

## Dr. Dudley H. Page, 82

Dr. Dudley H. Page, retired anesthesiologist, 82, of Polson, passed away peacefully on Monday, July 18, 2011, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center after a brief illness, surrounded by loving family and friends.



Dudley was born in Cleveland, Ohio, to Dudley W. and Ann H. Page. He attended Hawken School and Phillips Academy. His undergraduate studies were at Dartmouth and medical education at Ohio State. He completed his service in the Air Force at Malmstrom AFB in Great Falls.

Dudley practiced in Great Falls for 32 years before retiring with his wife, Ann, in 1990 to the Flathead Valley of Montana.

Dudley found his paradise on earth at Finley Point where he enjoyed his wood working, creating beautiful rock gardens and a new passion of grape growing. He always enjoyed a challenge, and being a grape grower provided him that challenge. He became the "go to guy" in the valley for those who wanted to learn about growing grapes, and willingly shared his knowledge with

all who asked.

He had an ardent love of his forestland, learning all he could about preserving the land and leaving a wonderful legacy for future generations by protecting the land through conservation easement.

Dudley is survived by his loving wife, Ann; a brother, Bob and wife, Peg, of Cleveland, and their children, Lisa, Katye, Anne and Bob Jr.; his daughter, Sarah, and husband, Jeff, of Minnesota; his sons, Tom and Jim; and grandchildren, Thom, David and Kate, all of Denver.

Dudley felt that no age is too young to introduce children to the arts and his wish is that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to the Bigfork Playhouse Children's Theater or the Bigfork Playhouse Scholarship Fund at P.O. Box 465, Bigfork, MT 59911.

A celebration of Dudley's life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 30, at Grogan Funeral Home, 101 Sixth Ave. E., Polson. Military honors and a reception will follow the services.

Messages of condolence may be sent to the family online by visiting [www.groganfuneralhome.com](http://www.groganfuneralhome.com). Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory, Polson, considers it a privilege to care for Dr. Page's family.

## Patricia 'Tricia' Page, 57

Patricia "Tricia" Page, 57, was born in Jackson Hole, Wyo., on Aug. 14, 1953, to Paul and Karlann Coughlin.



On Thursday, April 28, 2011, at 5 a.m., "Tricia completed her journey with us."

She was raised in Kalispell with her two brothers, Kevin and Matt, and her sister Cris. Tricia graduated from Flathead High School in 1971. She received two bachelor's degrees from the University of Montana, one in Spanish and one in elementary education, and later completed her master's in learning and technology from Western Governor's University.

Tricia married John Page on Sept. 26, 1976, in Missoula and had two sons, Timothy Aaron Page and Eric Joel Page.

Tricia taught at Independent school in Missoula before moving to Chelan, Wash., in the August of 1994, and began teaching in the

Manson Elementary school in September of 1994 and taught until April of 2011. Tricia also taught Sunday school in both Missoula and Chelan, and taught skiing at Echo Valley.

Tricia was deeply spiritual and never stopped growing her faith. She was a friend to many and constantly gave of herself. She loved gardening, family, teaching, skiing and kayaking. Her adoration for the natural world enriched her spirit and carried her through life. Tricia inspired people to learn and love life everywhere she went.

Tricia is survived by her parents, Paul and Karlann Coughlin, of East Wenatchee, Wash.; her brothers, Matt and Kevin Coughlin; her sister, Cris Coughlin; her husband, John Page, of Chelan; two sons, Timothy and Eric Page; and a grandson Owen Page.

A celebration of Tricia's life will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 7, at Echo Valley Ski Area. All are welcome! For more information and directions visit <https://sites.google.com/site/triciapagecelebration/>

## Helen Pappenfus, 96

Sept. 28, 2011, a beautiful fall day, Helen Pappenfus said goodbye to her family and friends "and joined her husband, brothers, sisters, parents and friends in heaven." We will miss those twinkling blue eyes and her laughter but "know that she is now dancing with Edward, most likely to accordion music."



Helen was born July 6, 1915, in Larson, N.D., to Ole and Tilda Watterud. She grew up on the family farm in Columbus, N.D., surrounded by her 12 brothers and sisters.

Helen worked as a waitress in Glasgow and was swept off her feet by a handsome young man named Edward Pappenfus. They married Jan. 22, 1940.

Edward was in the U.S. Army, which took them to Seattle, where their daughter Sharon was born in May of 1944. After Edward was honorably discharged from the Army, they lived in the oil fields outside of Conrad.

In the 1960s, Helen and Edward owned Pap's Diner near Essex. Helen fed the construction crews after the 1964 flood.

Helen and Edward moved to Kalispell in 1966, where they built a small trailer court in the Lower Valley area. While running the camp and taking care of the needs of all of their renters/friends, Helen also worked at the Immanuel Lutheran Home.

In the early 1980s, Helen's daughter Sharon and granddaughters Fawn and Lisa moved to Kalispell to be closer to Helen and Edward and to fulfill Sharon's dream of living in the Flathead Valley. Edward passed away in September of 1995. Helen proved herself quite capable of taking care of herself and the rest of her family, but there was an empty spot in all of our hearts with his passing.

With each passing day and year, the family grew. Fawn and Dave gave Helen four great-granddaughters, Mylissa Thompson, Bambi

Bushnell, Krystine Hill and Nycole Edwards. Lisa and Russ gave Helen her first great-grandson, Hunter Pyles. In turn, Bambi brought Zach into the family, Mylissa brought Danny, Krystine brought Jesse and Nycole brought Scotty. Add to this the great-great-grandchildren, Baylie, Dylan and Sydnie, Jakson, Dayvian and brand new Pyper! Uff dah! What a party!

Helen loved working in her garden and could cook anything. She especially loved afternoon drives with Sharon, enjoying the scenery and stopping for an occasional cold beer. Her Scrabble and Yahtzee skills were unsurpassed! When she played with her sisters, they ALL cheated!

In 2009, Helen became a resident of the Immanuel Lutheran Home. She enjoyed the activities and loved the staff. They became family to her and to us. She loved to visit in the courtyard. One highlight of 2010 was when her brothers and sisters made a surprise visit from North Dakota.

Helen is survived by her daughter, Sharon; granddaughters, great-greats, MaryAnn Moniz and family, Jane and Marvin Hinricksen and family, Claire Burau and family, Melba and Leonard Melgaard and family, Myron Watterud and family; and many more nieces and nephews.

"Greeting her with open arms" were her mother and father; her husband Edward; brothers and sisters, Ray, Donald, Merton, James, Dale, Sylvia, Mildred and Eunice; and son-in-law, Fred Aldredge.

Intill vi motes igjen. (Until we meet again.)

We will have a celebration of Helen's life at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, in Sharon's backyard, 155 Lower Valley Road. We will be outdoors for potluck, laughter and joy.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Helen's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to view Helen's guest book, offer condolences and share memories.

## Mary L. Parkhill, 57

Mary "Meme, Rube" "left this earth to join her parents, grandparents and friends in a glorious reunion" on Sept. 15, 2011.



Mary was born Feb. 27, 1954, to Tommy and Gayla Parkhill in Whitefish. She received her elementary education in Hungry Horse, and in 1972 graduated from high school at Columbia Falls.

Following graduation, Mary had a 32-year career with the Conrad Bank. Six years ago she started a new career with Montana Gold Bullet.

Mary was a lifetime member of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary at Hungry Horse, Columbia Falls and Bigfork.

Mary's love of life enhanced the lives of her family, friends and animals; Mary's untimely departure is a great loss to the lives she touched. Mary enjoyed vacations with Mom and Dad,

rides in the country, animals, taking in stray cats, family and caring for her neighbors.

She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents.

Mary is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Linda and Chuck Sieler; her brother and sister-in-law, Gary and Sharon Parkhill; brother and sister-in-law, Leslie and Dena Parkhill; aunt, Sherry Nерger; nieces, Hazel, Nikki and Randy, Kimberly, Beckie, Natasha, Francie, Gillian, and Maddie; nephews, Paul and Enna, T and Adria, Cody, Heath, Skyler, and Miles; and cousins, Scott and Lindsay, Stacey and Ken, Connor, and Kenny; and lifelong friend, Betty Belston.

Her two beloved cats, Lucy and Ricky, will miss her deeply.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. today, Sept. 17, at Bible Baptist Church, 64 Dove Lane in Evergreen. A dessert lunch will be served following the service.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Humane Society.

## Katherine 'Kate' Ann Parkin, 61

Katherine "Kate" Ann Parkin, 61, passed away on Sept. 21, 2011.



Kate was born May 9, 1950, in Portland, to Henry and Elaine Parkin. She was raised in Portland. She graduated from Clackamas High School in Milwaukie, Ore.

Kate went to Oregon State University where she received her bachelor's degree. During her time at OSU, she also worked part time at a veterinary clinic. She also attended Linn-Benton Community College in Oregon and Boise State University, where she received her master's degree in water treatment and continued education in aquatic entomology.

After graduating college she spent a year working at a waste water treatment facility on Maui, Hawaii. She then moved to Boise, Idaho, where she worked at the Boise City Waste Water Treatment Plant. She later took a job at the Idaho State Bureau of Labs in the field of aquatic entomology.

After several years at the State Lab, she quit her job and started her own business as an aquatic entomologist, working from home.

Kate met Jerry in Boise where they lived for six years, prior to moving to Kalispell where they were married and had a happy, busy life together.

Kate had a passion for life, and in her pursuit of all her varied interests she had a wide range of happy experiences. Because of her varied interests, Kate met a lot of people. She valued all her friends and they all had a place in her heart.

Kate was a talented artist with interests in many mediums. While she enjoyed the experience and challenge of many mediums, her two

favorites were watercolor and pastel. During her years in Boise she created illustrations that were published in magazines. Over the past year she was fortunate enough to complete a horse sculpture that was bronzed to reflect her passion for horses.

Kate also enjoyed the outdoors, animals and especially horses. She was an avid rider and enjoyed volunteering in the horse community in organizations, events and special causes that would improve the horse community.

Kate was well known to her family and friends for the love and joy she received from her animal companions. They were always viewed as her children. She had a number of animal companions over the years that were always close to her heart.

During this past year Kate had such admiration and gratitude for the many people working at Kalispell Regional Medical Center who helped her. Special thanks to "Super James" in Special Ops, and the entire staff at the Infusion Center. Special thanks also to the "girls" in Kate's Montana Art group for their love and support.

Kate was preceded in death by her father, Richard Crandall.

She is survived by her husband, Gerald "Jerry" Simchuk, of Kalispell; her mother, Elaine Crandall, of Kalispell; and her brother, Larry Parkin, of Newport, Ore.; along with Kate's many friends in Montana, Idaho and across the country.

For those who wish to make contributions in Kate's name, please send them to Foys to Blacktail Trail, [www.foystoblacktailtrails.org/](http://www.foystoblacktailtrails.org/). This was a cause that was near and dear to her heart, and she wanted to see this group reach its goal.

A celebration of life will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Oct. 1 at 415 Orchard Ridge Road, Kalispell.

## Arlene Edith Parpart, 87

Arlene Edith Parpart, 87, died Thursday, Aug. 11, 2011, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

Arlene is survived by her children, Darlene Moore, Charles Johnson, Judith

Fowler and Jon Johnson.

A graveside service will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 15, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Richard Roby Parsons, 72

Richard Roby Parsons, 72, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 15, 2011, at his home in Kalispell.

He was born on May 26, 1939, in Bozeman to Henry and Minnie (Adams) Parsons. Richard received his education in Bozeman.

He started working construction when he was 15 years old and continued in this career throughout his life. He also became a driller and a powder man. Richard lived throughout the Northwest but always seemed to return to Montana.

Richard enjoyed hunting, fishing, reading, camping and carpentry.

He married Doris Cobb and they were later divorced.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Clarence, George, Clifford and Paul; two sisters, Mae Donahue and Pauline



Long; and a daughter-in-law, Sherrie Parsons.

He is forever loved and will remain a loving father, uncle and grandfather in all of our hearts.

He is survived by his children, Lorna Stremcha of Havre, Jerry Parsons of Livingston, Dairene Ricci of Livingston and Rick Parsons of Kalispell. He is also survived by 13 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Dave Parsons and John Parsons, both of Belgrade; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life for Richard will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 8, at Hyalite Reservoir near Bozeman.

Please send any memorial contributions in care of Dairene Ricci, 708 S. 13th Street, Livingston, MT 59047.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Richard's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to view Richard's Tribute Wall, offer condolences and share memories.

## Lola Mary Pauli

A memorial service for Lola Mary Pauli, 84, who died June 16 will be held at

11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A potluck will follow.

## Esther Shenefelt Paul, 89

Esther Shenefelt Paul, 89, of Whitefish passed away on May 27, 2011, of natural causes.

Born in Eureka on Aug. 8, 1921, to Francis Shenefelt and Eva Baillargon Shenefelt, she grew up in Eureka and the surrounding area. She attended area rural schools and Eureka High School.

On March 23, 1940, she was married to R. Clyde Paul of Whitefish, and moved there to live. During the Second World War, Esther and Clyde lived in Portland. She worked in the Kaiser Ship Yard as the only woman on an 18-man welder crew, welding the outside shell of liberty ships which were used to transport troops and war supplies. After the war, they lived in Eureka and Half Moon, before returning to Whitefish in early 1949.

Esther started her 37-year nursing career in Whitefish

in 1949. She worked for five years at the John B. Simons Hospital, and 32 years in the clinics of several different medical practices in Whitefish. Several generations of Whitefish area residents will have fond memories of Esther's loving nursing care.

Surviving Esther are two children, Chrystal Paul Higgins of Whitefish, and Richard S. Paul of Fairfield, Conn.; four grandchildren, Kelli Higgins-Jones of Whitefish, Shandi Higgins of Columbia Falls, Christopher Paul of Darien, Conn., Matthew Paul of Westport, Conn.; and nine great-grandchildren.

Honoring the wishes of Esther, there will be no memorial service. A private burial will take place at the cemetery in Eureka. Any memorials to the life of Esther should be made to a charity chosen by the giver.

## Donna Lou Paullin, 75

Donna Lou Paullin, 75, died Jan. 2, 2011, at Libby Care Center.

She was retired from working at the front desk of PP & L.

Survivors include her husband, Howard Paullin, of Libby; son, Jeffrey Paullin, of Ephrata,

Wash.; and daughter, Julie Paullin, of Spokane Valley, Wash.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, at the Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Libby. A reception will follow immediately after, at the American Legion.

## Ida L. Eberling Paulson, 87

Ida L. Eberling Paulson, 87, of Columbia Falls, formerly of Malta and Cut Bank, died of natural causes on Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell.

Ida was born Jan. 24, 1924, in Frojd. Ida was the fourth child of Christ and Elizabeth (Damm) Eberling. She attended school in Brockton and Poplar.

She married Harry A. Paulson in 1941. During their marriage they lived in Spokane, Poplar, Opheim and Malta.

In 1970, Harry was killed in a highway accident and Ida remained in Malta to finish raising her family. She was actively involved in school, community and church activities. She was a cook in the Malta School system for 16 years. Upon retirement, she moved to Cut Bank and was active in the American Legion Auxillary, the Lutheran Church and the Senior Center. She was awarded the Montana Senior



Citizen of the Year Award in 1998.

To be closer to her family, she moved to Columbia Falls, where she resided for 13 years.

Ida was preceded in death by her parents; a daughter, Sandra; husband, Harry; grandson, Khristian Kluck; and four siblings.

She is survived by her children, Janet and Richard Harmon, Garry and Sharyn Paulson, Margaret and Bruce Conrad, Barbara and Ben Math, Leslie and Beverly Paulson, Wayne and Eolyn Paulson, Douglas and Joy Paulson, Judy and Jimm Gordon, Jim Paulson, and Betty and Allen Geer.

She also has 20 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Dec. 14 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls.

Memorial contributions can be made on Ida's behalf to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Ida's family. You are invited to go to [www.columbiamortuary.com](http://www.columbiamortuary.com), to offer condolences and view Ida's tribute wall.

## Nadine Edna Percy, 93

Nadine passed peacefully in her daughter's embrace Jan. 30, 2011, "leaving this world to join God and her mother."



Born March 20, 1917, she witnessed all the world's changes. During World War II, she was one of the infamous "Rosie the Riveters," working on the damaged war planes that came in after battle.

During that time she met and married Louis Notter and was blessed with her first child, Johnny Gordon. She later married Clarence "Red" Hudspeth and from that union was blessed with her second child, Gene Hudspeth.

Nadine was a strong and determined woman with a great love for her family. She raised her children on her own, depending on no one. When times were

tough, she gave her children her bus fare for school lunch and proceeded to walk three miles in high heels to work so her kids would not do without.

She moved to Martin City in 1992, where she began a business at the age of 82.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Hugene and Katie Mae Percy. She is survived by her daughter Johnny Gordon, and son Gene Hudspeth; grandchildren, Christine Spring-Logan, Amber Gordon and Ehren Hudspeth; and two great-grandchildren, Kaden Logan and Naki Wugh.

The family wishes to thank the wonderful nurses and aides at Whitefish Care and Rehab and a big "Thank You" to the compassionate women of Frontier Hospice.

Columbia Mortuary is taking care of the family.

"One more thing, Gram, if I hand you the remote control, would you dial this number for me? (She had a great sense of humor.)"

## Jennifer K. 'Jenny' Peck, 43

After 16 years of illness, Jenny "went home" on May 11, 2011, after a long battle with kidney failure.



She was born on June 2, 1967.

Anyone who knew her knew the kindest, most gentle person who had an amazing way with children. This incredible woman had a true gift of mercy, genuinely put others' needs before her own and did it with a smile. Her life was the perfect example

to all of us that the human condition is capable of handling almost anything with a positive attitude.

Jenny was preceded in death by her father, Frank Peck.

She is survived by her mother, Patty Peck of Bigfork; her brothers, Robert and Jason, both of Portland, and Sean of Carlsbad, Calif.; and her sister, Samantha of Anchorage, Alaska.

She will be incredibly missed by all her family and friends.

A celebration of Jenny's life will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 7, at the Swan River Hall in Bigfork.

## Raymond Lester Peck, 84

Raymond Lester Peck, a Montana educator, counselor and longtime Democratic legislator and activist, died surrounded by family and friends Friday, May 27, 2011, at St. Peter's Hospital after a massive stroke. He was 84.



Ray was born June 23, 1926, in Whitefish to Pearl McBride and Asa Peck, one of 14 children.

After high school, he served in the Army Air Force during World War II as a tail-gunner.

Ray began his career as an elementary teacher in Gildford before becoming a teacher and coach in Harlem on the Fort Belknap Reservation. He coached Harlem to a state championship in six-man football in 1951. He stayed in touch with the members of that team all his life, and more than 60 years later, they still called him Coach.

He later worked as a teacher/coach/superintendent in Hingham and Big Sandy; a part-time counselor in the office of the dean of the College of Professional Schools Office at Montana State University; associate professor of education and psychology at Northern Montana College; and assistant superintendent, director of special education and of federal programs at Havre Public Schools.

Ray married Ilse Sonnek in 1947 in West Germany, and they had six children, Pete, Carla, Pep, Gregory, Raymond and Cynthia Rae Peck. They later divorced after 27 years of marriage.

In 1975, Ray married Betty (Collins) Peck and gained another family in Betty's children, Holly, Carley, Darla and Kelly.

Betty inspired Ray's second career as a legislator, and he was devoted to her until her death in 2002.

Ray represented Havre in the Montana House of Representatives from 1983 to 2001, where he was known as a knowledgeable and ferocious advocate for K-12 public education. He was elected House minority leader in 1995 and was the recipient of numerous local, state and national awards.

partner, Annabelle Richards; children, Pete and Sheryl Peck, Carla Johnson and Denny Lammerding, and Pep and Wally Jewell; stepchildren, Holly and Stan Kaleczyc, Carley "Tack" and Alex Tomaskie, Darla and Doug Kaercher, Kelly and Lisa Darlington; sisters, Helen Haugan of Florida, and Jacie Ressler of Texas; brother, Tom, and Delores Peck, of Columbia Falls; 23 grandchildren, Courtney Peck, Trevor and Alex Peck, Danyelle and Ryan Dotson, Nikki and Justin Pyper Golden, Jayci and Bryan Beckman Johnson; Kaylee Johnson, Jeremy and Angie Jewell, Greg Jewell, Jenny and Joe Menden Kaleczyc; Andy and Lisa Kaleczyc; John and Emily Kaleczyc, Karl and Shawna Jarvis, Jane and Shane Moe, Nicole and Jon Washburn Tomaskie, Michelle and Kevin Tomaskie, Kate Kaercher, Mary Kaercher, Anna Kaercher, Jacie Darlington, Justin Darlington, Shelbi Darlington and Jesse Darlington; great-grandchildren, Dyllan, Landyn and Riley Dotson; Burke Jewell, Austin Jarvis, Annie and Will Menden, Elle and Jack Kaleczyc, Maya Smith and Auden Moe, Anya Murphy, Emme and Job Washburn, Carrie and Ryan Fredricksen, Kaylie and Shane Tomaskie.

Other survivors include Kent and Linda Richards; Brent Richards and Shannel and Jillian Pocha; Lisa Rusk and Griffin and Rachel. Ray also leaves behind Tuffy and Boo, who miss Grandpa's treats already; Democrats and veterans.

He was preceded in death by son, Gregory Charles Peck; Raymond Anthony Peck and Cynthia Rae Peck; son-in-law, Daryl Johnson; five sisters and five brothers, with two siblings in 2011.

Ray lived his life with courage, conviction and deeply held beliefs that education and social and economic justice would level the playing field and create opportunity for all.

After Betty's death, Ray became friends with Annabelle Richards; Annabelle was Ray's partner and constant companion until his death.

After leaving office, he stayed very active in politics. He worked as a resource person to the Democratic Caucus in the Montana Senate, lobbied to abolish the death penalty in Montana, and provided counseling and support to combat veterans in the Vet2Vet program at Fort Harrison until his death. He volunteered at the Montana Democratic Party offices the day of his stroke.

Ray was a master bridge player. He enjoyed walking, reading, having coffee with his friends every morning, giving his dogs Tuffy and Boo treats, politicking and visiting with his grandkids.

Survivors include his

Memorials in Ray's name are suggested to: The Montana Democratic Party, Box 802, Helena, MT, 59624; Vet-2Vet Program, P.O. Box 1500, Fort Harrison, MT 59636; Lewis and Clark Humane Society, P.O. Box 4455, Helena, MT 59604; or Poor Clares of Montana, 3020 Eighth Ave. South, Great Falls, MT 59405.

Viewing hours will be from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 4, at Anderson Stevenson Wilke Funeral Home, 650 Logan St., Helena. The family will begin receiving friends at 6 p.m., with a vigil service to be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, June 5, at Anderson Stevenson Wilke Funeral Home. Funeral Mass will be noon, Monday, June 6, at the Cathedral of St. Helena with a reception to follow at Jorgenson's. Burial with military honors alongside his wife Betty and son Greg will be 1 p.m. Tuesday, June 7, at Big Sandy Cemetery. A celebration of life memorial service will begin at 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 7, at Big Sandy High School gymnasium.

Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: [www.aswfuneralhome.com](http://www.aswfuneralhome.com).

## Thomas Peck, 78

The "Round Mound of Sound" is silent. Tom Peck, "Gramps," passed away peacefully in his sleep on Nov. 10, 2011, in Mesa, Ariz., at the age of 78.

He was born Aug. 14, 1933, in Columbia Falls to Asa and Pearl Peck, being the 13th of 14 children ... no twins. The only surviving siblings are Helen Haugan and Jacie Ressler.

Tom graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1951. He joined the Navy shortly after, and then married Arlis Sather in 1953. To them was born a daughter, Michelle. Arlis passed away in 1955 of leukemia.

While attending Northern Montana College, where he earned a degree in education, he met Delores Mangold and they were united in marriage in 1956. They were blessed with four more children, Starla, Patty, Yvonne and Thom.

Gramps taught social studies and coached in Opheim, Hingham and Sunburst from 1959 to 1972. After 1972, he



continued to work with young people in Browning until 1976. From then until his retirement in 1990, he was employed at the Columbia Falls aluminum plant.



Falls aluminum plant.

Tom and Delores have resided in the Flathead Valley from 1976 to the present and also have enjoyed their "snowbird" life in Mesa.

Throughout his years, Tom made great friends and literally thousands of acquaintances, both young and old. Tom never met a stranger, always enjoyed a lively discussion and loved to laugh with others. People always knew Tom was in the room and usually experienced his face-to-face conversations with noses about six inches apart.

## Lloyd 'Wayne' Peeler, 71

Lloyd "Wayne" Peeler passed away Friday, April 1, 2011, surrounded by his loving family in Cheyenne, Wyo., his home for the past year.

Wayne was born in Athens, Tenn., on Oct. 24, 1939, and spent the years of his youth between Tennessee and Los Angeles.

He met Clarice in Los Angeles, and they were married 51 years at his passing.

Wayne, along with his wife Clarice, were managers for Windmill Storage and U-Haul in Columbia Falls for 18 years.

Wayne will be remembered as a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend to all who were lucky enough to know him.

He leaves behind his adoring family, his wife, Clarice, who resides in Cheyenne; a son, Daniel Wayne Peeler of

Florida, and his two sons, Brandon and Brice; daughter, Deborah and her husband, Michael, in Salt Lake City, and their two children, Nate and Kenna; daughter, Lisa and her husband, Steve Whitmire of Cheyenne, and Lisa's two children, Bud and Melissa; son, Lloyd Wayne Peeler Jr., of Cheyenne, and his daughter, Julia Quinn; and daughter, Treecie Pike and her husband, Erik, of Bozeman, and their two daughters, Annicka and Erika. He also had five great-grandchildren.

Services were held on Wednesday, April 6, in Cheyenne.

He will be sadly missed by all knew and loved him.

The family suggests that in lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Wayne's name to Davis Hospice Center, 6000 Sycamore Road, Cheyenne, WY 82009.

## Mary Ellen Peltier, 67

Mary Ellen Peltier, 67, died Feb. 27, 2011, at her home in Columbia Falls, of natural causes.

Survivors include a daughter.

A private family memorial will be planned at a later date.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home.

Attending numerous sporting events throughout the state supporting the youth of Montana year-after-year was one of his favorite pastimes.

Tom is survived by his wife and best friend, Delores, and each of his children who were all educators, starting their careers in Montana. He cherished his grandchildren and was so proud of them. Those grandchildren are Jamie and Chad, Tyler and Sienna, and Scot and Chelsea, who are the children of Starla and Monte Solberg; Conor and Kaitlyn, children of Patty and Scott Daugharty; and Taylor and Kylie Peck, daughters of Thom Peck and Dee Kirk. His great-grandchildren who brought him so much joy are Taylor and Lola Nordhagen, children of

Jamie and Chad Nordhagen, and Emma and Shayla Solberg, children of Scot and Chelsea Solberg.

Although Tom is now silent, his joy of life, caring for others and big personality will be carried on. His warm and loving extended family, of whom he was so proud, is committed to honoring him in the way they live their lives and by keeping lasting memories of Gramps in their hearts.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls. A luncheon will follow at the church.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Wildcat Endowment Association, or the charity of your choice.

Columbia Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

## Walter Vaughn Penrod, 80

Walter Vaughn Penrod, 80, passed away early on Christmas morning 2011, with his loving wife by his side in Kalispell.

He was born on March 23, 1931, in Rummel, Pa., the son of Walter J. and Mildred (Wilson) Penrod.

He graduated from Windbur High School in Pennsylvania in 1949 and moved to Minnesota to work at the Mayo Clinic. He later joined the U.S. Marine Corps and served in Korea for a couple of years.

In 1954, he married his lifelong partner and friend Margaret Betting, and moved to Cleveland, Ohio, where he started his career in banking. The two of them moved to Hanford, Calif., where he worked for Security Pacific Bank as an agricultural banker. In the following years, together they raised five children. After 20 years in Hanford, he retired and moved to Condon.

In 1995, he followed a dream and bought a small ranch in eastern Montana where for 12 years the family enjoyed hunting and being together. He lived his life with great integrity.

When asked to write the most important things to live by, he wrote in his own words: "Be honest in all



things; Love unconditionally; Don't hold grudges — forgive; Freedom from debt; Respect for all life; Learn to value all assets; Never say never; Look for goodness in others; Laugh — be happy; Yesterday is gone — you can't get it back. Go forward; Stay firm in what you believe. God! Above all."

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Penrod; five children, Jeffrey Penrod and wife Rose, Kirk Penrod, Vaughn Penrod and wife Trina, Stacy Reyes and husband Steve, and Cheryl Mayo and husband Louie; his grandchildren, Heather Larson, Meredith Jenkins, Katherine Penrod, Alison Johnson, Jennifer Dalla, William Penrod, Daniel Penrod, Chelaine Penrod, Marti Penrod, Camry Penrod, Michelle Rogers, Steve Reyes, Justin Westmoreland, Maggie Mayo and Emily Mayo; six great-grandchildren; and three siblings, Mary Ellen Meyer, Beverly Taitano and Audrey Palacias.

Memorial services for Walter will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 30, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

The family suggests that memorial contributions be sent to Home Options Hospice, 430 Windward Way Suite 101, Kalispell, MT 59901; or to Faith Lutheran Church, Condon, MT 59826.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Walter's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to view Walter's guest book, offer condolences and share memories.

## Colleen Ruth Olson Pepe, 78

Colleen Ruth Olson Pepe, 78, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 9, 2011, at North Valley Hospital.



Colleen was born at home in Kalispell on July 29, 1932, to Ralph and Velma Olson. She loved to tell how hot the day was, but that her dad put her in a little box in the oven to keep her warm. As an only child, she was the "apple" of her parents' eye and learned the best qualities from each of them.

Colleen attended Evergreen School and Flathead County High School, and kept her teachers "hopping" with her antics and stories.

Colleen loved to bowl, and during a local bowling tournament in January of 1949 she met an equally young bowler who had just moved to Kalispell from Anaconda as an assistant manager of the Woolworth store. She married Tony Pepe on Aug. 4, 1949, and they shared 61 years together. They have three children, Valli, Melanie and Ralph.

Colleen was a homemaker

who combined the usual chores of motherhood in the 1950s with an unusual sense of creativity and adventure. She was a gifted pianist, and not only taught piano for many years, accompanied and directed church choirs, but she also directed community theater events in Evergreen. Her variety shows included sketches from musicals such as "South Pacific," and "Annie Get Your Gun," and TV shows such as "Laugh-In" and "The Adams Family."

She had to learn to cook "Italian," which was not easy for a girl whose name was Olson. Cooking lessons from her mother-in-law were successful, so the family could enjoy a great marinara along with their lefse.

Colleen was also a true tom boy who loved to ride horses, drive tractors, hunt and fish. Hunting and fishing stories could fill more than one book and family times at Ashley Lake which began in the '50s are still going strong today.

Colleen was a longtime member of Calvary Lutheran Church and shared her musical talents there for over 40 years. She always loved working with children and

was involved in her children's, grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's activities throughout the years.

She had a lifelong passion for gardening, and loved to get her hands in the dirt. She handed this love and knowledge to her family. She loved her hummingbirds and all of the wildlife which visited her yard; excluding any deer who ate her tulips.

Colleen was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband, Tony, of Kalispell; her children, Valli and Richard Ostrem of Kalispell, Melanie and Alex Parkhurst of Columbia Falls, and Ralph and Holly Pepe of Boise, Idaho; grandchildren, Megan Pepe and Joel Welle of

Kalispell, Melissa and Shay Evanoff of Kalispell, Lindsay and David Baird of Boise, Chris Ostrem of Kalispell, and Harry Ostrem of Los Angeles; and great-grandchildren, Ward, Walker, Luca, Coleman and Cayden.

Private family services are being held for Colleen.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Colleen's name are suggested to the American Heart Association, 700 South Ave. West, Ste. D, Missoula, MT 59801.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Colleen's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to view Colleen's guest book, offer condolences and share memories.

## Mavis E. Peters, 85

Mavis was born Sept. 25, 1925, in Drain, Ore., to Dr. Stanley C. Peters and Fay Montgomery Peters.



Mavis died Saturday, March 5, 2011, while residing at Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork. Prior to Lakeview Care Center, she lived with her brother, Leland Peters, and his wife, Betty, in Bigfork for five years. Her nephew, Greg Peters, and wife, Reyco, and their son Max live in Phoenix. Her niece, Jill, and husband, Keith, live in San Diego.

Mavis moved to Montana from Jacksonville, Ore., where she lived from age 5 to a few years after high school. After graduation

when World War II broke out, her loyalty to her country persuaded her to join the military. After walking 15 miles to the recruiting office, she was told they didn't recruit women; so she volunteered as a Civil Defense lookout over the West Coast, using binoculars to spot any incoming enemy aircraft.

In 1960, she moved to Tempe, Ariz., to pursue her bachelor's degree in special education from Arizona State University. She taught school in Phoenix for several years, then taught in Riverside and Corona, Calif., until she retired. From there she returned to Jacksonville to care for her aging mother.

Mavis loved all animals, she was an avid stamp collector as well as a coin collector. She also loved the beautiful Montana Rocky Mountains.

## William L. 'Bill' Peters, 78

William L. "Bill" Peters died Tuesday, Aug. 2, 2011, at 8:30 in the evening at Whitefish Care & Rehabilitation Center (the old Colonial Manor Nursing Home) with his wife



at his side. He was 78.

Bill was born Oct. 27, 1932, in Sydney, Australia, the third of four children born to George and Leah (Reid) Peters, including his sister, June, and older brother, John, and later his younger brother, Ronald. His earliest years were spent in the Blue Mountains where his father built first a log cabin and later a wood-frame home for the growing family.

While still a youngster, Bill and the family left Australia from the north by ship with England as their destination to visit Bill's paternal grandfather. They traveled to India, then through the Suez Canal, across the Mediterranean Sea, through the Strait of Gibraltar and across the Channel to England. It was here that Bill started school. After a year or so in England, the winds of war began to brew, and his father decided the family had better head for home. So they crossed the Atlantic to the United States, traveled down the East Coast, through the Panama Canal, and up the West Coast. War was definitely imminent, and so the family settled in Southern California to wait it out.

After the war ended they finally crossed the Pacific, arriving safely back home in Australia. This would be the first of many trips back and forth between Australia and Southern California for Bill through his teenage years.

At 16, Bill gave up on formal schooling since it had been so disrupted throughout his formative years. At 18, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps, serving honorably for 22 months in Korea (1950-1952).

In 1952, his mother suffered a massive stroke, and doctors did not think she would survive. Bill was

plucked from the front lines in Korea and flown home to be at her side with his family. She lived, but his father died of a heart attack in 1956.

Bill wanted to see America, especially the places his Korea buddies had talked about, and so he set out hopping freights, visiting every state except the New England area. He was a wanderer, drifting for several years — and fell in love with Montana! Returning to California, he had a brief marriage that ended in divorce after only six months.

It was then he discovered logging, which allowed him to be outdoors in his beloved forests and mountains. He was fortunate to find an excellent mentor in the Klamath Falls area of Oregon, and he logged throughout Northern California, Oregon and Washington up to and including the Mount Baker area for almost 20 years, working mainly as a faller and a buckler.

He also returned to school, earning his GED and studying accounting for a year at the community college in Tacoma, Wash. He earned A's and B's — but it was like trying to keep a lion caged!

He met his second wife, Jerolyn Ann Nentl, at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church in Tacoma working on a volunteer project. They were married July 14, 1979, by Bill Bischel, S.J., beneath the apple tree at what would become their home for 15 years in Tacoma. Their deepest regret was not being able to have children.

Bill's dream, as was Jerolyn's, was to return to Montana — and they did in 1994, settling in Lakeside. They became members of St. Ann Catholic Church in Somers, and then Blessed John Paul II Catholic Church in Bigfork.

Bill's life was filled with sickness and sadness. In addition to PTSD, he suffered from shrapnel in his back and concussions. He suffered a stroke in June 1980. Then, while camping at Lakeushman in the Olympics, he had chest pains. The volunteer ambulance folks from Shelton revived him with paddles three times from a cardiac arrest. He spent a week at the Shelton Hospital and then

was transferred to St. Joseph Hospital in Tacoma, where he had six vessel coronary artery bypass graft surgery on their eighth wedding anniversary.

In 1996 he suffered a second devastating stroke, hospitalized at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, that left him with weakness and confusion and a phenomenon called "alien hand syndrome" that made it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to coordinate his hand movements and accomplish any tasks. He battled with depression, but his deep faith in God sustained him, as did his basic happy spirit and sense of humor.

His greatest joy was being outdoors, camping and hiking. He loved mornings! He loved to cook. He loved animals, especially his dogs, with his last dog, Rafiki, dying just four days before him.

People who met Bill often thought him hard and harsh. What they didn't realize was that he was hardest on himself! He was a very kind and gentle man, a deeply nurturing person. He was loyal and honest.

His willpower and self-discipline were awe inspiring! Once he made up his mind nothing stopped him. After his heart surgery he decided it was time to quit some of his bad habits — and he did, stopping smoking (two packs a day Camels regular for 39 years) and giving up alcohol (even his beloved Foster's beer). He started his own exercise program, started reading nutrition labels and changed many of his cooking methods.

He was a quick but very good judge of character, and if he was wrong he was the first to admit it and make amends. He was a hard worker, not quitting until the job was done. He was "old-fashioned": his word was as good as gold, with a firm handshake to seal a deal!

He volunteered at St. Leo Church and Martin Luther King Ecumenical Center in Tacoma and with the "Lakeside Senior Lunch Bunch" AoA congregate meal program.

In spite of all the sickness and sadness, Bill was basically a happy man. He loved to sing and what he called "happy music" that allowed

him to clap along. After the Korea experience, he hated war, its waste of people, land and resources. He wanted peace not just among nations but for each of us inside, within families and among friends, in our churches and schools. He wanted peace inside for himself, and he wrestled with this to his dying days: "Help me, help me" being his mantra, his prayer to Jesus.

Bill was a "rough diamond" — a truly fine one.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; and his brother, Ronnie.

He is survived by his wife, Jerolyn, of Lakeside; his sister, June, of San Rafael, Calif.; his brother, John, of Southern California and Australia; and six nieces and nephews, all of California.

Mass of Christian Burial for Bill will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, at Blessed John Paul II Catholic Church (north of Bigfork at Coverdell Road), preceded by recitation of the rosary at 9:25 a.m. Following the service there will be a luncheon hosted by the women of the church CCW, downstairs in Brady Hall, in celebration of Bill's life. (There is an elevator.)

No flowers, please! Instead, please plant a tree and watch it grow or a flowering shrub and watch it blossom, pat your dog or adopt/foster one from the animal shelter, visit a senior citizen who is lonely or help them out with a project they need done, or visit regularly those who must live out their last days at a nursing home. Any of these would please Bill very much.

Monetary donations, if you desire, may be made in Bill's memory to the Flathead County Animal Shelter, 225 Cemetery Road, Kalispell, MT 59901; Agency on Aging Nutrition Program, 160 Kelly Road, Kalispell, MT 59901; Food for the Poor, 6401 Lyons Road, P.O. Box 979004, Coconut Creek, FL 33097-9004; or the Religious Education Fund at Blessed John Paul II Church, P.O. Box 277, Bigfork, MT 59911.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for Bill's family and friends. You may go to [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to extend your condolences.



## Donald E. Peterson Sr., 80

Donald E. Peterson Sr., 80, of Columbia Falls, died Tuesday, May 3, 2011, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy L. (Stewart) Peterson; and his chil-

dren, Dona Darro, Donald E. Peterson Jr., Nona Mitchell and Tim Peterson.

Services will be private. Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

## Lisa Marie Petersen, 41

Lisa Marie Petersen, 41, passed away in Kalispell on Oct. 14, 2011, after a courageous two-year battle with oral cancer.



Lisa was born June 16, 1970, in Kalispell.

She graduated from Flathead High School and went on to complete her bachelor's degree in social work at the University of Montana in Missoula. She then moved to the Seattle area and worked in the mental health field. She returned to Montana to complete her master's degree at the University of Montana. She then returned to Kalispell and worked for Western Montana Mental Health as a therapist, a much-loved job.

Lisa was known for her up-front honesty and opinions, extreme love of water, hunting, fishing and her cats.

She was a loyal daughter, sister and friend to those around her, often hosting backyard barbecues.

She was preceded in death by her much-adored brother, Dustin, in 2004.

Lisa is survived by her parents, Donald and Agnes Petersen; close friends, Terry Sharp and Tom Minshall; best friend, Shawna Price; and close-knit buddies from the "Cow."

Lisa lived life to the fullest, as best she could, in spite of her illness. She was also an eye donor and spoke at two organ donor ceremonies in honor of her brother.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the WINGS Foundation, to whom we will be forever grateful, for helping us with out-of-town travel expenses for her many surgeries.

A celebration of life service for Lisa will be held at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 18, at the Church of the Nazarene in Kalispell.

Friends are encouraged to visit [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave notes of condolence and support for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Leslie LeRoy Peterson, 86

Leslie LeRoy Peterson, 86, formerly of Columbia Falls, died Jan. 9, 2011, at his residence in Sublimity, Ore.

He had worked in the saw mills and aluminum plant.

Survivors include his

wife, Alice; and three daughters, Jan Wickstrom, Kathy Hurley and Suzi Simonsen.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 15, at Capital Baptist Church in Salem, Ore.

## Rosella Mildred Peterson, 82

Rosella Mildred Peterson, 82, passed away June 22, 2011, at Whitefish Care and Rehabilitation Center in Whitefish.

She was born April 21, 1929, in Dooley to Herman and Hilda Heppner.

Rosella moved to Kalispell in 1939, where she attended schools in both Kalispell and Whitefish.

On Feb. 19, 1945, she married Fred Hamilton of Polson. Together they had three sons, Terry, Jerry and Fred Jr.

Fred Sr., passed away in 1991. Rosella then married Jimmie Peterson in 1993, and he passed away in 2007.

Rosella was a licensed practical nurse and she worked in various hospitals. She retired in 1989. She was also a member of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW, where she was the president from 1995 to 1996.

Rosella was preceded in

death by her father, Herman, in 1975; her mother, Hilda, in 2002; and her brother, Gary, in 2004.

She is survived by her sons, Terry and Diane Hamilton, Jerry and Deborah Hamilton, and Fred and Brenda Hamilton; two brothers, Vern and Caroline Heppner, and Ron and Karen Heppner; one sister, Joyce Gneiting; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

A visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. on June 27, with a memorial service to follow at 11 a.m., at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. A lunch will take place immediately after the service at the Whitefish VFW.

You are invited to go to [www.austinfh.com](http://www.austinfh.com) to offer condolences and view Rosella's tribute wall.

Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

## Audrey Harras Pettee, 93

Audrey Harras Pettee, 93, died Friday, Jan. 21, 2011, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

She is survived by her son, Steve Pettee, of

Kalispell.

No services will be held. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Hildur Ann Olson Pettis, 95

Hildur Ann Olson Pettis, 95, passed away on Sept. 19, 2011, at Immanuel Lutheran Home, with her son Jim at her side.



Anna Hildur Olson, who later changed her name to Hildur Ann Olson, was born to Helga Braaten Olson and Ole Olson on the farm in McGregor, N.D., on March 6, 1916, the second of four children. Oscar, Algot and Clara were her siblings and all are deceased. She grew up on the farm where her parents from Norway and Sweden homesteaded.

Hildur's children all were able to spend time on the farm as kids, enjoying the place where their mom grew up, viewing it as an adventure since the farm had no electricity or running water. Hildur attended the Merrifield country school and graduated from Wildrose High School in North Dakota in 1933.

After high school, Hildur worked as a waitress at the Crystal Cafe in Crosby, N.D., earning \$25 a month, then moved to Williston, N.D., to work at Ludowe's Coffee Shop while she took a business course at Steinmitz Business School.

After completing her business course in 1936, she worked in the office of the Coca Cola Bottling Company where she met Elmer Pettis. She and Elmer were married on Dec. 3, 1938, and lived in Williston until 1960. It was in Williston where their children Ron, Jim, Rick, Michael and Debby were born. Off to Whitefish they went where Elmer was employed by the Railway Express Agency.

In 1972, Hildur and Elmer moved to Missoula where they lived for over 30 years. During that time her grandsons Brandon, Aaron and Ben were able to spend lots of time with Grandma and Grandpa. They still fondly remember Grandma's apple pie.

They were snowbirds in

Mesa, Ariz., for a few years, enjoying the warm sunshine in the middle of winter. Church always played an important part in Hildur's life, having been a member of Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish and St. Paul Lutheran Church in Missoula. She spent many hours reading the Bible and studying it.

Family was always also very important to Hildur and she delighted in spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It made her happy to share her homemade apple pie, cinnamon rolls and cookies with anyone who stopped by.

Toward the last years of her life, she lived with her son, Ron, who made sure she was lovingly cared for. When she needed more care she moved to Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. As a testimony to the importance of family that she taught her kids, her son Jim, spent time every day with her in those last years, and her son Ron made a twice weekly trip to Kalispell to see her.

The family wishes to extend a special thanks to Immanuel Lutheran Home for the care they showed Hildur.

She was preceded in death by her husband of almost 60 years, Elmer Roy Pettis, on Feb. 2, 1999; and her son, Michael Wayne, on April 10, 1951.

She is survived by her children, Ron and Mary of Missoula, and children, Anna and Phil; Jim and Cathy of Whitefish, and children, Kim, John, Marcey and Rod; Rick of Bemidji, Minn., and children Kari and Kristen; and Debby Pettis Vande Ven of Missoula, and children, Brandon, Aaron and Ben; and their extended families.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Immanuel Lutheran Home, Kalispell, MT 59901.

A memorial service will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish. Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 23, at Sunset Memorial Cemetery, Missoula.

## Emily Jo Pfrimmer, 87

Emily Jo Pfrimmer died of a stroke early Saturday, April 23, 2011, "her spirit soaring like an eagle from North Valley Hospital." She was 87.



Born Oct. 25, 1923, in Fort Benton, Emily Jo was the youngest and only girl of five children born to Oscar and Fanny Heim. The family moved and homesteaded in the Goosebill west of Fort Benton.

When Emily Jo was in grade school, her family relocated to Havre and then to Bigfork. She graduated from Bigfork High School in 1942. A year later, on April 12, 1943, Emily Jo married Jack Pfrimmer in Kalispell.

The couple initially lived in California as Jack had reenlisted in the Navy to help the war effort. Following the war, he resumed his career with the FAA, which gave the family the opportunity to live in Washington, Montana, Oregon, Idaho, New Mexico, Texas and Louisiana.

Emily Jo was a consum-

mate homemaker and seamstress as she raised their four children Bob, Nancy, Becky and Oscar David. Oscar David died at age 2 in 1963.

Jack and Emily Jo retired to Whitefish in 1971. In retirement, she became a champion bowler. She also enjoyed shopping and driving her little car.

Emily Jo was active in the Women of the Moose, rising to become a senior regent of the Whitefish chapter. She and Jack were also active in the local chapter of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

She is survived by her husband of 68 years, Jack; brother, Fred Heim, of Happy Valley; son, Robert Pfrimmer, and his wife, Faith, of Baton Rouge, La.; daughter, Becky Pfrimmer, of Spokane; and daughter, Nancy, and her husband, Robert Travale, of Walnut Creek, Calif.

A memorial service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Thursday at the Austin Funeral Chapel in Whitefish followed by interment at Glacier Memorial Gardens. A memorial reception will follow at 4:30 p.m. at the Moose Lodge in Whitefish.

## William E. 'Bill' Phillips, 83

William E. "Bill" Phillips, 83, of Pablo, and formerly of Perma, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2011,



surrounded by family and friends at his home. Bill was the son of William Louis "Shorty" and Pearl Phillips of Sloan. As he grew up, Bill became the horse whisperer of ranching. He farmed, ranched, logged, packed and hunted. Bill loved training horses, fishing, running hounds, and helping family and friends when they needed him.

He also worked for the U.S. Forest Service shoeing and gilding horses and mules at Ninemile and Perma Remount Depots, and various others. He also worked for San Francisco Ranch and Pack River until his retirement.

Bill was preceded in death

by his parents, Shorty and Pearl Phillips.

Survivors include his loving wife of 65 years, Mevis E. Phillips; a sister, Louise Proctor, and her two children and four grandchildren; two daughters, Billy Arlene and Wayne "Buzz" Learn and their three children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, and Betty Jane Adams and her six children and numerous grandchildren; and a son, Douglas Edward, and Margarita Phillips, and their two children and two grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 17, at the Valley View Clubhouse. Dinner will follow the services and everyone is invited to share their favorite story of Bill.

Messages of condolence may be sent to the family online at [www.groganfuneralhome.com](http://www.groganfuneralhome.com). The staff of Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory, Polson, considers it a privilege to care for Bill's family.

## William Jay Phillips, 81

William Jay Phillips, 81, passed away peacefully on Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011, surrounded by loving family.

Jay was born May 28, 1930, to Roscoe and Karna Phillips in Gooding, Idaho. He began his schooling in the Gooding area before the family relocated to American Falls, Idaho. Jay attended the old Fairview Elementary School and graduated from American Falls High School in 1949.

Shortly after graduating, Jay enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served during the Korean conflict. After returning home from the service in January 1953, Jay met the love of his life, Betty Belville. They were married on July 25, 1953, in Pocatello, Idaho. The couple had seven children, but lost three of them to early deaths. They resided in several places in the Springfield/Pingree area early in their marriage.

Jay worked various jobs in these early years, doing everything from delivering milk and coal to working in a bakery in Blackfoot. As their children got older and ready to begin school, Jay moved the family back to his beloved American Falls where he had always hoped to raise his family. Jay worked at Lamb Weston for a few years before going to work for FMC in Pocatello, where he would work for 25-plus years until he retired.

Jay was a member of the VFW and was actively involved in the American Legion which was very special to him. He was a longtime life member and served in all the local offices up to commander, then was elected district commander, and finally state commander of Idaho in the late '70s. He was very proud of his country and fellow veterans and always wanted to help in any way he could. He worked with the local law enforcement agencies to start the



fingerprinting program at the local grade schools, and assisted with getting the Life Flight program up and going in the Pocatello area. Both projects were very dear to him.

When Jay wasn't volunteering or serving his fellow veterans he loved to fish! His favorite trip was to Seward, Alaska, where he caught a 180-pound halibut. He also enjoyed hunting, snowmobiling, riding his motorcycle, and spending time with his children and their families. Jay loved his family and never missed an opportunity to drop in on an unexpected family member. He looked forward to his family reunions when he could reminisce with his brothers and sisters. Jay never met a stranger and always had a joke to tell you.

Jay was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, LeRoy, Dean, Earl and Glenn; a baby sister; his daughter, Beverly, and his infant sons, Jay Lynn and David Wayne Phillips.

Jay is survived by his wife, Betty, of 58 years, at the family home in American Falls; his children, LeRoy and Tamie Phillips of American Falls, Roger Phillips of Anthem, Ariz., Pam and Robert Mazza of Pocatello, Idaho, and Dorothy and Robert Glencross of Kalispell; and sister Maxine McCune, brother Merlin Phillips, and sister Darlene Grimm, of Blackfoot. He is also survived locally by grandchildren, Errin and Christopher Glencross, and Whitney and Gabe Spencer; and great-grandchildren, Errin Jr., Ayden and Drake Glencross, and Romy Spencer, all of Kalispell.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 19, at the Aberdeen Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Chapel, with Bishop Keith Phillips and Pastor Dean Lifshay officiating. Interment will follow the services at the Aberdeen Cemetery, with veterans honors by the Aberdeen American Legion Post. A reception will follow at the LDS Chapel. Visitation will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18, at Davis-Rose Mortuary in American Falls.

## Patricia Ann Phillips, 75

Patricia Ann Phillips, 75, died Friday, Nov. 18, 2011, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Arrangements are pending with Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Mike Pichette, 66

Mike Pichette died Sept. 24, 2011, in Helena, after a brief illness.

He was born to Betty and Charles Pichette on Sept. 13, 1945, in Great Falls and worked as the director of government relations for North-Western Energy. He is survived by a family who loved him, Alicia; daughters, Anne and Claire; son-in-law, John Dendy, brother, David; and sister-in-law, Toni Cross. He was preceded in death by

his parents, and his daughter Blythe.

There will be a celebration of Mike's life at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 29, at Jorgenson's.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mike Pichette Key Club Service Scholarship Fund, c/o Valley Bank of Helena, P.O. Box 5269, Helena, MT 59604.

Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.aswfuneralhome.com](http://www.aswfuneralhome.com).

## Robert M. Piorek, 90

Robert M. Piorek, 90, formerly of Kalispell, died Friday, Sept. 16, 2011, at his daughter's

home in Darby.

Brothers Mortuary and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Ruth Louise Piper, 79

Ruth was born to Abe and Thelma Stemmene in Bonners Ferry, Idaho, Feb. 11, 1932. She attended school there and graduated in 1950.

In September 1950 she married Howard Piper, and they made their home in Columbia Falls.

Ruth was a stay-at-home mom most of her life, but later in life enjoyed working for Glacier Bank as a receptionist, where her exceptional people skills kept her busy and the clients happy, as she rarely forgot a name, birthday or any other occasion that was important to the many people she encountered during her tenure there.

She was the consummate hostess wherever she went and always made sure people were recognized and comfortable if at all possible.

She had unflinching faith in her Lord and through 17 years of total paralysis of her left side, never doubted that someday she would "get well" and return home to take care of her all-important family. Never once in all those years

did she say, "Why me?" or "Poor me." She was truly an inspiration in suffering her challenges without complaint.

She entered into a well-earned rest on May 4, 2011, and her family rejoices that her suffering is finally at an end.

Ruth is survived by her children, Patricia Piper Ramseth and husband, Peter, Pamela Piper Smith and husband, David, and John Piper and wife, Tina; a brother, Bernard Stemmene, of Boise, Idaho; her grandchildren, Jennifer Wulf, Rich and Teri Smith, Ryan Smith, Katelynn Piper, and Michael and Shelby Piper; one great-grandson, Colt Michael Piper; and Howard Piper.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorials in Ruth's name to Immanuel Lutheran Home.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 14, at Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline Ave., Kalispell.

Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

## Jeffrey William Poe

A memorial service for Jeffrey William Poe, 39, who died Nov. 23, will be at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19, at

Calvary Lutheran Church, 2200 U.S. 2 E., in Kalispell. A reception will immediately follow at the church.

## Audrey Arleen Poehling, 87

Audrey Arleen Poehling, 87, died Nov. 23, 2011, in Whitefish.

She is survived by two sons, Michael and Robert

Poehling; and one daughter, Lisa Marshall.

Services are pending. Arrangements are entrusted to Austin Funeral Home.

## Donald C. 'Don' Pollack, 84

Donald C. "Don" Pollack, 84, of Polson, formerly of Craig, passed away on Friday, Oct. 28, 2011, at the Polson Health and Rehabilitation Center. Don succumbed to the complications from Alzheimer's.

Don was born in Helena on March 19, 1927, the son of Craig residents, Charles and Myrtle Pollack. He attended local schools, and after graduation from high school Don began operation of the Pollack Ranch.

Don married the love of his life, Meredith Bergene, on June 18, 1949, and they shared their lives together for more than 62 years of marriage. He and Meredith successfully ranched at Craig until their retirement in 1986.

Don was a past master of Meridian Lodge No. 110, the



Helena Scottish Rite, the Algeria Shrine, and a member of the United Methodist Church of Polson. Don served many years as a

board member for the Craig School and Helena High School.

He was an avid reader of novels, newspapers and news magazines. He respected intelligence and knowledge and always stayed abreast on current events.

Some of Don's interests were golf — a game he and Meredith shared with many wonderful friends — hunting for arrowheads, anxiously awaiting spring when the

hummingbirds returned, putting around in the yard and tinkering at his work bench. Don loved the ocean, spending summers in southern California where he and Meredith walked the beaches, and enjoyed gorgeous sunsets.

He is survived by his wife, Meredith; daughters, Debbie and Mick Barnhill of Indio, Calif., and Shelly and Jeff Johnson of Greer, S.C.; a grandson, Ruben Johnson, and a granddaughter, Kristi Babnick, of Trinidad, Colo.; two great-grandchildren, Madison and Nate Babnick; brother-in-law, Jim Bergene, of Ashland, Ore.; and sister-in-law, Sandy and Jerry Yanz, of Arvada, Colo. Nieces and nephews who will miss Don include Betty Griffing, Charles "Buzz" Sand, Karen Sand, David "Butch" Sand, Jill Bergene and James T. Bergene.

Don was preceded in death by his son, Jim; his parents; and two sisters, Virginia Sand and Charlotte Featherly.

Don achieved success by living well, laughing often and loving his devoted family. He left the world better than he found it.

Memorials may be sent to the Spokane Shriner's Hospital for Children, 911 W. Fifth Ave., Spokane, WA 99201; or to a charity of donor's choice.

A memorial service for Don is pending, and the interment of his cremains will take place at Craig Cemetery at a later date.

Messages of condolence may be sent to the family online at [www.groganfuneralhome.com](http://www.groganfuneralhome.com). The staff of Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory Polson, considers it a privilege to care for Don's family.

## Nina Ellen Pomeroy-Hames, 89

Nina Ellen Pomeroy-Hames, 89, of Sandpoint, Idaho, died Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at her home.



Memorial services will be conducted 11 a.m. on Monday, April 11, at Coffelt Funeral Service, with her son, Pastor Jon Pomeroy of the Sandpoint Church of God officiating. Private family inurnment will follow in Pinecrest Memorial Park.

Nina was born Feb. 16, 1922, in Graft, Baca County, Colo., the daughter of Ray and Dora Kendall Campbell. She moved to Las Animas and then to Canon City, Colo., in 1934. She graduated from high school in 1941 and attended Gordon Bible College for five years.

She also taught one year at the school and served as matron of the women's dorm for two years. While there, she met Warren Pomeroy and they were married on Christmas day 1946. On March 5, 1947, they moved to Eureka, where Warren pastored for 20 years. They later moved to Kalispell where they lived for five years while Warren received further schooling. They moved to Sandpoint on Dec. 15, 1972, and Nina served as a wait-

ress for a time, and later worked as a dietary aide at Sandpoint Manor for 23 years.

Following Warren's death, Nina married Frederick Hames on Nov. 11, 1999, and he preceded her in death in 2001.

Nina was a lifelong devoted Christian and served alongside her husband as he pastored in Eureka and Sandpoint for 45 years.

She is survived by one daughter, Elaine, and Bob May, of Bozeman; two sons, Charles W. Pomeroy of Portland, and Jon and Cathy Pomeroy of Sandpoint; seven grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and one sister, Naomi J. Bechtel, of Roseville, Calif.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husbands, Warren Pomeroy and Frederick Hames; one son, Edward Pomeroy; one granddaughter, Lisa; two brothers, Larry and L. Burton; and two sisters, Adella and Emma.

The family suggests memorials to the Sandpoint Church of God, 221 S. Division, Sandpoint, ID 83864.

Family and friends are invited to sign Nina's online guest book at [www.coffeltfuneral.com](http://www.coffeltfuneral.com).

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of Coffelt Funeral Service.

## Eva W. Porter, 92

Eva W. Porter, 92, died Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2011, at Heritage Place in Kalispell.

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

## Thelma Mae Potter, 93

Thelma Mae Potter, 93, passed away in the early morning hours on Feb. 21, 2011, guided by the wonderful care and loving attention given by the Immanuel Lutheran Home and Hospice.



She was born in the little town of Scales Mound, Ill., on April 3, 1917, to Jack and Mae Winters, where she spent her childhood until the age of 18, when she married Charlie Potter. Shortly after their union, they moved to Butte, where Charles attended the School of Mining in Butte, after which he was employed by the Anaconda Company until his retirement. Thelma was blessed to be able to remain at home while raising their children, Mary and Jack.

After their children were older, Thelma enjoyed doing volunteer work for both the hospital and the local library. Thelma loved to sew and did meticulous hand embroidery projects.

Both Thelma and Charlie loved to entertain both family and friends with good food and card games. They were a tough team to beat while playing Pan or Hearts, and you had to be pretty hard-core to get the best of them. Many, many good times and laughs were had around the Potter dinner table during these times.

For 50 years, Charlie was a member of the Masonic Temple and Thelma was a member of the Eastern Star. They enjoyed many functions with these organizations and were adamant supporters of Shodair Crippled Children's Hospital in Helena.

When Charlie retired in 1974, he and Thelma moved to their residence on Swan Lake where they attended Swan Chapel. After church every Sunday the family would go to Grandma and Grandpa's house where she

would prepare a wonderful meal. Her pot roast and potatoes were a family favorite and Grandma was always in her element while in the kitchen lovingly preparing a feast for her family. Many wonderful years were spent at the lake house with fond memories of the bonfires, fishing, swimming, skiing and sleepovers. In their later years, they left the lake and bought a home on Swan River. Thelma loved her "river house" and enjoyed entertaining friends and family there as well. In 1996 Thelma and Charlie moved into Kalispell, where they lived until Charlie passed in 2000, after which Thelma enjoyed living at Buffalo Hill Terrace, where she met many new friends and acquaintances.

Thelma was preceded in death by Charlie in 2000.

She is survived by a son, John "Jack" Potter, and his wife, Sheri, of Crawfordville, Fla.; a daughter, Mary Elizabeth Okken, and her husband, Walter, of Lakeside; five grandchildren, Kathy Wright and husband Perry of Lakeside, Carol Galarita and husband Mike of Seattle, Curtiss Potter with the Coast Guard overseas, Nancy Kitonidis and husband Jammi of Ashburn, Va., and Ellen Miller of Seattle; one great-grandson, Jonathan Parkman, of Kalispell; and one great-great-grandson, Ryker Parkman, also of Kalispell.

"Thelma, Mom, Grandma, friend ... you are loved by so many and we will continually miss you until we meet together again."

Cremation has taken place and a private ceremony will take place at a later date.

Donations may be given to Hospice of Kalispell, or Shodair Crippled Children's Hospital, 2755 Colonial Dr., P.O. Box 5539, Helena, MT 59604.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Thelma's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and view Thelma's tribute wall.

## Douglas Everett Potts, 86

Douglas Everett Potts, 86, "went to be with the Lord" on April 11, 2011, at Heritage Place, with his family by his side.



Doug was born on Oct. 12, 1924, in Glasgow, to Stanley and Lula (Putnam) Potts.

The family moved to the Bigfork area in 1936 and he was raised on the family farm. Doug attended Swan River School and graduated from Bigfork High School in 1942.

On Sept. 3, 1947, Doug married Dorothy Butterfield from Bigfork. A few years afterward, Doug had a passion to milk cows. Besides milking his own cows, he started a milk route, picking up and delivering milk to the milk plant from local dairy farms. He eventually expanded into bottling his own milk and delivered to stores and schools. Local neighbors would come to the "Potts Farm" and pick up their milk.

In the late '60s, Doug sold the dairy farm and wanted a new adventure, and in 1973 moved to Alberta where he farmed and ranched for 30 to 35 years, and owned and operated Sunrise Gulf Service Station in the mix for 15 years, before retiring.

They did seem to sneak away for a few trips like Mexico, Las Vegas, Hawaii and a month in Alaska. They

returned to the Bigfork area in June of 2008.

Doug was preceded in death by his parents, Stanley and Lula Potts; son-in-law, Brian Cislo; grandson, Dusty Drown; and granddaughter, Amanda Drown.

Doug is survived by his wife of 63 years, Dorothy, at their Bigfork home; seven children, Dixie Rich and husband Jerry, Les Potts and wife Joyce, Clyde Potts and wife Barb, Lyle Potts and wife Nan, Denise Belt and husband Kipp, and Lesa Cislo and Kevin Sears, all of Bigfork, and Dale Potts and wife Margaret of Alberta; one brother, Harry, and wife, Marianna, of Bigfork; and two sisters, Julia Wise and Dorcas Loudon of Kalispell; 15 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday, April 18, at the Little Brown Church, officiated by the Rev. Ron Pierce, with burial to follow services at Lonepine Cemetery. There will be a reception immediately following the graveside service at the Swan River Hall.

The family requests any donations to be made in memory of Douglas Potts to a charity of their choice; or Bethel Chapel, 165 Williams Lane, Bigfork, MT 59911; or to the Swan River Hall.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Doug's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to offer condolences and view Doug's tribute wall.

## Margaret Rachel Powell, 85

Margaret Rachel Powell, 85, passed away on Monday, Sept. 5, 2011, at home in Bigfork.



She was born in Cushing, Okla., on Aug. 25, 1926, to Charles and Lilly Alice (Doing) Simmons, and was raised in both Oklahoma and Kansas. Marge worked on the farm with her siblings while her father worked the oil pipelines.

She moved to California in 1952 and soon met and married a young Navy man, Tom Powell. Together they built a home in Gardena, Calif., and raised two children, Debbie and Tommy. Marge devoted her life to raising her children.

After a move to Kennewick, Wash., in 1979, the couple moved to Bigfork in 1985.

Marge was a devoted member of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Marge is survived by her husband Tom R. Powell, son Tom D. Powell and wife Susan, and daughter Debra Cannon and husband Steve, all of Bigfork. She is also survived by grandchildren, Brooke Cannon of Kennewick, and Christopher Cannon of Kalispell.

A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. today, Sept. 9, at Lone Pine Cemetery, Bigfork, with Pastor Ron Pierce officiating.

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

## Shannon John 'Sam' Profitt, 42

Shannon John "Sam" Profitt, 42, formerly of Libby and Kalispell, died Monday, Feb. 7, 2011, in Wichita Falls, Texas, due to pulmonary fibrosis.

He had worked at Stampede Packing in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife, "Dee" Dorinda, his parents, Carol and Don Raade, all of Wichita Falls; daughters, Melissa and Christina Profitt of

Kalispell, and Tiffany Webb of Wichita Falls; and son, Steven Tyler Webb, of Wichita Falls.

Military graveside services will be held at 10 a.m. today, Feb. 17, at Fort Sill National Cemetery in Elgin, Okla.

Cremation services are under the direction of Falls Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Wichita Falls.

## Vivian Collins Pluid, 89

Vivian Collins Pluid, 89, died Aug. 24, 2011.

Survivors include her children, Ivan Collins of Browning, Ray Collins and John Pluid, both of Kalispell, and Ben Pluid of Eureka.

Graveside services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at Tobacco Valley Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka.

## Helen A. Pluid, 84

Helen A. Pluid, a Eureka resident since June 1945, when she married Harrell Pluid, Sr., passed on June 17, 2011, to be with her husband and loved ones.

Together, Helen and Harrell raised their 10 children.

She was born to Cecilia and Jack McLaughlin on Nov. 11, 1926, in Glacier National Park. Helen was not only a full-time wife and mother, she always welcomed family, friends and strangers to the kitchen table for a cup of coffee and her most delicious homemade bread.

Helen worked side by side with Harrell on the ranch, in addition to working many seasons in the Christmas tree yard. Helen chauffeured the Amish for many years creating lasting friendships. Helen worked at Ksanka Inn from 1983 to 1991. Helen's greatest joy was her family.

She was preceded in death by husband Harrell W. Pluid Sr.; daughter Janice Lee; parents Cecilia and Jack; sisters and brothers, Edith, Virginia, Jas. Bud, Babe and Jack;

and a great-granddaughter, Christy Lynn.

Helen is survived by her children, Charles and Bev Pluid of Belgrade; Harriett and Ray Fournier of Twin Bridges; Carol and John Ziegler of Douglas, Wyo.; Mike Pluid of Anchor Point, Alaska; Audrey and Marvin Rickman of Billings; Frank and Cindy Pluid of Anchorage, Alaska; Jack and Sue Pluid of Eureka; Percy and Carol Pluid of Kalispell; Roberta and Mike Skranak of Eureka; and Grace Jensen of Wasilla, Alaska; and two brothers, Bill McLaughlin and Buster McLaughlin, both of Cut Bank.

She is also survived by 24 grandchildren, 33 great grandchildren and a large number of "adopted" children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, 2011, at the Baptist Church. Visitation will be at the Schnackenberg and Nelson Funeral Home in Eureka, from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday.

## Dale L. Prangley, 77

Dale L. Prangley, 77 years young, loving husband, father, brother and grandfather, passed away Jan. 6, 2011, in Kalispell.

Dale was a compassionate lover of life and an extraordinary human being. He served in the U.S. Navy in the Korean War and served as a police officer for five years.

He will be greatly missed and forever loved.

Dale is survived by his loving wife, Verda, of 53 years; brother, Jerry; and sisters, Goldeen, Norma, Shirley

and Donna; five boys, Gary, Terry, Robert, Richard and Scott; nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

"We will miss you deeply."

A celebration of life service for Dale will be held at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 12, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Military honors will be provided also.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website, [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com), to leave notes of condolences for the family.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Nellie Ekholt Pritchett, 89

Nellie Ekholt Pritchett passed away on Feb. 9, 2011, at the Crest Nursing Home in Butte.

She was born to immigrant parents on July 12, 1921, in a farmhouse on the Montana prairie in Dunkirk, just east of Shelby. Her father immigrated from Norway and her mother from Sweden. She and her five siblings spoke Norwegian and learned English when they started school. There were two other brothers who died in infancy.

She attended grade school in Devon until her father passed away, and then she moved with her mother to Shelby.

Her mom had to "farm" the children out to survive the difficult times. Mom went to Lakeside to live and did washing, ironing and cleaning in order to go to high school. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1938.

She became a familiar person on the train from Whitefish to Shelby, and frequently got to ride in the engine of the Empire Builder with the engineer for those trips home to see the family.

In the summer of 1940, she met Fredrick Pritchett in Glacier National Park while picking huckleberries. They were married the following February.

They lived in Shelby, Chinoak and Lewistown where Fred managed the Safeway stores. Then in 1949 they moved their family of now



four children to Ross Fork, north of Lewistown, and began ranching. In 1957 they moved back to Lewistown where they became owners of the Montana Lockers and later started Snowy Mountain Meats.

In 1963, they retired do to medical conditions and lived for a short time in Arizona before moving to the Kalispell area, where they lived until 1995, when Fred passed away. Shortly after, Nellie moved to East Glacier to live with her daughter.

Nellie was a hardworking farm wife and mother of four, and later became employed by the JCPenney Company in Lewistown. She and Fred volunteered for RSVP for several years after moving to Kalispell. She loved sewing, knitting and crocheting and cooking, and loved being with her family.

She is survived by her four children, Tom Pritchett of Helena, Joy Manning of Billings, and Faye and Gaye Pritchett of Butte. She has four grandchildren, Beth and Adam of Billings, Julia of St. Paul, Minn., and Bryan of Los Angeles. She has eight great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandbabies.

She was preceded in death by her seven siblings; her parents; and her beloved husband, and life partner, Fred.

Cremation has taken place and private family services will be conducted. A larger service will be conducted next summer in Glacier National Park. Memorials may be made to Highlands Hospice.

## Charles Arthur Purdy, 85

Charles Arthur Purdy, 85, died on Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2011, at Mountain View Manor in Eureka.

He was born on March 4, 1926, to Comet M. and Allis E. (Winkley) in Eureka. He attended schools in Eureka until age 16, when he went to work in the woods on his father's ranch.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy on March 3, 1944, taking his basic training in Farragut, Idaho. He served aboard the destroyer USS Cowell in the Asiatic Pacific Area for the next 23 months. He was honorably discharged on May 7, 1946.

He was united in marriage on June 8, 1946, to Vivian Frost. They became parents to five children. He continued to work in the timber industry, acquiring his first saw mill in 1952. In 1965 when the Forest Service was

phasing out saw mills in the woods, he became a logging contractor until his retirement in 1990.

His love of fishing and hunting was nearly equal to love of family and friends. He enjoyed birdwatching and wildlife.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Keith; brothers, Larry, Robert and Duane; a sister, Sally Ripley; a son-in-law, Alan Truman; and a daughter-in-law Gloria Sue Purdy.

Survivors include his wife, Vivian Purdy, of Eureka; son, Gary; daughters, Janet and husband Ben, Cheryl and husband Darrell, and Debbie Truman; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services were held Aug. 13 at the Baptist Church in Eureka.

## Julie Grace Pulver-Norman, 51

Julie Grace Pulver-Norman, 51, passed away April 20, 2011, in Twin Bridges.



She was born on April 10, 1960.

She wasn't "the courageous battle with cancer type" ... she was that "stubborn, ornery, must have the last word, and is always right" type. In fact, as I write this, I am sure that this is her way of ending the fight we had almost a year ago.

The truth is that she loved and fought, laughed and cried, won and lost. She laughed until she cried, and more than once cried until she laughed. She wasn't afraid to get dirty, to do the work, but she cleaned up pretty nice too.

She believed in happy endings, that everything happens for a reason, and that there is good in everyone, and she helped anyone she could.

She considered herself a nomad, and that included Troy, Whitefish, Billings, Noxon, and finally Twin Bridges. She attended high school in Whitefish, raised her children in Troy and Noxon, but ultimately ended up making Twin Bridges her home. She just couldn't get enough of Montana, any part of it.

She was a jack-of-all-trades and did everything from waiting tables and cooking in Troy at The Boondocks, to tending a gas station in Noxon at Aitken's Quik Stop. But she finally found her calling working with the elderly in Sheridan at The Tobacco Root Mountain Care Center.

She enjoyed life in every way that she could — she gardened, bowled, loved being outdoors and she collected frogs of any kind. She loved animals, people, and

had perfected the art of arguing almost completely. She loved food, she loved farming on Farmville, and she loved her family. Mostly, she loved being sarcastic and keeping everyone on their toes with her witty humor.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Jacqueline Thomen; her uncle, Dick Hoover; her aunt, Joyce Brown; her uncle, U.J. Demaree; her close friend, Sylvester Seidensticker; and many, many, other friends "that are showing her the ropes as you read this."

She is survived by her father, Clifford Pulver, and Janette Pulver; and her children, Clifford Daniel Lawrence "Danny" Huff and wife Candi Gibson, as well as her daughter, Courtney Elaine Leighty; her brothers and sisters, Mike and Connie Nesvacil, Clint Pulver, Art and Sherie Jennings, Louie and Nancy Jennings, and Colleen and David Reed; her niece and nephew, Jaymi Hardman and Cody Jennings; her stepchildren, Shane Huff, Daniele Huff, Michelle Huff, Johnna Thompson, Charlie Norman and Robbie Norman; her grandchildren, Hunter Leighty, JayLee Leighty, Jayden Leighty, Krisign Huff and Wesley Guinard; and her stepgrandchildren, J.D. Cross, Wesley Cross, Ashley Huff, Jesamin Huff, Shawn Huff and De'Uondre Parker.

Julie is also survived by her best friend, partner in crime and fiance, Mark Pederson, and his children, Jessica and Jack Pederson. She is also survived by her many friends, who are just too many to list, but they all know who they are.

Services for Julie are going to be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 26, at The Church of the Valley in Twin Bridges, and will be officiated by Ben Nardi. All are invited to join her family in a celebration of life.

## Brien Edward Pyles, 49

Brien Edward Pyles, 49, of Martin City, passed away on Monday, Aug. 29, 2011, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.



Brien was born on Sept. 20, 1961, in Kalispell, the son of Thomas and Bernadine (Snyder) Pyles. He graduated from Flathead High School in 1980 and went on to study at Job Corps.

Brien considered himself the "Canyon Counselor" and enjoyed being of help to anyone in need. This he enjoyed and was most proud. Brien was a lifetime member of the South Fork Saloon Patrons Association and enjoyed fishing, hunting and socializing.

Brien was preceded in death by his mother, Bernadine; and nephew, Steven

Trumble.

He is survived by his daughter, Stephanie Pyles, of Kalispell; father, Thomas Pyles, and "stepmomster," Sandi Pyles, both of Martin City; sisters, Linda Trumble of Covington, Wash., Susan Jones of Helena, and Audrey Snyder of Conrad; brothers, Thomas Pyles Jr., of Millersville, Md., and Russ Pyles of Columbia Falls; stepbrothers, Anthony Lufkin and Ryan Gikiere, both of Kalispell; stepsister, Jennifer Gikiere, of Martin City; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Brien's life and potluck will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 3, at South Fork Saloon, Main Street, Martin City.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Brien's family. You are invited to go to [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to view Brien's Tribute Wall and offer condolences.