

Gretchen Kathleen O'Brien Naegeli, 86

PA 7
18 Aug 2021
On Sunday, Aug. 15, 2021, the Feast Day of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and in the hour of His Divine Mercy at 3:05 p.m., Gretchen Kathleen O'Brien Naegeli went to be with our Lord.

She was born in Brainerd, Minnesota, Feb. 14, 1935, to Gretchen Kleiner O'Brien and George Francis O'Brien. She graduated from St. Francis High School, Little Falls, Minnesota, and attended Brainerd Community College and Minnesota School of Business.

She met her beloved husband, Robert Bruce Naegeli, while they were both working at Many Glacier. They married June 8, 1957, at St. Francis Catholic Church in Brainerd. Together they raised their children



in Apple Valley, Minnesota, for 28 years and then retired to their lake home in Brainerd.

Eventually they headed to Texas for eight years before returning to St. Paul, Minnesota, for 13 years. Once her husband passed last year, after 63 years of marriage, Gretchen moved to Kalispell.

Gretchen is survived by her daughter Karrin (Don) Sax and grandchildren Jakob, Noah and Hannah of Florence, Montana; son Robert Scott Naegeli and grandchildren Katie, Nick and Ali of Burnsville, Minnesota; and daughter Nancee (Al) Olszewski and grandchildren Sierra,

Megan, Al Michael, Daniel, Alaura and Josie of Kalispell. In addition to her three children, 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, she is survived by her brother William (Terry) O'Brien of St. Augustine, Florida, and numerous loving nieces and nephews.

Gretchen was preceded in death by her husband Robert Naegeli, parents George F. and Gretchen O'Brien, and her brothers Joseph, George Jr., James and John.

Funeral Mass will be held Friday, Aug. 20, 11 a.m. at St. John Paul II Catholic Church in Bigfork, with a rosary preceding Mass at 10:30 a.m.

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

Pamela Neakirch, 63

Pamela Neakirch, 63, of Kalispell, died on November 29, 2021, at her home in Kalispell. No services are planned at this time. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

William 'Bill' Don Neater, 78

William "Bill" Don Neater passed away Aug. 11, 2021, from natural causes. He was 78.



Bill was born on April 20, 1943, to John and Barbara (Olsen) Neater in Columbus, Nebraska.

For all that knew him, Bill always brought a warmth with him. No matter the time or place, Bill's smile and outgoing love for life was always evident.

After high school, Bill attended college at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and soon after entered a lifelong career in the sales and real estate markets. In 1984, he relocated to Western Montana, which allowed for countless memories of family life coupled with many fishing, hunting, and Montana outings. These many excursions are cherished by many

and will live on as a cornerstone of Bill's legacy. He also enjoyed gardening, raising tomatoes, and many varieties of flowers. Another favorite pastime for Bill was watching his Nebraska Cornhuskers football team and we all enjoyed spending a Saturday afternoon with Bill watching football. Go Big Red!

Oftentimes, when visiting with Bill one would be amazed at his ability to vividly recall memories of his youth and earlier years. In doing so, Bill's face would light up and return to his youth momentarily as he'd happily narrate his many memories.

Over the years, Bill's love for Jesus was clear and he frequently immersed himself in his Bible. An excitement always came over Bill's face whenever another wanted to discuss faith and God's creation.

As our beloved dad, grandpa, brother and friend journeyed home,

he did so in a way that only seems fitting for Bill. On that warm and sunny day, nestled in the pines of the Salish Mountains, Bill reclined outdoors in his favorite chair with the Lord's creation in view, most likely dreaming of fishing, duck hunting and lake living. A wonderful and final imagery to seal this earthly life and welcome Bill into our promised and eternal one with Christ Jesus.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents and brother, John Neater.

He is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, Joan and Gordon Specht of Columbus Nebraska; son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Christine Neater of Somers; daughter, Kim Neater of Austin, Texas; son and daughter-in-law, Rich and Rebecca Sargent of Missoula; son, Chris Neater and partner Jeri Moon of Kalispell; son, Eric of Lincoln, Nebraska; daughter and son-in-law, Holly and Corey O'Dell of Kalispell;

son and daughter-in-law, Dain and Melissa Neater of Lincoln, Nebraska; son and daughter-in-law, Travis and Amanda Neater of Lakeside; son and daughter-in-law, Troy and Carissa Neater of Kalispell; along with 22 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and his beloved dog Dixie.

A memorial service is to be celebrated, 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 21, at Flathead Ekklesia Church, located in the Gateway Community Center, 1203 Highway 2 W., Suite 50. All loved ones and friends are invited to attend. A reception will follow. A second celebration of life will be held in Columbus, Nebraska, in September, date to be determined.

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.

Kirsten 'Putt' Quenby Neddo, 49

Kirsten "Putt" Quenby Neddo, 49, of Bigfork, died Wednesday March 10, 2021. She is survived by her husband Todd.

No services are being planned. Arrangements are under the care of Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory.

Sherry Lee Neise, 67

Sherry Lee Neise, 67, of Kalispell, died Oct. 28, 2021 at Logan Health.

She is survived by her children Robert Neise, Eric Neise, Lisa Black and Kimberly Neise.

No services are scheduled. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Celebration of Life for Virginia M. Bell Neff

PAS 4 July 2021
Sunday, July 11th

9am Burial at Ronan Cemetery
BBQ after at Dave & Suzie's house
34559 Piedalue Lane, Ronan

Thomas G. Nees, 83

PAS 3 Feb 2021
Beloved husband, father and brother Thomas G. Nees, 83, of Arnold, Maryland, passed away at Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C., Jan. 24, 2021.

Tom was born in Kalispell to L. Guy and Doretta Nees. His birth was attended by his Aunt Marie Lawrence, a local midwife. Tom lived many places throughout his life, but Kalispell and Glacier Park were his roots; he loved to return to hike and visit as often as he could.

Tom was a retired minister in the Church of the Nazarene and founder of Community of Hope, Inc. in Washington, D.C. He was concerned that faith be expressed in social action, confronting injustice and bettering lives and communities.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, artist Patricia (Nichols) Nees; his children, Kay Nees,



Cari and husband Paul, Dan Nees, Jennifer and husband David; his brother,

Ron Nees, of Missoula; and sisters, Lois Wagner and Carol Nees Brown of Kalispell. Tom dearly loved and was deeply loved by his eight grandchildren and his great-grandchild, and numerous relatives, friends and colleagues. Many people saw him as their very best friend and mentor.

A memorial service date is uncertain.

Robert 'Bob' Edward Neitzling, 91

PAS 8 AUG 2021

Robert "Bob" Edward Neitzling, 91, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully at home on Aug. 5, 2021.

Bob was born on Jan. 22, 1930, to Ed and Ella Neitzling in Columbia Falls. He graduated from Flathead High School in 1948 and went on to study physical education at Washington State University. After graduating in 1952, he began his service in the United States Army at Fort Ord, California. Once honorably discharged from the Army, Bob began his 32-year teaching career entirely in Kalispell School District 5. While actively teaching, he continued his education and obtained a mMaster's degree from the University of Montana.

Bob was a dedicated teacher, serving the junior high school and many of the elementary schools in Kalispell. He also coached many sports



ranging from Pee Wee baseball up through basketball in the early days of Flathead Valley Community College. During his long career he received

many awards.

He met Maureen Riley, the love of his life, and they wed at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Kalispell in 1953. They started their family with daughter, Angela in 1954, followed by Colleen in 1955, Kevin in 1956, Annette in 1958, Amy in 1961, and Joseph in 1970.

After retiring in 1987, Bob loved to work outdoors tending his property and Christmas tree farm, golfing and playing softball well into his 80s.

He played a key part in organizing the Men's Senior Softball League in Kalispell.

He and Maureen were active advocates for and instrumental in helping establish Flathead Industries and Special Olympics in the valley for developmentally disabled individuals. They were also devoted parishioners of Risen Christ Catholic Church since its inception.

Bob had a passion for baseball. Two highlights of his life were attending Fantasy Baseball Camp in Florida and a trip to Cooperstown, New York, location of baseball's Hall of Fame, where his experience included getting to play on the famed Doubleday Field.

Above all, family was the most important thing to him.

Bob was predeceased by his parents, infant sister, and a great-grand-

son. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Maureen; his children, Angela (Ron) Blodgett, Colleen (Sam) Sims, Kevin (Ronda) Neitzling, Annette (Kip) Peterson, Amy Neitzling, and Joseph Neitzling; and his nine grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral Mass will be held at Risen Christ Catholic Church on Thursday, Aug. 12, at 11 a.m., followed immediately by a reception in the church's social hall. Private graveside services will follow.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to Flathead Industries.

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.

Alice Nelson, 91

P.A. 4 July 2021



Angel Tree Program). After Charles passed away in 2006, she joined the Senior

Alice Nelson was born on March 4, 1930, to Andrew and Caroline Nielsen in Wakonda, South Dakota. Their family settled in Outlook, Montana, where she attended school and graduated as valedictorian of her class.

Alice was married to Charles "Charlie" Nelson on Sept. 18, 1949, and they lived on the family farm by Dooley, Montana. From this union four children were born, Charlene, Dale, Clayton and Debra. Throughout the years, she worked at several jobs, including the Blue Moon, the sheriff's office, and (SMH) Sheridan Memorial Hospital. She especially treasured her years working as a CNA (certified nurse's aide) because she loved "helping people and working with the new babies." In her spare time, she enjoyed gardening, sewing, arts and crafts.

Charles retired from farming in 1992 for health reasons, and they began a new home in Kalispell. They joined Eidsvold Lutheran Church and became involved with Bible studies, greeting people, and helping serve cookies and coffee. She always had a special place in her heart for children, and especially enjoyed participating in the Westshore Toys for Kids (our local Christmas

Citizen's Center where she enjoyed the companionship of many friends. Alice liked to stay busy, and she continued working part time as a CNA through Home Options Home Health and Private Care, as she enjoyed helping people to stay in their own home instead of going into a nursing home. She retired in February 2011 (just a few weeks before she turned 81!)

Alice met Nick Stein in 2010, who became her loving companion and soul mate. Together they were described as "icons" at the Senior Citizen Center where they participated by volunteering their time and energy to many activities over the years, as well as attending aerobic exercises, chair yoga, and bingo. They enjoyed staying "busy" together and continued attending church and community events as well as traveling to visit friends and family.

In January of 2021, she was diagnosed with a brain tumor, and she passed away in her home on March 22, 2021.

Alice was preceded in death by both her parents and her four brothers, Vernon, Leroy, Robert and Richard.

She is survived by her four children, Charlene Kranitz of Great Falls, Dale Nelson of Great Falls, Clayton Nelson of Pearce, Arizona, and Debra Conaway of Bigfork. She has 10 grandchildren, (Deanna McHenry, Robert Marion, David and Chris Nelson, Devon Rising Sun, Karyn Manor, Lynn Hardy, Lindsey Battle, Kristina Conaway and Sarah Croft), as well as 16 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Her family is planning a memorial service/celebration of life at the Eidsvold Lutheran Church in Somers with Pastor Andrew Wendle officiating on Wednesday, July 21, at 11 a.m., with a luncheon to follow. This service may also be streamed online at www.eidsvoldlutheran.net or through the Eidsvold Lutheran Facebook page.

In lieu of flowers, her family suggests memorial donations to the Eidsvold Children's Outreach, which provides services to local children in need and encompasses the Westshore Toys for Kids program.

Carl Leslie Nelson, 66

Carl Leslie Nelson, 66, of Columbia Falls, died March 26, 2021, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

Services are pending.

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

Teri Nelson, 74

Teri Nelson, 74, of Libby, died on Nov. 23, 2021, at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital.

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

Delano S. Nemeč, 88

Delano S. Nemeč, 88, of Bigfork, died on June 15, 2021 at his home with his family by his side. Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Mary Eileen Nertney, 91

Mary Eileen Nertney, 91, of Kalispell, died on July 22, 2021, at her home.

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

Suzanne Louise Cestnik Nelson, 66

Suzanne Louise Cestnik Nelson, 66, passed away peacefully at her home in Columbia Falls Dec. 28, 2020, with her family by her side. She was born Oct. 2, 1954, in Whitefish to Louis and Francis Cestnik. She was raised and lived in Columbia Falls her whole life. She married her high school sweetheart, Lonnie Nelson in 1972 and their three children, Lacy, Skylar and Michael were all born in Whitefish and raised in Columbia Falls.

Early in their marriage, Lonnie and Suzanne played music around the valley and on the road with a family country rock band called Windrift for several

years, before settling down back home in Columbia Falls. She was a hot lunch employee at Ruder School for many years.

Suzanne was preceded in death by her parents Louis and Frances, her brother Mike Cestnik, and her father-in-law Dwayne Nelson.

She is survived by her husband Lonnie at their home in Columbia Falls, brother Terry of Missoula, and her children Lacy Toavs, and Skylar and Michael Nelson, all of the Flathead Valley. She is also survived by her two grandchildren, Ayla and Isaac Toavs.

Memorial services are not planned at this time.

Helen Walterskirchen Neumunz, 99

PAG 26 Sept 2021
Helen Walterskirchen Neumunz, World War II veteran, passes at 99.

Helen Walterskirchen Neumunz, "Skirsh," a talented artist and gifted golfer, passed peacefully in Layton, Utah, on June 16, 2021, at the age of 99. She was surrounded by her children and family members at the time of death.

Graveside services with Navy military honors will be held at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell on Oct. 9, at 1 p.m. Family, friends and the public are invited to attend.

Born in Boston in 1922 to William Mathew Walterskirchen and Virginia Jean Marie McAuliffe Walterskirchen, Helen spent her early years with her family in Massachusetts while her father attended MIT, then they moved to Butte before settling back in Missoula, her father's hometown.

Helen attended Paxon Elementary and St. Anthony's School, graduating in 1940 from Missoula County High School where she was elected to the National Honor Society. Her talent for painting blossomed under the guidance of art instructor CB Bartholomew, winning first place in the state art contest and awarded a scholarship for her junior year of college at Montana State College in Bozeman. She placed first in the women's state golf championship as a junior in high school. Helen was also editor for her school newspaper, which achieved national recognition during her tenure. She became the first female cheerleader for the high school.



the first woman appointed to the Oradell planning board, serving for 14

years. She was also a member and chairwoman of the Bergen County Republican Committee, no doubt influenced by her mother, Virginia Walterskirchen, who ran for the Republican seat to the House of Representatives in 1958 in Montana.

While in New Jersey, Helen continued to pursue her passion for golf, winning the Hackensack Golf Club women's championship six times. After moving to Hampstead, North Carolina, she garnered gold medals a record 19 times in North Carolina State Competitions, winning the gold in the National Senior games at the age of 87. Always with an eye towards self improvement, Helen designed and received a patent for a golf putter attachment in 1985.

Helen and George retired to North Carolina for 20 years, but eventually relocated to Utah to be closer to family, as well as their summer vacation home in Bigfork.

For all of her 10 decades that she's lived, Helen always displayed an intellectual curiosity, a great appetite for travel, adventure and an appreciation for a good glass of Chardonnay.

Helen was predeceased by her spouse of 65 years, George Martin Neumunz, who passed in 2014.

Helen attended the University of Montana, graduating with a degree in fine arts in 1944. She was the president of the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority, as well as a member of the art honor society, Delta Phi Delta.

In 1944, Helen enlisted in the Navy joining the WAVES. After training, she was stationed in San Francisco's 13th Naval district where she facilitated rapid messaging from Navy observers in the Pacific to the Navy headquarters in Washington, D.C. She was honorably discharged as a lieutenant junior grade in 1946.

Following the war, Helen traveled to New York City and attended Pratt Institute, studying interior design and graduating in 1948, followed that summer by study at the Fontainebleau school of art in France which ignited her lifelong love of European travel, its art and history.

It was during her time in New York that she met Army veteran, George Martin "Marty" Neumunz, whom she married in December 1948.

Helen and Marty settled in Oradell, New Jersey, where they raised their four children. Helen became active in local civic groups, becoming

She is survived by her four children, Ron Neumunz of Charleston, South Carolina, Nina Neumunz and her spouse, Marc Cohen, of New York City, Gregory Neumunz of New York City, and Mark Neumunz and Genevieve Frank of Layton, Utah; five grandchildren, Tamara Davidson, Christopher and Kaitlyn Loverchio and Adara and Altaire Neumunz and two great-grandchildren, Owen and Helena Davidson. She is also survived by her brother, Karl Walterskirchen, of Pasco, Washington.

Carol Louise Newbury and Frank Junior Newbury

Lifelong Whitefish resident Carol Louise Newbury, 87, died on April 10, 2020 and long time Whitefish resident Frank Junior Newbury,

89, died on Aug. 10, 2020. Please join Jeanne, Ron, Russ, Gail and their families on Saturday, June 26, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. at the Whitefish United

Methodist Church for a special time of celebrating the time we had with them.

Gerald Virgilious 'Jerry' Newbury, 89

Gerald Virgilious "Jerry" Newbury was born in Whitebear Lake, Minnesota,

on June 3, 1932; joyfully he came into this world with his twin sister, Geraldine, and departed to a glorious eternity on Nov. 10, 2021, in Kalispell, holding the hand of his wife and life partner of 64 years, Mary Louise Wendt Newbury.

Jerry was preceded in death by his father Frank Freeman Newbury, his mother Mary Hare Newbury, his older brother Frank Newbury, twin sister, Geraldine Emmert, sister Barb Quilling and his grandson, Jonathan Henry Hughes.

He is dearly missed by life partner, Mary Louise Wendt Newbury; his children, Sheryl Bertapelle (Robert) of Midland, Michigan, Debra Hughes (Daryll) of Morgan Hill, California, Gerald



Richard Newbury (Trish) of Kalispell, Teresa Butterfield (Timothy) of Whitefish, and Michele Hunter (Tramaine) of San Jose,

California. He is greatly missed by his 18 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters, Carol Swisher, Michelle Gee and Helen Petsch.

Born in Minnesota, his family moved to the Flathead Valley when he was in middle school. As a young man he joined the Navy in San Diego. He loved to tell stories of his time in the Navy. Jerry was not one to be idle. He worked on the railroad, as an independent electrical contractor, he had his own timber business, drove charter

bus, and was a short haul trucker. He worked hard and instilled a strong work ethic in all of us.

Jerry was a loving husband, son, brother, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Since his departure from this world people have said they miss his laugh, the strength of his large, rough, but gentle hands, and the unique way he skipped with them, a walk and a private talk, the rafting trips we took when we were young, and family time at the beach.

He loved hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and most outdoor activities. He loved spending time with his family, working in his yard and, more recently, traveling around the valley, with Mary by his side, enjoying the beautiful Montana scenery of Flathead Lake, Glacier Park, and up the North Fork, to name a few.

There will be a celebration of life service to celebrate Jerry's life on June 3, 2022, in Kalispell.

Peggy Newman, 74

Peggy Newman, 74, of Kalispell, died Sunday, April 25, 2021.

She is survived by her two sons, Don Anthony Shilling and Shane Allen Shilling.

No services will be held.

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

Joan "JoMama" Lu Newton, 79

PB6

31 Mar 2021

Joan Lu Newton, affectionately known as "JoMama" by all who loved her, passed away surrounded by her four children. Jo was born and grew up in the Longmont/Mead area in Colorado. She graduated from Mead High School where she met the love of her life and husband of 57 years, Roland. Jo and Roland were wed on June 30, 1962. They settled in Boulder, Colorado where their four children were born. They moved to Whitefish, Montana in September of 1970 where she would live for the rest of her life.

Jo loved people and made an impression on everyone she met. She wasn't afraid to start conversations, whether at the grocery store or walking in a golf gallery. Jo was an avid golfer and spent many years playing at Whitefish Lake Golf



Course with her family and friends. She loved playing golf and instilled the love of the game in all her children and grandchildren. She spent many days at the course playing and watching her children compete.

Jo was full of life and joy, saying YES to any new adventure. Some of those adventures included: a Harley ride on her 70th birthday, many road trips to Seattle and Colorado to visit fami-

ly, trips to Vegas with Roland, river rafting and inner tubing with her grandkids, and travels to Europe with her kids.

JoMama had a wonderful life. She was golfing at the age of 79, walking every day and drinking cheap wine. She always had a sparkle in her eye, loved a good belly laugh and had a great sense of humor.

She even made the hospital staff laugh with her zingers during her final week. Her contagious joy and laughter will be deeply missed by her family and friends. Jo loved her family more than anything and we were so lucky to have her as ours.

Jo was preceded in death by her husband Roland, parents Anthony and Maxine Becker and sister Elaine Seewald. She is survived by her brother Ken Becker (Ann), her four children, Stacie (Joe)

Strong, Chris Newton, Carrie (Jim) Archibald and Greg (Leslie) Newton. She is also survived by her loving grandchildren Kiley (Ben), Seth, Keagan (Kirstin), Jordan (Claire), Sydney, Megan, Charlie, great-grandchildren Camille, Daniel, and Mollie and numerous Newton in-laws, nephews and nieces.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations in Joan's name to the WLGC Junior Golf Foundation or the Whitefish Community Foundation. A private memorial service has taken place at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Whitefish on Friday, March 26. A celebration of Jo's life will be held at a later date.

Austin funeral and cremation services is caring for Joan's family.

Bradly Anthony Nieves Sr., 41

PA7 28 July 2021

Bradly Anthony Nieves Sr., 41, was born June 30, 1980, in Martinez, California, and was a resident of Columbia Falls since he was a teen. On July 16, 2021, Bradly was involved in a motorcycle accident and lost his life.

Bradly is survived by his children, Bradly Nieves Jr., Dylan Nieves and Lucas Nieves. Bradly was a caring father; he loved his sons, supported them, and was their constant. Bradly's surviving family members are his



parents, David Nieves Sr. from California, Sharleen Markham and Dick Markham,

stepfather; and siblings, David Nieves Jr. from California, Adam Nieves, Nicholas Nieves and Crystal Nieves.

Bradly was shining light in all the lives he touched. He will never be forgotten, and is truly

missed! A celebration of Brad's life will take place on Saturday, July 31, at 11 a.m. at Columbia Mortuary. Urn burial will be at Fairview Cemetery. Lunch will follow at the Night Owl Restaurant in the back room at 1 p.m. Parking will be in the back parking lot.

The Last Ride
"I stood and I watched as my Brother rode by, It wasn't the way it should be

He rode not his bike, but in a long black cage,

And he rode by himself not with me, But I shed not a tear for this Brother of mine

For he lived free and loved his lifestyle, So ride on my Brother and rest in peace, Till we meet again after while, And when my time comes to take that last ride, You can bet it'll be with a smile, 'cause I love to ride and I'll be going home, So I'll enjoy it to the very last mile" — Anonymous

Karen Ninman, 80

PAS 2 May 2021

Karen Ninman of the Evergreen area, passed away on Saturday, April 17 in Columbia Falls, at the age of 80, following illness for the past 1.5 years.

Karen was born to Lorraine (Beers) and Charles "Charlie" Halpain. Karen's older brother was Duane Halpain (deceased), formerly of Hutchison, Kansas.

Karen lived most of her life in central Kansas and in southern Oklahoma. She married Howard Ninman and were married for 38 years before Howard passed away in 2003.

Following Howard's death and her retirement, Karen traveled with her



dogs for camping in the U.S. and Canada. It was her love of travel that

caused her to move to Montana. She lived the last 10 years in Montana, enjoying the views and changing seasons living just west of Glacier National Park. In addition to enjoying the scenery of the area, she enjoyed walking her dogs, assembling puzzles and reading.

Karen is survived by: Tony Christians and his wife Chris; Mark Christians; Carolyn Ninman, Pam Rodriguez and Beverly Spade;

grandchildren and great-grandchildren — and her beloved dog, Casey.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 15, 2021, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell, and a graveside service is being scheduled for Saturday, May 22nd at Fort Sill Military Cemetery.

Memorials for Karen may be directed to Morris Animal Foundation. They are conducting a canine cancer study cancer. <https://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/golden-retriever-lifetime-study>

Friends are encouraged to visit the website at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family.

Edwin Keith Nirider, 91

PAS 5 Dec 2021

Edwin Keith Nirider passed away at his home in Kalispell on the eve of Nov. 16, 2021.

Born to Harry and Geraldine Nirider on July 25, 1930, he was raised on a 120-acre farm near the town of Roxbury, Kansas. He witnessed the Dust Bowl as a young boy, watching the sky grow dark as a wall of dust descended upon the landscape. "You can't imagine," he would later recall, "until you've seen it — it's not even imaginable." He graduated from Roxbury High School in 1948 with a class of just 21 students. Later he served the United States Air Force as an air policeman at Fairchild Air Force Base near Spokane. In 1955 he settled in Kalispell to raise a family. He found employment with the Anaconda Aluminum Company in Columbia Falls that same year. He worked at the aluminum plant as a pipefitter until his retirement in 1985. After his retirement he



traveled the country with his wife and constant companion, Deletha Roberts.



His license plates read "2LQQKEN" — a nod to the thou-

sands of miles the couple traversed taking in the scenery of the American countryside. After their grand tour, the two ultimately returned to the montane beauty of the Flathead Valley.

He was preceded in death by his brother George Nirider, sister Shirley Reese, and his wife Deletha Roberts.

He leaves to carry on his memory a bountiful family, sons Tom and Jeff Nirider, daughter Liz Nirider, granddaughters Lauren Nirider, Lailie and Hannah O'Keefe; and an extended family of four stepchildren, Alan, Mikki and wife Cynthia,

Marc and Kimberly Dewitt, along with six stepgrandchildren, and several stepgreat-grandchildren.

Ed was known for his endearing personality and open heart. He was truly the center of the family and his home was the site of countless happy gatherings; his family was his greatest joy in life. He was exceedingly proud of all his children — those he raised and those gained through his marriage. While he earned the Air Force rank of "staff sergeant," his greatest honor was earning the title "Grandpa," and he served the role ardently. His final days were blessed with visits from myriad friends and family such that the hospital staff could hardly keep up with the constant stream of visitors.

Donations to honor his memory may be made to the Glacier National Park Conservancy at glacier.org/donate-to-glacier/.

Deletha Nirider, 82

PA 6 6 Oct 2021

On the morning of Oct. 1, 2021, Deletha Nirider, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully in her sleep at the age of 82 after a brief illness.

Deletha was born to Pastor Raymond and Dova (Dixon) Roberts in Louisa, Kentucky, lived in Catawba, Ohio, during her childhood, lived in and graduated from high school in Plant City, Florida, and lived in Hagerstown, Maryland. She moved to the Flathead Valley in 1973 and had lived here primarily since.

She will be sorely missed by her loving husband Edwin Nirider, children Marc DeWitt, Alan DeWitt, Mikki (Cynthia) DeWitt and Kimberly (Richard) Wallace, grandchildren Amberly DeWitt, Kara DeWitt, Nikolas (Jennifer) Caron, Ryan (Kelsi) Caron, Eden DeWitt and Varsha DeWitt, great-grandchildren Marissa Kite, Nycia DeWitt, Emily DeWitt, Isaac Caron, Emera Caron, Elliana Caron, Paisley Sheldon, Layla Caron, Lukas Caro and, Adam Merria, great-great-grandchildren Waylen DeWitt, Everly Roberts, all of Kalispell, brothers Dale Roberts of Pennsylvania, Bob (Jeanette) Roberts and Mike Roberts of Florida, sister Willadeen Powell of Washington, stepfamily Tom (Renee) Nirider and Laurren Nirider of Washington, Jeff Nirider, Liz Nirider, Lailee O'Keefe and Hannah O'Keefe of Missoula, along with numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.



She and her beloved Ed traveled extensively working and having fun in many loca-

tions around the country.

"She was the kindest, sweetest, most lovingest woman that a man could ever hope to have."

She was mischievous and loved to get the kids laughing and carrying on and would just sit back and smile a wry little "smile" when the kids got riled up.

She enjoyed reading and writing out the Bible, working crossword puzzles, crocheting hats and blankets, painting beautiful paintings, playing music, singing, and especially being with her large, loving family. She would regale us with stories (whether accurate or not) of pet monkeys, pet skunks, her sky-diving antics, and oh so many other adventures!

She bragged about all of her kids and grandkids and loved to tell stories about all the sweet and silly things said and done over the years.

There will be a celebration of her life on Friday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. at the Kalispell Seventh Day Adventist Church located at 1185 W. Reserve Drive, Kalispell.

This life is over for her but we are all anxiously awaiting seeing her beautiful face again when we meet our Savior.

As Mom would say; "That's what you get for being born," "pain in the butt, Amen!"

Betty Nix, 95

Betty Nix, 95, of Kalispell, died Dec. 19, 2021, at Prestige Assisted Living.

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

Gary Nock, 73

PA 6 18 August 21

Gary David Nock joined his Savior in heaven on Sunday, Aug. 1, 2021. He was far too young.

Born in Denver in 1948, Gary was the second of four children for Roy and Betty Nock, and their only boy. He spent his childhood delivering the Denver Post with his red and white Schwinn, eating brown sugar by the spoonful with his grandfather (after they were certain Grandma had boarded the city bus), and pestering his sisters.

Gary's family moved to Whitefish the summer before his junior year of high school, unfortunately on the same day The Beatles were playing Colorado's Red Rocks Amphitheater. He was relegated to listening to the news of the Fab Four's arrival on the car radio and would later joke that he never quite forgave his parents for driving out of town that day.

After graduating from Whitefish High School in 1966, Gary headed to Montana State University where he hoped to major in architecture but spent too much time rock climbing and so (as he was always fond of saying) the university asked him not to come back. Gary moved on to the University of Montana where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, with an emphasis in painting, and set his sights on earning his master's at the Art Institute of Chicago. Right about this time, he and Dawn (whom he married on the hottest day of August in 1969) welcomed a baby girl with blonde hair and life changed course.



another one, this time with brown hair), and moved to Dallas.

Gary crammed four years of schooling into five at Dallas Theological Seminary and earned his ThM degree, a Masters in Theology. He became a pastor, his true life's work. His talent in art and bulldozer operating was nothing compared to his ability to teach people about God's great love for them.

In 1989 he accepted the position of pastor at Grace Bible Church in Adell, Wisconsin, and his family spent the next nine years living the Midwest dream of humid summers and achingly cold winters. Gary also made lifelong friends in Wisconsin with whom he shared unique opportunities, like visiting (and ministering to) the Semandang people group of Indonesia with one friend and delivering semi-loads of milk with another friend. It was never quite clear which was the bigger adventure.

In 1998 Gary accepted a pastoral position in Ephrata, Washington, and he and Dawn moved again. Gary was the senior pastor at GracePoint Church for 23 years. He served the people of GracePoint faithfully, investing his life into theirs, and they in turn cared for him and Dawn, especially in his final months, with a love and selflessness so immense words cannot describe it.

about Christ and the wonderful gift of salvation by grace through faith. He leaves a legacy of loving God and others very well.

Gary is survived by his wife, Dawn (Anderson). He would go to the ends of the earth for her, as well as the nearest fabric store, and he did. They enjoyed 51 years and 11 months of marriage made up of laughter, cribbage games, traveling, slide shows, everyday boredom, and adventure.

He is also survived by his daughters, Lacey Arnett (the one with blonde hair) and her husband Pete of Lake Oswego, Oregon, and Angela Miller (the one with brown hair) and her husband Craig of Kalispell.

Gary was the very proud Boppa to Corbin, Mia and Calvin Arnett, and Birdie, Olive and Zeke Miller. Though distance and time sometimes separated them, his love for his grandchildren was limitless.

Gary was also a brother to Royann (Norb) Cygan of Castle Rock, Colorado, Elaine Nock of Gig Harbor, Washington, and Carole (Jon) Poe of Billings, and a brother-in-law to Ric Anderson of Kila, Jennifer Sipe of Kalispell, and Randy Anderson of Whitefish.

He will be missed greatly by them, as well as the numerous nieces and nephews on both the Anderson and Nock sides of the family.

He will also be missed by a five-pound Chihuahua named Daisy, who shivered her way onto his lap and into his heart.

When Gary was diagnosed with cancer in February of this year, he looked to his summary of the book of Philippians as a sort of roadmap on how to live in light of this news. . .

Whatever happens, stand firm

Whatever happens, press on

Whatever happens, rejoice

We will stand firm in the knowledge that God is good all the time, even when you're diagnosed with a terminal disease. We will press on knowing that we will be reunited in heaven because this life is not the end for those who have accepted Christ's gift of salvation. We will rejoice in having known this kind-hearted, abnormally funny, noble man, for he was truly a gift.

A memorial service and reception will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 20, at GracePoint Church in Ephrata, Washington.

Gary Rock, 73 (Cont)

We like to think the Art Institute never fully recovered from his absence but their loss was Royal Logging's gain. To support his young family, Gary went to work in the woods driving a D8 Caterpillar and making roads because it was the '70s and '80s in Whitefish and if you weren't working on the railroad, you were working in the woods. He only ever considered himself a mediocre operator (which his family doesn't think was true), but what he thinks he lacked in talent he made up for with wild stories and humorous tales that kept his family laughing for decades.

Life changed course again after Gary and Dawn sold most of their possessions in what is fondly known in the family as "The Garage Sale of '84," packed up the dog and their girls (they had

A giant among men (at least to us), he was full of wisdom and wit, love and curiosity, knowledge and resolve. He pursued his passions by getting his pilot's license in his 50s and continuing to ride a motorcycle until the very inconvenient diagnosis of brain cancer. He collected vintage typewriters (writing often hysterical, sometimes meaningful, letters with them), he enjoyed good cigars (but not in the house), and he had zero use for table games, unless you wanted to play "Adapt" ... the one where the parents do what they want and the kids adapt. That one was his favorite.

His most important role was teaching others

Marilyn 'Lynn' Anita Norton, 84

PAL 9 May 2021
Marilyn "Lynn" Anita Norton, 84, of Kalispell, passed away on May 5, 2021, at her home with her loving family by her side.

Marilyn was born on Aug. 8, 1936, in Oakland, California, to Roger and Blanch (Richardson) Ivie.

Marilyn was raised and attended school in California. She met Billy Norton and fell in love and they married in 1961. They spent 59 years raising family and



celebrating their love and faith in Jehovah, and the promise of paradise to come.

Lynn was a member of Jehovah's Witnesses. She loved to do wood working and painting.

Lynn was a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend.

She was preceded in death by her parents,

She is survived by her husband Billy, children Karyn Hemmy, Suzanne Newman and Michael Norton, nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

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.

Joshua Robert Francis Nunes, 42

PA 7 26 May 2021

Joshua Robert Francis Nunes of Big Arm was born in San Diego on March 25, 1979, to Carol Nunes and passed away in his sleep May 16, 2021.

No words can state the love and compassion that flowed from his heart to almost everyone who crossed his path. He spent the first half of his life working as an electrician in California. After he moved to Montana and found the love of his life, he went into a partnership as co-owner of the legendary Montana Bar with his darling wife, Brenna Marie, and mother-in-law Judy Norgaard. Josh was the heart and soul of the Montana Bar; he took much pride in restoring it and creating his legacy.

Josh was an inspiring dreamer who always had to be busy trying to realize these dreams, most of which were for his friends and family. Josh loved to put a smile on people's faces and always left people feeling better than when he found them. He accomplished so much in a life that was undeniably too short. Always pushing the envelope for himself, he was an unstoppable force of love and light in this world and will be dearly missed by even the most casual acquaintances. Josh will forever



be remembered in the small town of Hot Springs as a great husband, father, brother, friend and last but not least, a legend. He leaves behind his loving wife Brenna Marie (Schaible) Nunes, mother Carol Jean Nunes, sister Tabitha Michelle Nunes, and three children, Ayslinn Rose Nunes, Shelby Lynn McCahon and Paeton Kae McCahon.

The family is requesting that in lieu of flowers, any donations and cards be made to his daughter Ayslinn Nunes, and sent to the Montana Bar, P.O. Box 1083, Hot Springs, MT 59845; physical address 201 Main St., Hot Springs, MT 59845.

A celebration of life for Josh will be held on Saturday, July 10, at 4 p.m. at the Montana Bar in Hot Springs. We will also have a donation fund set up for her at the memorial.

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

Michael Ray Nordmark, 46

PAG 17 Oct 2021

Michael Ray Nordmark, husband, son, brother, friend and first responder, passed away on Oct. 7, 2021, at the age of 46.

Michael was born Oct. 7, 1975, in Bremerton, Washington, and raised in Seabeck, Washington, before residing in the South King County area. It was in Kent, Washington that he met the love of his life, Tyleighsa, on Sept. 29, 2005. Their relationship survived that initial karaoke night, and on March 5, 2018, they tied the knot on the sandy beaches of Oahu, Hawaii. After relocating to Montana in 2017, they eventually settled into their Columbia Falls home, made complete with their dog and cat (Neo and Snickers).

Michael began pursuing his passion for music when he started DJing in the early '90s

as DJ MyKey, working many clubs, events and weddings. He started his career as a first responder in 2017, volunteering for Bad Rock Fire/EMS, before getting his EMT license and then achieving his dream of becoming a licensed paramedic with Three Rivers EMS in 2018. Michael lived out both passions of DJing for crowds while helping others as a paramedic, bringing fun and joy to everyone.

In March 2021, Michael celebrated nine years of sobriety and was a positive influence in the recovery community, helping and attracting others to the recovery program along the way. His magnetic attitude drew admiration not just from those who he guided, but from those who guided him as well.

Michael will be remembered for his strong

passion for family and friends, his genuineness, and thoughtfulness. He was always the first person to unapologetically jump in and help someone, even a stranger, in a precarious situation. Michael had a big heart, bigger than life personality, and entertained with his clever wit.

Whether it was spending time with family, DJing for hours for fun, graffiti artistry, or shooting on the range, Michael was a creative man of many talents that he loved sharing with others.

Michael is survived by his wife Ty Nordmark, his sister Jennifer Chavanu, his mother Laurie Chavanu and her partner Burt Okitsu, but his tremendous spirit and loving heart will be carried on by all who were blessed enough to have met him.

A celebration of life will be held in his honor.