

## Robert D. Eacker, 70

Robert D. Eacker, 70, died Wednesday, Sept. 15, 1999.

He was born July 28, 1929, in Bartlett, Neb., to Ralph and Odessa King Eacker. He was raised in Ewing, Neb., where he hauled hay for the family business. He lived there until coming to Kalispell in the 1950s.

He worked for forest products and at Plum Creek until 1961, when he purchased his first logging truck. Later he put a self loader on his truck and was a familiar sight to everyone. He enjoyed hauling logs and continued to do so until his death.

He enjoyed bowling, stock car racing, and in the last 20 years has greatly enjoyed trap shooting. He liked sports of all kinds.

He was preceded in death by his

parents, one brother, and one sister.

He is now survived by his wife of 40 years, Betty Jean Eacker, at the family home in Kalispell; two daughters, Robin Kirkpatrick and husband, Tom, of Danville, Ill., and Terry Eacker of Kalispell; three sons, Ronald Eacker and wife, Pam, Ray Eacker and Michael Eacker, all of Kalispell; 12 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; also two sisters, Darlene Ruby of Colorado and Charlotte Fuller of Arizona.

Memorial services will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel, with the Rev. Tim Bartholomew of Stillwater Free Lutheran Church officiating.

Arrangements and cremation are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## John 'Jack' Joseph Early, 71

John "Jack" Joseph Early, 71, of Kalispell, died Monday, Feb. 22, 1999, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

He was born Jan. 22, 1928, in Carbondale, Pa., to Joseph and Margaret Early. He spent most of his life in Scranton, Pa.

In 1977, he came to visit Montana and instantly fell in love with the Flathead Valley. He then moved to Kalispell in 1990, to be closer to his family.

He was a Navy veteran, who prior to retirement worked for Early Foundry Company and at Rodgers Motorlines. Then he began a successful career in sales.

He was a member at the St. Matthews church and was avid

sports fan.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Margaret Early, cousins Betty Reid and Robert Farrell and nephew James Reid.

He is survived by three daughters, Elaine Mohan of Lakeside, Maureen Barrett of Dickson City, Pa., and Patricia Colacicco of Scranton, Pa.; brother William Early of West Chester, Ohio; cousins Joseph and John Farrell and Mary Burke, all from Carbondale; and seven grandchildren.

Services will be held at a later date in Pennsylvania.

Arrangements and cremation are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Bill Eason, 62

Bill Eason, 62, died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 1999, at Lebanon Community Hospital in Lebanon, Ore.

He was born Sept. 30, 1937, in Whitefish, the son of Joseph Chester and Marjorie I. Eason.

He married Arlene Jacobsen in Whitefish in 1956. As a young man he moved his family to the Albany, Ore., area where he resided for 20 plus years.

After being divorced he moved to the Whitefish area. He married Denise Wheeler on Aug. 3, 1994, in Sandpoint, Idaho. He lived in the Kalispell area and in 1996, moved to Linn County, Oregon.

He was a steel fabricator and welding instructor throughout his life. Most recently he taught welding at



Linn-Benton Community College Oregon.

He loved the outdoors and especially hunting. Other hobbies included computers and woodworking. He enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife Denise; daughters, Laurie Williams and husband Randy, and Holly Pool; son Bob Eason and wife Sherry; brothers, John of Spokane, and Tom of North Richland Hills, Texas; sister MeriSue Eason of North Richland Hills; and grandchildren Ryan Pool, Barbara Pool, Jamie Carlton, Jessie Rogers, Matea Williams, Billy Eason and Aaron Eason; and five nieces and nephews.

As was his wish, he was cremated and a small family service was held at the home of Bob Eason in Albany.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

## John B. 'Buck' Eberhard, 64

John B. "Buck" Eberhard, 64, died March 9, 1999, in Missoula.

He was born May 2, 1934, to John W. "Jack" and Anna Marea Eberhard in Great Falls. He married Helen Sundby in 1956, in Kalispell.

He graduated from Flathead County High School in 1953. He served in the Navy in 1953 and 1954. Then he started work for Mountain Bell Telephone Co., which is now US West. He retired in 1986, after 30 years.

He was a member of IBEW Local 206 and also was a shop steward during that time.

He was an avid fisherman, hunter and guide in the Bob Marshall Wilderness for many years. He was selected Montana Guide of the Year in 1993.

While his children were growing up, the family spent the summers on Flathead Lake with Carol and Al Forsch.

He enjoyed the Missoula Trap Club, and fixed their traps. He was very active in the Lawman 1000 and

had made nine trips with them to help raise money for Camp Mak-A-Dream.

In 1989, he married Darlene Hand and is survived by her at the family home and her daughter, Monique Simpson, of Maryland.

He is also survived by two sons, Michael J., wife Janet and their children, Kim, Amber, John and Torrie in Denver, Colo., Keith A., wife Sue and their two children, Jack and Maggie in Minot, N.D.; sister Sue and her husband, Norman K. Hanson of Marion, their children, John G. Hanson, Aileen and her husband, Jerry Brosten, Leila and her husband Monty Pugh and their six children, Renee, Tyler, Tate, Trisha Brosten and Jamie and Matt Pugh.

At his request instead of flowers donations may be made in his memory to Camp Mak-A-Dream, P.O. Box 1450, Missoula, MT 59806-1450.

At his request there will be no services.

## Alice Pearl Eckelberry, 90

Alice Pearl Eckelberry, 90, died Tuesday, June 15, 1999, at the Brendan House in Kalispell, where she had lived since 1989.

She was born on July 19, 1908, in Wilton, N.D., to Wilbert F. and Grace Pierce Swisher, the third child of seven. After first grade her family came to the Flathead Reservation in Sanders County. She attended grade school at Battle Butte, a one-room school house which stood until a few years ago when it burned in a prairie fire, and also in Hot Springs.

In 1920 she moved to Bozeman, where she finished grade school and started high school. Because of scarlet fever she missed a lot of school that year. The family moved to Columbia Falls, where she attended high school for a year, then she went to Flathead High School.

She met James Eckelberry in 1924, in Columbia Falls. They were married March 26, 1927, in Kalispell.

She was a longtime faithful mem-



ber of Our Redeemer Church in Columbia Falls. She considered herself very rich in family and was cherished by them.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, James, of 67 years; a grandson; three sisters; and two brothers.

She is survived by three daughters, Joyce Kloock and husband, Erwin, of Bigfork, Norma Johnson and husband, Dave, of Columbia Falls, and Thelma McKinley and husband, Bill, of Florence; one sister, Marjorie Keith and husband, Orville, of Thompson Falls; seven grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren; and her second family, Nona Burns and Lowell Eckelberry.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 3 p.m. at Our Redeemer Church in Columbia Falls, with the Rev. Terry Forke officiating. A reception will follow the services in the Fellowship Room at the church. Burial will be in Fairview Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

The family suggests memorials be given to a charity of your choice.

## Brad Lee Eckert, 44

Brad Lee Eckert, 44, died June 6, 1999, in Auburn, Calif., of natural causes.

He was born Sept. 17, 1954, in Fargo, N.D. He graduated from Helena High School and was employed by Magellan Industries in Sunnyvale, Calif., as a computer installer.

He is survived by his friend and companion, Joanie Powers of Auburn; his parents, Bill and Ellen

Eckert of Kalispell; a brother, Jerry Eckert of Littleton, Colo.; a sister, Marina of Aledo, Texas; seven nephews, a niece, a great-nephew, and many other relatives and friends worldwide.

Funeral services will be 2 p.m. Monday at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Interment will follow at the Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell.

## Lisa Diane Malmin Eckert, 30

Lisa Diane Malmin Eckert, 30, of Pueblo West, Colo., died surrounded by her family on Friday, Aug. 6, 1999, at Parkview Hospital in Pueblo.

She was born in Fort Dodge, Iowa, on March 29, 1969.

She completed elementary school in rural Iowa and graduated from Whitefish High School in 1987. In May of 1991, she received her bachelor of art degree from Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., graduating magna cum laude.

On Aug. 10, 1991, she married Steven J. Eckert at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish. She received her master of science degree in marriage, family and child counseling from Fresno State University in 1995, graduating summa cum laude.



In January of 1998, as the result of an accident, she was paralyzed from the chest down. Following her rehabilitation, she returned to her greatest joy which was caring for her husband, son and home. She was a member of the Fellowship of the Rockies and continued to be involved in many church-related activities.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. Steven Eckert and three-year-old son, Jonah, of Pueblo; mother Marcia Diane Malmin of Whitefish; father Edward Malmin of Whitefish; brother Ryan Malmin, his wife Shannon, and their three-year-old son, Walker, of Glasgow; brother Nathan Malmin of Missoula; and her maternal grandmother, Eunice Dale of Bode, Iowa.

She will be greatly missed by all her many loving friends and family members.

Services were held on Tuesday at the New Heights Baptist Church in Pueblo, with burial following at Imperial Memorial Gardens in Pueblo.

## Lynn Edwards, 90

Lynn Edwards, 90, of Great Falls, died on Nov. 10, 1999.

He was born Nov. 15, 1908, in Laddonia, Mo.

He married Celia Colbry Nov. 21, 1930, in Shelby. They farmed north of Joplin, Mont., for several years, then times were tough and they moved to Tillamook, Ore., and built an eight unit motel.

In 1948, they and daughter Lynda moved back to the farm and within a few years acquired more acreage. Celia died in 1957.

He loved farming, being around nature, bowling and playing pool. Being a self-educated man, he learned how to repair farm equipment, construct buildings and mastered various other crafts.

He was a Master Mason, past patron of The Order of the Eastern Star and a life member of the Algeria Shrine Temple.

He was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Joplin, until retirement, then transferred to Eidsvold Lutheran in Somers.



He married Clara Martinson Nov. 21, 1966 in Great Falls. They continued farming until 1974, then moved to Kalispell.

He enjoyed sightseeing, fishing, their fifth wheel and many years of wintering in Mesa, Ariz. In October 1996, they moved to Cambridge Place, a retirement community in Great Falls.

In addition to his wife Clara, he is survived by a daughter, Lynda, and husband, Hap Pleas, of Missoula; grandsons, Dave Knoyle of Renton, Wash., Greg Knoyle of Missoula and Jerry Knoyle of Billings; a sister, Nell West of Casa Grande, Ariz.; stepsons Larry and Linda Martinson of Havre and Don and Rosalie Martinson of Helena; various other relatives; and many friends.

Cremation has taken place at Croxford & Sons Funeral Home in Great Falls. A memorial service will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Croxford Funeral Home in Great Falls.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to Shrine Hospital, P.O. Box 2472, Spokane, WA 99210-2472 or Montana Parkinson's Disease Association, 500 15th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405 or your favorite charity.

## Cyrel J. Eid, 88

Cyrel J. Eid, 88, a Happy Valley resident, died Sunday, May 9, 1999, at his home on Bear Trail in Whitefish, of liver cancer.

He was born Nov. 1, 1910, in Red Deer, Alberta, to Carl and Pauline Eid. The family came to Froid, where they remained until 1918, when they moved to the Flathead and lived at various sites until making the Helena Flats area their home.

He started his career at Half Moon Lumber Co., then O'Neil Cabinet Shop in Kalispell. He met Vera Crowley, and they were married on July 8, 1934, in Kalispell. The couple remained in the area until 1941, when they moved to Seattle, where he worked at building government housing.

In 1942, they moved to Bay View, Idaho, where he worked building housing for the Navy. They returned to the Flathead in 1942, and he worked for Monarch Lumber Co. as cabinet shop foreman until 1951, when he moved to Williston, N.D., and started the Williston Woodworks and later the Minot Woodworks.

He sold the businesses in 1960, and moved to Polson, where he started the Westshore Cabinet Shop. They

resided in Polson until 1972, when they moved to Hope, Idaho. They moved to their present home in Happy Valley, south of Whitefish, in 1977.

He enjoyed woodworking, fishing and his church friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Irene; a brother, Vernon; and wife, Vera.

Survivors include a son, Ervin and Bernice Eid of Columbia Falls; sisters, Ruth and Howard Greene and Helen and Lee Halverstadt; a brother, Lorn and Leone Eid; four grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren, Carl and Vio Eid and their children, Natascha, Jonas and Juliene, Linda and Jim Carney and their children, Jason, Josh, Shane, Jeffery and Tyler, Marilyn and Glenn Osborne and their daughter, Shannon, and Anita and Tim Housand and their children, Luke and Rachel.

Visitation will be from 12 to 6 p.m. Wednesday at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish, with the Rev. John Bent officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell.

## Vera Barbara Crowley Eid, 83

Vera Barbara Crowley Eid, 83, of Happy Valley in Whitefish, died Tuesday morning, Feb. 16, 1999, at her home.

She was born Sept. 1, 1915, in Plentywood, to Albert and Mary Crowley. The family moved to Ferndale, by team and wagon. She spent her younger days in the Ferndale and Bigfork areas before moving to the Helena Flats area northeast of Kalispell, where she met Cyrel Eid. They married on July 8, 1934. They had one son, Ervin Eid.

They remained in this area until 1951, when they moved to Williston, N.D., to start Williston Woodworks.

She worked as a housewife and as a nurses aid at the Bethel Lutheran Home in Williston until 1960, when they moved to Polson, where they built the West Shore Cabinet Shop.

She enjoyed her flowers and gardening and working in the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Polson.

They moved to Hope, Idaho, in 1972, where they built a home and remained until 1977, then they moved to their present location at Happy Valley south of Whitefish.

She enjoyed homemaking and her work in Christ Lutheran Church.

She was preceded in death by her

parents and a sister, Eva.

Survivors include her husband Cyrel; a son and daughter-in-law, Ervin and Bernice Eid of Columbia Falls; a sister and brother-in-law, Art and Alma Syth of Sand Point, Idaho; four grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren, Carl and Viola Eid and children, Natascha, Jonas and Juliene, Linda and Jim Carney and family, Jason, Josh, Shane, Jeffery, and Tyler, Marilyn and Glenn Osborne and daughter, Shannon, and Anita and Tim Housand and family, Luke and Rachel.

Visitation will be Friday from 1 to 8 p.m. at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish, with the Rev. John Bent officiating. A graveside service will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell.

The family suggests memorials be made to Christ Lutheran Church or your favorite charity.

## Douglas Donald Eisinger, 42

Douglas Donald Eisinger, 42, of Healy, Alaska, died May 15, 1999, in Healy.

He was born Dec. 10, 1956, in Whitefish, the fifth child of Grace and Donald Eisinger.

He had a gusto for life and lived his life to the fullest. As a youngster he was an entrepreneur; he raised chickens and had a home delivery egg route.

He was involved with athletics year-round. He will be remembered for his athletic ability by many Flathead Valley folks and will always be a champion in the eyes of his family. He gave 110 percent in everything he attempted, from scholastic achievements to his sense of humor.

He graduated from Whitefish High School in 1975 and continued his education, working his way through the University of Montana and Montana State, completing his certified public accountant degree in 1982.

He worked at the aluminum plant and Burlington Northern Railroad during his college years. After graduation he was employed by Price Waterhouse accounting firm in Anchorage, Alaska.

He enjoyed himself and the people around him wherever he was. He loved the outdoors, so moving from



the Flathead Valley to Alaska was a dream for him that came true. In 1985 he began working for Usibelli Coal Mine in Healy, a community of 600 people located at the base of Mt. McKinley. He was the mine comptroller at the time of his death.

He married Anni Gallipeo in 1985, and is survived by her and his three stepsons, Joshua, Jacob and Gabriel, at the family home in Healy.

He loved Alaska and the Alaska life. He was finishing his retirement cabin outside of Healy, and it was there that he fell to his death. He will be missed by all who knew him, as he left quite an impression and was the kind of guy that everyone loved to be around.

He is survived by his parents, Don and Grace Eisinger; brother Tom; sister and brother-in-law, Carol and Richard Walker, all from the Flathead Valley; sister, Connie of Missoula, sister and brother-in-law, Linda and Jesse Payne of Wheatland, Mo.; nephews, Christopher and Carey Cahill of Ashland, Ore., and Ricky and Jared Eisinger of Whitefish; along with aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins in the Flathead Valley, Alaska and elsewhere.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial services and a time for sharing will be Saturday at 2 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish.

Godspeed little brother. You will live on in our hearts forever.

## LeRoy Donald Ellingson, 78

LeRoy Donald Ellingson, 78, died peacefully on his birthday, Dec. 25, 1999, in Kalispell, after a brief illness.

He was a Christmas baby born on Dec. 25, 1921, in Epping, N.D., to Elling and Mabel Bowker Ellingson. He attended school in Epping, and the day after high school graduation eagerly left the farm to write the remaining chapters of his life.

Shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, he joined the Navy where he learned the welding trade and served his country repairing ships throughout Europe and North Africa during World War II.

Following the war, he traveled to Cut Bank, on a rumor there was some part-time welding work in the oilfields.

Part-time turned into full-time, and in 1984, he retired from Union Oil Co. of California in Cut Bank, with more than 37 years of respected service as a welder and production foreman.

While working in Cut Bank, he met and married Lilly Anita Holte in 1952. Together they raised two children, David and Diane.

He was an active member of the

Sons of Norway and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cut Bank. He exhibited a lifelong commitment to hard work and demonstrated a creative ability to build anything that he set his mind to — usually with a heavy emphasis on steel and welding rod. He also loved to dance, and he put as much energy and enthusiasm into the dance as he did the rest of his life.

He will be deeply missed by family and friends who knew and loved him, and will be warmly remembered as a devoted man who actively lived life with a strong will, a playful sense of humor, and a kind heart.

He was preceded in death by wife, Lilly, in 1993; and sisters, Jean Anderson and Joyce Meland.

He is survived by son, David L. Ellingson of Sugar Land, Texas; daughter, Diane K. Ellingson of Seattle; sister Marlys Ellingson Johnson of Thief River Falls, Minn.; and special friend, Dodie Ridenour of West Glacier.

Family and friends held a memorial service on Dec. 29 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cut Bank.

## Katherine 'Kay' M. Elliott, 68

Katherine "Kay" M. Elliott, 68, a longtime former resident of Havre, died Monday, Aug. 16, 1999, in Whitefish following a battle with cancer.

A vigil will be held at St. Judes Catholic Church in Havre at 7 p.m. Wednesday, with a funeral mass at St. Judes Church at 10 a.m. the following morning, Thursday. Refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall following the funeral service for friends and family. A private graveside interment of the ashes will be at Calvary Cemetery.

Kay was born on Dec. 26, 1930, in Harlowton. She attended schools in Harlowton and earned a degree in medical technology in Minneapolis, Minn.

She met Dr. James Elliott while working at Deaconess Hospital in Havre. In 1952, they married and moved to Oregon, where he completed his medical education and training.

She and her husband lived in Havre for 38 years, until they retired to Whitefish in July, 1998.

She led an active life and was continuously involved in community activities. Guided by a strong personal faith, she was committed to her family and friends.

She was a member of St. Judes Catholic Church, Havre Hill County

Library Board, and PEO; a member and officer of the Montana Medical Association Auxiliary; a former member on the Havre Hill County Zoning Commission; former president of the Havre High School Booster Club; and a member of St. Charles Catholic Church in Whitefish and the Northern Montana Healthcare Corporate Membership board.

She enjoyed reading, gardening, holidays and her grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, Jim, of Whitefish; six children, Nancy and Janice of Seattle, Ronald and his wife, Deborah, of Saline, Mich., James and his wife, Laurie, of Billings, Mark and his wife, Shelly, of Missoula, and Scott and his wife, Melinda, of Burlington, Wash.; nine grandchildren; and two brothers, Joseph Kotan of Salt Lake City, Utah, and William Kotan of Helena.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Steven and Alice Kotan.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to the Havre/Hill County Library, 402 Third Ave., Havre, MT 59501; St. Judes School, 430 Seventh Ave., Havre, MT 59501; or Hospice, 1280 Burns Way #3, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements are by Holland and Bonine Funeral Home in Havre.

## Marlene Ellman, 64

Marlene Ellman, 64, of Columbia Falls, died at her home on Sept. 13, 1999, following a battle with cancer.

She was born on June 18, 1935, in Edenwold, Saskatchewan, to Adam and Minnie Schenoffer. She graduated from Central Collegiate in Regina, Saskatchewan.

In 1958, she married Sam Ellman in Calgary, Alberta. She resided in Columbia Falls for the rest of her life.

She worked for Plum Creek Lumber, and then for many years at the Columbia Falls City Clerk's office, from which she retired in 1992.

In 1970, she was proud to become a naturalized citizen of the United States.

She had a strong belief in God. She enjoyed traveling, golf, gardening, her grandkids and the winters she spent in Arizona.

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

She is survived by her husband, Sam, at home; daughters, Dawn McClelland and her husband, Rob, of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Susan Edens and her husband, Corey, of Kalispell; son, Charlie and his wife, Anita, of Columbia Falls; three granddaughters, Shelby Edens, Blaine Edens and Kaylie McClelland; and her sister, Shirley Welker and her family of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

A memorial mass will be held Thursday at 10 a.m. at St. Richard's Catholic Church, with the Rev. Charles Strom officiating. A private family inurnment will take place at a later date. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is in charge of the arrangements.

Memorials may be made to Home Options Hospice, 1280 Burns Way, Kalispell, MT 59901, or the Columbia Falls Food Pantry.

## Modeste Youstah Eneas, 93

Modeste Youstah Eneas, 93, of Elmo, died at his home on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 19, 1999.

Mass of the Resurrection will be held today at 10 a.m. at the Elmo Hall, with the Rev. Gary Reller as celebrant. Burial will be in the Dayton Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of Grogan Funeral Home.

## Hessie E. Erickson, 87

Hessie Emiline Erickson, 87, of Polson, formerly of Phoenix, Ariz., died on Tuesday, March 2, 1999, at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Fred, in 1989, three sisters, and three brothers.

Local survivors include sons Fred Erickson Jr. and Dale Erickson, both of Polson, and brother Ivan Herron of Kalispell.

Visitation will be held today until 8 p.m. at Grogan Funeral Home. Graveside funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at the Lakeview Cemetery in Polson.

## John R. Erickson, 79

John R. Erickson, 79, of Troy, died Sunday, March 21, 1999, at the VA Medical Center in Spokane.

He is survived by four sons including Randy and Toni Erickson of Libby; one daughter, three sisters including Isabell of Kalispell, 10 grandsons, four granddaughters, and three great-granddaughters.

Services will be today at 2 p.m. at the Church of God in Troy.

Memorials may be given to the VA Hospice Veterans Administration Medical Center, N. 4815 Assembly, Spokane, WA 99205.

Nelson & Vial Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

## Anna Erickson, 97

Anna Erickson, 97, a long time Olney resident died Jan. 1, 1999, at the Extended Care Unit on North Valley Hospital in Whitefish, where she resided since 1991.

She was born Jan. 17, 1901, in Boyd, Wis. She moved to Olney in the early 1940s, and worked with her brother, Paul Brunner, in his logging operation.

She enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, picking huckleberries, mushrooms and made many pairs of warm socks and mittens for the family.

She is survived by three children, Phyllis and Earl Olson of Green Bay, Wis., Robert Guckenber of Alberton, and Alice Gille of Pulaski, Wis.; 18 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren, 12 great-great-grandchildren,



three sisters, Barbara Nelson of Arlee, who died Jan. 2, 1999, Betty Olson of Owen, Wis., and Jean Johnson of Hamilton, Wis.

She was preceded in death by her father, Joseph Brunner; mother Mary Brunner Thompson; step-father James Thompson; two brothers; five sisters.

Her family would like to thank the nurses and staff of the ECU for the loving care she received during her stay there.

Visitation will be Tuesday from 1 to 8 p.m. at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. A wake service will be held today at 7 p.m. at the Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. A mass of the Christian burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, at 10 a.m. at St. Charles Catholic Church in Whitefish. The Rev. Charles Roman will officiate. Burial will follow in Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell.

## Kathryn Margaret Erickson, 65

Kathryn Margaret Erickson, 65, of Kalispell, died May 24, 1999, at St. Patrick Hospital due to complications following heart surgery.

She was born Sept. 20, 1933, in Paradise, to Gosta and Ada Erickson, the seventh of nine children. She moved to Kalispell with her family when she was in the sixth grade and graduated from Flathead High School in 1951.

In August of 1952, she married Jerry Miller and together they had five children.

Her fun-loving nature and great sense of humor made her many friends over the years and made her family love her even more. She enjoyed playing cards and cribbage, trips to Canada and family get-togethers. She loved animals and music, and was no stranger to a dance floor.

She was a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. She was kindhearted, good-natured, humorous, spirit-



ed, courageous and strong. She touched the lives of those who knew her, and forever she will be remembered in the hearts of her friends and family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sisters, Betty, Dorothy and Annie; and brothers, Roy, Billy and Kenny.

She is survived by sisters, Lois Nay of Cardston, Alberta, and Doris Doyle of Fargo, N.D.; her children, Marcey Miller, Pam Holmstrom and her husband, Blair, Karen Miller-Landis and her husband, Frank, Eric Miller, Fred Miller and his wife, Linda; her grandchildren, Rich Vincent, Jr., Colby Miller, Stacey Vincent, Joliene Brechel, Melissa Miller, and Jacob Miller; eight great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews and countless friends.

The funeral service will be held Tuesday, 2 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Marilyn Rose Espinoza, 57

Marilyn Rose Espinoza, 57, died Tuesday, Jan. 26, 1999, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

She was born April 8, 1941, in Albany, N.Y., to James and Velva Rose. She moved to California, where she graduated from Mount St. Mary's Nursing School in Westwood, then attended and graduated from Pasadena Nursing School in Pasadena, Calif.

She worked as an emergency room nurse for several years, then worked at Children's Hospital in Hollywood, where she was the nursing director.

She was married to Anthony Espinoza in July of 1976, in San Bernardino, Calif. They moved to Eureka, in 1981, where she lived until her death.

She will be remembered as a very loving and caring person, who loved

being able to take care of other people.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband Anthony of Eureka; stepson Anthony Espinoza II of Montana; stepdaughter Francine Victoria Neverett of Phoenix, Ariz.; brothers, Gerald Rose of Iowa, and Lawrence Rose of Oslo, Norway; and two stepgrandchildren, Priscella and Gabriel Neverett, both of Phoenix.

She has been cremated, and private family interment ceremonies will be conducted at a later date.

The family would like to offer a special thanks to the Eureka Rescue for their help.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

## Vaughn M. Evans, 67

Vaughn M. Evans, 67, died Dec. 23, 1999, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center of heart failure.

He was born to James Richard and Lavon Marriot Evans in Salt Lake City, Utah. He graduated from Jerome High School in 1951 and went into the U.S. Navy in January 1952. He served as a Communications Specialist on the USS Pocono, in Cincsouth Naples, Italy.

After being honorably discharged in 1956, he joined his parents and brother in Townsend, working as a ranch hand and later at the Montana Elevator Company.

In 1957, he married Claudia Flynn and moved to Spokane, and enrolled in Kinman Business College. While looking for a part-time job, he found an opening as a radioman at the Border Patrol office. This was the beginning of his 40-year career in government service. The Border Patrol took them to Havre until transferring to the U.S. Customs in 1962, which took him to Sweetgrass and Kellogg, Idaho. At his retirement in 1993, he received the prestigious Albert Gallatin Award for his 40 years of service.

In all the various places he lived, he has always been an active member of the communities. He spent his time as a Boy Scout leader while living in Kellogg, and they were known to many as "the troop to beat." While he was Scout Master, his troop went to the International and National Scout Jamborees. He received the Jaycee of the Year Award in 1963-64, and the Jaycees Fireman Award in 1965-66.

In 1974, the family relocated to Eureka, where he actively got involved with the Eureka Volunteer

Fire Department, which became his passion for 23 years. While serving as fire chief, he was instrumental in many great accomplishments for the department such as forming and implementing Eureka Rural Fire Department and later helping to convert it to the present Eureka Fire Service Area. Also, the expansion of the fire hall from two trucks to the present nine vehicles and the installation of the dry hydrants system, just to name a few. His second passion in life came to him when he joined the Volunteer Ambulance Crew 14 years ago and, as with all of his other activities, embraced it with all his heart.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Claudia; three daughters, Sandra Mason and husband Gary of Eureka, Susan Hughes and husband Rick of Willow Creek, Shelly Treece and husband Doug of Great Falls; eight grandchildren, Dru and Leslie Mason, Bill, Spenser, Preston and Diedre Hughes, and Kayla and Dani Treece; a brother, Dick Evans of Helena; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was a very caring husband, father and friend to many people and will be deeply missed by all. He was especially proud of all of his grandchildren and it was shown in his nickname as "Grandpa Vaughn" to all.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at 2 p.m., at the Baptist Church in Eureka, and conducted by the LDS Church with a military graveside at the Tobacco Valley Cemetery. Luncheon and wake will follow at the VFW Club. Memorials may be made to the Eureka Ambulance Service or any of your choosing.



## Wiltrude Yvonne 'Billy' Evans, 84

Wiltrude Yvonne "Billy" Evans, 84, died on Oct. 14, 1999, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born on Dec. 24, 1914, in Verona, N.D., to Lena and Ben Phipps. Her father and baby sister died in 1918, during the flu epidemic, leaving her, a brother Phillip, and her mother. When she was eight years old, her mother married Charles Hegardt and her sister Leatrice "Deda" was born. They moved many times as she was growing up in North Dakota, Minnesota, Oregon and Iowa.

On Jan. 6, 1934, she eloped with Allan Burton Evans of Windom, Minn. They were married in Sioux Falls, S.D., where it was 20 degrees below zero. She wore a black dress and she always joked that she forgot to remove her tan overshoes for the ceremony. For their honeymoon, they got comic books and had liver and onions.

Four daughters were born in Windom, Charlene "Mitzi", Mary Ellen who died in infancy, Kay and Mary Lee.

While in Windom, her husband Allan was a beekeeper and she was involved in many civic organizations including being an honorary Jaycee. They raised cocker pups and cats. There was always a houseful and it was a good place to raise a family. They always had a full refrigerator and everyone was made to feel welcome.

Allan died in 1964, as a result of a truck accident. She became a widow at the age of 49, so she became a housemother in St. Paul, Minn., at a Farmhouse Fraternity with 40 boys. Having had only daughters, it was quite a challenge, but they needed her and she needed them. She remained there for nine years and taught 400 men how to dance.

After her housemother position, she headed west to Montana where she loved her trailer, the views and Pablo. She wrote a column for the local newspaper, "Little Bits By Billy." She also cooked at the Ronan Hospital, the Alcohol Center and eventually retired again.

In 1980, she went to Pullman, Wash., AOPSI Sorority which had 60 girls. The family had a farewell party in downtown Pablo with banners, a band and granddaughter Tiffany on

her horse. She was put on the bus and sent off into the sunset. She said in Pullman, "You can't go anyplace without going up or down." Again in 1984, she retired.

She worked at the Ronan Folkshop, cooked for the Youth Guidance Home and guess what, in 1986, went back to Missoula AOPSI Sorority, and in 1988, back to Pullman, Wash., AOPSI, where not only was she a housemother, but a Pink Lady at the hospital.

She also worked with her friend Judy at the local thrift store. They called themselves "the bag ladies." She sent many packages home and clothed the family for a long time.

She retired again in 1994, and had an apartment in Kalispell for one year. In December of that year, she celebrated her 80th birthday. She then moved to the Cherry Hill apartments in Polson. She continued to do volunteer work at the Polson Folk Shop, cooking for her granddaughter Tiffany and making muffins of every sort.

Her favorite songs were by Glenn Miller, Crosby, Sinatra and the big bands. She loved to dance. She had a good marriage. She had no money but no one had any and you made your own fun.

Her philosophy on life was to always look on the bright side. She was loved by so many including the fraternity brothers, sorority sisters, friends and family.

She is survived by three daughters and their husbands, Mitzi and Doug Smith of San Diego, Calif., Kay and Gene Scott of Polson, and Mary Lee and Jim Oliverson of Kalispell; seven grandchildren, Greg Meier, Liz Fischer, Jeff Scott, Marc Scott, Tiffany Duford, Scott Oliverson and Jason Oliverson; six great-grandchildren; a sister, Deda Voss; and niece Jane Taylor and nephew Bill Voss, and their families.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters; a brother; her husband; and a daughter.

A memorial service will be held on Nov. 6, 1999, at 1 p.m. at the New Life Christian Center in Polson.

Memorials in Billy's name should be directed to the Lighthouse Group Home, 384 Somers Rd., Kalispell, MT.

Arrangements and cremation are by Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory of Polson.

## Gene Earl Evenson, 68

Gene Earl Evenson, 68, died Friday, July 2, 1999, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

He was born Oct. 2, 1930, in Fargo, N.D., to Edvardt and Ida Evenson.

He is survived locally by his daughter and son-in-law, Belinda and Paul Lester of Kalispell; son and daughter-in-law Errol C. and Shelly

Evenson of Seeley Lake; and three grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Inurement will take place at a later date at the Veterans Cemetery in Columbia Falls. Arrangements and cremation are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Everett P. 'Blackie' Eyre, 88

Everett P. "Blackie" Eyre, 88, died Friday, Dec. 3, 1999, at his home in Columbia Falls.

He was born Feb. 18, 1911, in Clarinda, Iowa, to Wilson and Jessie Eyre. The family moved to eastern Montana in 1916. He attended school near Richey.

He worked on farms and ranches until 1927, when he worked on the construction of the Olney to Stryker road.

He moved to Minnesota for several years and later returned to Montana.

He was married to Margaret T. Miller on June 21, 1935, in Glendive.

He worked at the Fort Peck Dam for seven years. He worked at various jobs in several areas until after World War II. He then worked as a lineman on construction including

with Harp Construction until his retirement.

He moved to Missoula in 1961, and to Columbia Falls in 1989.

He is preceded in death by his parents, six brothers and one grandson.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret in Whitefish; five children, Kenneth Eyre of Whitefish, Wayne Eyre of Missoula, Maxine Ford of Columbia Falls, Lorene Chappel of Prosser, Wash, and Arvin Eyre of Seattle; 13 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 1-8 p.m., today at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. A graveside service will be held Thursday, 1 p.m., at the Sunset Memorial Cemetery in Missoula.