

Melissa Holstrom

PAT

16 May 2021

Melissa Holstrom gifted us her last loving smile on May 8, 2021, at age 51. Melissa grew up in Big Sky country, the daughter of Larry and Corryn Sanders, Uncle Pat's niece, big sister to Jerry and Jessica, sister-in-law to Jordan, Kristi, Kami and Felice, loving aunt to Jeff and Joe and many nieces and nephews who adored her. Melissa met Scott Holstrom in 1993 in Seattle. He knew from the first time he saw her that he had met the woman he was going to spend his life with, and they did exactly that. They were married and moved to Colville, Washington. Melissa graduated Pima Medical Institute and had a long and successful career as an expanded function dental assistant.

She was a talented artist and had a way with animals. Even at an early age they were drawn to her. It wasn't out of the ordinary to find her bottle feeding or caring for some kind of injured animal. She even raised a bobcat that was lovingly named Libby, who unsurprisingly grew up to be a nasty little bugger that only had affection for Melissa.

One couldn't help but notice Melissa when she walked into a room. She had an infectious, beaming smile with a soft and pleasant laugh that made you feel at ease. She truly was a beautiful person inside and out. Melissa was a down home county girl at heart with a taste for the finer things in life. She lived for hot summer days. The hotter the better, she loved the lake life! — sitting on a beach with her BFF Sandy, facing the sun with toes dug into the sand and listening to music with a cold Bud



light in her hand. As she would say, her happy place. She valued her friendships

more than anything else in life and believed that what you said behind someone else's back said more about your moral character than that of theirs. She was intelligent and quiet spoken with the gift of always saying the right thing at the right moment. Without hesitation she would drop whatever she was doing to answer the call and comfort a friend in need. She truly loved life, seeing the beauty in everything. She was able to see and appreciate all the little details in life, the ones that most of us miss or take for granted.

She was also the strongest person I have ever known. She fought stage four cancer with courage, dignity and grace to the very last breath of her remarkable life. This came as no surprise to anyone who knew and loved her, it's who she was; a truly remarkable woman loved by all. We will miss her dazzling smile, beautiful brown eyes, wonderful laughter, and loving generous heart. Rest in peace sweet Melissa! You took my heart with you when you left and that's OK, I gave it to you long ago.

The family would like to thank all of our friends and the caregivers who helped us during this difficult time: Northwest Pain Care, Hospice of Spokane and our LIUNA family for all their support.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to a charitable organization that fights the ugly disease of cancer.

Robert O. Hooper Jr., 97

PAT

3 June 2021

Robert O. Hooper Jr., 97 years old, better known to all as Dad Hooper, passed away May 29, 2021.

As he walked up the gangplank to heaven he asked "permission to come aboard." Jesus stretched his arms open and said, "Welcome aboard sailor." Mom Hooper was there beside him with tears of joy in her eyes. They are reunited again.

Robert "Bob" was born Jan. 15, 1924, in Braddock, Pennsylvania. He was the oldest of four children. He met the love of his life, Caroline "Carrie" Taylor, in grade school and married her in June 1943.

Bob joined the Navy just after graduation from high school and served proudly aboard the aircraft carrier Yorktown CV.10. Dad Hooper was first class ordinance man crew chief of six men in charge of loading ordinance on six fighters. He was a plank owner and has a seat of honor on the Yorktown, now a museum at Patriots Point, South Carolina. He was nominated for two silver stars, serving in the Pacific in some of the worst battles. The carrier was hit and was brought into Bremerton, Washington, for repairs and Bob road the train cross-country to Pennsylvania, to see his bride Carrie. He came through Whitefish and said what a beautiful place Montana was.

He was on the railroad in Pennsylvania, worked at an ice cream plant and had a son, Robert T. Hooper, better known as Bob. The three of them moved to Florida in 1952 where he worked for Sears and Roebuck.

Bob married Cheri



and they moved to Kalispell, (Cows Bell) Montana in 1974 and bought the old Pierces Nursery. Dad retired from



Sears and Roebuck and the Fort Lauderdale Fire Department (20 years) and Mom retired as a teacher and they moved to Kalispell to help their kids. They said they'd give them five years. Dad did all the odd jobs and Carrie kept the books. They were on their ninth installment of the five-year plan.

Mom and Dad Hooper were very instrumental in helping build and running the family business of Hooper's Garden Center. In latter years, you could see Dad sitting in his rocker answering the phones and talking to customers. He was an icon at Hooper's.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 74 years, Carrie, and is survived by one sister Agnes and her husband John, one sister-in-law Harriet and her husband Paul, both in Florida, and numerous nieces and nephews; their son Bob and his wife Cheri, two grandsons Mark and his wife Kari, and Matt and his wife Tanya; and two great-grandchildren Shelby and Brock, and Mileah and Olympia.

Per Dad's wishes, there will be no funeral. He will have a small private graveside service and be buried with military honors.

In lieu of flowers, you can donate to hospice or the Veterans Pantry in Kalispell.

Jacob Richard Hopkins, 29

Jacob Richard Hopkins, 29, of Kalispell, died on Jan. 14, 2021, at his home in Kalispell.

Services are pending at this time. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Charles Wilbur Hornbacher, 79

On Thursday, Sept. 16, 2021, Charles Wilbur Hornbacher died at home after enjoying a last visit with his wife Norma and daughter Stephanie.

Chuck, a builder, a dreamer, an arm-chair philosopher, and a curmudgeon with a big heart, was born in Rogers City, Michigan, on Feb. 22, 1942, and was raised by his aunt and uncle and special cousins whom he loved like siblings. He also loved his sister, Jean Toth.

As a young man, he served in the Air Force and worked construction in Michigan. There he stole the heart of his lifelong love, Norma Bergstrom. They married on June 21, 1969. Daughter Stephanie Rae — the true light of his life — was born in June, 1970. Not long after Stephanie's birth, Chuck saw a photo of Montana and decided to move his family sight unseen straight to Columbia Falls. That was his last bout of wanderlust — for the rest of his life Chuck didn't stray far from the Flathead Valley. Instead, as a talented



craftsman and with his creative mind, he wandered

through hobbies, ideas and schemes, ranging from algae farming to metalsmithing to making wooden toys, musical instruments and ornaments. He also loved to putter on his property, maintaining an abundant garden and compost pile (he was proud of his worms), working in his shop and sitting around the woodstove telling stories.

Chuck spent his long career building many beautiful homes in the Flathead Valley, including his own. Other routines that shaped Chuck's days included slow drives on country back roads, reading, listening to the radio and old country or folk music, coffee stops at Western Building, and watching "Jeopardy" and "Wheel of Fortune" and playing Rummikub every night with Norma. His greatest joy was spending time with family and close friends, especially

kids, starting with his daughter Stephanie and later, granddaughter Madison Rose Gordon. Chuck attended all of daughter Stephanie's games and events when she was young, from barrel races to basketball. He showed the same love and dedication for his granddaughter Madison, finding delight in everything she did.

As his brother-in-law Lance said, Chuck was his own man, who didn't want or need a lot of input, which is why he especially liked younger people, who did not offer any. Chuck would want you to know that he doesn't want you to fuss over his death, but his family left behind will greatly miss his tough, independent spirit. They include wife Norma, daughter Stephanie Gordon, son-in-law Steven Gordon and granddaughter Madison Gordon of Whitefish; all the many members of the Bergstrom family, including his first Montana relatives, Norma's sister Lois Schelvan and her family; his Michigan

relatives whom he left at an early age but never forgot; and the family of Jolene and Tim Gibbs, who became like his own through their many Easter and Christmas gatherings.

His family gives many thanks to the special neighbors on Elk Park Road and in the Deer Park area, Carmen Hemmer, and other wonderful family friends who looked out for Chuck in his last months. We wish him well as he "heads down the pike" one last time.

In keeping with Chuck's wishes, no memorial service is planned. If you would like to honor Chuck's memory, grow some juicy tomatoes in your garden or donate to your local food bank.

You can share condolences with Stephanie Gordon at P.O. Box 1418, Whitefish MT 59937; or Norma Hornbacher c/o Beehive Assisted Living, 1660 13th Street West, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Gary Wayne Hornbuckle, 81

Gary Wayne Hornbuckle, 81, passed away at his home on Aug. 16, 2021.

Gary was born in Bell Gardens, California, on March 29, 1940, to Guy and Odessa Hornbuckle. He and his sister helped each other through life and neither of them had it easy. Throughout his life he worked for many people and did all kinds of construction jobs. He and his siblings worked hard for what they had.

He started his own business that was called Hornbuckle and Sons Construction. Through five marriages Gary didn't have any children besides with his last wife, Betty Hornbuckle. Betty and Gary went on to have

PAB 25 Aug 2021
a 25-year marriage and conceived six children together. Candice, Allen, Nevada, Gary, Megan and Michael were their names. From there they both raised us kids and were selfless to give us kids everything we needed to survive.

Gary lived a very full life. He saved a lot of people from going down wrong roads in life. He just helped. Everytime we needed something, or for whoever needed it, he went without so we could have.

Here is a poem that is fitting for this engagement! It's called "The Broken Chain."

"We little knew that morning God was going to call your name. In life

we loved you dearly, and in death we do the same. It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone, for part of us went with you, the day God called you home. You left us peaceful memories, your love is still our guide, and though we cannot see you, you're always our guide, and though we cannot see you you're always by our sides. Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same. But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again."

Tell Mom we love her and say hello to God for us. We are right behind you Dad, we love you forever!

Gary's famous words were "It is what it is."

God love him.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents, Guy and Odessa Hornbuckle, his wife Betty Hornbuckle, and son Gary Jr. who passed of SIDS.

He is survived by his children, Candice (Chad) Vergeront and their children Camryn, Colton and Cody; Allen and his children Harper and Penelope; Nevada and his child Vai; Michael and his child Serenity; and Megan Hornbuckle.

An open house celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Aug. 28, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Columbia Mortuary.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Krysti Kay Hoskins, 27

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31 Dec 2021



Krysti Kay Hoskins left this life on Dec. 26, 2021, due to a motor vehicle accident. She was 27 years old.

Krysti was born on June 13, 1994, in South Jordan, Utah. She was meek, mild, and a shy child, but as she grew she came into her own. She acted in many plays and in three movies: Saving Sara Cain; and Latter-Day Saints movies, Ester and Joshua. Krysti's bedroom had a stage and light to sing and act on. She loved Hawaii so much that she had a Hawaiian mural painted on her wall. She loved German Shepherds and is hugging her first dog, Bear, in Heaven. Krysti loved Disney, Scooby-Doo, Sailor Moon, Harry Potter, and loved to play with cousins and friends. Krysti lived in Utah with her family until they moved to West Yellowstone, where Krysti met the love of her life, Michael Hoskins, in high school. Even before they began dating, she knew immediately that she and Michael would be together. Krysti and Michael dated long distance while she attended college at Brigham Young University—Idaho and Utah State, and Michael finished up college at Montana State University. Though distance kept

them physically apart, their souls were inseparable. They visited each other in their college towns and traveled to many hiking locations to spend time together. Michael proposed to Krysti in 2015 at their favorite hot spring destination, Goldbug. They were married on the beach at Kahana Bay, Hawaii on June 10, 2016, surrounded by family and close friends. Krysti found her joy and peace in nature and loved to share that with Michael as they traveled, hiked, skied, played with their dogs, and camped with friends. Krysti and Michael hike the same road, they are of one heart. Everyone looked up to their relationship and marriage.

Krysti graduated from West Yellowstone High School in 2012 and graduated from Utah State with an Associate's Degree in Exercise Science in 2015. After graduating and marrying Michael, they moved to Kalispell, where they resided for a few months before moving to Oklahoma. Krysti was never afraid to chase her dreams, and if she imag-

ined it, she did it. She enrolled in online classes and also applied for and received acceptance into Tulsa Community College for the dental hygienist program, where she was one of 14 people chosen out of multiple thousands of applicants. Krysti and Michael always planned on returning to Montana and they got the opportunity to move back to their home state and relocated to Whitefish in 2018. Krysti and Michael took flying lessons, which Krysti immediately fell in love with. She successfully completed her flight check and received her private pilot's license in the fall of 2020.

Krysti worked at Glacier Bank where she made friends with coworkers who all loved and admired her, as she did them. She always had a love of photography, and she recently chose to make her love of photography a career. Krysti was driven and dedicated to learning everything she could about being the best photographer. She had an incredible eye for capturing the beauty of this world and all of those she loved to surround herself with. She flourished while establishing her life with Michael and their dogs in Whitefish where they made lifelong

friends and spent time with family that lived in the valley.

Kind-hearted, thoughtful, funny, and genuine, Krysti will be remembered as a loving partner, mother to Moki and Lance, best friend to all, and a caring daughter, sister, and aunt. Krysti was a bright light in this world and took part of her to Heaven and left the other half with her family and husband. They will love her forever and will see and hug her again. A hui hou.

Krysti is survived by her soulmate and husband, Michael Hoskins; parents, David and Kathi Arnado; sister, Jessy Arnado; brother, Garrett Arnado; grandparents, Boyd and Joyce Johnson; mother- and father-in-law, Daniel and Jeanne Hoskins; sister-in-law, Jae Tankink (Jeremy Tankink); brother-in-law, Robert Kim Hoskins (Marianissa Hoskins); and many loving aunts, uncles, cousins, a nephew and niece, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her grandpa, Bill Arnado; and grandma, Kay Cline.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 2, at Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service.

Gene Allen Horton, 64

Gene Allen Horton, 64, of Columbia Falls, died at the Montana Veterans Home on Sept. 28, 2021.

He is survived by his son Kelly.

No services are scheduled at this time.

Willis B. Hovey, 90



Will was a master wood-worker and many places in Lowman have his handiwork in their homes. His work-



Willis B. Hovey, formerly of Lowman, Idaho, passed away at an assisted living facility in Boise, Idaho, on Oct. 6, 2021.

Will was born in Kalispell Montana on Sept. 1, 1931, to Paul and Anna Hovey. Will had three sisters, Helen, Mary and Pauline.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sisters, his beloved wife Dorothy, and her granddaughter Sally Zanders.

Will attended schools in Half Moon, Montana, and Kalispell. He entered the Army Reserves in 1949, and was active in the Army Reserves until 1955. Will was presented the Eisenhower Trophy for his service during the Korean War where he was stationed state-side and trained troops on Howitzer long range heavy artillery support weapons.

While in Kalispell, he worked for Greig's Dairy. Will married Nancy Kinshella in 1952. They were blessed with five children, Cindy, Vickie, Kathy, Brian and Leo. Will and Nancy eventually moved to Boise. They divorced in 1973.

shop was an inviting place for friends and family to visit, ask for advice or just while away the time. Will loved the outdoors and spent much of his time mowing grass, blowing snow, and participating in woodcutting parties.

Will was a long-standing member of the Lowman Community Church where he enjoyed helping with building projects and maintenance, both inside and out. He also put time into the fire station, ambulance building and he helped build the landing pad for Life Flight in Lowman. Will began as a volunteer for the fire station and the ambulance; he eventually received his EMT Certification and served in this capacity until he retired from ambulance service. At his retirement he was acknowledged as the oldest active EMT in Idaho. His most pleasurable achievement before he left Lowman was his part in the creation of the cemetery above the Lowman Community Church. If Will wasn't home it was likely you could find him puttering around the cemetery, mowing, planting trees, bushes, and tending flowers.

Steven Dwyane Howe, 61



happy and to find joy. He could find the humor in any moment. While Steve is

Steven Dwyane Howe, 61 years old, has returned home to his Father in heaven on July 9, 2021.

Steve, proud father and grandfather, is survived by his four children Carmella, Natasha, Matthew and Nathan, and nine grandchildren Akayzia, Abigail, Kiera, Ava, Matthew, Myles, Maylee, Rorilynn and Rowyn. He is also survived by his siblings Jim, Roland, Darrell, Jeannie and Dianna, and so many wonderful nieces and nephews.

Steve owned his own contractor business. As he was a largely successful builder, he also built up his family and friends in love and faith. Steve lived life to be

loved and missed greatly here, we know he was welcomed home by his parents Loretta and Marion, and siblings Lorne and Susan on the other side.

There will be a visitation at Columbia Mortuary from noon to 2 p.m. on Friday July 16. A private graveside service will be held at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Steven's family.

Will worked in various jobs in the food service business for 45 years. He was eventually self-employed and it was Moon's Café in downtown Boise that was his most loved business. He was renowned for his hand-crafted milkshakes and plate-sized pancakes. He was also known for opening Moon's in the early morning before business hours for people to come, drink coffee on the house, and read their newspapers. When Will retired, he sold Moon's and all his time and energy went into the Lowman community where he lived until August 2020.

In 1974 Will met Dorothy Bryan; they fell in love and were married that year. Once retired they moved to Lowman in 1988 where they built their dream home. They lived happily ever after in Lowman until Dot's death in March of 2018.

Will is survived by his children, Cindy Ruths (Gary), Vickie Frisbee (Ted), Kathy Bowman (Matt), Brian Hovey (Miriam), and Leo Hovey (Melinda); 14 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren; and by Dot's children, Rande Trueax (Bill), Don Bryan, Dean Bryan and Dot's grandson Zackary Zanders.

A memorial service for Will is scheduled at the Lowman Community Church on Nov. 13 at 2 p.m.

Memorials may be sent to the cemetery fund at the Lowman Community Church.

OCTOBER 13, 2021

Longtime hunter education teacher remembered fondly

By **SCOTT SHINDLEDECKER**
Daily Inter Lake

Leonard Howke was a family man of many talents who also knew the value of hard work and its benefits.

But ultimately he'll be remembered for his love of Northwest Montana's wild places and sharing his passion for outdoors-related pursuits with the youth of the region.

Howke, 79, a Whitefish native and lifelong resident, died Oct. 2 at his son Duane's home in Kalispell. Leonard and his wife, Billie Jean, had moved in with his son and his wife after they tragically

lost their home to a fire on Sept. 9.

"It was a real gut punch to us," Duane told the Daily Inter Lake during a phone interview Tuesday. "I know I am the man I am today because of him. He was truly my best friend. Even if I was out of town for work, we'd talk every day.

"He raised me and my son and he took care of his family. If the world had more people like my father in it, there wouldn't be so many problems."

Leonard cared for his wife, who uses a wheelchair, and helped his grandson develop a career working with explosives.

See **TEACHER, A8**



IN THIS FILE photo, Leonard Howke of Whitefish checks the tag on a buck at at the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks game check station in Olney. (Casey Kreider file photo/Daily Inter Lake)

(Visit)

187A

TEACHER

from A1

"He had a great time taking my son to the school in Missouri for it and then we learned that his dad, my grandfather, worked with explosives while blowing up stumps so the railroad could be built here."

Howke was a longtime volunteer with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. He taught hunter education for more than 50 years and was a leader in the "Hooked on Fishing" program. Howke also worked at big-game check stations for 30 years. He also volunteered for many FWP projects studying the wildlife of the region.

Duane said trying to narrow down his favorite memories of time spent with his dad weren't easy.

"He'd take me back-packing when I was pretty little. When I'd get tired, he would strap me to a pack frame, strap it to his pack and carry me until he got tired. Then I'd get down and hike some more," Duane said.

Duane also recalled the memories shared by others of his dad's outdoors adventures when he was younger.

"They'd leave Friday after school, hike as far as they could get by dark, camp, then hike into a lake to fish before returning late Sunday to get back to school on Monday.

snowmobiles at West Yellowstone and if someone needed help there with their machine, he'd jump in to help them, too."

HOWKE WORKED

as a heavy equipment operator and he helped build the last potline at the aluminum plant in Columbia Falls.

But an accident while cutting firewood with Duane left Leonard unable to continue his work.

In a 2015 Inter Lake story, Howke recalled how his life changed.

"September 26, 1981. That's when my life changed," he said. "It was on the weekend, I was with my wife and son picking mushrooms. I saw a dead tree and decided to go cut it to get some firewood, and then the top fell down on me."

Injuries caused by the massive log resulted in four surgeries, two metal rods in his back and seven fused vertebrae before he was out of the hospital.

"They didn't think I'd ever walk again, but being bull-headed like I am, I guess I fooled 'em," he said then.

Howke credited Hunters Education with helping him stay active after the accident. It cost him his job as an equipment operator with the former Anaconda Aluminum Company.

'If the world had more people like my father in it, there wouldn't be so many problems.'

DUANE HOWKE

away, but he was a very hard worker and a very positive person."

Sloniger also talked about Leonard's involvement with the "Fishing without Barriers" program and other endeavors.

"His work in it and at schools in Whitefish, Columbia Falls, Olney-Bissell were instrumental in thousands of kids learning how to fish," Sloniger said. "His laugh and smile were genuine, he enjoyed life and work and he'll be missed."

Jim Vashro, the longtime Montana FWP Region 1 fisheries biologist, has fond recollections.

"Leonard was quiet, unassuming, always smiling, always ready to help. Not many people knew of Leonard but he touched thousands of lives, particularly young anglers and hunters. Leonard left a legacy few of us can match, one we should all be grateful for," Vashro said.

He and other family members will also complete one last wish of Leonard's when the weather permits it.

"He wants his ashes spread over the headwaters of the North, Middle and South forks of the Flathead River," Duane said. "Getting to the North Fork will be easy because we can drive to it, and FWP is going to help us fly into the Middle Fork at Schafer Meadows."

The South Fork will be their most challenging and rewarding trip, though.

"Our cousin, Chuck Allen, has horses and we'll take one last trip with the old man into Big Salmon Lake to complete his wish."

Reporter Scott Shindle-decker may be reached at 758-4441 or sshindledecker@dailyinterlake.com.

(Cont)

William Lewis Howe, Jr.

"But they didn't always make it to school," Duane said with a laugh.

Duane said they hiked the length of Glacier National Park and been to every lake in the Jewel Basin.

"We covered thousands of miles here while hiking, hunting and fishing. You really couldn't beat it," Duane said. "He took me everywhere."

Leonard Howe also loved to snowmobile, according to Duane.

"He'd fix other people's snowmobiles and it wasn't unusual to have 20 of them in the yard," Duane said. "He'd race

"The classes helped to keep my mind off of it, along with fishing," Howke said with a smile. "When I got hurt that gave me more incentive to keep going. I didn't want to give up, and that was something I'd really look forward to."

KALISPELL RESIDENTS John Cloniger and Jan Thon became acquainted with Leonard through the "Hooked on Fishing" program.

"John was such a gentle soul," Cloniger said. "The kids just loved him. He was so dedicated to Hunter Ed, at the check stations and for "Hooked on Fishing" he couldn't do enough.

"I'm sad he passed

Vashro also noted Howke's 56 years of teaching Hunter Education was the third longest tenure in Montana.

"Leonard once told me one of his Hunter Ed graduates killed his first deer near Libby and insisted his Dad drive home via the Olney check station so Leonard could check it," Vashro said. "Leonard said the dad acted 'kinda grumpy' but you could tell he was proud. Then Leonard smiled and said "I taught the dad Hunter Ed, too."

While services are not planned for this year, Duane said they would occur next spring.

William Lewis Howe Jr.

PB7 15 Dec 2021 Whitefish Pilot

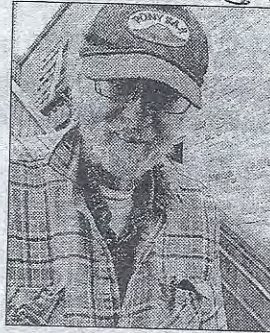
William Lewis Howe Jr., 88 passed away on Dec. 4, 2021, at Logan Health Whitefish.

Bill was born on July 8, 1933, in Great Falls, Montana to William Lewis Howe Sr. and Erma Brodsack Howe.

Bill attended Eureka High School and later attended Montana State University where he received his Bachelor's degree. Later Bill enlisted in the United States Navy in 1952.

Bill enjoyed collecting antique cars from the 1920s. At one time he had a sizeable car collection. His knowledge was encyclopedic.

In Bill's words "Old cars are better because they are simple to work on."



Bill is preceded in death by his parents William Sr. and Erma Howe, and brothers James Howe and Leo Howe.

No services are planned. Austin Funeral & Cremation Services in Whitefish is caring for Bill's family.

Anthony Lee Howell, 55

Anthony Lee Howell, 55, of Whitefish, died on Jan. 7, 2021, at his home in Whitefish. Services are pending.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

John P. Howells, 77

John Patrick Howells, 77, formerly of Creston, died July 2, 2021.

He is survived by his wife, Sandy; and children, John, Jim, Dan and Susie. Cremation has taken place. Inurnment will be held at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery Saturday, July 24, at 3 p.m.

Creel Funeral Home in Lewistown is assisting with arrangements.

Leonard Howke, 79

Leonard Howke, 79, of Whitefish, died Oct. 2, 2021, at home.

He is survived by his wife Billie Jean Howke, and son Duane Howke.

Austin Funeral and Cremation Services in Whitefish is caring for the family.



Celebration of Life
Myron "Mike" Houston
Sat, June 26 | 2pm
Kalispell Moose Lodge
2158 US Hwy 2, Kalispell
PAG 20 June 2021

James R. Hoyt, 64

James R. Hoyt, 64, of Corman, died on March 10, 2021.

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

Jeremy Scott Hudson, 42

Jeremy Scott Hudson, 42, passed away unexpectedly on Feb. 17, 2021, in O'Fallon, Illinois.

Jeremy was born in Whitefish on Nov. 8, 1978, to Steven and Cindy Hudson.

He was raised in Columbia Falls where he lived until graduating from Columbia Falls High School in 1997. After graduating, he went on to bowl and study business at Wichita State University in Wichita, Kansas.

While living in Wichita, he worked at Tornado Alley on McConnell Air Force Base as a bowling mechanic and later put his business and accounting knowledge to work when he moved into the accounting office as an accounting technician.

In December 2018 Jeremy met Ashley DeHoff, the love of his life, and gained the family he always wanted, three awesome children, Amron, 16, David, 12, and Maximus, 9. In January 2020 they moved together to Fairview Heights, Illinois, where Jeremy took on the role as a budget analyst at Scott AFB.

Jeremy loved to bowl, a love he inherited from his grandpa Russell. He bowled many perfect 300 games. Jeremy had a passion for sports. He was a dedicated fan of The Raiders, Wichita State Shockers, and NC Tarheels and never missed watching a game. He loved the water and enjoyed swimming, knee boarding and boat rides



at the family cabin on Echo Lake.

He loved attending concerts of all genres, especial-

ly KISS, which he saw numerous times. He was also known to enjoy a game of golf and loved to play cards. He excelled at anything he put his mind to. Anyone who knew Jeremy will tell you he was a very selfless and kind man. He will be deeply missed by all of those who love him.

Jeremy was preceded in death by his grandfather Russell Vandevanter, grandfather Wilbur Hudson, grandmother Gloria Hudson, uncle Mark Denney and cousin Amber Mae Hudson.

He is survived by his loving family, his parents Steve and Cindy Hudson, his fiancée, Ashley DeHoff and children, Amron, David and Max, grandmother Alma Vandevanter, uncle Ron Vandevanter, cousins Jeni and Cruz Smith, Braxton Mitchell, Dylan Smith, Kaytlin Smith, Ronda Vandevanter Mullins, Jayce Vandevanter, Ed and Eddie Read, aunts and uncles Martha and David Knoll, Jim, Ed and Victor Hudson, Roger Denney, Sandy and Jose Urrea, and numerous other cousins including the Brittenham family.

A celebration of life will be held later this summer.

MEMORIAL

Jeremy Scott Hudson

A celebration of life and potluck for Jeremy Scott Hudson, 42, who died Feb. 17, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, July 31, at 882 Echo Lake Road, Bigfork.

Beverly Jean (Wirth) Hubbard, 79

PA1 22 May 2021
On May 7, 2021, Beverly Jean (Wirth) Hubbard (born Jan. 31, 1942) lost her valiant battle with cancer.

She was preceded in death by her parents Ernest B. Wirth (1986) and Ruby M. (Frasier) Wirth (2008).

Beverly is survived by her sister Jeanetta (Wirth) Riva; daughter Nina Hubbard (Charlie Armiger) of Rimrock, Arizona; daughter Erika (Hubbard) Burian (W. Todd Burian) of Morton, Illinois; and granddaughter Alexandra Burian of Peoria, Illinois.

Born in Rockville, Indiana, Beverly grew up on a farm and continued to have an adventurous life. She lived in Indiana, Florida, Hawaii, New York, Iceland, Texas, Russia, Ohio, Northern Virginia, and finally Kalispell for the last 20 years. She had a long career in retail department stores and plant nurseries. She also had many hobbies and pas-



times over the years. Beverly's excellent baking and gardening skills will be fondly remembered by all. These last 20 years she loved taking friends out to visit her favorite places, including many Montana State Parks, Holland Lake, Hungary Horse Reservoir, Spotted Bear Ranger District, and Glacier National Park. She loved road tripping with friends and family to see beautiful places and interesting towns. She was an active member of the Kalispell Senior Center and Red Hats (Huckleberry Mums), where she made many good friends and created great memories. Family and friends will carry on

her legacy of living life to the fullest, helping those in need, being generous to others, stopping to smell the flowers, sharing homemade treats, and admiring all the beauty this world has to offer. She is loved and will be deeply missed.

It was Beverly's wish to be cremated and not to have a memorial service.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like you to consider a visit to your favorite beautiful place and/or donations to any of the following: Montana State Parks, Flathead National Forest, Glacier National Park, the Kalispell Senior Center, Home Options (or other Hospice provider), or North West Montana Veterans Stand Down & Food Pantry."

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

Lynda J. Huffman, 73

Lynda J. Huffman, 73, of Kalispell, died on Feb. 25, 2021, at her home.

Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Priscilla 'Prissy' Huguet, 76

PA 6 1 Aug 2021
In memoriam for the life and blessing of Priscilla "Prissy" Huguet from her devoted husband of 50-plus years, David Huguet.



for all the friends who have shown kindness and interest in coming together

to remember her leaves me in so much tears that I have to keep wiping my eyes. Prissy was so good at finding common interests with people, like Columbia Falls High School basketball and encouraging the players, that she was the initiator for many of the friendships that we have enjoyed developing. I am more of an introvert, but I learned from her to reach out with kindness to others.

Having moved so many times in the military, it gave us and our kids many truly fantastic memories, as both an adventurous couple and as parents, to see our kids explore new places. It is all those memories that I will truly cherish.

I don't know what the future holds for me, but initially, I will be going back to Virginia to spend time with family and teach my grandson to fish ... I will be coming back here, but don't know when or for how long. I do know that all of our friends here have been the best support in both good and bad times and cannot be duplicated by anyone else. I will miss all of your friendships while not here.

Thank you for all the kindness that has already been expressed.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

As many of our close friends know, Prissy fought a number of serious health issues and hospitalizations over the last six months and seemed to overcome them for short periods. Unfortunately, Prissy passed away at age 76 from heart failure on Tuesday evening, July 27, 2021, in North Valley Hospital. Thankfully, with only one day's notice, my son was able to arrange for his family (our grandchildren) and my daughter to travel from Richmond, Virginia, and get here in time to be with her before she passed. She will be cremated and her ashes scattered here so she can forever enjoy this beautiful place.

My family and I discussed having a memorial gathering at Columbia Mortuary, but I decided against it. It was not from a lack of love for her or any attempt to minimize the words of kindness that many people have offered as they have heard of her passing. The truth is that I loved her so much that I would not be able to stand in front of anyone and talk about her life and our beautiful time together without becoming so emotional that I would not be able to form sentences. Losing my wife is even more difficult than anything I experienced during my 25 years in the military. Even trying to write this

Harriet Lien Hullett, 91

PA 4 13 Jan 2021
Harriet Lien Hullett passed away on Jan. 8, 2021.



basketball games with her sidekick, June. She looked for-

ward to bowling with her team members at Picks Bowling Center, tossing dice with her Bunco Bunch, and traveling with friends and relatives. She always had time to read her Bible and was part of the Bethany Lutheran Church family in Bigfork.

Harriet was born Oct. 22, 1929, to Nels and Clara Lien, who were proud Norwegians. She was number seven of 11 children who were all raised on the family farm in Lakota, North Dakota. Harriet graduated from Lakota High School and went on to Mayville State Teachers College. She taught school in Nelson County, North Dakota, in a one room school for two years, then to Mapes Consolidated School for three years.

Harriet married Richard "Dick" Hullett in 1951, in Grand Forks, North Dakota. To that marriage five children were born. Harriet and Dick moved to Montana in 1953 to raise their family and be close to his parents. They settled in Columbia Falls for seven years and then moved to Bigfork. Harriet was employed as a waitress at the Lake Café in downtown Bigfork for many years and then at Bigfork School District 38, as an aide in the lunchroom and classrooms until her retirement.

Harriet was a generous, kind, and caring person. She definitely had a green thumb in the garden and could knit, crochet and sew almost anything. She was an amazing baker and taught her great grandchildren the art of making lefse. She thoroughly enjoyed watching her granddaughters and then her great-grandchildren participate in sporting events. During the winter months you could usually find her attending Bigfork High School

ward to bowling with her team members at Picks Bowling Center, tossing dice with her Bunco Bunch, and traveling with friends and relatives. She always had time to read her Bible and was part of the Bethany Lutheran Church family in Bigfork.

Harriet's family would like to thank the amazing staff at Rising Mountains Assisted Living in Bigfork and Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell for their kindness and compassionate care she received the last four years.

Harriet was preceded in death by her parents; siblings, Obie, Rose Ann, Kermit, Frances, Norris, Harris, Dona, Dora and Merle; husband; and infant daughter Melanie.

Harriet is survived by her brother, Willie Lien; children, Rick (Susie) Hullett, Holly (Jim) Schmauch, Barry Hullett, and Michele (Randy) Brooks; grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Sara (Bret) and Audrey Childers, Stacy (Bridger) Mason and Camry Kelch, Rhonda (Brad) Cohen, Ethan, and Hudson Kastelitz, Kayla (Josh) Khierstyn, Khynzlee, Kingstyn, and Kayzen Gregory, Jenna Hullett, and Alyssa Hullett; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial celebration will be held at a later date.

Kelda Marie Hull, 42

Kelda Marie Hull, 42, of Eureka, died April 3, 2021, as a result of an automobile accident.

Services are pending.

Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Duane Wilber Hunt, 86

Duane Wilber Hunt, 86, of Polson, passed away peacefully on Feb. 16, 2021 in Keizer, Oregon.

Duane was born on March 21, 1934, to Mabel and Harold Hunt in Batesland, South Dakota. As a teenager, Duane helped his mother on the family farm. Duane entered the United States Army and was a helicopter mechanic. He also learned how to play poker and competed in marksmanship.

In 1964, he met Margaret Smith, and they eloped and wed within six weeks of meeting. They moved with their horses and dogs to Montana where they bought a ranch outside of Polson. They went on to have three children, Cindy, Becki and Wes. They were together for 29 years prior to divorcing.

Duane found love a second time when he met Betty Jane Sandvig. They married and enjoyed playing cribbage and many road trips together until Jane's passing. Duane supported his family by working in the woods building logging roads. However, his real passion was ranching. He was proud of his nickname "Cowboy" and always wore a cowboy hat and boots. He enjoyed reading Westerns, riding horses, and drinking coffee with his friends. Anyone who



knew Duane knew that he was very proud of his children.

He was predeceased by his parents and his nine sib-

lings.

Duane is survived by his children, Cindy Hunt (Amanda Parish) of Keizer, Rebecca Bodnar of Carson City, Nevada, and Wes Hunt (Cayley Hunt) of Bozeman; his stepson, Eddy Hanson, of Polson; his grandchildren, Tracy Garcia and Logan Garcia (Tienne Garcia); his great-grandchildren Carson, Cerise and Amelie; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

There will be a viewing from 1 to 5 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 25, at The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory. There will also be a memorial service in the summer.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be sent to Willamette Lutheran Retirement Home, 7693 Wheatland Road North, Keizer, OR 97303.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at www.lakefuneralhomeandcremation.com. Arrangements are under the care of The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

Sharon M. Hunter, 80

Sharon Margaret Hunter, of Bigfork, died on June 18, 2021, at Heritage Place in Kalispell due to a steady decline following a stroke and seizures on April 18, 2021.

Sharon was the daughter of Roy and Margaret Stahl, longtime residents of Swan Lake. Sharon earned her RN nursing pin in 1961. Later that year she married James T. Hunter.

Sharon earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in 1964 from Montana State College. Sharon was a dedicated nurse who spent 40 years in nurs-



ing before retiring in 2020 and moving to Flathead Lake.

While still lucid, Sharon

expressed her appreciation for the loving care of the nursing staff on the third floor of the Kalispell Regional Medical Center and of the Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She is survived by her husband Jim, and her children Jamie and David. She is greatly missed by her family and friends.

Florence June (Parker) Huntley, 81

Florence June (Parker) Huntley died unexpectedly July 16, 2021 at the age of 81. Florence was born June 11, 1940 to Lloyd and Mabel Parker and grew up in the Lower Valley area of Kalispell. Florence married Bruce Huntley in 1958. They were married for 22 years and together had six children.

Florence worked at the Four Seasons Motor Inn as a cook for 25 year where she must have picked up the knack for making the most delicious dinner rolls one ever sunk their teeth into. Over the years, Florence's hobbies included making and painting ceramics, quilting, play Bingo and working jig saw and crossword puzzles.

Florence is survived by her husband Ken Edwards, children and their spouses Kathy Huntley (Kalispell), Lonnie Huntley (California), Calvin Huntley (Kalispell), Tom Huntley (Kalispell), Doug & Shelly Huntley (Kalispell) and Dave Huntley (Florida); sister Geri Wagner (Washington), Jimmy Parker (Nevada), four grandchildren- Britney Mcilhargey, Kyle Howell, Brandon Huntley and Samantha Huntley; and six great grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held at the Conrad Memorial Cemetery on Friday, Aug. 13, 2021 at 11 a.m., with a potluck to be held following the service at 448 Flathead Drive.

Matt Hurley, 27

PA6 19 Sept 2021

The heavens are a lot brighter now. Matt Hurley, 27 years young, was taken from us far too early in life on Thursday, Sept. 16, 2021. Matt was larger than life and lived life to the fullest.

He is survived by his parents Dave and Jennifer Hurley, his fiancée Jill Keith, his sister



Alexandria Hurley Jessop, his niece Bentley, nephews Hudson and Cooper,

his grandfather Don Hurley, his grandparents Karyn and Ed Farwell, his uncle Jeff Hurley,

aunt Kristina Hurley, aunt Tara Thompson, and future in-laws Scott and Brenda Keith.

Services are at Garden City Funeral Home in Missoula on Wednesday, Sept. 22, at 11 a.m., with a luncheon to follow.

In lieu of flowers, condolences may be left at www.gardencityfh.com.

Steven L. Hurlburt, 67

PA6 6 Oct 2021

Steven L. Hurlburt, 67, of Condon passed away at his residence on Sept. 30, 2021, following a brief illness.

Steve is survived by his brothers, Robert Coverdell and his wife Janey of Nevada, Scott Coverdell and his wife Dawn of Colorado, and Bart Hurlburt and his wife Paula of Idaho; his stepfather, Don Coverdell, of Colorado; and many nieces, nephews and dear friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Clara Cork (Nee Harding) and William Hurlburt, and a brother William E. Coverdell.

Steve was a hard



worker and before his retirement held several different jobs, but what he enjoyed

most was the time he spent building log cabins. Steve loved to be outside fishing and exploring the mountains and hills he was fortunate to spend his life living among.

Cremation rites will be accorded.

Arrangements under the direction of Garden City Funeral Home and Crematory.