

Florence Vacura, 84

Florence Vacura, 84, died Tuesday Aug. 2, 2016, in Kalispell. Arrangements are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Louis Vacura, 86

Louis Vacura, 86, died Friday, May 27, 2016, in Kalispell. No services will be held. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Jason Daniel Valenzuela, 40

Jason Daniel Valenzuela, 40, died Saturday, Sept. 10, 2016, at his residence in Polson. Memorial services are pending. The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory is handling arrangements.

Landis Fielden Vance, 67

Landis Fielden Vance, 67, died peacefully Sept. 17, 2016, in Kalispell.

Throughout her too-short time on Earth, Landis was bursting with energy and a zest for life that was an inspiration to all who knew her. She will be dearly missed, but her legacy lives on through her writings, her teachings and happy memories shared by family, friends and colleagues.

Landis Michaux Fielden was born Aug. 1, 1949, to Georgia and Clarence Fielden, Jr. in Amarillo, Texas. She spent most of her life in Colorado, where her father taught her to fly fish and ride horses. It was there that she acquired her love of nature and the mountains.

After receiving a bachelor's degree in philosophy and art history from Vanderbilt University, Landis pursued a career in banking that eventually took her to Washington, D.C., where she met and married William "Bill" Wallace Vance. A devoted Episcopalian, Landis was always very involved in her church as a vestry member, lay reader and active parishioner. Her spiritual home in Washington was All Souls Memorial Episcopal Church.

Though she was successful in her banking career, rising to senior vice president/corporate lending at Perpetual Savings Bank, Landis found herself drawn to a more spiritual path. After completing education for the ministry through Sewanee, the University of the South, she served



as a palliative care chaplain at the National Institutes of Health. At George Washington University School of

Medicine, she served as a critical care chaplain in the hospital and served as adjunct faculty, instructing medical students on the relationship between spirituality and clinical outcomes. She also served as a Reiki master at the Washington Cancer Institute. This work led her to obtain a Ph.D. in practical theology and health from the Union Institute and University. Landis worked with cancer patients for many years before receiving her own cancer diagnosis. After treatment, she began planning their move west. After moving to Montana, Landis was a prolific author, speaker and advocate, focusing on spiritual challenges and personal growth during debilitating illness. Her final work, a book titled "A Most Clarifying Battle: the Spirit and Cancer," is currently in production.

Wherever they were living, Landis and Bill took full advantage of local amenities. In Washington they delighted in the city's arts and culture. Among their more unusual interests was a love of chili peppers and spicy foods. As "chili heads" they felt obliged to share their passion with their East Coast friends and hosted several parties where everyone was encouraged to bring a dish that featured chil-

ies. Pepto-Bismol was available for those whose stomachs did not cooperate.

After moving to Montana, Landis and Bill delighted in outdoor sports and the area's natural beauty. In the summer they hiked, fly fished and water rafted. In the winter, they snow skied and took up curling. Evenings, Landis wrote, knitted, baked and taught groups the joys of Dutch oven cooking. Landis was instrumental in forming a local chapter of Casting for Recovery, a national organization that offers fly fishing retreats for breast cancer patients. Perhaps her most meaningful involvement in Montana was the local American Association of University Women (AAUW) whose members became her closest friends and caretakers at the end of her life.

Landis is survived by Bill Vance, her husband of 34 years, a niece and three cousins. Her adoring dog, Loki, also grieves her loss.

Bill would especially like to thank Kerry Nagel, Lois Wagner, Home Options Hospice, Brendan House and the special friends who came together as Team Vance to help them both over the past weeks and months.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Metastatic Breast Cancer Network.

A liturgical service in memory of Landis Vance will be held at 11 a.m. on Oct. 1 at Christ Church Episcopal, 215 3rd Avenue East, Kalispell. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Valeda VanDerSande, 69

Valeda VanDerSande, 69, of Polson, died Aug. 21, 2016.

A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Sept. 14

at Christian Missionary Alliance Church in Polson.

A reception and color guard will follow.

Gabrielle Cheree Titchbourne Vasquez

A memorial service for Gabrielle Cheree Titchbourne Vasquez, 25, of Eureka, who died Dec.

20, 2016, will be held at 11 a.m. Jan. 13 at the Chapel of Praise in Eureka.

Duane M. Verworn, 78

Duane M. Verworn, 78, of Columbia Falls, died in the night, Monday, July 11, 2016, at The HealthCenter in Kalispell. Brothers Mortuary and Crematory are serving the family.

Melinda Kay Veile, 42

Melinda Kay "Mindy" Veile passed away on Nov. 16, 2016, after a lengthy illness.

She was born Feb. 21, 1974, in Whitefish, to Garry and Ginny Briner. Mindy attended school in Columbia Falls, graduating in 1992. She later attended Flathead Valley Community College, furthering herself in early child education. She worked at Discovery and later worked at Tiny Tykes Day Care.

Mindy was married to Todd Frownfelter and worked at Bolster's Towing for many years. They raised two children, Daniel and Kimberly. Todd and Mindy would later divorce.

On Aug. 18, 2012, Mindy married Dale Veile. Together, they enjoyed many activities during their very short time together, including floating on the Flathead River, small bore shooting events at Bigfork Gun Club and riding motorcycles, to name a few. She later took care of Dale's parents, whose health began to decline because of age.

Mindy touched the lives of nearly everyone she met. She truly cared about people, especially kids. It didn't seem to matter where she was at, she could always connect with children, even ones she didn't know. She was truly gifted with children, and the stories are end-



less. Mindy was preceded in death by Todd's mother, Margo

Frownfelter, and Dale's dad, Don Veile.

Survivors include husband, Dale; parents, Garry and Ginny Briner; brother, Garry "JR" Briner Jr. and his wife Kanya; children, Daniel Frownfelter and his wife Destiny, and Kimberly Frownfelter; mother-in-law, Myrtle Veile; and numerous relatives and friends, including Sarah Frohlich of Kellogg, Idaho, and Shelly Enlow of Spokane. Mindy will be dearly missed by all.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 601 S. Main St., in Kalispell. Lunch will follow in the church basement.

Special thanks go out to all who cared for Mindy this past year: Dr. David Habel and the staff at Family Health Care, Kalispell Regional Medical Center, Drew Buckner of Braveheart Chaplain Ministries and the entire staff at Home Options.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Emma L. Vestre, 93

Emma L. Vestre, 93, died in Kalispell on April 28, 2016.

She is survived by a son, Rod, and daughter,

Jackie. At her request, there will be no services.

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

Everette W. Vassar, 65

Everette W. Vassar, 65, of Kalispell, died Friday, Jan. 29, 2016, in Kalispell.

Everette is survived by his two children, son Cole Vassar, and daughter Kaidyn Vassar-Woods.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, at Johnson-

Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell, with visitation from 1 to 2 p.m. Burial will take place at Conrad Memorial Cemetery following services.

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

Kalispell woman dies in single-vehicle crash

Daily Inter Lake

The Flathead County Sheriff's Office has released the name of 66-year-old woman who died in a single-vehicle crash on Sunday at about 8:30 pm.

Kalispell resident Renee Anderson Vick was ejected from the vehicle she was driving when it rolled on Montana

35 near the intersection with Columbia Falls Stage road, according to a press release Tuesday from the Sheriff's Office.

She was not wearing a seat belt and was pronounced dead at the scene.

The crash is under investigation by the Montana Highway Patrol.

Renee' Lynn Vick, 66

Renee' Lynn Vick, 66, "rolled into heaven" on Sept. 11, 2016, after "crashing into the pearly gates."

She was born July 16, 1950, in Kalispell to Douglas and Margaret (Gillet) Anderson. "Our socialite and little ray of happiness" grew up in Kalispell, "cheerleading her way into all of our hearts."

"Ms. Full of Life" began working for "those" cable companies as a "complaint navigator," a job she held for most of her humorous life. After "cancellation" of her position, she rested and contemplated retirement briefly. Her "blonde moments" were renewed and given a chance to flourish at Jo-anne Fabrics, where she developed her "love everyone" mantra. This last year she combined her "complaint navigator" expertise and "love everyone" mantra into her role as "Transmitter of Excellence" for Eagle Transit.

"Mama Nae" loved her family (well, most of the time), her friends (unconditionally), her fur babies (we all have wanted to be reincarnated as one her animals), camping, lounging in large bodies of water or rivers, and crafting her own vocabulary "that most have never understood."

Renee' was preceded



in death by her father, Douglas Anderson; her dad, Wallace Enevold; mother, Margaret

Enevold; and husband, Roger Vick.

She is survived by her brother, Art (Cheryl) Anderson of Dundee, Oregon; son, Chad (Tara) Fincher of Kalispell and their children, Jadeyn and Noah; daughter, Heidi (Scott) Neether and their children, Tucker, Tre and Teagan, of Kalispell; great-grandchild, Athena Fincher of Kalispell; and her precious fur babies, Griz, Chewy and Pookie.

A memorial service will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Sept. 17 at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home, 1890 Hwy 93 North in Kalispell. The family will be greeting friends and relatives immediately following the service at the Eagles Hall, 37 1st Street East in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to the Humane Society of Northwest Montana, 100 Adopt A Pet Way, Kalispell, Montana, 59901.

Condolences may be left on Renee' Vick's online guest book at www.buffalohillfh.com.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Bill Vogt

A celebration of life and open house for Bill Vogt, 80, who died Nov. 18, will be from 1 to 4

p.m. Saturday, June 25, at Vista Linda, 240 Boon Road, in Somers. A buffet will be served.

Maurice Percy Volkman Sr.

Whitefish Pilot

Missoula — Maurice Percy Volkman Sr. 94 ½ passed away Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016 at The Springs due to natural causes. As a family we are saddened with his passing before Christmas. He loved Christmas time and being with his family. We know he will forever be with us as he looks down upon us from Heaven. He is now reunited with Marion, his beloved wife of 51 years. They once again can float across the dance floor.

Maurice was born July 11, 1922 in Burlington, North Dakota. He grew up in Great Falls and graduated from Great Falls High School in 1941. He attended the University of Montana for a year and a half until World War II started. At that time, he joined the Navy B5 pilot program. He learned to fly in Missoula at the Johnson Field. During the war he was a flight instructor for the Navy from 1942 to 1946 primarily in Pensacola, Florida. After the war, he stayed in the Naval Reserve for 13 years flying out of Seattle and later Spokane for weekend trainings with a fighter squadron.

When he returned to Great Falls with his new bride in 1944 from Pensacola, Florida, he



Maurice Percy Volkman Sr.

became a cosmetologist with his father and two brothers at the Volkman Beauty Salon. He built his first home by himself with a handsaw. He was so proud of that accomplishment, though it wore him out after working all day at the salon and then building. He and Myrtle had two children Maurice Percy, Jr. and Debora Ann. In March of 1961, they divorced. He then was introduced to Marion Fisher Overman who had two boys; Clyde Allen and Benny Lee. They were married Nov. 19, 1961. They enjoyed every day together, including, golfing, fishing and camping trips around the state of Montana with their four children and their dog. They were very social

and enjoyed sporting events and attending formal dances at the Great Falls Country Club.

After 27 years at the beauty salon, they decided to make their Whitefish Lake home permanent. They spent the winter months in Arizona. He built both of their homes in Whitefish and Arizona. He loved to build, so home construction became his second occupation, building and remodeling several homes in the Whitefish area. Maurice and Marion lived in Whitefish for 30 years.

In 2009, they decided to move into The Springs of Missoula with the urging of family. A few years later, Marion passed in 2012. Maurice missed her dearly, but continued to enjoy life with his remaining family and friends. He loved visiting his Whitefish home and always had a project in mind. He still lived independently at The Springs. He also enjoyed his years in Rotary and with the SAE Fraternity.

Maurice was preceded in death by his father Arthur John Volkman; his mother Stella Lena McGowan; two older brothers William and Raymond Volkman. His first wife Myrtle Holman Halverson; his second wife Marion Fisher

Volkman; stepson Clyde Overman; nephew Jerry Volkman; niece Carol Volkman and daughters-in-law Becky Volkman and Rose White.

He is survived by his oldest son Maurice "Mo" P. Volkman, Jr (Terrie) of Belgrade; daughter Debora Liberko (John) of Missoula; stepson Ben Overman (Carolyn) of Missoula; daughter-in-law Susie Overman of Washington; sister-in-law Louise Volkman of Great Falls; grandchildren, Robert Forras, Tina Webb, Arthur Lee Volkman, Jolyn Music, Amy Steinke, Megan Overman, Micah Overman, Kiesha Overman, Greg Liberko and Lisa Liberko; 17 great-grandchildren and four nieces and nephews.

There was a graveside service with military honors on Tuesday, Dec. 27 at 11 a.m. at the Missoula Cemetery. A celebration of Maurice's life took place at The Springs Dec. 27 at 2:30 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to The Watson Children's Shelter, 4978 Buckhouse Lane, Missoula, MT 59804.

A life well lived - you were the BEST son, husband, father, stepdad, grandpa, great-grandpa and friend!

Ida Mae VonderHeide, 75

Ida Mae VonderHeide was a woman who lived life full out. Never one to rest on her laurels, she believed no project should ever be left undone. To envision her now, one would see her with her sleeves rolled up knee deep in whatever needed to be done. If you listen carefully, you may even hear her instructing the crew.

Born in Sunburst, April 10, 1940, to Vallie Alvin and Hildegard Kimmert Bucher, Ida was the fourth of seven children. After living in Adrian, Michigan, and Wellpinit, Washington, the family moved to the Flathead Valley, where they found their forever home.

Ida met Donald VonderHeide in 1954, and the two married June 23, 1957. They had four children, Allen, Ronald, Roger, and Wayne. While raising her boys, Ida also worked at several retail and customer service jobs. The family worked side-by-side building, fixing, tinkering, and sharing their "handyman" expertise with virtually anyone in need of assis-



tance. Even after the boys were grown, Don and Ida continued to tackle projects others would've shied away from.

After losing Don to cancer on December 18, 1998, Ida forged on. She met George Henrickson in 2001, and the two clicked immediately. Ida and George enjoyed traveling, and she finally had the opportunity to see more of the country. The two became snowbirds and wintered in Golden Shores, Arizona. No matter how she loved the warmth in the winter, Ida definitely looked forward to her return to her beautiful home in Montana every spring. Although the family eagerly awaited her return, Ida didn't make it home this year. She died with her beloved George beside her on Tuesday, March 15. She will be dearly missed.

Ida is preceded in death by her parents, brothers Allen and Eugene, and husband Donald.

She is survived by sisters Eileen Rollins, Rita Boss, and Martha VonderHeide; brother Larry and his wife Margaret Bucher; partner George Henrickson; sons Allen and his wife Diane, Ronald and his wife Cindy, Roger and his wife Edna, and Wayne VonderHeide. Ida also leaves behind granddaughter Angela Berry, her husband Matt and their children Chava, Shoshanna, Justus, and Annalise; granddaughter Shawna Long, her husband Richard, and their children Meghann and Logan; grandson Dallas, his wife Amy and their daughter Tessa; grandson Michael, his wife Autumn and their children Brandon and Ryker; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Service for Ida will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 23, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home, with viewing beginning at 10. A small reception will be held at Ida's house following the graveside service.

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

Jenny Votapka, 64

A loving and courageous woman, Jenny Votapka, "went to the arms of the Lord" July 12, 2016, after battling cancer for four and a half years. "She joins her son Peter there."

She was a devoted mother, wife, sister and cousin and good friend who helped or listened to others.

Jenny had a soft heart for anyone in need and fought to correct injustices, wherever she saw them. She was an eight-year member of the board of directors for the Northwest Community Health Center fighting for healthcare for the underserved. She served one term as its president. She also volunteered for many of her sons' organizations, including the high school band and Boy Scouts.

Jenny was born in Anaconda on Oct. 6, 1951. She grew up in Anaconda as the daughter of a smelter man and graduated from Anaconda High School. She was a member of 4-H, excelling in sewing and cooking. As was the tradition in Anaconda, kids earned nicknames from their friends. She was given the nickname "Flower" by the neighbor-



hood boys because of her nice disposition and caring manner.

She met her husband,

Frank, at Eastern Montana College, where she graduated with a degree in business. They were married on March 18, 1972, in Anaconda. She followed Frank as he transferred to various cities in Montana and Idaho with his career. They had two sons, Peter and Ryan, and visited many places around the United States. Jenny especially enjoyed visiting the Votapka farm and spending evenings in the south bedroom watching prairie storms dance across the Kansas sky.

After 32 years, Jenny retired as a purchasing agent for the Forest Service, serving on the Beaverhead, Nez Perce and Kootenai National Forests and with the Farm Bureau state office in Bozeman. Some of her favorite memories were as a Forest Service Fire Buying Team assigned to various fires across the nation. After retirement, she took up quilting as well as making

specially designed pillowcases to fit her friends' and family's interests.

Jenny is survived by her husband Frank of Libby, and son Ryan of Bozeman, her mother Elva Blaz of Butte, and her sister Bonny Rouse (Bill) of Powell, Wyoming. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews, grandnieces and -nephews, her mother-in-law Betty Votapka, and her brother-in-law Gary Votapka (Sue) of Fallbrook, California, sister-in-law Carlen Hennington of Starkville, Mississippi, and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her son Peter, and father Bill Blaz.

Services will be held at 10 a.m. on Aug. 6 at the Libby Christian Church. Interment will be at a later date in Butte.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Northwest Community Center, the Cabinet Peaks Hospital Foundation, or Shriners' Children's Hospital.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg & Nelson Funeral Home in Libby. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.schnackenbergfh.com.

Steve Vranish, 101

On Jan. 6, 2016, I received a call from my dad saying, "Loren, I want you to come by. We need to have a talk." Thirty hours later, my dad passed away, at an age of 101, from a tiredness of a time long lived.

The last two days of his life were spent reminiscing about the good, and also of the difficult experiences he had throughout his many years. He was born in a mining camp in 1914 in Klein, Montana. Upon graduating from high school, he was immediately conscripted into the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) where young men from poor families were automatically sent to help provide for those at home trying to recover from the Great Depression. He was sent to the South Fork of the Flathead at the old Elk Park Station which is now under Hungry Horse Reservoir. He later worked in the coal mines, followed by running a drag line and shovel building dams and roads for Works Progress Administration (WPA) throughout the West. The opportunity came to buy the Standard Oil bulk plant in Roundup allowing him to go into business for himself, which he did for over 30 years.

During this time, Steve married Stella, to whom he would remain married for 66 years 'til her death in 2008. Together they built their home in Roundup and also a cabin at the head waters of the Musselshell River where he showed his son Loren and grandson Rhett the way to sneak up on a German brown.

He came from a musical family. His dad sold his own accordion to buy Steve his first guitar. He developed his love of music and played his guitar in a band at dances throughout the surrounding towns on Saturday nights. He wrote a lot of his own music. He would start his "set" by saying, "Hi! This is Ol' Lonesome Steve playing for you from the heart of the beautiful Flathead Valley nestled at the base of the majestic Rocky Mountains." He finished up his long, musical career a week before he passed away by playing at the Immanuel Lutheran



Home, entertaining guests and residents with his singing, playing the harmonica, guitar and pausing now and then for a good storytelling.

Steve lived to an age of seeing many changes in a still young country. He saw the era of the horse and buggy, and rockets going to the moon. He saw communication go from the telephone operator knowing you by name to information stored in "The Cloud." He had been hungry as a child, and never failed to appreciate a good fried chicken dinner. He walked a fair distance to school and church, and later was able to travel throughout the United States and Europe. He also experienced hurtful prejudices for the fact that his last name ended with "ish." It made a lasting impact on him, and he talked about it still to the day before he died. He always said his greatest accomplishment was, "raising a son who became a loving and caring family doc."

His grandchildren and great-grandchildren thought he was the "funniest Big Papa in the world." They loved to hear him call himself, "Johnny Poopindyke." He was always laughing, joking and had the rare ability to make one feel that, at this moment, they were the most important person in the world.

Steve Vranish was a man of principle, who never said ill of anyone. He was a man who sought joy in the everything of life and who by his unending positive attitude, gave us all this gift of example by which to live. He will be missed by his broad family of nieces, nephews, cousins, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, a son, daughter-in-law, and all the many lasting friends he made no matter where he went. He had a grand life with love and few regrets. We love you, Gramps!

He will be buried in the Roundup Cemetery alongside his wife and beloved mother and father-in-law.

Noreen Elizabeth Vuckovich, 80

Noreen Elizabeth Vuckovich, 80, passed away on Christmas Eve morning, 2016.

She was born on Aug. 2, 1936, in Anaconda, to William Opie and Kathryn Devine Opie.

She graduated from Anaconda Senior High in 1954. It was during high school that she met and started dating her future husband, Gene.

After high school, she attended Carroll College in Helena, where she received a degree in nursing.

Noreen and Gene were engaged for so long, that the jeweler sold the wedding band that went with the engagement ring. They began their life-long marriage on Aug. 31, 1957. They were happily married for 59 years and blessed with seven children, eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She began her nursing career at Barrett Hospital in Dillon. The young couple moved back to



Anaconda where Noreen practiced nursing at St. Ann's Hospital. Noreen then

worked as a nurse for Dr. Malee's private practice, after his retirement, she worked as a nurse on a job site at the Anaconda Smelter for McKee Construction. She completed her nursing career working for Anaconda Community Hospital, where she retired as the director of nursing.

For a period of time the Vuckovich and Francisco families owned and operated the Anaconda Dairy Queen. Noreen was the personnel director and was known for firing two of her sons on several occasions.

Noreen was a member of the Anaconda Catholic Community. Her faith was the center point of her life. Noreen and "the

Ladies" were known for their prayer chain that served the various families and their children.

Noreen was preceded in death by her parents; an infant son, William Eugene Vuckovich Jr.; her first-born grandson, Jeremy Funston; and brother-in-law, Ray Sherrill.

Noreen is survived by her loving husband and life-long partner Gene; her children and their families, Dan, Verna, McCall, Zach, Finnegan and Emery; Chris, Jessica, Graham and Callait; Kim, Katie, Mark, Remy Lynne and Tyler Ann; Mark and Aaron; Jackie, Ken, Colin, Connor, Kerianne and Kennah Beth; Mary and Andrea; John and Vera. Noreen is also survived by her brother Jim Opie and his wife Carol, brother-in-law Jack Vuckovich and his wife Vi, sister-in-law Nada Sherrill, numerous nieces and nephews and many life-long cher-

ished friends.

A celebration of Noreen's life will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 31 at Holy Family Catholic Church, 217 W. Pennsylvania, Anaconda. A luncheon will follow at the church's social hall.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial donations be made to Anaconda Pintler Hospice, 118 E. 7th St., Ste. 1A, Anaconda, MT 59711 and/or the Anaconda Community Hospital Foundation, 401 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Anaconda, MT 59711.

Noreen used the gifts God gave her to make this world a better place. Her kind and compassionate spirit has forever touched the lives of those who knew her.

Longfellow Finnegan Riddle Funeral & Cremation Service is entrusted with Noreen's funeral arrangements. You may pay your condolences at www.longfellow-finneganriddle.com.