

Robert George Kalb, 83

Robert George Kalb, 83, of Troy, died Wednesday, April 27, 2011, at Blue River Homes in Libby.

He is survived by his wife, Geneva Kalb; and

sons, Steven, Douglas and Jeffrey Kalb.

Memorial services are pending.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Kevin Richard Kamerer, 25

Kevin Richard Kamerer, 25, died Thursday, Sept. 1, 2011.

He is survived by his mother, Kris Kamerer; step-father, Marty Anderson;

and children, Kobi Sweeney and Kaden Kamerer.

Funeral services are pending.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

William Lawrence 'Bill' Kamps, 62

William Lawrence "Bill" Kamps, 62, passed away on Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell, cared for and surrounded by devoted friends.



Bill was born March 19, 1949, in St. Paul, Minn., to Lawrence J. and Mildred Hardy Kamps. The family moved to Edina, Minn., where he graduated from Edina High School in 1967. Bill was active in the Boy Scouts of America where he completed many projects and earned a variety of badges that served him well in his sporting career.

He was a member of Northdale Lutheran Church, and attended St. Cloud University in St. Cloud, Minn., where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree. He worked as a Realtor for Edina Realty for several years.

Bill's lifelong passion was the outdoors. His love of hunting, fishing and dog training started early in his life, following in the footsteps of his father. Together they enjoyed many hunting and fishing trips in Minnesota and around the country. That passion for the outdoors led Bill to Kalispell where he could pursue his interests.

He worked for Sportsman

Ski Haus in Kalispell from December 1985 through May 2008. Bill enjoyed sharing his knowledge and love of the outdoors with his many customers and friends. During this time he wrote articles for various newspapers and magazines, including "Montana Outdoors." Many people came to know Bill through his weekly articles titled, "Bill Says" which ran every week in the Kalispell Daily Inter Lake. He kept his readers informed of what was happening in the world of hunting and fishing and he shared details of his various outings whether in the Kalispell area or farther afield.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Kay Kamps; and an uncle, Theodore Kamps.

He is survived by his aunts, Helen Vedvic of Billings, and Alice Kamps of Minneapolis; and several cousins. He will be greatly missed by the special friends he had in Montana.

A memorial celebration in the outdoors he loved so much will be held with a date to be announced in the summer.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Bill's family.

You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view Bill's guest book, offer condolences and share memories.

James Harrell Kanzler, 62

James Harrell Kanzler passed away outside his home near Wilson, Wyo., April 18, 2011.

He was born April 22, 1948, in Spokane, to Harrell "Hal" and Jean Kanzler.

Jim grew up in Columbia Falls until 1965 when the family moved to Butte, where he graduated from high school. Jean, Jim and his younger brother, Jerry moved to Bozeman following his father's death in 1967.

Jim attended Montana State University for two years. He was self-educated and versed in multiple subjects.

Jim joined Bridger Ski Patrol in 1968. He was Big Sky Ski Resort's first director of the ski patrol from 1972 to 1978. He was a Jackson Hole Mountain Resort ski patrolman from 1978 to 1986. He transitioned into avalanche forecasting using field data and computers from 1986 to 1997. He worked for the resort's information technology department in 1999 until the time of his



passing.

Jim Kanzler was a well-known climber, beginning with his father and brother in their grade school years in Columbia Falls. Jim's influence was widespread in Montana and Wyoming, making difficult and first ascents in Glacier Park, the Beartooth Mountains and Canadian Rockies. He made expeditions to Alaska and China.

Jim was a mountain guide with Exum in the Tetons from 1977 to 1999. He guided the north face of the Grand.

Jim was preceded in death by Hal in 1967, and Jerry in 1969.

He is survived by his mother, Jean, of Manhattan; his son, Jamie, and Jennifer, of Park City, Utah, and two grandchildren, James Dylan, 7, and Jacqueline, 2.

Jim Kanzler touched the lives of people everywhere he went. His wry sense of humor was seasoned with a dash of sarcasm. He was loved and made a difference to everyone around him.

His wit and wisdom and the sound of his boots approaching will be deeply missed by the many people who knew him.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Virgil Emmett Kaski, 84

Virgil Emmett Kaski, 84, passed away March 6, 2011, at the Brendan House in Kalispell.

Virgil was born Feb. 15, 1927, in Brantwood, Wis., to Hemmie and Amelia (Berhow) Kaski.

He married Ruth Pekkala in 1950 in Detroit. They had seven children, Peter and his wife, Nellie, Kaski of Vancouver, Wash.; James and his wife, Eileen, Kaski of Battle Ground, Wash.; Beth Kaski of Vancouver; Mark and his wife, Ulla, Kaski of Rollins; and Tom and his wife, Sydne, Kaski of Yacolt, Wash.; grandchildren, great-grandchildren; one brother, Wayne Kaskim, of Sun Prairie, Wis.; two sisters, Doris Lee of Battle Ground, Wash., and Ardith Rosenlund of Yacolt, Wash.; and many Christian friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers; three sisters; and his sons, Virgil and Eric.

Virgil served in the U.S. Army overseas after World War II. He was a member of the Old Apostolic Lutheran Church.

Visitation for Virgil will be from 2 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 10, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, March 11, at the Old Apostolic Lutheran Church in Lakeside, with Thor Jakola and Rod Uskoski officiating. Burial will follow at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website, www.buffalohillfh.com, to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Ewald George 'Dutch' Kassner, 85

E.G. "Dutch" Kassner, 85, passed away of natural causes on Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2011, after a six-month decline in his health.

Dutch was born Nov. 16, 1925, in Somers, to Adam and Bertha Kassner. He graduated from Flathead County High School in 1943.

He served his country in the Army during World War II as a staff sergeant in the 16th Armored Tank Division, Patton's 3rd Army, from 1943 to 1945. After the war, he returned to Kalispell vowing never to leave. He was a life member of VFW Post 2252.

Dutch married Thelma Marie Ernster on June 12, 1949.

He was best known for his many years as manager and owner of the Kegler's Lounge at Skyline Bowl in Kalispell. Later he worked at the Anaconda Aluminum Plant, Todd's Bakery and the U.S.D.A. Flathead



National Forest.

He enjoyed fishing, hunting, carpentry, coin collecting and socializing with his many friends. He chronicled his entire life in daily journals and scrapbooks. His, "It's in the book," ended many disagreements over past events.

Dutch is survived by Thelma, his wife of 62 years, his son, Jay E. Kassner, granddaughters, Brittany and Courtney, and great-granddaughter, Addyson, all of Anchorage, Alaska; grandson, Dr. Adam Kassner, and great-granddaughters, Laura and Kirstin, all of Castle Pines, Colo.; and sister, Elenore Fischbach, of Kalispell.

Arrangements are through Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

At his request, there will be no funeral service. Dutch was a lifelong member of Trinity Lutheran Church. Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 8, at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery. The United Veterans of the Flathead Valley will perform military honors.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Disabled American Veterans Association or Kalispell VFW Post 2252.

Leonard W. Kates, 69

Leonard W. Kates, 69, died Saturday, May 28, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.

He is survived by two

children, James Kates and Tracie Utti.

Services will be private. Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

Norman Daniel Kauffman, 87

Norman Daniel Kauffman, 87, of Kalispell "made his transition to heaven" on June 6, 2011.

He was born at Creston on July 19, 1923, to Norman Leroy (N.L.) and Anna Kauffman, the ninth of their 15 children. He grew up in the Creston area and attended Cayuse Prairie School. Along with his siblings, he worked in the family's sawmill and on the family farm. At age 14 he was baptized and joined the Mountain View Mennonite Church.

Norman's life of service to others began during World War II when, as a conscientious objector, he served in Civilian Public Service, spending the first 13 months working in Idaho. He then trained as a smokejumper, fighting forest fires in his home state. In early 1946, he became a member of the crew of the U.S.S. Mount Whitney and transported horses to post-war Poland under the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Act.

Following his release from service, he attended Hesston College in Hesston, Kan., and Eastern Mennonite College in Harrisonburg, Va., where he graduated.

In 1950 he married Margaret Stutzman of Goshen, Ind., and lived in that area, serving as the first principal of Clinton Christian Day School. He and Margaret and their family spent two years in Johnstown, Pa., where he taught at Johnstown Mennonite School before moving to Kalispell, where he continued his teaching career at Evergreen School.

In 1970 the family moved to Glendive, where Norman became pastor of White Chapel Mennonite Church, where he served for 12 years. He and Margaret then moved to Hamsonburg, Va., where he was pastor of Elkton Mennonite Church, as well as working on the physical plant staff at his alma mater, Eastern Mennonite University.

Retirement from the pastoral position in Virginia was followed by a move back



to the Flathead Valley and the building of their retirement home. Norman enjoyed hunting, singing in the local barbershop chorus, riding his four-wheeler in the woods and could often be found in his woodworking shop. Although retired from pastoring, he regularly attended and was involved in multiple areas of church life at Mountain View Mennonite Church. He particularly enjoyed the trips he and Margaret made to visit their sons, sharing in special occasions and just being "Grandpa."

Life changed when he suffered a severe head injury as the result of a slip on the ice in December 2006, and for the remaining four years of his life, his home was Heritage Place in Kalispell, where he made many new friends.

Norman is survived by his wife, Margaret; as well as his five sons and their families, Leroy and Judy of Clyde, N.C., Kermit of Tampa, Fla., Galen and Betty Jean of Mountain Lake, Minn., Jerry and Mary Beth of New Ulm, Minn., and Marlin of Kalispell; and three grandsons, six granddaughters and one grandson-in-law. Of his 14 siblings, he is survived by his brothers, Paul, Dave and Joe; and his sisters, Berniece Reimer, Lillie Weber, Rosella Eby and Gladys Reimer; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

He was preceded in death by a son, Jonathan; his parents; four brothers and three sisters.

Visitation will be from 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday, June 9, at Mountain View Mennonite Church. A graveside committal will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday, June 10, at Fairview Cemetery, followed by a service celebrating Norman's life at 3 p.m. at Mountain View Mennonite Church.

Norman enjoyed being part of the work of Gospel Echoes Prison Ministries, and those who wish to make a charitable donation in his memory can remember him at Gospel Echoes Northwest, P.O. Box 255, Tangent, OR 97389.

The family is particularly grateful to the staff at Heritage Place for the excellent care they gave our husband, father and grandpa while he lived with them.

Tanner Lynn Kahler, 29

Tanner Lynn Kahler, 29, of Missoula, passed away due to a vehicle accident south of Lakeside on Monday, March 28, 2011.



Tanner was born March 10, 1982, in Missoula to Patta and Marvin Kahler. From the time of his birth, he was happy, strong and always on the go. He started walking at 8 months old and never looked back. Tanner attended Cold Springs Elementary, Meadow Hill Middle School and graduated from Loyola Sacred Heart High School.

Tanner's athletic abilities were a gift from God that allowed him to excel at everything he did. Tanner received numerous All-State honors in football and basketball while at Loyola. He also played baseball, where he set numerous records for the Missoula Mavericks. Tanner was offered scholarships in all three sports and went on to play collegiate baseball at Washington State University and Scottsdale Community College.

Tanner was an avid outdoorsman and sports enthusiast. He loved to hunt, fish and play golf.

On Jan. 6, 2007, Tanner and Cheyne Ursich were married in southern California. They were blessed with

two beautiful boys, Kaeden, age 3, and Tate, age 1. Tanner was a wonderful father and enjoyed every minute spent with his boys. His legacy will live on through them.

Throughout his life Tanner made many close friends and each one of them held a special place in his heart and brought him much joy.

Tanner will be missed so very much each and every day by his mother, father, brother and two sons. The family was especially close and spent as much time as they could together enjoying life and all the blessings they were given. Their bond was exceptional.

Tanner lit up every room he walked into and had a positive effect on everyone around him.

Survivors include his two sons, Kaeden and Tate; his ex-wife Cheyne; his girlfriend, Michele; his brother, Taran; his parents, Patta and Marv; his grandmother, Freda; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services will be held 1 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at The Sister Rita Mudd Activity Center in Missoula. A reception will follow at St. Anthony's Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations be given to First Security Bank in Missoula where a fund has been set up for his sons, Kaeden and Tate.

Arrangements are under the care of Garden City Funeral Home.

Aliesha Lynn Kefauver, 16

Aliesha Lynn Kefauver, 16, passed away on Wednesday, April 20, 2011, at home in Kalispell.



She was born Aug. 15, 1994, in Baltimore.

She attended Glacier High School and sang in the choir. She loved to sing, dance, read, watch movies, cheerleading and helping her grandma in the flower garden.

Aliesha was someone her friends could depend on for advice and support when they were in need. She could make them laugh when they were down. She was a member of Gear Up for College, Girls Choir and Warrior Cheerleading when she was young.

Aliesha was preceded in death by her grandmother,

Nancy Kefauver; her Mom Mom, Ruby Pfarr; and her Pop Pop, John Pfarr.

She is survived by her mother, Lisa Pfarr, and brother, John Joseph "J.J." Pfarr IV, both of Kalispell; stepfather, John Pfarr, of Edgewood, Md.; grandfather, Barry Kefauver; Aunt Lynn and Uncle Kirby Allers of Kalispell; Aunt Lisa and Uncle Terry Wells of Kalispell; and Aunt Keli and Uncle Tom Powell of Tacoma, Wash.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, April 28, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. There will be a viewing from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. prior to services. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Aliesha's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and view Aliesha's tribute wall.

Lewis 'Lew' Keim, 80

Lewis "Lew" Keim, died at his residence in Whitefish on Friday, April 22, 2011.

He was 80 years old.

Lew married Carol on Dec. 29, 1953, in Great Falls. For a number of winters, Lew and Carol resided in Tucson, Ariz., and were very active in the Skyline Country Club.

Although born in Chicago in 1930, Lewis became a Montanan at the age of four months when his native Montana parents moved back to Missoula because of consequences of the Depression. He attended grade school and his freshman high school year in Missoula. His family moved to Kalispell in 1945 and Lew attended Flathead County High School where he was very active in sports and student activities, including being a delegate to Boys State, editing the student newspaper and graduating as a National Merit Scholar.

He was a 1953 graduate of University of Montana's School of Journalism. At UM he was a Sigma Nu, editor of the student daily newspaper — the Montana Kaimin — and a member of Silent Sentinel, the senior men's honorary society. Over his lifetime, Lew continued a strong relationship with the university. He became a member of the Alum Association's House of Delegates, a lifetime member of the Alum Association, a trustee of the UM Foundation, a member of President's Advisory Council and a member and long-term director of the Grizzly Riders.

Upon retirement in 1996, he and Carol moved to Whitefish and Lew renewed his relationship with Trout Unlimited as a director of the Flathead Chapter, received a governor's appointment to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality Advisory Council and Trout Unlimited's Montana Stewardship Council. He was also director of the Flathead Lakers, a director of St. Matthew's parish capital campaign and raised funds for Kalispell Regional Medical Center's ALERT helicopter emergency program.



and government relations, media relations, corporate philanthropy, community relations and employee communications. He was a member of board of management and very active in Denver and Colorado organizations on behalf of Gates, including Denver Public Schools Foundation as a founding trustee; Colorado Public Affairs Council as a trustee, vice chairman and chairman; Public Affairs Council of Colorado School of Mines; Colorado State University, President's Public Relations Advisory Council; Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry's board of directors, Colorado Cancer League board; Interscape 25 board; Platte River Advisory Board; Denver Convention and Visitors Board; Denver Chamber of Commerce Sports Committee; Denver Organizing Committee PR Director for 1988 NCAA Regional tournament and same for 1990 NCAA Final Four tournament in Denver; vice chairman of the successful statewide Great Outdoors Colorado general election ballot campaign; and Colorado Trout Unlimited Director and executive committee.

Among national organizations, he was a member of the National Association of Manufacturers' public affairs steering committee and Western region vice chairman; Western region Advisory Council; American Arbitration Association; national director at large, chairman, national communications committee and executive committee of Trout Unlimited.

Lew retired from Gates Corporation as a vice president of corporate public relations. He joined Gates at its world headquarters in Denver in 1985 after 23 years with Burson-Marsteller, the world's largest public relations firm. He was with that firm in Chicago, Pittsburgh, Toronto and Denver where he had been a senior vice president, a member of the executive board, managing director of B-M Canada and general manager of the firm's Pittsburgh and Denver offices. Over the years at B-M, his clients included Clark Equipment, Rockwell International, Massey-Ferguson, Westinghouse, Mellon Bank, U.S. Steel, L.B. Foster, Mountain Bell, Storage Technology and Siemens.

His professional background also included reporting for the Spokane Chronicle, capitol correspondent for United Press International at Helena, public relations director for the Montana Chamber of Commerce and public relations staff at Allis-Chalmers in Milwaukee.

At Gates, Lew was responsible for direction and execution of management communications, public affairs

He also had a long association with the Public Relations Society of America. He had been a member of the Chicago, Pittsburgh and Colorado chapters; the Public Relations Advisory Council at Kent State University, a director in Pittsburgh and Denver, a past national chairman of its Education Committee and recipient of the Colorado Chapter's Lifetime Achievement Award, and a two-time winner of PRSA's Silver Anvil national award, the second for his direction of Colorado statewide and national campaign, "Why Two Forks," to prevent a dam on the South Platte River. He was a trustee and a past president of the Silver Trout Foundation, a Colorado and Rocky Mountain States grant funding organization.

Lew is survived by his wife, Carol Keim; daughters, Kelly Keim of Stanford, Kathlyn Keim-Robinson and Jennifer Fortson of Portland, Ore., Mary Frame of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., and Karin Padalino of Centennial, Colo.; 10 grandchildren, Claire and Mary Mikeson of Stanford, Jordan Miles and Camille Robinson, of Portland, Ore., Ryan Maisenbacher of Columbus, Ohio, Kristen Maisenbacher of Portland, Ore., Andrew and Carrie Frame of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., and Jack Wise of Highlands Ranch, Colo.; two step-grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday, April 28, 2011, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, 601 Sixth Ave., Kalispell.

Interment will be held at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Austin Funeral Home is caring for the family. The public may go to www.austinfh.com to offer condolences and view Lew's tribute wall.

Deo Marie Keil, 79

Deo Marie Keil, 79, passed away peacefully at home in Palmer, Alaska, surrounded by family on Sept. 26, 2011, after a brief, courageous battle with cancer.



Deo lived in Kalispell for many years, but decided to move back to Alaska in 2005 to be closer to family.

Deo was born Aug. 15, 1932, in Shelby, to Nels and Ida Nelson. The youngest of three children, Deo came from a musical family. Deo played violin and piano, and she and her siblings were frequent performers.

Deo married Glen D. Keil Sr. on April 9, 1950. They raised seven children in three different states, finally settling in Alaska in 1971.

Deo's family was extremely important to her, and she loved keeping in touch. She was a regular on Facebook, and enjoyed sharing news and funnies with family and friends. Deo was a mom to more than just her birth-children; the valley is full of those who call her their second mom.

Deo had a great sense of humor, and could always be counted on to share a funny story or enjoy a silly joke.

In addition to her musical talents, Deo was an amazing

cook and very talented with her hands. Deo's potato salad is the stuff of legend, and the pies she made never lasted long. She also created beautiful sewn handicrafts for family and friends.

Deo's strong, quiet faith sustained and strengthened her throughout life's ordeal. She truly walked the walk, and set an example for her children as well as the man friends and acquaintances who happened to come and go during the course of her life. Many times her quiet presence was sufficient for those around her who needed guidance.

Deo was preceded in death by her sister, Mercedes; her son, Glen Jr.; and her husband, Glen Sr.

She is survived by her daughters, Beverly DuBos and Eileen Probasco, son-in-law Peter Probasco, and daughter-in-law Peggy Keil of Palmer; daughter, Jenny Keil, of Homer, Alaska; daughter, Barbara Arend, of Poulso, Wash.; son, Brian Keil, and daughter-in-law, Trudie Keil, of North Bend, Wash.; daughter, Jessica Mannion, and son-in-law, Sean Mannion, of Brooklyn, N.Y.; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services were held Oct. 1 at St. John Lutheran Church in Palmer.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to local hospice organizations.

Cora Ellen Kerestes, 86

Cora Ellen Kerestes, 86, passed away April 12, 2011, at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish.



"She is now with her Lord and Savior. She is joined again with her beloved husband, Albert."

Cora was proud of having come from strong pioneer stock; her grandparents settled in the valley in 1904. Cora was born Oct. 14, 1924, to Floyd and Edith Payne, at her Pearson grandparents' home outside Columbia Falls. She had many fond memories of life as a child living in logging camps up in the mountains.

She attended school in Whitefish, graduating in 1942. Days after graduation, Cora boarded a bus to Washington, D.C., where a job awaited her in the clerical pool for the Army. Later, she transferred to Newark, N.J., and when the war effort wound down, she went to work for Newark Bell. It was in New Jersey, at Dreamland Roller Rink, that she met Albert.

After an exciting courtship and several trips to Montana, Cora and Albert were married Aug. 31, 1947, at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish. They returned to New Jersey and worked a few years before deciding they wanted to make their home in Montana. In 1950, they moved back to Whitefish.

Cora loved people and lived life to the fullest. She loved square dancing, camping, her church and her many friends. She taught Sunday school for years and

enjoyed working with youth. Cora enjoyed doing genealogy and spent years researching and recording the family's history and stories, as well as the history of the Upper Flathead Valley.

Cora was preceded in death by her parents, Floyd and Edith Payne; and her husband of 61 years, Albert.

Cora leaves one son, Glen and wife, Kathy Kerestes, of Billings; one granddaughter, Amy and husband, Chris Larsen, of Roundup; and twin great-granddaughters, Megan and Elizabeth Larsen of Roundup. She also leaves behind numerous cousins and the countless friends she has made everywhere she has gone.

We would like to thank everyone at The Springs at Whitefish, whom Mom thought of not as caregivers and residents, but as her family. Also special thanks goes to the staffs of North Valley Hospital and Christ Lutheran Church, and all of Mom's friends for the help and support they have provided to Cora and her family.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, April 18, at Christ Lutheran Church. A luncheon will follow. Interment will be at 1:30 p.m. at the Fairview Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the Klothes Klostet, 288 N. Nucleus Ave., in Columbia Falls, or to the North Valley Hospital Foundation, 1600 Hospital Way, in Whitefish.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home. You are invited to go to www.austinhf.com to offer condolences and view Cora's tribute wall.

Andrew Jackson 'Jack' Kent, 76

Andrew Jackson "Jack" Kent, 76, died Saturday, June 11, 2011, in Kalispell. Services will be held at a later date. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Eldon James Kerney, 31

Eldon James Kerney, 31, died in Kalispell on Dec. 1, 2011.

Visitation will be from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

A celebration of life service will be at 3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

John Kessler, 82

John A. Kessler, 82, passed away March 31, 2011, of natural causes.

John was born Sept. 10, 1928, in Kansas City, Mo. When John was 12, his parents, Carl and Ida Kessler, moved to Colorado where they lived on a dude ranch. John spent most of his childhood out of the comforts of his home where he lived and worked on ranches.

John joined the U.S. Air Force and was stationed in Alaska. In just four short years he was promoted to the rank of staff sergeant.

John also had a distinguished 35 years with the U.S. Forest Service. Among many of his awards, he was recognized for his firefighting leadership and skills. He served notably as sector boss on the upper division of the fire assigned to him in the mountains of Idaho. His sector was on a very steep and difficult terrain. John demonstrated a great grasp of fire control methods in controlling and safely holding the fire line he was responsible for, so read his commendation.

John loved poetry, music, horses, participating in the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion, and, most of all, his family. John's favorite musical instrument was the trumpet. John played the trumpet for the military and other activities. John will not be missed for playing the trumpet at 5 a.m. on cold Montana mornings to wake up his eight children.

John is missed and survived by many, including his brother, Buck, and wife Wilma Kessler; sister, Anna Marie, and husband, Russell Johnson, of Georgetown, Idaho; and eight children, Bryan Kessler of Laurel,



Kevin and Kimberly Kessler of King City, Calif., Sherry and Russell Dohr of Kalispell, Sheryl Ruggles of Kalispell, Mark Kessler of Park City, Kent and Julia Kessler of Childress, Texas, Kay and Bobby Raymond of Columbia Falls, and Cindy Kessler of Kalispell.

His grandchildren include: Jackie Ruggles of Laurel, Wendy Story of Kalispell, Brittney, Courtney and Nick Licht, and Joshua Dohr, all of Kalispell; Bobby Ann and Colby Nash, Stephanie, Rebecca, Tianna and Nicholas, all of Columbia Falls; Kasia, Rachel, Johnathan, Hannah, and David Kessler of Childress, Texas; Donna Kessler of Kalispell; Cora of Brazil; Moriah of Provo, Utah; and Jacob Kessler of King City, Calif.

His great-grandchildren include: Athena and Aidian Storey of Kalispell; Destinee, Aaven Cole Kessler of Kalispell; and Ethan Licht of Kalispell.

John will be remembered most for service to his family, church, and community. He was perfectly honest and trustworthy, and he had integrity. He taught his entire family how to live a life filled with integrity and uprightness. "John did not die, as he was prepared to meet God. We know he lives and loves us very much, and we can be a family together united forever one day."

There will be a viewing from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell.

An open casket service will be held at noon on Wednesday, April 6, 2011, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Kalispell with Bishop Wendling officiating. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Friends may visit www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home caring for the family.

Glen Russell Ketcham, 78

Glen Russell Ketcham, 78, passed away on April 19, 2011, at the Whitefish Care and Rehabilitation Center in Whitefish.

He was born on Sept. 6, 1932, in Manistee, Mich.

He was preceded in death by his mother Mary, and father Russell Ketcham.

He is survived by his daughter, Tanya Willardson, of Wyoming; his grandsons, Cpl. Scott "Cory J." Willardson, who is stationed in San Diego, and Kyle Willardson of Whitefish; and granddaughters, Lindsay Willardson of Wyoming, and Destiny and Ashley Willardson of Colorado.

Glen proudly served in the United States Army and faced combat during the Korean War. He was



injured and endured years of rehabilitation. Through his recovery, he found passion in fishing the lakes of Utah and enjoyed camping with friends and family.

He later relocated with his family to Coram. He was very creative and found enjoyment in woodworking and crafts. Glen was always up for a "cold one" and loved to socialize with his friends. He will be dearly missed and never forgotten.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on May 7, at the Dew Drop Inn in Coram, where he will be honored with a 21-gun salute and a flag presentation. The salute will start at 2:30 p.m. and be followed by a potluck. Please come and share your stories and memories of Glen.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home. You are invited to go to www.austinfh.com to offer condolences and view Glen's tribute wall.

Thelma Kleppen, 98

Thelma Kleppen, 98, died Sunday, Oct. 23, 2011, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

She is survived by her son, Fred Kirkpatrick. A graveside service will

be at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28, at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

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

Gladys 'Sis' Irene Kikendall, 80

Gladys "Sis" Irene Kikendall, 80, passed away on Sunday, March 27, 2011, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.



Gladys was born Jan. 7, 1931, in Kalispell to George and Mary Wise. She attended West Side Elementary and Flathead County High School. She worked at the Temple Tea Room.

Gladys married Joseph G. Kikendall in Kalispell on Sept. 26, 1948. After marriage, her career was her family. Joe and Gladys raised four children of their own. The consummate mother, she was a positive influence on many a child's life.

Gladys loved to garden, sew, bowl, play pinochle, quilt, camp, water ski, go huckleberry picking and raise chickens and pigs. She was a member of the Eagles.

Gladys was preceded in death by her parents, George F. and Mary (Torgerson) Wise; brothers, Doug, Wally and

Gene; and sisters, Rachel, Bud, Mae and Mary.

She is survived by her husband, Joe Kikendall Sr.; son, Joe, and Diana Kikendall Jr.; daughters, Rachel Olson, Pam and Wes Holmquist, and Jackie and Mike Sorenson; sister, Lorraine, and Don Schultz; seven grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral services for Gladys will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 2, at the Christian Center with Pastor Dick Bishop officiating. Interment will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Visitation will be held from noon to 6 p.m. on Friday, April 1, at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

The family suggests memorial gifts be given to the Children's Ministries at the Christian Center, 255 Summit Ridge Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901; or to the children's charity of your choice.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Sis' family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and view Sis' tribute wall.

George C. King, 74

George C. King, 74, died Saturday, Jan. 15, 2011, at the Heritage Place in Kalispell.

He is survived by a daughter, Barbara Lautenbach; and a son, George

F.M. King.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

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

Kevin King, 43

It is with great sorrow that we announce that Kevin King passed away on Jan. 12, 2011, from a sudden illness.



Kevin was born Oct. 7, 1967, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and was raised in Kalispell. He was a longtime resident of Spokane.

Kevin is survived by his beloved spouse, Tamie, of 20 years; his children, Cosette and Garrett; along with his mother, Dorothy King; his sisters, Kris and Betsy; his brothers, Pat, Bob and Dan; as well as numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Kevin attended the University of Idaho where he majored in finance and music, and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He was the president of the investment firm Northwest Investment Advisors in Spokane.

Kevin enjoyed many activities, associations and friendships throughout his life. He lovingly restored one of Spokane's grand old homes with his wife Tamie. Kevin was a member of St. Augustine's Parish and was a host father to six foreign students from four different countries. He and his fam-

ily have entertained countless friends and neighbors with friendship, music and joy.

Kevin and his family have enjoyed many days camping, hiking, fishing and picking huckleberries throughout the mountains and lakes of the Northwest with his family and friends.

Music was a passion of Kevin's, be it playing, singing or listening. While traveling, this included the privilege of singing for Pope John Paul II at Vatican Square. Music and fellowship followed and joyously completed those around him throughout his life.

Kevin was a dear friend and beloved neighbor to all those who knew and came to cherish him. Above all, Kevin was a husband, father and son who can never be replaced. His loss has left a chasm in the hearts of all who knew him.

Funeral services have already been held.

Accounts are established for the children. Checks can be made payable to American Funds and sent to NWIA Attn: King Children at 9 South Washington, Suite 210, Spokane, WA 99201.

Please visit Kevin's online memorial at www.hennesseyfuneralhomes.com. Arrangements were entrusted to Hennessey Smith Funeral Home, Spokane.

DeLoris Rose Ritenour Kimball, 90

DeLoris Rose Ritenour Kimball of Swan Lake, and Ogden, Utah, died peacefully on Wednesday, April 20, 2011, due to incidence of age.



She was born on Dec. 11, 1920, in Priest River, Idaho, the daughter of Carl A. and Tess Ritenour.

She is a graduate of Pomona High School, Pomona, Calif., and the University of LaVern, LaVern, Calif.

A retired school teacher, DeLoris taught elementary aged children for the Chino Unified School District in Chino, Calif., for 25 years. She was past president of the El Rancho Parent-Teachers Association, and a former member of the Chino Business and Professional Women's Club and the American Association of University Women. DeLoris was a life member of the Sunrise Chapter Order of the Eastern Star in Ontario, Calif.

She was preceded in death

by her parents, Carl A. and Tess Ritenour; her brother, Thorten Ritenour; and her husband of 58 years, Austin F. Kimball.

She is survived by her daughters, Sherrie Kimball, and Diane Amalfitano and Harry; her three grandchildren, Michelle and Ted McCurdy, Scott Amalfitano, and Orion and Heather Burnham, and her seven great-grandchildren, Katelyn McCurdy, Ashley McCurdy, Megan McCurdy, Dakota Burnham, Ocean Burnham, Gavin Gabor and Alexia Gabor.

A small, family memorial service will be held at Lindquist's Ogden Mortuary, 3408 Washington Blvd., Ogden, UT 84401.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

The family wishes to express their gratitude to Mountain Ridge Assisted Living of Ogden for the loving care given to DeLoris by its staff.

Send condolences to the family at: www.lindquist-mortuary.com

Theresa Jean Barron Kinniburgh

A celebration of life for Theresa Jean Barron Kinniburgh, 42, who died Oct. 21, will be at 2 p.m. Saturday,

July 2, at First Baptist Church, 180 Pleasant Valley Road, in Marion. A reception will follow at the church.

Richard A. Kirchhoffer, 91

Rev. Richard A. Kirchhoffer, 91, longtime Whitefish resident, passed away on Monday, March 21, 2011, at The



Springs at Whitefish. He was born on Aug. 5, 1919, at Riverside, Calif., the son of Bishop and Mrs. Kirchhoffer of Indianapolis.

He was raised in Mobile, Ala. He attended the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn. After graduation, he attended Officer Candidate School at the U.S. Naval Academy. Following his OCS training, he joined the Navy Reserves and was called to active duty, where he served as an officer on the USS Honolulu in the Pacific during World War II.

He was united in marriage to Patricia Eaglefield on Oct. 13, 1945, in Indianapolis. Following his discharge, he attended the Virginia Theological Seminary. He was ordained as an Episcopal priest in 1948. He served churches in Tennessee, Hawaii, Wyoming and Montana. He retired in 1984, and he and Patricia remained in Whitefish.

He was an advocate for peace and justice and causes that benefit the poor. He was also very active in community affairs. He was also active in the Peace Alliance and even stood in front of the "White Train" in Whitefish that was carrying nuclear missiles.

He and Patricia were active as members of Literacy

Volunteers of America and also hosted many exchange students over the years.

He loved the outdoors and was an avid hiker, and was attacked by a grizzly bear in Glacier Park and survived to tell the story.

He loved board games, card games, cribbage, and he loved to play the game "Sequence." He was also an avid reader. He made many mobiles from driftwood, shells and beach glass.

He was a member of the All Saints Episcopal Church of Whitefish and also was a member of the Whitefish Rotary Club.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Kirchhoffer of Whitefish; his three daughters, Mary Porter of Atlanta, Marg Tsukaguchi of Philadelphia and Trish Kirchhoffer of Whitefish; and two sons, Richard A. Kirchhoffer III of Vancouver, Wash., and Christopher Kirchhoffer of Wenatchee, Wash.; six grandchildren; and two brothers, Don Kirchhoffer of Pennsylvania and Jim Kirchhoffer of California.

Memorial services for Rev. Kirchhoffer will be held at noon on Wednesday, March 30, at the All Saints Church, east of Whitefish on Conn Road, off Montana 40.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to the All Saints Church Building Fund, 2048 Conn Road, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

Austin Funeral Home is caring for Richard's family. You are invited to go to www.austinhf.com to offer condolences and view Richard's tribute wall.

Richard C. Kiser

A celebration of life for Richard C. Kiser, 91, who died Nov. 27, 2010, will be held at

2 p.m. Saturday, May 7, at the Kila Country Church, 10 miles west of Kalispell.

Ruth Esther Kiser, 90

Ruth Esther Kiser, 90, peacefully passed away on Jan. 18, 2011.

She was born in Cascade on July 24, 1920, to George Theodore Overose and Flossie Etta (Bower) Overose. There were five children, Don, Ruth and her twin brother Robert, Theodore "Ted," and Marjorie "Marjie." The family lived south of Great Falls, in the Sullivan Valley. Their two-story home was built by her father, George, and grandfather, Ole Overose. It was constructed from timber cut and milled on their property. In 1926 the family moved to Great Falls so the children could begin school. Summers were spent reading books from the library, roller skating and playing hop scotch.

When Ruth was 10 years old, during the Great Depression, she was walking through the wheat fields one day when a piece of wheat stubble pierced her foot through the hole in her shoe. She was soon diagnosed with a bone disease (osteomyelitis) which required five trips to the hospital and as many surgeries. The disease returned five years later, but this time Ruth didn't tell anyone. The effects of ether and the thought of more surgery made going to the hospital seem unbearable. She recited the Lord's Prayer over and over, praying for a miracle. Her faith was rewarded and the disease left. This strengthened her faith in God at an early age.

Ruth and Ervin met while they both worked at the Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls. They married on Aug. 8, 1942, and had been together only six weeks when Ervin was drafted into the Army and sent overseas for two and a half years to England and France during World War II. When he returned, he worked at the Anaconda Copper Smelter where he became a journeyman carpenter.

In 1952 they moved to Columbia Falls with their growing family of three children, Grant, Crystal and Ken. In 1953 Russ was born,



cafe, pool table and juke box upstairs and named it Hobby Nobby, selling model cars and magazines as well. The basement was then used for teen dances, the Fireman's Ball, and reunions. The menu broadened and the name was changed to Erv's Lunch. The family agrees they were the best burgers and shakes in the Valley!

All the Kiser children were taught how to work at an early age, helping with chores at the shop and working side by side with their dad building houses. Ervin built and remodeled many homes in the Columbia Falls area. When Ervin built the Stop N' Shop grocery on Railroad Street in 1967 they sold the cafe. Again Ruth helped in the store.

Ruth was an excellent wife, homemaker and mother. Home was her favorite place to be. She showed her love for her family everyday by cooking excellent meals and desserts, and keeping a tidy home. She enjoyed being with her family most of all.

She appreciated the beauties of Northwest Montana, especially Glacier Park. Also, she enjoyed her flower garden, reading good books, camping and picnics with family, and going out to lunch with her sister, Marjie.

In 1989 Ervin was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and became a resident of the Montana Veterans Home. Every day for 10 years Ruth went to visit him. He passed away in 1999.

Ruth was also preceded in death by her brothers, Don, Ted and Robert. Ruth is survived by her children, Grant and Nancy Kiser, Crystal and Kelly Ferguson, Ken and Lorraine Kiser, and Russ Robin Kiser. She has 16 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister, M. Marjorie Mac Donald.

Ruth had a clever sense of humor. Her funny one-liners kept us laughing. Ruth was soft spoken and possessed great patience. We can honestly say she never raised her voice or spoke rudely to us. We were very blessed by her kind and gentle manner.

"Mom (Grandma), we love you and we'll miss you. We're happy for you and Dad — you're together in a better place. We will see you again one day."

Ervin and Ruth decided to try the restaurant business with no experience at all in that area. Their willingness to work hard made the venture successful. Ervin did the carpentry work on the cafe which was located on Nucleus Avenue. The top floor was Moody's clothing store and the cafe was in the basement. Every noon hour for 14 years, Ruth worked in the cafe, and also was "on call" when things got busy. Later they moved the

The family sincerely wishes to thank the Montana Veterans Home for the great care they gave to their mother.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 22, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Columbia Falls. Graveside services will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is assisting the family.

Merrit Marie (Elam) Kittock, 48

Merrit Marie (Elam) Kittock, 48, of Tekoa, Wash.,

passed away suddenly Friday, Sept. 23, 2011, at the Spokane Valley Hospital.

Merrit was born March 7, 1963, and grew up in Whitefish.

She graduated from Whitefish High school in 1981, where she was a cheerleader, sang in the choir, and found a relationship with Jesus. She was very popular, outgoing and a beloved girl throughout her whole life.

After high school, she lived in Arizona for 21 years, moving to Tekoa in 2003. As a mother of three, she chose to



only work part-time jobs at the Tekoa schools, a medical clinic, and elder care facility in Garfield, and she had just started working for a pharmacy in Tekoa when she became ill. She was very well known in Tekoa, universally loved and respected by everyone.

She is survived by her three children, Dane, 13, Caleb, 10, and Hannah, 8, all of Tekoa; also by her father and mother, Vern and Joan Elam of Mesa, Ariz.; brothers, Jay, Mike and Tracy Elam; and several nieces and nephews.

Her sweet, kind, generous nature, and her happy, positive, joyous love of life will be missed by everyone.

The Elam family will have a celebration of Merrit's life at 6 p.m. today, Sept. 27, at Dos Amigos in Whitefish.

John James William Kloeckl, 83

John James William Kloeckl, 83, died peacefully at his home on Oct. 16, 2011, following a hard-fought battle with cancer. "We praise our Father in Heaven that he is now resting peacefully."



John was born April 14, 1928, in New Ulm, Minn., to Frank and Mary Hillesheim Kloeckl. Here while growing up, he developed his lifelong love of working on the farm.

John's early years were spent working various farms in the New Ulm area. At age 18, he joined the Army and served two years during the Korean War era.

On Jan. 27, 1953, John married Mary Dardis. They moved to Gilford to continue farming. During this time their three sons, Steve, Dave and Ken, were born.

In 1963, John and his family moved across the mountains to make their home in Kalispell. It was here their daughter Ruth was born.

John worked at a variety of jobs after arriving in Kalispell. He began raising animals both for feeding his family and supplementing their income. He also worked for Kalispell Feed and Grain for several years. In 1967, he began a 25-plus years truck driving career with McElroy and Wilken. Even after retirement, his days of driving truck part time brought him great joy.

It was the simple pleasures in life that brought great joys to John: a meal surrounded by his family; conversation and a cup of coffee at Finnegan's; fiddle music and a lively jig at the Eagles, or a fully loaded grain truck waiting to be unloaded.

"Farmer John" will lovingly be remembered by family

and friends. But most importantly, so many lives have been immensely impacted by his loving acts of kindness and his enduring heart of thankfulness no matter what the day brought.

John was preceded in death by his wife, Mary; his parents; and siblings, sisters Valeria and Lester Kading, Dolores and Arthur Dietz, Joyce Stadick, and Jane LaPlante, and brothers Larry and Marge Kloeckl, Frank Kloeckl, and Joe Kloeckl.

He is survived by his children, Steve of Phoenix, Dave of Kalispell and his son Joe Grant, and Joe's daughter Addyson, Ken and Pam and their children, Curt, Zane and Brock of Kalispell, and Ruth and Wayne Stoffel and their children, Katelyn, Marguerite and John of Marathon, Wis.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Goodman and his staff, along with Hospice Home Health Options, for their compassionate care given to John in his fight against cancer.

Funeral services for John will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 19, at the Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Chapel. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery. There will be a reception from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Eagle's ballroom, 37 First St., in Kalispell.

The family suggests that any memorial contributions be sent to Home Options Hospice, 430 Windward Way, Suite 101, Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

Dorothy A. Klug, 87

Dorothy A. Klug, 87, a registered nurse and the wife of a minister, who from 1949 to 1955 served a Lutheran



church in Kalispell, died May 22, 2011, in Fort Wayne, Ind., where she lived. During the past three decades, she had annually returned to her summer home in Kalispell.

Mrs. Klug was born in Milwaukee, Wis., the eldest of five children of Otto and Anna (Abuya) Bauch. After graduating with a registered nurses degree from Milwaukee Lutheran Hospital, in 1946 she married the Rev. Dr. Eugene F. Klug, a professor of theology who preceded her in death eight years ago.

Their life in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod led them to ministries at the University of Wisconsin, Madison; Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell; the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; and Concordia Theological Seminary, initially located in Springfield, Ill., and subsequently Fort Wayne, Ind.

Mrs. Klug worked as a registered nurse for internal medicine practices and the American Red Cross in Illinois and Indiana. She also served in the medical personnel pool in Fort Wayne and

Allen Home Health Care, from which she retired in 1992 as assistant director of nursing after 11 years.

Mrs. Klug was a lifelong traveler, often accompanying her husband to theological conferences. In recent decades, they spent their summers in Kalispell and Glacier National Park, the inspiration for family reunions and her legendary huckleberry jam. Demonstrating her zest for special occasions, during the past year she made solo trips to Michigan, Montana and Wyoming.

She is survived by four children, Charlotte Chung of Flora, Ill., Christine Paul of South Hampton, N.H., Paul Klug of Kalispell, Mont., and the Rev. Timothy Klug of Casper, Wyo.; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; a brother and two sisters.

Funeral services are scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Friday, May 27, at the chapel located at Lutheran Life Villages, 6701 South Anthony Blvd., Fort Wayne. Prior to the service, a visitation will be held from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Burial will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 28, at Pinelawn Memorial Park, 10700 West Capitol Drive, Milwaukee.

Memorials may be sent to Concordia Theological Seminary in care of the Hockemeyer & Miller Funeral Home, which is handling the funeral arrangements.

Herbert Oliver Ludvig Knutsen, 77

Herbert Oliver Ludvig Knutsen, 77, of Missoula, passed away April 5, 2011, at Hillside Manor.

He was born Sept. 3, 1933 in Everett, Wash., to Leif and Inga Knutsen. Herbert was the seventh of 10 children.

Herb graduated from Western Washington College in Bellingham, Wash., in 1955. After serving in the Army he entered Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn., graduating in 1962.

He married Sandra Jean Peterson in 1961. The following year they moved to the prairies of eastern Montana. He served his entire ministry in Montana. His first call was to McCabe, then to Bonner, Plentywood, Belgrade, Bigfork and Sunburst. He retired in 1977.

Herb was a kind and gentle person who was very accepting of others and demonstrated deep compassion in his work and personal life. He wrote poetry and often summarized his sermons with a poem. Many people have poems he wrote for weddings and funerals. He enjoyed watercolor painting and calligraphy.

While living in Bonner he was president of Concerned Citizens for Constructive



Change and Democratic state committeeman from Missoula County. In Plentywood he helped establish Glenwood Group Home. He also became an emergency medical technician and volunteered on the ambulance.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leif and Inga; brothers, Elmer, Lawrence, Wil, Leif and Richard; and sisters, Olive and Iris.

He is survived by his sisters, Sheila Knutsen and Ruth Sundseth; his loving wife, Sandra Jean; daughters, Cynthia Ann Knutsen, Charlotte Marie Knutsen and Kelly Nicklay; son, Joel William Knutsen, and wife, Jennifer; grandchildren, Samuel Knutsen Saroff, Suzanne Marie Saroff, Emily Marie Lee, Victoria Delores Nicklay, Saige Amber Knutsen, David Lawrence Knutsen and Ana Daria Rodriguez Knutsen; brother and sister-in-law, Bill and Barbara Peterson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, at the Immanuel Lutheran Church. A reception will follow in the church hall.

Family requests memorials to the Lutheran Church or the Missoula Food Bank.

"Rest in peace, our dear one."

Arrangements are under the care of Garden City Funeral Home.

Julie Mackey Pittsley Komenda, 83

Julie Mackey Pittsley Komenda, 83, of Polson, "went to her long-awaited meeting with our Lord" on April 1, 2011.

She considered herself blessed since she did not suffer the death of any of her six children. However, she did endure the funerals of two husbands and the passing of many brothers and sisters.

Julia Eva Mackey was born Jan. 10, 1928, in Trout Creek, Mich., to Robert Angus Mackey and Effie Marie Bonin. As the eldest of nine siblings, she assisted in the raising and care of the large family until her marriage in 1946 to William Charles Pittsley.

As a professional logger, they moved west to Pierce, Idaho; Libby; Ferndale and Ashley Creek, where "Bill" died in an auto mishap in 1959. She then raised five active children on her own, until remarrying in 1962 to Gene Edwin Komenda. Following the birth of another son, they moved in 1962 to Polson, where Gene was employed at area lumber mills.

Julie worked for many years in Polson as a cook at area restaurants. She was pleased that many of her children's friends called her "Mom" and confided in her and updated her on her children. It always amazed her children the next day when she knew where they had been and with whom.

For many years she was



an active member of the New Life Christian Church as well as the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank and Country Store. She served her community, her family and her Lord. Her health issues gradually resulted in her being homebound.

Julia was preceded in death by her first husband, William C. Pittsley; and her second husband, Gene E. Komenda.

She is survived by her children, sons, Bill and Marilyn Pittsley of Polson, Rich and Katherine Pittsley of Billings, Dave and Jean Pittsley of Marion, Cliff and Debbie Pittsley of Pablo, Joe and Janelle Komenda of Tacoma; daughter, Charlene and Aaron Owenby of Longview, Wash.; grandchildren include Billie, Brian, Maggie, Josh, Julie Mae, Davey, Jessica, Nicole, Chris, Shirley, April, Bobbie Jo, Crystal, Cody and Jackie; numerous great-grandchildren will miss their "Grand-grandma"; siblings, Leona and Ted Banks of Nevada, Carol and Loren Leroy of Michigan, Donald and Alice Mackey of Michigan, Fran and Mary Mackey of North Carolina, Raymond and Cindi Pittsley of Wyoming, and Ellen and Bill of Wyoming. She is also survived by the extended Komenda family and many good friends and neighbors.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 6, at the Grogan Funeral Home in Polson with the Rev. John Payne officiating. A light reception will follow the services. Graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell.

Elsie O. Kolashinski, 98

Elsie O. Kolashinski, 98, died Friday, Dec. 16, 2011, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

Private family services

will be held in Great Falls later next year.

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

Frances H. (McWhorter) Kolczak, 91

Frances H. (McWhorter) Kolczak, 91, of Lewistown, formerly of Kalispell, died Sunday, Sept. 4, 2011, at the Central Montana Skilled Nursing Center, of natural causes.

She is survived by her husband, Keith, of Lewistown; sons, Russell McWhorter of Pahump, Nev., Leon McWhorter of Albuquerque, N.M., and Rex McWhorter of Peoria, Ariz.; and daughters, Helen Kendall of

Hilger, Hazel Rasmussen of Bremerton, Ore., Nancy Meyer and Phyllis Steinke, both of Kalispell, and Patti Mathwig of Wiliston, N.D.

Memorial graveside services will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, at Glacier Memorial Gardens at Kalispell.

Cremation has taken place with the Cloyd Funeral Home & Cremation Service in Lewis town.

Minnie Ethel Krause, 90

Minnie Ethel Krause, 90, passed away Nov. 5, 2011, at the Whitefish Care and Rehabilitation Center where she had been a resident for the last several years.



Minnie was born Nov. 18, 1921, in Somers to Florence and Roy Hissong, the sixth of nine children. She was raised within the sight of Flathead Lake at Somers, working many years at the Sliter's Store.

On Sept. 15, 1945, she was united in marriage to Fred Krause at her parents' home in Somers. Their 64-year "life's journey" together blessed them with five children.

Minnie was preceded in death by her husband, Fred; her parents; a grandson; five brothers, and one sister.

She is survived by her daughter, Myrna Dull, and husband, James, of Columbia Falls; her four sons, Fred Edwin Krause of Columbia

Falls, Harold Krause and wife Caroline of Whitefish, Mark William Krause of Polson, and Steven Paul Krause of Homer, Alaska; 13 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandson; two sisters; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services for Minnie will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 11, at Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 240 Second Ave. E., Kalispell. Fred Krause will officiate. Inurnment will follow at Fairview Cemetery, on Middle Road east of Kalispell.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is car-

ing for Minnie's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to view

Minnie's tribute wall to offer condolences and share memories.

Nancy Ann Kreber, 56

Nancy Ann Kreber, 56, of Columbia Falls, died Tuesday, June 28, 2011, at her home in Columbia Falls.

She is survived by her husband, Tom Kreber; and daughter, Lola Craft.

A service is at 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 5, at Columbia Mortuary, 1010 Fourth Ave. W., Columbia Falls.

Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

Walker Pannell Kuhl, 27

Walker Pannell Kuhl, 27, of Sandy, Utah, near Salt Lake City, went missing April 17, 2011, and was found dead April 24, 2011, in Grand Teton National Park from an avalanche, along with his climbing partner Greg Seftick of Columbia Falls.



Walker was born on Dec. 2, 1983, in Kalispell, to parents Marylane Pannell and Richard Kuhl. He spent the first few summers of his life being packed in by mules deep into the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness at Moose Creek, Fish Lake and Lost Horse ranger stations where Richard was posted as a wilderness ranger. Once Walker could walk, he was encouraged to hike through the Swan Range and Glacier National Park with M&Ms left along the trail by his parents. He sometimes said he wished he had been named "Driver" instead of Walker.

His education began with preschool at Montessori followed by K-6 at Russell Elementary School. From there he continued through the Kalispell school system at Linderman, Kalispell Junior High School and Flathead High School. He played on the Flathead Force Youth Soccer team that won the state championship in 1997 and 1998.

Once in high school, he got away from organized sports and was introduced to climbing at the indoor climbing wall at The Summit, the Kila Crags and Stonehill. He helped to establish the Alpine Club at FHS to expose other students to outdoor activities. He became known for testing a can of bear spray before an Alpine Club hike in Glacier and having the wind blow the spray back on the group.

When Walker graduated high school in 2002, he joined the Army as a combat engineer and after basic training was sent to a base just south of the DMZ in South Korea for a year. Here he was honored with the Soldier of the Quarter Certificate of Achievement for the 2nd Infantry Division. After retraining in the U.S., he was sent to Baghdad, Iraq, with the 8th Engineering Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division. In Iraq, he was promoted to sergeant before returning to Kalispell in 2005.

Walker continued his

education at Flathead Valley Community College for two years while working at the Knead Cafe. He then went on to the University of Montana in Missoula and got a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration, with an emphasis in finance and a minor in Arabic. He worked for the catering service at the U of M and for Bigga Pizza.

In the summers, he furthered his study of Arabic by traveling to Egypt in 2007 and Yemen in 2008. He attended language schools and traveled the countryside to practice speaking Arabic with the local people.

Walker continued climbing on rock and ice and ski touring. He took several weeklong winter trips in the Bob Marshall and Canadian Rockies and visited New England to ice climb and visit friends. Walker loved climbing "because you do it for yourself."

After graduating college in 2009, Walker got a job with the U.S. Treasury Department's comptroller's office as a bank examiner. He completed training in Los Angeles and was assigned to the Salt Lake City office in Utah. He bought a house in Sandy. His work sent him throughout Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah, giving him a chance to visit friends throughout the West and continue his outdoor adventures.

Whether sledding Buffalo Hill Golf Course in a kayak, ice climbing Bird Woman Falls in Glacier Park, climbing mountains throughout the West, skiing the backcountry, practicing Arabic, studying for the CFA exam or learning about any of the other topics that interested him, Walker liked to follow his own route.

Walker is survived by his parents, Marylane Pannell and Richard Kuhl, of Kalispell; his sister, Kendra Pannell Kuhl, of Palo Alto, Calif.; and many friends from school, work and outdoor adventures.

A memorial will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, May 7, at the Glacier Presbyterian Camp on U.S. Highway 93. The camp is located south of Lakeside along Flathead Lake between mile markers 93 and 94. More information can be found at walkerkuhl.com.

Walker's family thanks Grand Teton National Park and the people involved in the weeklong search, as well as the many people who have offered words of support.

Rubert 'Butch' Kruckenberg, 79

Rubert "Butch" Kruckenberg passed away Sunday, Aug. 7, 2011, at The Health Center in Kalispell. He was 79 years old.

He was born Oct. 30, 1931, to Amolia (Weigum) and Herbert Kruckenberg in Zap, N.D. He spent his childhood in North Dakota and moved to Montana when he was a teenager. He worked in the timber industry as a young man.

He married Lila Staudacher on Sept. 9, 1951. Had he lived another month, he and Lila would have celebrated 60 years of marriage.

He enlisted in the Army and served in the Korean conflict from 1952 to 1954. When his enlistment was over he and Lila moved to Chester, where he farmed and also had an implement business.

In 1964 they moved back to Kalispell. Butch was once again in the timber business. He spent two years on the haul road in Alaska, then came back and did over-the-highway hauling. He was retired.

For the last 17 years, when he was trucking he saw most of the U.S. He was able to spend a few winters

in Arizona and loved going to Mexico. One special trip was to Hong Kong with very good friends, and another to Europe; his heritage was German.

He is survived by his wife, Lila; three children, son Brad Kruckenberg, daughter Rhonda Gibbs and husband John, and son Jeff Kruckenberg and wife Lisa; seven grandchildren, Bryant Kruckenberg, Michael Gibbs, Brandon Kruckenberg, Justin Kruckenberg, Jerrod Kruckenberg, Tanner Kruckenberg, and granddaughter Megan Petersen; seven great-great-grandchildren, Lauren, Shawn, Raiden and Danny Kruckenberg, Justine and Kay Gibbs, and Mason Petersen; and brother, Norman Kruckenberg, and wife Angie.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Molly and Herbert Kruckenberg; and twin sons, Michael and Mark Kruckenberg.

There will be a private family burial, and then a celebration of life at 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11, at the United Methodist Church, 329 Second Ave. E., in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, please give to your favorite charity.

Robert 'Bob' Arthur Kienas, 77

Robert "Bob" Arthur Kienas, 77, died peacefully at his home in Somers on Nov. 21, 2011.

He was born Sept. 12, 1934, on the family farm on Kienas Road to Ed and Alice Kienas.

He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1952 to 1956, based at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls.

He was a journeyman lineman, and over the years worked for Harp Line Constructors, Kalispell, the Alaska Pipeline, Libby Dam and various other projects. He was very active in Local No. 768, IBEW for 50 plus years.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Bud, Keith and Kenneth; infant daughter, Brenda; and infant granddaughter, Lindsay Fischer.

On Sept. 14, 1957, he married Joanne White, and is survived by her at the family home. Also surviving are



two sons, Edward "Bud," and Robert W. and Wendy; and one daughter, Karla, and Kurt Fischer; five grandchildren, R.T. and Amy Kienas, Mitch Kienas, Lacey and Adam Kinkel, Erik Fischer and Sierra Fischer; and five great-grandchildren, Katy, Breanna, Chloe and Tanner Kienas and Emma Kinkel. He is also survived by sisters, Rosalie and Willis Ayers, and Cherris and Bill Collier of Spokane, and Linda Larson of Kalispell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held from noon to 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 25, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, Kalispell. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 26, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home. A reception will follow at Vista Linda in Somers.

Memorial contributions can be made on Bob's behalf to your favorite charity.

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