

## Donald B. Vail, 92

Donald B. Vail, 92, died Jan. 19, 2000, at his residence in Columbia Falls.

He was born Sept. 19, 1907, in Decker, Mich., to Earl Chauncey and Madge Bennett Vail.

He worked for the Union Pacific Railroad for 33 years in Cheyenne, Wyo., retiring as a switchman in 1972.

He enjoyed fishing, traveling and reading.

He married Dorothy Mae Carey on Oct. 4, 1928, at Flint, Mich. She died March 12, 1994.

He was preceded in death by his wife Dorothy, and a sister.

He is survived by his son, Dexter

R. Vail and his wife, Ilene, of Columbia Falls; daughters, Donna V. Hellwig and husband, Frank, of Aurora, Colo., and Doris R. Vail of Vienna, Va.; nine grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Monday at 1 p.m. at Wiederspahn-Radomsky Chapel of the Chimes, in Cheyenne, Wyo. with burial at Lakeview Cemetery in Cheyenne.

The family suggests memorials to Hospice, 180 Burns Way #3; Kalispell, MT 59901.

Local arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory in Kalispell.

## Johannes 'Joe' VanBemmel, 90

Johannes "Joe" VanBemmel, 90, died Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2000, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

He was born Jan. 12, 1910, in Barmveld Gelderland, Netherlands, the son of Henry and Maria VanHill VanBemmel. He attended schools in Holland before coming to America. The family moved to Rock Valley, Iowa, when he was 8 years old. He continued his education there until completing the eighth grade.

On Oct. 10, 1936, he married Mary Ellen Reynolds in Bozeman. He was a laborer his entire working life. He worked at the sawmill in Eureka. He and his wife moved to Eureka in 1947, and they moved to Kalispell in 1964. He later worked as a farm hand in the Flathead Valley until retirement.

He worked as a volunteer for Brendan House in Kalispell for several years. He has been a resident at Brendan House since October 1995.

He was an avid reader and faithfully attended church as a member of the Christian Center in Kalispell.

Memorials may be directed to Brendan House, 350 Conway Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901, or to a charity of one's choice in memory of Johannes "Joe" VanBemmel.

He was preceded in death by his wife Mary in 1987; sons, David James in 1956, and Charles Duane in 1962; and several brothers and sisters.

Survivors include four sons, Joe VanBemmel Jr. and his wife, Sue, of Kalispell, Albert VanBemmel and his wife, Geraldine, of Eureka, Daniel

VanBemmel and his wife, Claudette, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, Robert VanBemmel and his wife, Jenny, of Exira, Iowa; three daughters, Marie Heide and her husband, Eldon, of Hillsboro, Wis., Hope Ivers and her husband, Bob, of Fennimore, Wis., Sherry Sterner and her husband, Ken, of Kalispell; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; brother John VanBemmel of Orange City, Iowa; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services were held Saturday, Feb. 26 at the Tobacco Valley Cemetery in Eureka, with the Rev. Don Nelson officiating.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory in Kalispell.

## Margaret C. Van Leuven, 75

Margaret C. Van Leuven, 75, died Feb. 23, 2000, in Burbank Calif.

She was born Feb. 19, 1925, in Somers, to Nellie and Thomas Kennedy. She later moved to Kalispell, where she attended grade school at St. Matthew's Catholic School. She graduated from Flathead High School.

She was a waitress at Alton Pierce Drug for many years and it is reported that many customers preferred her ice-cream sodas to those of the other employees. While in their employment she met, then married, Jeddie H. Van Leuven on June 20, 1957.

In 1967 she and her husband founded the Van Leuven Funeral Home in Columbia Falls. Two years after her husband's death in 1976, she sold the funeral home and moved to Kalispell.

There she was employed by Anderson Theater Company and



was a member of St. Matthew's Catholic Church.

She enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren and sister. She enjoyed crossword puzzles and game shows. She enjoyed life.

She had just recently moved to Shadow Hills, Calif.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and one brother, Joseph Kennedy.

Survivors include her daughter, Karen Van Leuven of Echo Park, Calif.; son, Michael Van Leuven and his wife Robin of Columbia Falls; daughters, Jody Van Leuven and her husband John Herbold of Shadow Hills, Calif., and Judy Van Leuven and her husband Lee Myers of Santa Cruz, Calif.; and her sister, Mary Pearson of Boulder. She is also survived by five grandchildren, Kally, Jed, Jacob, Sierra and Madison.

A funeral mass will be held at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls at 11 a.m. Thursday, with graveside services to be held at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Association.

## Marilyn VanSweden, 72

Marilyn VanSweden, 72, died on Feb. 2, 2000, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She was born Nov. 22, 1927, in Hartford, Mich., the daughter of George and Betsy Chuvala.

She attended schools in Hartford, graduating from high school in 1945.

She enjoyed reading and making hook rugs.

On Nov. 22, 1946, she married Robert VanSweden in Kalamazoo, Mich. She was a homemaker and mother to two children. She and Robert moved to Kalispell from Kalamazoo in April 1984, when they retired.

She was preceded in death by her

son, Brian, in 1975; her parents; and her sister, Betty.

She is survived by her husband, Robert, of Kalispell; a daughter, Tamara Prehn and husband, Doug, of PawPaw, Mich.; two grandchildren of Kalamazoo; and two nieces.

Graveside services will be on Friday at 11 a.m. at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell, with Steve Stanearth officiating. There is no visitation. The casket will remain closed.

The family suggests memorial gifts be given to the charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

## Elizabeth M. Van Vliet, 82

Elizabeth M. Van Vliet, 82, died on December 28, 2000 at her son's home in Bigfork. She was born February 9, 1918, in Elk Grove, Cal., to John and Christina Backer. She is preceded in death by her husband of 65 years.

Local survivors include son Don Van Vliet and his wife,

Joan, of Bigfork; granddaughters Rosalie Van Vliet, Sarah Van Vliet, Marie Van Vliet, Danielle Van Vliet, and Brandi Castagnola, all of Bigfork.

Cremation has taken place and urn burial will be in California at a later date. Bigfork Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## 2000 Sophie Ellen Jensen-Vergin, 83

Sophie Ellen Jensen-Vergin, 83, died Friday, Jan. 7, 1999, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

She was born March 10, 1916, at Kittitas, Wash., the daughter of Jens Jensen and Helen Blair Jensen. After losing the ranch during the Depression, the family moved to Ellensburg, Wash. She received her education in Ellensburg, graduating from Ellensburg High School in 1935.

In 1938, she married Ralph Livermore and they lived in San Francisco, Calif., until his death in 1943. She and her son Larry moved to Kalispell after his death.

On Feb. 14, 1946, at Kalispell, she married her childhood sweetheart, Fred Vergin, who preceded her in death on Feb. 1, 1991.

She was employed at the Snowline Tree Company for many years where she made rope and bows and loved to craft with the bows she cut.

She loved to visit with friends and family. She loved to play pinochle and enjoyed functions at the Smith Valley Grange.

She read every day, including romance novels she often shared with her family. She was beautiful. She was a tough, strong-willed woman who always had a dirty joke to tell.

She lived a long good life and left

behind many memories to treasure.

She was a member of the Home Demonstration Unit of Smith Valley and the Smith Valley Grange.

She was preceded in death by her husbands, several brothers and sisters and her parents.

She is survived by her two sons, Larry Livermore and Bill Vergin and wife, Carol, all of Kalispell; four grandchildren, Douglas Vergin of Kalispell, Tamara Carpenter and husband Brian of Corning, Calif., Heather Truscott and husband Derek and Jessica Danielson and husband Chad, all of Kalispell; four great-grandchildren, Brad, Meagan and Kristian Carpenter of Corning, Calif., and Siri Danielson of Kalispell; one brother, Hans Jensen of Deary, Idaho; and one sister, Agnes Crawford of Gig Harbor, Wash.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery, with Deacon Fred Topp officiating. Visitation will be held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday at Johnson Mortuary.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be directed to the Yellowstone Boys Ranch or the charity of the donor's choice. Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

2 July 2000 Jane B. Verdugo, 83

Jane B. Verdugo, 83, of Eureka died Sunday at North Valley Hospital from natural causes. She was born on March 21, 1917 in Scottsdale, Ariz., to Frank and Helen Stright Beasley.

She grew up in Scottsdale and later moved to California, where she worked as a secretary for Lockheed Aircraft.

Verdugo was the mother of 12 and also raised five stepchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Nickolus, Verdugo, on July 4, 1997.

Survivors include a son and three daughters, including Jane Loper and her husband Jerry of Rexford, a brother, two sisters, 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Services will be Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Nelson & Vial Funeral Home in Eureka.

### Harvey E. Vinson, 90

Harvey E. Vinson, 90, died Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2000, at the Libby Care Center.

He was born March 15, 1909, in Stampede, N.D., the son of Glenn and Hattie Vinson.

He studied accounting in Spokane and served in the Army Air Corps during World War II. Following his honorable discharge in 1945, he returned to Spokane, where he was office and credit manager of the Alaska Steel & Supply Company for 20 years.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Louise, in 1996; his parents; one sister; and three brothers.

He is survived locally by his nephews Verle, Richard and Dale Vinson, all of Libby; his nieces Harriet Welch of Troy and Marilyn Kair, Colleen Stewart and Sharon Cohenour, all of Libby; sisters-in-law Stella Vinson of Libby and June Vinson of Kalispell; and several nieces and nephews.

Services will be Monday at 2 p.m. at the Nelson and Vial Funeral Home Chapel in Libby with the Rev. Les Nelson officiating.

### Martin L. Vick Jr., 77

Martin L. Vick Jr, 77, of Missoula, passed away at his home on Dec. 24, 2000, from cancer. His wife and family were at his side.

He was born in Sheyenne, N.D., on Sept. 3, 1923, to Martin and Katherine Vick. The family moved to Kalispell in 1935, and he graduated with the Flathead County High School class of 1942. He served in the Army with the Signal Corps in the European area during World War II.

In 1947, he married June Howard in Kalispell. He worked

for the National Weather Service in Kalispell, Billings, and finally Missoula. He then joined the Forest Service with Skyfire (lightning research) at the Intermountain Fire Service Laboratory.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his daughter Marsha; and brother, Ilynn Vick.

He is survived by his wife Jane of Missoula; and two sons, David and wife, Natalie, of the Seattle area, and Tim of Missoula; sister Estelle Will of Kalispell; three nieces and one nephew.

## Donna Sue Voigt, 64

Donna Sue Voigt, 64, of Kalispell, died on Sept. 19, 2000, at her home.

She was born on May 3, 1936, in Kalispell, the daughter of Dr. Edson Manning Curry and Virginia Marie Bange-man Curry. She grew up in Kalispell and graduated from Flat-head High School in 1954.

On Aug. 10, 1954, she married Ernest M. Cooper in Washington D.C. The couple had three children, son John and daughters, Leanne and Wendy. He was a career Navy officer so the family lived in several places, including Washington, D.C., Chicago, Japan and eventually



Oxnard, Calif. She and Cooper were divorced in 1973.

She was in charge of recreational and special services for the Navy Seabees at Port Hueneme, Calif., from June of 1972 until August of 1984.

She and Gary D. Voigt were married Feb. 1, 1974, at Oxnard, where they lived until moving to Kalispell in the spring of 1985. He works as a long-haul driver for TSI of Spokane.

She worked at Sargent Jewelry and then was the administrative assistant at the Kalispell Area Chamber of Commerce until her retirement on July 30, 1999.

During her working years, she belonged to several professional groups. She was a person who loved to read, travel, play bridge and enjoy the outdoors.

Survivors include her husband, Gary, of Kalispell; son John Cooper, his wife Karen and grandsons, Matthew and Robert of Murfres-boro, Tenn.; daughters, Leanne Runnels of Flint, Mich., and grand-son Eric Runnels of Lansing, Mich.; and Wendy Johnson of Delan, Fla.; sister Caroline Blair and brother, John Curry, both of Kalispell; three nephews and three nieces and sev-eral grandnephews and nieces.

Arrangements are under direc-tion of Johnson Mortuary and Cre-matory. Cremation has taken place and burial will be at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. At her request, there will be no public ser-vice.

Memorials should be sent to the American Cancer Society or a char-ity of the donor's choice.

## Fred Earl Vonder Heide, 74

Fred Earl Von-der Heide, 74, died Sept. 19, 2000, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He was born June 20, 1926, in Grand Rapids, Minn., to Ferdi-nand George and Zelda Whiteside Vonder Heide.

He received his early education in Grand Rapids and started work-ing at a young age to help support the family. He moved to Kalispell in 1950.

He joined the Army in 1952, and was stationed in France and Ger-many, also serving in the Korean Conflict. He married Martha



Bucher in 1959 in Kalispell.

He worked at various jobs when he was young, also working for Mills Lumber and Stoltz Land & Lumber before working for Equity Grainery, milling grain until he took a medical retirement in 1981.

After retirement, he worked on the farm raising sheep and taking care of the farm. He worked around the farm until his medical condi-tions prevented him from doing so.

He enjoyed knitting afghans and enjoyed the time he spent with the Kila Rangers 4-H organization. He loved telling stories and jokes.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Henry and Don; and one sister, Margaret.

He is survived by his wife,

Martha Vonder Heide of Kalispell; one son, Steven Vonder Heide and wife, Jennessa, of Kalispell.

Funeral services will be held Fri-day at 3 p.m. at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with the Rev. Dave Thue-son of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Columbia Falls 1st Ward, officiating. The service will be held in conjunction with his brother-in-law Arvil Rollins memo-rial service. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens with military honors by the Veterans of the Flathead. Visitation will be today from noon to 6 p.m. at John-son Mortuary Chapel.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.