

Erin Slack, 32

Erin Slack, 32, died Aug. 11, 2009, in a vehicular accident. She was born May 9, 1977, to Bob and Robyn Clayton in Polson. They and her sister Heather moved from there to Arizona, then to Kalispell, where she graduated from Flathead High School.



If ever any truth were to be found in the words, "There is more happiness in giving than receiving" it was found in Erin. At a young age she gave her life to her Creator Jehovah and was baptized in 1990, and upon graduation, she became a full-time minister of Jehovah's Witnesses. That career enabled her to give the Bible truths that so enriched her life. This giving is what brought her the most happiness and is what she was most well-known for.

Three years later she gave herself to Aaron Slack as his wife. At the wedding they were warmly introduced to all as a "new pair of Slacks."

Erin's generous soul was shared with all, be it through the scarves and jewelry she made, the gingersnaps she baked, or the heartfelt cards she sent for the sole reason

that she was thinking of them.

Truly it can be said of Erin or "Chick," as her parents affectionately called her, she worked with her hands, smiled with her eyes and hugged with her heart.

The Bible states, "Moreover, do not forget the doing of good and the sharing of things with others, for with such sacrifices God is well-pleased." Erin never forgot so we are confident that God is well-pleased with her sacrifices.

"The Bible's promise of a resurrection to a Paradise Earth is a certainty for our very dearest Erin."

Because of Erin's open heart we find it impossible to list all family and friends. But they, along with her husband, Aaron; mother, Robyn, and Wayne Dombrowski; father, Robert, and Leah Clayton; siblings, Heather and Shawn Altenburg, and Brianna and Cody Gardipy; grandmother, Donna Clayton father-in-law, Doug Slack; uncle, Cecil, and Dianna Bailey, "anxiously await to see her in the paradise," along with her grandfather, James Clayton; grandmother, Inez Burnett; and cousin, Niche Cisko.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15, at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 1115 South Reserve, in Missoula.

Darrell A. Slaybaugh, 74

Darrell A. Slaybaugh, 74, of LaPine, Ore., formerly of Whitefish, died July 27, 2009, after a long illness.

He is survived by his wife, Carol, of LaPine; and

children, Karen Lockhart of Klamath Falls, Ore., and Kip Slaybaugh of Seattle.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Aug. 20 at the Pin and Cue in Whitefish.

Rozanne M. Smart, 77

Rozanne M. Smart, 77, died Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009, at her Rollins residence.

She is survived by her husband, Bill, of Rollins; and three sons, Jeffrey Davis of Los Osos, Calif.,

Gary Davis of Pottsboro, Texas, and Craig Davis of Naples, Fla.

At her request, there will be no services.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Charles Collins Smith, 64



Charles Collins Smith, 64, passed away on Thursday, March 12, 2009, at his home in Lakeside, after a courageous nine-year battle with cancer. He was born on Oct. 12, 1944, in Burbank, Calif., to James Scobee and Charleen (Collins) Smith.

At the age of 5, Charles moved with his family to Lancaster, Calif., where he began his education. In 1958 the family moved to Escalon, and Charles attended and then graduated from Ripon High School in 1962. He continued his education at Cal-Poly for three years before starting his own orchard, growing almonds.

Charles moved to the Hamilton area in 1968 where he worked as a ranch hand until 1970, when he moved to Missoula to work in construction.

On June 18, 1971, Charles married Marci Dame in Missoula. They started Charles C. Smith Construction in 1974, which they operated as a family business. From 1979 until 1989, Charles continued to grow the excavation business in the Stevensville area.

In 1989, Charles moved his business to Lakeside when he was hired as a subcontractor on the Lakeside-Somers Sewer Main Project.

Upon graduation in 1993, his son Tanner moved to Lakeside and became his partner in the business.

Charles served as a Stevensville School board member for

nine years, as well as chairman of the board. In addition, he served on the ETNA Volunteer Fire Department. Charles was also a Master Mason with the Stevensville Masonic Lodge No. 28.

He enjoyed boating, camping, motorcycles, friends and especially being a proud father and grandfather.

Charles was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, James Scobee Smith Jr.; and a grandson, Jakob.

He is survived by his son, Tanner Smith, and Heather, of Kalispell; a stepson, Bruce Hofmann, and Laurie, of Richmond, Va.; and a stepdaughter, Tracy Long, and Brad, of Missoula; eight grandchildren, Bridger, Caeden and Addison Smith, Shealyn and Sela Hofmann, and Tiffany, Grant and Morgan Long; one sister, Judy Nickerson, of Mantica, Calif.; and a very special friend, Julene Hartman, of Kalispell.

Memorial services for Charles will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, March 20, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel, with Pastor Glenn Burfeind of the First Presbyterian Church officiating.

The family suggests memorial gifts and donations be made to the Charles C. Smith Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 921, Lakeside, MT 59922, to assist the family with the cost of Charles' extensive medical treatments.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Charles' family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and sign Charles' guestbook.

Dorothy K. 'Dot' Smith, 71

Dorothy K. "Dot" Smith, 71, died July 15, 2009, at the Libby Care Center.

Survivors include five sons, Donald E. Smith of Joshua, Texas, Steven W. Smith of Idaho, Robert E. Smith and Greg H. Smith, both of Knappa, Ore., and Craig E. Smith of Oklahoma; and three daughters,

Smoky-Li "Betty" Bond of Joshua, Veronica Coy of Dillsboro, Ind., and Virginia Rice of Libby.

Services will be held at a later date in Skamokawa, Wash.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home of Libby.

Lawrence 'Larry' F. Smith, 79

Lawrence "Larry" F. Smith, 79, passed away on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, at Kalispell Regional Medical



Center in Kalispell. He was born on Dec. 31, 1929, at St. Albans, Vt., to Merald H. and Mabel (Austin) Smith.

Larry served his country in the Korean War as a forward weather observer, going deep behind enemy lines to send accurate and up-to-date weather information to Air Force bombers on bombing missions.

After his service ended he studied electrical engineering at the University of Vermont. Larry worked and retired from the Corps of Engineers. Larry moved to Alaska in 1964, just in time for the big earthquake.

He was a real explorer and bush pilot, covering nearly every inch of Alaska flying in his plane or navigating his river boat. Several times Larry had to trek out of the tundra on foot. Being an avid outdoorsman, he enjoyed both fishing and hunting, and he made it back without incident, a real survivor.

Larry married his loving wife, Val Leffel Smith, on

Aug. 17, 2007, in Kalispell.

He was a member of the Bethel Baptist Church. He loved American history and was unstoppable on the dance floor. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Larry was preceded in death by his sister, Ramona Regan.

He is survived by his wife, Val Smith, of Kalispell; two brothers, Francis Smith and wife, Gloria, of Columbia Falls, and Howard Smith and wife, Sam, of Vermont; two sisters, Marilyn Ashton and Fern Smith, both of Vermont; an aunt, Marvis Lee, also of Vermont; a niece, Wendy, and nephew, Jay, and their spouses and children.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, May 11, at the Bethel Baptist Church in Kalispell, with Pastor David Pestel officiating. Interment will be at the Fairview Cemetery.

The family requests memorials be given to the Flathead Food Bank, 105 Sixth Ave. W., Kalispell, MT 59901; or the Flathead Shelter Friends Inc., P.O. Box 567, Lakeside, MT 59922.

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

Margaret A. 'Peg' Smith, 92

Margaret A. "Peg" Smith, 92, passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2009, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. She was born on Aug. 10, 1917, to local railroad conductor William Steven and Hermine (Merker) Forhan. She was one of nine children.

In 1939, she met Art Smith. Art was a salesman for a local automotive supply store, the Kalispell Motor Supply. They were married on Dec. 30, 1939. By October of the following year, they welcomed their first daughter, Colleen. Kathleen, Sally, Jean Marie, Judy and Jennie completed their family.

In 1959, Art, then general manager of the Motor Supply, died of cancer and she was left alone to raise her family. She was proud that all of her girls finished college.

She was also a well-known local quilter, making and quilting over 100 quilts. She was also a first-place winner in several local and state

quilt contests.

She is survived by four of her daughters, Colleen McCabe and husband, Jim, of Helena, Kathleen McLaen and husband, Don, of Albuquerque, N.M., Judy McKenzie of Eugene, Ore., and Jen Moore of Kalispell; 11 grandchildren, Bill, Pat, Mike, Kathy, Annie, Dave, Scot, Jinny, Shawn, Rachel and Arthur; and one brother, Rudy Forhan, of Tuscon, Ariz.

"She waited 50 years to be with her one true love. Tell daddy 57, mom. Love you."

Funeral services for Peg will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. There will be no visitation. Burial will follow services at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

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

Reginald Dean Smith, 69

Reginald Dean Smith, 69, passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009, at the Heritage Place in Kalispell. He was born on Nov. 15, 1939, in Kalispell, to Reginald and Amy (Kinniburgh) Smith.

Dean received his early education in Kalispell and began working in his uncle's stud mill at a young age.

On Dec. 15, 1961, Dean married Linda Frolin in Kalispell. In 1965 the couple moved to Fairmont, Minn., where Dean worked in a plastic plant for about three years. Three years later the couple moved back to Kalispell, where Dean worked for the Superior Sawmill in Columbia Falls. He also worked for Plum Creek at the Evergreen Division for 26 years.



Dean was a musician and played lead guitar with groups in the Flathead as well as in Minnesota. He also loved to hunt and fish.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents; two sons, an infant son, Jody Dean, and son, Travis; and two brothers, Richard and Don.

He is survived by his wife, Linda, of the family home; and one son, Thomas Smith.

Funeral services for Dean will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 5, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel, with Pastor Tim Bartholomew of Stillwater Free Lutheran Church officiating. Burial will be in the Glacier Memorial Gardens.

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

Stanton Everett Smith, Jr., 71

Stanton Everett Smith, Jr., 71, passed on March 20, 2009, at the family home in Bigfork, with his cherished family at his side. He had a valiant eight-month fight with lung cancer.

He was a native of Chattanooga, Tenn., and graduated from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville with a degree in accounting, and became a C.P.A.

He retired as an audit partner in the international accounting firm of BDO Seidman in their Beverly Hills, Calif., office. He finished his career in forensic accounting, testifying as an expert witness in national level trials. He helped start some of the accounting reforms that are now coming to fruition, such as mark to market valuations.

Stan and his wife, Lanelle, moved to Bigfork in 1998 to be near their beloved grandchild-



dren.

Surviving is his wife of 49 years, Lanelle; their son, Stanton E. Smith III, of Atlanta; daughter, Elizabeth Lea Sibley, and her husband, Paul, and their children, Rachel, Jeremy and Leah, of Kalispell; also, brothers, Steve and his wife, Chris, of Raleigh, N.C., and Luke Lea and his wife, Pat, of Chattanooga; and sister, Jenny Smith, and her husband, Mark, of San Francisco, and their families.

A celebration of Stan's life will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, March 23, at the Community United Methodist Church in Bigfork, with a reception afterward at the church.

Cremation has taken place. A private family burial will be in C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

The family requests no flowers. If you wish, memorial contributions may be made to Home Options Hospice, 175 Commons Loop, Suite 100, Kalispell, MT 59901; or your favorite charity.

IrmaBelle Smithers, 89

IrmaBelle Smithers, 89, passed away Monday, Nov. 23, 2009, at the Mountain View Manor in Eureka. She was born on Jan. 17, 1921, in Trego, to Erma "Bud" and Orffia (Fine) Ingram. As an infant, Irma moved from Trego to Valier. In 1926 she moved to Eureka, and then back to Trego in 1928 where she finished school. After school she moved to Kalispell.

Irma met and married George Mueller. They had one son, John. She and George were later divorced.

Irma met Carl Smithers Jr., and they were married and moved to Riggins, Idaho, where Carl was a packer for the Forest Service; then to Bremerton, Wash., where Carl took up his apprenticeship in pipefitting and again to Kalispell, where Carl worked at Renford Company; and on the Libby Dam until his retirement. Irma was happy wherever Carl's work took him.

She enjoyed working in the home and doing the gardening. She also enjoyed playing music on her accordion. Many times when you walked up her sidewalk to the house you could hear her playing. She was well known for her music at dances around the valley. The last few years she hasn't played



much due to her health.

She enjoyed sewing and making clothing. Many a Christmas you could expect a shirt or blouse that was made by her loving hands. She loved the outdoors; she enjoyed going out and picking huckleberries, June berries and wild berries of any kind. Her preserves were well known to most of the family and her grandson, Freddie, will miss his grandmother's pickle house. She enjoyed hunting and fishing with the guys. She was a member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary and the Montana Accordion Association.

Irma was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Carl; and nine brothers and sisters.

She is survived by her son, John Mueller, and wife, Audrey, of Kalispell; one grandson, Fred Mueller; and one great-granddaughter, Melissa Lime; one brother, Ray Ingram, and wife, Doris; one sister-in-law, Ester Ingram; with many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorial services for Irma will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 28, at the Salvation Army Chapel, 110 Bountiful Lane, Kalispell (up by the hospital), with Maj. Steve Sveneson officiating.

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

John J. Smithson, 82

John J. Smithson, 82, passed away on Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at his home in Kalispell. He was born in Chinook on Sept. 26, 1926, to Roy and Ora (Hamaker) Smithson. He was raised on the family ranch (North Slope Ranch) near Hogeland until age 20. He had four siblings, Louise, George, Jean and Bill.



On one of his trips with cattle to St. Paul, Minn., he met Alda Anderson in Dawson, Minn. They were married June 21, 1947, in Dawson and returned to the ranch near Hogeland for a short while before moving to Havre. They had three children during this time, Susan, John and James.

In Havre, he worked for Culligan Soft Water and the Havre Transfer before becoming a credit manager at the F.A. Buttrey Co. for several years. He was asked to work for Petrolane Gas Co., a propane gas company and ended up working 35 years there. He started on as district manager in Kalispell and then transferred to Nevada, California, Rhode Island, and Alaska. He covered 11 states in the northeast as area and operations manager for the company, was regional manager for the state of Alaska in 1977, and in 1982 was transferred to Long Beach, Calif., working at the Petrolane Tidewater Terminal before becoming a safety manager for six Southwestern states. His company was sold in 1989, and they decided to go back to Kalispell to retire.

John lived 20 miles from the Canadian border while growing up and had never been to Canada by age 20. Since then, he and his wife

covered 48 states and Europe, England, Australia and New Zealand, and also bought a home in Mesa, Ariz., and lived there for 13 winters until ill health forced them to sell in 2003.

John was a member of the Northridge Lutheran Church and Kalispell Kiwanis, and also did some volunteering after retiring. Unfortunately, he had major spinal surgery in 2004 and never did recover. He will be remembered as a quiet, hard-working gentleman whose family and friends meant a lot to him.

John was preceded in death by his mother and father.

He is survived by his wife, Alda; and their children, Susan Smith and Virgil of Davis, Calif., John Jerald Smithson and Diane of Renton, Wash., and Jim Smithson and Diane of Fernley, Nev.; sister, Louise Divish, of Havre; brother, George Smithson, of Westport, Wash.; sister, Jean Shawlee, of Auburn, Calif.; and brother, Bill Smithson, of Melba, Idaho; plus two grandchildren, Trisha Halsey and Bryan of Littleton Colo., and Blake Meier and Dawnielle of Elk Grove, Calif.; and one great-grandson, Noah Halsey, who was born in March. He also leaves many nieces, nephews, cousins and many dear friends.

Memorial services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at the Northridge Lutheran Church, with Pastor Dan Heskett officiating. Interment will be at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Memorials may be sent to Northridge Lutheran Church, 323 Northridge Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

Walter L. Smith Jr., /6

Walter L. Smith Jr., 76, died on Sept. 3, 2009, at Libby Care Center.

Survivors include his children, Tracy Murphy of Polson, David Smith and Payton Smith, both of Seattle, Kevin Smith of Spokane, Ellen Holzhauer of Libby, and

Velven Drew Snake

Velven Drew Snake passed away Nov. 18, 2009, in Lakeside. He was born Oct. 17, 1961, in Albert Lea, Minn.



Velven was a veteran of the Armed Forces and a proud, traditional Native American. He loved to sing, dance and drum. He loved to collect his bikes. He loved to teach his heritage to anyone who cared to listen. And he loved his family passionately.

He is survived by his mother, Alvina Weber; his children, Jeffrey Pierce-Metter, 18; Sapphire Snake, 14; and Xander Snake, 1; his sisters, Glenna Lowry and India Trainer; his brothers, Glen Lowry and Covey Lowry; and many other

Delbert Snyder, 92

Delbert Snyder, 92, died Jan. 3, 2009, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, of natural causes.

He had worked as a contractor.

Survivors include a son, Bob, of Kalispell; and daughter, Tammy, of Darrington, Wash.

Cremation has taken place.

A service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Veterans Home, conference room B.

Edmond J. Solomon, 95

Edmond J. Solomon, 95, passed away on Tuesday, Dec. 8, 2009, at his home in Kalispell, with his immediate family nearby. He was born on Nov. 6, 1914, in Anaconda, to Seraphin and Mary Solomon. He attended schools in Anaconda, graduating from Anaconda High School in 1932.



He then attended college at Montana State University-Bozeman, where he earned his bachelor's degree.

Ed worked for Montana Power Company from 1936, until he retired as a chief gas engineer in 1976.

He enjoyed woodworking, clock and watch repair, gardening and fishing.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Katherine; a son, Roy; and

two sisters, Loretta and Edna.

His funeral was in Winnebago, Neb., on Nov. 25. It was a traditional Ho-Chunk ceremony. He was laid to rest in the Winnebago Indian Cemetery in the Veteran Section.

cherished loved ones.

We are holding a memorial for friends and family who could not attend then, at 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11, at the Active Word Ministries, 5091 Highway 2 West, in Columbia Falls.

Please mail any donations to the Snake family at 103 Ben Williams Lane, Lakeside, MT 59922. We ask that all flowers be sent to local care centers.

Those who knew Velven will miss his jokes, kindness, teaching and love. "And one day when we see him again we will get to hear him say, 'Story on the street is ...' 'Nah, just kidding' and 'Welcome home!'"

Don't miss his jokes, kindness, teaching and love. "And one day when we see him again we will get to hear him say, 'Story on the street is ...' 'Nah, just kidding' and 'Welcome home!'"

Donald Sommerfield, 86

Donald Sommerfield, 86, passed away Friday afternoon, Jan. 16, 2009, at Brendan House.



He was born June 2, 1922, in Mazeppa, Minn., to Henry and Ida Sommerfield.

He attended school in Mazeppa through the eighth grade.

In 1938, when he was 16, he and his friend Bill Scott drove out to Montana, and he got a job driving a team on a thrashing crew. They worked their way west with the crew, thrashing oats until they finished the season near Hogleland, where his dad had homesteaded in 1909 and his uncle, Harry Becker, still homesteaded.

When harvest was over, they got together with Harry and friends, drove over the Marias Pass and went hunting up in the North Fork of the Flathead area. He returned to Minnesota and worked in the stockyards in the winter of 1939.

During the next 10 years, he farmed and worked various construction projects, eventually settling on his own farm on the Zumbro River in 1948.

In 1952, he married Helen Romness from Wanamingo, Minn. They had eight children, including a twin of Michael who died as an infant.

They farmed at several locations, and then in June 1966, they sold the farm and moved to Montana.

Don worked at C&C Plywood that summer and then went to work as a carpenter at the Anaconda Aluminum Plant when it expanded operations. He worked as a union carpenter until he retired in 1985.

He loved to hunt and fish and enjoyed having a beer with fam-

ily and friends. He was at home under the Big Sky of Montana, and he will be greatly missed and dearly remembered.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son Dean; his wife, Helen, in 1985; and two brothers, Carl and Henry.

He is survived by three sisters, Eva and husband, John VanDeWalker, Bonnie and husband, Greg Lundy, and Lucy and husband, Martin Gardner.

He also is survived by sons, Mike Sommerfield of Kalispell, and Dale and wife, Karole Sommerfield, of Kalispell; daughters, Cyndi and husband, Cleve Ellis, of Vancouver, Wash., Jane and husband, Jerry Lihou, of Huntington Beach, Calif., Donna of Cut Bank, Mary and husband, Al Hager, of Spokane, and Patty and husband, Chris Brennan, of San Francisco.

Grandchildren include Jason Ellis of Vancouver; Devin and wife, Carly Ellis, U.S. Navy, stationed in Yarmouth, Maine; Joe Brown and son, Joe, of Missoula; Dean Lihou of Huntington Beach, Calif.; Stacey Sommerfield of Canton, N.Y.; Scott Sommerfield, U.S. Coast Guard, stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas; Sarah Jones and daughters, Sierra and Haley, of Chicago; Nathan Jones of Bozeman; and A.J. and Gabrielle Hager of Spokane.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 21, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, with burial afterward at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

There will be a gathering of family and friends after the burial at Jagz Restaurant, 3796 U.S. 2 East.

Friends are encouraged to visit the Buffalo Hill Web site at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave condolences. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Elsie A. Sonnenberg, 87

Elsie A. Sonnenberg, 87, died Sunday, Jan. 4, 2009, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

She is survived by her daughter, Linda Hoerner, of

Columbia Falls.

No services are planned at this time.

Arrangements and cremation are with the Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

Frances Ann 'Torg' Sorensen, 82

Frances Ann "Torg" Sorensen died on Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at the age of 82, in Burnsville, Minn.



Frances was born in Grand Forks, N.D., on June 19, 1926, to William and Isabel Torgeson. She was the youngest of three daughters. She had many fond memories of growing up in Grand Forks and considered herself fortunate for all of her experiences.

Her love of music was well known to all of her friends and family. She played clarinet in the Kryl's All Girl Symphony that toured throughout the United States during the summer and fall of 1942. She attended and graduated from the University of North Dakota with degrees in music and education. At UND she was the president of the UND band and belonged to the Tri Delta sorority.

After she was married in Grand Forks, she lived in Grafton, N.D., and Spokane. But she ultimately called Kalispell home.

Frances was a band instructor for 18 years in Montana, from 1976 to 1994. She taught beginning band students and full bands in fifth, sixth and seventh grades at Evergreen school for four years. Later she became a full-time band teacher in Kalispell, where for the first few years she worked with the beginning students from all five elementary schools (Russell, Hedges, Edgerton, Peterson and Elrod). She expanded her teaching to seventh grade students at Linderman Middle School before she retired.

Frances was very active in the community, playing in the Flathead Valley Community Band, community college musicals, and many different ensembles. She also taught Sunday school for many years at the United Methodist Church. Through her music and teaching she met several lifelong friends.

In June of 2007, she moved to Burnsville, Minn., to be

closer to her family. She was able to share in many family celebrations, along with attending her grandchildren's school and sports events. She enjoyed experiencing many kinds of musical performances around the Twin Cities area. She also enjoyed visits from friends from Montana. In the recent months she has been lovingly cared for by the staff at Carefree Living in Burnsville. Many thanks go out to all those who appreciated her sense of humor and treated her with dignity and love.

Frances has three sons, William Edward Sorensen of Strasburg, Ohio, David John Sorensen of Duluth, Minn., and James Lee Sorensen of Burnsville. She was blessed with seven grandchildren, Carolyn Ann, William, Matthew, Laura, Michael, Whitney and Kurtis; and three great-grandchildren, Joel, Makayla and Gabriel. She had a great fondness for each of them and they always looked forward to when "Grandma Torg" would come and visit. She always made each of them know how special and loved they were. Torg will also be fondly remembered by her daughters-in-law, Jeanne, Anita, Julie, and Jennifer.

Frances was preceded in death by her parents; and her two sisters, Barbara Harber and Alice Pitcher.

She is survived by her sons; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

Frances will be interred at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, July 17, with a potluck to follow at Faith Free Lutheran Church, 405 Liberty St., in Kalispell.

George Edwin Sowl, 90

George Edwin Sowl was born March 8, 1919, in Spokane, and "left this earth to be with the Lord, our Savior" on Dec. 3, 2009.



He was preceded in death by his parents, Byron and Lena Sowl; his wife, Helen; sisters, Marion Hinton and Lucile Ferkovich; daughter, Christine Pajnich; grandson, Ronnie Richter; and great-grandson, Killian.

George is survived by children, Ed Sowl of Columbia Falls, Allyson Morris, Vicki Osburn and Jeanne Sowl-Navarro, of Spokane; and son-in-law, Louis Pajnich, of Columbia Heights. Other immediate family members include numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Michael Sowl, wife Tina, Kiernan and Gabriella; Spencer Sowl, wife Lori, Khristina, Jessica and Chelse; Melissa Richter-Lablanc and Riley; Timothy England; Sonya Danials, Michael and Carrisa; Delina Smith, Scott, Kyle and Shelby; Kandy Remsik and Eduardo; Amber Garcia, Mike Gewalt, and Alysia; Erica Bibb and Nick Jensen.

George served in the U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946, earning the Asiatic Pacific and American Campaign Medals along with the World War II Victory medal. He did his formal training at Farragut Idaho Training Center, Camp Ward. He served aboard the USS Lake (DE 301) and USS Housatonic (AO 35), where he and the rest of the crew were along side USS Missouri when the Japanese surrendered. He received miniature flags of the U.S. and Japan during that historical moment. He was honorably discharged on Dec. 13, 1946.

George worked for Washington Machinery and Foundry, Travis Foundry, Black Brothers Foundry, Spokane Steele Foundry, Western Light Metals, and at one time was in partnership with Spokane Brass and Steel. In 1955 he was employed by Anaconda

Aluminum and moved to Columbia Falls. This is where George and Helen lived and raised their family until his retirement in 1973.

In 1975 they moved to Boulder City, Nev., where Helen had transferred with the National Park Service. After her retirement they traveled around the U.S. by motor home, soon settling back in Spokane, with a winter home in Yuma, Ariz.

George loved playing guitar and singing together with Helen and other friends or

family who wished to join in! He also enjoyed outdoor activities, traveling, spending time with family and friends and, of course, being a fabulous father.

The entire family would like to thank the following centers and staff who cared for George at his time of need: Manor Care Rehab Center, and Willow Grove Assisted Living and Hospice.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 11, at Heritage Funeral Home in Spokane.

Adeline (Larson) Sparling, 89

Adeline (Larson) Sparling, 89, passed away unexpectedly at her home on Sunday, Dec. 27, 2009, in Kalispell.



She was born in Kalispell on July 29, 1920, to Hans and Alma Larson.

Adeline lived her whole life in Kalispell except her pre-school years when her family lived near Nyack, where her father had a logging camp. She married her high school sweetheart, Warren "Sparks" Sparling, and they have a son, Bob.

Adeline was employed as the office manager of the American Timber Co., which was a company begun by her father and it later became a family-owned business. She also worked as the secretary for Bethlehem Lutheran Church and had a wonderful love for serving the Lord in many ways at the church, being a Sunday school teacher and teaching the Bethel Bible Study for several years. She was an active member of the Lutheran Daughters of the Reformation, serving a term as president. She was involved with the Bible study circles, always eager to have the summer meeting at their Flathead Lake cabin and the Christmas gathering in her home. She loved her church family.

Adeline was very involved with the Trinity Lutheran Bible Institute while it was located in Seattle and Issaquah, Wash., serving on their board. She and Warren attended the summer conclaves for many years and were generous supporters of the college.

Adeline's family was such an important part of her life. She loved caring for her

grandchildren and great-grandchildren, especially at the Flathead Lake cabin, and making the days filled with fun and good food. She enjoyed playing bridge with her friends, and she and Warren had great times traveling and went on several cruises with friends from L.B.I. and their son, Bob, and his wife, Sharon.

Adeline was preceded in death by her parents; her brothers, Lawrence and Tilman Larson; and her sister, Ruth Thomas.

She is survived by her husband, Warren Sparling, of Kalispell; a son, Robert, and wife, Sharon Sparling, of Tacoma, Wash.; grandchildren, Kathy and husband, Terry, of Olalla, Wash., Jill and husband, Scott Scherrer, of Hayden, Idaho, and Bruce and wife, Cindy Sparling, of Tacoma; and great-grandchildren, Jennifer Lumsden, Thomas Lumsden, Stephanie Scherrer, Jack Sparling and Isabel Sparling. She is also survived by a brother, Hollister Larson, of Kalispell; and her sister-in-law, Ruth Darnell, of Gig Harbor, Wash; as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.

A celebration of Adeline's life will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 6, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Family and friends are invited to the visitation from 1 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, and to the burial at 10 a.m. Wednesday morning at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Memorial gifts may be given to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

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

Glen Evan Speer, 51

Glen Evan Speer, 51, "went to be with the Lord" on Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009, in the comfort of his parent's home surrounded by his family. Though our beloved Glen is gone from here, he will always be felt in our hearts.

Survivors include his wife, Janice; stepchildren, Tasha Seliger of Columbia Falls, Carrie Bierman of Kalispell, and John Seliger of Oregon; his children, Kelly Speer of Missoula, Lauri Stone and Vince of Polson, and Eric Speer of Kalispell; his

parents, Evan and Shirley Speer, of Columbia Falls; his siblings, Gene and Randa Speer, and David and Bar Speer, all of Columbia Falls, Kathy and Kelvin Box of Salt Lake City, and Lea Lauria of San Antonio; grandchildren, Hunter, Averi and Mason; and many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Services will be at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Aug. 24, at the First Baptist Church of Whitefish.

Austin Funeral Home of Whitefish is caring for the family.

Adrian Porter 'Joe' Spencer, 87

Adrian Porter "Joe" Spencer passed away in Columbia Falls on Monday, Nov. 2, 2009, with his family by his side.



Joe was born in Rolla, N.D., on Sept. 12, 1922, to Caroline and Adrian Spencer. The family moved to Shelby where Joe attended school and met his future wife, Shirley, a good friend of his younger sister, Jeanne. He graduated high school in 1941 and enlisted in the Navy.

After basic training in San Diego, Joe received electrical training at the University of Minnesota. He became an Electrician 1st Class, and went to sea on the USS Grif-ton Submarine Tender. It was on leave from the Navy that Joe took Shirley on their first date. They corresponded via letters while Joe was stationed in Australia, the Philippines, and Hawaii, and were married on Oct. 15, 1945, in Shelby.

Joe and Shirley moved to the Columbia Falls area in 1946 when Joe took a job working for the Bureau of Reclamation at Hungry Horse Dam. He took a job as an electrician at the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant in 1954; he retired from the plant in 1984.

The couple's first son, David, was born in 1947, Ste-

phen followed in 1949, and Bob in 1954.

Some of Joe's favorite times were spent camping and boating with his boys in Glacier Park. Joe was an avid golfer into his senior years and particularly enjoyed attending athletic events at Columbia Falls schools, where his sons and grandchildren have been active through the years. Joe and Shirley have always enjoyed traveling, and spent 15 winters as snowbirds in Arizona.

Joe is survived by his wife of 64 years, Shirley; their three sons, David, Stephen and wife Peggy, and Bob and wife Cathy; seven grandchildren, Corinne, Jessica and Marcelle Wood, Ross and Lindsey, Callie, Cami, Tim and Megan; one great-grandchild, Autumn; and many nieces and nephews of the Burnham family.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls, with a reception to follow.

Columbia Mortuary is handling arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Montana State Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, or the Columbia Falls Athletic Endowment Fund.

Joe's family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the nurses and staff at the Veterans Home in Columbia Falls for their exceptional care of all of us in his final months and days.

Blanche V. Spencer, 88

Blanche V. Spencer, 88, of Libby died April 9, 2009.

Services will be held at

10 a.m. Tuesday, April 14, at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

Robert Allen Spencer Sr., 63

Robert Allen Spencer Sr., 63, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, Dec. 31, 2009, at his home in Kalispell.



He was born in Havre on May 8, 1946, to Truman and Bertha (Blair) Spencer.

Bob married Peggy Bradley in 1967 and they had two children, Bob and Krystal. Bob and Peggy divorced and he later married Mary (Caudill) Craft, also of Kalispell.

Bob lived the majority of his life in Kalispell, working in the automotive industry until retiring in the early '90s due to medical reasons.

In retirement, Bob found joy and hidden talent in many things like woodworking. He also loved finding, collecting and repairing antique clocks for himself as well as family and friends.

Bob was a longtime member of the Eagles and a member of the Bald Eagles, and most recently regained interest in something he has

always loved, riding his Harley Davidson.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary; his parents; his brother, Jim; and a stepdaughter, Brandy.

Bob is survived by a son, Bob, and wife, Lori Spencer, of Idaho; daughter, Krystal, and husband, Ryan Weaver, of Washington; stepson, Joe Craft, of Montana; grandchildren, Brandon and Kenedee Spencer, Addison Weaver and Vincent Meuli; and sisters, Darlene Rollins of Miles City, and Eleanor Everest of Lincoln City, Ore. He also leaves behind his four-legged best friend and companion for years, Truman.

Friends are invited to gather with Bob's family to celebrate his life at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, at the Eagles, 37 First St. W., in Kalispell. Cremation has taken place and at Bob's request, there will be a private urn burial.

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

Janet D. Sproul, 79

Janet D. Sproul, 79, died peacefully Wednesday morning at Heritage Place. She was born in New York, N.Y., on June 27, 1930, the daughter of Elmer and Madeline Fly.

She married Lewis "Dill" Sproul June 10, 1949. She had been a longtime resident of the Flathead Valley, residing for an extended period of time at Star Meadows.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dill, in 2001;

and a brother, William Fly.

She is survived by her son, Clyde "Gus" Sproul, of Kalispell; three sisters, Florence, Leola and Ellen; and a brother, Elmer; and also by nieces and nephews, Ruthie, Jenny, Jolene, Richard, Kenny, Nancy and Sandra; as well as many great-nieces and -nephews.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at the Austin Funeral Home Chapel, with Pastor Tim Bartholomew officiating

Vivian Sylvia Sprunger, 85

Vivian Sylvia Sprunger passed away at the age of 85 on Jan. 11, 2009, at Brendan House in Kalispell. She was born March 11, 1923, in Bigfork to Able J. and Olga Marie (Ehland) Bellmore.



Vivian spent most of her life in the Flathead Valley. She married Pete Sprunger on Jan. 28, 1945, in Bigfork. They moved to the Bureau of Reclamation Project at Hungry Horse, where Pete was employed, and together they had three children. They later moved to their home on Flathead River in Columbia Falls.

After Pete's retirement they became snowbirds, spending their time between their residences in Yuma, Ariz., and Columbia Falls.

Vivian enjoyed gardening, square dancing, pinochle, fishing and picking huckleberries. Most of all she enjoyed sharing her vast life knowledge with her children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends and others. Not always by choice, family members learned how to take

care of themselves, unafraid to try anything. Her drive for life will live on in us all.

Vivian was preceded in death by her father, Abel Bellmore, and her mother, Olga; brothers, Adolore, Waldo and Morris; and sisters, Rachel, Grace, Pauline and Bonnie.

Vivian is survived by her husband of 63 years, Pete Sprunger, of Kalispell; her son, Randy Sprunger, and his wife, Phyllis, of Whitefish, and their two daughters, Erin and Stephanie; her daughter, Katherine "KC" Curtis, of Belgrade; and her son, Shawn, and his daughter, Cameo; her daughter, Jan Varty, and her husband, Warren, of Edmonton, Alberta and their son, Lucas; brother, Bob Bellmore; sisters, Beverly, Opal, Carol and Marrienne; niece, Donna McDonald, who spent much of her childhood with the Sprungers; and numerous other nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in the spring.

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

Lois L. Staab, 85

Lois L. Staab, 85, of Kalispell, passed away Sunday, Jan. 25, 2009, at Brendan House in Kalispell. Lois was born Nov. 3, 1923, in Grenora, N.D., to Chester and Florence Linendoll. Her family moved to Harlem, where she graduated from Harlem High School.



In 1941 the family moved to Kalispell, where she met and married her future husband, Voyle Ernest Staab, on Dec. 19, 1942, in Kalispell. They were married for 62 years.

She worked at Flathead County Courthouse in the treasurer's office, and later as deputy auditor until her retirement after 33 years of work for the county.

She loved knitting, crocheting and needlepoint, crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, working in her flower garden, and walking around Kalispell during the

warm weather.

Lois was preceded in death by her husband, Voyle E. Staab, in 2004; and her parents, Florence and Chester Linendoll.

She is survived by her sons, Neil L. and his wife, Sherry Staab, of Dallas, and Stephen and his wife, Cathy Staab, of Orofino, Idaho; brother, Sonny, and his wife, Sharon Linendoll, of Hamilton; sisters, Lilly Chadbond of Santa Maria, Calif., and Bobby Anderson of Helena; seven grandchildren, Libby, Melissa, Kari, Jeremy, Justin, Tricia and Stephen; seven great-grandchildren, Jordan, Andy, Sydney, Mattie, Emma, Chris and Austin; and five nieces and nephews, Lane, Dawn, Robert, Bryan and Linda.

A memorial service for Lois will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31, in the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral chapel.

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

Emmett Austin Stallcop, 88

Emmett Austin Stallcop, 88, died Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2009, at his home near Columbia Falls. Emmett was born Dec. 10, 1920, in Havre to Halcie and Harriett Stallcop.

After graduating from Havre High School, he joined the Montana National Guard and entered service on Sept. 16, 1940. He fought in the southwest Pacific from March 1942 until July 1945 with Company M 163 Infantry. He was discharged in February 1946. He was awarded Combat Infantry badge, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, Presidents Unit Citation, and other campaign ribbons. He had been in three beachhead landings.

On May 25, 1946, he married Mary Reeves.

Emmett was Havre police judge and justice of the peace for 30 years. He retired in 1981 and moved with Mary to Columbia Falls.

Emmett had many interests, including the Milk River Archaeology Society and the Montana Archaeology Society. He was instrumental in promoting recognition of the Havre buffalo jump by conducting weekly tours of the bison kill. He also invited Smithsonian people and the curator of the American Museum of Natural History to visit the dig. He interviewed many elders of

various Native American tribes and wrote several of their stories. He had numerous articles published in the Plains Anthropologist and Archaeology in Montana.

One of his great enjoyments was to float the Missouri River with Mary and numerous friends. He even built two flat-bottomed boats for that purpose.

After moving to the Flathead Valley, he joined the Civil War Roundtable and enjoyed giving presentations to the group.

He is survived by his daughter, Judith Sampson, and her husband, Ken "Sam" Sampson; three stepgrandchildren, Mitch Sampson and Jay Sampson of Polson, and Marni Thomas of Kalispell; six stepgreat-grandchildren; a brother, Elbert Stallcop, of Hamilton; sisters, Sylvia Thompson of Orange, Texas, and Myrtle Rhodes of Alma, Ark.; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Mary, in 2000; and his brother, Eugene.

Private interment will be at a later date in Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

The family has requested that memorials be sent to the Montana Archaeological Society, the Flathead Civil War Roundtable, or Grace Hospice.

Arrangements are by Columbia Mortuary.

Robert Neal Stanton, 69

Robert Stanton, 69, of Columbia Falls died Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009, at the Community Hospital in Anaconda.

Robert was born Aug. 23, 1939, to Harold and Isabelle (Martin) Stanton in Waukesha, Wis. The family moved to Montana in 1942 and they settled in Swan Lake. Robert attended first grade there, and he then attended schools in Bigfork and Kalispell, where he finished school.

Robert spent time in the Service and after his discharge, he hit the rodeo circuit, and then ended up working in Glacier

Park packing and guiding.

Robert is survived by his wife, Vicki, of Columbia Falls; one son, Rex Stanton, of Sparks, Nev.; two brothers, Eugene Stanton of Kalispell, and Lloyd Stanton of Polson; and one sister, Marion Fairbanks, of Columbia Falls.

Robert was preceded in death by his parents; and daughter, Dlorah.

Memorial services will be scheduled later.

Longfellow Finnegan Funeral Home of Anaconda is entrusted with his funeral arrangements.

Cecilia Marie Combs Stap, 64

Cecilia Marie Combs Stap "went into the hands of the Lord" on Nov. 29, 2009, at home.

She was born July 7, 1945, at the Kalispell General Hospital, the second of seven children, to Cecil and Fredricka Combs.

She was raised here in the Flathead but grew up in the Deer Park area, where she attended elementary school as well. She then went on to graduate with the Class of 1963 at Flathead High School.

Through the years she had a varied range of interests. She was a member of the Eagles Auxiliary for 34 years, and had a love for hunting, fishing and camping as well. She was also a die-hard Denver Broncos football fan. She never missed a game!

Mom was preceded in death by her parents, Cecil and Freddie Combs; two sisters, Sherry Jones and Dar-



lene Walter; a brother, Douglas Combs; and her grandmothers, Melvina Combs and Elva Davis.

She is survived by her loving husband of 26 years, William Stap; a son, Tyler; a daughter, Heather; a son-in-law, Daniel Devine; and three grandchildren who were the love and joy of her life, Hayley, Alyssa and Jared Devine. She is also survived by three sisters, Diane Bowersox of Washington and her husband, Terry, Carleen Hutchings and her husband, Mark, and Faye Kerzman; as well as numerous special nieces and nephews. She also had two very special friends in her travels, Connie Downing of Kalispell and Gloria Henderson, also of Kalispell; a very wonderful mother-in-law, Phyllis Stap, of May City, Iowa; two sisters-in-law, Lori Visintainer of Craig, Colo., and Linda Wingate of Fort Collins, Colo.

Cremation has taken place at her request and a celebration of her life will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, at the Eagles.

Helen Steinberg, 83

Helen Steinberg, 83, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2009, at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. She was born on Oct. 12, 1925, in New York to Benjamin and Molly Engleman.

Helen married Marty Steinberg on June 17, 1948, in New York City. They grew up together and were childhood friends, then became sweethearts and were truly lifelong soulmates: "and are now happily together again."

Helen enjoyed playing cards and visiting friends at Syke's. She loved her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; and three brothers, Harry, Al and Eddie.

She is survived by a daugh-

ter, Michele and Les Barnett, and two sons, Scott and Julie Steinberg, and Mitch and Deb Steinberg, all of Kalispell; grandchildren, Justin and Michelle Barnett of Kalispell, Brandon and Avigale Barnett of Brooklyn, N.Y., Stacie Martin and Aimee Owens of Kalispell, Ryan Steinberg of Watertown, N.Y., and Aaron Steinberg of Camron, Texas; and great-grandchildren, Ashley, Evan, Aaron, Ashlie, Rylie, Hayden, Michael, Roman and Noam.

Graveside services for Helen were held on Friday, Feb. 13, at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

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

Hazel C. Stensland, 93

Hazel C. Stensland, 93, passed away on Monday, Nov. 23, 2009, at her residence in Kila. She was born April 10, 1916, out in a home-stead shack by a midwife in Stanley, N.D., to John and Olga Anderson.

When Hazel was 20 years old she married Hebert Hooper and moved to Jamestown, N.Y. She got a job as a nanny. She had two children, Sherman and Betty. Later she left Hebert and went back to Stanley.

She met and married Nels in Sidney in 1944. They moved to Seattle during World War II to work for Boeing where she was a riveter. When the war was over they looked for a farm in Montana.

They looked all over Mon-

tana and finally settled in Kalispell. They purchased a place south of town where they lived from 1947 through 1954. In 1953 they bought acreage near Kila and moved 16 head of cattle onto it. They drove up every day to milk and feed the cattle. They separated the milk and then sold the cream. Hazel raised cattle from 1953 to 2008. During that time she was a cook and manager of the Cadillac Hotel Restaurant.

She also loved gardening, fishing, huckleberry picking and canning. She was a member of the Eagles.

Hazel was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Nels, in 1966; a daughter, Betty Baker; three brothers; and two sisters.

She is survived by two sons, Sherman Hooper of Kalispell, and Daniel Stensland and wife, Margie, of Kila; seven grandchildren, Cindy, Peggy, Jerry, Daniel, Steven, John and Gary; nine great-grandchildren; and one very special great-great-grandson, Colton.

Funeral services for Hazel will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 28, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel. Visitation will be from noon until service time. Burial will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

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

James Bart Stephens, 83

James Bart Stephens, 83, passed away on Wednesday, April 22, 2009, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. He was born on Feb. 5, 1926, in Scobey, to William and Nannie Louise (Pierse) Stephens.

Jim grew up in Scobey, playing sports, enjoying the great outdoors and helping his parents at the local movie theater. Summers were spent at Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park and Jim vowed someday to live in the Flathead.

After graduation from Scobey High School, he joined the Army. He served in the European Theater with the 134th Infantry. He was wounded in the Battle of Ardennes and received the Purple Heart.

After the war, Jim attended Montana State College and received a degree in architecture. Soon after, he was able to fulfill his Flathead Valley dream and joined the local architecture firm of Brinkman and Lenon. Jim was a fine architect and his work can be seen across Montana. One of his favorites was the Summit House on Big Mountain. Jim served his profession locally and state wide. Happy memories included attending national conferences.

Jim was involved in many community activities. He worked for years with the



Kalispell Ski Club, serving on their board, teaching classes and running races. Jim was also a Big Mountain Ski Patrolman.

Summers were dedicated to the fine art of fly fishing and floating rivers. A favorite spot was Moose City on the Canadian border where he spent an entire summer with no electricity, no running water, but lots of fish. His Moose City family will miss him.

Jim's last four years were spent in the special unit of the Montana Veterans Home. The fine staff became his family and cared for him lovingly.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Bill; and three sisters, Louise, Elizabeth and Mary.

He is survived by his sister, Clover Tande, of Scobey; and numerous nieces and nephews.

There are no services planned at this time for James.

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

Betty Jean Stevens, 87

Betty Jean Stevens, 87, died Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2009, at the Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork.

She is survived by her two daughters, Penny Stevens of Shelby, and Pam

McCarthy of Bigfork.

A memorial service will be held in the summer.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Diana Jo (Hileman) Stevens, 67

Diana Jo (Hileman) Stevens, 67, formerly of Whitefish, died Oct. 16, 2009, in Mesa, Ariz.

She had been a legal secretary in Mesa.

She is survived by her husband, J. Edward Stevens, of Mesa; son, Stephen, of St. George, Utah; three stepsons and two stepdaughters, Mark Stevens of Salt Lake City, Gregory Stevens of

Lehi, Utah, and John Stevens of Midvale, Utah, Kelly Christensen of College Station, Texas, and Lori Kiphen of Bryan, Texas.

Services will be held on Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Mesa East Stake 18th Ward Chapel at 2228 E. Brown Road, Mesa, with a viewing at 8:30 a.m., followed by memorial services at 10 a.m.

Mary Katherine Stevens, 80

Mary Katherine Stevens, 80, died Saturday, May 30, 2009, at her residence in Kalispell.

She is survived by her son, Mark Stevens, of Kalispell.

Graveside services will

be held at 11 a.m. Friday, June 5, at Carolina Memorial Park in Concord, N.C.

Johnson - Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Ethel Stewart, 86

Ethel Stewart, 86, of Helena, passed unexpectedly but peacefully of lung cancer on Dec. 11, 2009, at St. Peters



Hospital. Ethel was born Sept. 6, 1923, in Eglon Township, Minn., the youngest of four children, to Henry and Jessie Estrin.

Ethel moved to Seattle in 1945 and married Joel Stewart the same year. After World War II they moved to St. Louis, and lived there until 1966 when they moved to East Helena to fulfill a dream of owning and operating their own business by building Stewart's Trailer Court and Campground.

Ethel's life was spent dedicated to her family and friends. She retired from Mountain View School for Girls in 1985. She worked with the girls with care and love for 19 years. She enjoyed serving her community. Ethel loved being a volunteer in the gift shop at St. Peters Hospital the last few years. She was also a member of and enjoyed The Red Hatters Gang.

Ethel was preceded in

death by her husband, Joel; and son, Dan. She and her husband Joel were married for 55 years until his death in 2003. Her beloved son Dan passed away in 2002 in an automobile accident.

Ethel is survived by three children and her daughter-in-law, Joan Stewart. Her daughter Debbie and husband Robert Petek live in Bigfork, and have four children, Chris (Capt. USAF) and his wife Trish, Chad, Lindsey, and Chelsey. Joan lives in East Helena with her and Dan's children, Joel, Tim and Jennifer. Her son Glen and wife Monika live in San Diego. Her son Terry, his wife Cindy, and children, Cody and Shelby, reside in Edgewood, Wash.

A memorial service was held for Ethel on Wednesday, Dec. 16, at East Helena United Methodist Church in East Helena. A fellowship reception followed at the church. Interment at Montana State Veterans Cemetery at Fort Harrison followed the reception.

Memorials may be made in Ethel's name to the East Helena United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 850, East Helena, MT 59635; or Montana State Veterans Cemetery, P.O. Box 1500, Fort Harrison, MT 59636.

Judy Cathryne Stewart, 61

Judy Cathryne Stewart, 61, passed away on Saturday, April 4, 2009, at her residence in Kalispell. She was



born on May 19, 1947, in Anaconda to Ray and Georgia Finley.

Judy spent her childhood and early adult years in Anaconda. She was a care giver most of her life. After receiving her LPN's license, she worked at Butte Hope Center and then at Warm Springs Mental Hospital.

In 1980, she moved with her husband and three children to Kalispell, where she devoted all her time to being a full-time mother. She also volunteered with the local hospice center. She later moved to Washington state where she worked at the Rainier School State Hospital.

She enjoyed time spent at family get-togethers and trips

to the ocean.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Jim Finley; sister, Shirley Davis; niece, Heidi Yelsa; half brother, Frank; and the love of her life, Keith Stewart.

She is survived by her daughter, Denise Stewart, of Kalispell; son, Josh Stewart, and wife, Lena, of Kalispell; son, Blair Stewart, and wife, Chris, of Billings; sister, Bev Stark, and her husband, Fred, of Kent, Wash.; grandchildren, Olivia Shultz, Zaybin Stewart, Tyven Stewart and Chandler Stewart; along with lifelong best friend Carol Harbin; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Judy will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 8, at the Trinity Lutheran Church with Pastor Mark Cutler officiating.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Judy's family.

You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and sign Judy's guest book.

L.E. 'Larry' Stockhill, 89

L.E. "Larry" Stockhill passed away at the age of 89 of natural causes, on Nov. 17, 2009, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls. He was born Dec. 9, 1919, the youngest of four children, to George and Mary Ann (Theade) Stockhill at Miles City.



After high school graduation in Miles City, he studied aeronautics and undertook flight training at schools in Portland, Helena and Missoula. He received his private pilot certificate in 1941, then progressed to getting his aircraft and mechanic's (A&E) license and parachute rigger's license in 1942. He continued taking advanced flight training from Red Morrison in Helena and worked a short time in 1942 as an aircraft mechanic.

Mr. Stockhill joined the U.S. Navy in 1942, received his Navy wings and was a primary flight instructor and check airman at the "landlocked Navy" Naval Air Station at Ottumwa, Iowa, for most of the duration of the war, reaching the rank of lieutenant. While there, he met and married Betty Jean Poe of Oskaloosa, Iowa, on Dec. 11, 1943.

After the war, Larry and Betty moved to Miles City with their son Michael for two years, then moved to Whitefish, operating Flathead Air Transport at the

Flathead County Airport from 1947 to 1955. He was the first official airport manager at the airport, later renamed Glacier International Airport, from 1948 to 1955.

Mr. Stockhill became a principal of Northridge Development Company, building the first 17 houses at Northridge Heights in Kalispell. He later operated a Standard Oil service station for a few years before starting Stockhill Aviation, Inc., in 1964, at the Kalispell City Airport, where he provided flight training, air taxi, and aircraft maintenance and repair, until 1987.

After retirement, Mr. Stockhill enjoyed travel to Alaska, and winters in his home in Apache Junction, Ariz.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Betty; his sister, Margaret Perkins; his brothers, Elmer and John; and his son, Douglas.

He is survived by his second wife of two years, Linda; his son, Michael, and Marie, of Polson; granddaughter, Ashley Stockhill, of Belgrade; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of his life will be announced at a later date.

Should friends desire, memorials may be made to the charity of one's choice.

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

Mary Dene Stocking, 91

Mary Dene Stocking, 91, passed away Monday, March 23, 2009, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. She was born April 26, 1917, in Butte, the oldest daughter of Theodore and Mary (Carter) Carson. At a young age, Mary and her family moved to Helena, where she graduated from high school in 1935.



She married Ivan L. "Jack" Reynolds in 1935, and they had three children, Charles Lee, Susan and David. Ivan died in 1954.

Mary worked as a waitress and later for the state of Montana. She lived in Helena until 1958, at which time she married Robert Stocking and moved to Bob's home on the east shore of Flathead Lake. Mary was a Stanley Home Products dealer for many years. After Bob's death in 1963, she went to work for Northwestern National Life as an insurance agent; during this time she received many awards and numerous trips. She was an agent until her retirement.

She married LeRoy Ward in 1977, and they were later divorced.

Mary moved to Kalispell in 1991, where she lived independently until 2007. She lived with her daughter until November 2008, at which time she moved to Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Mary loved her flowers — the

deck on her house on Ranch Road was covered with flowers. She enjoyed painting china, also the seminars and weekly meeting of her china painting group. She loved collecting and making dolls, both porcelain and rag. Mary's hands were always busy. She was a member of the 40E Eagles Club.

Mary was preceded in death by three brothers, William Carson, Theodore Carson and Tom "Tink" Carson; two sisters, Eva May Wirth and Faye Kramer; and two husbands, Ivan in 1954, and Robert in 1963.

She is survived by her two sons, Charles Lee Reynolds and wife, Judi, of Helena, and David Reynolds and wife, Cheryl, of Kalispell; one daughter, Susan Storfa, and husband, Charles, of Kalispell; and nine grandchildren, Charles Storfa Jr. of Soap Lake, Wyo., Michael Storfa of Deer Lodge, Charles Reynolds and Michelle Brown of Kalispell, Tom McCarthy of Helena, Lisa Benson of Tucson, Ariz., Gary McCarthy of Phoenix, and Debbie McCarthy of Great Falls.

A memorial service for Mary will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 28, in the Johnson-Gloschat funeral chapel.

The family suggest memorials be sent to Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

John Edward Stollfuss, 87

John Edward Stollfuss, 87, a longtime rancher, passed away on Saturday, March 28, 2009, at the Brendan House in Kalispell following an eight-year battle with lymphatic cancer.

He was born on July 23, 1921, in Prince George, British Columbia, the son of Fred and Mary Strobel (Palm) Stollfuss.

He moved with his parents to the Thompson River ranch in 1923. He attended grade school in Marion, where he and his mother lived in a one-room cabin during the school year, and later the Thompson River School, graduating from Flathead High School in 1939. He was extremely proud of the fact he never missed a day of school.

He joined the U.S. Army in 1942 and trained as a telegrapher. In 1943 he transferred into the Royal Canadian Air Force and was afforded the opportunity to fly. In 1945 he met the love of his life in Toronto, Ontario, and he married Elizabeth Ann "Bette" Hall there on April 6, 1946.

They moved to Kalispell where John worked as the parts manager at Manions. In 1958 he went to work in Glacier National Park, working in the shop and then in the warehouse until 1968. He resided in Evergreen during this time. The opportunity to do what he loved came about in 1968. With some help from his uncle Ed Palm, he moved back to the ranch in Thompson River. He served as Deputy State Stock Inspector from the late 1960s until the time of his death. He also served many years on the board of the Marion Rural Fire Department.

He loved the tranquility of his ranch and walked its reaches as often as he could. He was a quiet man who loved to work and stay busy. He was self-taught at most everything he did. He played guitar for many years, worked very hard at teaching



himself how to speak Spanish and started to learn how to play the bagpipes a few years ago.

There weren't many things he couldn't fix

with just a few hand tools and a little elbow grease. Only in the last few months of his life did the cancer slow him down, but it didn't stop him as he went for a snowmobile ride through his cows in late February so he could see how they were doing.

John was a strong believer in our First Amendment Rights and was a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association.

He was preceded in death by his parents Fred and Mary Stollfuss and his loving wife, Bette, in 2002. He is survived by his son Larry Stollfuss and his wife Donna Rae of Carter, Mont.; grandson Joshua and wife Fiona and great-granddaughter Jordan of Dearborn, Mich., and grandson Jacob and wife Linda and great-grandson Eli of Cleveland, Ohio; his sister-in-law Emily Ogden and husband, Jack, of Toronto, Ohio; nieces Debra Ogden, Janet Maynaugh, Jill Ward and nephew Wayne Hall, all residing in Ontario, Canada, also survive him.

Memorial services for John will be held in June at his ranch in Thompson River. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Marion Rural Fire Department, 180 Gopher Lane, Marion, MT 59925 or the National Rifle Association, 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030 or to the charity of your choice.

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

Margaret Moore Stone, 91

Margaret Moore Stone, 91, passed away peacefully, Oct. 17, 2009, at Orono Commons Nursing Home in Orono, Maine. She was born Nov. 24, 1917, in Raleigh, N.C., and was a former resident of Essex.

Margaret was a registered nurse for 48 years, mostly as a supervisor in pediatrics. Once she retired, she focused her love of children in the newborn nursery and then took care of infants and young children in her home.

Margaret was a loving mom, mom-in-law and grandmother. She loved her family dearly, and especially loved her dear poodle, Sophie, who was by her side for 12 years.

Margaret grew up in Raleigh, and worked for many years in Lumberton, N.C., until she moved to Florida with her husband and daughter where she lived for over 35 years. She then moved to Essex with her daughter and son-in-law where she loved the adven-



tures of Glacier National Park and enjoyed all the wildlife. She then moved with her daughter and son-in-law to Holden, Maine, three and a half years ago, and enjoyed car rides to the coast and loved the fall colors of the changing leaves.

Margaret is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Ann and Ralph Swain, of Holden; grandsons, Evan Stone of Gainesville, Fla., Tony and David Swain, and granddaughter-in-law, Megan Wolfe Swain, of Chicago; one sister, Sally Mullen, of Greenville, N.C.; and loving nieces and nephews.

Margaret was predeceased by her husband of 46 years, Randolph Stone; and her son, Randy, 16, who died in 1958; and also two sisters, Carthy Seymour and Margie Stephenson.

Services will be private for the family. If you would like to remember Margaret in a special way, please make a donation to the Senior Companion Program of UMaine Cooperative Extension, c/o Sandy Vaillancourt, 106 Libby Hall, University of Maine, Orono, ME 04469.

For information or to offer condolences to the family, visit www.BrookingsSmith.com.

Visitacion 'Remy' Fabi-Stout, 56

Visitacion "Remy" Fabi-Stout passed away March 4, 2009, at her home in Kalispell, surrounded by her family, after a courageous two-year battle with gastric cancer.

Remy was born Sept. 29, 1952, in the Philippines to Canuto Fabi and Victoria Copioso.

Remy grew up in the Philippines and later met and married Clyde "Skip" Stout II on April 19, 1976. They moved to a Naval base in San Diego, where they welcomed their first born daughter, Sonya, on Sept. 11, 1976.

Remy prided herself on receiving her GED, and passing the government test and became a United States citizen. She always told herself that she would have a better life than the one she had come from. And she thought that Skip was her gift sent from God.

On Aug. 12, 1977, she welcomed her second child, a son, Clyde "Trey" Stout III.

Throughout their marriage they traveled to many different states for Skip's Naval career.

As her children were growing up, she was pretty much a stay-at-home mom; occasionally working a part-time job or running a daycare center in her home. Skip's career eventually led them back to San Diego, where they welcomed their "big surprise." Ashley Kay joined the world on July 7, 1989. Shortly thereafter, Skip left the Navy and brought his family back home to Montana, where Remy would spend the rest of her life.

Remy was a fabulous cook and loved to have dinners and barbecues for her family, and any neighbors in need. Remy prided herself on her job ethics and loved working at The Hampton Inn, where she worked until her death. She



would work on her days off and holidays so that others could be with their families. She was so devoted to her job that she won the

"Employee of the Year" award in 2008. Remy was selfless in every sense of the word. Always putting others before herself, even right up until the end of her life.

Remy loved her children and grandchildren more than anything. She was courageous in her battle with cancer, right to the very end. She wanted to witness a "miracle," as did we all. "But God needed another angel, so He took her to heaven to watch and protect others from above. When the sun shines we know, it's Mom watching us and smiling."

Remy is survived by her husband, Skip; children, Sonya and Travis AuClaire, and their children, Bryson, Alyssa and Braden, Trey and Sabrina Stout, and their children, Nathan, Ashlynn, Brandon, Jayden and Kye, and Ashley and son Cameron, all of Kalispell; five brothers and one sister, of Palo Leyte, Philippines; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, close friends, and special co-workers at The Hampton Inn.

Remy was preceded in death by her mother and father; and close sister-in-law, Carol.

A private memorial service for close family and friends is planned for Sunday, March 29, at a family home in Kalispell. If you knew Remy and would like to offer condolences or would like to attend the memorial, Sonya can be reached at 314-5911.

Lynn Streib, 51

Lynn Streib, 51, of Lewistown, died of undetermined natural causes, July 6, 2009, at her home.

She had been employed with Moodie Implement of Lewistown for the past 15 years.

She is survived by her father, William Streib, of Laramie, Wyo.; and her children, Paige Tresidder

and Brett Tresidder, both of Lewistown.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, July 11, at the Creel Funeral Home. A luncheon will follow the memorial service, at 223 Cedar St. in Lewistown.

Creel Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

Staff Sgt. James R. 'J.R.' Stright, 29

Army Staff Sgt. 1st Class James R. "J.R." Stright, 29, was killed Friday, Oct. 23, 2009, during a special operations training exercise off the coast of Virginia. He was born Feb. 18, 1980, at Concord, Mass., to Robert and Kathleen (Callahan) Stright.



He was raised and educated at Libby. He graduated from Libby High School in 1998 and volunteered for Army service in June. Following basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and advanced individual training at Fort Eustis, Va., he served with 57th Air Medical Ambulance Company at Fort Bragg, N.C., as a helicopter mechanic and crew chief.

In 2003, he joined the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment as a helicopter mechanic. He was a combat veteran with 16 deployments. He served in the U.S. Army for more than a decade. He was assigned to Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), headquartered at Hunter Army Airfield, Ga. They were noted as "Night Stalkers"; they worked best at night. He had been with the regiment for more than five years.

His awards include six air medals, two Army commendation medals, the Army Achievement Medal, three Army Good Conduct medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal-Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, two NCO Professional Development Ribbons, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, the Combat Action Badge, the Senior Aircraft Crewman Badge, the Parachutist Badge, and the Air Assault Badge.

He was a good student, played freshman football, but quit when he learned he could get a job and make a living. He loved to cook, was highly self-sufficient, and his friends were very important to him. He loved Harley Davidsons and even bought one overseas. He was not a hot-rodder; he just enjoyed the freedom of riding. He really enjoyed online gaming, especially asp-games.com. He had many friends on this Web site.

Survivors include his father, Robert N. Stright, and his wife, Jerilyn, and his mother, Kathleen Callahan Stright, all of Libby; two brothers, Sean Stright of Seattle, and his children, Kyleah, Braelin, Forest and Logan; and Aaron Stright of Issaquah, Wash.; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. He also leaves behind his German shepherd, Lucia.

Services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2, at the Libby Christian Church, with burial to follow at City of Libby Cemetery with full military honors.

Elizabeth Ann 'Libbi' Stripp, 51

Elizabeth Ann "Libbi" Stripp died Thursday, Jan. 29, 2009, at St. Luke Extended Care in Ronan from complications of multiple sclerosis.



Libbi was born in Hardin on Oct. 16, 1957. She was the youngest of four children born to John and Therese Corbett.

Her sisters and brother are Dana and Oscar Esobar of Portland, Cindy and Ken Munski of Great Falls, and Timothy and Laura Corbett of Boise, Idaho. Her nieces and nephews are Mark and John Escobar, Joshua and Callie Munski, Nathan Munski, Kathryn Munski, Rainee and Nick Shafer, Andrea and Branden Carter, and Neil Corbett. Her grandnieces are Lucy Shafer, Bailey Munski and Hannah Munski. Her grandnephews are Izaak Munski and Elliot Schafer. Her aunts are Min Corbett of Libby and Ruth Corbett of Helena. She is also survived by numerous cousins.

She married Gerry Weiler

and they later divorced. She met and married the love of her life, Rich Stripp, in 1992.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Rich Stripp; and her father, John Corbett; and numerous aunts and uncles.

Libbi was a person who had a genuine love for people. She had loyal friends and touched the lives of many. She had a strong faith in God and was an inspiration to her family and friends. She will be missed!

She is survived by her mother, Therese Corbett; and her sisters and brother and their families.

Memorials may be sent to St. Luke Extended Care in Ronan, or the charity of your choice.

A memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Polson, with Rev. Jim Connor officiating. A reception will be after the service in the church basement. Private inurnment will be held at Lakeview Cemetery in Polson.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.groganfuneralhome.com.

Douglas Leonard Strong, 47

Douglas Leonard Strong, (Radar to so many), 47, passed away on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009, after a long, courageous battle, at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell. Doug was born April 19, 1962, in Bremerton, Wash., to Leonard "Sparky" and Nancy Strong.

Doug believed in living life to the fullest, and treasured the many friends that he shared his life with. Doug had an infectious laugh and a great sense of humor. He was a humble man and was always willing to help anyone, in any way he was able.

He brought happiness to all those that he touched, and will be missed by all.

He is survived by his mother, Nancy; two brothers, Don and Jack; and a sister, Deborah.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. today, Dec. 9, at the Dam Town Tavern in Hungry Horse. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Douglas' family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Douglas' guest book, offer condolences and share memories.

Albert C. Stryker, 83

Albert C. Stryker, 83, passed away on Friday, July 10, 2009, at Mountain View Manor in Eureka. He was born Jan. 7, 1926, in Bethel, Conn., the son of John C. and Minnie M. (Mason) Stryker.



Albert served during World War II in the U.S. Army, 335th Infantry, Rail Splitters, and was awarded the Bronze Star for courage and heroism in combat. Upon his return from France in 1946 he married Jean Mireault and reared six children.

Albert was an avid horseman, to the point he rode in Wild West shows in Connecticut and surrounding areas. He strongly supported his children in the 4-H Horse Club and continued his dreams in the West running wagon trips in Glacier Park.

Albert worked for Connecticut Colprovia, operating heavy equipment for many years before he moved with his family to Arizona. He worked for Cypress Bag-

dad Copper Mine until his retirement, at which time he relocated to Fortine to live out his life in the beautiful wilderness.

Albert was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Donald E. Stryker; his sister, Irene E. Herbst; and his life partner, Zann Johnson.

He is survived by his brothers, John C. Stryker and wife, Audrey, of Brookfield, Conn., and Harold R. Stryker and wife, Nancy, of Crossville, Tenn.; his sons, Roy A. Stryker and wife, Carla, of Phoenix, Guy K. Stryker and wife, Gale, of Greeneville, Tenn., Corey S. Stryker and wife, Sharon, of Mountain Home Idaho, and Dana L. Stryker and wife, Kim, of Kalispell; two daughters, Joyce S. Gordon and husband, Bob, of Durham, N.C., and Jo A. Stryker and husband, Eddie Rosas, of Fortine; 22 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

There will be a private memorial service held at his home in Fortine on Aug. 8.

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

Birdie C. Stuckey, 77

Birdie C. Stuckey, 77, of Libby, died Sunday, March 15, 2009, at the Libby Care Center, from natural causes.

She had worked for the U.S. Forest Service at Raven Ranger Station and then the Libby supervisor's office,

until her retirement in 1986.

Survivors include a son, Tim Stuckey, of Libby.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, March 20, at Christ Lutheran Church in Libby.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

Evelyn M. Sullivan, 98

Evelyn M. Sullivan, 98, our beloved mother, "went to the Lord" Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009, at Heritage Place in Kalispell. She was



born to Albert and Olphina (Nelson) Runsvold on Dec. 17, 1910, in Hettinger, N.D.

At age 3, she moved with her family to Ashley Creek where they would swim in the summer and ice skate in the winter.

After graduating from Flathead County High School in 1928, she worked at the soldiers home in Columbia Falls as a cook. There she met and married Daniel W. Sullivan. They settled on a small farm on Middle Road and raised three children.

Throughout the years she became an honorary grandmother to many children whom she took care of so the parents could work. They retired from the farm in 1989 and moved to Kalispell, and remained married for 66 years until her husband's passing in 1999.

Evelyn was active with many clubs and organizations in her life, including the Royal Neighbors, Altar Society, Home Demonstrations, Busy Bees, and a 4-H leader. She was a member of the St. Richard's Parish and was active in the parish Women's Guild.

She enjoyed cooking, sewing, knitting and reading. She had also taken up oil painting and created many paintings that adorn our family's homes. Being of Norwegian heritage, she enjoyed standard Norwegian food. Some of her cooking creations have been passed down, becoming family gathering staples.

Everyone that she met became her friend and she continued friendships with the children of her childhood friends. Always helping others through life's sorrows, it fits her character that she is the last of her siblings to pass. Even towards the end of her life she still had a mother's concern for her

children whom she placed before her own worries.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Daniel W. Sullivan; parents, Albert and Olphina Runsvold; five siblings, Clara Howell, Alma Parkinson, Henry, Norman and Donald Runsvold; son-in-law, John E. Wright; daughter-in-law, Beverly Sullivan; and grandson, Daniel Wright.

Evelyn is survived by her three children, Rosalie Wright of Kalispell, Channing Sullivan of Whitefish, and Joann Sullivan of Missoula; three grandchildren, Kathy and husband Joe Rehbein of Bozeman, Connie and husband John Lehman of Missoula, and Lonnie and wife Kelly Wright of Kalispell; 10 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; one niece, Delores Young; one nephew, Albert Runsvold; and two cousins-in law, Phyllis Howe and Georgette Sullivan.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 9, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls, with Father John Miller officiating. Burial will follow services in the St. Richard's Catholic Cemetery. A rosary service will be said at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 8, at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel in Kalispell.

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

Harry 'Duke' Sultzzer, 81

Lt. Col.
Harry Duke-
hart Sultzzer,
U.S.A.F.
Ret., "filed
his final
flight plan"
Dec. 18, 2009,
following a
stroke.



Duke was born in Butte, June 11, 1928. His father's job with the Department of Reclamation took the family from the Fort Peck Dam project to Oklahoma, Michigan and Buffalo, N.Y., where he graduated from high school. Duke returned to Butte to attend Montana State School of Mines (now Montana Tech).

While in Oklahoma, Duke worked as a janitor so he could take flying lessons. He soloed at age 15.

In 1949, he followed his flying dream and joined the new United States Air Force.

While in Butte, he courted Linforth Murray. Duke and Lin eloped in 1952, marrying in Decatur, Miss.

Duke's Air Force career spanned 32 years, with combat service in Korea and Vietnam as a fighter pilot and field maintenance officer. In 1966 he was awarded the Air Medal for Meritorious Achievement While Participating in Aerial Flight. Tours of duty in Japan, Virginia, Germany, Kansas and California afforded his family many wonderful adventures.

Duke's happiest day assignment was in 1990 when

he and Lin arrived in Bigfork with the truck, the dog and the gun.

He was a member of the Montana Skeet Shooting Association. In 2008, at age 80, Duke was inducted into the MSSA Hall of Fame in recognition of shooting accomplishments and contributions to the sport of skeet shooting. He was also awarded the DuBois-Kinker Award from the Zone 7 Skeet Shooting Association for his hard work and contributions to Zone 7 Skeet.

An avid golfer, Duke was a charter member of the Roosters at Eagle Bend Golf course. He began a "Wife Saver" Old Boys Lunch Bunch. Every week the Old Boys gathered for lunch at many area restaurants. He also formed bridge and poker groups. He was a most happy fellow.

Duke is survived by his wife, Lin; sons, H.D. III, Thom M. and wife Michelle Ginger, and Karl L. and wife Cindy; daughter, Gretchen, and husband, Neil Beddow; grandchildren, Dylan and Keeva Beddow, and Karl's son, Thad. He will be remembered for his smile and twinkle of eye.

"Duke is now at his final duty station, the very best one." He was a good man.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial services will be held in mid-April in Bigfork.

Memorials may be sent to the Bigfork QRU, 810 Grand Dr., Bigfork, MT 59911.

Robert E. Sullivan, 91

Robert E. Sullivan, 91, passed away Saturday, July 25, 2009, at his home in Missoula of natural causes.

A rosary/vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 30, at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Friday, July 31, also at the church, followed by a reception in Reidy Hall. Interment will follow the reception at New St. Mary's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memori-

als may be made in Bob's name to the University of Montana Foundation Loric Catholic Studies Visiting Speakers Endowment; the University of Montana Dean Robert E. Sullivan Law School Scholarship Fund; or the Loyola Sacred Heart High School Foundation David Patrick Sullivan Memorial Scholarship Endowment, 300 Edith, Missoula, MT 59801.

Arrangements are under the care of Garden City Funeral Home.

Gretchen Elaine Sutton, 76

Gretchen Elaine Sutton passed away on Oct. 12, 2009, at her home in Lynnwood, Wash., after a courageous battle with ovarian cancer. Gretchen was born on Dec. 3, 1932, in Kalispell, to Thomas and Maybelle St. Germain. She moved with her family to Monitor, Wash., and graduated from Cashmere High School in 1951.

Gretchen enlisted in the Women's Air Force. She was active in the Order of Eastern Star (Goldenrod and Alderwood Chapters) and a past Worthy Matron and Deputy Instructor.

Gretchen was married to Mark J. Sutton Sr., for 27-plus years.



She is survived by their children, Dean and Heather of Everett, Wash., Blanche and Sal Saladino of Poulsbo, Wash., Mary and Ken Thresher of Wenatchee, Wash., Mark and Glenna of Bremerton, Wash., Ray of Snohomish, Wash., and Brian and Stephani of Everett; eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; niece, Germaine Belt, and nephew, Dale Gould, of Kalispell.

A celebration of Gretchen's life, under the direction of Purdy & Waters Floral Hills in Lynnwood, will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18. Viewing will be on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

An online memorial will be available at www.mem.com.

Donations in memory of Gretchen may be made to Washington State Special Olympics, or Providence Hospice of Snohomish County.

Shirley Nolan Sutton, 91

Shirley Nolan Sutton, 91, loving husband, father, grandfather, and dear friend, passed away Aug. 28, 2009, in Kalispell. Shirley was born Sept. 7, 1917, in Malta.

Shirley and wife Grace were loving parents to Frank and Sharon.

Shirley was united in marriage with Donna Caveny on March 17, 1977.

He spent the majority of his working years at Korn Buick in Kalispell, as a mechanic.

Shirley and Donna spent 32 years together, gardening and fishing. Shirley's passion for fishing was evident in the freezer full of perch at home. In his retirement you could usually find him in his boat on Smith Lake, teaching the grandkids to fish on Ashley Lake, or as far away as Duck Lake, trolling for the "Big One."

There were many a winter spent in Florida and many, many camping trips in the motor home.

Shirley and Donna were lifetime members of the Moose Lodge.

Shirley was preceded in death by his parents, Anna and Nolan; brother, John; two sisters, Vera and Nora; first wife, Grace; second

wife, Marge; a stepdaughter, Wendy; and all of his fishing buddies.

Shirley is survived by his wife, Donna; son, Frank, and Debbie Sutton, of Selah, Wash.; daughter, Sharon, and Harold Horn, of Castalin Springs, Tenn.; grandchildren, Sandy, Shirley, Tracey, Jennifer, Tony, Steven and JoAnn; one great-grandchild, and two great-great-grandchildren.

Through his union with Donna, Shirley is survived by stepdaughters, Barb and Scott Dornfeld of Sidney, Claudia and Allen Minster of St. Louis, Regina and Kim Adams of Kalispell, Terri and Tony Weber of Kalispell, and Sandi and Tom Pyles of Martin City; 16 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

There will be no services at this time. Cremation has taken place with Shirley's ashes to be spread over his favorite fishing hole at a later date.

"Happy fishing, Grandpa!"

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

Cheryl Lee Swan-Wright, 54

Cheryl Lee Swan-Wright, 54, died Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009, at her residence in Kalispell.

She is survived by her husband, Aaron Jordan, and three children, Terri Mansfield-Wright, Tim Witherspoon and Kanisa

Witherspoon, all of Kalispell.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, at the Christian Center Assembly of God.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Constance June Swanberg, 80

Constance June Swanberg "went into the arms of her Heavenly Father" on Sunday, March 15, 2009, in the care of the staff at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell, surrounded by her family. Connie was born June 10, 1928, in Whitetail, to Edmund and Bertha (Safty) Mendenhall.

She grew up in Kalispell on a farm next to the Stillwater River. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1945 and attended Northern Montana College, receiving her teacher's degree. She taught in rural schools in Montana for five years.

She then married the love of her life, Donald S. Swanberg, on Aug. 20, 1950. She dedicated her life to her husband and three children.

She spent summers water ski-



ing at Lake Five, picking huckleberries and gardening. In the winters she enjoyed ice skating, making baby quilts and selling Christmas trees. Her family loved her baked pies, homemade bread and cookies. She was loved by all and will be greatly missed.

For the last six years of her life, Connie had Alzheimer's and was able to spend that time in her home, lovingly cared for by her husband Don.

She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Dick Mendenhall; and one sister, Edna Mendenhall.

She is survived by her husband, Don, of 58 years; and her three children, Steve Swanberg, Aurelia Craig and husband, Pat, and Vivian Atkinson and husband, Jim, all of Kalispell; by one sister, Ethel Hendrickson, of Spokane; a niece, Evelyn Nyholm, of Spokane; and a nephew, Harvey Hendrickson, of Avon; a sister-in-law, Marge Swanberg; and brother-in-law,

Ted Swanberg, and wife, Pat; and numerous Swanberg nieces and nephews.

She had the joy of welcoming into the world six grandchildren, Crystal Boyd and husband, Jim, Jason Gronley, Wendy Helm and husband, Ryan, Brenden Craig and wife, Karyn, Amy Craig, and Katie Meredith and husband, Jeff. She also had seven great-grandchildren, Miranda, Alisha and Hunter Boyd, Weston, Cameron and Dawson Gronley, and Porter Patrick Craig, born on St. Patrick's Day.

Private graveside rights are pending.

The family suggests any memorial contributions be made to the Bratsberg Memorial Unit, c/o Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline Ave., Kalispell, MT.

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

Spc. Christopher P. Sweet, 28

Spc. Christopher P. Sweet, 28, of Springfield, Ill., died Friday, Feb. 6, 2009, in Kirkush, Iraq. He was born Feb. 6, 1981, in San Jose, Calif., the son of Peter and Christina Slyngsted Sweet.



He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Harding Sweet, Grace Curtiss and Courtney Slyngsted; uncles, Michael Sweet, a Vietnam veteran, and Robert Slyngsted; and an aunt, Nina Andersen.

Spc. Sweet was serving with the United States Army assigned to the Third Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, 172nd Separate Infantry Brigade based in Grafenwoehr, Germany. He was a heavy vehicle operator and a training specialist for the United States Army.

He especially enjoyed spending time with his brother, Kyle. He was a big video gamer and an excellent cook. He was a fan of the Phoenix Dragons. He loved his Husky dog, Douglas McDoggles, and enjoyed surfing.

He was a graduate of Maui High School in Hawaii and was a member of the NRA.

He is survived by his par-

ents, Peter Sweet, a Marine Corps veteran, and Christina Sweet of Springfield; brothers, Kyle Sweet of Springfield, and Nathan Slyngsted of San Jose; sister, Zether Sweet, of San Jose; grandmother, Mary Neilsen, of Havre; uncles, Jay Sweet, a Vietnam veteran, Courtney Slyngsted, Mike Slyngsted, Danny Slyngsted and Curtis Slyngsted; aunts, Joey Wood of Montana, Genell Hinds, Julie and Kim; and several cousins, including Kevin Slyngsted, who is also serving in the U.S. Army.

Private family services will be held for Spc. Christopher P. Sweet, with the Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Holinga officiating. Burial with full military honors will be in Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield, Ill.

The family is being served by Vancil-Murphy Funeral Home in Springfield.

Flowers may be sent to the funeral home or memorial contributions may be made to the USO Memorial Fund, care of the funeral home.

The family of Spc. Christopher P. Sweet looks at his death as an honor, not as a tragedy. They are a patriotic family.

Please visit www.vancilmurphy.com to offer your condolences.

Don Swenson, 66,

Don Swenson, 66, of Missoula, formerly of Kalispell, died Sept. 17, 2009.

Survivors include his children, Tami Jellison, Jodi Hoalst and Todd

Swenson.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13, at Missoula Alliance Church, 100 E. Foss Court.

Ralph T. Swimley, 79

Ralph T. Swimley, 79, of Libby, died Sunday, April 12, 2009, in Libby from natural causes.

He worked for J. Neil's Lumber Co., St. Regis Paper Co. and Champion International, retiring in 1990.

Survivors include his wife, Pat Swimley, of Libby; and children, Bruce Swimley of Bill-

ings, Robert Swimley and Dave Bundrock, both of Spring Creek, Nev., Robin Swimley and Dan Bundrock, both of Libby, Keith Swimley and Brian Swimley, both of Troy, and Paula Bundrock of Marion.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday, April 17, at Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Libby.

RosaLee Phyllis Switzler, 81

RosaLee Phyllis Stoskopf was born Nov. 29, 1927, in Warroad, Minn., to Alfred and Rose Stoskopf. She had two sisters, Theowen and Joan, brothers, Donald and Bill, and half brother, Overby.

She grew up on the family farm near Warroad and learned all about growing a garden, canning, and generally being self-sufficient as a family through lots of hard work.

Following World War II, she married Walter Styler in July of 1947. Walter built a home near Williams and they began raising a family there. In 1956 the family of six (four children) loaded up a few of their belongings in a 1947 Fraser and moved to Montana to seek new opportunity in the Swan Valley area after two of Walt's brothers sent back reports of work available there. One more daughter was born in Montana, bringing the number of children to five.

RosaLee was an excellent cook and homemaker and is still remembered for her cinnamon rolls, lemon meringue pie, and fried bread dough on bake days, to name just a few. She made countless delicious meals with wild meat and gravy. She was also handy with a needle and thread and sewing machine, and there was always lots of clothing to either make or put patches on.

She enjoyed visiting with neighbors and friends at all times, and back before telephones, people stopped more often to visit it seemed.

Walter and RosaLee were divorced in 1968.

Once the kids were all on their own, RosaLee worked for a season as a cook for an outfitter (Bud Smith) during the fall hunting season in the Bob Marshall wilderness. Once again her cooking was appreciated and she also got to see some new country.

She later married Mel Switzler in August 1989. Mel filled a void in her life in a wonderful way after a period of uncertainty and searching on her part. They traveled, went fishing, and enjoyed lots of things she had missed out on earlier in life while raising a family. Mel and RosaLee remained together, living in the Echo Lake area, until her passing.

RosaLee loved the simple things of life and especially liked family reunions and picnics that brought her family and friends together. More than anything else she was a hardworking, devoted mom, who asked very little for herself and devoted practically her entire life to the service of her family.

RosaLee passed away on the evening of Nov. 28, 2009, just one day before her 82nd birthday, at the Lake View Care Center in Bigfork, where she was cared for from Sept. 9 onward.

Survivors include her husband, Mel Switzler; three daughters, Roselyn and Lynn Carey of Seeley Lake, Kathy and Silvestre Rodriguez of Bigfork, and Cindy and Stan Buresh of Fairfield; two sons, Jim and Jennifer Styler of Highland, Utah, and Randy and Denise Styler of Condon; sisters, Theowen and Harold Thortsen of Williams, Minn., and Harriett Dagg of Chicago; 14 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

RosaLee was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Bill and Donald; half brother, Overby; and one sister, Joan.

Cremation had been previously chosen by RosaLee and will be carried out by Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell.

A memorial service to honor and celebrate her life is planned for 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13, at Bigfork Chapel Assembly of God at 290 Swan Highway in Bigfork.

Benjamin Robert Symmes of Bozeman was lost at sea on July 31, 2009, near Togiak, Alaska. He was 31.



Ben, as he was known to his friends and family, was born on Oct. 4, 1977, to Charles Thomas and Carol Diane (Zenier) Symmes in Lewiston, Idaho. He grew up in Idaho and Alaska before graduating from Whitefish High School in Whitefish. While in school, he participated in several sports, including hockey and Tae Kwon Do. He was also a member of his high school golf team.

After graduation, Ben studied briefly at the University of Montana where he was a member of the Alpha Phi chapter of Sigma Nu. He earned his Associate of Science degree from Flathead Valley Community College, and while there became the captain of the Logger Sports Team, as well as a member of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society. He studied at Montana Tech in Butte, and then transferred to Montana State University, where he was pursuing his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering at the time of his disappearance.

From the time he was in high school, Ben spent most of his summers working as a deckhand on his father's fishing vessel in Bristol Bay, Alaska. The few summers he was not in Alaska, he worked for the United States Forest Service as a firefighter, eventually earning a position on the elite Interagency Hotshot Crew in Prineville, Ore. After moving to Bozeman, he also started his own construction business — Symmes Construction, LLC.

An avid outdoorsman, Ben explored the Montana wilderness every chance he could. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, hiking, horseback riding, camping, and spending days at the lake. He also continued to practice his golf game and played several courses in Montana.

Ben was a man of exceptional integrity and outstanding character. His friendly nature and genuine concern for those around him was remarkable. He was healthy and strong with a gentle disposition, a compassionate heart, and a keen wit. He brought an indomitable sense of purpose and determination to all of his endeavors.

He is survived by his mother, Diane Carol Zenier,

Anthony Hyde, both of Sandpoint, Idaho; his father and stepmother, Charles Thomas and Paula Joan Symmes, of Kalispell; a sister and a brother-in-law, Arrie Anna (Symmes) and Joshua Tyler Frakes, of Spokane; a half brother, Ryan Thomas Symmes; and a half sister, Laura Marie Symmes.

The family would like to extend its profound gratitude to the United States Coast Guard, the Alaska State Troopers, and especially the fishermen, local volunteers, and all those who donated time and resources during the search and rescue efforts.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, at Grouse Mountain Lodge in Whitefish.

The Ben Symmes donation account has been established to support search and rescue efforts for commercial fishermen in Alaska. Contributions in Ben's honor can be made to the account at any Wells Fargo.