

Myrl F. Packer III, 28

Myrl F. Packer III of Kalispell died Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, at home. He was 28.

He was the husband of Jessica Pryor Packer, and loving father of his sons, Corban and Adon Packer.

Born in Norristown, Pa., he was the son of Anna Roth Packer of Perkasio, Pa. Myrl grew up in Warrington, Pa. He went to Central Bucks West High School and Bucks County Community College.

He then enlisted in the U.S. Navy and moved to southern California.

While out west, Myrl capitalized on being able to pursue his outdoor passions of hunting, fishing and hiking. He then moved to Montana in 2006, where he lived his passion for the outdoors in addition to working as a manager for Teletech in Kalispell.

He was very artistic, and loved to draw, write and play his guitar.

Most importantly, his greatest passion was spending time with his sons. Myrl knew that being a father was something to be treasured, and spent as much time as he could with them. He loved his boys very much.

In addition to his wife, sons,



and mother, he is survived by his brothers, Keary M. Packer, and Evan S. Packer, both of Perkasio. He was the grandson of George M. Roth Jr., of Warminster,

Pa.; and nephew of Margaret and Mark Stipa of Philadelphia, Mary Lee of Warrington, Martha Jane and Brian Danchak of Chalfont, Pa., Gregory Roth of State College, Pa., Michael Riter of Warrington, and George and Vicki Roth of Telford, Pa. He also is survived by many cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Anna Marie Packer; his maternal grandmother, Margaret McKay Roth; and his aunt, Catharine Riter.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend his viewing from 9 a.m. until his funeral Mass at 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 12, in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church, Route 152 and Broad Street, Hilltown, Pa. Interment will be in the parish cemetery. Joseph A. Fluehr III Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Donald Padden, 58

Donald Padden, 58, born July 15, 1958, in Fort Benton, passed away Sept. 21, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. He is "now in the kingdom of Heaven with the almighty God and our Lord, Jesus Christ."

Donald enlisted in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam era.

He is survived by his son, Scott; and brothers and sisters, Hal Padden, and Jeff, Arron, Allen, Linda, Alice, Vern, Ken and Bryon Far-

nun.

Don had many friends and acquaintances throughout the Flathead Valley that will sadly miss him in the years to come.

A church service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 27, at the VFW in Kalispell, with Pastor Andy Widdifield of Harvest Ministries officiating. A celebration of life will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Call 250-9429 for details.

Gary Padgett, 63

Gary Padgett, 63, died on Thursday, May 7, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

Services and burial will be held in Oklahoma.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Jerome Palmer, 36

Jerome Palmer, 36, died Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. He will be cremated. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Glenn Parks, 75

Glenn Parks, 75, died Wednesday April 8, 2009, at his cabin in Eureka. Rick Parks of Alexandria, Va., and daughter, Stacy Casasanta, of Gresham, Ore.

He is survived by his wife, Carole Parks, son, Private family services are being held.

Virgil Paro, 88

Virgil Paro, 88, died April 17, 2009, in Kalispell.

He was retired from a career as a probation officer in Flathead County.

Survivors include son, Lemar Paro; daughter,

Velma Paro Kaluza; stepson, Kenneth Torgerson, and stepdaughter, Shari March.

A memorial service will be at 1 p.m., Wednesday, April 22, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell.

Deborah Dawn Leppke-Parsons, 43

Debbie passed away Jan. 19, 2009, in Kalispell. Debbie was born in Salida, Colo., on March 12, 1965, to Floyd and Judy Leppke.



Debbie is survived by her parents, Floyd Leppke of Leadville, Colo., and Judy and Kent Mitchell of Alamosa, Colo.; daughter, Amanda Parsons, and granddaughter, Aviana Parsons, of Auburn, Wash.; son, Jared Parsons, of Maple Valley, Wash.; son, Sean Austin Toavs, of Kalispell; sisters, Brenda and Jim Nabulsi of Eagle River, Alaska, and Tricia Leppke of Canon City, Colo.; aunt, Kathy and Mike Johnson, of Pueblo West, Colo.; aunt, Cindy Pfalzgraff, of Penrose, Colo.;

uncle, Glenn and Carol Leppke, of Canon City; grandfather, Ike and Jan Leppke, of Pueblo, Colo.; and numerous nieces and nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Debbie was preceded in death by her grandparents, James and Donna Boyce of Leadville and Canon City, and Lorraine Leppke of Leadville.

Debbie loved the simple things in life: sunsets, snow, a soothing cup of tea, wildflowers, wildlife, the outdoors, hunting, fishing, camping, skiing and hunting arrowheads.

Her passions in life were sketching, painting, gardening, cooking, baking, saltwater aquariums, photography and taking care of others.

Cremation was chosen, and family and friends will hold a service this summer in Colorado to honor her life.

Holly Manaras Patera, 39

Holly Manaras Patera, 39, of Tukwila, Wash., died on Sept. 13, 2009, in her home. Cause of death was suicide.

She is survived by her son, Nathan Patera; her parents, Steve and Lindsay Manaras, of Columbia Falls; and her sister, Dawn Manaras Lee, of Libby.

A memorial service will be

held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Donations in Holly's name may be made to The Migraine (Headache) Research Foundation at 300 E. 75th St., Suite 3K, New York, NY 10021; phone: (212) 249-5402; www.migraineresearchfoundation.org/donate

Jean Reithmeier Paul, 78

Jean Reithmeier Paul, 78, of Bigfork, passed away on Friday, July 31, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. She was born on Jan. 9, 1931, in Kansas City, Kan., to Darrell and Violet (Smith) Garrett.

She is survived by her husband, Robert "Rip" Paul; two daughters, Janice Glenn and Kathryn Greenwood; four stepsons, Robert Paul and wife Linda, Edward Paul, Fredrick Paul and Joseph Paul; several grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren;

a brother, William Garrett, and wife, Opal; a sister, Rosemary Little; and many other family members who care about her deeply.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home Chapel in Kalispell.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Jean's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and sign Jean's guest book.

Lyle William Pauli, 91

Lyle William Pauli died quietly in his sleep on July 13, 2009, in the extended care wing of Immanuel Lutheran



Home in Kalispell. Achieving the age of 91, Lyle enjoyed a life filled with family, friendship, and was a source and example of happiness, humility and love. Possessed of an easy smile, a disarming and unassuming demeanor, and a willingness to offer praise and affection to those around him, he was a man of rare qualities "who has left us to join his wife."

Lyle was born May 24, 1918, to William and Gwen (Warner) Pauli, who were spending a brief time in Ipswitch, S.D., during threshing season. The family returned shortly thereafter to Montana, where they lived in Williams, near Valier. It was during his adolescence that he discovered he had an aptitude for mechanics and machinery, which was served well by his inventive nature and strong work ethic. Young Lyle often filled his time tinkering on various homemade gadgets, many of which were funded by sharpening saws for the local farmers and carpenters. Some of his contraptions included an ice racer with a sail he would use on Lake Francis in the winter, and an airplane constructed of wood and canvas. Although he never got the plane off of the ground, he would taxi it around his father's pasture. Demonstrating his love of a good lark, when he grew tired of the flightless plane, he removed the engine, tipped it on its nose, and lit it on fire. Neighbors who passed by were certain he had finally gotten airborne and crashed, and kept calling on his father at work to see if he was alright.

Graduating from Valier High in 1936, he continued to work and live in the area. It was during this time that a spunky woman with brown hair by the name of Zerita Pitner was hanging around with his sister Val. As love and fate would have it, the two were married on June 29, 1940, a covenant that would last 66 years.

During World War II, Lyle served in the 163rd Regiment's 41st Infantry Division, and was part of M Company, which was devoted to heavy weapons, comprised of men from the areas of Chinook, Bainville, and Harlem. He fought in the South Pacific Theater, where he began his war effort in the Southern

Philippine Campaign, hopping from island to island. His service to his country ended in January of 1946 in Hiroshima, where he was a member of the first occupational force of Japan.

After the war, Lyle returned to his family in Valier, and ran his own automotive shop, while Zerita managed the home front. In 1954, the two packed up all of their worldly possessions, including their four children, Roger, Jerry, Jim and Anita, and relocated to the Flathead Valley. They moved into a house in east Evergreen, and Lyle opened his own International Harvester dealership, Pauli Implements.

Around 1972, the couple moved to a house nestled against the Stillwater River in Evergreen. It was this location that would become the epicenter for their vibrant and prized family and social life. Their backyard and deck has been the scene to countless parties and family gatherings, and when the festivities were over, oftentimes Lyle would stand on the front porch and give a friendly wave to those who left.

Lyle continued to work in the implement sales business until his retirement in the mid-1980s. When not at work Lyle and Zerita were avid RVers, and always owned a handsome camper trailer or motor home. These camper trailers always carried the loving, family-oriented atmosphere that was found in their home wherever they went, and even at the age of 91, he would still denote eras in family history by the make of trailer they owned: "Let's see, that was back when we still had the Prowler."

He was also a devout member of the Risen Christ Parish and a charter member of the Evergreen Lions.

Lyle is survived by his children, Roger and Marcia Pauli, Jerry and Colleen Pauli, Jim and Olivia Pauli, and Anita and Larry Newlin. His grandchildren include Tony Pauli, Teresa Hanley, Michael Pauli, Kacie Gallo, Jamie Lyman, Alex Shanks, Marcey McAtee, Mandy, Matthew, Cassie, and Aaron Allmaras; as well as his great-grandchildren, Dylan and Ethan Hanley, Zerita and Hope McAtee, Collin Lyman, Mackenzie Stevenson, and Rand Shanks; a sister, Kathleen Kuka; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, July 16, at Risen Christ Parish in Evergreen.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Lyle's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and sign Lyle's guest book.

Edithe Brown Paullin, 92

Edithe Brown Paullin, 92, of Kalispell passed away Thursday, Jan. 1, 2008, at Quality of Life in Kalispell. She was born June 2, 1916, in Whitefish, the fifth child of eight to Charles and Lydia (Conrad) Brown.



She was raised in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and moved back to Kalispell at age 25, where she met and married Theodore "Toad" Paullin on Nov. 8, 1941.

Edithe was a loving and caring mother to William Charles Paul-

lin and Kay Anne Johnson, both of Kalispell, and stepmother to Walter and Arthur Paullin, both of California.

She will be remembered as a sweet, kind and loving person, and as a talented artist, seamstress and cook. She acquired many friends and recipes during her years as a hairdresser at Edithe's Beauty Salon in her home.

Toad and Edithe spent many a mile riding the trails in the Bob Marshall Wilderness during his career with the Forest Service, particularly at Big Prairie and at Spotted Bear, where the family spent their summers.

Edithe was preceded in death

by her parents; her husband, Theodore; and her siblings.

Edithe is survived by her son, William Paullin, and wife, Carol, of Kalispell; and their children, Kim Ettinger and husband, Sid, and her children, Jacob, Ashley and Ariel Reynolds, of New-man Lake, Wash., and Angela Paullin of Phoenix; Kim and Angela's mother, JoAnn Paullin, of Kalispell; daughter, Kay Ann Johnson, and husband, Gordon, and their children, Curran and Whitney Johnson, all of Kalispell; Theodore's niece, Joyce Ivey; and her dear friends and neighbors, Bess Lynch and Orene Harris; and several nieces and cousins.

The family would like to thank

Laura and her staff at Quality of Life for their exceptional care and kindness to Edithe. We are forever grateful. Until we meet again ...

A private family interment and celebration of Edithe's life is planned for summer 2009.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Flathead Food Bank, 105 Sixth Ave. W., Kalispell, MT 59901; or to the charity of your choice or any random act of kindness.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Edithe's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and sign Edithe's guest book.

Vermae Pecora, 74

Vermae Pecora, 74, beloved mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, died peacefully at her home in Kalispell on Saturday, Aug. 29, 2009, surrounded by her loving family, after a courageous battle with cancer. Vermae was born on May 16, 1935, in Plentywood, to Paul and Hazel Hultgren, where she grew up while playing games and baking with her seven siblings.

In 1948 Vermae moved to Livingston with her family, where she attended school and worked at the Subway Cafe and Wilcox Restaurant.

On March 3, 1953, Vermae married William Ebert.

William was in the military so they lived in various places throughout the United States; they later divorced. From this union Vermae had two sons, Bill and Bob.

In 1963, Vermae moved back to Livingston where she met and married Dave Pecora. Vermae and Dave had one daughter, Kerri Jo. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Racetrack, Mont., and purchased the Log Cabin Bar where they built a thriving business through the local ranchers and every cowboy in the state. Vermae and Dave promoted rodeos, especially getting the young involved with rodeo. They always welcomed everyone into their home, and everyone always felt very welcome there.

The Log Cabin Bar was sold in 1979, but Vermae couldn't get the bar business out of her system, therefore, throughout the years many lucky establishments were rewarded with Vermae's bar expertise as a bartender and she came with her longtime bar patrons which followed her wherever she went. Vermae had a knack of making everyone feel very special. She was non-judgmental and considered everyone a friend, which was evident by the countless visits she received during her illness from friends and family near and far. Vermae touched everyone she came in contact with.

In 1982, Vermae married Gayland Jones and they were married for 17 years, enjoying fishing and camping together.

In 2005, Vermae injured her back and was forced to

quit bartending, and in 2006 moved to Kalispell to live with her daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren. She loved the beauty of the Flathead and being close to her children and grandchildren; however, she continued to miss Deer Lodge and her many friends and family there.

Vermae faced death head-on with anticipation of a wonderful eternal life, and it was then that her deep faith in Christ became very apparent. She will be missed here on earth by all that knew and loved her, but she knew before she died that it was only "till we meet again."

Vermae was preceded in death by her parents, Paul and Hazel Hultgren; husband, Dave Pecora; brothers, Eugene, Delmar, Gordon and Paul "Arnie" Hultgren; and sisters, Peggy Micu and Irene Potter.

Vermae is survived by her sons, Bill Ebert, and Bobby and Angela Pecora of Eureka; daughter, Kerri Jo, and Roger Schroeder of Kalispell; sister, June, and Don Merritt; sister-in-law, Mary Hultgren, of Deer Lodge; grandchildren, Tanya Rowe, Willie Ebert, Jackie and Brandon Ivers, Desiree, Jordynn, Alex, Jarrett, Alysia and Caden Pecora, Natalie Burkowitz, and Shelbi Jo and Shea Schroeder; four great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends whom she loved dearly.

A celebration of life will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 127 Managhan Lane, in Kalispell. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12, at the First Baptist Church in Deer Lodge, with burial to follow in the Hillcrest Cemetery.

The family suggests memorials may be made in Vermae's memory to Hospice of Kalispell, 175 Commons Loop, Ste. 100, Kalispell, MT 59901; or Guardian Angel Oncology, 2835 Fort Missoula Road, Ste. 301, Missoula, MT 59804.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Vermae's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Vermae's guest book, offer condolences and share memories.

Carmen Peebles, 70

Carmen Peebles, 70, a longtime and beloved resident of Kalispell, "was called home" on Nov. 23, 2009, after a long illness. She was born in Tehachapi, Calif.



Carmen was well known for her loving devotion to God and to her family. She adored her grandchildren and her great-grandchild.

Carmen was a mainstay at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, where she worked for many years as a housekeeper. Her warmth and kindness endeared her to both staff and patients.

Motivated by her trademark qualities of generosity and compassion, Carmen valued community service and volunteerism. She assisted urban Native Americans through a health outreach organization. Her Native American heritage equipped her with the knowledge to serve as a cultural consultant. She also worked exten-

sively with anthropologists to document and preserve her native Kawaiisu language.

Faith and music were common threads throughout her life. She was a regular participant of Bible study groups and she expressed her creative spirit through singing and playing the guitar; she especially loved bluegrass and old-time hymns.

Carmen is survived by her husband of 46 years, George; her brother, Monty Greene, and his wife, Jill, of Tehachapi; two daughters, Leslie Hughes, and her husband, Michael, of Stanwood, Wash., and Veronica Brandewie of Sequim, Wash.; two grandchildren, Stuart Brandewie of Port Angeles, Wash., and Kelsey Brandewie of Helena; one great-grandchild, Kali Heyer, of Sequim; two nieces, Melanie and Brandi Greene; and a nephew, Kyle Greene.

A celebration of Carmen's life will be held at 1 p.m. this Saturday, Nov. 28, at the Cowboy Church in Kalispell, with Assistant Pastor Don Robinson officiating. A reception will follow at the church.

Harold M. Penrod, 94

Harold M. Penrod was born April 2, 1914, in Kalispell. He died March 21, 2009, in Indio, Calif., from complications of Parkinson's disease.



The Penrod family was well known in Kalispell in the "old days" from having the Kalispell Harness and Saddlery on First Avenue West.

Harold went to Central School, then on to work for the Forest Service in Glacier National Park, and was a member of the Civilian Conservation Corps.

His love of cars landed him a job at the Studebaker dealer in Kalispell until he moved to Southern California, where he continued his career in the auto industry until his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Florence Stebbins Penrod; his children, Connie Madott, Barbara Penrod, and Victor Penrod; his stepchildren; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

He was a kind, gentle man who was loved by many and will be missed by all who knew him.

Cremation has taken place. Burial will be at a future date at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Betty Lou Peterson, 75

Betty Lou Peterson died peacefully in the arms of her son, Bill, on Friday, Feb. 27, 2009, at Brendan House in Kalispell after a lengthy illness. She was born on March 26, 1933, in Helena, to Lester Stevens and Helen Paull.



Betty was preceded in death by her husband William "Bill" S. Peterson; her parents; her brother, Tom Stevens; and granddaughter, Casey Lynn Kassner.

Betty is survived by her eight adult children, Tommy Rushford of Helena; Vickie Dickerson of Mesa, Ariz.; Bill Peden and Denny Lincoln of Kalispell; Tammy Kassner of Anchorage, Alaska; Tim Peden and his wife, Patty, of Piedmont, Calif.; John W. Peterson and his wife, Elaine, of Kalispell; Sandra McMahon and her husband, Mike, of Granbury, Texas, and James A. Peterson and his wife, Sue, of Tualatin, Ore.; twin brothers, Larry and his wife, Patty, of Helena, and Jerry Stevens of Helena; sister-in-law, Fran Stevens of Helena; and numerous grandchildren and

great-grandchildren.

Betty and the kids moved to Kalispell in 1968 where she worked at Hennessey's as a waitress and was quite extraordinary at everything she did.

She was a member of the Eagles and Elks Lodge.

Betty loved fishing and always caught the most fish. She enjoyed traveling and especially enjoyed her trips to Hawaii with Tammy, Brittany and Courtney.

The girls always knew how to make Grandma laugh! Her greatest passion, though, was her children and grandchildren, whom she was very proud of.

Nicknamed Betty "Boop," she will be always be remembered for her contagious smile and statuesque beauty.

Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 4, at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

A memorial service will be scheduled in July when friends and family can get together to share memories and stories of Betty and Bill.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Progressive Supra-Nuclear Palsy Foundation would be appreciated; <http://www.psp.org/index.php>

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home caring for the family.

Memorial service

James Russell Personett

Graveside urn burial services for James Russell Personett, 64, who died Oct. 7, 2008, will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, June 26, at Woodlawn Cemetery in

Columbia Falls. Family and friends are invited to attend and gather for a picnic and time of fellowship at the family home after the service.

Duane C. Peterson, 67

Duane C. Peterson passed away on Thursday, Nov. 26, 2009, with Betty, his loving wife of 47 years, by his side.

He was born on March 8, 1942, to William "Harry" and Eva Marie (Nelson) Peterson in Bismarck, N.D. Duane was raised in Bismarck and learned the value of working for a living as a teenager, beginning on local farms and moving on to Ack's Radiator Shop.

Duane met the love of his life, Elizabeth "Betty" Hetland, and they were married on July 14, 1962, in Bismarck. In 1966 Duane and his family moved to Kalispell. He found employment at C & C Plywood and worked for Bob Sutton during the slow times at the mill. In 1967 he began his career at Plum Creek Plywood and would remain there for 39 years, gaining many friends along the way. Duane retired in 2006.

Duane and Betty were blessed with four children. Hallie, their only daughter, was first. Then came three sons: Brent, Brad and Brook. In 1969 Duane and his family moved to Columbia Falls, which he called home until his passing.

Duane will be remembered by his family and friends as a loving, gentle and kind person. He could always make you smile, even if you thought you didn't want to. Because of this he will always be remembered for his sense of humor. His children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren will always remember the big teddy bear because of the numerous hugs he gave each and everyone of them. His Plum Creek and bowling friends will remember him by his nicknames: Pete, Speedy Pete and Sugar Bear.

Duane was an avid bowler, loving it long after he was able to participate. He helped form the first Plum Creek

work league. He served as chaplain for the Jaycees and was a past treasurer for Our Savior's Lutheran Church. His favorite sports were hunting and fishing. He truly enjoyed the time spent in the field, forest or alongside a lake, hunting and fishing with his brothers and friends. He later passed his passion on to his sons and grandchildren, cherishing the time they spent together.

Duane is preceded in death by his parents, William and Eva Marie Peterson; his father-in-law, Leonard Hetland; sisters-in-law, Evey Peterson and Lavonne Peterson; a niece, Jenny; and several aunts and uncles.

Duane is survived by his wife Betty; daughter, Hallie (Jody) Arvidson; sons Brent (Lisa) Peterson, Brad (Crista Martin) Peterson, and Brook (Jay) Peterson. He also leaves behind his brothers Dean "Chuck" Peterson, Jim Peterson, and Dennis (Diane) Peterson. Duane had eight grandchildren, Mark Arvidson, Lynda (Charles Kassner) Arvidson, Jessica Peterson, Cherise (Donnie) Cardin, Amanda Puryer (Anthony), Aaron Peterson, Quintin Peterson and Chandra Peterson. He also had three great-grandchildren, Ashton and Keegan Cardin and Kawena Kassner. Duane also leaves behind his mother-in-law, Vera Hetland; brothers-in-law Gene (Carol) Hetland and Bob (Bette) Hetland; sister-in-law Mary (Gene) VanEckhout and many nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place per Duane's wishes. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls.

The family requests that any memorials in Duane's name be made to either Our Savior's Lutheran Church or to the Columbia Falls Fire Department.

Harold 'Sonny' Ray Peterson, 79

Harold "Sonny" Ray Peterson passed away suddenly Dec. 9, 2009, in Polson. He was 79 years old.



Sonny's life was as colorful and varied as the man himself. He lived large, loved his family, adored his rodeo horses and enjoyed the outdoors, especially hunting and snowmobiling.

Born in Bingham, Utah, March 8, 1930, Sonny was the third of seven children born to Auer and Eileen (Bosh) Peterson. As a young man, he did some farming in Marysvale, Utah, and later worked in the uranium mines. He also owned and operated a service station in the area.

In 1950, he met and married the love of his life, Mary Elizabeth Nichol. Eight years later, the family, which now included three children, moved to Long Beach, Calif., where Sonny cooked for Bob's Big Boy Restaurant. After attending school to become a certified welder, he worked at the Naval shipyard.

Finally, in 1965, Sonny found his true calling — operating heavy equipment. Simply put, there was no one better at maneuvering a giant machine in the tightest area to perform the smallest task. He was a master. That same year, he and his brother, Dick, started an excavation business in Cherry Valley, Calif.

Six years later, Sonny moved the family to Riverside, Calif., where he and his son, Kent, formed S & K Equipment Co. in 1975. During this time, he also started an outfitting guide service on a 10,000-acre ranch in Pinedale, Wyo. In 1986, Sonny started his own company, Sonny's Engineering, which he ran until 2002 when he moved to Polson. Now semi-retired, he continued to work

in the excavation business with his son's company, Kentco, but he and Mary finally had time to travel in their motor home to visit family and friends scattered around the country.

No mention of Sonny's life could be spoken unless the word "rodeo" was included. From a young age he loved horses and the cowboy way. He was a gold card member of the PRCA and an accomplished calf and team roper. Sonny did not shy away from the two most dangerous jobs at a rodeo, bull riding and clowning, where he often had to put himself in danger to save another rider. He also served as president of the Riverside Ranchero Club and promoter for many rodeo and roping events, including the Old Timers' Rodeo, Century Team Roping event, and the Shriners' charity rodeo.

Sonny is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mary Peterson, of Polson; daughter, Vicky Siwy, of Fort Mohave, Nev.; son, Kent Peterson, of Bigfork; brother, Ernest Peterson, of Bigfork; brother, David Peterson, of Irvine, Calif.; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Auer Peterson and Eileen Hellman; daughter, Patricia; sisters, Betty Lamont and Auerlene Peterson; and brothers, Robert "Bob" Peterson and Richard "Dick" Peterson.

Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 18 at Grogan Funeral Home, 101 Sixth Ave. E., in Polson. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Dec. 19 at Bethany Lutheran Church, 8559 Montana 35, in Bigfork, with visitation during the hour preceding the service. Interment will immediately follow at Bigfork Community Cemetery on Swan River Road in Bigfork.

Condolences can be made to the family at www.grogan-funeralhome.com.

William S. and Betty Lou Peterson

A joint memorial service for William S. and Betty Lou Peterson will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, July 3, at Buffalo Hill

Funeral Home.

Military honors will be provided for William, concluding the service.

Robert W. 'Bob' Peterson, 50

Robert W. "Bob" Peterson, 50, of Dayton, passed away on Saturday, May 9, 2009, at his home. Bob was born on Aug. 14, 1958, in Calgary, Alberta, a son of Deverl J. and Marjorie Peterson. He graduated from Richardson High School in Richardson, Texas, and attended Southwest Texas State at San Marcos, Texas; and also attended DeVry Technical College. He was a quality control engineer for DRS in Polson.

He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying hunting, fishing, archery and shooting.

On Sept. 27, 2003, Bob married his loving wife, Miki Ulmer, in Polson.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Waldo and Linda Peterson; and Victor and Mrytle Peterson.

Survivors include his wife, Miki Peterson, of Dayton; parents, Deverl J. and Marjorie Peterson, also of Dayton; a sister, Vicky May, of Calgary; a brother, Kelly John



Peterson, of Provo, Utah; two nephews, Daniel and Douglas May, both of Calgary; and his mother-in-law, Ruth Houle, of Sisseton,

S.D.

Friends may visit with the family from 2 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, at the Grogan Funeral Home, 101 Sixth Ave. E, Polson. Bob's funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Polson, with President Lee White officiating. Friends may also visit an hour before the service at the church.

Messages of condolence may be sent to the family online at www.groganfuneralhome.com. Grogan Funeral Home, Polson, is assisting the family.

John Leonard Pfefferkorn, 57

John Leonard Pfefferkorn, 57, of Proctor, husband of Debbie Pfefferkorn, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009, at St. Joseph Medical Center in Polson of a heart attack.

John was born on May 7, 1952, in Charles City, Iowa, the son of (the late) Leonard and Doris Westergard Pfefferkorn. John graduated from Charles City High School and attended Wartburg and Central colleges, both in Iowa.

On May 16, 1998, he married Deborah Hughes. He was an avid fan of the Denver Broncos.

He is survived by his mother, Doris Pfefferkorn; his loving wife, Debbie, of Proctor; his sister, Linda Bartlett, of Kalispell; two stepdaughters; and two step-grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place, and there are no services planned at this time.

Messages of condolence may be expressed to the family by sending them to Deborah Pfefferkorn, P.O. Box 26, Dayton, MT 59914, or online at www.groganfuneralhome.com. Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory of Polson is assisting the family.

Bruce N. Pfrimmer, 76

Artist and retired railroader Bruce N. Pfrimmer, 76, died suddenly Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at his home on Whitefish Lake. He was born in Great Falls on Dec. 1, 1932, to Robert and Lillian Pfrimmer.



When he was 7 years old, Bruce moved with his family from their ranch near Dupuyer to Whitefish, where he attended school. As a young man, he was well known as a hydroplane racer, as documented by a photo that hangs in the gallery of the Boat Club at the Lodge at Whitefish Lake.

He served in the Army during the Korean War, including duty overseas in Guam. When he returned home to Whitefish, Bruce married Carolyn Payton on June 15, 1952. The two celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2002 with a large gathering of friends and family, including their three children, David, George and Jerrold.

Bruce had a 43-year career as a brakeman, first with the Great Northern and then the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. He worked both passenger and freight until his retirement in 1997.

After retirement, he was the engineer on his model railroad that ran around his dining room to the delight of his grandchildren, guests and much-loved budgie parakeets. Bruce also enjoyed playing with the many dogs he adopted and raised over the years.

Bruce inherited the Pfrimmer family's musical and artistic abilities, which he expressed through his singing and virtuoso whistling. He excelled at painting, selling many originals over the years that he created in his Citadel Studio at home. He recently completed a masterpiece he titled "Blue Bison."

His artistry won first place for several years in the Whitefish Christmas decorating competition when the family lived on Kalispell Avenue. Bruce used his wood-working and metal working skills to create figures for the decorations as well as toys for children in his family.

Bruce loved fishing and hunting with his brothers, sons, grandsons and nephew

Fred, and loved nothing better than to rib his relatives about out-fishing them in various lakes and streams. He and Carolyn enjoyed several trips to Alaska during which he hunted and fished with his grandsons and son David.

In retirement, Bruce kept busy improving the family home on Whitefish Lake, which he had the vision to build in the late 1960s and early '70s, when others thought he was crazy for moving out to the middle of nowhere.

Over the years, he spent many happy hours enjoying the wonderful view with Carolyn and enjoying visits from his children, grandchildren and great-grandchild, Levi. He also enjoyed Louis L'Amour novels that celebrated the West.

He had hours of fun tinkering in his workshop with the tools he loved and window-shopping for more. He actually managed to build a working backhoe when he needed one to dig a ditch and then put it to good use maintaining the property.

Bruce loved working outside, which is what he was doing "when he was taken to his final home," for which he prepared by attending the First Presbyterian Church in Whitefish. He will be remembered for his friendly smile, kind and generous heart, and by his many works of art cherished by his friends and family.

Bruce is survived by his wife, Carolyn; sons, George and Jerrold of Whitefish, and David and his wife, Mindy, of North Pole, Alaska; grandchildren, Brianna of Whitefish, and Anna, Zachary and Mason of North Pole; great-grandchild, Levi, of Whitefish; brothers, Jack and wife, Emily, of Whitefish, Chuck of Rome, N.Y., and Don and wife, Gail, of Nashville, Tenn.; his nephew, Fred Chase, and wife, Candace, of Bigfork; and many other nieces and nephews across the country.

Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Services celebrating his life will be held at 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 15, at the First Presbyterian Church in Whitefish, with burial afterward in Glacier Memorial Gardens. After services, friends and family are invited to return to First Presbyterian Church for a reception.

Ellis Bradley 'Brad' Phillips, 92

Ellis Bradley "Brad" Phillips, 92, died of natural causes Tuesday, April 28, 2009. He was a lifetime resident of Libby and one of the last lumber barons. Brad was born Sept. 22, 1916, in Moore to Ellis and Bessie Noel Phillips. He graduated from Libby High School in 1935 and played on the 1932 state football championship team.

In 1943, he married Isabelle Shipman. During World War II, Brad served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a navigator. When his B 24 was shot down in Austria, he was held POW for one year until liberation by General Patton.

After the war, he returned to Libby and continued working for J. Neils Lumber Co. After more than 45 years with the company he retired from (then) St. Regis Paper Co., as lumber production manager.

He enjoyed woodworking, gardening, hiking the Cabinet Mountains, and fly-fishing the Kootenai River. He was a loyal supporter of local sports and never missed one of his sons' games. Brad was

involved in construction of the ski hill on Turner Mountain, the Cabinet View Golf Course, and served on the board of St. John's Lutheran Hospital.

He married Joan Gruber on July 13, 1979. They spent many years skiing, hiking, gardening and traveling.

Brad was preceded in death by Isabelle in 1975; and Joan in 2008.

Survivors include children, Greg Phillips and Carol of Kalispell, Byron Phillips and Linda of Libby, and Dale Phillips of Omak, Wash.; stepchildren, Terri Gruber of Spokane, Cathy Anderson and Jim of Boise, Idaho, Roger Gruber of Havre, and Jeff and Doreen Gruber of Libby; 17 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, May 4, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Libby. Interment will be after the ceremony.

Memorials may be made to the Libby VFW.

Local arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

Eugene Roy Piedalue, 80

Eugene Roy Piedalue (known by many as Chief or Gene) passed away at his home in Ronan on Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2009. Gene was born April 28, 1929, to Marcella (Hepp) and Edward Piedalue in Ronan and was raised on the family dairy farm with brothers Kenny, Bud and Floyd, and sister, Peggy.

He delivered milk for Piedalues Dairy until 1953 when he began working for the Montana State Department of Highways from 1953 until 1992 in the engineering department. He retired from the Highway Department on a Friday and the following Monday started work for Schellinger Construction where he worked until 1999, retiring due to poor health. During these years he also farmed with his sons.

He married Norma Bennett June 1, 1949.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Marcella; and sons, Edward

and Ernest.

He is survived by his wife, Norma; daughter, Pat, and Bob Bristol; and son, Leonard, and Gail; grandchildren, Charity and Monty Cheff, Ernie and Shannon Bristol, Jacinda and Michael Tenas, Ray and Kristie Dalke, and Thomas Dalke; 14 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is also survived by brothers, Kenny and Marge, Bud and Phyllis, and Floyd and Sharon; and sister, Peggy and Dave Johnson.

Rosary services will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 29, at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Ronan. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, also in the church, with Father James Connor celebrating.

Shrider-Thompson Funeral and Cremation Services of Ronan is assisting with arrangements.

Remy Hathaway Pochelon, 64

Remy Hathaway Pochelon passed away Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2009, at his home in Philipsburg of natural causes.



Remy was born on July 4, 1945, in Geneva, Switzerland. He spent his childhood in Georges Mills, N.H., and graduated from Mount Hermon High School in Northfield, Mass.

In 1965, Remy enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed at Reese Air Base in Lubbock, Texas. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War and was honorably discharged from the service in August of 1972.

Following his military service, Remy headed west and began his 36-year career with the Forest Service. He started as a seasonal employee in 1973 while attending the University of Idaho. He graduated with a degree in forest resources and started working as a firefighter for the St. Joe Interagency Hot Shot crew based out of Clarkia, Idaho. In 1976, Remy accepted a permanent position with the U.S. Forest Service in Wallace, Idaho. His work later took him to Clarkia, the Philipsburg Ranger District, and eventually to the Flathead Valley where he worked for the Swan Ranger District as resource assistant until retiring in 2004. Remy was especially proud of his role in the development, permitting and eventual establishment of the Blacktail Ski Area on the Flathead National Forest near Lakeside.

Throughout his career Remy was active in the fire program and continued to be a member of a Northern Rockies Type 2 Incident management team after his retirement. He was one of the longest serving safety officers for the U.S. Forest Service and had just completed an assignment on the Table Mountain fire southwest of Philipsburg. Indeed, Remy was around for so long his co-workers even-

tually gave him a symbolic stuffed dinosaur that was a permanent fixture on the dashboard of his pickup. His knowledge and experience with forest policy and recreational issues continued to serve him well in retirement. Remy worked as a part-time consultant on forest planning issues throughout the west for Ecosystem Research Group in Missoula.

Remy thoroughly enjoyed himself in retirement. He was an avid outdoorsman and loved hunting, fishing and skiing, especially skiing with his granddaughters. He was a member of the National Ski Patrol at Silver Mountain, Idaho, and at Lost Trail and Discovery Basin in Montana. He was a member of the Society of American Foresters and a member of the Philipsburg Volunteer Fire Department. One of Remy's simplest pleasures was firing up the barbecue on a summer evening for a gathering of friends and family, enjoying their company, and treating them to the awesome views of the Flint Creek Valley from his deck.

He is survived by his wife, Mary McDonald, of Philipsburg; his daughter and son-in-law, Michele and Todd Seiger, and their children, Abby and Caitlyn, of Spokane; his sister, Gabby, of East Aurora, N.Y.; his brother, Allen, of Cardwell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Gilbert and Suzanne (Hathaway) Pochelon.

A celebration of Remy's life will be conducted at 2 p.m. Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 6, at the Granite High School gymnasium in Philipsburg, with Rev. Rusty Craig officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials to the Sydney Rae Cutler Fund, c/o Flint Creek Valley Bank in Philipsburg; or the Wildland Firefighter Foundation's 52 Club in Boise, Idaho.

Services and cremation are under the care of the KT Riddle Funeral Homes, Philipsburg.

Marge Plank, 93

Marge Plank, 93, died Monday, Nov. 30, 2009, at St. Luke's Extended Care Facility in Ronan.

She is survived by her three daughters, Donna Bahm and Colleen Pollreis, both of Polson, and Polly Robinson of St.

Ignatius.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, at New Life Christian Center, 1414 Second St. W., in Polson.

Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory, Polson, is handling arrangements.

William 'Bill' Russell Plummer, 58

William "Bill" Russell Plummer, 58, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 1, 2009, following a short battle with cancer. He was born on July 18, 1951, in Missoula, to Charles and Sylvia Plummer.



Bill had been residing in Missoula with the love of his life and best friend and wife, Susan, and her son, Kenny.

Bill loved family and friends and had a love of the outdoors. He provided lots of fish and birds for Sunday dinners with mother-in-law Julienne, and many friends and other family get-togethers. Most of all, Bill enjoyed hunting and fishing and shooting trap with family and friends, especially when he won — he loved to rub it in.

Bill will be missed by all. Susan's son Kenny has said

that his mom will have a special scar from the deep loss.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Patty; and grandparents.

Bill is survived by his wife, Susan, and her family. He is also survived by his parents, Chuck and Sylvia Plummer, sister, Kim Plummer; and brother, Wes and his wife, Sue, all of Kalispell; son, Johnny; and numerous nieces, nephews and grandkids.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that donations in his name be made to the Flathead Valley Trap Club (FVTC); or an organization of your choice.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Immediately following there will be desserts and stories by all at the family home of Chuck and Sylvia, at 2115 Lower Valley Road, Kalispell, by the big pink pig.

Ellen G. Poier, 75

Ellen G. Poier, 75, died Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2009, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She is survived by her husband, Stan, and sons, Howard and Don Poier, all of Kalispell.

Funeral services will be at

2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 19, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, with the Rev. Larry Stapler officiating. Visitation will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 17, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. Burial will follow services at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Wayne W. Poil, 62

Wayne W. Poil, 62, died Feb. 28, 2009, in Columbia Heights.

He was a professional baker.

Survivors include a son, Levi Poil, of Lewistown.

Cremation has taken place. Services will be held at a later date in Scobey.

Ruth May Widdowson Poston, 83

Ruth May Widdowson Poston passed away on July 28, 2009, at Parkview Acres Care and Rehab in Dillon.



Ruth was born to Carl and Berntina Widdowson on April 16, 1926, in Kalispell, the oldest of four girls.

She spent most of her life in the Flathead Valley, attending grade school at the Egan School and graduating from Flathead County High School. Upon graduating from high school, Ruth attended nursing school in Missoula.

In 1946, she married Roger L. Poston who was in the Marines at the time. Ruth and Roger spent most of their first two years of marriage in North Carolina where Roger was stationed in the Marines. During this time their children Ray and Patty were born. After Roger's discharge from the service they lived in Kalispell and Evergreen before building their home on part of the family farm in the Fairmont Egan area.

Ruth loved to sew and was always making something for her children and grandchildren. She was an avid gardener and always had beautiful flowers and a large garden. Ruth loved family and friends and was always there to lend a hand in the time of

need. She spent several years helping out at the food bank. After Roger's retirement they enjoyed traveling and especially liked to rock hound around Montana and neighboring states, accumulating a large collection of rocks and fossils. Photography became a passion of hers, filling countless albums.

In October of 2004, Ruth moved to Dillon to be near her daughter Patty. Going for rides remained one of her favorite pastimes up until the last few months.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents; and husband, Roger, in 2001.

She is survived by her son, Ray, and wife, Karen Poston, of Elma, Wash.; daughter, Patty, and husband, Gary, of Lima; sisters, Betty and Duane Bitney, Carlene Peters and Marie Peters, all of Kalispell; grandchildren, Amanda and Justin Linson of Redmond, Ore., Sarah and Dave Miller of Dillon, Lydia Mild of Dupuyer, and Luke Mild of Lima; as well as four great-grandchildren; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews who meant so much to her.

A graveside memorial for both Ruth and Roger will be held at 3 p.m., Aug. 29, at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. A luncheon will be held at Sandy and Larry Heuscher's home following the service.

Memorials can be made to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church or the Food Bank.

Grant Alfred Pound, 73

Grant Alfred Pound, 73, of Kalispell went to his "happy hunting grounds" on Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009. Grant rejoins his mother, Florence Landon Hanson, and father, Victor Pound, and beloved son, Jody Pound, as well as his brothers, Carrol and Cappi Pound, and Edward Pound.

Grant leaves behind his wife, Florence Pound, of Kalispell; daughter, Minta Johnson and husband, Joe, of Kalispell; and brothers and sisters, Doreen Grilley of Kalispell, Victor "Pete" Pound of Silverdale, Wash., Sheila Garcia of Greeley, Colo., Leora "Tootsie" O'Myer of Kalispell. Grant is loved and missed by his grandchildren, Bryce and Carlye Johnson, of Kalispell.

Grant was born Nov. 22, 1935, in Whitefish to Victor and Flo-



rence Landon Pound. He lived in Eureka and Kalispell for most of his life.

He married Florence Burlingham on June 24, 1967, in Kalispell.

Grant had worked construction, logging and at the Libby Dam.

Grant truly was a jack-of-all-trades. He was a very generous person and was always glad to give of what he had. You could always count on him to lend a hand whenever it was needed.

Grant enjoyed first and foremost his grandchildren. He also enjoyed quilting, miniature trains, being busy, gardening, growing grapes and teaching his grandson how to whittle.

Graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, at the Tobacco Valley Cemetery in Eureka. There will be a potluck gathering at the Baptist Church following the services. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. Monday and from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka.

Richard Alan Pridmore, 88

Richard Alan Pridmore, 88, died Thursday, Oct. 8, 2009, at his home in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, Wanda J. Pridmore; daughter, Donna Jo Prid-

more; and a son, George William Pridmore.

A private family service will be held at a later date.

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

Frances Jean Prowse, 80,

Frances Jean Prowse, 80, a longtime Libby resident, died Feb. 12, 2009, at Libby Care Center from natural causes.

Survivors include her husband, Robert Prowse, of Libby; and daughter, Verna

and Merceron of Pittsfield, Mass.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, at Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Libby. There will be a luncheon at the American Legion following services.

Robert C. Prowse, 89

Robert C. Prowse, 89, of Libby died Thursday, Nov. 5, 2009, at the Libby Care Center from natural causes.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

Donald Lynn Purdy, 90

Donald Lynn Purdy, 90, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, formerly of Eureka, died Saturday, Jan. 3, 2009, of an extended illness.

He drove truck for Wonder Bread for 29 years. He is survived by his wife,

Martha, daughters, Janice and Susan, of Coeur d'Alene; and sons, Don of Portland, and Dennis of Dalton Gardens, Idaho.

Funeral services were held at St. Pius X Church.