

Willis Blanch Zabel, 81

Willis Blanch Zabel, 81, died Monday, Oct. 7, 1996, at his home in Kalispell.

He was born to Henry and Myrtle Zabel on July 16, 1915, on the Whitefish River at the sawmill about 12 miles northwest of Kalispell. The mill stopped running just a few days later. He lived the rest of his life at 72 Park Street.

He loved hunting and fishing. He was a trapper all his life and made a good living at it, trapping all kinds of animals. He was also an avid gardener. He loved all his friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Albert Zabel; and sister Nellie Frost of Lewistown, Idaho.

He is survived by two sisters, Idabel Bavone of Seattle and Pearl Drickey of Dublin, Ohio; a brother, Russell Zabel, of Kalispell; and many nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. on Friday at Conrad Memorial Cemetery with the Rev. Larry Gaylord of First Presbyterian Church officiating. Arrangements are by Johnson Mortuary.