

## Perry L. Coryell, 90

Perry L. Coryell passed away peacefully in his sleep at Prestige Assisted Living in Kalispell on the morning of Sept. 10, 2018. He was 90 years old.

Perry was born March 24, 1928, in Carbondale, Colorado, to Perry Commodore and Irene Lillian Coryell. He was married to Jackie Dunlap, pharmacist, on Nov. 27, 1955. They had two daughters, Laurie Anne (Nov. 26, 1956) and Linda Susan (Nov. 28, 1960). Linda was diagnosed with leukemia at 2 years of age and fought a valiant fight until she passed away on Dec. 17, 1965. Linda was precious to Perry and his heart never healed from her loss.

Perry ranched on the family ranch until 1965. He then did construction and drove heavy equipment. He retired as foreman of the Garfield County road and bridge crew in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, at the age of 62. He cut firewood and sold it in the Aspen valley for extra income. His work ethic was unsurpassed.

He was proud of his daughter Laurie getting her medical degree from the University of Colorado in 1984. His wife Jackie died in an automobile accident in 1985. Perry moved to Kalispell to start a new journey. He had a showplace of a home and yard in Many Lakes. He built rock walls and lined his trails with little rocks. He enjoyed the turkeys and deer and an occasional bear. He played horseshoes and shot pool at his home.

He married Marjorie Worth on Sept. 6, 1997,



and was blessed to have her loving companionship for 21 years.

They went camping, fishing, boating and even rafted together. They loved playing games and friends and family were no match.

His biggest joy was spending time with Marjorie's grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Perry loved to fish. Just days before he passed, he said "I never got tired of fishing." He also said, "Maybe I did not need to keep all of them!" He was one with the fish, catching them when no one else could. At one time, he had a beautiful coin collection. Later he collected elephant figurines, old colored bottles and Roseville pottery.

Perry was preceded in death by his daughter Linda, and his first wife Jackie.

He is survived by his sister, Martha Buckles, of Houston; his daughter, Laurie, of Monument, Colorado; his devoted wife, Marjorie, of Kalispell; and many of Marjorie's beloved family members.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 19, at Trinity Lutheran Church. Perry will be buried in Glenwood Springs. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you donate to a charity of your choice or the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for Perry and his family.

## Joyce O. Cottet, 95

Joyce O. Cottet, 95, passed away on May 26, 2018, at Welcov Assisted Living in Kalispell.

Joyce was born in Priest River, Idaho, July 4, 1922, to Theodore and Alice Burton. At a young age the family moved to Kalispell where she graduated high school in 1940.

On Aug. 15, 1942, Joyce married Harold "Bud" Cottet in Kalispell, where she worked at Guest Photo Art while Bud was in the service.

After retiring, Joyce and Bud enjoyed going back East for his medical ship reunions, and visiting relatives in South Dakota, California and Washington.

Joyce was well known for her homemade lefse and doughnuts, enjoyed bowling, sewing club, gardening and exercising at the Senior Center.

She was a member of Epworth Methodist Church, a life member of Eagles 234 of Kalispell and a Gold Star Mother.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents;



brothers, Elmer and Wallace Burton; sister, Hazel Stein; son,

Duane Cottet; and husband Bud of 65 years.

She is survived by her son, Harold "Scott" and wife Karen of Spokane, granddaughter, Debora and husband Joe Fournier, great-granddaughter Kendra, and great-grandson Bridger, of Billings; and grandson Justin Cottet, wife Joan, and two great-granddaughters Evy and Elle, of Snohomish, Washington; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The families would like to express their heartfelt appreciation to the Welcov Assisted Living employees, Frontier Hospice of Kalispell and those who chose to drive Joyce to church each Sunday.

Private graveside services will be held at a later date.



## Karlann S. Coughlin, 93

Karlann S. Coughlin, 93, of Kalispell, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 24, 2018, at HealthCenter Northwest in Kalispell.

Karlann Smith was born in Tipton, Indiana, on Feb. 18, 1925, to Claudia Achtenhagen Smith and John D. Smith III. Her father had a 25-acre apple orchard she referred to as Beechwood. Her mother was the only Red Cross nurse in Tipton County and turned their large, three-story family home into a hospital during the Great Depression. It's here that Karlann learned to cook and bake for the patients.

She was an excellent student and violinist. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree on a full scholarship from Purdue University and attained her master's in biochemistry from the University of Michigan in 1946, where Karlann was one of only three women in her class.

She taught the nurses lab and was a member of Alpha Xi Delta Sorority. She worked in the lab at the University of Chicago and for the American Meat Packers Association, where she helped create hydrogenated oils. She later apologized for that feat: "We were just trying to find a way to give fats and oil a shelf life, to keep them from going rancid."



children, Karlann taught advanced math classes whenever a school

was in a jam and needed a teacher. She was a successful business woman and owned Books West in Kalispell from 1969 to 1979.

She was an active member of the American Association of University Women, troop leader for Girl Scouts and Brownies, and president of the Boulder City Ladies Golf Association. She enjoyed tennis, golf, sailing, hiking, alpine and cross country skiing, water aerobics and was an avid reader. She loved baking cinnamon rolls and creating extravagant gingerbread houses with her grandchildren. At age 88, she was asked to model in the Wenatchee YMCA "swimsuit calendar" with her precious friends, the Water Lilies.

Karlann is survived by her son Kevin (Ranae) of Bismarck, North Dakota; her son Matt (Stacia) of St. Paul, Minnesota; and her daughter Cris Coughlin (Steve Sutherland) of Whitefish; nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Karlann was pre-

Karlann tripped over her future husband, Paul Coughlin, while playing volleyball during girls night in the gym at the University of Michigan.

They were married at "Beechwood" in Tipton, Indiana, on Aug. 31, 1947. They shared many love poems together over the next 65 years.

Karlann and Paul led an adventurous life, and she was always prepared for each day in her varied homes in Mexico City, Cleveland, Ohio, Pinedale, Wyoming, Kalispell, Salt Lake City, Boulder City, Nevada, and Wenatchee, Washington.

While raising four

children, Karlann ceded in death by her parents, sister Phyllis (Smith) Hartley, brother John D. Smith IV, husband Paul Coughlin, and daughter Tricia (John Page).

As per Karlann's wishes, she will be cremated with no fanfare. Remembrances may be entered at [darlingtonfunerals.com](http://darlingtonfunerals.com) or on Karlann's Facebook page. Her family requests that you honor her life doing as Karlann and Paul always lived, by being kind to someone else today.

Darlington Cremation and Burial is caring for Karlann and her family.



## James P. Coulson, 73

Jim, 73, passed away March 16, 2018, of natural causes, surrounded by friends at a dear friend's home.

Jim graduated from Columbia Falls High School in 1963 then attended Northern Montana College in Havre for two years.

In 1966 he joined the Navy and did one tour in Vietnam. After discharge from the Navy in 1970, he came back to Columbia Falls and worked at Plum Creek. Soon after, he purchased his pride and joy, a 1970 red Buick Grand Sport, which he still owned.

Jim retired from Plum Creek and became "Mr. Social." He had a weekly routine of lunches and coffee, which you didn't interrupt, as his many friends can testify to. He enjoyed hosting many class reunions in his backyard. He was always open for family, neighborhood and friends gathering at his home.

When he wasn't out to eat he worked on vehicle engines and computers. He was well known for his auto mechanic work.



He was an avid motorcyclist. He still enjoyed a ride or two in the summer months with friends.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents Hervey and Marie Coulson, and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

He is survived by his sister Judi Hedstrom and husband Rob, a nephew Mike Hedstrom and niece Kelly Hamilton, and three grandnieces.

Memorial services will be held from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. July 7 in Jim's backyard, 185 Veterans Drive. A military salute by the American Legion Post No. 72 will close the memorial.

He didn't own a tractor but belonged to Flathead Tractor and Engine Association and enjoyed helping members work on their engines.

Jim is missed by his family and many, many friends.

Donations may be made to the Montana Wounded Warriors, 100 Cooperative Way, Ste. 100, Kalispell MT 59901, or an organization of your choosing.



## Helen Irene (Huston) Coverdell, 101

Helen Irene (Huston) Coverdell, 101, passed away on Friday, Aug. 24, 2018, at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

Helen was born on June 9, 1917, in Moorcroft, Wyoming, to Roscoe and Mabel (Bell) Huston. She joined an older brother and one sister. The family later moved to Nashua, Montana, where her father again owned a lumber yard until early 1931. He was forced to close his business after the "crash of 1929," when his customers could not pay off the credit he'd generously extended to them. The family moved to Polson where Helen graduated from high school in May of 1934 with a scholarship that helped pay her way for a teaching certificate from Western Montana College in Dillon; she "minored" in music, and worked part time as a housekeeper/maid/nanny to a professor's family, to pay her room and board while living in their home at Dillon.

Helen accepted her first teaching position in Ferndale for the 1936-1937 school year; she taught the upper four grades (five, six, seven, eight) all together in one room. She had been dating Eldon Coverdell in Polson during the summer after



teacher for the 1946-1947 school year. She and Eldon had bought a three-story apartment house in St. Ignatius by then. The family had moved from Polson in late 1942 when Eldon transferred from the Polson Safeway to Anaconda; he planned to get a better paying job at the smelter. They abandoned that plan and he was hired at the lumber mill in Bonner in late 1943. They bought an unfinished "care-needy" starter house in "Finn-town." Eldon rode a bicycle the 3 miles to work in Bonner and worked his carpentry magic on the house when off work. Helen sold Avon products to help supplement the income; she also took back all of the empty toothpaste tubes, made of lead, which were collected for the war effort to make ammunition. She found and sent a dime every Friday, for the War Bond investing at the grade school in Bonner, with first grader Norma, the house was sold. Eldon had a new job with the Bureau of Indian Affairs at St. Ignatius, and the family moved when school was out in June 1945, to the

reported the problem to child welfare for resolution (several times in the four years). There were no phones back then; it was all done by her letter writing requests for assistance to her students. She was a wonderfully caring, conscientious teacher who went way beyond the call of duty to benefit her students' welfare, whether a medical, moral or physical abuse problem. She put on a religious-themed Christmas program every year and organized several fundraisers to buy supplies for a music (or other unfunded) activity she wanted to add to the curriculum. She found ways to have bake sales, candy sales, plus community-attended carnivals; she bought percussion instruments for the school with the money and played her own piano (in the schoolroom) to add music to her teaching and mentoring duties. She had between 10 and 20 pupils spread over the eight grades every year — and no teacher aides back then. Essex was a busy railroad crew center with the hotel and restaurant open 24 hours a day, owned by Great Northern Railway. Eldon cooked on the graveyard shift for the first two winters but worked for H.F. Construction (crushing red rocks for the railroad

work for F.H. Stoltz Lumber Mill at Half Moon. Helen's fourth daughter was born in July 1952 (in Polson). Helen was once more a stay-at-home mom. In early January 1956, Helen was forced back into the workforce, but not as a teacher. Eldon suffered a near fatal heart attack and was ordered to not work for a year. Helen had to have a full-time, good-paying job immediately, and Libby was the best opportunity for that; she was hired in the office of J. Neils Lumber Mill. Eldon, the love of her life, had another (fatal) heart attack four years later on Feb. 28, 1960. Helen was now a 42-year old widow with a 7-year-old child still at home to be raised. She had secure employment at the mill, however, had promotions (now St. Regis Timber Company office), and she retired in Libby after 25 years (in 1982). The mill had been sold to Champion International by then, and she was the head purchasing clerk with \$100,000 purchasing authority in her name.

Helen remained single for 28 years, then married Frank Bonneau of Libby in 1988. They remained in Libby until 2003, when they relocated to Missoula Manor

the Libby Food Bank full time and established a "Crisis Center" to assist disaster victims (home fires, floods, etc.). She also loved playing in her League bowling games every week, and home parties with her single lady friends to play cards on Saturday nights in Libby.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, brother Lisle Huston, sister Bernice Kershner, second daughter Nancy Coverdell Ostheller, third daughter Elda Rae Coverdell-Griffey-Petersen, husband Eldon R. Coverdell, her in-laws, Eldon's parents' sister Oma Wittwer and brothers Ralph, Donald and Robert, plus granddaughter Kelly Marie Griffey-Greenfield-Pope, great-grandson Kelly Greenfield, many nieces and nephews, son-in-law Donald R. Burns Sr. and Earl F. McLauchlin, then husband Frank Bonneau.

She is survived by oldest daughter Norma McLauchlin-Burns of Kalispell, youngest daughter Janice Coverdell-Shanck and granddaughter Lovelle in Tennessee, grandson Derrick (Cathy) McLauchlin Sr. and Eldon McLauchlin of Spokane,

Darrel Griffey Jr.

of Pocatello, Idaho, granddaughters Sue McLauchlin-Thorp of Kalispell, Corrie Ostheller (Lee) Munyan of the Seattle area, Tracy Griffey-Bixby, and Dawne Griffey of the Pocatello area, plus 19 great-grandkids, and 23 great-great-grandkids, and a great-great-great-grandchild.

She was much loved and a lifetime influence of good for the students she taught in grade school so long ago. She touched so many lives so positively!

Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. today, Aug. 31, in Polson where she will share a plot and headstone with her Eldon for eternity, in Lakeview Cemetery.

Many, many thanks to all the wonderful caregivers at Immanuel Lutheran Home during Helen's nearly 12 years residing there.

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.



college. They eloped to Sandpoint, Idaho, and were married Dec. 26, 1936. It had to be kept secret until the school year at Ferndale ended because of the "Morals" clause in her contract; she was single when she was hired and had to remain the same way to the end. She walked into Bigfork after school every Friday and got on the bus to Polson; Eldon brought her back in the dark on Sunday night. As soon as her teaching year ended, they began their life in Polson. The first of their four daughters was born in March 1938, and all were born in Polson. They welcomed another baby girl in March 1940, another April 6, 1942, and the fourth on July 11 of 1952. Helen was a stay-at-home mom until the fall of 1945 when she began "substituting" at St. Ignatius school. She was hired as a secondary full-time third grade

apartment house "with the copper roof" in St. Ignatius. Helen applied for the teaching position at Essex in summer 1947. She was hired to teach all eight grades in the school/living quarters building on the hill above the railroad tracks. They sold the apartment house and lived in a one-room, incomplete cabin in Hungry Horse for the summer (what was to be the Crooked Tree motel later) — no plumbing and no electricity, just camping inside a four-wall roofed shell. The family move to Essex was complete in late August. Helen updated her teaching certificate (via a mail-in course) during that first school year, in the evenings — after teaching all day and taking care of her family. She was rehired for three more years there; she was the self-appointed protector/caregiver for any children in "problem" homes, and

track beds) from April to November each year. He also did all of the janitor work for the school and kept the "light plant" generators working as part of the teaching contract (the free rent for our family). Helen applied for and was hired to teach the fourth and fifth grade combined class of surplus "dam" kids from Martin City (transported to Coram everyday).

For the 1951-1952 school year, the family moved to Coram in June 1951. It was a tough winter for Helen; Eldon worked for H.F Green in Spokane that winter, so Helen was afoot from home to the school and back home every day besides having to take care of Eldon's horses and her family. They moved from Coram to Half Moon in April 1952 and Helen commuted to Coram to finish her school year teaching there. Eldon had found

in Missoula. Helen was beginning to show symptoms of dementia by then and needed assistance at times. Frank's daughter moved in and was caregiver to both of them in 2004. Frank passed away in July 2007.

Helen suffered a bad fall and moved into Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell, on Nov. 1, 2007. She loved her new home and new family where she was so loved and tenderly cared for 24/7! She participated in all activities, loved bingo, and attended the in-house church and Bible study. She enjoyed reading and working on her word puzzles. Skip-Bo was her favorite card game with her oldest daughter, along with dinners out and Dairy Queen ice cream.

She was a devoted United Methodist Church member and very active in it from 1960-1988. After retiring in 1982, she ran



## Ruby Gene Covey, 91

Ruby Gene Covey died peacefully in the loving arms of her husband Bill and son Mike on Nov. 9, 2018, at the age of 91.

Gene was born Sept. 21, 1927, in Missoula, the daughter of Ruby and George Smith. She grew up in the Rattlesnake area of Missoula and attended Missoula County High School before graduating from Alberton High School in 1945.

She married her husband of 65 years, William "Bill" Covey, in 1953. They met in the Rattlesnake as neighbors while attending the Lincoln grade school. Together they had two children, Michael and Carmel. Gene and Bill lived throughout western Montana and the Northwest until retiring to Flathead Lake and Kalispell in 1985.

Gene enjoyed everything life in Montana had to offer and spent summers fishing, camping and taking RV trips with her family. She was an avid and talented crafter, and had a passion for knitting, sewing and quilting. She was also a professional stained-glass artist and commissioned pieces for the Catholic Church as well as private homes. Gene was a beloved and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend.

Gene was preceded in death by her parents, Ruby and George, and her brother Aaron Smith. She is survived by her



husband, Bill; son Michael (Stacy) Covey, and grandchildren Charlie,

Camden and Harrison; daughter Carmel (Richard) Knowles and grandchildren Michael (Alycia) and Andrew, and great-granddaughter Maiya.

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Gene's life at 11 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 16, at St. Matthew's Catholic Parish in Kalispell.

Friends can visit [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.

## Bette Cowan, 97

Bette Cowan passed away Oct. 10, 2018, of natural causes at the age of 97 at the Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Bette was born Jan. 29, 1921, in Anaconda to Robert and Delvina Walters. She was the youngest of five children. She attended schools in Anaconda graduating from high school in 1938.

On April 11, 1942, Bette married Milford (Chappie) Cowan in Anaconda. After the war, Bette and Chappie moved to Whitefish where they built a house near the City Beach and raised three children, Sheila, Tom and Duane.

Bette was preceded in death by her husband, her parents and her three brothers, a sister, and son-in-law Bob



Walters. Bette is survived by her three children, Sheila Walters of Meridian,

Idaho, Tom Cowan and wife Judy of Kalispell, and Duane Cowan of Marana, Arizona; four beloved grandchildren, Cassi, Scott, Tory and McKenna; and two great grandchildren, Emmett and newborn Huxley.

Bette thoroughly enjoyed her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren, who brought love and joy to her life.

In accordance with Bette's wishes, no services will be held.



## Luke A. Coyle, 44

Luke A. Coyle, 44, passed away Aug. 5, 2018, at home.

Luke was born in Burlington, Iowa, on Feb. 14, 1974, to Joel Coyle and Teresa Hoeschen. He graduated from Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado.

As a father, he loved his family deeply. They were the center of his world. He enjoyed taking them fishing, camping and hiking. As the oldest sibling, Luke loved spending time with his brothers and sisters. He was a caring and devoted uncle who was always a great inspiration for his nieces.

Luke was an exceptional manager who built lasting relationships with those that he worked with. He always took great pride in his work.

As a beloved father, brother, uncle and son he will be greatly missed.

Luke is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; and three sons, Jordan Quantromani, Quincy



and Riley Coyle; as well as his two brothers, Joshua Coyle and Michael Hoeschen;

two sisters, Elizabeth Hults and Rebecca Hoeschen; his four nieces, Angelique, Genevieve, Vanessa and Dominique Hults; and his mother, Teresa Hoeschen. Luke was preceded in death by his daughter Shannon, father Joel Coyle, and grandparents George Coyle and Rosemary Einspanger.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 12, at Darlington Cremation and Burial Services funeral home, 3408 U.S. Hwy. 2 East, Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made at Whitefish Credit Union under Elizabeth Coyle. Whitefish Credit Union can be contacted at 406-257-3123.

## William J. 'Bill' Cramer, 66

William J. "Bill" Cramer, 66, of Kalispell, passed away March 23, 2018, in Livingston.

Born Oct. 2, 1951, to Polly and Dick Cramer, his father was an officer in the Air Force and therefore Bill lived all over the world. He graduated from Great Falls High School in 1969, and then attended Montana State University. Bill joined the Air National Guard in 1973 and remained in the Reserves for a number of years.

He married Karen Beckman of Great Falls in 1975, the love of his life. They had two children Dan and Stefanie, who were his pride and joy. The Cramer family loved Kalispell and the outdoors to enjoy, especially their time on Ashley Lake.

He began a career with United Parcel Service (UPS) and soon changed to become a successful AC-Delco General Motors representative. He loved his work and his clients he met over the 30 years with General Motors. He traveled the state of Montana for many years and made some incredible friends.

He was a kind, loving man, who had a great sense of humor and could make you laugh instantly. He was transferred to Arizona for eight years before retiring. After retiring, he wanted nothing more than to move back home to Montana. He moved back in 2011. One of his favorite hobbies was NASCAR and he made



many travels to watch his favorite drivers ... Dale Earnhardt Sr. being his top driver.



Bill was preceded in death by his

parents Dick and Polly Cramer, and his sister Janice.

He is survived by his wife, Karen son and daughter-in-law, Dan and Jody Cramer of Bozeman, and their children Riley, 9, and Coy, 4; daughter and son-in-law, Stefanie and Jason Hanson of Kalispell, and their children Justin, 4, and Annie, 2; his sisters, Peggy, Kathleen and Susan; and many nieces and nephews.

Bill loved his large extended family and was always Santa for the family gatherings. His fun loving spirit, kindness and sense of humor will be greatly missed.

Services are at 10 a.m. Monday, April 2, at St. Matthew's Catholic Parish in Kalispell, with a graveside service and reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to 194 Frontage Park Road, Kalispell. Funds will be used to assist struggling alcoholic families. Please visit [www.jgfuneralhome.com](http://www.jgfuneralhome.com) to leave condolences for the family. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.



## Barbara 'Joy' Schnitger Crane, 101

Barbara "Joy" Schnitger Crane, 101, passed away March 3, 2018, at The Retreat in Kalispell.

Joy was born Feb. 25, 1917, in Garden Grove, California, to Helen and Arthur Schnitger. She had a twin sister, Fern Lucille Schnitger Hines, and a brother, Arthur Wallace Schnitger. She grew up surrounded by orange, walnut and avocado groves in the Garden Grove area. Joy drove tractors, road graders and other farm equipment and took in strays, two- and four-legged. She was loved by all who met her.

She graduated from Garden Grove High School in 1935 and attended Fullerton Junior College, now Cal State-Fullerton. Joy married George Frederick Crane on Aug. 7, 1937.

They owned a bakery in Garden Grove from 1937 to 1952, and she retired from Knorr Beeswax Factory in Del Mar, California. They raised three children, Georgia, Barbara and Arthur. Joy was a devoted mother, serving as a Girl Scout leader, band parent and PTA president.

Joy was one of the founders of Garden Grove Historical Society, and the Schnitger family home is in the historical society.

In 2006 Joy uprooted her established life in Southern California and moved to Bigfork. She immersed herself into everything Bigfork has



to offer and is an example of "The Joy of Living."

Shortly after settling into her new home, her daughter and granddaughter presented her with her very own horse. At age 90 she led the trio to the trails on horseback to take in the scenery of her new surroundings. She also purchased an ATV to cruise her 9 acres, and at 92 bought a kayak. She enjoyed padding the lakes and rivers for several years.

One of her biggest adventures was glancing out her window to discover five grizzly bears in the horse pasture. Traps were set and after the bears were captured and sedated she was able to meet them, and of course turned it into a photo op.

Snowshoeing was another hobby Joy enjoyed in Bigfork. For her 100th birthday, she donned full leathers and went for a Harley ride, consequently picking up the nickname "Biker Joy."

Joy is survived by her daughters, Georgia Crane Hensler and Barbara Crane Hunter, and son Arthur Crane; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 7, at Bethany Lutheran Church in Bigfork.

## Chriss Crawford, 76

Our beloved Chriss "was suddenly called home" early Thursday morning, May 31, 2018, "to be with his family in heaven." He had just celebrated his 76th birthday.

After owning Chriss Crawford Insurance Agency from 1979 to 1996, he retired with the love of his life, Myrna, to travel the U.S. in their RV. He spent winters in Indio, California, with friends and summers at Flathead Lake with family.

Chriss, a passionate lover of classic cars and a talented Jeep crawler, never met a stranger and was the life of the party wherever he went. If there was not a party, he would start one. He thrived on projects and helping friend and son, Rod.

Survivors include his soul mate of 59



years, Myrna, brother Randy, sister Mary Mosley, son Rod and

daughter-in-law Kristy. Grandchildren include Cari, Baylee, Cody, Lexis and Travis, and great-grandchildren, Ridge, Sage and Ash.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Effie Crawford, daughter Lori and son Jay.

No service will be held as per his wishes.

In his own words his whole family bids him, "Don't forget you're special!"

Please send well wishes to Myrna Crawford and family, 7847 Double Tree Lane, Missoula, MT 59804.



## Amos Lloyd Crepeau, 83

AXC Amos Lloyd Crepeau, U.S. Navy Ret. passed away June 18, 2018. He was loved and will be missed by many.

He was born Aug. 2, 1934, the son of Ruth Mills Crepeau and Amos Lloyd Crepeau. He grew up in Fairfield and Augusta, Montana.

Amos was well known in Flathead Valley. He spent about 30 years in the U.S. Navy where he served in the Korean War and twice in the Vietnam War. He received numerous medals and awards, including the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal of the USS Hornet, National Defense Service, Republic of Vietnam Service Medals and many more.

Amos was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying many years hunting and fishing. Another of his favorite pastimes was sitting in the local restaurant having coffee and visiting with friends.

He is survived by his daughters, Jennifer and



Stephanie; his son, Nathan; grand-son, Josh; grand-daughters, Christina, BreAnna, Nichole, Katelin and Carroll; and great-grand-

children, William and Maddison.

Amos was loved and will be missed by everyone who knew him.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers to please make donations to the Veterans Food Bank or the DAV.

At Amos's request there will not be any services.

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.

## William 'Dick' Crockford II, 65

William "Dick" Crockford II, 65, of Dillon, passed away Feb. 8, 2018, at Barrett Hospital and Healthcare in Dillon.

A respected stalwart of the region's newspaper industry, Crockford had served as the publisher of the Dillon Tribune since 2007. Active in the Montana Newspaper Association for 35 years, he was elected as its president in 2007 and earned distinction from it as a Master Publisher and Editor in 2009.

Prior to coming to Dillon, Crockford worked for five years as the editor and publisher of the Big Horn County News in Hardin. He lived before that in Anaconda for 13 years, working for seven and a half of those years as editor of the Anaconda Leader. He also served as editor of the Shelby Promoter after acting as farm editor for a pair of Idaho newspapers.

He remained active in the Catholic Church throughout his life, volunteering for the



Catholic Youth Coalition and teaching confirmation classes to high school

juniors and seniors for Anaconda Catholic Community for a dozen years.

Crockford was born in Los Angeles on May 2, 1952, and grew up in Fort Benton.

He is survived by his wife Debbie, and by his three daughters, Heather Boese of Butte, Theresa Unbehend of Taylorsville, Utah, and Rebecca Combs of Fort Myers, Florida.

Visitation is scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, with a rosary at 7 p.m. at Brundage Funeral Home in Dillon. A Funeral Mass is scheduled for 12:10 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Dillon.

A guestbook is available online at [www.brundagefuneralhome.com](http://www.brundagefuneralhome.com).



## Dean L. Croskrey, 86

Dean L. Croskrey was born Dec. 1, 1931, in Kalispell.

Dean went to be with his Lord and Savior on Sept. 12, 2018.

Dean grew up in Kalispell and graduated with a degree in industrial arts from Montana State University in 1953. A year before graduation, he met and married his wife of 62 years, Laberta May, who preceded him in death in 2015.

He began a 22-year career as the department head and teacher of the current Hydraulic and Pneumatic Automation Technology Program offered at SCC (Spokane Community College). After the students' graduation, Dean often helped them find jobs in the fluid power industry. His family recalls many students calling and visiting him long after he retired to thank him for all he had done for them.

A celebration of life



will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27, at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church, 115 N. Raymond Road, Spokane, WA 99206.

Memorial contributions can be made to the church.

Hennessey Valley Funeral Home and Crematory in Spokane Valley, Washington, is handling arrangements.

## Donna Mae (Leland) Crotty, 89

Donna Mae (Leland) Crotty, 89, passed away on April 13, 2018, in Kalispell.

Donna was born on Dec. 25, 1928, in Alden, Minnesota, to Leon and Alice (Mortvedt) Leland.

Donna was raised in Bricelyn, Minnesota, where she attended Bricelyn High School. After graduation she studied at St. Olaf University and then the University of Minnesota where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry.

Donna married Bob Crotty in 1952 in St. Paul, Minnesota; they were married for 46 years.

Donna worked in the field of bacteria research and was a phlebotomist before becoming a homemaker. She enjoyed community activities such as the Lutheran Circle, Meadowlark Country Club, and Sons of Norway. Her hobbies included bridge, skiing, golf, reading, shopping and dining.

Donna was preceded in death by parents Leon and Alice Leland, brother Lee Leland, and sisters Shirley Franke and Beulah Gilbertson.



She is survived by sons, Rob Crotty of Indian, Alaska, and Daniel Crotty of Nashua,

Montana, and daughter Stephanie Walls of Whitefish. She also is survived by brothers, Everett Leland and Ronald Burkhow; sisters, Lori Johnson and Loleen Anderson; grandchildren, Whitney Galloway, Taylor Kiser, Courtney Fellows and Tom Walls; and great-grandchildren, Weston Kiser, Tenley Kiser, Griffin Fellows, Graham Fellows and Molly Fellows.

Services will be held for Donna on June 25 in Bricelyn, with inurnment in the family plot in Bricelyn.

The family asks that memorial donations be made to charity of your choice.

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



## Esther Mae Gould Enget Crowder, 87

Esther Mae Gould Enget Crowder, 87, passed away Feb. 23, 2018, in Bismarck, North Dakota.

She was born on July 29, 1930, in Bassett, Nebraska, to Edwin and Gladys Gould. Esther was one of six children. The family moved to Montana in the 1930s.

Esther graduated from high school in Ronan in 1949 and then attended Lakewood Park Bible College in Devils Lake, North Dakota, from 1949 to 1951. It was there she met her beloved husband, Ernest Enget of Powers Lake, North Dakota.

They married June 29, 1951, and, after graduating from Bible College, began their ministry in a new pastoral work in Barton, North Dakota.

They had four children, Janice McEachran (Jim) of Mandan, North Dakota, Ronald Enget (Julie) also of Mandan, Brent Enget (Lori) of Ellendale, North Dakota, and Limerick, Ireland, and Leroy Enget (deceased). Esther and Ernest raised their children while pastoring in Barton, North Dakota, Sunburst, Montana,



Stevensville, Scobey, Malta, Chester, Ronan and Plentywood.

Esther was an excellent pastor's wife and shared preaching responsibilities with Ernie. They were a team, building relationships with those in their church together. She loved to cook, and was often seen cooking at many of the camps held at Glacier Bible Camp at Hungry Horse. She and Ernie thoroughly enjoyed their ministry over the years and were often referred to as "My Favorite Pastors."

After 50 years of marriage, Ernie passed away on June 19, 2001.

Esther later married Daniel Crowder on March 6, 2004. They made their home in Yuma, Arizona. In May of 2017, they relocated to Mandan so they could be close to family. Esther loved being surrounded by her children, and was blessed with nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Esther was also preceded in death by her son, Ernest LeRoy, two brothers, Aubrey (Pat) Gould and Paul (Cathy) Gould, and one sister, Naomi (Andy) Robinson.

She is survived by her husband, Daniel Crowder, her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and by two brothers, Don (Lorene) Gould and Bob (Delores) Gould.

A memorial service was held on Monday, Feb. 26, at Bethel Assembly in Mandan. A visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, March 1, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, March 2, at Whitefish Assembly of God. Burial will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

The family requests that all memorial gifts be directed to Glacier Bible Camp. Friends are encouraged to visit the website, [www.buffalohill-fh.com](http://www.buffalohill-fh.com), to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.



## Thomas Raymond Cuffe, 77

Thomas Raymond Cuffe, 77, passed away June 6, 2018, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell, surrounded by his loving family.

Tom was born July 26, 1940, to Tom and Grace Cuffe in Eureka.

As the son of a cross-cut timber feller, Tom's youngest years included life in tents in lumber-jack camps, but he lived most of his school years in a house on "Riverside" along Highway 93 in Eureka. At age 8, he had his first official job where he would meet the train to pick up his bundle of Great Falls Tribune newspapers to deliver around Eureka. Customers paid him a nickel each day, and he sent three cents to Great Falls with two cents dropped into the family cookie jar. He held a variety of other jobs, including thinning brush, bucking hay bales, Christmas tree work and sawmill jobs. At times the money went to help feed the family. Often he brought fish home for supper. Some of his savings went toward helping his mother purchase a home in Eureka before he finished high school.

Tom also played baseball and football. He was very near sighted and did not wear his glasses while playing football. He said that he always looked for the white leggings of the opponent's uniforms and often laughed about the game when he ran down the field and tackled the referee. Some around Eureka still talk about



that game.

During his senior year of high school, he began dating the love of his life,

Nancy Carol Davis, whom he later married. This wonderful couple shared 60 years of unforgettable memories, raising five children with Christ as the foundation of the family. Tom always put his family first and took them on many camping and fishing adventures throughout Northwest Montana, including many special family trips to the Oregon Coast.

Tom was well known to have an unmatched work ethic. For 35 years he traversed the remote mountain roads of Western Montana hauling timber to sawmills, often with his self-loader. He always enjoyed the scenery of his beautiful state and the daily wild-life sightings from the windshield of his truck and had many stories from those days that he enjoyed telling (and retelling).

Tom was extremely unselfish and an ambassador for Christ. He

routinely visited the "old folks" at nursing homes, hospitals, and at their own homes and would often "employ" his children to mow lawns or do maintenance for those who could not. He never shied away from helping others and typically chose the most difficult job, completing that task without complaint. Tom truly was a role model to his children and his peers and garnered the respect of all those who knew him. When Tom wasn't visiting and helping others he could often be found reading and marking up his favorite book — the Bible.

Tom was preceded in death by his father and mother; his in-laws Rodney and Shirley Witt; his brother and sister-in-law Robert and Marilyn McKenzie; and his sister and brother-in-law Edna and Bill Gwynn.

He is survived by his wife, Carol Cuffe of Whitefish; brother, Hubert McKenzie (Bonnie), of Eureka; brother, Mike Cuffe (JoAn) of Eureka; sister, Becky Vredenberg of Eureka; daughter, Glenda Carr (Jim) of Whitefish, and grandchildren Lisa, Christopher and Nelica;

daughter, Dina Roberts (Ryan) of Boise, Idaho, and grandchildren Becca (Pedro) and Sarah; daughter, Dana Oliver of Denver, and grandchildren Mandie, Josh and Jordie; son, Bob Cuffe (Julie), of Eureka, and grandchildren Johanna and Logan; daughter, Katie Mobley (Mark), of Wasilla, Alaska, and grandchildren Keaton, Hailey, Hudson, Connor and Peyton; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and lifetime friends.

A favorite quote found in the front cover of his Bible reads as follows: "You are writing each day a letter to men, take care that the writing is true. For the only gospel some men will read is the gospel according to you."

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, June 11, at the First Baptist Church in Whitefish with lunch and fellowship immediately after. A graveside service will follow at 3 p.m. at the Tobacco Valley Cemetery in Eureka.



## Paul W. Cullen, 83

Paul W. Cullen of Ronan passed peacefully away April, 28, 2018, at the Cullen ranch surrounded by family and friends.

He was born to L.E. "Tut" and Edna Cullen July 13, 1934, in Belt, Montana. He moved with his parents to what was to become the "Cullen Ranch" at the age of 3 and discovered paradise. He was later joined by three siblings, Virginia, Joseph and Carol. Unfortunately, a yellow school bus arrived and "changed his world." He preferred to farm, work with the animals, go hiking with his friends, work on cars, and occasionally dismantle a tractor, only to find it intact on some poor soul's roof.

He graduated from Round Butte High School and was drafted into the Army, just as the Korean conflict ended. He spent his service in Germany, where he enjoyed many hours with his friend Connie, who had previously lived with the Cullen family in Round Butte as a high school exchange student. While there he was partly responsible for a nuclear gun, learned telecommunications, how to make a bed, shine shoes and say "rise and shine" in German. He took up photography with the Agfa camera he bought, and practiced the art of beer tasting. He was skilled as a sharp-shooter, earning medals. He returned to the U.S. via the pond on a military ship.

Paul settled in the Libby area, logging initially, then was involved in construction of the Libby mill, where he then worked as the head sawyer for about 10 years. He was married to Martha A. Reimer after a six-month courtship and one week engagement in Jan. 1958. They were gifted with five children while living there, Laurence, Raymond, Beverley, Beth and Zeldene. They bought



a house, which he added on to, and had many a barbecue with friends and relatives in the big backyard, even a horse or two.

He

saved his earnings and eventually bought the ranch in Round Butte from Tut and Edna in 1968, his "life's dream." In the early years, two more boys were born to the family in Round Butte, Brian and Michael. He took under his wing Don Bell and his foster daughter Marie Westphall, as if they were his own children. He raised Hereford cattle on the ranch, enjoying his neighbors and friends. He was involved for many years in the 4-H, Grange, Cattlemen's Association, and in starting the auction at the county fair, and the Mission Valley Heritage Association. He loved working together with others, teaching young people about animal husbandry, farming, auto mechanics, and inspired some to weld metal, make knives and even create art. He created a very prolific art collection of metal sculpture, as well as woodworking and other mediums. He loved the stock car called "Ferdinand," a Nomad with the steering wheel in the rear of the vehicle.

Paul was involved in the effort to ship the calves to market each fall to Omaha, Nebraska, via train. He loved to ride in the caboose and doctor the calves on the way and, once there, in the auction yards. Later the traveling was done in the infamous dual gas-tanked '65 Chevy station wagon, along with his shipping partners.

At the end of his trails he preferred to remain

at home where he was always most comfortable and where he achieved his life's goal to pass the Cullen ranch on to his descendants as a legacy of a life well lived.

Paul was preceded in death by his wife, Martha A. Cullen; their children, Laurence Wesley Cullen, Raymond Roy Cullen and Zeldene Joy Cullen; and his parents, L.E. "Tut" and Edna Cullen.

Paul is survived by his siblings, Virginia (Paul) Miller of Libby, Joseph (LaDonna) Cullen of Amarillo, Texas, and Carol Bryant of Ronan; his children, Bev (Chad) Hoover of Round Butte, Beth Donelan of Seattle, Brian Cullen of Vernal, Utah, and Michael (Christine) Cullen of Ronan; 12 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, as well as numerous honorary grand and great-grandchildren.

In the famous last words of Paul, "And we go."

Graveside services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 3, at the Ronan Cemetery with fellowship to follow at the Cullen Ranch in Round Butte.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at [www.shriderthompson.com](http://www.shriderthompson.com). Arrangements are under the direction of Shrider-Thompson Funeral Home.



## Charles P. 'Charlie' Cunningham Jr., 71

Charles P. "Charlie" Cunningham Jr., 71, passed away Sunday, March 11, 2018, at the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, due to complications from Parkinson's.

Charles was born Nov. 26, 1946, in Great Falls to Charles P. Sr. and Ella F. Cunningham. Charlie graduated from Flathead High in 1966 and continued with some vocational training (college) after military service.

Charlie joined the military as a Marine in June of 1966 and served in Vietnam. He was honorably discharged as sergeant, with numerous decorations and medals, in June of 1970.

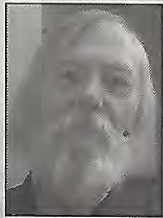
He married Sharon Bergman (1970) and got remarried to Leona Knopp (1983). He had three daughters, Tina Cunningham of Columbia Falls, Tammy Acord of Great Falls, and Rebecca Cunningham of Hamilton.

Charlie was a heavy equipment operator for the city of Kalispell Street Department for many years. He also drove school bus and worked for the railroad for short times.

Charlie loved hunting, fishing, shooting, camping, the outdoors and going to church and church events.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother; and sisters, Eula Lovec, Charlotte Pelham, Gladys Miller, Bonnie Wolverton, Mary Zoe Fabre and Virginia Stammel.

Charlie is survived by his brothers and sisters, Bertha Davidson of Great Falls, Carolyn Bevens of St. Regis, Beverly and Gerald Cuvillier of Trout



Creek, Arthur Cunningham and Nancy Waldenberg of Kalispell, and Ronald and Sue Cunningham of Kalispell; grandchildren, Robert Stevens of Kalispell, Destiny Stevens of Hungry Horse, Austin Stevens

of Hungry Horse, Shane Parenteau of Springfield, Missouri, Jasmine Parenteau of Springfield, Emmanuel Ward of Helena, Richard Kirkland of Missoula, Isaiah Kirkland of Anaconda, and Tyson Garner of Hamilton; and numerous nieces and nephews and numerous great-nieces and -nephews.

There will be a visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday, March 18, at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, March 19, at Canvas Church. Burial will follow at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery with military honors. A reception will be held at Canvas Church following the graveside service.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website at [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.

## John Patrick 'Pat' Curran, 81

John Patrick "Pat" Curran who was full Irish, born on St. Patrick's Day March 17, 1937, died peacefully at home on Oct. 4, 2018 after a three-year battle with pancreatic cancer.

Pat was born in Sioux City, Iowa, and moved to Colorado at the age of 5.

He and his wife Geneva moved to Kalispell in 2012.

He was preceded in death by one son Joey Lee Curran, his father Joseph Curran, mother Winifred "Tuts" Carpenter Curran, and his brother Robert Curran.

Pat served in the Air National Guard from 1957 to 1960. He was also a member of the Elks Club.

Pat and his wife of 58 years Geneva owned two businesses — Road Runner Reproductions and a '50s Soda Shop.

Pat and Geneva married Feb. 20, 1957. They were in the third grade together. On their first date, Pat commented that Geneva's shoes were polished and her hair was combed. He then pulled out a picture of both of them in their third grade class.

Pat had a great sense of humor and was a bit of a practical joker. Due to his being full Irish and his St. Patrick's birthday, he loved all things green. His hobbies included fishing, camping, photography, chess, and he collected



antique cameras.

Pat was very understanding and he was full of life and laughter. He loved spending time with friends

and family and he was the life of the party.

He is survived by his wife, Geneva Pelzel Curran; daughters, Jeanie Curran, Kathy Weller (Steve), and Colleen Burns (Tim); and son, John Patrick Curran Jr.; brother, Thomas Jerome Curran (Joyce); eight grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter; multiple in-laws, nieces, nephews and cousins.

There will be a visitation held for John from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday Oct. 12, at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory, with services to be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, at St. John Paul II Catholic Church in Bigfork, with visitation one hour prior to services. Burial will directly follow services at Bigfork Community Cemetery. There will also be a memorial service in Denver on Oct. 20.

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



## John E. Curry, 75

John E. Curry passed away Feb. 13, 2018, after several years of debilitating illnesses.

John was a Kalispell native, the son of Edson and Marie Curry. He was born April 5, 1942. He attended Cornelius Hedges grade school and was a Flathead County High School graduate in the class of 1960.

John was a warm, whimsical, artistic, creative, inventive friend who never met a stranger. He loved fish and started his first business while in high school raising tropical fish to sell in local stores. John joined the U.S. Coast Guard in 1960. While stationed in Washington, he met and married the love of his life, Peggy. They traveled to Hawaii where their son, Michael, was born. Upon discharge in 1964, John, Peggy and Michael moved to Missoula, where John attended the University of Montana. The births of Lisa and Debbie completed the family.

John came home to Kalispell in the 1970s where he worked in the food and beverage businesses, including the Galley Wagon in which was an invaluable friend and mentor. In the 1980s he was in Seattle working in hydroponics and enjoying being near the ocean while he studied



watch repair. He returned to Kalispell, opening his watch/clock repair business. Due to his progressing rheuma-

toid arthritis, he retired from his repair business and started a career of cross-country trucking. John enjoyed the adventure and beauty of all his travels. During the time he also became a partner in an apartment building in Kalispell. His rheumatoid arthritis progressed, forcing John's retirement again.

John was preceded in death by his parents, son Michael, and sisters Caroline Blair and Sue Voight.

He is survived by daughters Lisa Marie Curry Zeilenga and Debra Lynn Curry Gilbreth; ex-wife, Peggy of Washington; grandchildren, Jessicah Joy, Crista Noel, Jacob, Morgan, Sean and Rachel; daughter-in-law, Nancy Lutz; and nieces and nephews. A graveside memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. May 5 at C. E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery, with lunch to follow at Sykes.

## Darla (DeMars) Czyz, 60

Darla Jean Czyz, 60, passed away on Feb. 18, 2018, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, leaving a legacy of living life on her own terms despite the many challenges thrown in her way.

Darla, the eldest and perhaps most mischievous daughter of David and Elsie (James) DeMars, was born in Libby on July 9, 1957, causing a second independence day that year. Darla often served as the ringleader of her four younger siblings, first in Libby and then in Bigfork where the family later settled. Darla graduated from Bigfork High School in 1976 where she ran track and went on to receive an Associate in Business Administration degree from Flathead Valley Community College later in life.

In 1980 Darla welcomed her only child, Daveleen, to whom she passed on her love of mischief and the culinary arts. When she wasn't busy keeping her dear daughter on the straight and narrow (not always the easiest task), she most enjoyed being out in her many gardens or making the world a more beautiful place



through her hobbies of poetry, stained glass and quilting.

She was preceded in death by her father, David F. DeMars; a brother, Russell DeMars; and a sister, Cindy Cory. She was twice widowed, but was lucky to have found a companion in Harry Ihms (and son Alan) in her final years.

She is survived by her mother, Elsie DeMars; daughter, Daveleen J. McHenry (husband Trevor) and grandsons, Maxwell and Finnegan McHenry; sister, Ginny Weber; brother, Dale DeMars (wife Cherri); grandmother, Mavis DeMars; nieces, Nichole O'Masters, Cassandra DeMars and Misty Lengstorf; and nephews, Johnathan Cory, Dalton DeMars and Dustin DeMars. Her family will miss her dearly but vows to continue to raise hell in Darla's name.

A memorial will follow at a later date.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.