

## Joanne Elizabeth Eaves, 71

Joanne Eaves passed away early Wednesday morning of Aug. 3, 2016, in the Emergency Room of Eisenhower Hospital in Rancho Mirage, California. She was recovering from a successful pancreatic surgery performed at USC Keck Hospital. She had been ill for just a few months. Her passing was peaceful as her husband, Hayden C. Eaves III, held her hand while rubbing her arm.

Joanne was a twin born in Chicago on Oct. 17, 1944. She became a California resident in the early 1950s. She was a majorette at Mission High School in San Gabriel, California, and graduated in 1962. Her maiden name was Joanne E. Lucas.

She married her husband, Hayden, almost 53 years ago in 1963. Joanne worked at Pacific Telephone Company from 1962 through 1968.

Joanne was the proud mother of Hayden C. Eaves IV (51 years) and Brent C. Eaves (46 years). She was also a very proud grandmother to Alex Eaves (22), Dillon Eaves (21), twins Chasen and Chandler Eaves (19), twins Hayden C. Eaves V and Hayley Eaves (15), and her twin sister Barbara (Lucas) Zenisek in Chicago.

Joanne was very active at St. Therese Grammar School in Alhambra, St. Felicitas and Perpetua Church



in San Marino, California, and St. Francis High School in La Canada Flintridge.

Her philanthropic endeavors include San Gabriel Right to Life, Cub Scouts, Christ Child of San Gabriel and Pasadena Assistance League.

Joanne loved every sport her children and grandchildren participated in and had a passion for both the Los Angeles Dodgers and Chicago Cubs. When her husband retired in 1995 they traveled extensively all around the world. Joanne loved spending time with her children, grandchildren, friends and family as often as she could.

She lived in Northwest Montana on Flathead Lake and at The Reserve, Palm Desert, California.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pasadena Assistance League, 820 E. California Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91106-3933; or Christ Child Society of Pasadena, Inc., P.O. Box 50914 Pasadena, CA 91115; and Right To Life, San Gabriel Valley Chapter, 5626 Rosemead Blvd., Temple City, CA 91780.

Cabot & Sons, Pasadena, Directors are handling arrangements.

## Jesse Perry Eayrs, 89

Jesse Perry Eayrs, 89, passed away April 30, 2016, in Kalispell.

Jesse was born Sept. 18, 1926, in Klamath Falls, Oregon, the son of Perry C. and Maude L. Eayrs, the third child of eight. He attended grade school in Klamath Falls and high school in Kalispell, when his family moved here in 1941. During World War II, the family moved to Tacoma, Washington, to work in the shipyards.

Jesse enlisted in the U.S. Navy on April 1, 1942. He served mainly in the South Pacific and was discharged in 1947. Jesse returned to Kalispell to marry his high school sweetheart and best friend, Mary Louise Koenig. Jesse had worked in a meat market during his teens years and returned to that profession, working for Don Peterson at Meats Supply. In 1962 Jesse and Ken Nordtome purchased the market and continued to operate it until Ken retired. Jesse continued until he retired in 1988.

Jesse was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell. He loved to sing in the church choir and was a member of the Mendelson Club and later joined the Flathead Valley Aires barbershop



chorus. Jesse was also a member in several quartets, the last one being Classic Touch when they won first place in district competition.

Jesse is survived by his wife, Louise; one sister, Anita Ambers; three daughters, Jan Joachim of Spokane, Kay Torgison of Kalispell and Debra Hadley of Kalispell; sons-in-law, Steve Joachim, Gerald Goodnough and Larry Hadley; grandchildren, Jamie Bonafe, Adam Joachim, Jerrad Smith, Cameron Smith, Jessica Johns, Shayla Hagburg and Cole Hadley; and great-grandchildren, Tyler and Sean Bonafe, Garrett and Kaycee Smith, Alexander and Elias Johns, and Owen and Olivia Hadley.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 14, at Trinity Lutheran Church.

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

## Alan Henry Ebert, 82

Alan Henry Ebert, 82, of Kalispell, died Nov. 23, 2016, in Lewistown.

Services are being held in Tipton, Indiana,

at a later date. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Gerald 'Jerry' Eby, 84

Gerald "Jerry" Eby, age 84, passed away on Nov. 2, 2016, after a long battle with emphysema.

Jerry was born Aug. 17, 1932, in Tolley, North Dakota, to Amber and Elsie Eby. He was raised in Cut Bank, Montana. He joined the United States Air Force and served his country honorably in the Philippines during the Korean War. Jerry worked a number of years as a surveyor for the Great Northern Railroad and worked on the Alaskan Pipeline. He worked most of his career as a heavy construction inspector on dams and bridges throughout the Northwest. Jerry was the construction inspector for the World's Fair "Expo 74" in Spokane, Washington.

After retiring from Metro in King County, Washington, he returned to his beloved Montana, where he could enjoy hunting, fishing, Glacier



Park, and the great outdoors. Jerry was an avid reader and will be remembered as a good-humored, kind man by all those who

knew and loved him.

He is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Vivian Eby; sons, Kraig, Monty, Mike and Doug; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life service will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 7, 2016, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home Chapel. Friends are encouraged to visit the website at [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave notes of condolences. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Jim Eckenrode, 75

Jim Eckenrode "crossed over the Great Divide to God's Country" on March 21, 2016, after a long illness.

James Ivan Eckenrode was born April 24, 1941, in Camden, Arkansas, to Ivan and Mary Sue FitzHugh Eckenrode. He spent his grade school years there near extended family. His parents later moved to Glendive, where Jim attended high school. He hunted and fished with his friends, and worked summers in the oil fields.

After graduation, Jim joined the U.S. Army, attended a series of specialist schools, and by 1966 was stationed in Germany. By that time, he had decided to make the Army his career. In late 1966, Jim began his first of two tours in Vietnam, the first with the field artillery and the second assigned to the Army Special Forces. He served overseas tours in Germany, Vietnam, Thailand and Korea. Jim retired as a command sergeant major in 1984, with many decorations.

Married in Thailand, Jim divorced in the U.S. and raised his two small children as a single parent. Upon retirement, he moved his family to the Flathead Valley of Montana, where Linda and Billy attended school. He later moved them to the El Paso/Las Cruces, New Mexico, area. There Jim worked at times in



home construction, sold real estate, sold nutritional products, and became a communications specialist for the New Mexico school system.

Jim was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying hiking, backpacking, hunting and fishing every month of the year. As a member of the Flathead Freetrappers, he attended many rendezvous and enjoyed visiting with his many like-minded friends.

Jim remarried in 2004; Michele provided him comfort and devoted companionship for the rest of his life.

Jim is survived by his wife, Michele, of Columbia Falls; daughter, Linda Martinez, of Las Cruces; son, Billy Eckenrode and spouse Monica of El Paso, Texas; granddaughter, Desere; grandson, James; and two stepgrandchildren, Eduardo and Sofia.

A memorial service with military honors will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, July 23, at Fairview Cemetery, Middle Road, Kalispell. There will be no reception.

Jim was a loving, gentle soul who touched many lives. He will be missed by many.

## Coby Edgerton, 82

Coby Edgerton, 82, died Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016, in Bigfork. Services will be held at a later date. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Clay Hunter Edgmon, 20

Clay Hunter Edgmon, 20, is at peace after passing on Dec. 22, 2016.

The true measure of a person is not in the amount of time they spend with us, but in the impact they make in the time they have. By this standard, and many others, Clay Edgmon is both heroic and inspirational.

Clay was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma in 2012. Clay continued to live his life on his own terms, refusing to let cancer define him. He smiled every day and always found a reason for gratitude. He always maintained his sense of humor by harassing his caregivers and joking with his friends. Despite attending only three and a half years of classes, he still managed to graduate in the top 25 of his graduating class.

Clay was a sportsman and athlete. He loved hunting with his dad and tried his hand at almost every team sport available to him. He excelled at baseball, basketball and golf, but football was his true passion. He was a member of the 2007 Tro-Lini championship baseball team in the Kalispell City Championship and the Kalispell Blackout travel basketball team. He played football, baseball and basketball for the Libby Loggers. After diagnosis the doctors said he could no longer play football, so Clay joined the Logger golf team and continued to play basketball.

Clay was born in Libby on July 11, 1996. He attended Peterson Elementary and Kalispell Middle School in Kalispell, before returning to Libby. He graduated from Libby High



School in 2015. Clay briefly attended Flathead Valley Community College to study engineering.

neering.

He is survived by his parents, Bryce Edgmon, Susan Monahan, Mikel Siemens and Quinn Carver; sisters, Whitney (Colin) Manuel of Jordan, Montana, and Cyra and Cayja Edgmon of Kalispell; brothers, Tanner and Casey Carver of Stanfield, Oregon; grandparents, Barbara Edgmon of Kalispell, Bob and Carol Monahan of Pendleton, Oregon, Pat Siemens of Bigfork, and Chuck and Ginger Carver of Townsend; great-grandmother, Norma Hodges, of Salt Lake City; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and his two nieces.

He was preceded in death by grandparents, Randy "Pop" Edgmon and Wilma Siemens.

Clay was known by many and was a friend to all. He was, and will continue to be, an inspiration to many for his spirit, his attitude, and his passion for life. Clay won the fight!

Services for Clay will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30, at Libby Christian Church.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to Critter's Love Foundation at First Montana Bank in Libby.

Arrangements are under the care of Schnackenberg Funeral Home & Crematory of Libby. Online condolences and memories may be shared by visiting [www.schnackenbergfh.com](http://www.schnackenbergfh.com).

## Florence Virginia Notley Edwards, 90

Born in Copan, Oklahoma, on Sept. 14, 1925, Florence resided in Columbia Falls the majority of her life, passing away on Jan. 10, 2016, at age 90.

She is survived by her husband, Arnold Edwards, and son, Arnold O. Edwards from Columbia Falls, and daughter, Tami Prather from Anchorage, Alaska. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Brandon Head from Homer, Alaska, Melissa

Sugay from Chugiak, Alaska, and Emilia Bain from Kalispell; as well as her great-grandchildren, Ahren Sugay, Addyson Sugay, Aryanna Sugay, Aubrie Sugay and Persephone Peterson.

Florence was preceded in death by her parents, and twin daughters Mary and Gail.

There will be a celebration of life potluck for Florence at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, at the family home, 1193 Dorothy Street, Columbia Falls.

## Janice Marie Eggen, 73

Janice Marie Eggen, 73, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully in her home, surrounded by family, on Nov. 10, 2016.

Janice was born to Lewis Roberts and Betty Reed Fenske on Jan. 16, 1943, in Umatilla, Oregon. Janice graduated from Umatilla High School.

Prior to her retirement in 2015, Janice was a longtime employee of Whitefish dentist John J. Atchinson, where she worked as office manager. Janice loved her job and meeting new people and cherished the many close relationships she had formed with co-workers and clients throughout the years.

Janice was an incredibly loving and compassionate woman, who greeted everyone she met with a big smile and a kind word. Janice was a lover of animals of all kinds and was especially drawn to horses, which she had spent most of her life raising, training, showing and just plain enjoying. Janice also had many canine friends which she loved dearly.

Janice loved to spend time with her children and grandchildren, going camping, having fun with her family, taking long drives, reading a good book, seeing a great movie, or just sitting



with you and talking about life.

On May 29, 2010, Janice was united in marriage to Terrance

Eggen of Kalispell, where they made their home together.

Janice is survived by her husband, Terrance Eggen of Kalispell; stepmom, Ramona Roberts of Portland; two daughters, Lorie Cahill of Kalispell, and Lynda Riley of Erda, Utah; three grandchildren, Katie Storm, Craig Cahill and Shaelyn Riley; two great-grandchildren, Justice Storm and Ember Marie Storm; and two sisters, Terri Kelly and Sherri Jones.

Janice was preceded in death by her father Lewis Roberts, mother Betty Reed Fenske, grandfather Rinold Fenske and grandmother Amelia Fenske, and her son Larry Harmon.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 21, at the Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell.

Funeral arrangements will be handled by Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. To send a note of condolence to the family, please visit [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com).

## Helen Strom Blush Eglsaer, 95

Helen Strom Blush Eglsaer was born Jan. 2, 1921, to Alfred A. Strom and Mary (Smith) Strom in Whitefish. She graduated from Whitefish High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University of Portland.

In June 1946 she married Lt. Neal J. Blush. They were married 43 years when Neal died in 1989. Helen married Bob Eglsaer in 1993 and spent the next years traveling and enjoying an active life. Bob died in 2003.

Helen is survived by her daughter Leslie (Dennis) Kanzler, son Robert Blush (Susan Savage), daughter Claire Blush, and son Alan Blush; her grandchildren,



Justin Kanzler, Alexis Kanzler Emerson, Heather Blush Robbins and

Kelsey Blush; and her great-grandchildren, Alex and Ethan Emerson, Katie and Jake Kanzler, Hudson and Parker Robbins and Devin Wagner.

Daughter Carol Marie Blush (1947) and Thomas Blush (2000) predeceased her.

Helen died March 30, 2016. She is deeply missed.

A funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. June 11 at St. Charles Catholic Church in Whitefish.

## David A. Eickerman, 82

David A. Eickerman, 82, died March 24, 2016, in Kalispell.

He is survived by a daughter Robin, and son Kim Eickerman.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

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

## Huberta 'Bert' Lee (Hudson) Eilerman, 81

Huberta "Bert" Lee Eilerman, nee Hudson, 81, passed away in Kalispell on Monday, Jan. 4, 2016.



She was born April 3, 1934, in Golconda, Illinois, to Hubert and Lillian Hudson. She lived in Rosiclare, Illinois, until high school graduation when she then moved to St. Louis to attend Missouri Baptist School of Nursing.

She met Philip Eilerman and they married on Feb. 14, 1955, and raised four children in St. Louis County. She had a long career working in St. Louis at the McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Corporation. After retiring from MDAC she kept busy with family and worked in several retail jobs until her life-long dream of living in the mountains became possible with a move to Kalispell in 1996. She continued working into her late 70s at various retail companies.

Her love of family and friends kept her busy crocheting beautiful afghans, socks, sweaters and scarves, which will be cherished as a remembrance of her by those blessed to have received them.

She is survived by her brother, Hubert "Craig" Hudson, and his wife, Mildred, of Overland, Missouri;

daughter, Phyllis Watts, and her husband, Joe, of Wasilla, Alaska; son, Hugh Eilerman, and wife, Dee, of Maryland Heights, Missouri; daughter, Sharon Swift, and her husband, Larry, of Kalispell; and son, Paul Eilerman, and his wife, Donna, of O'Fallon, Missouri; grandchildren, Greg, Kristen, Ben, Alex and Jordan in Missouri, Heather and Eric in Montana, and Nick in Florida; great-grandchildren, Melissa, Skylar, Hayden, Emery and Gabe; great-great-grandchildren, Tyler and Cameron; and multiple cousins, nephews and nieces.

A celebration of her life will be held in the spring in St. Louis.

Memorial contributions can be made to the American Diabetes Association on their website or by mail: P.O. Box 7023, Merrifield, VA 22116-7023, to help with research and a cure; or to St. Jude's Hospital on their website at [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org), to help cure childhood cancer.

## Robert B. Ekblad, 86

Robert B. Ekblad died peacefully Aug. 13, 2016, at Polson Health and Rehabilitation Center in Polson.

He was born in Hot Springs on Feb. 1, 1930, to Aldrich and Irene (Holt) Ekblad. Robert and his two siblings grew up on the family cattle ranch, graduating from Hot Springs High School in 1947. In 1951, he graduated from Montana State University with a degree in industrial engineering and worked in the aerospace industry in Washington, D.C., and California until he returned to Hot Springs in 1956 to run the Ekblad ranch.

In 1965, Robert hung up his saddle and joined the Equipment Development Center at the Department of Agriculture's U.S. Forest Service in Missoula. Robert was part of a team that researched, designed, tested and evaluated equipment and products to make them more efficient, safe, or suitable for the Forest Service. This included developing the firefighter's first emergency fire shelter and improving aerial application of pesticides, using safer and more effective delivery systems tailored for the forestry environment. Many of Robert's articles, reports, and books have been published and are still available in print. In 1990, he was awarded the USDA Forest Service Chief's Award for Technology Transfer. Robert retired after 25 years of service with the Forest Service.

Robert was married to his lifelong friend since kindergarten, Phyllis O. Preston, for over 40 years. Their most treasured time was working together to build their Flathead Lake house near Dayton, enjoying life on the lake and tending to their cherry orchard. In retirement, Robert tended for each of his cherry trees and yearly crops with the same intense research and care as he had with his Forest



Service projects. He also dabbled in learning the art of making wine with their Flathead cherries.

Robert was an avid skier and loved the slopes of Big Mountain, skiing well into his 70s. In 1989, he and Phyllis participated in the Great Montana Centennial Cattle Drive, riding across the prairie and through the mountains of Montana for six days. They marked their trail drive cow with the original Ekblad "J3" branding iron.

Both Robert and Phyllis were avid supporters of Hot Springs charities, student scholarships, the arts and numerous other Montana philanthropic causes.

Robert was preceded in death by his wife, Phyllis O. Ekblad; his parents, Aldrich and Irene Ekblad; and sisters, Phyllis Lape and Thelma Keen.

He is survived by nephews, David (Pam) Keen and Tim (Kathy) Lape; three nieces, Mary Holyoak (Lee), Linda Clark, and Rita Mark (Dan); a cousin, Tom (Carol) Tibbles; and numerous great-nephews, -nieces, and cousins.

Services will be held on Saturday, Aug. 20, at Lonepine Hall at 54 Lonepine Road in Lonepine. Visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m., with the service at 11 a.m. and reception to follow. Burial will begin at 2 p.m. at the Plains Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to the Hot Springs High School Scholarship fund, 301 Broadway, Hot Springs, MT 59845. Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at [www.thelakefuneralhomeand-crematory.com](http://www.thelakefuneralhomeand-crematory.com).

Arrangements are under the direction of the Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Richard M. Ellman, 57

Rick "went home to be with the Lord" on Sept. 15, 2016, after having surgery for lung cancer, in Salt Lake City at the George E. Wahlen VA Hospital.

Rick was born on May 5, 1959, in Kalispell to Raymond and Sarah Ellman. His childhood was spent in Hungry Horse until the family moved to Columbia Falls in 1964. He went to school and graduated from high school in Columbia Falls. For a short while after his father died in 1972, he lived with his favorite aunt and uncle, Ada and Pat Ellman, in Spokane.

After high school he enlisted in the Army. When he returned home he worked as a cook at various restaurants in Kalispell and Spokane.

He was married to his wife Lisa in the late 1990s; she passed away a couple years after they were married.

Rick lived a simple life; he was always happy to visit with friends and family. He enjoyed family gatherings, loved riding his bike, going to Woodland Park and fishing.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, John and Barbara Ellman, and Burl and Ragna Drollinger; his parents, Raymond and Sarah



Ellman; his wife, Lisa Ellman; and his sister, Cynthia Martinez.

He is survived by his brothers, Daniel Ellman and his wife Kate of Columbia

Falls, Tim Ellman and his wife Patty of Billings, and Paul Ellman and his wife Julie of Kalispell; and his sisters, Sheila and her husband Douglas Morin of Kalispell, and Jane and her husband Jim Leatherberry of Phoenix. He is also survived by a few aunts, lots of cousins, many nieces and nephews, and great-nieces and -nephews. His family will dearly miss him and his smile.

Funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 30, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls, with graveside services to be held right afterward at St. Richard's Cemetery. There will be a lunch and celebration of life held at Doug and Sheila Morin's house at 395 West Valley Drive in Kalispell after the service.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Veterans Food Pantry.

## Sam Ellman, 84

Sam Ellman, 84, passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by family on Aug. 26, 2016.

Sam was born in Columbia Falls on March 15, 1932 to John and Barbara Ellman, the youngest of 12 children. He graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1952 and spent several years as an ironworker, helping to build the Hungry Horse Dam and the Anaconda Aluminum Plant, where he then worked for several years. He finished his career, retiring as director of maintenance for Columbia Falls School District 6.

Sam married Marlene Schenoffer of Calgary, Alberta in 1958 and they had three children: Dawn, Susan, and Charlie. Marlene passed away in 1999. He then married Frances Fish Boucher Johnson, adding her four children Connie, Cathie, Charlene, and Charles and their children to his family.

In his younger years, he was a charter member of the North Valley Search and Rescue Team. He was a retired member of the Columbia Falls Fire Department. He also served on the Columbia Falls City Council. He was active in Columbia Falls Jaycees and was a lifelong member of St. Richard's Catholic Church. After retirement, he enjoyed volunteer-



ing at the Columbia Falls Food Bank, traveling and spending time with friends and family.

Sam is preceded in death by Marlene and 10 of his 11 siblings. He is survived by his wife, Frances Ellman; his sister, Francis Gardner; children and grandchildren, Dawn and Rob McClelland, Kaylie, Parker, and Aria Bashe; Susan, Kurt, Kyler, and Logan Blades, Shelby, Rob and Eleanor Culp, Blaine Edens; Charlie and Anita Ellman, Chad Downen; Connie Boucher, Craig Bergstedt, Carver and Caelen Boucher-Bergstedt; Cathie, Scott, and Brittani Sollman, Catrina, Tyler, Amelia, and Will Sutton, Randilyn and Jesse Heldstab; Charlene Boucher-Mari, Rick, Keri, Sawyer, and Alexa Mari; Charles, Laura, Miranda, and Patrick Boucher. He also had many nieces, nephews, and dear friends, all who brought him immense joy.

Sam's memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 31, at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls. A private burial will take place later this year.

Memorial donations may be given to the Columbia Falls Volunteer Fire Department.

## Robert Elwood, 87

Robert Elwood, 87, died Thursday, Sept. 15, 2016, in Kalispell. Memorial Services

will be held 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

## Wesley Gordon Emmert, 22

Wesley Gordon Emmert, 22, died peacefully at home on July 18, 2016.

Services will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, July 29, at Canvas Church, with reception



to follow. Wesley will be cherished always, and missed forever.

## Marian Joyce Bell Emerson, 87

Marian Joyce Bell Emerson, 87, died on Feb. 12, 2016, from advanced stages of dementia at the Expressions Memory Care program at Prestige Assisted Living in Kalispell.

She shared 65 years of marriage with John Emerson and was a longtime resident of Rollins where they owned a cherry orchard on Flathead Lake.

Marian was born Aug. 29, 1928, in Lethbridge, Alberta, to Hubert J. Bell and Gladys Clark Bell. Gladys died when Marian was a child and Hubert later married Vione Bollum. The family moved to Kalispell and Marian graduated from Flathead County High School. She attended what is now the University of Montana where she was active in the Delta Delta Delta sorority and graduated with a business degree.

She married John Emerson, also a student at the university, in 1950. They lived in several communities in western Montana, northern and central Idaho and northern California, while John worked for the U.S. Forest Service. Marian had worked in the library at the university, and she pursued a career as a librarian in Grass Valley, California, and Salmon, Idaho. In Kalispell, where they lived for 14 years, she was office manager at Family Medical until they retired in 1984. They moved to Rollins in 1991.

She was active in the Montana Women's Club, American Association of University Women, Rollins Women's Club, the Rollins Community Club and the West Shore Community Library board. She volunteered regularly at the West Shore Community Library. She was an avid reader, loved to play bridge, did all kinds of handcrafts, and was active in the outdoors. She was a member of the



Episcopal Church. Marian was predeceased by her daughter, Jamie Emerson Grant.

She is survived by her husband, John Emerson; her son, John LC Emerson, and Mary; daughters, Judy Emerson and Woody Packard, and Nancy Emerson and Steve Quarles; and son-in-law, Roy Grant. Her grandchildren are Melissa Cole and Jason, Ellyn Grant Persicke, Jack Hogan, Casey Hogan, Andrew Mickle, Isaac Mickle, Abbe Emerson, Clark Emerson and Chloe Emerson; and great-grandchildren, Jasmyn Persicke, Jillian Persicke, Anna Cole, Logan Cole and Brady Cole. She also leaves behind her brother-in-law, Jim Emerson, and nine nieces and nephews.

No burial service is planned. A celebration of life will be held in July at the family cherry orchard.

Memorials in Marian's name may be sent to the West Shore Community Library, P.O. Box 107, Lakeside, MT 59922. Tel: 406-844-3917.

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

## Alice Engel, 88

Alice Engel passed away Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2016, of natural causes, at the age of 88.

Alice was born to her parents Nora Carlile and Emery Hommel in Indianapolis, on Jan. 27, 1928. Growing up, she was accompanied by two older sisters, Evelyn and Dolores. These three sisters shared a bond that would last a lifetime.

After graduating from Shortridge High School in 1947, Alice accepted a scholarship to attend nursing school at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula. During nursing school, she met several other women with whom she would remain friends for the rest of her life.

She graduated in 1951 as a registered nurse.

After graduation she married Linc Engel. They moved to Billings and Great Falls where Linc was transferred for work. They had three boys, Jeff, Jerry and Jay. Alice found nursing work in each of these towns before the family decided to move to Kalispell in 1967; they later divorced.

Alice worked at Dr. Allison's office as a registered nurse for 18 years; many local people would remember her as their nurse. She also worked at Immanuel Lutheran Home on the weekends, which showed she thoroughly enjoyed her work



in the medical field. She loved raising her three boys in the Flathead Valley and watching

their lives unfold.

The joy in Alice's life during her later years involved watching her grandchildren grow.

She spent much of her time after retirement at her son Jay and his wife Lynn's home with their son Jordan. Alice was very close to Lynn, who, through the care she gave, became the daughter Alice never had.

She was preceded by her parents and two sisters.

She is survived by her three sons, Jeff, Jerry, and Jay and wife Lynn; six grandchildren, Alissa and husband Brian Blankenship, Kyle and wife Kaylene, Hannah, Cavin and wife Elle, Emily, and Jordan, and two great-grandchildren, Kenzie and Myla.

Alice's family would like to thank everyone at the Immanuel Lutheran Home for their care and compassion. Their love for Alice showed, the family could not be more thankful for the help they received.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

## Paul Engle, 64

Paul Engle, 64, passed away on Oct. 5, 2016 in Kalispell.

Paul was born in Minneapolis to Betty and Floyd Engle on April 15, 1952. He graduated from Marshall High School in 1970 with a full ride scholarship to the University of Minnesota. He turned it down for a ski adventure with friends in Montana and fell in love with the area and decided to make it home.

Paul served in the Army from 1974 to 1976 in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he learned to sky dive. Later, he attended college at Flathead Valley Community College where he met his beautiful wife and graduated with an associate's degree in business. He worked as a lab tech at Plum Creek for 28 years.

Paul married Vickie Netherly on June 26, 1982, in the Flathead Valley. They were married for 34 years and together had three beautiful children.

His hobbies included "flying with the eagles"



as a pilot, scuba diving, fishing, skiing, golfing and being with his grandkids. He rode with the Christian Motorcycle Association.

"He went peacefully into our Lord and Savior's arms." He will forever be loved and missed by family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Betty and Floyd Engle, and brother David.

He is survived by his wife Vickie Engle, his son David and fiance Chelsea, son Jon, daughter Betsy and son-in-law Austin Elm, brothers Jim and Tom, sister Bonnie, grandchildren Paxton, Marlee, Cooper, Oliver, Knox, Thatcher, Edison and extended family.

The memorial will be an open house held from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, at the Engle's residence.

## Dorothy Louise Erickson, 83

On April 1, 2016, we said good-bye to our wonderful, loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Dorothy Peterson "Dot" Erickson.

Born May 11, 1932, in the tiny town of Glenrock, Wyoming, Dot was the youngest of Lawrence and Dorothy Peterson's four children. She grew up in Douglas, Wyoming, with two loving brothers, Larry and Carl, and her best friend and dear sister, Betty. She attended college at the University of Kansas, where she studied music. Music became a key foundation in her life, and later, a driving force behind her desire to build and nurture her family. She taught piano, played the organ in the church, and continued playing beautifully right up until her last day. In so many ways, music became her voice of expression, in making life wonderful for her family and many friends.

In August of 1953, in Douglas, Wyoming, Dot married the love of her life, Don Erickson. They moved to Glendive, Montana, where they became parents to three sons, Kurt, Kent and Kraig, and one daughter, KayDel. From the beginning, her life would be dedicated to raising her family and supporting her husband. As a mother, Dot was a compassionate healer, a nurturer and steady voice of reason. She was firm when she had to be, and soft when she needed to. She was small but strong.

Together Don and Dot built a successful business in Glendive and were perfect partners in every way. After retire-



ment, they worked together to build their dream home in Lakeside on beautiful

Flathead Lake, where they lived happily for several years before eventually ending up in Billings.

Their love was truly special and "she is now content to be back in his loving arms."

Dot was preceded in death by her beloved husband, parents, two brothers, and sister.

She is survived by her three sons, Kurt, Kent and Carla, and Kraig and Wendy, and daughter KayDel Shelton and Randy. She leaves behind eight grandchildren: Ashlei Olsen and Nate, Alexander Erickson and Eileen, Jillian Sparks and Jason, Christopher Erickson, Chelsea Erickson, Alli Erickson, Sam Shelton, and Tessa Shelton. Dot had three great-grandchildren, Ian Erickson, Piper Olsen and Jack Erickson. All of her family, and extended family will miss her dearly.

We will be celebrating Dot Erickson's life with worship and music at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 14, at Atonement Lutheran Church in Billings Saturday. A reception will follow at Randy and KayDel's at 1305 Hawthorne Lane in Billings. All are welcome and memorials can be sent to Atonement Lutheran Church, 1290 Sierra Grande Blvd., Billings, MT 59105.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.heightsfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.heightsfamilyfuneralhome.com).

## Sandra Lee Essig, 44

Sandra Lee Essig died in her sleep July 30, 2016, at her home in Billings. She was 44.

Sandi was born April 9, 1972, in Oregon City, Oregon. She spent her childhood on the family farm in Central Oregon, which she loved.

As a young adult, Sandi moved to Montana to be near her sister Patti, while she raised her daughter Elizabeth. It was in the Flathead Valley that she found both of her lifelong loves — her desire to help people with disabilities, and her husband Shae. Sandi was known for her charm, quick wit, her love of people and her compassion. These are qualities that gave her the drive to seek out and help people and that have endeared her to all that

knew her.

Sandi and Shae expanded their family with the addition of Tyler and relocated to Billings. She was very happy in Billings and recently expressed pride in where she lived and the love that was abundant in her home.

She is survived by her husband Shae Spilker, and her son Tyler Spilker of Billings, her daughter Elizabeth Essig of Jacksonville, Florida; her father, Bill Essig, of Bly, Oregon; her brother and sister, Terry Click and Patti Nicholas of Bigfork; one granddaughter, five nieces and nephews, and three great-nieces and nephews.

A private memorial service will held by the family at a time to be determined.

## Elden 'Sonny' Evans Jr., 74

Elden "Sonny" Evans Jr., 74, died Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016, in Martin City.

He is survived by his wife Lori Evans, and daughters Christine

Evans and Lorinda Zabokrtsky.

A memorial service is pending.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

## Jeannine Bradley-Evans, 66

Jeannine Bradley-Evans, 66, died Saturday, Dec. 31, 2016, in Kalispell. No services will be

held at this time.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.



## Robert Emmett Ewing, 102

Robert E. Ewing "left this earthly realm" on Jan. 31, 2016. He was 102 years old.

He was born Sept. 10, 1913, to Robert and Mae Ewing in El Paso, Texas.

Bob served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, mainly in the Pacific theater. After the war he met his future bride, Terry, in the cafeteria line at the May Company in Los Angeles. A flip of a coin decided they would move to Montana, where they made their home for 40-plus years.

One of his first jobs was aboard the Paul Bunyan. He was to swim along the shore and retrieve logs that had come loose while being towed to the lumber mill. He joked that he swam the entire coastline of Flathead Lake, at least twice.

Bob mostly enjoyed hunting and fishing in the wilds of Montana and pretty much any place he could. He participated in weeks-long pack trips for elk and deer, always successful for game as well as great stories to share. He shot trap for a number of years and brought home several trophies. His love of geology lead him to get involved in rock hunting which, in turn, lead to jewelry making. Both he and Terry were members of the Kalispell Rock Hounds Club. Bob also founded a furniture and appliance store that was a staple of the valley community for many years.

Dad was also a pilot. Flying made it easy to fish those far-off lakes in Canada and Alaska. He also enjoyed taking his family to "fly ins" where private pilots would pick a place to meet and have a picnic. A favorite spot was landing on the sand on the north shore of Flathead Lake. He either owned or was a partner in several planes and, due to weather, even crashed one on the highway near Paradise.

He took his love of



fishing to Seattle where he lived for many years. He presided

as the president of the local fishing clubs, along with fishing the club-organized events such as the Blind Fishing Derby. A sighted angler would team up with a vision-impaired person in order to share the joy of fishing.

At 100, Bob was finally convinced he might need some help and he moved from Seattle back to Kalispell where the good people at Prestige Assisted Living took care of him. His family would like to thank them for the marvelous care they provided for Bob.

Bob "joins his wife, parents and sister Lydia in heaven."

Bob is survived by the family that he and Terry created who are spread throughout the country — his children, Steve and wife Wendy, Bruce and wife Renee, Dan and wife Terry Ann, and Sheila and husband Paul; his grandchildren, Erin, Keyvin and wife Elysse, Shane and wife Liz, Rob, Erik, Kate, Ryan, Jenna and Connor; great-grandchildren, Shane and Brynn, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Whether you knew him as Dad, Bob, Captain, Mr. Ewing, or Fishy Papa, his stories, smile and great sense of humor will be deeply missed.

There will be no funeral service at this time. Instead, Bob's life will be remembered and celebrated this summer by his family and friends at one of his favorite fishin' holes.

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