

Alphonse A. LaBere, 87

Alphonse A. LaBere, 87, was born in Ray, North Dakota, Jan. 22, 1929, to Alphonse A. Sr. and Sylvia (Hartsoch) LaBere.

He passed away in Kalispell at home on June 11, 2016.

Alphonse was raised in North Dakota until 1959 and then came to Kalispell with his family. He worked as a millwright for 26 years, then retiring and teaching oil painting — a man of many talents and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his

eldest son, first wife, and many uncles and aunts.

He is survived by his wife Darlene, son Brad, daughters Connie and Coraine, brothers Lawrence and Richard, and sister Velois, and all their families.

His celebration of life will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 18, at Easthaven Baptist Church on Whitefish Stage Road.

He will be missed by many.

Jhovee Allen LaCasse, 29

Jhovee Allen LaCasse, 29, was born Feb. 26, 1987, and passed away July 24, 2016.

Jhovee was born in Boise, Idaho. When he was 4 years old he moved to Columbia Falls with his family.

He loved the outdoors, fishing, hunting and seeking adventure in Montana.

His passion was dirt biking.

He moved to California to work for Apple Computers and to be with his sister Elicia and brother-in-law Chris. He moved back to Montana to be with his mother Kim and brother Jariah. During that time he worked for Staples as a computer tech. He was a genius with computers.

In 2015, he moved to Idaho to start a family with Carrie and Ashlynn.

Jhovee is deeply loved and missed by all his family and friends.

And until we meet



again, he is survived by his mother Kim Allen; father Brian LaCasse and step-mother Sonya

LaCasse; sister Elicia (Chris) Bennett; nieces Everly and Baby Girl Bennett; brother Jariah Koffler; sister Amber LaCasse; brother Kory LaCasse; grandmother Marilyn Allen; grandfather Chet and Joie LaCasse; partner in life Carrie Smith, and his daughter, Ashlynn Paris. He is also survived by several aunts, uncles, cousins and extended family.

He was preceded in death "but met with open arms" by his loving grandfather Ron Allen.

Graveside services have been held at St. Richard's Catholic Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Marilyn Grace (Moorhouse) Lalum, 88

Marilyn Lalum, a longtime resident of the Flathead Valley, died peacefully on June 5, 2016, surrounded by her family at the Holy Family Hospital in Spokane.

Marilyn was born on Aug. 20, 1927, in Grace City, North Dakota, to Yorke and Grace Moorhouse, joining her brother Joe at the family home. Her family owned and operated the General Store in Grace City, where she attended school and graduated as the only senior. She attended the College of Saint Benedict in Minnesota, earning a bachelor's degree in teaching.

In 1949, she accepted a teaching job in Fairview, Montana, where she met the love of her life, Luther Lalum. Luke and Marilyn were married Aug. 16, 1951, and that fall moved to Kalispell, where they resided for 60 years. In 2011, Marilyn moved to Spokane, where she lived until her death.

Marilyn was a stay-at-home mom once the children were born. She also taught piano for 25 years, enjoyed playing golf, socializing with friends, playing bridge, spending time at the lake and camping. She was an active member of St. Matthew's and later Risen Christ Church. She also served as a volunteer at Kalispell Regional Medical Health Care for many years. She participated in numerous school and community organizations. She was especially willing to help out with any activity that involved her husband or children.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents,



Yorke and Grace; her brother, Joe, and husband, Luke.

She is survived by her

children, Mary Lynn Baker of Colbert, Washington, and Mark and wife Wendy Lalum of Kalispell; her grandchildren, Ashley Fischer and husband Mark, and Ryan Lalum and wife Bailey, both of Kalispell, Trevor Baker and wife Jaidean of Spokane, and Jennifer Rasmussen and husband Logun of Deer Park, Washington; great-grandchildren, Teagun and Emery Baker, Kate and Luke Fischer, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family wishes to thank the staff at Riverview Care Center and the staff at Holy Family Hospital for their exceptional care of Mom. Mass of the Resurrection will be celebrated at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, June 13, at Risen Christ Church in Evergreen.

Rosary service will be at 7 p.m. Sunday, June 12, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Burial will be at Glacier Memorial Garden.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Kalispell Regional Healthcare Foundation, 310 Sunnyview Lane, Kalispell, MT 59901. Please reference Volunteer Fund with your donation.

To send a note of condolence to the family, please go to www.buffalohillfh.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Patricia 'Patty' Davidson Langohr, 88

Patricia "Patty" Davidson Langohr, 88, passed away of natural causes on Jan. 20, 2016. An avid reader, she retained her intellect and mental clarity to her last day.

Patty was born Feb. 22, 1927, in Miles City to George and Verdie Philbrick Davidson. Shortly thereafter the family moved 40 miles west to the little town of Rosebud on the south bank of the Yellowstone river. Young Patty was then closer to her grandfather's ranch and where her father trailed sheep to and from his pastures in Rosebud and Garfield counties.

As youngsters in the summer, Patty, her sister Betty, and their mother would head to the Philbrick ranch up the nearby Rosebud Creek to help in the kitchen and play in the fields. One memorable trip to the ranch was all-day by horseback.

Later as teenagers the sisters and their mom would tend their father's sheep camp. It brought a special joy to Patty when the Scottish shepherders helped celebrate her birthday.

At Rosebud High the highlight of her tenure was winning the district championship in the high jump. She also developed a soft touch as a pianist and earned valedictorian of the Class of '45. The war effort left only one boy at home in her senior class.

Then it was on to the "prettiest place she had ever seen," Bozeman and a degree in Applied Sciences (Class of 1949) from what is now

Montana State University. Patty student-taught at Billings Senior High School. She met her husband, Don Langohr, at a Bobcat-Grizzly game in Butte. They were married in the small Rosebud Episcopal church on a "very hot" day with the Bozeman priest arriving "a little late." Don and Patty were happily married 64 years.

Bozeman became their home where she assisted on the creative side of the family business, Langohr's Flowerland, but for the most part was a stay-at-home-mom. An annual Northern Pacific Railway trip to Rosebud for Thanksgiving became tradition followed by hours of cribbage, pitch and Parcheesi. Grandfather Davidson didn't like to lose nor did anyone else.

Remarkable to her children were the many long-lasting friendships Patty developed over the years through college life, civic activities and clubs such as bridge, quilting, book and dance. Patty was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta sorority, PEO Chapter AU, a docent at the Museum of the Rockies, and involved in the management of family land in eastern Montana. She was fortunate to visit her cousins in Maine, Scotland and New Zealand and traced the path of her father's World War I regiment in France.

In 2013 Patty moved to the St John's Campus Vista Assisted Living facility in Billings to be closer to her granddaughter, Kara, who shares her grandmother's talent for music. Her sister Betty



joined her at Vista in 2015. Thank you to the staff of Vista for their kind care.

Patty leaves behind her sister Elizabeth Clark; son Mike (Callie) of Kalispell, son Doug (Marilee) of Bozeman and daughter Janis Langohr Johnson (Kevin) of Billings; granddaughter Kara Johnson and sister-in-law Margaret Jeanne Shively

of Woodland Hills, California. She had six nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband and infant daughter.

A memorial service to celebrate Patty's life will be announced this summer in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle.

Memorials in Patty's name can be made to PEO chapters to benefit scholarships for women, to the Bozeman Symphony (1001 West Oak St. No. 201 Bozeman, MT 59715) or charity of your choice.

Theodore A. Langton, 90

Theodore A. Langton, 90, passed away Feb. 18, 2016, at home with his family by his side.

Ted was born Jan. 17, 1926, at the family farm near Pembina, North Dakota. Near the end of the "Dirty '30s," the family moved to Williams, Minnesota.

Ted graduated from Williams High School and seven days later was in the U.S. Navy stationed at Lake Pend' Oreille Boot Camp. He served in the South Pacific theater on an APA transport.

After his service time he attended a trade school in Minneapolis and came to Columbia Falls to work for the Great Northern Railroad. After three weeks he went to work on the Hungry Horse Dam. His working career was construction work throughout the Western United States. He retired from the Plumbers/Pipefitters Union in 1990.

Ted loved to hunt, fish, camp, golf, play cards, read Western



novels and play solitaire on the computer. He was also a

"snow bird" for 17 years in Wellton, Arizona.

Ted was a member of the VFW, Moose Club, Columbia Falls Masonic Lodge, Algeria Shriners and NRA.

Ted is survived by his wife of 63 years, Myrtle; son, Dennis, of Columbia Falls; daughter, Diane, and Tim Jenkins, of Federal Way, Washington, grandchildren, Gina, Kara and Jackson; several nieces and a nephew.

Cremation has taken place and services will be held at a later date. Many thanks to the kind people of Hospice, Montana Veterans Home and other people who were so helpful.

Memorial donations are suggested to the Shriners Hospital of Columbia Falls food bank.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for Ted's family.

Darlene Arnelda Orr Landsidel, 61

Darlene Arnelda Orr Landsidel, 61, "went home to be with her Lord and Savior" on July 10, 2016, after a courageous battle with cancer.

She was born alongside her twin sister on Nov. 1, 1954, to Paul and Jean Orr in Kalispell. Dar attended school in the Kaispell area, graduating in 1974.

In 1979 she welcomed her daughter Stephanie "Bright Eyes" into the world. Then in 1986 she met and married the love of her life, Bill. Dar enjoyed the simple things in life, such as spending time with her family, especially her grandkids.

After moving to



Nevada, Dar treasured trips home to the Big Sky state. She and her twin loved collecting

all things pig related.

Dar is survived by her mother, Jean Orr; husband, Bill; daughter, Stephanie; grandchildren, Justin and Jenna; twin sister, Marlene (Bill) Sevesind; sisters, Louise Keith and Ellen (Jim) Rowe; and brother, Paul Orr Jr.; as well as several nieces and nephews.

"In heaven she met with her dad and two nephews, Robert and

Billy."

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, July 14, at the Calvary Baptist Church, 577 Walnut, Elko, Nevada.

A celebration of life will be held in Kalispell at a later date for family and friends.

John Landon Jr., 62

John Landon Jr. "was called home to Heaven" surrounded by family after a three-year battle with cancer. John was born March 3, 1954, and died on his birthday, just as he predicted, 62 years later.

John was the fourth child and first boy born to Roy and Verna Landon. He grew up in Evergreen and graduated from Flathead High School in 1972. John and brother Doug were constant companions around the neighborhood, raiding gardens, snow-cattling in the fields, and getting into any mischief that came along.

John has always been skilled in carpentry, and proved that by adding a bedroom, bathroom, kitchen nook, and porch to our parent's small house on Helena Flats Road when he was in the eighth grade. He later worked at Mountain Manufacturing.

At 23, John began his 21-year career with UPS, first driving night shifts, then delivering packages to homes and businesses in Whitefish. The "Man



in Brown" was known to everyone in the Whitefish and surrounding commu-

nities. He could tell you everyone's name and address in the whole area. He was often late getting back to the center because he visited with every customer. He was known for his kind heart and generosity and was a friend to everyone he met.

When John left UPS, he began a second career — Landon Construction. He never had to advertise — he had so many jobs lined up by word of mouth. And because he was a perfectionist and never took shortcuts, people waited for him to do their project. He worked long and hard, until the cancer took over.

John had many experiences in his life, from being held up by an armed robber as an employee at a gas station in Florida, spending time in San Diego and eventually riding his bicycle

back to Montana, to being in the middle of the BIG earthquake at Candlestick Park in 1989. Every day was an amazing adventure to John. Now he's on to another adventure.

John loved family and enjoyed gatherings and parties. He didn't miss many, and we Landons have our share.

John is preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Verna. John is survived by his wife Robbie, his son Patrick, stepsons Ben and Cody; sisters, Gale Noteboom (Harland Hanson), Diane Loomis, Ginger and Gary Eastlund, and Sheila and Chuck Thompson; brother Doug; many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and many, many other relatives and close friends.

Memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, at the Calvary Lutheran Church in Evergreen. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Make-A-Wish Montana Foundation in John's name.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the Landon family.

Vivian Marjorie (Wheeler) LaMeres, 91

Our mother, Vivian Marjorie (Wheeler) LaMeres passed unexpectedly after a brief illness, at the age of 91, on May 22, 2016. In her final moments on earth, Mom was surrounded by the love of her children and extended family members.

"She has gone on ahead to be with our father, William J. LaMeres; her mother and father, Meril and Irene (Cummings) Wheeler; her brothers Harry, Gordon, Norman, and Richard "Dude" Wheeler, and her sister Marian Stacy."

Mom was born the fifth of seven children in Wibaux on April 28, 1925. She is survived by her six children, including Kathleen Riehle of Rapid City, South Dakota; Bill LaMeres (Kathleen) of Syracuse, Utah; Clare LaMeres (Greg Bain) of Lakeside; Mary LaMeres of Reno, Nevada; Patty Smith (Bill) of Kalispell, and Robert LaMeres (Michelle) of Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is also survived by her brother Edwin Wheeler (Gretchen) of Florida. In addition she is survived by 12 grandchildren, including Brian, Bruce, and Brock, Kim, Gena, Rick and Scott, Jason, Justin and Jessica, and Sydne and Ernie. Mom is also survived by two step-grandchildren, Vanessa and Brian; as well as 16 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mom grew up on a farm just outside of Wibaux. At the age of 16, she graduated from high school and moved into "town." At the age of 18, she married Dad, and their happy union produced six wonderful children! During her lifetime, Mom lived in Wibaux and Billings and Minot, North Dakota, for a few years, then back to Billings for 13 years. After a few years in Reno, she moved with Dad and the family to Los Angeles and Orange



became a big Giants fan in her final years in Reno. She also loved to play bridge, dance, grow beautiful flowers and listen to beautiful music. She enjoyed singing in the Lakeside Chapel choir, and she participated in numerous volunteer projects for the Republican Women's Club. Mom went from being a consummate homemaker devoted to raising six children to becoming a successful entrepreneur working alongside Dad and us children owning and running a motel in Reno for a few years, then owning and running two motels for eleven years located across the street from Disneyland in Anaheim, California. After Dad's passing, her entrepreneurial spirit continued, and in 1983 she worked with business partners Jimmy Stovall and Bill O'Connell to build a motel across the street from Disneyland, which 33 years later is still going strong.

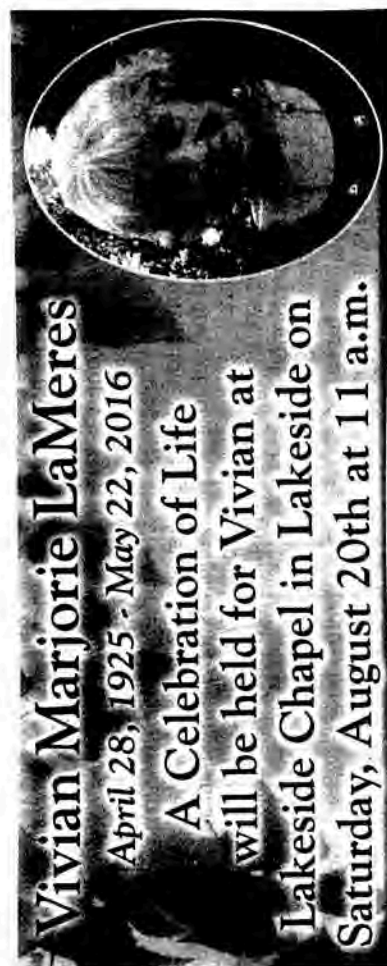
What Mom loved to do more than anything else was simply to help people. She was a strong woman, an incredibly generous soul and a natural-born caregiver. After Dad had a stroke at the age of 52, he was bedridden and unable to move or speak. Mom insisted upon taking him home, where she cared for him for almost four years until his passing at age 56. She set her clock through the night, so that she could get up and turn Dad every two hours. In that four-year period of time, Mom never once complained about caring for Dad. Her love knew no bounds. And Mom, our love for you knows no bounds either. You taught us to be strong, hardworking, caring people. Fiercely independent until the very end, your indomitable spirit lives

forever in our hearts, our souls and our DNA!

Mom, although your 91 years were well spent, our hearts are broken in a thousand pieces. We know in time we will put those pieces back together as we live our lives in ways that honor your memory as well as Dad's memory. Thank you, Mom, for the ultimate gift you and Dad gave to us — the gift of life. We promise to use that gift wisely and well.

At 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 20, a celebration of life will be held for our mom, Vivian Marjorie (Wheeler) LaMeres, at the Lakeside Chapel in Lakeside. Interment will be in Huntington Beach, California, alongside Dad at the Good Shepherd Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Vivian may be made to the Lakeside QRU, P.O. Box 911, Lakeside, MT 59922.



County, California, where she lived for 28 years. She moved to Lakeside in 1990 and enjoyed its beauty for 21 years. Her last five years were spent back in Reno.

Mom loved baseball, birds and the beauty of nature. She held season passes to the California Angels baseball team and

Eugene Edward Lanquist, 94

Eugene Edward Lanquist passed away on Dec. 31, 2016, at home in Kalispell.

He was born Sept. 21, 1922, to Carl and Gerta Swenson Lanquist in Santa Barbara, California. He was the seventh of nine children.

He served in the 4th Division of the Marines during World War II. He was in the Pacific, the Marshall Islands, Tinian, Saipan and Iwo Jima. He received the Purple Heart after being injured on Iwo Jima. He still had the shrapnel in his leg when he died. Doctors could not remove it without damaging too many muscles so they left it.

He was a master carpenter and cabinet maker with a 75-year membership in the Carpenters Union and also the Lumbermen and Millwright Union.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Elmer, Carl, Wilbur, Robert and Donald; and his sister, Helen Toppings. Gene was loved by his family, especially the children for his gentleness and he loved being a dad and grandpa.

He is survived by his wife of 29 years, Arvella; children, Rosanna and



Rick Jensen of Niota, Illinois, Mike and Sherry Burkhart of North Pole, Alaska,

Jim and Renee Burkhart of Spokane, and Bill and Whitney Burkhart of Kalispell; grandchildren, Chris and Amanda Burkhart, Heather and Ryan "Fred" Kopman, Nikki and Arturo Cervantes, Breanna Jensen Bedard, Rick and Kortney Jensen, Macayla Jensen, and Sabina and Alexander Burkhart; and stepgrandchildren, Colton Mosby and Norah Marler; three great-grandsons, Maddix Kopman, Brody and Landon Cervantes; his brother, Bert and Gladys Lanquist of Madras, Oregon; his sister, Susy Walston, of Bakersfield, California; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Per Gene's request, he was cremated and the family will have a service for him when they can get together.

His family wishes to thank Frontier Hospice for their help and support and also Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

Darrell Thomas Larson, 60

Darrell Thomas Larson passed away suddenly on Oct. 15 in Spokane, Washington, from complications from cancer treatments while surrounded by his loving family.

Darrell was born July 30, 1956, to Duane and Bev Larson in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. He attended school in Kalispell at Hedges, Linderman, and Flathead High School, graduating in 1974. He then joined the Army and later attended the University of Montana. Darrell then worked in various places in Montana, including Big Mountain in Whitefish, a Guest Ranch on Upsata Lake, and many downtown establishments in Kalispell. He attended the Alamon Training School in Kalispell where he learned his technical skills. After that he worked in many places in the world — Okinawa, Turkey, Korea, Ohio, Mississippi, North Carolina, North Dakota, Texas, Washington and Idaho — installing fiber optics and telephone systems in hospitals and many schools.

Darrell loved Montana and everything about it. He was an avid fisherman and outdoorsman. He especially loved to fish the Madison and Clark Fork rivers, spending time with his family and friends, both old and new, and swapping tales over a campfire. He loved the beauty of nature and could always see and appreciate the best in each person that he met. He was a generous



School. He and his group of committed teenage friends volunteered many hours at Flathead Industries when it first began. At the time of his death, Darrell was an active member of Real Life Ministries in Post Falls, Idaho.

He is mourned by his wife of 25 years, Pamela, of Cheney, Washington; parents, Duane and Bev Larson; brother, Tim Larson; sister, Kelly Peters of Kalispell; stepchildren Ben, Polly, Kimberly and Jay, all of Washington; grandchildren William, Jessica, Rebeca, Lauren, Johners, and several great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and many good friends.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 20, at Northridge Lutheran Church in Kalispell, with Pastor Dan Heskett officiating. A reception will follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Flathead Industries, Samaritan House, Benevolence for Real Life Ministries in Post Falls, Idaho, or Northridge Lutheran Church.

and giving person. In high school and later, he worked tirelessly with developmentally disabled adults and for a time worked at the Boulder

Isabel Larsen, 83

Isabel Larsen, 83, passed away Aug. 29, 2016, in Kalispell.

She was born Oct. 7, 1932, in Hebron, North Dakota, to Alma and Peter Lapp. Hebron was home for her through the elementary and high school years.

As a youth she was active in Girl Scouts, church activities and many hours playing the piano. After high school graduation she attended Dickinson State College and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education.

In 1954, she married Donald Larsen. They had two children, Kim and Jeff.

Isabel was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and teacher. During her 30 years of teaching, she especially enjoyed her students. Her final 15 years of teaching were at the Whitefish Junior High, where she taught middle school English. Isabel had a



very special relationship with her granddaughter Megan, who has followed in her foot-

steps as a middle school English and humanities teacher.

She is survived by her husband Don of Kalispell; daughter Kim Snell and her husband Jim of Kalispell; Jeff Larsen and his wife Ardis of Lakeside; granddaughter Megan Larsen of Tacoma, Washington; and sister June Watson of California.

A service will be held at 2 p.m. on Oct. 1 at Calvary Lutheran Church. Pastor Kurt Rau will be officiating.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Calvary Lutheran Church in memory of Isabel Larsen, 2200 U.S. Highway 2 East, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Julia Colleen Larson, 81

Julia Colleen Larson, 81, died Saturday, Nov. 19, 2016, at her residence in Ronan.

There are no services

planned at this time.

Arrangements are under the direction of Shrider-Thompson Funeral Home.

Sherri Lea Larson, 67

Sherri Lea Larson, of Kalispell, passed away on Tuesday, May 3, 2016, at the age of 67.

Sherri was born in Helena on Nov. 15, 1948. She attended Boulder High School and Montana State University. Sherri lived in the Flathead Valley since 1979.

Sherri is survived by her son, Tod McAtee; daughter, Nikijo (Bentley) and Brian Hull; brother, Dale Larson; sister, Lauren, and Mark Murphy; and grandchildren, Sydney, Owen and Colin.

Sherri was predeceased by her parents, Donald

and Lillian Larson.

Sherri was active in the local order of the Moose and will be remembered by all for her sense of adventure and mischief, her enjoyment of time spent in the outdoors, and her love of a good game of cards.

The family invites Sherri's friends to attend a memorial from 2 to 5 p.m. on May 14 at the Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge in Kalispell.

Donations can be made in Sherri's name to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, P.O. Box 221, Kalispell, MT 59903.

Richard 'Dick' Larson, 78

Richard "Dick" Larson, 78, died Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2016, at his home in Swan Lake.

He is survived by his

wife Kathy Grant.

Services are pending.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Bertha 'Bert' J. LaValley, 85

On Dec. 7, 2015, we lost a beautiful and caring woman, "and the Lord gained a great cook."

Bert was born on Oct. 10, 1930, in Amidon, North Dakota, to Frank and Albertina Holler. Bert was one of 11 children raised during the Great Depression.

She married Tom LaValley in November of 1952 and, in 1953, had the first of their three boys. As her boys grew, she had seen just about everything boys could do, and nothing surprised her. Bert never knew how many kids were coming down for breakfast. Everyone was welcome in her home.

Bert always did what she could for her boys. She even became league president for the local baseball association, so her boys could have a league to play baseball. She was a fan for their sports, even losing a couple of windshields on her car from home runs over the center field fence — her favorite parking spot.

Bert always wanted the best for her boys and wanted them to be a doctor, lawyer or a dentist. ~~What she got was a biker, yuppie and a jock.~~ But she was very proud of her boys.

Bert work at various eating establishments in Columbia Falls while the kids were growing up, and also worked for School District 6 in the school lunch program. Bert also had her own restaurant in the Canyon



Bar.

In 1981, after her divorce, she move to Fairbanks, Alaska, to be closer to her younger

two boys.

She started working at the Chena Hot Springs Resort where she was a cook and later became the kitchen manager. In 1985, she started working on the North Slope of Alaska.

1986, she moved to Molalla, Oregon, to be close to her brother David and wife Vivian.

Years later, she moved back to the Flathead Valley and found a great apartment at the Elms Apartments, where she made a lot of friends and enjoyed her life.

Bert was a two-time, breast cancer survivor, and never let that slow her down.

Bert was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Albertina Holler; brothers, Albert, Elon, Frankie, Forrest, Jerry, Lyle and Freddie; and sisters, Diana and Betty.

~~She is survived by~~ her brother, David, and Vivian Holler, in Arizona; sons, Tom of Hungry Horse, David of Whitefish, and Danny and Cari of Medical Lake, Washington; nine grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held in the spring.

William Robert 'Bill' LaValley, 93

William Robert "Bill" LaValley, 93, of Columbia Falls, died April 11, 2016, at his home at high noon with his family by his side.

Bill was born March 18, 1923, in Ogemar White Earth County, Minnesota, to Raymond and Emma LaValley.

Bill was married three times. "He was first and foremost our father and a true friend to so many people." Everyday, Bill's home was always full of friends, family and stories. Bill was happiest when the house was full of company.

Bill lived most of his life in beloved Montana. He was a lifelong cowboy and rancher. Bill had many professions during his life. He was a hunting guide in Montana and Alaska, a deputy sheriff and justice of the peace in Swan Lake, and a bush pilot in Alaska. He had over 3,000 hours in his Cessna 170 airplane, which he and his brother owned.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, son Terry Robert LaValley Westphal, brother Vernon



LaValley, and sisters Betty Jean Hilstead and Violet Carlson.

Bill is survived by his brother

Tom LaValley, and his sons Raymond LaValley Westphal of Frisco, Texas, and Calvin LaValley Westphal of Kalispell, as well as his six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Linda Hawkins was his caregiver for over the last year, and words can't say how grateful we are for her love and support. Thank you to all who came to help with his care at the end of his life. A special thanks to hospice employees Randy and Jewel, and thanks to Pastor Mike.

Please join us in celebration of Bill's life from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 23, at his home.

In lieu of flowers please give donations to hospice.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the LaValley family.

Suzanne Lavroushin, 55

After a brief illness, Suzanne Lavroushin, 55, died peacefully at her home in Kalispell on Sept. 13, 2016, with her husband, Ted Keller, at her side.

She was born Sept. 26, 1960, in San Francisco, attended Montana State University in Bozeman, and later worked in Seattle before returning to Montana. Suzanne met the love of her life, Ted, and they wed on June 27, 1997, in Kalispell, where they made their home.

Preceding her in death was her beloved Russian grandmother.

Suzanne is survived by her husband, Ted; her sister, Mara; and many devoted family members and friends.

Suzanne was a woman of many talents and a devoted and generous friend. She had many loves, which included the arts, classic films, "I Love Lucy," creating beautiful gardens, going

to Glacier National Park, and showering her friends with gifts. She was an avid collector and her thrift shop treasures were reflected in her beautiful home and the gifts she gave. This led to the creation of a successful online business.

Her greatest love, though, was for her husband, Ted.

Suzanne was generous, loving and kindhearted, the true definition of a friend. She loved her elders and often brought them home-cooked meals, pies and even created a flower garden for a friend who had always wanted one. You could always count on Suzanne, and she will be missed by so many who loved her.

The family would like to thank everyone who was involved with her care. Cremation has occurred and a private memorial will be held at a later date.

Rita Lawson-Lawing, 80

Rita Lawson-Lawing, 80, passed away Sept. 12, 2016.

Rita was the daughter of Tom and Mikki Crum of Columbia Falls and was an alumna of the Columbia Falls High School Class of 1954. She enjoyed gardening, and was a well-known dog lover.

Rita is survived by her husband, Gene Lawing; daughter, Kelle (Bill) Roberts; son, Donald (Donna) Lawson Jr.; grandchildren, Clin and Casey Roberts; and many nieces and nephews.

A private memorial will be held this coming June.

Susan Gay Lawson, 51

Susan Gay Lawson, 51, "returned to her heavenly home" on Sept. 2, 2016, after a valiant battle with a long illness. Born Jan. 2, 1965, her unwavering devotion to her family and her firm belief in God supported her in her struggle and ultimately gave her peace.

Susie was adopted as an infant by her loving parents Gene and Barbara Christiansen of La Canada, California. She always felt the utmost gratitude to her birth mother for placing her with her adoptive parents who loved her unconditionally.

Susie was blessed with a beautiful and loving family. She married her high school sweetheart and best friend Vincent James Lawson on June 15, 1985, in La Canada. Vincent preceded her in death. Together they raised three remarkable children, Kaitlyn Lawson Tank of Cranbrook, British Columbia, Jake Lawson of Kalispell, and Riley Lawson of Kalispell. She was the very proud grandmother to four beautiful grandchildren, Hadley, Hudson, Carter and Kallie. She received so much joy in spending time with her grandchildren. Her love and indomitable spirit remain as a guide for them all.

Susie had an innate sense of love and beauty. This was evident in her beautiful flower gardens and her knack for home décor. Her infectious



smile had no boundaries and her home and heart were always big enough for all who needed shelter. It is often said by people that knew her

that her heart gave out so early on because it was so big and she left a little piece of it with everyone that encountered her. She will be deeply missed by all those who had the honor of knowing her.

Susie survived by her three children and four grandchildren; her brother, Scott Christiansen, of San Louis Obispo, California; her brother and sister-in-law, Roger and Pam Lawson of Jameson, Missouri; her sister-in-law, Pamela Testi, of Heber, Utah; and many nieces and nephews who thought the world of her.

A memorial service will be held in Susan's honor at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1380 Whitefish Stage Road in Kalispell. All who knew Susie are welcome.

To send a note of condolence to the family, please visit www.buffalohillfuneralhome.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Betty Jane Haymaker Layton, 86

Betty Jane Haymaker Layton, 86, passed away at Brendan House in Kalispell on Monday evening, April 18, 2016. A graveside service will be at 1 p.m. May 20 at the C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell. She will be laid to rest next to her husband Richard B. Layton.

Betty was born May 4, 1929, in Rudyard, Montana, to Emery Haymaker and Edna Bradbury. She was one of 11 children.

In 1946 she married John Friesen. This marriage resulted in four children, Richard, Kenneth, Darlene and Charlene.

In 1961 she moved to Chester. She married Richard B. Layton, a widower with five children, in 1967. Together they managed the Tip Top Café and owned the Busy Bee Greenhouse in Chester. In 1973 Betty and Dick relocated to Lakeside, where they bought and ran the Blacktail Inn for many years.

After Dick's death, Betty retired and enjoyed her hobbies. She loved gardening and had the most beautiful flowers in her yard. Betty loved her cats, especially Misty and Sassy. She also enjoyed playing pinochle with her friends, backyard barbecues and holidays with her family, crocheting and putting together jigsaw puzzles. She was known for her scrumptious cinnamon rolls and



she was an excellent cook. In 1995 Betty purchased a home in Kalispell, where she continued

to reside until 2012 when declining health required her to move into Brendan House.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Richard; her sons, Kenneth and Richard; siblings, Marion, Harriet, Lorraine, Lloyd, Darlene, Virginia and Clinton; and one grandson, Kirk R. Layton.

Betty is survived by her daughters, Darlene Friesen of Tucson, Arizona, and Charlene Friesen of Seattle; daughter-in-law, Marianne Friesen, of Belgium; stepchildren, Leslie Layton of Las Vegas, Gary and Sue Layton of Chester, Steve and Yvonne Layton of Chester, Carol and Ralph O'Neil of Lakeside, and Marilyn and Bob Buckler of Everett, Washington; 17 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren; sisters, Penny, Beryl and Edna; and many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to express their thanks to the wonderful caregivers who came into Betty's home to help her with her needs, and to the exceptional nurses, caregivers and staff at Brendan House in Kalispell, where she spent her last years.

Doris Gilmer Leach, 96

Doris Gilmer Leach, 96, "went to be with the Lord" in the early morning hours of Sept. 4, 2016, attended by her oldest son.

Doris was born on March 26, 1920, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, the second of seven children. Her family moved briefly to Florida before settling in Pontiac, Michigan, where she attended school, graduating from Pontiac High School and excelling in math which served her well during her career as a bookkeeper and accountant.

She met Donald Leach when his father became the new pastor of Pontiac First Church of the Nazarene where Doris was a member. They married on Jan. 1, 1942. Like all young adults at that time their plans were put on hold during World War II. Doris traveled throughout the United States to visit Donald at the various military bases before his overseas deployment. During these times she began to develop her skills in art, starting by painting watercolors of various places she lived or visited. In the course of her life she explored many different art forms including drawing, painting, fabric arts, stained glass, artistic stonework, and wood carving. Her home in Bigfork is filled with these works from several decades. Her years in Bigfork were also opportunities to enjoy the natural beauty of the mountains that she so loved.

The church community was the core of Doris' and Donald's life together. They were active



members of Pontiac First Church of the Nazarene, then Detroit First Church

of the Nazarene. After retirement and moving to Bigfork, they were active members in the Community United Methodist Church. Doris used her background as a bookkeeper to manage the church's financial contributions and annual giving statements for a number of years. She also served on a number of different church committees.

Doris was a devoted wife of 71 years to her husband, and was always a loving mother to her two sons. She loved to entertain in her home. For years, in both Michigan and Montana, she hosted a popular annual Christmas brunch for extended family, friends and neighbors.

Doris was preceded in death by her husband, Donald; parents, B.T. and Jesse Gilmer; and siblings, Katherine Gilmer, Elizabeth St. Clair, James Gilmer, Susan Wilhite and Frances Marshall.

She is survived by her sister, JoAnne Mills; and sons, Collin and daughter-in-law Cheryl, and Kevin.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 9, at the Community United Methodist Church of Bigfork.

To send a note of condolence to the family, please visit www.buffalohillfh.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Robert Eugene 'Bob' LeBlanc, 87

Robert Eugene "Bob" LeBlanc, 87, left this world in Kalispell "to join his wife, Lorraine, in Heaven" on April 15, 2016.

Bob was born to Stella and Robert J. LeBlanc in their family home in Whitefish. Bob attended Whitefish schools, graduating high school in 1946. During his years in high school, he enjoyed working on the railroad.

He joined the U.S. Air Force in June 1946 and proudly served his country in the Philippine Islands and Japan for three years. Upon returning home with an honorable discharge, he married his high school sweetheart, Lorraine DeVall, on May 14, 1949. They moved to Missoula, where he attended and graduated from the University of Montana with his teaching degree. He taught high school both in Choteau and at Flathead High in Kalispell.

"Mr. LeBlanc" taught junior high in Fortine, Montana, from 1960 to 1985, where he also served as principal and basketball coach. His passion for his students was



embraced by them. Many expressed to him the positive influence he had in their lives for years to come. One class held a surprise reunion for him at Fortine School in 2008, with students coming from as far north as Alaska, south as Arizona, west as Oregon and east as Missouri.

During the summers, Bob enjoyed working as an assistant golf pro in Whitefish, until the completion of Crystal Lakes Golf Course in Fortine. It was created because of the dream he and his friend, Edmond Vredenburg, shared, as well as the hard work of many others. He became the golf pro there upon its opening, and he and Lorraine managed the pro shop for many years. He also coached high school golf.

Bob is most remembered for his love and understanding of children,

teasing nature, and proficient teaching, coaching, administration and golf skills. Bob was a friendly man, never knowing a stranger. He taught his children the importance of brightening someone's life by sharing a smile and a kind or playful word.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Stella LeBlanc; brothers, Ben and Albert LeBlanc; his sister, Frances Posey; and his wife of 60 years, Lorraine.

He is survived by his and Lorraine's children, Shelley Mower and husband Bruce, of Kalispell; Robyn LeBlanc of Hermiston, Oregon; Bob LeBlanc, Jr and wife Jackie, of Fortine; eight grandchildren, twenty great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Bob leaves behind a legacy on earth of his love for God, his country, his family and his students. Because Bob believed in continual education, he donated his body for the study of medical science.

A celebration of life service will be held later this summer.

Jack Lee, 71

Jack Lee, our beloved husband, father and friend, "went to be with Jesus for eternity" on Friday, Feb. 5, 2016, at the age of 71, in Kalispell. He passed away peacefully, and surrounded by his loved ones following a brief illness.

Jack was born on Jan. 1, 1945, in Guion, Arkansas, to Floyd and Thelma Lee. He moved to Washington state as a young child and grew up there with his five siblings and his parents who worked in the Wenatchee area. Jack grew into a teen full of mischief and when he came of age he eagerly answered the call of the Armed services. He proudly served for three years in the United States Navy and had many fond memories of that time, often sharing stories of his travels.

He married Gail Smith in 1966 and they had two daughters and a son whom he loved deeply. The love and belief he had in his kids was exactly what they needed to do well in their lives. They were his great joy.

Jack worked his entire life as an electrician and refrigeration serviceman. He received his HVAC Certificate from Wenatchee Valley College and worked at Sav-Mart for many years. He had his own business, Jack's Repair. He was fortunate to be able to work for a few years in the great state of Alaska on a fish processing ship doing refrigeration and once again enjoying the sea. He was a stranger to none and spoke easily with all he met, making many friends along the way. He was a master woodcrafter and especially enjoyed making hope chests for his daughters, granddaughters and nieces.



enjoyment and gourmet dining. He especially enjoyed entertaining

his grandchild there. Until recently, Jack's yearly event was at least one back flip off the dock. He's been known to draft and construct crawdad cages, only to catch and devour them, much to the delight of his grandchildren. Everyone knew if they needed assistance with anything, Jack was more than willing and was "The Man" to get it done.

Jack enjoyed playing tennis, cards, gardening and cooking. Corned beef, cabbage and prime rib were some of his specialties. Wherever Jack was there was a party, whether Judi knew there was going to be one or not. He was known for asking anyone and everyone over for food and fun with Judi being the last to know. This was a hallmark trait of Jacks and one that endeared him to many.

"You are deeply missed Dad, Jack! You ran the race so well! We salute you! Can't wait to see you again!"

Jack is survived by his "treasure," Judi Filler, of Kalispell; children, Audra Larson and Ken, Angie Decker and Eric, Robert Lee, Tammy Filler-Eierdam, Tina Filler-Weidmaier and Tom, and Rick Filler and Linda; sister, Lucille Howard; and brother, Larry Lee, and Carol; along with numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He spent many years working with youth in the Leavenworth, Washington, area as youth pastor at Leavenworth Church of the Nazarene, impacting many young lives for Jesus. During this time he became buddies with his best friend, Bob Johnson aka "Johnson." This friendship lasted his entire life and was a gift on earth to him.

In 1996 Jack met the love of his life, Judi Filler. They were blessed with 20 wonderful years together. This relationship added two daughters and two sons to his family along with countless new family and new friends. Jack's Refrigeration business quickly grew into friendships that he cherished and considered an extension of his family. Many memories were shared at Flathead Lake where he found refuge, relaxation,

He was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd and Thelma Lee; brothers, Gary Lee and James Lee; sister, Beatrice Owens; and son, Billy Filler.

A memorial service will be held in Kalispell at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27, at Lone Pine State Park with luncheon to follow. A second service will be held in Leavenworth, Washington, at 1 p.m. Monday, March 7, at the Wild Huckleberry at the Leavenworth Golf Course, with luncheon to follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Jack's memory may be made to Northwest Montana Veterans Service Center, 1349 U.S. Highway 2 East, Kalispell, MT 59901; or to Leavenworth Church of the Nazarene Youth Group, 111 Ski Hill Drive, Leavenworth, WA 98826.

Robert M. Lee. 88

Robert M. Lee, renowned automobile and antique arms collector, explorer and conservationist, has died at age 88.

Mr. Lee owned Cromwell Island on Flathead Lake and Windy Water Ranch in Ennis.

Robert Morton Lee passed away Thursday, Jan. 28, 2016, in Reno, Nevada, surrounded by friends and his devoted and beloved wife, Anne Brockinton Lee.

Mr. Lee was born in Woodmere, Long Island, New York, on Oct. 2, 1927. He was taught a love of nature and the great outdoors by his parents, Dr. William F. Lee and Sally W. Lee.

He graduated from Oakwood Friends School in Poughkeepsie, New York, and attended Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, majoring in engineering and business.

He served in the U.S. Army before the Korean War and was stationed in Alaska.

Mr. Lee was a "Renaissance man" who presented a multi-faceted talent to the world. He turned his hand to many things and rarely failed. He was a premier fly-tyer; successful builder/developer; excellent rifle shot; dedicated fly fisherman; safari outfitter and professional hunter in Africa; brilliant designer and manufacturer of a multitude of outdoor equipment, fine luggage and clothing (Hunting World); a patron of the arts; a merchandiser par excellence and marketing wiz; an author (of many books); an explorer and natural scientist with museum accreditation; and a classic car and antique gun collector non-pareil. During his life, his inquisitive nature, keen intelligence and sense of fearless daring carried him ever further, pushing back horizons and challenging the new or unthinkable.

At age 14, Bob Lee designed a unique telescopic sighting tool, called the Lee Mount and at age 17 designed and manufactured a range of several ultra-high-velocity rifle cartridges, such as the .358 Lee Magnum and the .424 Lee Magnum — each notably listed in Volume 1 of P.O. Ackley's, "Handbook for Shooters and Reloaders."

Lee was one of the first Americans to have a hunting concession in Africa (Lee Expeditions, Ltd.) and the first professional hunter to open Portuguese Angola to foreign hunters. He was a conservationist long before it became fashionable. While living in Angola in the early 1960s, he was instrumental in obtaining government protection for the lion, cheetah, black rhino and their habitats. He designed the first ecologically sound wildlife management program in Africa with the (then) Portuguese provincial



government (Angola) to counteract the decimation of the big game population by over-hunting and poaching. The result: there was more game there

when he left than when he arrived! This was a cause Mr. Lee championed around the world during his lifetime.

To quote Mr. Lee from his first book, "Safari Today" (1960): "It is the hunter who loves the game, for the game is his life and sport, and since the Middle Ages and before, it has been the hunter who has saved the game and fought those who would destroy it — whenever and wherever he could."

In 1965, with the outbreak of the civil war in Angola, Lee returned to New York and founded Hunting World — a luxury luggage, leather goods, outdoor clothing and sporting specialties company. His products were designed to his exacting specifications and mercilessly field-tested. He developed a nearly indestructible lightweight material, impervious to heat and cold, which he called "Battue."

Between 1980 and 1984, after six years of negotiations with the government of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Lee became the first Westerner to gain access to and lead three scientific expeditions into the rugged Tien Shan mountains and Chinese Pamirs — known as "The Roof of the World" — where he rediscovered the fabled Marco Polo sheep, *Ovis ammon poli*, on Chinese soil and documented their migration. He was successful in convincing the Xinjiang Provincial government to institute protection for many of

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its wonderful species and his reports were responsible for the creation of the Tashkurgan Wildlife Reserve in the Pamirs. These expeditions and conservation achievements are memorialized in his second book, "China Safari" (1988).

Bob Lee was a Fellow of Exploration in The Explorers Club; a member of the Boone and Crockett Club founded by Theodore Roosevelt in 1887; a life member of the National Rifle Association; a member of the Visiting Committee of the Arms and Armor Department at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; a research associate in mammalogy, Museum of Natural History, at the University of Kansas; and an affiliate professor of management at the University of Montana, where he lectured to graduate students about the problems involved in saving our ancient forests in the Pacific Northwest.

clear-cutting and lack of regrowth in the Rocky Mountain states and the responsibilities of business and industry with respect to the environment.

In 1988, Lee created an endowment for graduate studies in wildlife management at the University of Montana. His gift was the largest single donation ever received and resulted in three scientific expeditions to the Qinghai Province of China, on the Tibetan Plateau, to study increased population management for wild yak and musk deer. He also created a scholarship for Native Americans to attend the College of Forestry and Conservation at UM.

In 1999, Lee was presented with the C.J. McElroy Award from Safari Club International for his contributions to hunting and conservation.

The Robert M. Lee Foundation has awarded large sums to various conservation organizations and other efforts to control subdivided development of pristine areas.

In 1991, he funded the endowment of the Robert M. Lee Gallery of American Arms at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. He also supported the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno and many animal rescue societies.

Mr. Lee was a collector of antique Colts, Winchesters, European arms and armor and modern sporting guns, selections of which are featured in his book series, "The Art of the Gun" (2002-2003) and "Magnificent Colts" (2011). An exhibition of his many collections was held at Sotheby's New York in June 2013.

An avid car collector, Lee won the coveted Best of Show award at Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, the world's premier automobile competition, in 2006 and again in 2009; Best of Show at The Quail: A Motorsports Gathering, in 2006 and 2012; and Best of Show at Amelia Island Concours in 2014.

As a collector, he considered himself the responsible custodian of remarkable artifacts of history.

Bob Lee is survived by his wife, Anne Rutledge Brockinton Lee; a sister-in-law, Alta Maree Brockinton, of New York City; and a niece, Alta Hagan Thorne, of London, England.

He was predeceased by his parents and his in-laws, Alta Maree Massey Brockinton and David Arthur Brockinton Jr., a prominent trial lawyer, formerly of Charleston, South Carolina.

Online condolences may be shared at the website www.waltonsfuneralhomes.com.

Island owner Lee dies at 88

Daily Inter Lake

Robert M. Lee, renowned automobile and antique arms collector, explorer and conservationist, has died at age 88 in Reno, Nevada.

Lee owned Cromwell Island on Flathead Lake, where he built a multimillion-dollar mansion, and also owned Windy Water Ranch in Ennis.

He made a name for himself internationally as a safari leader and outfitter. Described in one publication as "an avid explorer, writer and conservationist," Lee was

the founder of Hunting World, an outfitter specializing in leather goods and bags.

Lee originally began designing safari gear — he claimed to have led expeditions in 17 countries — but it morphed into a business selling Italian-designed luxury luggage, duffels and handbags. Hunting World later was bought by a Japanese company.

Lee's family described him as a "Renaissance man" who presented a multi-faceted talent to the world.

They wrote in his obituary

that he was a premier fly-tier and dedicated fly fisherman; successful builder/developer; excellent rifle shot; safari outfitter and professional hunter in Africa; brilliant designer and manufacturer of a multitude of outdoor equipment, fine luggage and clothing; a patron of the arts; a merchandiser par excellence and marketing whiz; an author of many books; an explorer and natural scientist with museum accreditation; and a classic car and antique



ROBERT M. LEE feeds one of the deer on Cromwell Island on Flathead Lake. Lee, who owned the island and the multimillion-dollar mansion on it, died Jan. 28.

Robert M. Lee

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ISLAND

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gun collector.

Lee was born on Long Island, New York, and served in the U.S. Army before the Korean War.

He developed an entrepreneurial prowess at an early age. When

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Lee was one of the first Americans to have a hunting concession in Africa, Lee Expeditions Ltd., and the first professional hunter to open

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In 1988 he created an endowment for graduate studies in wildlife

management at the University of Montana. He also created a scholarship for Native Americans to attend the College of Forestry and Conservation at UM.

A full obituary will be published in Sunday's Daily Inter Lake. Online condolences may be shared at the website www.waltonsfuneralhomes.com.

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