

Ila Valentine McFarland Nelsen, 93

Ila Valentine McFarland Nelsen, 93, died Tuesday, March 7, 2000, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She was born Feb. 14, 1907, in Kalispell, to William and Myra McFarland. She was raised and educated in the Flathead Valley.

She married Albert Nelsen on Feb. 24, 1926. They made their home in Whitefish, where he worked for the Western Fruit Express until his death in August 1960.

She worked in the dietary department of North Valley Hospital until her retirement in 1972. In 1984, she moved to the Elms in Kalispell, and the last eight years she resided in Brendan House.

She was a member of Vista Chapter 44; Order of Eastern Star; the Whitefish Hospital Auxiliary; and the First Presbyterian Church of Whitefish.

Her special interests were gardening, reading, sewing and making beautifully crocheted and knitted hand work.

She was a devoted and loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. She will be missed by all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her husband Albert, her parents, two sisters and a brother.

She is survived by her daughter, LeAnn Shepherd and husband, Tom, of Kalispell; grandsons, Robert Shepherd and his son, Levi, of Kalispell, Brian Shepherd and wife, Mary, and their children, Jacob, Kristina and Michael, all of Kalispell; and numerous nieces and a nephew and their families.

The family suggests that memorials be sent to the Brendan House Skilled Nursing Facility, 350 Conway Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, the First Presbyterian Church of Whitefish, 301 Central Avenue, Whitefish, MT 59937 or a charity of the donor's choice.

At her request no services will be held. Arrangements and cremation are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Arthur Oliver Nelson, 87

Arthur Oliver Nelson, 87, died Jan. 19, 2000, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

He was born Aug. 26, 1912, in Whitefish, to Cyrus and Mamie Banning Nelson. He was raised and received his education in Whitefish, graduating from Whitefish High School. As a young man, being a free spirit, he traveled around the country by rail, taking in the sights and meeting people.

Before serving in World War II he worked for a dry cleaning business in Glasgow. Later he owned and operated a dry cleaning business in Whitefish.

Upon being honorably discharged from the service, he returned to Kalispell, and took a position with the Postal Service as a postal clerk and later a rural mail carrier in Kalispell. He retired from the Postal Service in December 1974.

He married Vera E. Deist Aug. 22, 1937, in Kalispell.

He was a member of the VFW, and the Masonic Lodge.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing and

traveling in his motor home.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Vera; his parents and two brothers, Richard Nelson and Raymond Nelson.

He is survived by five sisters-in-law, Fern Nelson and Ellen Boorman of Whitefish, and Joan Deist, Isabelle Deist, and Betty Deist of Kalispell; also two brothers-in-law, Raymond Deist of Whitefish, and Robert Deist of Kalispell; with many nephews and nieces.

Memorials may be directed to the Epworth United Methodist Church in Kalispell, in memory of Arthur Nelson.

Funeral services will be Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with the Rev. Glenn Woodson of Epworth United Methodist Church officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be Monday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Charlotte E. Nelson, 72

Charlotte E. Nelson passed away at Kalispell Regional Medical Center on Aug. 29, 2000, in Kalispell.

She was born to Victor and Erna Merveaux in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

She is survived by her dear friend of 13 years, Lowell Knopfle; her daughters, Kathleen, and husband, Karl Sorenson, of Columbia Falls, and Robin Shuldheisz of Missoula; her sons, Ed Nelson and wife, Sandy, of Spokane, Mark Nelson and wife, Paula, of Missoula; eight grandchildren, Mathew Nelson, Ranette Sorenson, Marc McKee, Levi Sanders, Jessica Sorenson, Jennifer Nelson, Amber



Shuldheisz, and Kerrie Harvey.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Cecil Nelson, and her son, Jeff Nelson.

She had many outdoor interests which included skiing, golfing and running. She especially loved family and friends gathering for the annual Easter egg hunt and the infamous Christmas brunch.

She was a member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary and volunteered at the Whitefish Senior Center.

She will be missed by her family and many friends, "she will be in our hearts forever."

Visitation will be at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish on Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. Funeral services will be at Austin Funeral Home on Saturday at 3 p.m. with a reception at the V.F.W. in Whitefish immediately following.

Clara E. Nelson, 94

Clara E. Nelson, 94, died Jan. 4, 2000, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She was born Sept. 27, 1905, in Thief River Falls, Minn., to Mr. and Mrs. John Johnson. She received her education in Thief River Falls, going through the 10th grade there. She moved to Oakland where she met and married Haulger N. Nelson. They had two children, Marilyn and John.

Later they moved to Kalispell where her husband worked at State Mill now known as Stoltze Lumber.

She was a homemaker and loved to

garden and sew. She was a member of the Scandinavian Fraternity.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and one daughter, Marilyn Stevens.

She is survived by one son, John D. Nelson of Kalispell; one son-in-law, Al Stevens of Bonners Ferry, Idaho; and grandchildren.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at C.E. Conrad Cemetery in Kalispell.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

George W. Nelson, 63

George W. Nelson, 63, a long time Montana resident, died April 13 at Fort Harrison.

He was born Feb. 22, 1937 in Kalispell and graduated from Kalispell High School and entered the U.S. Army in 1959. He served at Fort Hamilton, N.Y., and spent time in Germany. In 1961 after an honorable discharge, he resided in Ferndale where his mother and step-father Floyd Mee lived.

He worked in the logging industry in the Flathead and Libby area.

He married Marlene Solem and lived at Libby and they had four children. They were later divorced. In 2983 he moved to Great Falls and worked in the logging industry. In 1988 he married Carol Friberg. He suffered an injury in 1991 while logging and was forced into early retirement.

He enjoyed traveling, visiting with friends and especially liked to spend time in the mountains. He enjoyed playing cards, fishing, and watching TV. He sold crafts at local craft sales.

A son, Mike, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife of Great Falls, daughter Susan Everett of Butte, Mark Nelson of Wasilla, Alaska, Kurt Nelson of Libby; step-daughter Lorrie Brassman and step-son Jeff Graham, and several grandchildren. He is survived by a step-brother Larry Mee of Highwood.

Memorial services will be today at 2 p.m. at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Great Falls. Chapel of Chimes is in charge of cremation.

Greta A. Nelson, 98, passed away of natural causes, August 28, 2000, at St. Luke's Extended Care Facility in Ronan. Greta was born in Butte December 20, 1901 to Tekla and Frank Nelson. She lived in Sheridan and Garnet before moving to Butte where she attended schools, graduating from Butte Business College in 1919.

Greta lived briefly in Kauai, Hawaii, returning to Butte and a position at the Paul Clark Home for Children. She moved to California and was a clerk/timekeeper for Southern Pacific Railroad in Oakland until her retirement in 1964.

She returned to Butte to be near family and in 1971 moved to the East Shore, Flathead Lake to be near her sister, Lucile Webber. In 1982, she moved to Polson and remained in the area until her final move to St. Luke's in 1998.

Greta was a member of several Scandinavian organizations and belonged to Assembly of God Church in Bigfork and New Life Christian Church in Polson.

Greta is survived by her niece Garene Cochrane and family of Bigfork, and cousins Vera MacMillan, Isabel Peters, and June Reed of Butte and Missoula.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service and burial will be a Mount Moriah Cemetery in Butte at a later date.

Memorials in Greta's name are suggested to: George Tierney Scholarship Fund, Butte High School, Butte, MT 59701; New Life Christian Church, Polson, MT 59860; or charity of donor's choice.

Ida Elizabeth Nelson, 89

Ida Elizabeth Nelson, 89, passed away Thursday, April 9, 2000, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She was born Sept. 25, 1910, in Mohall, N.D., the daughter of Thomas and Lilly Smith Fitzgerald. She grew up and attended schools in Mohall.

On March 23, 1932, she married Gunvald Nelson in Mohall. In 1941, they moved their family to the Flathead Valley in Montana. She resided in Somers for 45 years.

She was a mother and homemaker until her children started school; she then worked as a cook at various restaurants in the area. Prior to retirement, she worked as a cook at the Immanuel Lutheran Home for over 20 years.

She enjoyed her yard, her garden, crocheting afghans and playing whist. She also loved walking and cooking, and teaching her children and grandchildren how to cook. She took a lot of pride in making numerous pies and lefsa, especially for the Methodist Wom-



en's annual dinner. She loved feeding people and her life was made more enjoyable when her two grandsons, Brad and Brian, lived next door to her and she could cook for them. Another love of her life was her family; she loved spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Gunvald on Feb. 7, 1975; three brothers, Morris, Mike and Frank Fitzgerald; and one sister, Mary Hill.

Those left to cherish her memory are her children, Norman Nelson of Kalispell, Bruce Nelson of Somers, Betty Sommers of Whitefish, Alice Wittlake and Irene Drake of Somers; 13 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren; and one sister, Clara Williams of Yakima, Wash.

Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Friday at the Johnson Mortuary Chapel, with the Rev. Glenn Woodson officiating. Burial will be at Glacier Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today at Johnson Mortuary.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

John C. Nelson, 72

John C. Nelson, 72, of Hungry Horse died Friday, March 31, 2000, at a local hospital of natural causes.

Mr. Nelson was born north of Havre on May 19, 1927, to Victor and Hazel (Hunter) Nelson. He was raised on the farm and attended the Lohman's Country School north of Havre, as well as schools in Havre.

He worked in his younger years for various farmers around Havre. He was also a mechanic for a number of years. John worked for the city of Havre and was a brakeman on the Great Northern Railway.

Mr. Nelson married Louise Maze on Aug. 9, 1947, in Chinook. In 1966 they moved to Kalispell, where he worked for Plum Creek for a short time. In 1975 they moved to Hungry Horse.

John loved to garden and work in his yard. He also loved his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and helped them on projects. He also enjoyed hunting,



fishing, camping and country music.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Frank, Roy and Robert Nelson, all of Havre.

He is survived by his wife, Louise, of Hungry Horse; sons, Cliff and Nancy Nelson of Devon, Mont., Melvin and Ellen Nelson of North Pole, Alaska, Carl and Cheryl Nelson of Columbia Falls, Leonard and Trudy Nelson of Great Falls; daughters, Karen and Steve Holmquist of Kalispell, Margaret Thompson of Kalispell, Sharon and Greg Elavsky of Kalispell, and Donna and Don McBride of Nevada, Mo.; two sisters, Minnie Simko and Dorothy Woronik of Havre; a brother, Melvin Nelson of Atlanta, Ga.; and 27 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be today from 1 to 8 p.m. at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Services will be Tuesday at 1 p.m. at the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls. Internment will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell.

Leslie Bertram Nelson, 85

Leslie Bertram Nelson, 85, passed away Dec. 24, 2000, at his Kalispell home.

He was born Oct. 9, 1915, in Stanley, N. D., to Ole T. and Nellie Anderson Nelson.

He married Ellen Boraas in 1940. They were married 46 years. He spent most his life in the mid-west area working for the Boy Scouts of America. At one point in his career, he acted as chief executive officer of the midwest region. After retiring in 1980, he moved to Sun City, Ariz. He came to Kalispell in 1997.

He loved golfing and being a handyman.

He was preceded in death by his wife.

He is survived by two daughters, Sharon Quackenbush of Covington, Ga., Lynn and husband, Ken Schnur, of Kalispell; two sons, Terry and wife, Judy Nelson, of Minneapolis, Lauren and wife, Pam Nelson, of Littleton, Colo.; one sister, Ardith Haven of Oregon; 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held on Thursday at 4 p.m. at the Kalispell Apostolic Church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

2000 Stanley Ness, 74

Stanley Ness, 74, died Saturday, Dec. 2, at his home in Kalispell.

He was born in Chester on Aug. 4, 1926.

Services are pending at this time and will be announced. Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Monte Lee Netzloff, 43

Monte Lee Netzloff, 43, of Eureka, died June 5, 2000 at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He was born March 10, 1953, at Minot, N.D., to Loren and Lola Netzloff. He married Olivia Ortiz on Jan. 3, 1974.

He had been a woodworker and later worked at Montana Market before being employed by the school district. He and his wife recently owned and operated Netzloff's Custom Butchering Inc. in Eureka.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother,

Marcus.

He is survived by his wife Olivia of Eureka; sons including Jesse of Eureka; daughter Rebekah Hoover of Kalispell; two brothers; a sister; as well as nieces and nephews.

Services will be today at 1 p.m. at the First Church of God with the Rev. Fred Hazen officiating.

Memorials may be made to Eureka Ambulance, Box 736, Eureka, MT 59917.

Arrangements are under the care of Nelson and Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

Ruby Dolly Newell, 83

Ruby Dolly Newell, 83, passed away on June 28, 2000 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho of natural causes.

She was born in Mat, N.D., on Feb. 17, 1917 to Charles and Gladys Torgison.

She grew up in Whitefish. She was preceded in death by

her husband Bud Newell, her parents and three brothers, Glen, Lavern and Merle Torgison.

Survivors include three sons, Bob Newell and his wife Donna of Richland, Wash., Dale Newell and wife Sandy of Coeur d'Alene, David Newell and wife Myrna of

Idaho Falls, Idaho; five grandchildren; two brothers, Loren Bus Torgison of Whitefish and Donald E. Torgison of Libby; a sister, Phyllis Howell of Yuma, Ariz.

Graveside services will be Friday at 2 p.m. at the Whitefish Cemetery.

Harold Leroy Newman, 75

Harold Leroy Newman, 75, of Columbia Falls, died Aug. 4, 2000, at the VA Medical Center in Fort Harrison.

He was born July 19, 1925, in Remer, Minn., the son of Albert and Stella Mishow Newman. He served his country in the Army and was a veteran of World War II.

He was employed in the logging industry, at one time operating his own logging business. He enjoyed horses as a hobby.

He was preceded in death by his son, Garry Hawkinson; his parents; his sister, Venera Boldouc; his brother, Elwood Newman; as well as his brother-in-law, Richard Mohler.

He is survived by his wife, Berna I. Newman of Columbia Falls; six daughters, Tammy Selves and her husband, Forest, of Pocatello, Idaho, Karon Seifke of Troy, Vivian Vanleishout and her husband, Bill, and Sandra Roose and her husband, Bill, all of Eureka, Norma Leib and her husband,

Maurice, and Vicki Parker, all of Columbia Falls; three sons, Willard Hawkinson and his wife, Joan, of Bear River, Minn., Edward Hawkinson and his wife, Sharon, of Whitefish, and Brian Newman of Portland; 23 grandchildren, 46 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren; five sisters, Veda Mohler of Grand Rapids, Minn., Tudy Dorrington and her husband, Earl, Lorraine Ehlers and her husband, Ronald, all of Togo, Minn., Dorothy Haugen and her husband, Richard, of Elkhorn, Wis., June Whitlock and her husband, William, of Hibbing, Minn.; four brothers, Warren Newman and his wife, June, of Hibbing, Gary Newman and his wife, Linda, Ronald Newman and his wife Carol, Terry Newman and his wife, Lyndie, all of Togo.

Cremation has taken place and a private family service will be held at a later time. Arrangements are under the direction of Columbia Mortuary of Columbia Falls.

Alfred C. Nichols, 64

Alfred C. Nichols, 64, of Kelso, Wash., and Lake Havasu City, Ariz., passed away on Nov. 27, 2000, in Lake Havasu City.

He was born on Jan. 19, 1936, in Great Falls to Agnes and Harry Nichols.

He is survived by his wife Dena of Kelso and Lake Havasu City; his mother, Agnes; and brother, Larry Nichols of Great Falls; daughter Debbie and Tom Honer; and daughter-in-law Bonnie Nichols, all of Soldotna, Alaska; stepsons and spouses Chance and Khrista Corpron of Yuma, Tony and Tracey Corpron and Thane and Terri Corpron, all of Springfield, Ore., Billy and Cami Corpron of Kalispell, Mike and Karen Bradley of Federal Way, Wash., Mark and Margie Bradley of Normandy Park, Wash., stepsons Ron Nichols of Anchorage, Alaska, Ray Barnes of Sterling, Alaska, Donald Harrison of Poplar; and step-daughter Rosie Willis of Salt Lake City; 38 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his

father, Harry, in 1949; his first wife Carol in 1966; and a son, Brent, in 1996.

He worked for many construction companies over the years including Peter Kewit in Alaska. He enjoyed operating heavy machinery and was a master of the art. He enjoyed helping build the Libby Dam in Montana.

He was a member of the Operating Engineers for 44 years. He was a past member of Soldotna Elks Lodge #2706. He retired in Alaska in 1988 and worked in the Portland Oregon area until 1996.

He and his wife enjoyed the summers in Alaska where he loved to fish and visit with family. He was nearly ready to launch his new boat and move into his new Havasu home when the Lord called him home.

Memorial services and celebration of his life will be held on Monday at 3 p.m. at the new family home.

Cremation and arrangements are by Lietz-Fraze Funeral Home. His ashes will be scattered in the waters of the Kenai River.

Marcus V. Nichols, 84

Marcus V. Nichols, 84, died at his home in Kalispell, on Monday, April 17, 2000.

He was born on July 14, 1915, on the family homestead near Square Butte, Mont. He was the second of five children born to Marcus M. and Anna B. Nichols. Raised on the ranch, he received his early education from rural schools, graduating from Geraldine High School. In 1938, he received his bachelor of science degree in pre-medicine from the University of Montana.

With the outbreak of World War II, he went to serve his country as part of the first Chouteau County contingent. Later he returned to law school at UM before taking over the family farm in the early 1950s.

He loved the land and expanded the size and efficiency of the operation over the years. In 1970, he retired to Lakeside.

He and his wife, Ruth, had three children, a son Marcus and daughters, Nila and Karol. Ruth passed away in 1982.

In 1983, he married Patricia Weatherford of Kalispell. They spent their winters in Mesa, Ariz., and summers in Kalispell.

He was very active in the Eastern Star, serving as Grand Worthy Patron of Montana in 1965, and later as Right Worthy Grand Trustee of the International OES for 10 years. He was a member of Adah Chapter #17, OES of Kalispell and Denton Chapter #72 of OES. He was also past master and 60-year-member of Pilgrim Lodge 102; belonged to York Rite, Algeria Shrine; the Elks Club; the American Legion; Lakeside Community Methodist Church; and associate member of Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Mesa.

A gifted speaker he was much in demand for Americanism programs and his poetry presentations were shared by many. He gave greatly of his time and resources for the aid of his church, community, state, and fellow man. Sustained by his faith in God, he worked for the betterment of all.

He is survived by his wife Patricia at the family home in Kalispell; son Marcus M. and wife, Lois, of Lakeside; daughter Nila Compton and husband, John, of Billings, and their children, Marine Corp 2nd Lt. James of Pensacola, Fla., Marca of Billings, and daughter, Karol Engellant and husband, Don, of Great Falls and Geraldine, and their children, Autumn, Erik, and Michael. All of the Marcus siblings survive him. They are Virginia Carr of Salinas, Calif., Nathalie Keithly of Kalispell, Katherine Burnam and husband, Lon, of Salinas, Calif., Harry Nichols and wife, Marjorie, of Helena. He also leaves a number of nieces, nephews, step-children, and step-grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 2 to 7 p.m. today at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Lakeside Community Methodist Church with the Rev. Terry Dunn officiating. A second service will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Community Methodist Church in Geraldine. Burial will follow at the Geraldine Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Lakeside Chapel, Community Methodist Church of Geraldine, or Home Options Hospice of Kalispell.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Grant Theodore Nielsen, 77

Grant Theodore Nielsen, 77, passed away April 20, 2000, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

He was born June 13, 1922, in Sidney, to Theodore and Martha Sorensen

Nielsen. He attended schools in the Helena Flats area of Kalispell and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1941.

He served in the U.S. Army in the Quartermaster Corps from 1942 to 1945, landing on Omaha Beach the day after D-Day, and was stationed in Germany, England, France and Belgium. He also fought in the Battle of the Bulge. He was a member of the local chapter of the Disabled American Veterans.

He was married to Rose Marie Clark on Sept. 1, 1948, in Kalispell.

He was employed at the Equity Creamery for 30 years as a milk processor, making ice cream and other products. He also farmed part-time and raised livestock, sheep and hogs.

He enjoyed reading, driving his tractor and weekend farming as well as gardening.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his nephew, Bruce



Nielsen.

Survivors include his wife, Rose Nielsen of Kalispell; seven children, Marty Brewer and her husband, Roger, of White Sulphur Springs, Ronald Nielsen and his wife, Pam, of Dillon, Kathleen Nielsen of Brockton, Rosalie Seaman and her husband, Paul, of Covington, Wash., Gerald Nielsen and his wife, Diana, of North Richland Hills, Texas, Dennis Nielsen of Kalispell, Michele Ostrom and her husband, Clark, of Seattle; eight grandchildren and two great-grandsons; two brothers, Stanley Nielsen of Kalispell, and Harlan Nielsen of Euless, Texas; one sister, Beulah Prestbye of Kalispell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family suggests that memorials be made to Flathead Industries or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Funeral services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with the Rev. Douglas Nemitz officiating. Burial will follow at Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be Sunday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Johnson Mortuary.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

Joseph 'Joe' Edwin Nordtome, 61

Joseph "Joe" Edwin Nordtome, 61, passed away on July 22, 2000, at his home of a heart attack.

He was born on April 23, 1939, on the homestead of his family in Kalispell, to Sigvald and Anna Nordtome. He was still residing at the homestead when he passed away. He graduated from Flathead High School in 1957.

On Feb. 2, 1968, he married Linda Friedrich, they were divorced in 1978. They had four children, Jolene, Laura, Josef and Liana. He was employed by the C and C Evergreen branch of the Plum Creek Timber Company for the past 36 years. Prior to that he hauled fuel for D. McClarty of Standard Gas of Kalispell.

He farmed the homestead that had belonged to his grandfather, then his father right up until his death. His passion was farming and watching things grow. He worked for many of his neighbors, doing haying and other farm-related jobs during his younger years. He was always ready to lend a helping hand, or if something was broken or didn't work quite right, it was "Go ask Joe, he'll know what to do, he can fix anything."

He enjoyed having coffee at Sykes, which gave him an opportunity to visit with his many friends. Everyone he met was a friend.

In 1978, he joined the Eagles. During high school, he belonged to the FFA and 4-H. He later continued to be a 4-H leader. He loved to hunt, or just sit and watch wild animals on his long Sunday drives on the back roads of the Flathead Valley.

He served as a 21 year charter member of the West Valley Volunteer Fire Department. In 1994, he became a charter member of the



Northwest Antique Power Association. He was currently serving as it's president, after having been a past parade chairman.

He loved antiques of all kinds, from farm equipment, to a tiny miniature. He was a collector of John Deere collectibles. He enjoyed working on and rebuilding farm equipment engines, just to see if he could make them run.

He was the best son, brother, father, grandfather, uncle and friend. Oh, Joe we're all going to miss you.

He was baptized and confirmed at Stillwater Free Lutheran Church.

He was preceded in death by his father.

He is survived by his mother, Anna, at the family homestead; four children, daughter Jolene and husband, Mike Bucher, of Spanaway, Wash., Laura and her husband, Ken Eslick, of Bigfork, Liana and her husband, Mark Rowe, of Bigfork; son Josef Reuben of Federal Way, Wash.; three granddaughters, Crystal, Cheyenne and Kaylee; two sisters, Carol and husband, Bill Starbuck, and Elaine Lessor, all of Kalispell; two nephews, David and wife, Kelly Lessor, of Seattle, Donald Lessor of Graham, Wash.; two nieces, Linda Haymans of North Carolina, Yvonne and husband, Erik La Seur, of Seattle; and numerous great-nieces, nephews and cousins.

Visitation will be today from noon until 8 p.m. and Thursday from 9 a.m. until time of service at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. today at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, with the Rev. Tim Bartholomew officiating. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family request memorials be made to the Stillwater Lutheran Church.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is taking care of arrangements for the family.

Ardys Bernice Norby, 84

Ardys Bernice Norby, 84, died at Good Samaritan Hospital in Phoenix, Feb. 28, 2000, following open heart surgery.

She was born Sept. 24, 1915, to Alfred and Bertina Julson in Rugby, N.D. She married Clarence Norby on Dec. 22, 1934. They had celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary last December.

Throughout their marriage they bought, remodeled and sold many homes, especially in Whitefish.

She is survived by her husband Clarence in Deming, N.M.; brother Williard Julson of Eau Claire, Wis.; two daughters, Janice and husband, Robert Hull, of Whitefish, their children, Kim Hull of Phoenix, Kelly Hull of Kalispell,

Kerry and Dana Hull of Belton, Mo., Carol and husband, Ronald Schultz, of Sheboygan, Wis., their children, Roxanne Prager of Sheboygan, and Micheal Recu of Kenosha, Wis.; son Eugene and Kay Norby of Deming; grandsons, Kurt and Robin Norby of Eagle River, Alaska, Kris and Joanna Norby of Leavenworth, Wash.; daughter-in-law Julie Norby, children, Matt and Jill, all of Whitefish; also nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by son Gary Norby; granddaughter Katherine Norby; grandson Randall Ricu; and daughter-in-law Hazel Norby.

A memorial service is being planned for early July in Whitefish.

Grace Lydia Northrup, 84

Grace Lydia Northrup, 84, died Oct. 31, 2000, at the Lake View Care Center in Bigfork.

She was born April 9, 1916, in Williston, N.D., to Arthur and Jane Greaves.

She is survived locally by her brother, Lloyd Greaves of Bigfork.

She has been cremated. There are no services planned at this time and her remains will be placed with her husband in C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary.

Stella May Fort Norton, 79

Stella May Fort Norton, 79, passed away Sunday, April 2, 2000, at her home in Bigfork.

She was born on July 8, 1920, in Hulett, Wyo., the daughter of Lionel and Florence Richards Fort. She graduated from high school in Moorcroft, Wyo., and later from Spearfish Normal School.

In 1941, she was married to Mayne Allen Norton in Klamath



Falls, Ore. She moved to Bigfork in 1987.

Her grandchildren were the absolute joy of life. Her friends and family will fondly remember her sewing, knitting, crocheting, and quilt-making talents.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; two brothers, Elbert and Harry Fort; and one sister, Florence Halsey. Survivors include one son, Wayne Norton of Bridgeport, Calif.; and one daughter, Sandra Roberts and her husband, Warren, of Bigfork; four grandchildren, Kim Bulling-

ton, Sazi Marri Stoddard, Mathew Ferkovich, Kelly Ferkovich; and one great-grandchild, Lucas Marri.

Memorials may be directed to the Bigfork QRU, 810 Grand Avenue, Bigfork, MT 59911 in memory of Stella May Fort Norton.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 1 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel, with the Rev. Ron Pierce officiating. Visitation will be held Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary.

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