 1993, the Edwards moved to the Flathead. Pete and Irene divorced in 2003.

Bryan was the love of her life, and being a West Valley Parent Teacher Organization officer and a soccer mom helped her feel fulfilled. Irene loved to camp and hike, and to go on road trips. Stopping at a national park always seemed to be on the itinerary. Irene took Bryan to Zion, Grand Canyon, Estes, Mount Rushmore, Teton, Craters of the Moon, Crater Lake Oregon, Yellowstone Park and more. Living in the Flathead was a natural place for her love of beauty in nature to be complete.

Irene was very committed to her work at Smith Valley School, where she was the business manager for the last 11 years. Her colleagues became a large group of extended family who held her and Bryan very near and dear to their hearts.

Irene loved animals,



children, the Dallas Cowboys and purple. She enjoyed anything crafty, including

scrapbooking and making jewelry. She loved to read, to watch birds and animals, to garden and to decorate. Every holiday was another decorating opportunity.

Irene heroically battled Von Hippel-Lindau (VHL) cancer for more than 25 years. She overcame an aneurysm, two brain tumors and survived five kidney surgeries as a result of this cancer. Irene was a model of courage for everyone who knew her. Her spirit to forever fight and win the battle was always her goal. Her goal was reached. She passed away on Feb. 4 — cancer free. She succumbed to complications from the results of dialysis.

Irene is survived by her son, Bryan Edwards; and the extended family she created from West Valley, soccer, Faucets & Fixtures, JCPenney and Smith Valley.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and her brother, Richard.

Memorial services for Irene will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16, in the Smith Valley School gym.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Irene's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and view Irene's tribute wall.

Mathilda 'Tillie' Ingaborg Egnash, 92

Mathilda "Tillie" Ingaborg Egnash passed away surrounded by her children on June 14, 2013, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center due to complications she suffered after a fall.

Tillie was 92 years old and was lovingly cared for by the staff at Immanuel Lutheran Home for nearly four years before her passing. Though her hearing had diminished, she was always full of grace and kindness.

Tillie was born on Sept. 11, 1920, on the family farm west of Reserve, Mont., to Engebret and Johanna (Froistad) Kampen. Her mother died in 1922 and, at just 20 months old, Tillie went to live with her aunt and uncle, Ragnhild and Ole Halverson. When she started Rock Springs Grade School she could not speak English as her family only spoke Norwegian in the home. Tillie attended Medicine Lake High School and graduated in 1940. She had graduated behind her original class as she left school for some time to care for her dying aunt.

After graduating high school, Tillie worked for Boeing Aircraft in Seattle. She joined the Women's Army Corps (WAC) in 1943 and was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri where she drove staff vehicles for officers in the motor pool. Tillie was proud to serve her country and enjoyed her experience in the WAC and met many friends during those years. She received an honorable discharge in 1946 and returned home to Plentywood.



Jones of Missoula. She will be fondly remembered by her 10 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren, Sonny and Kari Jones of Columbia Falls, Jason Jones of Maui, Hawaii, Sereana and Nelson Melchor of Las Vegas, Shamane and José Vargas of Las Vegas, Rachell and Doug Wilde of Lethbridge, Alberta, Danielle and Brian Penny of Missoula, Molly, Elly, Hadley and Ethan Jones of Missoula, Nicole and Michael Carpenter of Valier, Daryl Janetski of Billings, and Taylor Jones of Columbia Falls, Hayden, Michael and Scott Wilde of Lethbridge, Elijah and Bridger Penny of Missoula, and Brayden and Monica Carpenter, and Broghan Janetski of Billings.

uncle that raised her, her husbands, and numerous other relatives.

She is survived by her three children, Collin and Warna Jones of Spokane, David and Colleen Hoerner of Columbia Falls, and Hugh and Michelle

She married Ellsworth "Bud" Jones in 1946. They had three children, Collin, Colleen and Hugh. In 1952, Tillie and Bud moved to Kalispell and then to Columbia Falls. Bud passed away in 1972. Tillie and Bernard Egnash were married in 1974, and he passed away in 1981.

The last 32 years were truly the happiest in her life. After providing residential and commercial cleaning services for most of her life, Tillie retired at 80 years of age. Tillie was a proud Norwegian and loved all things associated with her heritage, especially lutefisk. She was a master lefse maker and taught many people how to make it.

She served her family faithfully, left many friends and no enemies. Her life was an amazing journey. We will miss her deeply and forever.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brothers, her aunt and

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 22, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls with Pastor Pete Erickson officiating. Prior to the service, a viewing will be held at the church from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by the interment at 1 p.m. at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Tillie's family. You are invited to www.columbiamortuary.com to view Tillie's tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories.

Connie (Compson) Einarson, 62



daughter-in-law, Jesse and Naomi Einarson of Columbia Falls; son-in-law, daughter and granddaughter, Shawn, Deana and Danica Thomas of Helena; sister and brother-in-law, Linda and Bill Zuspan of Mason; brother and sister-in-law, Wilbur and Pat Compson of Great Falls; and mother, Mildred Compson, of Mason; as well as many much-loved nieces and nephews.

Connie was preceded in death by her father, Robert Compson.

Graveside memorial services will be held for Connie at 10 a.m. Wednesday, July 24, at Glacier Memorial Gardens, with Pastor Pete Erikson officiating.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Connie's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Connie's tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories.

She is survived by her high school sweetheart and husband of 43 years, Compson, W.Va. During her childhood she lived in many different parts in the United States, and for a time, in India.

She moved to Columbia Falls her sophomore year of high school, where she met her husband. They were married on Nov. 3, 1969, and two children, Deana (Einarson) Thomas and Jesse Einarson, soon followed.

Connie was fiercely devoted to her family, and spending time with the people she loved was her one true joy in life. She enjoyed Saturdays (or any other day) on the pontoon boat, camping in the motor home, golfing and rides in "the little black car," particularly if those rides took her down the Oregon coast.

She is survived by her husband, Terry; son and

Lorn Ervin Eid, 90, passed away on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2013, at her Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

Lorn was born on March 31, 1922, the son of Carl and Pauline (Moen) Eid, who resided in the Helena Flats area for many years. He went to school at Helena Flats School. He farmed in the Helena Flats area all his life.

In addition to farming, he also worked for Stoltz Lumber Company, Edmonton Ranch, Modern Machinery and Harold Tudtvedt. He retired to reside at Buffalo Hill Terrace in 2008.

Lorn had many interests which included his family, fishing, hunting and a good cribbage or pinochle game. His employers respected his mechanical ability. He always had a way with animals, particularly cattle. He farmed



Lorn Ervin Eid, 90

alfalfa, wheat and barley. He loved having the grandkids to the farm and had the

patience of Job. Many wonderful memories were made at the cabin on Ashley Lake.

He built a wonderful wooden boat with his brother Cyrel, pulled many skiers, cut wood and fished many hours. He always made time to listen and loved visitors. He was a charter member of Calvary Lutheran Church and sang in the choir for many years. He enjoyed his last few years at Buffalo Hill Terrace. Many thanks to the kind friends and the wonderful staff. Lorn loved the Lord and he will be called "a good and faithful servant."

Lorn was a bachelor until the age of 39 when he married Leone Squires Robinson on June 17, 1961. That day he became the husband of Leone, father of Denise, Patrick, Gary, Douglas Robinson and Melvina Robinson Hall, and grandfather of Monte Hall.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Leone, who died on August 8, 2000 after 39 years of marriage; his parents; his brothers, Cyrel and Vernon Eid; his sisters, Irene Wyman and Ruth Greene; and his stepson, Gary Robinson.

He is survived by his daughter, Denise Gullickson (David), of Kalispell; grandsons, Eric and Nate Gullickson, of Seattle; stepchildren, Melvina Wagner, of Portland, and Clarence Douglas and Kay Robinson, of Billings; daughter-in-law,

Paula Robinson Little, of Kalispell; stepson, Patrick Robinson, of Clatskanie, Ore.; sister, Helen Halvorstadt, of Missoula; and 11 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, six great-great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Lorn will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 5, at 11 a.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church with Pastor Kurt Rau officiating. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be on Monday in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Lorn's family.

You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Lorn's tribute wall, offer condolences and share memories.

1/30/2013
Interlake

GARY ELLIOTT: 'END OF AN ERA IN WHITEFISH'

Tireless promoter dies at age 72

By LYNNETTE HINTZE
The Daily Inter Lake

Gary Elliott, a prominent Whitefish businessman for decades who operated some of the resort town's most memorable eateries, died Sunday of cancer. He was 72.

Elliott helped shape the Whitefish community in a variety of ways, from

chairing the committee that drafted the city's first comprehensive zoning laws to serving as president of the Whitefish Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club.

He was a tireless promoter of Whitefish with an entrepreneurial spirit in his many business endeavors.

"Gary was a remarkable man," said Turner

Askew, a former business partner with Elliott in the 1990s. "Most people don't have a clue all the things he was involved with in Whitefish. He didn't brag about the things he'd done."

Elliott came to the Flathead Valley from California in 1964 when Liberty Loan Corp. transferred him to Kalispell to offer interest-free loans

to flood victims. During that year he met and married Bev, his wife of 48 years, and they headed back to California, returning to the Flathead for good in 1967 with their young son, David.

Elliott's business interests gravitated toward the food business.

He worked for a food



Gary Elliott

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Gary Elliott, cont

warehouse not long after moving here. In 1971 he and Bev started The Place for Steak in Whitefish. That evolved into The Place, a casual restaurant on Wisconsin Avenue the Elliots built on a shoestring, trading materials or services for meal tabs and using beams from the old Great Northern ice house in the new restaurant.

While the couple was running The Place, Elliott also leased the Bierstube on Big Mountain and operated that popular eatery for 24 years.

During a 2001 interview with the Daily Inter Lake, Elliott paused to marvel at his multifaceted life.

"I have no idea how we ever did all this at the same time," he said, adding that "Bev has been with me on these ventures all the time."

Bev Elliott, reflecting on her husband's life, said their busy lives worked so well because Gary was the promoter on the front line while she was the one "behind the scenes," doing the bookkeeping and keeping things flowing along.

Later, while they were still running the Bierstube, the Elliots on a whim bought an old school bus for \$800, dubbed it the Fool Bus and ran it between The Place and the ski resort.

They sold The Place in 1977, then bought it back in 1986 to salvage their finances after a restaurant venture at Mountain Mall called Elliott's Diner fizzled.

Elliott kept at it, opening the first two Pizza Hut franchises in the Flathead Valley in Whitefish and Kalispell. He was a business partner with Harry Brown in two endeavors, Montana Pie Co. in Missoula and the Palace Bar in Whitefish.

"He had a creative mind," Brown said. "His ideas were always welcome."

Elliott and Brown also were involved in the development of the Suncrest residential subdivision in Whitefish. Elliott was a real estate broker for several years

and brought the Coldwell Banker franchise to the North Valley.

In the 1990s he partnered with Askew on the proposed Great Northern business park, a project that wound up in a years-long battle with the city of Whitefish over extending water and sewer to the site near the Montana 40 and U.S. 93 intersection. When Elliott's funds dwindled, he sold his interest in the project to Askew.

Elliott was known for standing his ground with the City Council through the years if he felt the project would better the town.

"He could be boisterous and gregarious," Askew reflected.

One of Elliott's biggest joys was serving as prime minister of the Whitefish Winter Carnival in 1984 for the event's 25th anniversary.

"It's a group that represents the best and brightest minds in our community," he recalled in 2001 about the carnival supporters.

"They all have dedication and a feeling of community."

When Elliott was too ill to attend carnival activities this year, he was there in spirit.

"We got his picture put on a stick and we've been taking him around," said Brown, the reigning carnival King Ullr. "He wanted to be involved, so we scanned pictures and sent them to him and Bev."

The carnival royalty also knighted Elliott's two grandsons at Muldown Elementary School last week and sent a video to the Elliots.

Always the ambassador for Whitefish, Elliott raised money for July 4 fireworks for years, spearheaded the development of the soccer fields across from Grouse Mountain Lodge and co-founded the Whitefish Summer Games that ran for many years.

Longtime Whitefish businessman Bob DePratu, who was Elliott's best friend, said his good friend "was the type of person who was always looking for ways to better Whitefish and promote it."

"He was the ultimate salesman,

selling the attributes of the area," DePratu said. "This is a real loss to the community. He was really a giving person and wanted to see others succeed."

DePratu shared stories of how Elliott would seek out opportunities to help people better themselves as they and their wives traveled around the country. On a trip to Sedona, Ariz., just two and a half months ago Elliott pulled a young waitress aside and gently explained how she could increase her tips. A couple of days later the same waitress thanked Elliott, saying his advice had worked wonders.

On a trip to Hawaii a couple of years ago, Elliott persuaded DePratu to help a young salesman who had given a lackluster presentation about the condominiums he was selling.

"So we sat down with him and gave the young guy a sales lesson," DePratu recalled. "Gary never did it in a way to make people feel bad."

Later the young man came racing up to them, exclaiming the one-on-one session had worked — he had sold a condo.

The Whitefish Chamber took note of Elliott's lifetime achievements, naming him Whitefish Citizen of the Year in 2011.

In 1997 the Elliots and their son started Rocky Mountain Images in Whitefish, and Elliott had been an active part of the business until the end, his son said.

"I've heard from so many people," David Elliott said. "The recurring message is this is the end of an era in Whitefish."

In fact, those words — "end of an era" — were the last uttered by Elliott as he drifted in and out before he died, his wife said.

"I suppose he was thinking about his life," she said.

A full obituary is printed in today's Inter Lake on Page A9.

Features editor Lynnette Hintze may be reached at 758-4421 or by email at lhintze@dailyinterlake.com.

Henry William Eley, 96

Henry William Eley, 96, died Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2013.

Graveside services are

pending.
Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

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Norma 'Joy' Elgaen, 69

Norma "Joy" Elgaen, 69, died at home Nov. 14, 2013, in Evergreen from a long, hard battle with COPD. She was surrounded by her family and loved ones when she passed.

She was born June 6, 1944, in Devils Lake, N.D., to Joseph and Norma Elgaen.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph Elgaen and Norma Volk; twin brother, Joseph Elgaen; daughter, Wanda Hougen; and brother, Salmar Elgaen.

Joy is survived by her children, Kelly Knutson and wife Stacy, and their kids, Kyle and Kaden; Brenda Plata and her kids, Julian, Dustin and Alex; Cindy Strange and husband Rick Strange,



and their kids, Zachary, Dustie and Josh; and Charlye Jo Daley and husband Lee Daley,

and their kids, Julia Salo, Victoria Puryer, and Julia Lynn, Robbie and J.D. She is also survived by her soul mate and beloved friend, Jo Cartwright; and brothers and sisters, John Elgaen, Deloris Johanson, Donald Elgaen, Tom Elgaen, Alice Biewer, Evon Williams and Dale Elgaen.

A celebration of life for Joy will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23, at Family Life Christian Church, 1075 Foy's Lake Road.

Margaret Louise Engberg, 89

Margaret Louise Engberg, 89, died June 1, 2013, of natural causes at Brendan House.

She was born Aug. 27, 1923, in Kalispell to Clifford and Lena Haines.

She graduated from Flathead County High School and attended the University of Montana in Missoula.

Margaret moved to Seattle to work in 1944. She married Ernie Engberg. They owned and operated steak houses in Idaho and East Glacier.

Margaret loved the outdoors, hunting, fishing,



prospecting and gardening.

She was preceded in death by her father, Clifford Haines;

mother, Lena Haines; daughter, Heather Dunlap; and brother, William Haines.

Margaret is survived by her brother, John Haines.

A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 8, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

Eva E. Ellis, 93

Eva E. Ellis, 93, of Harlem, passed away from natural causes on Thursday, July 4, 2013, at Northern Montana Care Center.

Eva was born on January 25, 1920, in Havre to Luther and Victoria (Jackson) Maze. She was raised in Havre, attending the country schools through her eighth-grade year. Following her school years, Eva worked for the Sterling family, helping out with the children and the chores around the house. She married Raymond Ellis in Havre in 1937, and the couple's union was blessed with five children. They made their home in and around Havre for the next 30 years, raising their children there.

Eva worked for the railroad as a maintenance worker for many years. They couple moved to Columbia Falls in 1980, where they stayed until Raymond's death in 1992. Afterward, Eva remained in Columbia Falls, caring for her home and her yard, until she returned to Harlem in 2011.

She enjoyed camping, fishing, crocheting, yard work, her cats and dogs, gardening and canning. She was a fabulous baker, always baking her own bread. But the real joy of her life was her family and spending time with them. They were her world.

Eva was preceded in death by her husband Raymond Ellis; son Earl G. Ellis; her son-in-law Leon Cochran; her parents Luther and Victoria Maze; sisters Minnie Simpson, Louise Nelson,



and Tamson Maze; and brothers Archie Maze, Harold Maze, Gordon Maze and Merrel

Maze.

She is survived by her son Ron (Cathy) Ellis of Sheridan, Wyo.; her daughters Rayella (Lawrence) Boucher of Havre, Doris (Ron) Becker of Columbia Falls, and Dorothy Cochran of Harlem; her 24 grandchildren; her 60 great-grandchildren; her 37 great-great-grandchildren; her sisters Lorraine Fraley of Alaska and Audrey Halcomb of Utah; her brothers Norman Maze of Havre, James "Scotty" Maze of Joplin, and Harvey Maze of Great Falls; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; and many more she loved as her own.

Wake services will begin at 7 p.m. Monday, July 8, at the First Church of the Nazarene in Havre and will continue until the visitation, which will be from noon to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, July 9. Funeral services will follow the visitation at 2 p.m., and the burial will follow in Highland Cemetery. The family has requested that memorials be made in Eva's name to Bear Paw Hospice, the First Church of the Nazarene in Havre, or to the charity of the donor's choice. Holland & Bonine Funeral Home has been entrusted with services and arrangements, and you can leave your memories/condolences for the family at www.hollandbonine.com.

Fred B. Erickson Jr., 80

Fred B. Erickson Jr., 80, of Polson, passed away Tuesday, July 30, 2013, at St. Luke's Hospital in Ronan after a courageous battle with cancer.

He was born on Sept. 10, 1932, in Kalispell, to Fred B. Sr. and Hessie Erickson. He grew up in various places and resided in Polson since 1955. While in school he met the love of his life, Betty Hart.

Fred Jr. and Betty married May 21, 1949, and remained married for 64 years. He worked at various mills and a long time for the Western Bee. He retired from Lake County.

Fred's family was his first priority. He loved hunting, reloading ammo, refinishing gun stocks, and doing woodwork.

A beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, and friend, Fred Jr. will be



greatly missed by all.

Fred Jr. is preceded in death by his parents Fred B. Erickson

Sr. and Hessie Erickson.

Survivors include his wife, Betty, Polson; children, Charlotte (Perry) Fall, Laura (Jim) Coreoran, Patrick (Judy) Erickson, Debra Gafford, Kathi (Mitch) Sanders; brother, Fordyce Erickson; sister, Sharon Erickson; 10 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandson, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services were held at Grogan Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. John Payne, Saturday, Aug. 3. Inurnment followed the service at Lakeview Cemetery.

Lindy Eslick, 65

Lindy Eslick, 65, died Oct. 16, 2013, at St. Luke Extended Care in Ronan. No services are planned

at this time.

Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory is handling the services for the family.

Paul G. Evans, 95

Paul G. Evans, 95, died March 28, 2013, at the home of his daughter in Libby.

He is survived by his daughter, Adrian Evans; and son, Thurman Elliott

Evans of Utah.

Burial with military honors will take place at 1 p.m. June 8 at the Libby Cemetery. A celebration of life will be from 2 to 4 p.m. at 107 Post St., Libby.

Sean Lee Evans, 24

Sean "left us for a better place" on March 30, 2013.

Sean was born March 3, 1989, in Spokane. He graduated from Shepherd High School in Montana in 2007. Montana was the place he always wanted to live.

Sean excelled at everything he put his mind to, including school, sports, FAA, weightlifting and hunting. His greatest passion was racing four-wheelers. Sean was a young man who touched so many people. His heart was of gold, so genuine, pure, free, loving and caring.

Sean is survived by his



parents, Steve and Denise Evans; brother, Joshua Herzog; grand-parents;

aunts; uncles; nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind "Lucky," his dog.

"We all have lost an incredible person. The heavens have gained another angel. Rest in peace. You will be missed but not forgotten. Thank you for the memories."

A celebration of life will be held at noon on April 14 at the Elks Lodge, 1820 U.S. 93 in Kalispell.

Christian Earl Evenson, 21

Christian Earl Evenson, 21, passed away on March 28, 2013, in Columbia Falls, minutes after midnight.

He was born Feb. 16, 1992, in Missoula at the Community Medical Center. He is the son of Errol and Shelli Evenson.

Christian was the oldest son of Errol and Shelli. He grew up in Seeley Lake, with his parents and his younger brother Colby Evenson. Christian attended Seeley-Swan High School from 2007 to 2010.

Christian was making trips to Kalispell every weekend during the summer to work at Montana Raceway Park, and soon moved to Kalispell, where he lived with his uncles Ron Evenson and Cody Evenson, when he was 19. Christian never left Seeley Lake for very long; he made frequent trips back to visit his parents, brother, sister and friends.

His passion was working on vehicles. Christian wasn't a mechanic, but if anyone had a question about their vehicle, he was right there to answer and fix the problem. If it had a motor in it, he would tear it up, fix it, and then see if his skills had worked.

Christian was the guy to go to for anything. If anyone needed help, he would be right there. With no complaint, he would help anyone out.

Christian always had a way to make people laugh. He was the biggest clown. No matter what kind of day someone was having,



he would cheer them right up. Christian was a very outgoing guy. There was never a day that

went by that he didn't want to go take a drive up in the woods to just pass the time.

Christian had a beautiful smile; it was very rare that you would see a frown upon his face. When challenges came his way, he took them head on, always saying his famous line: "I got this!"

The wonderful memories of Christian will never be forgotten.

Christian was preceded in death by his grandpa, Gene Evenson, and granddad, Billie Shoupe.

He is survived by his mother, Shelli Evenson; father, Errol Evenson; brother, Colby Evenson; sister, Lily Evenson; uncles, Cody and Ron Evenson; aunt, Belinda Lester; cousins, Kolten, Hayden and Madison Evenson and Melissa Lester; and his girlfriend, Brittney Herman.

Whitefish Federal Credit Union is accepting donations under The Big Chris Fund, c/o Ron Evenson, to help the family with funeral expenses, and services.

There will be a celebration of his life on April 21. Time and location is to be determined.

Arrangements are entrusted to Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

Linda Beth (McCallum) Evert, 48

Linda Beth (McCallum) Evert of Bigfork passed away Dec. 30, 2013, at home with family and friends.

Linda was born Nov. 26, 1965, in Bozeman to Bruce and Yvonne McCallum.

She is survived by her parents; brother, Mike; sisters Christine and Kathy; and loving friend, Scott Bailey. Linda is also survived by her three children, Michael, Kimberley and Jason; eight grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Linda loved to swim, garden, camp and spend



as much time as she could with her children and grandchildren.

Linda will be

deeply missed by all her family and friends. She was always full of life and had a smile and kindness until her final hours.

Cremation has taken place and the family will have a life celebration memorial in the spring to spread her ashes where she requested.



Henry William Eley (Whitey), 96, passed away peacefully on December 18, 2013, at the Montana State Veterans' Home in Columbia Falls.

The son of Evelyn and Robert Eley, he left his home in Chicago at the age of 16, lied about his age and joined the Navy to fight in WWII. There he spent the most exciting years of his life as a tail gunner in the Pacific Theater.

In a letter to his parents dated 1943, he described the thrill of flying with his pilot, ENS Durio in a Douglas Dauntless. "I can't think of anything I enjoy more than I do flying, especially dive bombing! You climb to an altitude of 10,000 to 15,000 feet and then drop straight down and pull out at 2,000 to 500 feet. I've gone through almost every maneuver there is. Flown upside down, loop-the-loop, climb straight up till you stall, fall backwards and go into a spinning dive, snap rolls, slow rolls... Mom, I can't tell you how much I love it!" As well as his duty as a tail gunner, he also took aerial photographs of the bombings. Henry received many medals and commendations for his bravery in action.

After the war he returned to Chicago and as a talented commercial artist, opened Eley Screen Printing, the most successful business of its kind in the city. Retiring after 29 years, he moved to Kalispell where he enjoyed collecting and playing music, particularly jazz from the Big Band era. He was especially fond of making personalized tapes and cds for his friends and acquaintances. Continuing his interest in the arts, he also became a skilled painter, with watercolor as his medium of choice.

While a quiet man, he will be remembered for his sly humor, his love of English bulldogs, his artistic talents and for living an honorable life. He leaves no survivors.

Military graveside services will take place at 1:00 on Thursday, January 16, at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

"High Flight"

*Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds - and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of - wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long delirious, burning blue,
I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew -
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod,
The high untresspassed sancity of space,
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.*

Pilot Officer Gillespie Magee
No 412 Squadron, RCAF
Killed 11 December, 1941

Betty Jean Frame Erickson, 56

Betty Jean Frame Erickson, 56, of Afton, Wyo., passed away Dec. 31, 2013, at the Intermountain Health Care Hospital in Murray, Utah.

She was born May 16, 1957, in Palson, the daughter of Ray and Hilda Frame.

Betty attended elementary and high school in Bigfork. She completed Stenographer School in Seattle. Later she lived and worked in Helena and Kalispell, before relocating to Star Valley, Wyo.

Betty married John Clarence Erickson. Together they raised four children, Chance Thompson of Rock Springs, Wyo., Sydney Erickson of Afton, Dusty Thompson Reily of Afton, and Scott Rowdy Thompson of Ogden.

Betty's family life was her full-time hobby. Children, grandchildren, her husband and extended family kept her busy and happy.

Service and benevolence were in her heart and many experienced Betty's smile and service. She will be missed more than words can express.

Betty worked as the regional supervisor for the Wyoming Department of Transportation. She was also a full-time grandmother and mother.

She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Betty is survived by her husband, John; her children; and two grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings, Brian Frame of Bigfork, Judy Pound of Elko, Nev., Jeff Frame of Kalispell, Margot Bissell of Ajo, Ariz., and Jim Frame of Somers.

Funeral services were held on Jan. 4 in the Afton Fourth Ward LDS Church in Afton. Burial took place in the Fairview Cemetery in Afton.