

Theodore 'Ted' Arnold Vacura, 90

Theodore "Ted" Arnold Vacura, 90, passed away on Friday, April 5, 2013, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

He was born July 15, 1922, in Hess Township, Roseau, Minn., to Dominick J. and Teresie (Hlucny) Vacura.

Ted was the second of three children of Czechoslovakian descent. He grew up and went to school in the Greenbush area on the family farm, also working on his uncle's farm.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army in February of 1944. A sergeant in the 117th Infantry Regiment, he was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action on March 25, 1945, in Germany. He was in the 30th Infantry Division Company E and was in the European Theater for 13 months, participating in four major campaigns. He was honorably discharged in December of 1945.



Ted married Helen M. Walsh on his birthday, July 15, 1944, in Greenbush, Minn., and they had been married for more than 68 years.

Ted and Helen lived in Scobey for many years and started their family there, having three children, Karen, Kathy and Allen. While in Scobey he worked for H.P. Larson at the Massey Furgenson Implement as their parts man.

He and his family moved to Wolf Point, and with Helen they operated an Enco gas station for three years. Later he moved his family to Kalispell. Ted worked for many, many years driving the local fuel delivery truck, first for Landry Oil

and then for City Service.

Ted made many friends and acquaintances during his work years and enjoyed working and enjoyed the people. He was a member of the VFW. Ted enjoyed family gatherings, birthdays and barbecues. He always looked forward to and enjoyed deer hunting with his son Allen and other family members.

Ted is loved by many and will be missed by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his daughter, Karen Watne; and his sister, Adelia Halbert.

He is survived by his wife, Helen, of Kalispell; daughter, Kathy Lebert, and husband, Ron, of Kalispell; son, Al Vacura, and wife, Shannon, also of Kalispell; one sister, Yvonne Stephens, of Karlstad, Minn.; and grandchildren, Paw Lebert and Stephanie of Kalispell, Janice Brewer and

Will of Kalispell, Chris Andersen of Kalispell, Brian Watne of Columbia Falls, Katrina Vacura of Kalispell, and Tori Vacura and family of Anchorage, Alaska; great-grandchildren, MiKayla, Bethany, Daniel and Ashlyn Lebert, Nicole Stevens, Katelyn and Robert Drager, Amber Anderson and Brandon Watne, all of Kalispell; with many cousins, nieces and nephews in Minnesota.

Funeral services for Theodore will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. There will be a visitation for Theodore from noon until the time of service. Burial will be at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

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

F. Myrtle Sands Vagle, 96

F. Myrtle Sands Vagle, 96, was born on Feb. 22, 1917, and passed away on Oct. 23, 2013.

Myrtle married Lawrence E.A. Sands March 29, 1940. They had Lawrence "Sonny" and Kristina "Kriss." Lawrence E.A. died in 1962.

Lawrence "Sonny" married Janet Hoylman in 1962; they had Talis and Rodney.

Kristina married Lawrence Birky in 1962; they had Randy. Kristina died in 1994.

Great-grandchildren are Tayvia Doran, Levi Birky, Paige Birky, Zack Sand and Kasey Sands.

Myrtle was remarried on Dec. 31, 1988, to Roy Vagle of Karlstad, Minn. She had made her home there since then. A funeral has taken place in Minnesota.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Myrtle's family.

Maurice Edward Vance, Jr., 54

Maurice Edward Vance, Jr., 54, of Lewistown, formerly of Kalispell, died Feb. 8, 2012.

He is survived by his wife, Dona of Lewistown; and children, Dawn Pegar of Billings, and Dustin Vance and Marji Drysdale, both of Lewistown.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 13 at the First Presbyterian Church, 215 Fifth Ave. S., in Lewistown, with a reception to follow.

Albertina Valencia, 99

Albertina Valencia, 99, died Sept. 23, 2013, in Whitefish.

A visitation will be held from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3 at Austin

Funeral Home. A rosary will be said at 5:30 p.m. following visitation. Funeral services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 4 at Austin Funeral Home.

Carlyn Dorothy (Kennedy) VanDenburg, 63

Carlyn Dorothy (Kennedy) VanDenburg, a young 63, died of cancer on Earth Day, April 22, 2013, at her home in Bigfork, surrounded by her loving sons, family members and close friend, RMaya.

She was born on April 30, 1949, the daughter of Angus and Dorothy Kennedy, in Grangeville, Idaho.

She attended school all 12 years in Grangeville, graduating in 1967.

She married James H. VanDenburg on Jan. 26, 1968, and moved with him to Florida, but they yearned for the Pacific Northwest and the mountains, lakes and rivers that they loved, so they soon returned to live in Columbia Falls, where Jim worked for the U.S. Forest Service on the Flathead National Forest, and Carlyn worked for a local bank and for several health care professionals in Kalispell and Bigfork.

Jim and Carlyn had three sons, Barton, Jeb and Colby. They later moved to the Swan Lake Ranger Station in Bigfork and, in 1983, built a home outside of town with majestic picture window views of the Jewel Basin and Swan Mountains that she said "gave to her every day."

Carlyn was a strong, vibrant woman with a playful spirit that made her the favorite with children wherever she went. She was a devoted mother and considered mothering her three boys and then being a grandmother the most fulfilling roles of her lifetime.



dare-devil fun (especially after a few sips of whiskey) like hijacking the boys' Big Wheels

with her friend Linda and riding them at breakneck shrieking speed down the mountain trail at the Ranger Station until the wheels wore off.

She had a special affinity for Ireland and Scotland and all things Celtic and appreciated the opportunity to spend time in those countries with her spiritual group. She was looking forward to traveling to Scotland this spring with her special friends, Jan and John.

It was no accident that she worked in the health and wellness industry because her care was always to help others. She loved her work these past years at Flathead Physical Therapy using her healing hands and heart to help those in pain. It's difficult for all of us who knew and loved her to believe that she is gone because she had such joie de vivre. She lived every moment that she was alive. There is a huge hole in our lives where she should be.

She had a rich, strong marriage with her husband Jim and was devastated by his sudden death of a brain hemorrhage in 2010. She had not recovered from that grief when she was diagnosed with the cancer that finally conquered her body, as it could not conquer her spirit. She was especially proud and appreciative of her sons and treasured them for their unflinching support after their dad's death and for their tender caregiving during her illness. She used the last weeks before her death to console us and teach us how to die.

are flowing in, flowing back, touching, receiving, giving — everlasting flow coming in for more and more, then out again. The wind is blowing through me, around me, caressing my whole body, whispering to me, telling me the secrets of time.

"But, could I sit here at all if the sun weren't warming my back? Would the chill drive me away to lose this wonderful experience? Do I have the courage to be the beautiful swan and walk with grace, or do I continue to be the ugly duckling waddling alone.

I am alive with the earth. My God! How I love it! How I hurt for it!

Walk with beauty and grace. Be of it. Emanate it. It is I.

Does the water, stone or wind ask, "Am I enough?"

Does the rock resist the wearing away of time, water and wind, or is it a giving back?

I am, and that is enough.

The wind is talking, singing, "You are! You are! You are the mountain, the river, the desert, the tree, the flowers. You are all that is, and that is a lot."

I touch the stars with my heart, and I soar to heights I never imagined. I am at home wherever I go.

I will just be. That is who I am."

She is survived and remembered with love by her sons, Barton and Amy of Shingle Springs, Calif., Jeb and Jacque of Hamilton, and Colby and Sheryl of Littleton, Colo.; her sister, Dawn Kennedy-Haeder, and Dewey, of Grangeville, Idaho; her brother, Clinton Kennedy, and Marlene, of Cascade, Idaho; six grandchildren, Ashley, Spencer, Josephine, Logan, Olivia and Finley; nephews and nieces that she claimed as her "first children," Daren Fales, Melanie Fales, Cinda Bodell and Jason Fales; nieces and nephew, Tara, Erin, and Conor Kennedy; and a large extended family of aunts, cousins, and friends whom she considered family.

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She was a deeply spiritual mystic who was dedicated to her spiritual quest. She had the courage of her convictions and lived her life according to her beliefs. She inspired others all along the way with her intellect, wit, perception and loving kindness. She was a woman of many talents and interests, demonstrated in the way she decorated her beautiful home, in her writing, her art and her skill as a cook. She was an inveterate outdoorswoman who loved camping and hiking in her beloved mountains and swimming in Montana's icy lakes. She loved a good book, a good song, a good poem and beautiful art, and was an enthusiastic dancer as well as a discerning literary critic.

She was a champion leg wrestler and not afraid to prove it! She would beat you at Boggle, Hell or Scrabble every time. She was also known for

She was amazed by and grateful for her many wonderful friends who took it upon themselves to be sure she had help every day for the past year and a half, many traveling great distances to be there for her when family members could not be, and for the hospice nurses and workers who eased her last days.

To demonstrate her philosophy of life, Carlyn's family quotes from her "Journal: Ireland, 2005."

"I sit here on these wonderful stones that have life growing all over them, and I can feel their aliveness humming into my feet. The ocean tides

A celebration of Carlyn's life will be held at 10 a.m., Saturday, April 27, at the Swan River Community Hall, Highway 83 and Echo Lake Road. You are invited to come and share your memories in person or in writing.

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

Larry A. VanRinsum, 47



operated the Gift and Jewelry store in the Outlaw Inn in Kalispell. It was during this time

that he was able to hone his skills as a gifted faceter of gemstones. Larry's next endeavor was to follow his father's footsteps, and become a resource conservationist for the Flathead Conservation District. During his time in the district office, he was able to work with both government agencies and private citizens to protect and defend the natural resources for the valley and state which he so dearly loved.

Larry is survived by his wife, Muir; son, Nikolas of Tioga, N.D.; parents, Francis and Geneva VanRinsum of Somers; sister, Lori and Troy Henson of Twin Falls, Idaho; three nieces; one nephew; and one great-niece.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 28 at Eidsvold Lutheran Church in Somers.

You are invited to go to www.buffalohillfh.com to leave a message for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Larry A. VanRinsum, 47, passed on Friday, May 24, 2013, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center surrounded by his loving family.

Larry was born in Helena on Nov. 16, 1965. On December 10, 1965, he was placed in the loving arms of his parents, Francis and Geneva VanRinsum. He was raised in Somers where he enjoyed playing and working on the family farm. After graduating from Flathead High School in 1984, he attended the University of Montana in Missoula. As a part of a cultural exchange, Larry was one of four students from the university chosen to study and teach at Hangzhou University in the People's Republic of China.

Larry married Rachel Parkman on June 25, 1988. To this union their son Nikolas was born. They were later divorced.

In March of 2005, Larry married Muir Snyder and the couple, along with many beloved pets, made their home in Somers. Larry spent many years in retail management with the Kmart Corporation, managing stores in Visalia and Barstow, Calif.

After his return to Montana, Larry owned and

Michael Jamie-Edward Vega, 15

Michael Jamie-Edward Vega, 15, passed away from natural causes on Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2013, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He was born Feb. 21, 1998, in Wheatridge, Colo., the son of Pedro Vega Jr. and Jennifer Borland. He was raised up in Whitefish and attended Glacier High School.

Michael was involved in the Special Olympics, Clean the Fish, Dream Team (skiing) and church activities. He liked going for walks, skiing, watching TV and laser lights, going to the movies, talking, playing, camping, animals and hiking.

Michael had a way of broadening the horizons of those he met, and he gave them a new perspective of life with his beautiful personality. He held a special place in the hearts of those he came across and taught them how to accept those who are different. He will



be dearly missed by family and friends.

Michael is survived by his dad and stepmom,

Pedro Jr. and Brenda Vega; his mom and stepdad, Jennifer Borland and William "Scott" Jenkin; siblings, Alex Vega, Nicole Davidson and Lynda Vega; grandparents, Linda and Dave Burbank, Mike and Yvonne Borland, and Maria Sandoval; and numerous aunts and uncles, and cousins.

A celebration of life service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, at the Whitefish Assembly of God Church.

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

Donald Lewis Veidt, 89

Donald Lewis Veidt, 89, passed away Friday evening, Nov. 1, 2013, at Harbor View Medical Center in Seattle.

He was born Feb. 1, 1924, to Lewis and Edna (Brocken) Veidt in Whitefish.

Upon graduation from Flathead County High School in 1943, he entered the Army. He served with the 28th Infantry Division and fought in the Battle of the Hurtgen Forest in Germany (the longest single battle the U.S. Army has ever fought) where he was wounded and received the Purple Heart. He then served as an Army MP in the states until his honorable discharge.

After serving his country he attended the San Francisco School of Mortuary Science, graduating in 1947.

In 1950 he married Alice Larson in Kalispell. To this union were born two sons, Donald George and Kenneth Ralph. Don went to work with the Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation at Hungry Horse Dam. He retired in 1984 after 30 years of service.

He enjoyed gardening, bowling, camping, hunting and fishing with family and friends, and was a longtime member of the Eagles.

Don was a jack-of-all trades and especially enjoyed working with wood. While his sons were young he built two boats with which the family spent many memorable times on Flathead Valley lakes. He also built two recreational cabins on a couple of acres in the Middle Fork of the Flat-



head River that his sons and families still enjoy to this day. In his later years he built a shop in Evergreen and worked on all kinds of

projects, including planting and maintaining a large garden.

Don was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Raymond Veidt; a grandson, Richard Veidt; and many relatives from his large, extended family.

He is survived by Alice, his wife of 63 years, his sons, Donnie, and Kenny and Janet, and grandson Steven Veidt, all of Kalispell; stepgrandchildren, Richie and Theresa Vincent of Columbia Falls, and Stacey Vincent of Topanga, Calif.; and a large extended family.

Memorials may be made in Don's name to Samaritan House, Inc., P.O. Box 592, Kalispell, MT 59903; or Bethlehem Lutheran Church Youth Program, 603 S. Main, Kalispell, MT 59901.

A viewing will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, followed by a graveside service at noon at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

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

Tracy Neil Veigel, 62

Tracy Neil Veigel, 62, formerly of Kalispell, died Monday, Jan. 16, 2012, at Banner Health Denali Center in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Carolee Irene Vick, 79

Carolee Irene Vick, 79, died March 18, 2013, at Whitefish Care and Rehabilitation Center in Whitefish.

She is survived by her three children, Michael

Vick, Denise Atchison and Jeffery Vick.

There are no services planned at this time.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

Charlene Diana Verworn, 68

Charlene Diana Verworn, 68, of Columbia Falls, died Aug. 23, 2013.

She was born to Charles and Marie Dunbar, April 29, 1945, in Chester.

Charlene was a restaurant owner/manager for most of her adult life. She owned the Elk Horn Cafe, Charlene's Restaurant and Charlene's Mongolian Grill. She was a fabulous cook and was talented at making food look beautiful.

Charlene is also known for her forgiving/non-judgmental and loving heart. Charlene hosted many "free to the public" Thanksgiving dinners at the Elk Horn Cafe; she didn't want anyone to go without or be alone during the holidays.

She was preceded in



death by her parents.

Charlene is survived by her husband, Duane Verworn; and three

children, Nikki Verworn, Dusty Dziza and Cliff LeMay. She had seven stepchildren who she loved like her own, Brodie, Roxane, Mark, Gina, Robin, Cerese and Marty. Charlene is also survived by five siblings, Clay Dunbar, Susie Rosen, Elsie Nentwig, Patty Peplow and Nikki Johnson.

A celebration of Charlene's life will be held at 2 p.m. on Sept. 21 at 4400 Foothill Road in Bigfork. Call Dusty at (406) 212-7175 for directions.

Burt Volin, 85

Burt "Bill" Oscar Volin, 85, passed away on Nov. 30, 2013, in Silverton, Ore., after a brief illness.

He was born in Kalispell Feb. 25, 1928, to Bradford C. and Hestell McGee Volin.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II on Adak Island in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska.

Burt worked in various trucking jobs, including the Mayflower Moving Company, that took him across the U.S., Canada and into Alaska. He worked construction in Nevada and California, but eventually settled in Fallon, Nev., where he worked for the Truckee Carson Irrigation District for 20 years before retiring in 1990.

After his wife Nora passed away in 1992, he met Kathleen King and together they lived in the Kalispell area where they enjoyed boating on Flathead Lake. They began traveling together by motor home throughout



the Pacific Northwest, summered in Oregon and wintered in

Arizona.

Burt was preceded in death by his parents, Bradford and Hestell Volin.

He is survived by his two brothers, Leonard M. Volin and wife Janet of Stillwater, Minn., with nieces Angela (Volin) Jacob and husband David, and niece Lindsey (Volin) Grandits (now deceased), and nephews Douglas and wife Noelle, and Brett Volin; and brother, Dr. Raymond B. Volin and wife Betty of Yuma, Ariz., with niece Hailey (Volin) Olson. He is also survived by eight grandnieces and nephews, including Andrew and Alex Olson, Sam, Luke, Lilly, Levi and Seth Jacob and Anna Lindsey Volin.

Burt's desire was to be interred at the Veterans Cemetery in Portland.