

Vasco Reynaldo Bachini, 99

Vasco Reynaldo Bachini, 99, of Havre, died of natural causes Thursday, Aug. 9, 2012, at Northern Montana Care Center.



Cremation has taken place, and a private family memorial service will be held at a later date.

The family has requested that, in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to the charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.hollandbonine.com. Holland & Bonine Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements.

Vasco was born June 22, 1913, the second child of Florindo and Julia (Ferra) Bachini, and was raised in Havre. Vasco married Albertina Guerra on Jan. 4, 1933, and their union was blessed with their son Bob. Albertina and baby Mary Louise died July 17, 1938.

Vasco met Anastasia "Anne" Rehbein while she was attending Northern Montana College. They married July 15, 1941, and welcomed son Dick and daughter Teri. Vasco and Anne were married for 69 years before her passing in 2011.

Vasco worked as a boilermaker/welder for the Great Northern railroad, a projectionist at the Havre Theater and drive-in, an electrician for Havre Electric, an electrician and electrical inspector for the city of Havre, and became a state electrical inspector. He retired in 1978.

While working for the railroad, he invented the

boiler flue tip for steam locomotives, which saved the railroad millions of dollars. He was also instrumental in the development of lower Beaver Creek Lake.

Some of Vasco's many hobbies were fishing, hunting, gardening and photography. He liked to develop and print his own pictures and those of family and friends. He grew the most delicious tomatoes! We would ask if he really needed 100 tomato plants and he would reply, "I have to have enough to give away." He loved cars and bought his last new car at the age of 97.

Vasco told very funny stories from his own experiences and many of them had a moral ... like, "Never get a badger drunk," and "Never pee on a hot-wired radiator." We girls will miss his blowing kisses and little pecks on the cheek.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Florindo and Julia Bachini; his second wife, Anastasia; his first wife, Albertina; his baby daughter, Mary Louise Bachini; his brother, Oscar, and sister-in-law, Elia Bachini; his nephews, John and Frank Bachini; and his nieces, Marian Bachini, Rosie D'Hooge, Mary Guza and Irene Hanning.

Vasco is survived by his sons, Bob and Shirley Bachini of Helena, and Dick Bachini of Havre; his daughter, Teri, and Sam Bussey, of Kalispell; his grandchildren, Linda and Rob Crofts of Helena, and Trina and Pat Stivers and Sam Bussey III, all of Kalispell; nine great-grandchildren; and several great-nieces and nephews.

Marjory Roberta (Bowers) Bacon, 88

"God called Mother home" on Nov. 23, 2012, while being comforted by her son, John, and the staff at Parkview Acres in Dillon.

She was born on July 15, 1924, in Dore, N.D., to Robert and Lillian Bowers. She was one of nine children.

She married Norris G. Bacon on Jan. 27, 1947. Norris and Marjory went on to have four children, living first in Nohly, Mont., and then settling in Martin City in 1964, and finally moving to Dillon to be closer to family. They were married for 54 years before Norris "was taken to Heaven."

Mom was well known for her piano playing and accompanying the love of her life, fiddler Norris Bacon. She never liked to be on center stage, but was always there to enhance the music of other musicians. She and Norris passed on their love and talent of music onto their children. Holiday meals at the Bacon house were always followed by Mom going to her piano after the dishes were done. She would start to play and the rest of the family would pick up their instruments and join her as if we were being summoned by some unspoken command.

Mom was a member of the VFW auxiliary, Montana Old Time Fiddlers Association, and played music with Norris at the Senior Citizens and various other organizations. She enjoyed quilting and embroidering pillow cases, dish towels and doilies for her family. She especially enjoyed spending time with her family. She never forgot a birthday or anniversary of any family member.



We could always count on getting a card from Mom.

She was preceded in death by her

parents, Robert and Lillian Bowers; husband, Norris; daughter, Bonnie Marjory; brothers, Thomas and Patrick; and sisters, Jenny Dahl and Alice Melby.

She is survived by her children, John and Carolyn Bacon of Dillon, Nancy and Ben Ayres of Martin, S.D., and Joan Bacon of Dillon; grandchildren, Hannah Ayres of Boise, Idaho, Franklin and Libbe Gilbert of Lake Havasu City, Ariz., Justin Ayres of Martin, Joshua Bacon and fiancée Katie of Alder, Bonnie and Gabriel Ortiz of Dillon, and Amelia and Nate Bergum of Billings; great-grandchildren, Jacoby Hayes of Boise, Aiden and Kayla Bergum of Billings, and Briana Savattere of Lake Havasu City; brother, Robert Bowers; sisters, Patricia Hibbard, Marvel Rider and Kathleen LaCounte; and numerous nieces and nephews.

"If every child could have a Mom like ours the world would be a much better place. She and Dad are making music for Jesus now."

A memorial was held at Parkview Acres Care & Rehab Center on Saturday, Dec. 1. A community memorial will be held on Dec. 29 at Brundage Funeral Home. A celebration of Mom's life will be held in Sidney in the spring of 2013.

Arrangements are being made by Brundage Funeral Home, Dillon.

Thomas A. Baggs, 62

Thomas A. Baggs, 62, died in Kalispell Thursday, Nov. 29, 2012.

He is survived by his wife,

Norma, and 10 children.

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

Donald Floyd Baker, 79

Donald "Grandpa Don" Baker passed away peacefully Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.



Don was born June 13, 1932, in Rochester N.Y., to Marguerite and Stacey Baker. Don was raised in Pittsford, N.Y., where he grew up on a dairy farm owned and operated by his parents.

Through his life he continued work on the family dairy where he studied diesel engineering. As a certified diesel mechanic with Cummins Diesel, he worked in California for many years before moving to the Flathead Valley. During the logging boom he worked as a diesel mechanic. As things slowed, he found work at a local hardware store. He then moved to Estes Park, Colo., where he helped out with his daughter Susan and John's business, Miles Motel & Cottages. After a few years he moved back to the Flathead Valley to be with his precious grandchildren.

"Grandpa Don" enjoyed many years with the grandchildren woodworking, paint-

ing, candle making, drawing, fishing, and feeding the squirrels and the ducks at Woodland Park.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Stacey and Marguerite Baker; his sister, Shirley Baker Storto; and nephews, Daniel Storto and Richard E. Storto.

He is survived by his former wife, Betty L. Baker Johnson; daughter, Susan J. (Baker) Baptista, and husband, John, of Loveland, Colo.; stepdaughter, Rina Baker-Castro, and husband, Louie, of Kalispell; stepson, Ryan Baker, of Kalispell; and nephew, Ronald Storto, his wife, two daughters, and several distant cousins. He is also survived by his "pride and joy in his life" grandchildren, Christian Baker of Beaverton, Ore., and Tanner Raina, Luis, Bryan, Dylan and Hailey, all of Kalispell.

Cremation has taken place at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

A celebration of his life will be held at 1 p.m. this Saturday, Jan. 21, at Faith Baptist Church, 108 West Reserve, Kalispell. All are welcome to come and celebrate the life of "Grandpa Don."

In lieu of flowers, any and all donations can be made to the Flathead Valley Food Bank.



Victor I. Baker, 94

Victor I. Baker passed away peacefully "into the arms of his Savior" on Aug. 21, 2012.

The son of Louis and Emma Barchenger Baker, Victor was born in Cass Lake, Minn., on July 13, 1918. He was baptized on Aug. 4, 1918, and confirmed in his Christian faith on June 19, 1932. Victor came with his family of nine children to Libby in 1919, and spent his childhood and attended schools there.

One of the first draftees from Libby, he was inducted into the U.S. Army on Aug. 22, 1941. Victor was deployed to the European theater with the First Allied Airborne Division and was honorably discharged on Oct. 5, 1945.

It was while stationed in Epernay, France, that he met his wife, Madelaine. They were married on June 20, 1947, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Libby. Shortly thereafter, they established their home in Kalispell in the house that Vic built. They resided there until moving to Buffalo Hill Terrace in December 2007. In August 2011, they moved to Oklahoma City to live with their daughter and son-in-law.

Victor devoted most of his working career as manager of the Kalispell divisional office of the Montana Department of Transportation. He retired in June of 1980 after 34 years of service.

Using his skill as a carpenter, Vic constructed numerous toys, games and furniture which provided endless hours of pleasure and many wonderful memories for his children and grandchildren. His beautifully kept flower garden was admired by many passers-by.

He and Madelaine enjoyed traveling throughout the U.S. and even the world. Numerous visits to France to interact with Madelaine's family were especially meaningful. Spending portions of winters in Hawaii for many years provided welcome warmth and sunshine.

Victor was a faithful and active member of Trinity Lutheran Church where he served on the church council and various boards. He also served as the church archivist for many years.

Preceding him in death were his son, Eugene; his parents, his brothers, Sylvester, Walter, Clarence, Louis, Burton and Perce; and his sister, Leah Clough.

Victor is survived by his wife of 65 years, Madelaine, of Oklahoma City; his brother, Benjamin, of Libby; his daughter, Annick Berkoben, and husband, Wayne, of Oklahoma City; his daughter-in-law, Missy Baker, of Breckenridge, Colo.; his grandchildren, Emily Baker of Denver, John and Kimi Baker of Boulder, Colo., and Juliette Newcomb and husband Brent of Stillwater, Okla.; and numerous nephews and nieces.

A memorial service celebrating Victor's life will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Kalispell.

Memorials may be given to Buffalo Hill Terrace Worship Ministry, 40 Claremont Street, Kalispell, MT 59901; or to Trinity Lutheran Church, 400 West California Street, Kalispell, MT 59901

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

Kristy Dritshulas Bakker, 45

Kristy Dritshulas Bakker, 45, died in Kalispell Wednesday, June 27, 2012.

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

Charles L. Baker Jr., 65

Charles L. Baker Jr., 65, passed away on Tuesday, June 26, 2012, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Charles was born Feb. 19, 1947, to

Charles and Evelyn (Van Denbroek) Baker in St. Louis. He was raised in Milwaukee, Wis.

He joined the military as a Spec E-4 and served his country from 1966 to 1969, and spent from 1967 to 1968 in Vietnam. Charles was very active in the VA community support.



He loved hunting, fishing and racing.

Charles was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Evelyn; his son, Poncho Baker; sister, Patricia Schroth; and brother, Thomas Baker.

Charles is survived by his daughters, Michelle Baker and Mary Baker; son, Robert "Bobby" Baker; sister, Betty Baker; and brothers, Robert Baker and Michael Baker.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 30, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, with military honors following the service in the parking lot.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family. To send condolences to the family, please go to www.buffalo-hillfh.com.

Kristy Dritshulas Bakker, 45

Kristy Dritshulas Bakker, 45, lost her battle with breast cancer and "quietly slipped into God's loving arms" on Wednesday, June 27, 2012. She was surrounded by her loving family, who tenderly saw her through her journey.



Kristy grew up in Havre and attended Havre High School, where she graduated as the valedictorian of her class.

She moved to Helena and attended Carroll College.

Kristy was a devoted mother and wife, whose greatest love was her family. She adored her husband and children.

Kristy had an exceptional gift of teaching and caring for young children, and at one time ran a preschool out of her home. She was graceful, beautiful and touched everyone she met with her kindness and gentle nature.

Kristy married Joseph "Jody" Bakker on July 7, 1990, in Havre. Later, the Bakkers moved to the Flathead Valley. They

made their home in Bigfork, where they raised their three children, Tia Nicole Bakker, 20, who lives in Whitefish and works as a conductor for BNSF Railway, Joseph Wiley Dritshulas Bakker, 16, a junior at Bigfork High School, and William Lavin Bakker, 15, a sophomore at Bigfork High School.

Kristy is also survived by her father, William Dritshulas of Havre; her mother, Loretta Gallentine of Havre; brothers, Clint Estell of Havre, and Abraham Estell of Gillette, Wyo.; sisters, Cindy Luke of Denver, and Teri Rae Horinek of Hingham; her uncle, Ron Koleman of Havre; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 21 at Swan Lake in Bigfork. There will be signs to follow and the family wishes for everyone to bring their children with them.

"The family also wishes for all female friends and others to take themselves to the doctor and get a mammogram. This would be an honor for the family."

Justin Tyler Bailey, 21

Justin Tyler Bailey, 21, died Saturday, April 7, 2012, at his home in Many Lakes.

Memorial services are

pending.

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

Marilyn Ann Bailey, 69

Marilyn Ann Bailey (more commonly known as "Honey") "arrived in the arms of Jesus" after a sudden and swift



surrender to cancer, on May 26, 2012. All of her sons and daughters, her nephew, and her ever-giving friend, were peacefully by her bedside.

She was born June 10, 1942, in southern California.

Honey lost her love of 35 years to an unyielding battle with leukemia only 14 months ago. This loss was a heavy burden on her heart and she eagerly accepted "God bringing her home."

Marilyn's adorable, vivacious soul loved her family and all of her many friends. She was a "hoot!" and had an amazing heart. No one ever felt they had just met her, because she immediately valued everyone she met, as her precious friend for life.

Marilyn and Carl Bailey were married in California, blending their two families — his children Brittany Elizabeth and Robert Alan, and her children Gregory Alan and Nancy Jane. They spent 12 years in Missoula where they owned the Snow King Drive-In and raised their children.

The last year of Marilyn's life was split between her beautiful home in Kalispell, and her "dollhouse" in Parker, Ariz. She became known for her infectious laugh, contagious smile, incredibly funny sense of humor,

and the unending love she had for life. She loved Jesus with all her heart. His love extended through her, to accept everyone, regardless of how they believed. She will be missed by all, but she was special enough to leave a very dear part of herself with each and every one who has ever known her.

Marilyn is survived by the family whom she cherished, her children, Gregory Roper and Stephanie Cussick in Sona, Ariz., Corey and Nancy Wagner in Kalispell, Nicholas and Brittany Strouse in Westport, Conn., and Robert Bailey and Jessica Fiedler in Missoula; grandchildren, Tess and Sage, Israel and Navah, Amanda and Dakota, Brett and Shauna, Zackery, and Leanna; and great-granddaughters, Mallory, Reegan, Kyndle and Layla Bug. And we cannot leave out Marilyn's "youngest son," her "Little Monster" Max, who did nothing to earn that name!

She is also survived by her mother, Mary "GG" Riddle; her brothers, Don, and Richard and his wife Nancy; brother-in-law, Charles, and his wife, Judy; nieces and nephews, Scott and Parlene, Kim and Chip, Doug and Karen, Dave and Linda, and Karen and Mike; and all their families.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her husband Carl, and her father Howard Riddle.

A celebration of Marilyn's Life will take place at 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 7, at Easthaven Baptist Church on Whitefish Stage Road in Kalispell.

Susan A. Ballard, 97

Susan A. Ballard, 97, died on July 1, 2012, at the home of her son in Columbia Falls.

She is survived by three sons: Locke, Don and Jim

Ballard.

No services are planned. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Susan's family.

Michael A 'Oso' Ban, 81

Michael A "Oso" Ban, 81, passed away on June 14, 2012, surrounded by his family at his home in Martin City.



Mike was born Aug. 7, 1930, in Duluth, Minn., the son of John and Katica (Sekulic) Ban.

Mike's family moved to Mullan, Idaho when he was 15, where he finished school and started his career in mining. Being a MNSHA inspector and mining took Mike many places in the United States. He also supervised mining for six years in Peru and Argentina.

In 1994, Mike married the love of his life, Molly Foley.

Upon retirement, Mike and Molly moved to Montana and created a life between Baja, Mexico and their new residence in Martin City.

Mike's world revolved around his family and he was happiest when surrounded by family sharing his knowledge and experiences. He enjoyed dancing, hunting and fishing.

He will be missed by

his family; wife, Molly; son, Michael L. Ban and Ramona, of Hayden, Idaho; daughter, Lavonne Raeann Vendetti and David, of Chiselm, Minn.; daughter, Dianne K. Ban of Chiselm; son, Anthony S. Ban and Gabrielle, of Ocean View, Del.; daughter, Luvy Ban Mori and Robert, of Lima, Peru; son, Larry Milner and Theresa, of Thompson Falls; daughter, Willy Bloom and Dan, of Thompson Falls; and son, Patrick Milner and Stacy, of Thompson Falls. Multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren will miss their Grandpa. He will be missed by friends all around the world.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and two sisters.

Upon Mike's request there will be no services. A celebration of life will be announced at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to Hospice or the Veterans Administration.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

You are invited to go to www.columbiamortuary.com to offer condolences and view Mike's tribute wall.

Hazel D. Balazic, 92

Hazel D. Balazic, 92, passed away on Oct. 7, 2012, at Health Center Northwest in Kalispell.



Hazel was born Feb. 21, 1920. She was one of nine children born to Wallace and Ivy Turner in Fern, Ark.

In 1941, at the urging of an aunt and uncle, she ventured off to California. In 1943, she attended a dance party with soldiers in full uniform and spotted Frank T. Balazic from across the room; and it was love at first sight. She told her friend who she was with at the time that she was going to marry him, and that is exactly what she did. After courting for eight months, Frank and Hazel were wed in Las Vegas in 1944.

The couple resided briefly in Pasadena, Calif., where she was employed at Lockheed, working on communication wiring on bomber planes for the war effort. After World War II, Frank and Hazel settled on a farm/ranch in the Big Sandy area to raise their children.

While in Big Sandy, one of Hazel's favorite things to do was to participate on the local bowling team. She was also an excellent cook and shared her talents at the local senior citizens center and hospital. She valued and treasured the friendships formed while living in Eastern Montana.

In 1984, Frank and Hazel retired and moved to Bigfork. In her retirement years, she spent time tending to her bountiful gardens — including many varieties of roses and vegetables.

She was a devout Catholic and enjoyed attending service at St. Margaret Mary's in Big Sandy and at St. Catherine's in Big-

fork.

She loved bird watching, and had a special fondness for red cardinals. Her favorite fragrant flower was the magnolia from the Ozarks.

While her roots were in Arkansas, her heart was in Montana, as she often wore a sweatshirt stating, "I wasn't born in Montana, but I got here as fast as I could."

Above all, Hazel was a kind, gentle and loving person who enjoyed spending time with her family.

She is survived by her four children, Timothy W. Balazic and girlfriend Misty Wilson of Kalispell, Daniel F. Balazic and wife Pam of Bothell, Wash., Linda L. Balazic of Kalispell, and Robert K. Balazic of Bigfork; grandchildren, Debi L. Dahlstrom and husband Mike of Wauna, Wash., Todd D. Balazic of Austin, Texas, and Anna Mahlen and husband Jason of Kalispell; and great-grandchildren, Savannah and Madison Mahlen of Kalispell, and Nolan Walter of Wauna.

She was preceded in death in 2000 by her loving husband of 56 years, Frank T. Balazic.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at noon, Thursday, Oct. 11, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Kalispell, with Father Roderick Ermatinger as celebrant. Hazel's final resting place will be next to Frank, at the Lone Pine Cemetery in Bigfork. A rosary vigil service will be held at 7 p.m. today, Oct. 10, at the Johnson-Gloschat Chapel.

The family suggests in lieu of flowers that you practice a random act of kindness with Hazel in mind.

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home & Crematory in Kalispell.

Jessie M. Ball, 91

Jessie M. Ball, 91, of Columbia Falls, died Feb. 9, 2012, at North Valley Hospital.

Jessie is survived by her children, Charles Ball of Salt Lake City, Frank Ball of Roseville,

Calif., Robert Ball of Yuba City, Calif., and Susan Bartkoski of Columbia Falls.

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

Antoinette V. Barba, 92

Antoinette V. Barba, 92, died Monday, Sept. 17, 2012, at St. Joseph Medical Center.

She is survived by her sons, Peter and Andrew Barba.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sun-

day, Sept. 23, at Grogan Funeral Home and Crematory, Polson. A funeral service will follow at 2 p.m. Sunday at Grogan Funeral Home with John Payne officiating. She will be interred in Matawan, N.J.

Ruth Allred Barber, 88

Ruth Barber, 88, of Ronan, died at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula Jan. 12, 2013, following surgery for a broken hip.

She is survived by her sons, James R. "Rod" Eddington of Bigfork, Gregory L. McGuire of St. Ignatius, and Max R.

McGuire of West Linn, Ore.

At her request, graveside services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19, at the Ronan Cemetery.

Shrider-Thompson Funeral Service is caring for the family.

Wilbert Bert Baldwin, 90

Wilbert Bert Baldwin, 90, formerly of Kalispell, died Sept. 10, 2012, in Batavia, N.Y.

He is survived by his

wife, Inez; one daughter and two sons.

A military funeral has already been held in Batavia.

Patricia Gail von Barger 91

Patricia Gail von Barger, 91

Patricia Gail von Barger, 91, passed away June 19, 2012, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.



Patti was born to Charles Alphonse Beaudet and Laura Amanda Miller on Sept. 30, 1920, in Grand Rapids, Minn. After three years of college in Minnesota, in 1941 Patti earned her Registered Medical Record Librarian Certificate in Chicago. She then studied sociology at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, while working at the Queen of Angels Hospital and Plxweve Aircraft Company.

Patti wanted to marry and live on a farm, so in 1944, while visiting San Francisco, she advertised for employment in the Cattleman's Newspaper. She was hired as secretary-bookkeeper for the Humphrey Estates Ranch in Pescadero, just south along the coast. While there, Patti met Clyde von Barger, and on March 3, 1945, they were married in nearby Santa Cruz, Calif.

She and Clyde moved to Palo Alto in the Bay Area where, during the years 1947 to 1959, their four children were born: Larry, Eric, Philip and Cynthia. In 1961, the family relocated to Santa Cruz where Patti worked in records management at University of California, Santa Cruz, and volunteered as a Girl Scout leader.

After her 1973 graduation from UCSC with honors in sociology, Patti became research director for the Private Revitalization of Downtown (PROD) Santa Cruz. She was principal writer of a PROD publication that HUD distributed to 300 U.S. cities.

Patti and Clyde loved the outdoors, taking the family camping across the West. Numerous family backpacking trips were undertaken after Patti's first such venture to Mount Whitney with her eldest son.

In 1974 Patti and Clyde

retired to Kalispell where Patti continued her work in community development as first project coordinator for the Kalispell Redevelopment Corp., co-writing the Flathead County Overall Economic Development Plan. In 1979, she became a fellow in the Kellogg Extension Education Project, which sought to increase understanding of public problems and policies, and was also among directors of the Montana Leadership Development Program.

Patti became an ambassador for Friendship Force International and traveled with Clyde as representatives of the organization to Korea and Russia.

They built a home on the shore of Flathead Lake near Rollins and Dayton. Patti was appointed to the Lake County sign ordinance committee served on the Lake County Park board and the Upper West Shore School District school board, and was part of the tutoring program at Dayton Elementary School.

After Clyde's passing in 2005, Patti enjoyed playing bridge with friends in Kalispell and Polson and was a member of the Rollins Women's Club. She enjoyed golf, scoring a hole-in-one the day after her 84th birthday.

She was preceded in death by her parents; siblings, Bernice, Richard, David and Raymond; her husband, Clyde; and son, Eric.

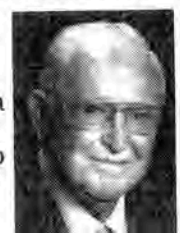
She is survived by two sons, Larry and his wife Sally, and Philip and his wife Amelia; and her daughter, Cynthia; grandchildren, Gretel, Daniel, Colleen and Meaghan; and great-grandchild, Carrick.

Her family fondly remembers her adventurous ways, strong work ethic, terrific sense of humor and commitment to family values. Her advice to all was simple and profound: "Each day is special — cherish each one."

Private graveside services were held June 22 at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell, where Patti was laid to rest next to Clyde.

Samuel Wells Barger, 94

Samuel Wells Barger, 94, of Columbia Falls, who longed to go to heaven to be with the Lord and rejoin a wide array of family members, finished his earthly journey Sunday, Oct. 14, 2012, with his daughters at his bedside.



Throughout his working years, Samuel was known as a highly successful salesman who loved his work, but even more he loved the Lord and his family; he also loved providing service to Assembly of God churches, colleges and missions, as well as the communities where he lived.

Samuel was born Sept. 17, 1918, in Howard, S.D., to Samuel Wells and Harriett Barger. The family would move to Colorado Springs, Colo., so his father could battle asthma, but later returned to South Dakota, settling in Sioux Falls.

It was there that he met his future wife, Verona Hyatt; they married Aug. 6, 1939, in Billings.

It was while working in Billings that Samuel was called to serve in the U.S. Army during World War II; he was in the Pacific when the war ended and he returned to Billings.

Samuel began a long career with Kraft Foods in Billings, winning renowned awards for opening up Yellowstone Park stores to Kraft products.

His work then took him to Green Bay, Wis., until he returned to Montana as division manager in Butte. The division later was moved to Billings. After turning down a number of possible assignments in cities such as San Francisco, he was transferred to Omaha, Neb. After retiring, they returned to Billings.

His service to churches

had started as a teenager when he and a sister toured as musical evangelists. After settling in Billings, he started working with Sunday schools and serving on church boards. Later he developed a seminar for board members and toured Montana churches. He also was Montana director for the Assemblies of God Men's Fellowship and was named to the boards of directors at what is now Northwest University at Kirkland, Wash., and Trinity Bible College at Ellendale, N.D. Later, he and his wife served the Assemblies of God's International Correspondence Institute in Brussels, Belgium.

Before moving to Columbia Falls, they lived in Hungry Horse and Yuma, Ariz.

His civic service included serving as president of Billings Rotary Club in 1968-69; and as a director of these Billing organizations — St. Vincent Hospital, the Billings Chamber of Commerce, the United Fund, the Salvation Army and the Rescue Mission.

Samuel was preceded in death by his parents; Verona, his wife of 72 years, who died last November; and all four of his siblings, Genevieve, Winnifred, Wilma and John.

He is survived by four daughters, Valaura and David Steele of Lacey, Wash., Orlynda and Bob Goodman of Columbia Falls, LaDonna and Rod Richardson of Terrebonne, Ore., and Sonja Barger of Beaverton, Ore. eight grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He was a member of Whitefish Assembly of God Church.

Private services will be held for the family.

Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary. You are invite to go www.columbiamortuary.com to offer condolences and view Samuel's tribute wall.

James Carl Barker, 86

James Carl Barker passed away Aug. 27, 2012, with his family by his side in Columbia Falls.



Carl was born May 21, 1926, in Springdale, Ark., to



George and Rose Barker.

He joined the United States Navy during World War II and served as a water tender, 3rd Class on the USS Casablanca, USS Allegan and USS Bennington. He received three medals, the American Theater, Asiatic-Pacific and the Victory Medal. He was discharged May 18, 1946.

Carl was a farmer and a blacksmith in California until 1962. He went to work as a boiler operator for Tri-Valley Growers in Modesto, Calif., until he retired in 1988.

He loved to coach Pee Wee, Little League and Pony League baseball. Carl was also a volunteer fire commissioner for the city of Keyes, Calif.

After his retirement, Carl and his wife, Lorraine, moved to Columbia Falls. It was here he spent his years looking out at the mountains in front of his home, which he claimed to be his own.

Carl also was a fisherman and a hunter. He loved being with his grandchildren and helping them with their first deer hunts. He was very proud to have his "Big Deer Story" published in Texas Trophy Hunters

magazine, April 2006.

Carl devoted much of his time to gardening. He loved sharing his crops with family, friends, neighbors and even a few strangers.

He was "The Weather Reporter" to the family. He loved giving the daily forecast. He always made sure to tell loved ones if snow or frost was on the way so they could plan travel or protect their gardens. He always had a "pumpkin patch" for his grandchildren and the neighborhood kids.

Carl read the Mountain Trader like a novel and went to Gardner Auction almost every week. If you needed anything, he could tell you where to find it. He was a great storyteller and always had something interesting to share.

Carl is survived by his wife of 63 years, Lorraine Barker; his children, Barbara Mitchell of Reeds, Mo., Carl Barker of Whitefish, Jim Barker of Oroville, Wash., Joyce Dye of Kalispell, and Laura Postma of Gooding, Idaho. Carl had 14 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Betty Cleave, and two grandsons.

Carl rests at Woodlawn Cemetery, Columbia Falls.

The family would like to thank all those who had a part in making Carl's life, as he would say, "Super Deluxe, and any!"

You will be greatly missed!

Condolences may be sent to 104 Greenbriar Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Ben A. Barkley, 61

Ben A. Barkley, 61, passed away on Thursday, May 31, 2012, at his home in Kalispell.



Ben was born on June 28, 1950, in Kalispell to Robert and Doris (Fredenberg) Barkley.



He attended schools in the Flathead Valley, graduating from Flathead High School in 1968.

Ben was raised in the West Valley.

He enlisted in the National Guard in 1969.

He married Judy Amdahl on Jan. 2, 1987, in Coeur D'Alene, Idaho.

Ben worked at Plum Creek Plywood in Columbia Falls for many years. He enjoyed riding four-wheelers with his wife and friends, watching the "Griz" games on Saturdays, camping and tinkering in the garage. Sun-

days were set aside for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Ben was preceded in death by his parents, Bob and Doris Barkley.

He is survived by his children, Rod and wife Libertie, William and wife Kate, Ryan and wife Alicia, and Nicholas; siblings, James and wife Donna Barkley, Sherry and husband Larry McIlhargey, and Donna and husband John Scheider; grandchildren, Ashton, Cady, Abby and Evan Barkley; brother-in-law, Dennis and wife Jean Amdahl; brother-in-law, Gary and wife Deb Amdahl; mother-in-law, Verla Amdahl; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of his life will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 6, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

The family request donations in Ben's name be given to the Wounded Warrior Project.

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

Jerrold Vernon Barnes, 82

Jerrold Vernon Barnes, 82, a lifetime Whitefish resident, passed away on Nov. 18, 2012.



He was born in Whitefish on March 5, 1930, to Lee and Hazel Barnes.

Starting as a young man through his entire working life, he was up at or before sunrise, and most days he worked until sunset.

During World War II he took a farm deferment to help keep the family dairy going. He spent his entire life on the family farm west of Whitefish. Besides the dairy, he ran a herd of cattle and when the boys were old enough to be in 4-H, he raised pigs with them for college money. He always had a garden. He spent his entire working life in the dairy business working in the Whitefish Creamery, then having delivery routes for Glacier Gold and Equity Supply.

He graduated from Whitefish High School in 1948. He was guard for the 1947 Division Champion football team. After graduation he became a faithful Bulldog fan. A friend said he probably saw more sporting events for Whitefish than any other fan. At one out of town basketball game he was the only Whitefish fan in the bleachers. He has received the Bulldog Recognition plaque. He followed his son's sports events and then his granddaughter's volleyball games. Even with no family playing he was a regular in the bleachers.

He played baseball on the Whitefish traveling team for many years. His favorite sport was bowling and he received many trophies. He won the televised K.C.F.W. TV Bowling Tournament in 1975. His name was placed

in the Whitefish Bowling Hall of Fame in 2000. He was also an avid hunter and fisherman. His family was never without deer and elk meat in the freezer. As a child he would take his fishing pole and ride his horse to Walker Creek. He spent many evenings in his boat on Beaver Lake.

He was the "last man standing" of his coffee group, "The Worn Out Wolves." He was a member of the Presbyterian Church in Whitefish. Upon retirement he finally had time to join the Masonic Lodge and Order of the Eastern Star. He was Worthy Patron for Vista Chapter seven times, amazing all with his memorized, letter-perfect lectures. He was a member of the Loyal Order of Moose.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Marlene; their sons and wives, Frank and Naomi of Whitefish, Forrest and Phary of Albany, Ore., and Warren and Cari of Midland, Texas; and six grandchildren, Lianna, Jay, Breanna, Evan, Brittany and Bethany. His family includes four sisters and his brother, Frances Hatler and companion John Anudrus, Mary Lee McCutcheon and husband Bob, Carol Larson and husband Jerry, Sharon Stone, and Lyle Barnes and wife June, also sister-in-law Jean Duncan and husband Ken; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Because four of the grandchildren are now attending college, the memorial service will not be held until July 6, 2013. His memorial choices are the Whitefish Community Library, which provided him hours of reading the large print books, or the North Valley Food Bank.

You are invited to go to www.austinfh.com to offer condolences, share memories and view Jerrold's tribute wall.

John 'Jack' Barnes, 70

John "Jack" Barnes, 70, died Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010, at the Hi-Line Retirement Center of Malta of natural causes.



Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 5, at St. Charles Catholic Church in Whitefish. A luncheon will follow at the Strom Hall. A private inurnment will take place at a later time. Kirkwood Funeral Home of Malta is in charge of local arrangements.

In place of flowers, the family requested memorials to the Kalispell Salvation Army, or the charity of choice. Condolences for the family may be left at www.kirkwoodfuneralhome.com.

Jack was born in Kalispell on Nov. 11, 1939, to Ray and Irene (McCauley) Barnes. Jack had lived his life on the family farm east of Whitefish. He worked with his parents on the farm until 1967,

when he went to work at C & C Plywood; he continued there until hurting his back.

While he was disabled, he spent much of his time with the Flathead County Sheriff's Posse. He served as their major for several years. He later went to work at the sheriff's office as a dispatcher, and then a detention officer. Jack worked there until becoming permanently disabled in 1969. He spent his last two years being cared for by the loving staff at the Hi-Line Retirement Center in Malta.

Jack is survived by his wife, Florence; son, Chuck, and wife, Tina, of Gig Harbor, Wash.; three grandsons, Christopher Barnes of Seattle, Tyler Barnes of Iraq, and Jacob Peak of Gig Harbor; two granddaughters, Stephanie Barnes of Kalispell, and Melissa Lime of Whitefish; several great-grandchildren; and the extended Barnes family; and his special friends, Fred and Gayle Hammond, of Saco.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents; an infant son; and his daughter, Missy Barnes-Mueller, in 2005.

Chuck W. Barnett, 51

Chuck W. Barnett, 51, formerly of Libby, died Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2012, at his home in Chattaroy, Wash.

Services will be at 1 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 23, at the Libby Christian Church.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home and Crematory in Libby.

Ralph D. Barrett, 71

Ralph D. Barrett, 71, of Moscow, Idaho, and formerly of Kalispell, died Feb. 7, 2012, at his home

in Moscow. Short's Funeral Chapel of Moscow is caring for the family.

John Clifton Bartlett, 64

Only the lucky get to die with their wading boots on; John Clifton Bartlett was one such man. He passed away Tuesday evening, Sept.

4, 2012, steps away from the Montana wilderness that he so loved.

John was born Dec. 7, 1947, the treasured first son of John and Edith Bartlett.

He lived life with such love and passion that his heart wore out in just 64 years. A man of many talents, John was a poet, a singer, a fisherman, a hunter and a true friend. He simply loved life and lived with intensity, humor and joy.

John was a proud member of the 1st of the 9th Cavalry Division Apache troop and served with honor in Vietnam. "Bloody Bart" flew Cobra gunships, earning many medals including a Purple Heart, Distinguished Flying Cross and a Silver Star. He loved his brothers in combat and enjoyed their company until the day he died.

During his 30-year career as a railroad engineer, he enjoyed seeing the mountains and animals, and subjecting his captive co-workers to his political expertise.

He relished retirement with his wife of 42 years, his high school sweetheart, Billie Welsh Bartlett. Together, they shared many laughs and smiles through their RV adventures visiting friends. He especially loved his recent fishing trip to Alaska with cherished high school friends, Mike Jenson, Chet Wram and Dave Bilant, and his many hours of lake, river and field time with them



and with Julio Delgado and Greg Osler.

John pestered and advised his beloved younger siblings, Jim and Jan, enough to last the rest of their lives. Jim Bartlett and his wife Linda, and Jan Majerus and her husband Larry have many stories to share, and John's kids and grandkids are eager to listen. John's biggest and best legacies are in the lessons he taught.

Dana Bartlett Hull hopes that her children, Logan and Lindy, will inherit her dad's ability to debate (after they leave home). His daughter, Dani Bartlett Harmon, and her husband, Josh, along with their sons, Tanner and Jordan, will strive to emulate his generosity and selflessness. His son, John W. Bartlett, John's wife, Kelly, and their children, Elia and JJ, will try to embody his uncompromising strength of will and his ability to battle through adversity. And his daughter, Darby Bartlett McConaughy, and her husband, Eric, will no doubt keep his legacy of laughter alive by sharing his wit, sarcasm and humor with all those they meet. His wife, Billie, will honor his memory by continuing to share their deep love with the family.

Few people have an impact on the world like John Bartlett. Athlete, academic, hunter, pilot, fisherman, hero, brother, husband, father, granddad, friend; he wore each role as if it was the only thing that mattered in that moment. He will be missed.

In honor of John, please join us in a celebration of life at 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 10, at Grouse Mountain Lodge to share hors d'oeuvres and stories. If you would also like to share donations in John's name, please donate to the local VFW or the Whitefish Community Library.

Franz Arn Barthel, 62

Franz Arn Barthel, 62, our dear husband, father, brother, uncle and friend, passed away in "his chair" on April 27, 2012, surrounded by love and grace. He was thankful for being able to spend his remaining days in the home he and Elaine designed, and Franz built.

Franz was born on Sept. 26, 1949, in Sacramento, Calif., to Harvey and Hedy Barthel. After high school, Franz traveled solo to Europe and Asia. He stayed in Finland for a year, washing dishes and learning the language. This experience started his lifelong love of language. He graduated from U.C. Davis with a degree in philosophy.

In 1980, he moved to Kalispell and worked at A-1 vacuum, repairing vacuums for 10 years. Franz worked hard on overcoming his shyness, through Toastmasters and co-counseling. He was able to become a successful Realtor for several years, with his friend, Bill Goodman. How can we forget "Fone Franz?"

In September 1992, Franz was proud to be able to retire, to spend more time with his family and friends. In the 1980s, he had invested in fixer-upper rental houses, which was a blessing as philosophers are not highly compensated. Also fortunate for Franz, was the fact that he was good with his hands, and could fix just about anything. Not a charmed life, but a pretty darn good one! Life was good.

In 1997, Franz married his best friend, Elaine Johnson. Together, they were able to adopt their beautiful daughter, Logan Marie Xiu Yan. Franz was passionate about providing for, and protecting his girls or "squirrels" as he called them. Franz was pleased, too, that his financial planning allowed Elaine to retire from counseling in 2006. As a family, they were



able to travel and enjoy family and friends.

Through his entire dance with cancer, Franz had been grateful — grateful for his amazing wife Elaine, daughter Logan, and sister Lynn for their unwavering support and endless willingness to aid him through this demanding time. Franz was thankful for his other sister, Rita, and his dear friend Michael Jaworsky, and all his friends inside and outside the hiking community. He was also thankful for his amazing year, 2011, hiking and climbing in Glacier National Park with family and friends. Franz found his "tribe," and developed close relationships with his hiking buddies, especially Rod Graham and Blake Passmore. He was truly fortunate, in many ways. The list of things to be thankful for were endless to him. His mantra was, "Life is good!" He was comforted with the thought of his ashes becoming one with the places he so loved in nature.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harvey and Hedy Barthel; and nephew, Brett Guinn. He missed his mom's comfort foods and his dad's wise and mellow nature.

Franz is survived by his wife, Elaine Johnson; daughter, Logan Marie Barthel; and sisters, Rita Smith and husband Jim of Golden, Colo., and Lynn Barthel and husband Jeff Bott of Kalispell; nephew, Bob Guinn; niece, Rachel Cooley; and aunt, Artis Meyer.

The family would like to thank everyone for their love, support and prayers.

A celebration of Franz's life will be held at the family residence at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 2.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Foys to Blacktail Trails, P.O. Box 81, Kalispell, MT59903, or www.foystoblacktailtrails.org.

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

Robin Machelles Dochtermann Whitehead Basnett, 49

Robin Machelles Dochtermann Whitehead Basnett, 49, passed away Dec. 3, 2013.

Robin was raised in the Flathead but refused to "grow up" and was always a kid at heart. She graduated from Flathead High and married her high school sweetheart, Brock Whitehead. Brock and Robin enjoyed the outdoors and entertaining friends.

Robin was an artist with a passion for animals, cooking and generally making the world a more beautiful place. She cared for people her entire life and was able to turn this passion into a profession as a certified nursing assistant/caregiver. Everywhere Robin went, she made people smile.

She was preceded in death by her parents,



Martin Basnett and Josie McCracken; and stepfathers, Bruce Dochtermann and

David Becker.

She is survived by her brothers, Martin Derr, and Jeff Basnett and wife Cindy; and sister, Jennifer Basnett.

Her family and friends will sorely miss her.

Cremation has been performed. Robin's wishes were to have her ashes scattered as her parents' were — at a favorite spot on Fisher River. This will happen on a beautiful summer day in 2014.

A memorial for friends and family is scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 23, at the Church of the Nazarene on Whitefish Stage.

Marie Augusta Bauer, 93

Marie Augusta Bauer, 93, passed away on Monday, June 18, 2012, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.



Marie was born in Kalispell on Aug. 2, 1918, to Carl and Lavina Fritz. She attended Birch Grove School.

She married Ervin Bauer in 1967 in Kalispell. They worked side by side on their potato and grain farm until their retirement. She also worked at Equity Supply in the 1940s and '50s.

She enjoyed fishing with her husband and family. Marie was an excellent seamstress and loved quilting and crewel work.

Marie was preceded in death by her husband, Ervin; father and mother, Carl and Lavina Fritz; brothers, Earl and Wayne

Fritz, and sister, Irene McClain.

She is survived by her four children from a former marriage, Ella Mae Norris of Spokane, Jane Dennison and husband George of Missoula, Joan Skare and her husband Ronald, and John Schroeder and his wife Anita of LaHabra, Calif.; several grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 21, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, Kalispell. Interment will follow at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. A reception in Marie's honor will be celebrated in the Eagles Lodge basement following interment.

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

Maude Lorraine Bauska, 90

Maude Lorraine Bauska, 90, "slipped away to Heaven on the wings of angels" in the wee hours of



July 20, 2012, at Brendan House, with her daughter Lorraine and other family by her side.

She was born Jan. 18, 1922, in Stroner, Wyo., to Jessa and Margaret Lynch. Maude was delivered by a midwife in a sheepherder's wagon, as her father was tending a flock at the time. She was the fourth of nine children born to this very close Irish family.

On March 5, 1942, Maude married Glen Bauska and together they had two children, Lorraine and Steven. Family was an important aspect of her life and Maude strove to be a fine wife, mother, sister and grandmother.

Known to many as Grandma Bauska, to us she was that and so much more. She taught us unconditional love, the power of laughter, the art of sewing and the dignity of growing old.

She graced this world with her presence for 90 years, of which we were blessed to share for a time.

Maude was preceded in death by her husband,

Glen; parents, Jessa and Margaret Lynch; brothers, Warren, Daniel and Neal Lynch; and sister, Orrine Rhodes.

She is survived by her sisters, Rose Hollopeter, Geri Mitton and Donna Lerew; and brother, Jesse Lynch. She is also survived by daughter, Lorraine Graham and husband, Neil, of Kalispell; son, Steven Bauska and wife, Kay, of Chatteroy, Wash.; grandchildren, Shane Graham, Whitney Graham Giddeon, Channon Baker, Shirlan McKay and Wade Bauska. Maude is also survived by 11 great-grandchildren, Tiana and Tara Fredenberg, Quinten and Conor Graham, Anthony, Alise and Andrew Williams, Jessica and Jordan McKay, and Tyler and Brandon Bauska; and six

great-great-grandchildren, including Athena TaiLee Fredenberg, and Liliana Belle Prochnow, whose arrival we eagerly await this September.

"Until we meet again, Sweetie, God's speed. Love you, Grandma, for ever and ever, and ever and ever."

Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 24 at the United Epworth Methodist Church. A reception will be held at the Moose Lodge in Evergreen following the gravesite service.

Memorials may be sent to the Juvenile Diabetic Association, 26 Broadway, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10004 or to the charity of your choice.

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

Tyra JaNeane Tanner Baughn, 30

Tyra J. Baughn, 30, died at Kalispell Regional Medical Center on March 2, 2012, after a lifelong battle with diabetes. She "was taken by her angel to her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." In fact, "I'm ready to go," were some of her last words.

Tyra was born on Oct. 22, 1981, in Albuquerque, N.M., to Ralph A. and Judith Tanner. She lived her early years in Patterson, Calif., where she attended grade school. In 1996 she moved to Hungry Horse, where she attended schools in Columbia Falls.

Tyra married Heath Baughn in 2001 and gave birth to her only child, Jonathan Baughn Jacobs, in December of 2002. She loved and adored her baby boy from the start.

Tyra loved to sing at church and was faithful to do the things required by her Lord; "If you love me, keep my commandments." She witnessed her love for Jesus everywhere she went and prayed for those she witnessed to.

Tyra loved all her church family, especially the little ones to whom she constantly handed out treats. She was a



giver and loved to gift people, even when she didn't have it to give. Tyra was a light in a dark world and she let her light shine.

Tyra is survived by her beloved son, Jonathan E. Jacobs, of Hungry Horse; mother, Judith Jacobs, of Hungry Horse; dad, Ralph A. Tanner, of Lindsay, Calif.; sister, Kimberly, and husband, Ed Bizzanelli, of Modesto, Calif.; brother, Tamur and wife Debbie Dickinson, of Patterson; sister, Shannon Daly, of Lawton, Okla.; brother, Jason and wife Carrie Tanner of Columbia Falls; maternal grandmother Constance Barletta and great-aunt Jenny Bornman, of Hungry Horse; nephews and nieces, Youth Pastor David Bizzanelli, Gina Bizzanelli, Victoria Bizzanelli, Manny Cardosa, Brandon Dickinson, Taylor Dickinson, Jenno Daly, Kristen Tanner, Julie Tanner, Rachael Tanner, Kaden Tanner, Elijah Reign Tanner; and a multitude of uncles, aunts, cousins, and dear friends.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on March 10 at New Life Ministries, 221 South Main St., Kalispell, with Pastor Joe Pinnell officiating.

"Good-bye for now, my dear child. We will see you again!, Love, Mom"

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18.

Winnie Maie Bean, 73

Winnie Maie Bean, 73, of Coram, died Feb. 4, 2012, in Greeley, Colo., of a heart attack.

She is survived by her

daughter, Debbie Rhodes of Coram.

A memorial service will be held in July.

Wilma 'Billie' Ruth Beck, 90

Wilma "Billie" Ruth Beck, 90, "went to sit at the feet of her Savior" on Nov. 28, 2012. She died in North Bend, Wash.



She was born on Nov. 6, 1922, in Zeandale, Kan., to Christian and Marie Beck, and grew up a farm girl, learning how to be a tireless worker.

On July 10, 1948, she married Glen Beck, who preceded her in death in 1981. Glen was the love of her life until the day she died.

She remains a wonderful mother to her son, Greg and wife Cheryl of Whitefish, and her daughter, Janice and husband Micheal of North Bend. Her spirit lives on in both of her children, plus six grandchildren, including Brandi Nadeau and husband Fred and Jeremy Beck and wife Rachael, all of Missoula, and 10 great-grandchildren.

For 90 years, Grandma Billie inspired all those she encountered. She helped her husband in their furniture refinishing business in Salem, Ore., from dawn to dark in addition to managing a home and helping raise two busy children. When the family moved to Libby in 1967, she reapplied her secretarial skills at St. Regis Lumber Company until she retired.

After her husband's death she lived with

each of her children in Whitefish and in North Bend, blessing children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren alike.

Her grandchildren remember especially her killer biscuits and gravy that were a morning treat when, as children, they visited grandma's house — then she watched every "Anne of Green Gables" movie with them afterward. As adults, they always could count on a Christmas package of her renowned, homemade chocolate-covered mounds candy and almond rocha.

Her faith was the well-spring of her relationships at work, at play, with family and with friends. She read her Bible voraciously and spent hours in prayer. She was active in many churches over the course of her lifetime, blessing all those who attended.

Mom dearly loved her family and friends and was always taking care of everyone! She befriended all she met, and with her consistently cheerful and positive attitude, she was willing to help anyone in need. Her sense of humor blessed her family and friends each day.

She enjoyed playing cards, gardening, fishing, hunting and reading. She traveled to her homeland, Germany, in 1994, fulfilling a lifelong dream.

Her ashes will be laid to rest next to her husband in Libby this summer, surrounded by the love of her family.

Paul C. Beckstrom, 79

Paul C. Beckstrom, 79, died Friday, April 20, 2012, at North Valley Hospital.

He is survived by his children, James Beckstrom and

Kathryn Beckstrom. Funeral services will be held at a later date.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

Lois Leora Becker, 94

Lois Leora Becker, 94, died at St. Joseph Assisted Living in Polson on Oct. 31, 2012.

Visitation will be 2 to

6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 5, at Grogan Funeral Home. There will be a service in Woodbine, Iowa, later this month.

Maryetta Beebe, 63

Maryetta Beebe, 63, of Kalispell, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012, surrounded by family and loved ones, at her son's home in Littlerock, Calif.



She was born April 13, 1948, in Bakersfield, Calif., and spent her early years in California.

In 1976, Maryetta and her family moved to the Flathead Valley of Montana, where she worked at Creston Post and Pole Yard and raised her children, along with their father, Michael Gorey. Fourteen years later, the family relocated to Lancaster, Calif., where she worked at a doctor's office in the billing department. A few years later, she fell in love with the idea of running her own day care at her home, fulfilling her lifelong passion for caring for children. In 2006, Maryetta moved with her daughter and grandchildren back to Montana, where she began her journey with New Covenant Church and the Lord.

Maryetta's longtime interest in the children of Africa soon found a new direction when she met David and Sharyn Curtis and became a member of the LitNet! board of trustees in support of their mission work in Uganda. In 2008, she met Annie Mugisha, of Kampala,

Uganda, and began sharing Annie's dream of opening a preschool/daycare center. The following year she traveled to Uganda with David and Sharyn and helped Annie lay the groundwork for the center. Driven by this new vision, Maryetta returned to Uganda alone less than a year later and helped form Rainbow House, which now schools and cares for 15 children. Maryetta's alliance with Eugene and Florence Nsamba also began in 2009, and she eventually returned to their village of Maya in August 2011. She planted herself firmly in the hearts of its people, visiting the elderly, assisting the women's cooperative, supporting orphans, doing children's and youth ministry and helping Florence set up a daycare/preschool in the town center.

Maryetta loved the orphans and the little lost ones, and poured her heart into the Nsambas' Hidden Treasure School. She demonstrated that same compassion years before on a mission trip with Metro Ministries to New York City, reaching out to inner-city kids. In the Flathead, Maryetta reached out to children in the Glacier Country Boys and Girls Club through Spirit Club with Dawn Griffin, and with the children's ministry at New Covenant Church. She volunteered at the Ray of Hope homeless shelter in Kalispell, and faithfully prayed for all who experienced a hard life

across her life span. She was a vibrant member of New Covenant, which sent her out as a licensed missionary to Uganda.

Maryetta had an adventurous soul that always was willing to give to others, a kindness of heart and a steadfast belief in goodness. She loved gardening, canoeing, quilting, antiquing and anything that had to do with the outdoors.

Maryetta is survived by many friends and family: She was a giver of life and protector to her daughter, Jennifer Lynn Turner, and son-in-law, Jim Turner, and their children, Daniel Gorey, Chelsie Gorey, Dave Turner and Karissa Turner, all of Kalispell; and her son, Adam Gorey, and daughter-in-law, Shanna Gorey, and their children, Macy Gorey and Ian

Hunter of Littlerock, Calif. She also leaves behind two brothers and their wives, Chestine and Carolyn Beebe of Fresno, Calif., and Joebob and Joan Beebe of Arizona; many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends from around the world.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28, at Highlands Christian Fellowship in Palmdale, Calif. Plans for a local service at New Covenant Church in Kalispell are pending.

Maryetta's final wish was to have her ashes spread where her second home was in Uganda, where she found so much joy in her life.

Memorials may be given to a foundation established in Maryetta's name in Uganda, by mailing them to Jennifer Turner, 18 Yellowstone Street, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Della Beller, 79

Della Beller, 79, daughter of O.R. and V. Marie Kirkland Black, died in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, May 28, 2012.



Danny; and grandchildren, Aimee, Cole, Cricket and Lee; as well as her sister, Deloras Peters; and brother, Les Black. She loved and enjoyed her five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death "and now has joined in heaven" her beloved children, Dennis "Tiny" and Carol; and granddaughter, Kelly.

Della is survived by her husband, Russell; son,

Della graduated from Flathead County High School in 1950. She will be sorely missed by her lifetime friends and relatives, whom she always had time for.

Graveside interment will take place in Kalispell at a later date.

Thomas Mack Bell, 69

Thomas Mack Bell, 69, passed away from natural causes at the home of his brother, Britt, on March 1, 2012.



Tom was born to Wesley Britton Bell and Clarice Bernice Sargent on March 21, 1942, in Kalispell.

After his high school graduation from Flathead High School in Kalispell, he attended LeTourneau College in Longview, Texas, where he graduated in 1965, with a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering.

Tom was a master mechanic and engineer. He worked at Mountain Logging designing log skidding equipment before becoming a freelance

engineer.

Single all of his life, he resided at the home he built near Pressentine Bar until he could no longer care for himself, at which time he lived with his brother, Britt, in Columbia Falls.

Tom was preceded in death by his father, Wesley, and his mother, Clarice.

He is survived by his older brother, Mark Bell of Tensleep, Wyo., and his younger brother, Britton Bell of Columbia Falls.

After cremation his remains will be scattered during a private family gathering.

Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

You are invited to go www.columbiamortuary.com to offer condolences and view Tom's tribute wall.

Russell F. Beller, 80

Russell F. Beller passed away in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho on Aug. 3, 2012.



He was born in Kalispell on Nov. 19, 1931, to Evert H. and Ethel Dorris Beller. He attended Whitefish Elementary School and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1949.

He married Della Black and had three children, Dan, Dennis and Carol.

Della preceded Russell in death on May 28 of

this year, and Dennis and Carol previously.

He is survived by his son, Dan; and grandchildren, Cole, Aimee, Cricket and Lee. He also enjoyed five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Russell's life work was in the chain saw industry, having owned two stores and worked as area manager for Scotsco Inc. out of Portland.

Graveside services for Russell and his wife, Della, will take place at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell at a later date.

Joan E. Belhumeur, 83

Joan E. Belhumeur, 83, died Wednesday, March 28, 2012, at her residence in Kalispell.

She is survived by her children, Janine Belhumeur and Kathy Belhumeur, both of Kalispell; Rick Belhumeur of Bend, Ore.; Maureen Anderson of Bozeman; Mike Belhumeur of Kalispell; Joanie Stayton of Lakeside; Teri Cetto of Omaha, Neb.; and Suzanne

Cavanaugh of California.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church, with the Rev. Rod Ermatinger as celebrant. Burial will be at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, April 5, at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Great Falls.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Ronald Leslie Benner, 40

Ronald Leslie Benner, 40, passed away in his home on March 8, 2012.

He was born Nov. 20, 1971, in Bellingham, Wash. He was the son of Judy Sizemore and Lonnie Benner.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Larry Benner; and has two natural born daughters, Amanda Benner and LaKayla Benner. He has several half brothers and sisters, Lanae, Lance, Lora, Logan and Landen, all from the Flathead Valley area. He also has a natural born grandson. He also has several aunts and uncles and cousins, too many to name. I do have to mention his Uncle Frank Sizemore, whom Ron enjoyed spending most of his time with and who became the closest father figure he ever had; also Little Bob

(Smith) who stood by Ron's side from a teenager through the day he found Ron at his home the day he passed.

Ron suffered from severe psoriatic arthritis from about age 14. He lived with pain every day, however, he would never let it hold him down or stop him from giving 110 percent in everything he did.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, March 16, at Woodlawn Cemetery with Pastor Newby performing the service. Ron and his brother Larry will be laid to rest together.

There will be a get together at Franklin Sizemore's home afterward to celebrate Ron's life. The address is 1390 Florence Street, Columbia Falls (This is over the viaduct heading for the North Fork.)

Barbara Ann Benzien, 67

Barbara Ann Benzien, 67, of Columbia Falls, passed away Monday, June 25, 2012, in Columbia Falls.



She was born Oct. 29, 1944, in Kallispell, the daughter of John and Louise (Gaffney) Schutt.

Barbara worked in many areas of the customer service industry until she found herself managing a convenience store for 24 years, which became Mike's Conoco, 19 years ago. She developed many wonderful friendships with her customers, vendors, employees and those she worked for. She was well respected and loved in the community.

Shopping was Barb's hobby, but rummage sales were her passion. She

also thoroughly enjoyed family gatherings, especially with her cousins, aunts and uncles.

Barbara is survived by her children, Kristy Stevenson, Robby Stevenson and Marvin Stevenson of Columbia Falls, and Donald Stevenson of Florida. She is also survived by her brothers, Rick Beng and John Schutt Jr., and her many beloved cousins. Her grandchildren include Kenneth, Jaymie, Brittany, Kirk and Naomi.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 28, at Marantette Park in Columbia Falls. Food and drink will be provided.

Arrangements are entrusted to Columbia Mortuary.

You are invited to go to www.columbiamortuary.com to offer condolences and view Barbara's tribute wall.

David Russell Bennett, 59

David Russell Bennett was born in Tarentum, Pa., on July 28, 1952, to Betty and Robert Bennett.



"He went home to Jesus" on June 20, 2012, after his courageous battle with cancer came to an end.

David grew up in Jamestown, N.Y., where he graduated from high school in 1970. In 1977, after graduating from SUNY at Oswego with a degree in biology, David packed up his life and moved out to Montana, fulfilling a lifelong dream of living in the West. It was at this time that David began working for the U.S. Forest Service as a forest firefighter, which eventually landed him on an IR hotshot crew.

While back in Jamestown on a winter break, David met Deonne "Becki" Rebekah Walker, and they married on May 24, 1980. Shortly after the honeymoon, the newlyweds moved to Kallispell, where they lived for the next 33 years. Not long after starting their new life out West, Dave and Becki were blessed with two children who were both born and raised in Kallispell.

From his earliest recollections, David had a passion for nature and the outdoors. These passions led him to pursue photography from an early age, buying his first camera when he was 12 years old. For more than 30 years, David perfected his craft of landscape and wildlife photography throughout Montana. However, regardless of where his art took him, Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness always remained close to his heart. David had photo-

graphs published in Montana Magazine and Calendar, Montana Outdoors and Bugle Magazine.

"My desire through my photography is to share the beauty and wonder of God's creation with the people who, for whatever reason, cannot access the wild places." — David R. Bennett

Along with photography, David also loved his horses, and was an avid outdoorsman. Whether it was taking his horses into the mountains for hunting, or allowing others to come over and ride them, it was David's desire to bless people with those horses in the same way God had blessed him as the guardian. Scooter, Kya and Bella always held a special place in his heart. David loved riding with his close friends and family.

David was preceded in death by his father, Robert Claire Bennett.

David is survived by his wife, Becki; son, Bryce; daughter, Brooke, and Keith Gallagher; grandchildren, Matthew David, Natalie Grace and Emma Joy Gallagher; mother, Betty Bennett, of Jamestown; and sisters, Cheryl and Joe Mattern of Newark, Del., and Susan and Lowell Wilcox of Randolph, N.Y.

Memorial services for David will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 30, at Crossroads Christian Fellowship, with Pastor Bob Ross officiating.

The family suggests memorial donations can be made in David's name to Village of Hope Uganda, P.O. Box 790136, Dallas, TX 75370-0136, or at villageofhopeuganda.com.

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

Almeda Benson, 90

On May 7, 2012, Almeda Benson, 90, passed away peacefully at the Heritage Place Nursing Facility in Kalispell.



Almeda was born Elizabeth Almeda McGrath on Nov. 15, 1921, in Minneapolis, to Louis and Nora McGrath. Almeda was raised with four sisters and three brothers in Anoka, Minn.

She and Richard "Dick" Benson were united in marriage on May 21, 1943, and were together for 38 years. During that time they raised four children. They moved to Montana in 1951, eventually settling in Augusta for the next 12 years before moving to Great Falls.

Almeda became a licensed practical nurse in 1966. Upon completing her degree, she practiced nursing at the Deaconess, Columbus and Benefis hospitals in Great Falls. She continued her nursing career in Bozeman in 1978 at Hillcrest Retirement Center. Upon moving to Kalispell in 1989, she worked for In Home Health Care, retiring from that position.

Almeda was an excellent and talented nurse. She was an avid reader and traveler, meticulous seamstress and a crossword pundit. Almeda and Dick always found time for family gatherings including picnics, family trips and Fourth of July celebrations. For them, any excuse for a celebration was excuse enough.

Almeda was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Dick; son, Roger; daughter-in-law, Eve; granddaughter, Stacey; and her siblings.

later date to celebrate her life.

The family requests you make a contribution to your favorite charity rather than sending flowers.

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

She is survived by her daughter, Lynne Jermunson, and Dick Kauk, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, of Billings; son, Ralph, and Debbie, of Charleston, W.Va.; son, Bob, and June, of Kalispell; eight grandchildren, Jeff and Rushany Jermunson of Filer, Idaho; Chris and Christine Jermunson of Huntley and their father Don Jermunson; Steve and Jennifer Benson of Lockwood; Stacey's husband Ken Richardson of Colstrip; Meghan Benson of Madison, Wis.; Adam Benson of Charleston; Krista Benson of Spokane; and Derek Benson of Kalispell; seven great-grandchildren, Nate and Gracie Jermunson of Huntley; Laci Jermunson of Filer; Alex Schaff and Amanda Christenson of Colstrip; and Parker and Roger Benson of Billings; brother-in-law, Ralph, and Maggie Magnuson of Minneapolis; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family is grateful to the nurses and support staff at Heritage Place in Kalispell, for the good, compassionate care Almeda received during her residency.

Cremation has taken place. A family memorial service will be held in Billings at a

Frances Mary (Mole) Benson, 92

Frances Benson died June 21, 2012, at Roseburg, Ore., of natural causes.

Fran was born Nov. 14, 1919, in Lawrence, Kan., to Lewis and Ida (Hayden) Mole.

Her father inherited a coffee plantation in Costa Rica and the family lived there for several years when Fran was a young child. Her two brothers, Albert and George, were born in Costa Rica.

The family returned to Lawrence to live, where there were many aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives.

Fran enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in April 1943. She trained in airplane mechanics and was stationed at Santa Barbara, Calif.

Fran loved to sew and dance, and she sewed costumes and choreographed dance routines for shows at the base. She was assigned to the airplane engine shop, and on her first day she told the sergeant of the engine shop, Carl "Benny" Benson, to "go to hell" when he expressed his opinion of women in the Marine Corps; nevertheless, they were married in August 1944, the marriage lasting almost 60 years until Carl's death in 2004.



After the war, Fran and Carl moved to Whitefish, where Carl's family lived; they later moved to Kalispell.

They raised four children, Carol, Larry "Butch", Barbara and Michael. Fran was active in 4-H and loved to garden and sew; she sewed many clothes for Carol and Barbara as they were growing up, and later on, for the grandchildren. She also did beautiful embroidery, crochet and other handwork.

After retirement, Carl and Fran traveled extensively in their motorhome. Fran moved to Canyonville, Ore., after Carl's death, close to where her daughter Carol lives.

As her health declined, she moved to Manor House in Roseburg, where she lived until her death.

Fran was predeceased by her brothers, Albert and George; and granddaughter, Wendy McMurdo.

She is survived by her sister, Evelyn Curtis, of Williamsburg, Va.; daughter, Carol and her husband, Dick Hubley, of Riddle, Ore.; sons, Butch, and Mike and his wife, Donella, of Kalispell; and daughter, Barbara and her husband, David Neumann, of Libby; as well as seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Fran and Carl both wanted to be cremated without service and their ashes scattered privately after Fran's death.

Payslee Theda and Pyper LelaAnn Bernethy

Payslee Theda Bernethy and Pyper LelaAnn Bernethy, infant daughters of Kellie Gale Burgess and Zackary David Bernethy of Columbia Falls, were born May 9, 2012, at Community Medical Center in Missoula and passed away May 9, 2012, in the loving arms of their mommy and daddy.

"We fought so hard to keep you, but Heaven won. Our Angel Babies, you will always be."

They are survived by

maternal grandparents, Gail and Dawain Burgess, of Fortine; paternal grandparents, Tammie and Greg Bernethy, and uncle, Joe Burgess, of Eureka; aunt Ashley, uncle Alan and cousin Logan Hahn, of Kalispell; and uncle Kaleb and aunt Shyla Bernethy, of Columbia Falls.

Funeral services will be held today, Wednesday, May 16, at the First Baptist Church in Eureka. Interment will be at the Tobacco Valley Cemetery.

Charlotte Berland, 94

Charlotte Berland passed away on June 20, 2012, in Conrad at the age of 94, after a brief illness.



Charlotte was born on Feb. 21, 1918, in Butte, the daughter of Anastasia and William Roll. She attended Catholic schools in Butte and went on to Montana State College, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in home economics.

While at MSU, she met Herbert Berland of Brady. She taught school for one year and then married Herb. They lived in Wolf Point, where they began their family. After a few years, they moved to the family farm near Brady, where they continued to farm for many years. Charlotte adapted to farm life very well after having been a Butte girl for her early life.

While in Wolf Point, they began their family. Cora Lou (Remus) was the first to appear. A year later, after their move to Brady, Barbara (Bruner) was born. Then three years later they were surprised with twins, Donna (Smith) and Don. Just when they thought that was a good-sized family, they were blessed by the birth of Bob eight years later.

When it was time for Cora Lou to begin school, they built a home in Conrad, where Charlotte lived until her death.

Charlotte and Herb became involved in Lions Club after the children had moved on. They had many, many Lions friends throughout Montana and Canada. As wife of the district governor, Charlotte attended many district conventions and several Lions International Conventions.

the focus of a lot of family fun and it also provided a scenic respite for them in their later years. She had a special chair that she loved to sit in and look out at the beautiful lake, which she began visiting when she was a child.

When Herb had passed away, she made friends in the bridge groups and attended exercise classes. One favorite event was the Huckleberry Festival at Swan Lake.

After Herb retired, he and Charlotte began spending time in California. Eventually, they bought a winter home in Hemet. They spent many winters there, and Charlotte continued to go there until this year. They had many friends from the northern states that continued to be friends for many years.

A highlight of recent years was a trip to Bozeman to celebrate her 70th class reunion at MSU. While there weren't many in her class in attendance, she thoroughly enjoyed being honored by the university.

Charlotte was a devoted Catholic. She served on many committees and taught CCD when her children were involved. She attended Mass at every opportunity and prayed the rosary every day of her life until she died.

She will be missed by her "lunch buddies" and her friends that she met for regular dining get-togethers. The Home Cafe was a favorite, especially for their turkey sandwiches on Thursdays and biscuits and gravy on Saturday.

Charlotte will be missed by her family, Cora Lou and Ed Remus of St. Charles, Gerald and Marla Bruner of Conrad, Donna and Randy Smith of Cashmere, Wash., Don and Cyndi Berland of Littleton, Colo., Bob and Karen Berland of Missoula, and her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Margie Ann Binegar, 80

Margie Ann (Moore) Binegar, 80, of Rapid City, S.D., died Friday, June 15, 2012, at Rapid City Regional Hospice House.

She was born in Gordon, Neb., to Dale A. Moore and Beulah P. (Moss) Moore on March 10, 1932, in her grandparent's home, during a raging blizzard.

Ann spent most of her life in Chadron, Neb., graduating from Chadron High School in 1950. She moved with her parents to Rapid City in 1952. She met Bob Binegar and they were married on June 14, 1959, at Canyon Lake United Methodist Church.

Ann is survived by her husband, Bob; four children, Bart (Patty), of Texas; Mark, of Nevada; Darc, of Kalispell; and Tracey (Bob) Scott, of Box Elder; eight grandchildren; a great-grandson; and a brother, Brad (Joy) Moore, of Florida.

Services are at 2 p.m. Tuesday, June 19, 2012, at Behrens-Wilson Funeral Home, with the Rev. Ken Schultz as officiant. Interment will be at a later date at Black Hills National Cemetery. A memorial has been established. Condolences may be conveyed to the family at www.behrenswilson.com.

She also loved bowling in her younger years, and then golf later on. She also loved to fish, camp, snowmobile, garden, bake, sew and getting together with the "gals."

She was extremely proud of her children. All attended higher education and later married and raised families. She was very proud of her 13 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

One of Charlotte's great loves was "The Cabin" on Swan Lake. She spent a lot of time there in the summers, although there were some pretty exciting excursions in the winter, too. She and Herb built the cabin, with the help of Gerald Bruner, their son-in-law. The cabin was

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Anastasia Roll; her sister, Dorothy Angove; her husband, Herbert Berland; her daughter, Barbara Bruner, and her great-grandson, Garrett Bruner.

Vigil services were held on June 24 at St. Michael's Catholic Church. Funeral Mass was said June 25 at St. Michael's Catholic Church. She is buried with her husband and daughter at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Conrad.

Pondera Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Otto Alonzo Bessey, 77

Otto Alonzo Bessey, 77, "was called home by Jesus" in the morning of Dec. 8, 2012, at his home in Kalispell.

He was also known as "Lon," short for Alonzo.

Otto was born in Boston on July 18, 1935, to his parents, Dr. Otto Arthur Bessey and Mrs. Kathryn Louise Munro Bessey.

Due to his father's research work and teaching at medical school, Otto moved every few years along with his younger brother, Roger Lowell. Otto's love of baseball and especially the Yankees began during his young years spent in Scarsdale, N.Y. He developed his fascination with architecture while living his junior high and most of his high school years in Oak Park, Ill. The second half of his junior year and all of his senior year was spent at Ball High in Galveston, Texas, running on the track team.

Otto's love of Montana, his grandparents' home in Kalispell and the beauty of the national parks never wavered as he would visit family in Montana. Bound and determined to fully experience Montana, he boarded a train headed to Missoula to attend the university. Otto was in his element as an Army ROTC student, with his summers spent working for the Forest Service on a lookout tower in Lolo National Forest and his drills with the Army.



was always evident by his work.

Upon his retirement, he moved back to Montana, first living in Bigfork and later moving to the family home in Kalispell after the death of his beloved mother. He went about restoring the home to be of close resemblance to the beauty of its early years.

Otto died peacefully in his office, surrounded by his books, his wife Maureen and pictures of his children and grandchildren whom he loved so deeply. There are few words that can express the deep sorrow the family and friends of Otto are experiencing. Please keep them in your prayers.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Dr. A.T. Munro and Maude; paternal grandparents, Arthur Nathan Bessey and Mary Belle; his mother, Kathryn Louise Munro Bessey Honnold; his father, Dr. Otto Arthur Bessey; his aunts Helen Munro, Mabel Munro Fisher and Harriet Bessey Anderson; and uncles, William Edwin Bessey and Captain Clifford Darrell Anderson.

He is survived by his wife, Maureen Bessey, of Kalispell; his children, Jana and husband William Clark, Karrie and husband Ian Napier, son Lon and daughter Nikki, and stepdaughters Amber and Briana Wallace. He is also survived by his beloved grandchildren, Alyssa Mebane, Jocel and Jamison Clark and Andrew Francisco; and dear cousins, Darrell Anderson and his wife Della, Kathy, Mimi and Susan, daughters of Mabel. His brother Roger's children also held a special place in his heart, Sherri, Kylee, Gee Lee and Han, their spouses and children, too.

Craig Louis Bieber, 50

Craig Louis Bieber, 50, died Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2012, in Kalispell.

He is survived by his mother, Margaret; wife, Barbara; and children, Jamie and Dillon.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today, Nov. 29, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Nov. 30, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Upon graduation in 1957 with a degree in accounting, Otto completed his CPA and went to work for Yellowstone Park Company, spending April through October in the park and his fall and winters in Gardiner. He was offered a position of junior partner, at the age of 24, with the firm of Galusha, Higgins and Galusha in Helena. From there began a journey with so many lifelong friends with whom shared his life.

Otto retired from Galusha's in Idaho Falls, Idaho, in June of 1990, after spending many years in Idaho opening and building the accounting firm there. Along the way he developed many more friendships that were so meaningful to him. He was always grateful to and honored by the many farmers, ranchers, businesses and families who entrusted their family businesses to him to financially manage. His desire to be a man of integrity and honesty

There will be a viewing from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 15, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, with services following at 4 p.m. at Calvary Lutheran Church on Evergreen Drive in Evergreen, followed by a reception. Otto's ashes will be interred at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell, with a graveside service and full military honors this summer.

The family suggests memorials may be sent to Calvary Lutheran Church for the Community Kitchen or Community Closet, both very special to Otto.

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

Vance 'Bear' BearChild Birky, 42

Vance "Bear" BearChild Birky, 42, a logger from Kalispell, passed away near Kaycee, Wyo., on Feb. 9, 2012, from a tragic vehicle accident.



He was preceded in death by his foster parents, Ezra and Marjorie Birky; grandparents, Ken and Mary Stinger; aunts, Annette, Marcel and Jennette; and granddaughter, Shelby James.

Survivors include his wife, Brenda Birky; children, Tiffany James, Michael Birky and Chessara Birky; stepdaughter, Harlee Johnson; grandsons, Evan and Cooper James; siblings, Justin, Adrian, Lucas, John, Loren, Ian, Michael, Ellen and Susan; as well as several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Vance was born on Nov.

10, 1969, in Browning. He grew up and attended schools in Cut Bank and Kalispell.

He married Mindy Swinehart and had two children, Michael and Chessara. They later divorced.

He was raised in the Birky family logging business by Ezra, and the two shared the same passion for the mountains and a strong work ethic.

In 2002, while working, he met Brenda Wolfe. They were married shortly thereafter and were inseparable.

Vance was a jack-of-all-trades and he worked harder than most, putting his heart into everything he did. He was of the Mennonite faith. He loved his dogs, working on trucks and cars, and most of all, loved being outdoors.

A memorial service is pending.

Whitted Funeral Chapel of Cut Bank is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be posted at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com.

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He was preceded in death by his foster parents, Ezra and Marjorie Birky; grandparents, Ken and Mary Stinger; aunts, Annette, Marcel and Jennette; and granddaughter, Shelby Jones.

A memorial service will be held for Vance at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 3, at the Mountain View Mennonite Church.

Nadyne Louise Black, 79

Nadyne Louise Black, 79, died Oct. 24, 2012, at her home in Kalispell.

A memorial service will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 12, at Epworth

United Methodist Church in Kalispell.

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

Caroline Marie Blair, 73

Caroline Marie Blair, 73, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 17, 2012, in Kalispell.



Caroline was a lifelong resident of the Flathead Valley, having been born in Kalispell on June 22, 1939, to Dr. Edson and Marie (Bange-man) Curry. She attended schools in Kalispell, graduating from Flathead County High School.

On June 30, 1957, Caroline married Donald Blair; they later were divorced but remained friends.

She worked for Sterling Title for 23 years. After retirement, she enjoyed going to Yuma, Ariz., for the winters.

She was a master at crafts, especially knitting, crocheting and sewing. Caroline did most of these

things for her children and grandchildren. She also truly enjoyed singing and playing the piano. In high school, she sang in the high school choir.

Caroline was preceded in death by her parents, Dr. Edson Curry and Marie Curry; and a sister Sue Voigt.

She is survived by her three children, Scott Blair, Bryon Blair and Vanessa Munro; 11 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; her partner, Bill Spurzem; a brother, John Curry; and ex-husband, Donald Blair.

A celebration of Caroline's life will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 21, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

The family requests donations be made to Hockaday Museum of Art www.hockadaymuseum.org.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.