

# Ann Bickle *Whitefish Pilot*

883 3 June 20 20  
 Annie (Ann) Caroline Miller born Oct. 3, 1937 to Otis and Minnie Miller of Miles City Montana passed away peacefully on May 22, 2020 at St. Vincent hospital in Billings, Montana.



Ann was raised in Miles City and attended Sacred Heart School, graduating June 3, 1955. After graduating high school, Ann attended Presentation School of Nursing Holy Rosary three years straight, no break, earning her R.N. Degree in 1958. Ann married Ord Clark, also from Miles City, and they had two sons, Steven Wayne Clark and Ward Alan Clark. The couple raised their two boys in Whitefish, Montana.

Ann had a passion for pushing herself in physical work outs with her treadmill, since many decades of running and jumping rope wore her knees out. Ann was always encouraging her boys in physical athletics and school. She would go skiing, (even though the cold was not her favorite) golf, tennis and even swimming with her water wings with her boys.

Ann loved music and the church she played the piano for her church and grandchildren being able to play anything she heard perfectly by ear not by sheet music.

Ann was an active member of the community and an accomplished nurse, working into her 70s receiving "Nurse of the Year" award at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Ann was very proud of her two boys, Steven and Ward, as you could see when they were together. She would do anything for her grandchildren,

(Steven, Brittanie, Jordan, Clifford and Austin) and just last year Ann was blessed with her first great grandchild, Hunter B'alam Burrows, who never ceased to make her smile.

When Ann returned to Miles City for a Sacred Heart class reunion, she reconnected with her friend Bill Bickle. With time their friendship grew into love and they were married in 2012. Ann was never as happy as her time with Bill working the ranch and traveling together to the many marvels of the world the two of them choose to explore.

Ann was preceded in death by her niece Tammy Hill, her father Otis Miller, her mother Minnie Tyler. She is survived by her husband, Bill Bickle of Ismay, Montana; her son Steven Clark and wife Celia of Gilbert, Arizona. Grandchildren Jordon and wife Amie Clark of Arizona, Austin Clark of Gilbert, Arizona; her son Ward Clark and wife Jenifer of Whitefish, Montana, grandchildren Steven

Clark of Highland Park New Jersey, Brittanie Burrows husband Chance Burrows and little Hunter of Florence, Montana; Clifford Clark of Whitefish, Montana, a sister Eunice Hill and family and a brother Walter Miller and family.

Visitation will be held on Friday, June 5, 2020 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home. A Funeral Mass will follow on Friday, June 5, 2020 at 2 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Miles City. Rite of Committal will follow in the Custer County Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting, [www.stevensonandsons.com](http://www.stevensonandsons.com).

If friends desire memorials may be made to the Sacred Heart School of the charity of their choice.

## David Phillip Bigley, 79

*FA 4 20 NOV 2020*  
 David Phillip Bigley of Gildford, Montana, born June 10, 1941, passed away on Nov. 14, 2020.



Funeral Home, 315 E. 6th Ave. in Helena.

Please visit [www.artzfuneralhome.com](http://www.artzfuneralhome.com) to offer the family a condolence or share a memory of David.

Due to COVID restrictions, there will be a private family service followed by burial at Fort Harrison. A public viewing will be held on Saturday Nov. 21, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Retz

## Jay Bigley, 74

Jay Bigley, 74, of Great Falls, formerly of Kalispell, died Dec. 5, 2020, in Great Falls. A graveside service was held Thursday, Dec. 17, at 1 p.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

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

## Bertha Mae 'Micki' Bilbro, 85

Bertha Mae 'Micki' Bilbro, 85, passed away of natural causes at Kalispell Regional Medical Center on May 11, 2020, surrounded by her loved ones.

She was born in Sturgis, South Dakota, on Jan. 11, 1935, to Harry VandenBos Sr. and Victoria Troyer VandenBos, the third of eight children. Her family moved to Conrad, Montana, when she was 5 and then later to Valier where she was raised on the family farm. She married her high school sweetheart Walter Dee Bilbro on Sept. 13, 1953, and moved to Williamsburg, Virginia, where he was stationed in the Navy. They returned to Kevin, Montana, in 1955 where they farmed with her dad. Their son Don was born in 1956 and daughters Barbara and Debra in 1957 while there, and then they moved to Choteau where Bonnie was born in 1958. They moved several times in the following years as Walt worked road construction and for the Forest Service in Utah, and then back to Great Falls where he worked at a lumber yard and more road construction. They

*PAG 21 June 2020*  
would buy a house to fix up and then sell it and move on to the next one, and they also owned a Bernina Sewing Machine Store. Mom was a very talented seamstress and made lots of clothes for the kids and others.

In 1966 they moved to a farm in Dupuyer and then Walt became the postmaster there in 1969. After moving to town, Micki and her sister Joyce had an upholstery business and did really beautiful work. The post office took them to Rudyard, Montana, in 1974 and then to Valier in 1978. All this time they did carpenter work as well, helping family and friends build and remodel houses, doing siding and roofing and building pole barns, and Mom was always right there alongside Dad working with him. She was almost as skilled a carpenter as he was. They also continued on with their Bernina business.

Retirement took them to Essex for a few years and then they bought a fifth wheel and became snowbirds in Arizona in the winters. They moved to Kalispell in 1996 to be closer to town and to their daughter Bonnie

and her family, and eventually their time in Yuma, Arizona, grew to almost six months per year. They loved spending time with old friends from here and with new friends they met down there, playing cards and games, going to jam sessions and having happy hours and meals together. Mom always loved doing crafts through the years too, whether it was figurines she cut out with her scroll saw and painted, little signs and sayings, plastic canvas or cross stitch, and she left lots of wonderful things with friends and family to remember her by. They were always busy doing something.

Walt passed away in 2016 after almost 64 years of marriage. Micki then moved next door to Bonnie and Dan and continued to be active in the Kalispell Senior Center where they had made many friends. She enjoyed reading and doing jigsaw puzzles and spending time with the grandkids and great-grandkids, going to softball, football, soccer and lacrosse games to cheer them on. She was usually up for whatever was happening and loved

spending time with them.

Micki was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Walt, infant daughter Kathern, son Donald and three brothers.

She is survived by daughters Bonnie Buls (Dan McDowell), Barbara DeMangelaere and Debra Johnson, sisters MaryAnn Sullivan (Jim), Joyce Jones (Ron) and Shirley Mumm (Ted), brother Harry VandenBos Jr. (Linda), sister-in-law Louella Wall, 10 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held in late July or August.

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

## Marvin Birkinbine, 57

Marvin Birkinbine, 57, of Kalispell, died on Sunday, May 31, 2020, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

He is survived by his wife Melaine and son

Chris.

Private family services are being planned.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

## Lois Birky, 95

Lois Birky, 95, passed away on Dec. 23, 2020, at Brendan House. Lois was born in Troy on Nov. 3, 1925, to Jerome and Jane (Mariker) Thomas. She, her sister and three brothers grew up in Proctor, mostly and graduated from Polson High School. Her father was a carpenter who helped build Camp Tuffitt at Lake Mary Ronan. Every winter he and his brother would build a cabin and a boat and in the summers the children would help out with chores at the camp.

Lois met her husband "JJ" Birky in Proctor and they were married on Feb. 28, 1946. JJ worked as a skidder for several logging operations in the area and Lois kept busy caring for the home, the garden (both flowers and vegetables) and raising the couple's three daughters, Diane, Kerry and Melinda. She remembers doing a lot of canning too and baking cookies, cakes and pies all from scratch.

While she and JJ were married they attended lots of school sports events; JJ loved



baseball and they never missed a game. The couple loved to dance too and

they, along with a group of friends, could always find a place to dance whether it was at Dickie's Inn, the Blue Moon or the Eagles Club.

"We danced whenever we could."

Lois had always kept busy, so she found she "has trouble sitting still" for any length of time and enjoyed getting exercise and walking. Lois' favorite color was red; she loved the smell of flowers, homemade bread, and the taste of milk chocolate. The most important thing to Lois was to keep moving and to enjoy life.

Burial has taken place. A celebration of Lois' life will be held in the spring.

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.

## Joanna Bitney, 91

Joanna Bitney was born Feb. 16, 1929, to Edward and Olive Kelley in Columbia Falls, the second of six children.

On Nov. 2, 2020, she passed away at the BeeHive with her two youngest daughters at her side and surrounded by all her family's love.



cooking for friends and family, working with her flowers in the yard, spending

time at Flathead Lake, reading, and going to her grandchildren's events. She especially enjoyed just being with her family.

Joanna was the eldest of her four sisters.

She got lots of practice learning how to be a great mom by caring for them, as her sister Pat, who also lives at the BeeHive, has told us.

Joanna graduated from Flathead County High School, where she was crowned homecoming queen in 1946, her senior year. Soon after, she met her lifelong love, Francis L. Bitney.

Francis was a Marine in World War II. When he left Japan and came back to Kalispell, he asked his brother and soon to be sister-in-law, Duane and Betty Bitney, who he could take out on a date. They both said go ask the sweet, quiet and beautiful Joanna Kelley. She worked at JCPenney at the time. He asked her on a date and it was love at first sight for both of them.

They married June 15, 1947, at the First Presbyterian Church in Kalispell. This union produced five children, and she considered her Spanish AFS student a son as well.

Joanna devoted her life to her husband, children and grandchildren. She always looked to the comfort and wellbeing of others and put their needs before her own.

She and her family were members of the First Presbyterian Church of Kalispell. Her children learned many important life lessons by going to Sunday school, church summer camp, church choir and youth group throughout the years. This was very important to Joanna.

Joanna and Francis traveled extensively all over the world. They even moved to Hawaii with their children for almost a year, just to experience it!

Joanna volunteered at Kalispell Regional Medical Center, Russell School's special education program, Meals on Wheels, and at the polls during elections. She enjoyed entertaining and

Joanna's life was a legacy of love. Her physical body is gone, but her love will be with generations of Bitneys forever.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Olive and Edward Kelley; her mother and father-in-law, Bessie and Francis A. Bitney; her loving husband, Francis L. Bitney; two sisters and their husbands, Laura and Jack Cave and Ellen and Gayle Fishel; one brother, Edward Kelley; brother and sisters-in-law, Duane and Betty Bitney and Darlene and George Neil; three brothers-in-law, Lawrence Melby, Jerry Blades and Leonard Knutson; and two nephews, Steve Nelson and Sid Bitney.

She is survived by five children and their spouses, Doug Bitney and Janie, Vicki Longpre and Dan, Dan Bitney and Connie, Kathy Dahl and Allen and Amy Andrews and John, and Spanish son Carlos Gardeta; 16 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren, with one more on the way; two sisters and one brother-in-law, Jeanie Knutson, and Patricia and Bob Higson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Her family would like to thank the staff of Frontier Hospice and BeeHive Homes of Kalispell for their care for Joanna.

Memorials may be made to BeeHive Homes of Kalispell, 242 Stillwater Road, Kalispell, MT 59901 where Joanna spent the last two and a half years. They took exceptional care of her and we are forever grateful for them.

A private family service is taking place with Pastor Glenn Burfeind presiding.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is taking care of the family.

## JoAnne Ruth Olson Blake, 85

JoAnne Ruth Olson Blake, 85, of Kalispell, died peacefully in her sleep on Sunday,



Aug. 9, 2020, at her residence at the Spring Creek Inn in Bozeman. "Jo" was born on July 20, 1935, in Missoula to Ellen (Shaffer) Olson and Carl Olson. Carl was a 100% Swedish first generation Montanan and Ellen was from Howard, Kansas, a standard mix of early American heritage. Ellen was cutting hair in her late teens in Butte when she first met Carl, a Butte native and mine laborer. From this marriage came Charles "Snooky" Olson and later, JoAnne herself.

JoAnne spent her early years in Missoula living in the house that her grandfather Davidson Samuel Shaffer built, just West of Reserve Road, now Reserve Street. She recalled the times in Missoula during the War, with rationing, eating from the family garden and orchard, and raising an illegal pig that was eventually stolen by a hungrier neighbor. Her big brother, Snooky would often tell how Salish Indians pitched their teepees during the summer months near the railroad tracks not far from the family home. In the early 1940s Snooky and JoAnne performed with a dance group, tap dancing at the historic Wilma Theatre in Missoula, wearing beautiful costumes sewn by their seamstress mother Ellen.



once drumming and marching with the band in a parade in Chicago. JoAnne also became

a skilled marksman and captured a national individual title as a rifle sharpshooter. She graduated from Flathead County High School in 1953.

She met and married Dudley Charles Blake, the grandson of a Kalispell pioneer and son of Leah and Morris "Blake the Wood Carver" out of Hungry Horse. The couple brought three children into the world, Danny Morris, Dudley David and Carol Leah Ellen. Sadly, Dudley Charles died in 1958, five days before daughter Carol was born, Dudley was 2, and Danny was 4 years old. Tragedy struck again within a year when JoAnne's father, Carl, died after a series of debilitating strokes. In search of jobs and affordable living, JoAnne moved with her children to Phoenix for a year and then around Montana, to Conrad, Choteau, Great Falls, and back to Kalispell before moving in 1964 to Burien, Washington, next to Puget Sound near Seattle. JoAnne moved the family down to San Jose, California, in 1967 just as Dionne Warwick's song, "Do You Know the Way to San Jose?" became an international hit. During that year in California, JoAnne was inspired to bring all three kids to a Robert F. Kennedy campaign stop held at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium, which opened their eyes to national politics and history, but tragically Sen. Kennedy was assassinated five days later in Los Angeles. Months later, JoAnne moved the kids back home to Kalispell.

PA 6 16 AL 9 20 20  
Valley Community College. JoAnne was most proud of her children's successes in Kalispell, watching Danny go to Montana Boy's State and play as a starting offensive guard on the Braves' 1971 undefeated State Championship football team, Dudley in wrestling and serving as co-captain on Flathead's 1973 State Championship wrestling team, and Carol competing for the Junior Miss Pageant and being an enthusiastic member of Flathead High's 1973-76 cheerleading squads.

JoAnne went on to graduate with a bachelor's degree from the University of Montana in 1978, majoring in interpersonal communication, followed by a Master of Arts degree from Washington State University in 1980 in addiction counseling. Proudly, she watched all three children also attend the University of Montana, and then, collectively, earn seven university diplomas. JoAnne went on to work as an addiction counselor in Pasco, Washington, and then also in Galen, Montana. She finished her professional career as a counselor at the University of Montana Counseling Center, retiring in 1998.

indomitable "birder," and an avid "rock hound." JoAnne was a blessing to all who knew her and will be sadly missed by all who survive her.

JoAnne's favorite poem, *Thought of Fortune Be Bereft*, attributed to the abolitionist Quaker, John Greenleaf Whittier, captures a belief she carried throughout her life:

"If thou of fortune be bereft,  
and in thy store there be but left  
two loaves, sell one,  
and with the dole,  
buy hyacinths to feed thy soul."

JoAnne was preceded in death by her treasured mother and father, Ellen and Carl, her beloved stepfather Theodore "Ted" Paola, her dear husband, Dudley Charles Blake, her adored brother, Chuck, and most recently by Chuck's daughter and JoAnne's niece, Cindy Olson Butler. She is survived by her three children, Danny (Vony) in Murs-Erigné, France, Dudley (Deb) in Bozeman, and Carol (Mike) in Big Lake, Alaska, eight grandkids, William (Maggie), Aurora (Jan), Thomas (Mariah), Benjamin, Cody (Amanda), Samuel (Cristina), Emma (Clint) and Laura, seven great-grandchildren, Myles, Ashley, Rowan, Lola, Kade, River and Sam, and her nephew, Carl (Joy) and son, Shannon.

JoAnne Ruth Olson Blake 1935

When JoAnne was in fifth grade, the family moved to Kalispell, though Dad took a job at the railroad stop in historic Lombard, Montana, operating a teletype machine for the railroad. JoAnne's fondest memories growing up were the summers she spent with Snooky and her dad in Lombard, swimming and fishing in the Missouri River and even sifting through the old ghost town's dump pile and finding curios and ancient relics from long ago Montana. JoAnne then navigated through her school years in Kalispell, making lifelong friends and enjoying the beautiful Flathead Valley. She was active in school activities and learned to play the clarinet, became a drummer on the Flathead County High School marching band,

And what a wonder-filled move! JoAnne joined the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous and became a "friend of Bill W." in February 1970. In her over 50 years of sobriety through AA, JoAnne helped many people in Montana and other states in finding their own sobriety and to build better lives. In returning home to Kalispell, JoAnne was able to watch her children grow and complete high school where she also had graduated; JoAnne started college, taking night classes at Flathead

JoAnne's retirement brought another joyous chapter in her life, with her traveling several times to Europe and Alaska, nomading across America in her 23-foot Itasca Spirit motorhome with license plates that read, "Gypsy Jo," and visiting long-lost family in Sweden. Closer to home, she also helped establish and direct Kalispell's Home Grocery Delivery program, serving low-income, homebound and senior citizens, and was an active participant in Montana Democrats. JoAnne was also a vocal activist, supporting all causes aimed at ending civil injustice and unjustified war (e.g., Iraq). JoAnne also reclaimed her talents at playing the clarinet as a member of the Flathead Valley's New Horizons Band, and by taking acrylic painting and pastel art classes, creating many beautiful landscape, wildlife, and portrait paintings.

Throughout her life, JoAnne was a passionate lover of children and animals, and maintained a deep faith in her higher power God. Later in life, she became a seasoned world traveler, an

At her request, JoAnne will be cremated, with ashes interred at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell and spread in memorable locations in Glacier National Park and Flathead Lake. A celebration of life is planned to gather and honor JoAnne's life in the next year, with date/time and location to be announced at a later date, JoAnne's favorite music and the memories of the joy she spread will be celebrated.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Flathead Audubon Society (<https://www.flatheadaudubon.org/donate/>), or mail check to Flathead Audubon Society, P.O. Box 9173, Kalispell, MT 59904; or to the Flathead Democratic Women Scholarship Fund (<https://www.flathead-democraticwomen.com/annualscholarships/scholarship-donations>).

Condolences and memories may be shared with the family at [www.dahlcares.com](http://www.dahlcares.com).

## Edwin E. Blackler, 77

PA 6 20 August 2020

Edd Blackler, 77, passed away on Aug. 18, 2020, after a struggle to defeat pancreatic cancer.



He died at his home south of Bigfork, in the company of his wife, Janet, and his loyal dog, Kenai.

Edd was born and raised in Missoula, proudly playing varsity basketball for the Sentinal Spartans. He attended the University of Montana where he earned his degree in vocal music performance. As a 17 year old, he won the Metropolitan Opera regional auditions. He was a member of the University of Montana Jubileers when they toured high schools all over Montana as ambassadors of the University and when the Jubileers went on a USO tour to Japan, Korea, the Philippines and Hawaii. One summer he toured on the county fair circuit with a group of U of MT singers called The Real National Bank, getting to know the backroads of Montana. He got his commercial pilot's license from the Missoula VoTech in anticipation of a touring life, but love of Montana and in particular Bigfork, caused him to find his home here instead.

Edd was known by many in Bigfork and over the years he wore

many different hats in the life of his beloved village. He first came to Bigfork as a young member of the Bigfork Summer Playhouse company. He appeared on stage over the course of eight or more seasons, especially remembered for singing the roles of Emile de Becque in "South Pacific" and Joe in "Show Boat." His booming baritone voice did justice to "Some Enchanted Evening" and "Ol' Man River." After his Playhouse days, he served as vocal music teacher in grades K-12 in the Bigfork Public Schools. He was a real estate broker for a number of years, first working for Bigfork Realty, then as owner and broker of Bigfork Area Properties. He served a five-year stint as a detention officer for Flathead County before "retiring" to be a school bus driver for the Bigfork schools.

Edd was always very involved in the community of Bigfork. He served for many seasons as the announcer for the high school basketball and football games, singing the national anthem before each game, or mentoring his vocal music students to perform it. He sang at many weddings and funerals. He coached junior high boys basketball and started the men's intramural basketball program in Bigfork, as they played on Sunday afternoons in the high school gym.

He founded and directed the Bigfork Community Chorus. He was part of a group that organized the Sunday concerts in Sliter Park. He was a volunteer fireman and served on the board of trustees for the Bigfork Fire Department. He was vice president of Bigfork Development Corporation when they built the current library building on the main street, and was a member of the Bigfork Steering Committee when they formulated the Bigfork Neighborhood Land Use Plan. He was one of three founders of the Bigfork Elves, along with Don Thomson and Frank Crain, who started the tradition of volunteers decorating Bigfork for Christmas with lights and greenery. He remained active as an Elf from its start until the end of his life, decorating the bridge. In the early years before lift trucks became a part of the process, he would shinny up the bridge girders to hang the lights and garland, while wife Janet watched in terror from below!

For many years, Edd and Janet had Tennessee Walking horses and shared many memorable pack trips into the wilderness with friends and fellow members of Backcountry Horsemen. Edd was very active in Backcountry Horsemen, serving as local and state president and as a national director. He headed the project to construct new corrals,

water lines and feed bunks at the Owl Creek Trail Head at Holland Lake, as well as taking part in countless trail building projects for the Forest Service in the roadless backcountry. After retirement, Edd and Janet were able to realize some dreams, including an African safari, trips to explore South Australia, New Zealand, Peru, Patagonia and the rain forests of Brazil, islands of the South Pacific, and a family wedding and road trip in France.

Edd was interested in politics, running for state representative and state senator, although as a Democratic candidate he never was victorious in a campaign. He truly tried to practice his belief that we are all put on this earth to help each other, and he tried to be of service to his community in many ways.

Edd was preceded in death by his parents, Charles "Allen" and Dorothy Blackler of Missoula, and a brother, Samuel.

He is survived by his wife Janet of Bigfork, with whom he shared 48 years of marriage, love, adventures, and deep friendship, his sister Ethel Hardy of Bakersfield, California, his brother Donald Blackler of Missoula, as well as several nieces and nephews.

By Edd's wishes, there will be no memorial ceremony.

## Donald Verner Bodeen

*PAY* *April 2020*  
Donald Verner Bodeen, loving husband, father and grandfather, passed away at home peacefully on Oct. 11, 2020.

Donald was born on July 20, 1939, in Poughkeepsie, New York. He was the only child of Verner Artur Bodin and Ruth Elenora Scott. He attended school in Poughkeepsie and Wappingers Falls districts and went on to earn a degree in aeronautics from Utah State and a Masters in Theology degree from Andover Newton.

Don met Joyce Ethel Bubie while serving as pastor at Zion's Church in Taborton, New York. They married on June 11, 1967. After serving several years as an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ, Donald returned to school to study chiropractic, earning a doctorate degree and opening a practice in Poughkeepsie. He spent the rest of his working career helping patients with chiropractic care and nutritional advice.

Donald enjoyed several hobbies over the years. He had the good fortune to grow up next door to Cole

Palen, founder of the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, volunteering his time to work on the restoration of numerous World War I planes. He quickly developed a love of airplanes and flying — and both volunteered, and worked, at the Stormville Airport in varying capacities. By age 16 he had his private pilot license — doing whatever he could to earn more flight time. Donald also was an avid amateur radio (HAM) operator, and was active in the local radio clubs in Poughkeepsie and Northwest Montana. He had a love of music and was an accomplished accordion player. Don enjoyed telling jokes and rarely finished a conversation with anyone without sharing at least a few good ones. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Joyce Ethel Bodeen, his son Erik and granddaughter Avery, as well as his son Kris, Kris's wife Phuong, and their three children Giselle, Finley and Asher.

There are no funeral services at Donald's and the family's request. Burial at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell will be private.

## Wesley Eugene Bodeen, 76

*PAL* *17 Nov 2020*  
Wesley Eugene Bodeen, 76, passed away on Jan. 13, 2020, in his home in Columbia Falls.

He worked for Plum Creek Plywood plant for 42 years.

He loved to fish, take trips to the mountains, and go camping.

He married Bernice B. Jackson on May 11, 1963, in Kalispell. They were married for 56 years.

Wesley is survived by wife, Bernice; three chil-

dren, Debbie Bennett, Allen Bodeen and Lee Anna; and seven grandchildren. He is also survived by six siblings, Trudy Foltz, Ruby Jackson, Rodney Bodeen, Robin Conner, Sandra and Rose.

Wesley was a man of faith in God.

Services will be held at a later date.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

## Carole O. Bolme, 95

Carole O. Bolme, 95, of Kalispell, passed away peacefully Saturday evening Feb. 1, 2020.

Born Nov. 25, 1924, she was the daughter of Edward and Bertha Bartell. She grew up on the family farm in Round Butte, just west of Ronan. Carole attended school in Round Butte and graduated from high school in Ronan. She went on to Kinman Business School in Spokane.

Carole is survived by her sister Virginia Reed, daughter Karen Ridenour and husband Glenn, son Craig Bolme and wife Kathy; granddaughters Robin Sorg, Beth Brown and husband Matt, Megan Montoya and husband Stanley, and great-grandchildren Rilyn, Estrella, and Kadyn Montoya.

Carole met Bernard Bolme and they married



*PA 4 23 Feb 2020*  
on July 30, 1944. They spent their early life together in Seattle before returning to Kalispell.

They built their home there in 1954 where Carole lived the rest of her life. She made their house a home caring for the family, growing food in the back yard garden and sewing many of their clothes. Growing up during the Depression taught her to save, reuse and stretch a dollar, a life style she continued through her life.

Volunteering was very important to her and she gave her time tutoring students at Peterson school, serving as Sunday School superintendent

at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and later making quilts and running the quilters group at Bethlehem. She also volunteered at the Terrace gift shop. She was always ready to help family and friends with any needs.

One of her favorite activities was to go up to the North Fork to hunt for and pick huckleberries. She was famous for her huckleberry pie. She also had a deep appreciation for the arts and her being creative as well, learned to work with stained glass. When grandchildren arrived, she was always there to care for or assist in any way she could, even swimming lessons with Kevin. (She hated the water!). In her later years, she gained a lot of satisfaction through gifts to the Mas Sae girls School in Africa, the Ray of Hope,

Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, and many others.

Carole was preceded in death by her husband Bernard, parents Edward and Bertha, brothers Donald and Edward, and grandson Kevin.

The family thanks the caregivers at Comfort Keepers and Edgewood Vista for their loving care and compassion for Mom in her final days.

Memorials may be made to Special Olympics Montana, 710 1st Ave. N, Great Falls, MT 59401; and Habitat for Humanity of Flathead County, 275 Corporate Drive, No. 550, Kalispell, MT 59901.

A memorial service will be Feb. 28 at 11 a.m. at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

Memories may be shared online at [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com).

## Joel Frederick Bollweg, infant

*PA 4 1 July 2020*  
Joel Frederick Bollweg bypassed this earth to be with our Lord and Savior on his due date, June 24, 2020. He weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 20 1/2 inches long. He is the son of Brett and Katie Bollweg of Whitefish, and brother to Tate, Briggs, and Marlow. He brought tremendous joy to so many in the nine month of waiting for "baby Fred" to arrive.

His name Joel means "the Lord is God" and while we mourn the loss of his life with us, we have great hope knowing that God's plan for Joel is bigger than our own and we will one day see him again in heaven.

He will be greatly missed by grandparents

Bob and Shawn Bollweg of Wheaton, Illinois, and Keith and Jolene Regier of Kalispell, along with numerous great grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and many others.

A private family service was held on Wednesday, July 1, to honor Joel's life.

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish is caring for the family.

## Ronda Jane Bonny, 58

Ronda Jane Bonny, 58, of Kalispell, died July 7, 2020.

She is survived by her husband Billy and their children.

Services to be held at a later date.

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

## Betty Ann Bopp, 90

Betty Ann Bopp, 90, died Sept. 26, 2020, at her home in Kalispell.

A private burial will take place at a later date. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.



## Paul Boss, 88

PAUL BOSS, 88

Paul Boss, 88, formerly of Goshen, Indiana and Kalispell, died



Sunday, March 1 at Primrose Retirement Community in Mishawaka, Indiana. He was born Oct. 31, 1931 in Kalispell to John and Ruth (McDonald) Boss. On Aug. 8, 1952 he married Martha M. Mast in Creston. She died Dec. 30, 2013.

Survivors include a daughter, Elvira (Kenny) Burke, Mishawaka; a son Ernest (Cynthia) Boss, Cassopolis, Michigan; and two grandchildren, Adam Boss, Goshen and Kaitlin (Dan) Buzalski, Mishawaka.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, John Boss, Jr. and Vernon Boss.

Paul had been an active member of Mountainview Mennonite Church, Kalispell. He was a farm foreman for the State of Montana College Agricultural Experiment Station in Creston. He also owned and operated a school bus for Flathead High School. He was a longtime volunteer for the Creston Volunteer

Fire Department, where he served as fire marshal. Paul enjoyed puzzles and driving in the mountains. In 1994, Paul and Martha moved to Greencroft in Goshen to be near family. They attended Sunnyside Mennonite Church in Elkhart, Indiana. While living at Greencroft, Paul volunteered many hours in the maintenance shop.

The family wishes to thank the dedicated caregivers at Primrose and the Center for Hospice for the special care given to Paul.

Visitation will be Saturday, March 7, from 1:30 p.m. until the 3:30 p.m. funeral service at Sunnyside Mennonite Church, 23786 Sunnyside Ave., Elkhart. Pastors Charlie and Terri Geiser will officiate.

A graveside service will take place on Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 10 a.m., at Fairview Cemetery in Kalispell.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home & Crematory will be assisting the family with the arrangements in Montana.

Memorial gifts may be directed to Center for Hospice Care, Elkhart. Online condolences may be shared at [www.yoderculpfuneralhome.com](http://www.yoderculpfuneralhome.com).

## Thea Rae Borgen, 70

PA 15 16 July 2020

Thea Rae Borgen was called home by her Lord Sunday, July 12, 2020, at her home in Columbia Falls.

Thea was born Jan. 28, 1950, to Norman and Florence Borgen of Kalispell. Following graduation, Thea worked as a secretary for Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Soon after, she married Steve Curtiss and moved to Eureka to begin a family. She was a devoted mother to her children and volunteered as a 4-H leader, worked at the school, and helped on the family ranch. The couple also owned a feed store.

After her divorce, Thea moved to Columbia Falls to pursue her education. She eventually earned a degree in education and political science with a minor in geography and an emphasis in special education. Later, she earned a Master of Arts in Education Administration and Supervision degree. Thea was a dedicated teacher and advocate, having a special place in her heart for each of her students. Thea was passionate about her faith, family, and



service to others.

A brain tumor forced her retirement and even-

tually she moved to Timber Creek Village in Columbia Falls where she received wonderful care.

Thea was preceded in death by a son, Stephen and her parents, Norman and Florence.

She is survived by her children, Rae Lynn Hays (Jon), Jason Curtiss (Tanya), and Kendall Gislason; as well as 13 grandchildren, Trestin, Peyton, Justin, Darian, Sierra, Jaya, Tiyler, Kyah, Tracer, Strait, Kyrie, Trygve, and Steele. She is also survived by siblings, Dennis Borgen, (Jan), Vicky Brookman, and Wendy McCaffree (Ernie), as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, July 17, at 10 a.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell. Everyone is asked to please wear a mask as we gather.

## Wyatt Gregory Wesley Bothun, 19

PA 6 16 Sept 2020

Wyatt Gregory Wesley Bothun, 19, died peacefully on Sept. 7, 2020, surrounded by loved ones.

Wyatt was born in Cortez, Colorado, to Amy Bailey and Cody Bothun. He lived most of his life in Kalispell and Savage, Minnesota. He graduated from Burnsville High School in 2019 where he broke the school record for bench press. He had a dream of becoming a welder. From an early age Wyatt was gifted at building things without a pattern. He enjoyed watching movies, making others laugh and loved his pets — especially his dogs. He had a flair for drawing and writing poems and lyrics.

Wyatt liked playing sports and the outdoors — snowboarding or exploring caves. This summer he really enjoyed learning dry-wall with his uncle Danny Bothun.

Wyatt's choice to be an organ donor has resulted in changing the lives of at least five recipients.

Wyatt was met at the gates of the afterlife by his grandfathers,



Gregory Bothun and Robert Bailey, and Uncle Garry Bailey.

Left

to grieve him here are his mother, Amy Bailey, of Montrose, Colorado; father and stepmother, Cody and Val Bothun of Columbia Falls; brothers Cody Bailey of Savage, Stryker Plummer of Montrose, Skyler Bothun of Columbia Falls, and sisters Jade Bothun of Savage, Kylee Martin of Rathdrum, Idaho, Ivory Bothun, Leah Bothun and Neveah Bothun, all of Columbia Falls; grandparents, Roberta and Jerry Garrett of Montrose, Dawn and Gary Martin of Rathdrum, and Stephen and Jan Sautter of Savage. He will also be deeply missed by his aunts and uncles, many cousins and other extended family and friends.

A celebration of life will be held at Canvas Church in Columbia Falls on Sunday, Sept. 20, at 2 p.m.

## Myron V. Boulden, 72

Myron V. Boulden, 72 of Kalispell passed into the arms of the Lord on June 24, 2020, at home with his family by his side. He endured a 2 1/2 year battle with vascular disease, COPD, heart failure and cancer. His fight and attitude were amazing through all the ups and downs.

Myron was born May 1, 1948 in Kalispell, to Melvin R. and Ruth E. Boulden. Melvin passed away when Myron was a teenager. Ruth passed away at the age of 86. He was an only child, so was a busy boy helping work the family farm on the west side of Kalispell with his Mom.

He attended Russell Grade School and graduated from Flathead High School in 1966. In high school, he worked at Sykes Market, Danny's Drive-In and Hims! Wohlwend Motors, then for the Flathead National Forest Service the summer after graduation.

He attended University of Montana for a semester, then Spokane Community College until he was drafted into the U.S. Army in January 1968. The Army stationed him in Baumholder, Germany. While in Germany, he traveled Europe during his days off. His mother went to Germany and together they visited their Norwegian relatives. He also enjoyed skiing the European slopes. Myron was discharged from Active Military Duty in September 1969; and served in the Army Reserves until Honorably Discharged in January 1974.

He barely made it home from Germany for his wedding. He married Marilynn Hegg on



PA 7 28 June 2020  
Dec. 27, 1969. They enjoyed 50 years of marriage as of December 2019. It was a union of love, friendship and respect up to his last breath and forever.

er.

He worked for Anaconda Aluminum Rod Mill from 1970 to approximately 1983 when operations closed. He owned and operated a repair service out of his garage at home until 1990. Mom was working, so he also got kids ready for school and drove carpool. He and Marilynn purchased Escrow Services in 1990 and operated the office together for 25 years until retiring in 2016.

Myron joined the West Valley Volunteer Fire Department in 1971 and served as a firefighter, fire marshal, captain and chief over the 49 years he served his community. After stepping down as fire chief in 1997, he served on the department's board of trustees; resigning in March of 2020. Even after retiring from active duty in the department, he remained a reserve firefighter to help drive or man the station when needed; until February 2019.

His family is going to miss him greatly! We already miss his crooked little smile, the sparkle in his eyes and quiet wit. He was a wealth of knowledge and could fix just about anything. He always helped the kids with their horses, 4-H projects and cars as they got older.

He loved to tinker in his shop; welding and building new creations or fixing what the kids' horses or livestock had broken. He loved the outdoors; fishing, hunting and watching the wildlife pass through the property. He loved to fly! He obtained his pilot's license in mid-life. It completed his goal started as a teenager, but couldn't do because of Army duty, family and work. He gave up his license a few years ago due to his health.

Myron is survived by his wife, Marilynn Boulden; daughters, Jennifer Boulden-Crisp, husband Scott Crisp; Rebecca Ivers, husband Daniel, grandson Daniel (Danner), step-grandsons Kaleb and Jeremiah; son, Eric Boulden; aunt, Ellen Fossen; brother-in-law William Hegg, wife, Angeline; nieces, Laura Williams, husband, Tim and family; Kelly Hegg Crosby, husband, Aaron; and Gina Hegg; sister-in-law Betty Stiles, nephews, Gregory Stiles and Mike Nelson; along with multiple cousins.

Graveside Services will be held Wednesday, July 1 at Glacier Memorial Gardens at 3 p.m. with military honors. All are welcome to attend. No reception is planned due to virus restrictions.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to West Valley Fire Department Association: 2412 Farm to Market Road; Kalispell, MT. 59901. Friends are encouraged to visit our website at [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

## Ramon "Ray" R. Bouchey, 86

Ramon "Ray" R. Bouchey, 86, of Elmo, died Monday, Sept. 28, 2020, at The HealthCenter in Kalispell.

He is survived by his wife Trudy, and two daughters, Penny and Terry.

Memorial services are being planned for a later date. Darlington Cremation and Burial is caring for the family.

## Janet Katherine Bourne, 77

PAS 22 July 20 20



Janet Katherine Bourne was born, and in 1977 moved back to Kalispell.

Janet worked in banks, credit unions, escrow services, and for nearly 30 years as a legal secretary for George Best. She was also a knitting instructor and a volunteer fireman for a time. But her true life's work was painting little kids' faces. For over 37 years she painted butterflies, unicorns, Spiderman, or anything they requested of her. Three generations recognized her as the gentle

little red-haired lady that painted faces.

Janet was a member of Rainbow Girls, a longtime member of Artists and Craftsmen of the Flathead (ACF), and enjoyed taking classes at the Senior Institute at Flathead Valley Community College.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, her parents, sister Connie Stein, and brother-in-law John Morrow.

She will be missed by her husband, Dan, of Kalispell; her daughter, Darshan "Shannie" Heston (John), of Kalispell; her daughter, Corraun Bourne, of Portland; brother, Dennis

Redpath, of Kalispell; sister, Randee McAlpin (Wes), of Lakeside and Arizona; brother-in-law, Frank Stein, of Kalispell; grandsons, Jordan Lopaka and Clayton Heston; niece Monica Bradford (Matt), nephew Dennis Redpath Jr., and niece Maren King (Aaron); grandnieces, nephews and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in her name to Shriners Children's Hospitals.

No service is planned at this time, but a celebration of life will be held when the lilacs bloom again.

## Diane Bowersox, 72

PAL 21 Aug 20 20



Diane Bowersox, 72, of Airway Heights, Washington, passed away peacefully at Sacred Heart

Hospital in Spokane on Aug. 8, 2020.

She was born on March 10, 1948, to Cecil Edward Combs and Fredricka Elva Combs in Kalispell. She attended and graduated from Flathead High School in Kalispell.

She had two children that she cherished dearly, Scott Allen Barge and Kendra Marie Chavez.

She married Terry Bowersox on Dec. 31, 1984. Together they made an incredible team and lived a life full of adventure and companionship. They celebrated 35 years of marriage.

The most important thing to Diane was her family. She was always ready to lend a helping hand, a word of advice or a listening ear for anyone in her family. She loved camping, fishing, riding her four-wheeler, mowing her yard and taking care of her flowers. Diane was

known for her kind and welcoming heart. She was always full of life and laughter and looked forward to whatever plans the future might hold. She will be remembered for her positive attitude and willingness to always be there for anyone that needed her.

Diane was preceded in death by her parents, Cecil and Fredricka Combs; and by her sisters, Darlene Walter, Cecilia Stap and Sherry Jones (all of Kalispell).

She is survived by her husband, Terry Bowersox, of Airway Heights; son, Scott Barge (wife, Shawnee) of Kalispell; daughter, Kendra Chavez and grandchildren Kaylin Kinney and Jakob Chavez, all of Kalispell; stepdaughter, Shawn Hustoft, of Brandon, South Dakota; and sisters, Carlene Hutchings (husband Mark), and Faye Kerzman, all of Kalispell. She is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews which she loved and adored.

"To know her was to love her" and she will be deeply missed by all that knew her.

A memorial will be planned at a later date.

## Keith Aaron Bowman, 55

PA 55 19 June 2020  
Keith Aaron Bowman, 55, passed away on June 3, 2020, at his home in Kalispell, with his family by his side.

Keith is survived by his partner Michelle Finn, and children Brittany Rolandson, Keith Bowman Jr. and Tabitha

Bowman.  
Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Kenneth R. Bowman, 81

Kenneth R. Bowman, 81, of Kalispell, died Saturday, Oct. 24, 2020.

Arrangements are being made at this time. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

## Orville Bjorge

PA 46 4 Nov 2020  
On Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020, 10th Mountain Infantry Division, World War II veteran, Orville Bjorge, of Hot Springs, climbed his last ridge and crossed his last valley. (Psalm 23), into the loving arms of his Saviour, Jesus Christ, rejoining his family members that passed before him, leaving behind family and friends that loved him dearly. He was three months shy of 98 years old.

He will be buried at Murray Memorial Cemetery in Lonepine, with veteran's honors and a private family memorial will be held in his honor on Nov. 7, which will be lives-treamed for others due to social distancing and covid-19 concerns. The



links to the lives-tream will be on The Lake Funeral Home website.

Plans are to have a community potluck memorial celebration of life sometime in the spring, at the Lonepine Hall, once larger gatherings are allowable once more.

A full obituary will be on the funeral home website. Messages of condolences may be shared with the family online at [www.lakefuneralhomeandcremation.com](http://www.lakefuneralhomeandcremation.com). Arrangements are under the care of The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Timothy Allen Braaten, 51

Timothy Allen Braaten, 51, died Sept. 23, 2020.

He is survived by his parents Marilyn Hill and Robert Braaten, and his sons Adam and Colter Braaten.

A memorial service and celebration of life will be held Oct. 1 at Columbia Mortuary at 1 p.m. Coffee and cookies will be served afterward at the funeral home.

## Richard James Brady, 71

Richard James Brady passed away peacefully in his sleep on Nov. 17, 2020, at Lost Prairie.



Dick was born in Kalispell on Nov. 6, 1949, to Clarann and John Brady. He attended St. Matthew's School, graduated from Flathead High School, and went on to study at Flathead Valley Community College. He spent his childhood and adult life in the Flathead Valley that he loved so much. In his early years he could be found anywhere between causing shenanigans with the cousins (There may have been an egg or two tossed off the roof of Todd's Bakery.) and serving humbly in church as an altar boy. One thing was for sure, his childhood dog, Beans, always kept a watchful eye on him and his sisters.

sky, and always made sure flight was part of his life, whether that meant skydiving at the Lost Prairie Drop Zone, flying load after load of jumpers, flying Bright & Brady scenic mountain flights, spotting wildfires for the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, or being the eye in the sky by sharing his incredible skill in flight photography. Sometimes in his down time while waiting for a flight, the hangar was filled with the sound of his trumpet.

Dick was an avid outdoorsman, spending much of his time at home planning and preparing for the next hunting or fishing trip, which might have just been an excuse to get out with his pack animals and spend time in the woods with his friends. His final days were spent hunting at his and his father's home away from home, Low Camp in Lost Prairie, with his mountain horses Pete and Jato, and his mule Penelope. He had been home earlier in the week and reported that he'd been into the elk every day, and he couldn't wait to get back out there.

*Richard J. Brady 71*

A proud Irishman with a strong work ethic, he found friends everywhere life led him and had a way of squeezing fun into every moment. From his time helping out in his grandparents' bakery, building the Libby Dam, logging with Pat Hanley, paving the streets of Kalispell and highways around the state, his time at Kalispell Neon, to late nights "protecting the unqualified motoring public" by plowing state highways in the winter, he gathered lifelong friends, all along the way. You would be hard pressed to find a neighborhood in Kalispell where the landscape isn't embellished with one of his Green Planet trees.

He married the love of his life in 1979, which was the start of the job he did best, being a loving husband and father. They spent many nights together under the stars, camping at Spotted Bear and Schafer Meadows, or at home on the deck enjoying the show of a good thunderstorm.

He had a love for the

As a devout Catholic, and member of the Hibernians, we're sure Dick is joyfully at home with his mother, father, grandparents, and other departed friends.

He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Marilyn Brady; his children, Heather Engebretson, Anna Brady (Jones), Kate Brady, and Michael Brady; his sisters, Marie Celeste Brady, Mary Theresa Brady, Catherine Brady Sorenson, and Marilyn Eileen Brady (Geoff); grandchildren, Jordan and Dillon Engebretson; and great-grandchild, Miya.

Private family services will be held, with a celebration of life to be announced at a later date.

Donations can be made to St. Matthew's Church or charity of donor's choice.

## Douglas P. Brewer, 52

Douglas P. Brewer, 52, died Oct. 27, 2020, at his home in Kalispell. Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Justin Brewer, 30

Justin Brewer, 30, of Eureka, died July 31, 2020, as a result of an auto accident near Olney.

Austin Funeral and Cremation services in Whitefish is caring for the family.

## Shirley Ellen Brewer, 86

Shirley Ellen Brewer passed away peacefully on Nov. 26, 2020, in her home in Kalispell.

She was born on Sept. 22, 1934, in Maywood, Illinois, to John and Elsie (Ittner) Taylor. She moved to Kalispell in the early 1970s with her first husband, James I. Johnson. She began her career working for Kalispell General Hospital, later to become Kalispell Regional Medical Center. She retired from Materials Management at KRMC in 2005, after 30 years of service.

On Nov. 24, 1979, Shirley married her true love, David H. Brewer, and lived happily together for the next 41 years. Shirley's favorite thing to do was spend time with her loving husband.

For the last few years of her life, she treasured her time riding the Meals on Wheels route



with David, spending time together in the car. Shirley was pre-

ceded in death by both her parents, her ex-husband, Jim and her stepson, Neil Brewer.

She is survived by her husband, David, and his four brothers Roger (Marty), Mark (Denise), Sid (Joyce), all of Kalispell, and Glen (Mary Ann) of Cascade, Idaho; her sister, Jacqueline Taylor, of Forest Park, Illinois, as well as her stepdaughter, Faith (Layne) of Kalispell, four grandsons, two great-grandsons and numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial services are pending at this time, due to COVID.

## Phyllis J. Briggs, 90

Phyllis J. Briggs, 90, died on Friday, May 29, 2020, at Prestige Assisted Living in Kalispell. Arrangements are

pending. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

## Gerald G. Brooker, 88

Gerald G. Brooker, 88, of Kalispell died May 2, 2020. He is survived by his son William. No services are being held

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

## John 'Jerry' William Bristow, 81

Col. John "Jerry" William Bristow M.D., 81, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on Oct. 20, 2020.

Jerry was born on Jan. 23, 1939 to Jack and Marian Bristow in Monroe, Wisconsin.

Jerry grew up in an Air Force family with stations across the U.S. and overseas. He attended college at University of California, Riverside and completed medical school at the University of San Francisco before joining the Air Force as a flight surgeon.

He married his first wife, Barbara Hosford, in 1966, and they had two sons, David and Danny Bristow. After Barbara passed away in 2000, he married his second wife, Sharon Wang, in 2001, who brought four stepchildren into his life, Randy and wife Synneva Wang, Pam and husband Ron Pace, Gayle and husband Darcy Otto, and Brenda Wang. He is survived by his wonderful, blended family, including his wife Sharon, his sons and stepchildren, 13 grandchildren, Hiram, Sarah, McKenna, Taylor, Justin, Loren, Tyler, Shelby, Emma, Alissa, Brian, Kaylei and Paige, and seven great-grandchildren.

Jerry had a distinguished career in the Air Force, with stations across the U.S. and internationally, including Alaska and Turkey. Throughout his career he garnered the respect and admiration of his peers and retired from the Air Force as a full colonel in 1985 after 20 years, before starting private practice.

Jerry was deeply committed to his vocation as a physician, specializing in obstetrics and gynecology. Through his 30-plus years practicing medicine, Jerry delivered over 5,000 babies, touching the lives of thousands of families.



Beyond his medical career, Jerry devoted his life to family, friends and country, positively impacting the lives of his loved ones. His

family will cherish memories of family game nights playing cards and mah-jong. In his free time, he loved to bowl, golf, read, and take classes to satisfy a lifelong love of learning. He traveled often and was blessed to see much of the world. He was an active member of Risen Christ Church and the Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed volunteering his time at the Kalispell Northwest Montana History Museum and teaching fourth graders cribbage at local elementary schools for 20 years.

He was an incredibly accomplished, hardworking man, whose humility demonstrates the quality of his character.

Services will be held at Risen Christ Church on Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 11 a.m. Due to the current health concerns, seating will be limited; please contact family for details. His final resting place will be at Fairview Cemetery in Columbia Falls. Flowers may be sent to Risen Christ Church, 65 West Evergreen Dr., Kalispell, MT 59901. In lieu of flowers, please send a donation to the Northwest Montana History Museum, 124 Second Ave. E., Kalispell, MT 59901, and Risen Christ Church. Friends are encouraged to visit [www.buffalohill-fh.com](http://www.buffalohill-fh.com) to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

## Harley John Brotherton, 72

Harley John Brotherton, longtime resident of Moses Lake, Washington, passed away Friday, May 29, 2020, after a blessedly short battle with cancer.

Harley was born on April 26, 1948, in Ellensburg, Washington, and later moved to Moses Lake when his father and uncle started Brotherton Seed Company. Harley graduated from Moses Lake High School in 1966 and went on to college at Seattle University and Central Washington University.

On June 21, 1969, Harley married Nancy L. Allison in Moses Lake. Harley and Nancy have three children. Harley John Brotherton II, married to Erin (Hancock) Brotherton in May 2007. They reside in Kalispell with their two sons, Reece (11) and Rafe (9). Allison (Brotherton) Miles married to Richard M. Miles in June 1999. They reside in Kirkland, Washington, with their one son, Colin (13). Magge M. Brotherton has one daughter, Emily J. (Brotherton) Hurst (21), married to Andrew Hurst in July 2019, all residing in Moses Lake.

Harley lived with his wife Nancy and family in Kalispell where he owned and operated a successful manufactured housing and real estate business. The family moved back to Moses Lake in 1991 to be close to his aging parents, while continuing his career in housing and real estate. Harley was a member of the Rotary organization and Moses Lake Boys and Girls Club. He felt it was important to be involved in his community. In 2011, Nancy became ill and he became her loving and devoted care giver until her passing in July 2017.



In late 2017, Harley reconnected with Suzanne (Schack)

Brotherton and they subsequently married in early 2019. He and Suzanne enjoyed traveling to Alaska to visit his younger sister Selena, gardening and completely renovating their backyard. They also have a daughter from their youth, Kristina Poyner and her two children Walker (16) and Kelsey (14) of Ridgefield, Washington.

During his life, he enjoyed golf, good cigars, and riding Harley Davidson motorcycles. He was always up for a game of cribbage, especially when competing on one of the beautiful wood boards crafted by his father. He could often be found "puttering around in the garage" on small projects using his father's woodworking tools. Harley also enjoyed fishing with his children and grandchildren over the years.

He was preceded in death by his wife Nancy Lee (Allison) Brotherton, and his parents Harley Bartlett Brotherton and Margret Ann Brotherton.

Harley is survived by his wife Suzanne (Schack) Brotherton, his sister Selena Brotherton, four children and six grandchildren.

A celebration of Harley's life will be held in the future at a date to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Moses Lake Boys and Girls Club, Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, or DeliverFund. These were causes and organizations close to

## Clark Brown, 77

Clark Brown, 77, died on April 10, 2020 at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. No services are

planned at this time. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Loren A. Brown, 73

Loren A. Brown, 73, of Kalispell, died Feb. 5, 2020.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, at Stillwater Free Lutheran

Church in Kalispell. Private burial will take place at Spring Creek Cemetery in Kalispell. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Richard P. Brown, 89

Richard P. Brown, 89, died April 19, 2020, at Brendan House in Kalispell.

No services are

planned at this time. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Beverly Anne (Taft) Browne, 73

Beverly Anne (Taft) Browne, 73, passed away at her home in Lakeside, on May 25, 2020, surrounded by her family that loved her so dearly.

Bev graduated from Libby High School in 1965. She was the daughter of Elmer and Anna Taft, longtime residents of Libby.

She is survived by her husband Sam of Lakeside; Michelle Traynor (John) of Everett, Washington; Craig Browne (Kelly) of Spokane Valley, Washington; Carrie Cole (Jeff) of Bothell, Washington; two grandsons, Sam and Connor; and many nieces and nephews.

Beverly went to college in Spokane and received her degree in nursing. She specialized in urology/surgery at the Everett Clinic in Everett, Washington. She also worked in hospice and critical home care nursing for children. Beverly was a devoted nurse that extended



God's love to the sick.

Bev was a lady of great spirit and faith. Her smile

was infectious, and her loving character would radiate across a room. She chose love, joy and kindness over all else. Her love for her family will remain in our hearts forever. Rest in Peace, dear Beverly.

Beverly's memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. at Eidsvold Lutheran Church on June 6. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the service will be streamed live on Eidsvold's Facebook page. Space at the church will be limited because of social distancing guidelines.

Donations may be made in Beverly's name to the Tuberculous Sclerosis Alliance, <https://www.tsalliance.org/ways-to-give/>

30 Jul 2020 - Brezninski, Geraldine Theresa

**Geraldine Theresa Brezninski Skilondez Eppler, 87**

Geraldine Theresa Brezninski Skilondez Eppler passed away July 27, 2020. Gert was preceded in death by her parents Edmund Joseph Brezninski and Rose Brezninski; also her first husband of 22 years, Joseph Vincent Skilondez, and her second husband of 48 years, Kurt Traugott Eppler, her beloved son Mitchell Edmund Skilondez, and her precious older brother Edmund Robert Brezninski and sister-in-law Teresa Mae Mazurka Brezninski. She is survived by her daughter Melinda Rose Skilondez; brother Wayne Paul Brezninski and sister-in-law Carol Lois Bielanski Brezninski.

"Gert had a fun-loving sense of humor and a huge open heart for everyone. She and Kurt lived their dream retirement in Lakeside for 25 lovely, happy years. She took care of others her whole life. She grew up on the south side of Chicago during the Great Depression. After my father returned from Ardennes in Patton's rifle brigade she married him on her 18th birthday. Nani had to sign the paperwork! She nursed both of her husbands through cancer to their transition. She fell in March of this year and I am so grateful to have been able to bring her home to Lakeside."

She is also survived by her godchild Amy Stam J. "Baldy" Skilondez; Edmund Al Brezninski and Amy Brezninski. All our love to her many nieces and nephews, Jennifer, Kay, Mike, Phil, (Thaddeus "Skip" Skilondez), Bob "Sonny" Ulrich, Rosemarie Ludwig, Gertrude "Trudy" Kaufmann, Ted Dominick, Janet Ursach Kemp, Marilyn Klusore, loving children and spouses, dear cousins Sylvia Nolan and Ed Nolan.

I pray I can honor her precious life and memory with even half of her courage, common sense, and capacity to love. Sending love to DeLano, Chuck, Ari and Dory, Eleanor and Anne, Patricia, Fran and Howard Ruby, everyone at Blackmill, Michael, Tom and Mary Pessionson, (Ben and Virginia), Jim, Jessie etc., etc. If I forget anyone, have mercy, please. She lived a full and happy life. She was one in a million, an irreplaceable precious treasure. May God be with us all. I am so grateful to have looked in her bright light. Thav's another notice this month in the Morning sky!"



In these precious four months she taught me loving survival skills by being easy-going and compassionate. She worked hard her whole life, and not only gave me birth but a kind of rebirth, guiding me out of my depression over losing Mitch and Kurt. She taught us to love art and music and family. She loved unconditionally and being with her incomparable vitality was like taking a vitamin for happiness! She gave us courage and resilience. I am so honored to be able to express this. She revived my capacity to love and be close to someone, and she was graceful and sweet to her last breath. We thank all the health care and hospice workers who helped us on this tender journey."


26 Feb 2020 pg A6- Burkey, Joseph and Marlene Janice Gentz

**Joseph "Ricky" Burkey, 78**  
**Marlene Janice Grenz-Burkey, 79**

Joseph "Ricky" Burkey (Aug. 22, 1941- Jan. 17, 2020) and Marlene Janice Grenz-Burkey (Aug. 3, 1948- May 3, 2020) have gone to the place He has prepared for them. Longtime residents of Whitefish, Marlene and Ricky shared a love for the community for many years. They left no money or worldly inheritance. Instead they passed along something of greater value: faith, hope and love in Jesus.

Our family will be forever grateful for the race they ran and gladly pick up the baton and continue on: "so above all else, let love be the beautiful price for which you run" (1 Corinthians 13:12 TPT).

Our family would like to express deep gratitude to all of the wonderful caregivers, guardians and community members who so lovingly cared for Ricky and Marlene during their many years in Whitefish.





## Patsy Jean Bryan, 84

Patsy Jean Bryan was born on Aug. 20, 1925, in Kalispell, the only child of Joseph and Berneice Kinshella.



Joe was a Log Boss at Kinshella and Sons Logging Co. Berneice, of the Columbia Falls Jordans, was the book-keeper of the company, operating in Northwest Montana. Patsy shared many fond memories of life as a young child in temporary-building logging camps near Marion, Olney and other remote locations. The family settled on a small farm in the Flathead Valley as Patsy reached school age, where she attended rural schools and Flathead County High School. Her 4-H activities led her to Montana State College, entering in the fall of 1954 to study Home Economics, later transferring to Education. She was a live-in member of the Delta Gamma Sorority, and at MSC she met Hayes Bryan, a boy from a farm in the Gallatin Valley who also flew airplanes.

Patsy completed her degree in elementary education a quarter ahead of schedule and received some additional education during a three-month fourth-grade teaching stint in a "the wrong side of the tracks" Helena school, dealing with very different children than those to whom her country upbringing had accustomed her. She received her diploma in June 1958 and accepted a second grade teaching position in Colorado Springs, Colorado, teaching for two years while keeping contact with Hayes, who was becoming an Air Force pilot. They were married in Kalispell on Aug. 14, 1960. Their honeymoon night was on the banks of Lake McDonald in Glacier Park, and

the honeymoon trip was a seven-day pack trip into the Bob Marshall Wilderness in the Rocky Mountains southeast of Kalispell.

They moved into a little house just outside the Webb Air Force Base fence in west Texas where Hayes was now a jet flight instructor. Patsy taught fourth grade in the Big Spring school system for six months, until her advancing pregnancy (in those "proper" days) dictated she depart the school. Five years in Texas found Patsy with two daughters and memories of hot dust storms that regularly raged around the house, red dirt filtering in to cover the furniture and stain the cloth diapers. Two years near Dayton, Ohio, where Hayes was a student, brought their son. Next the family lived for a short time in Victorville, California, where Hayes qualified in tactical fighters, and then the abbreviated family lived for a year in a little house in Kalispell while Hayes flew the F-4 in Vietnam. Upon Hayes' return, they moved to Edwards Air Force Base, California in the Mojave Desert northeast of Los Angeles. Patsy refreshed her career at Edwards by substitute teaching during the year at Edwards, and then they were off to Colorado Springs, living on-base at the U.S. Air Force Academy where Hayes instructed. En route, they had taken delivery on a chassis-mount camper, which became a big part of their family-and-pets travel lives over the next ten years. Two years later came a two-year move to Austin, Texas, where Hayes was a Ph.D. student (Patsy took teaching courses and joined an art group), a week's European trip for Patsy to tour Switzerland with Hayes via Swiss Rail Pass (Hayes spent three months at ETH

Technical University) Zurich), and back to USAFA. They lived five peaceful country years on five acres in the Black Forest, east of the Academy, with the kids' horses and hamsters, and Patsy's chicken and a garden, where Patsy occasionally substitute-taught in the then-tiny prairie town of Falcon.

Then came Hayes' assignment to Washington, D.C. Over the next 13 years they became empty nesters, Hayes finished his Air Force career and was employed by G.E. and Patsy was quite involved with their church and with painting and volunteering with Hospice. They enjoyed several annual sailing weeks in the Caribbean where they had "invested" in a 32-foot charter sailboat (not lucrative). The couple had experienced growing yearnings to return West, so when a job opportunity within GE in the Seattle area arose, they made plans to move. As moving time neared, the job evaporated, but they moved anyway, finding the jewel Anacortes in 1993.

Patsy learned and taught Tole painting in Colorado, and she became an accomplished watercolor and oil paint artist in Virginia. She continued her painting in Anacortes, and also enhanced the quilting skills she'd learned as a youth, becoming enthralled with the Watercolor Quilt movement. She told the story, to a very few people, that during a surgery in 2009, as the doctors were working on her, she "heard" a voice say, matter-of-factly, "How are you doin'? Do you want to go back? Or do you just want to give it up?" After considering, she replied "I need to go back, for the kids. I need to make them each a quilt, and..."

Following two surgeries in 2009, Patsy's

distress and her nostalgia for Montana were assuaged when they purchased six acres on a hilltop west of Polson. They drew their own log house plans, selected a builder, and their crew "stacked the logs" in January 2010. Though being an "owner-finished" work in progress, Patsy was able to spend many months in her beloved Montana.

Patsy was always passionately concerned with the success and welfare of her children, grandchildren and, recently, great-grandchildren. After becoming an empty-nester, among other manifestations, this resulted in trips to Costa Rica and Spain visiting their daughter's missionary family, and to Italy and Hawaii and an Alaska-Russia-Korea-Japan cruise to visit their U.S. Navy son and family.

They attended Christ the King Church in Anacortes for many years.

Patsy died from natural causes at home in Anacortes on April 28, 2020, sitting on the side of the bed with her husband holding her arms, shortly after having gestured for and obtained a change into her favorite (Hayes') shirt.

Patsy is survived by her husband Hayes; their daughters Ann Beall of Kalispell and Colleen Taylor of Birmingham, Alabama; their son Daniel of Stafford, Virginia; six grandchildren; and "three-and-two-thirds" great-grandchildren.

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

The online guestbook is available at <https://www.evanschapel.com>

## Michelle Browne, 71

Michelle Browne, 71, died Nov. 28, 2020, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center. She is survived by her son, David Browne. A memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls.

## William 'Willy' Bucariza, 83

William "Willy" Bucariza, age 83, of Whitefish, died on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2020, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Arrangements are pending. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

## Jean Buchholz, 78

Jean Buchholz, 78, died March 21, 2020, at her home in Columbia Falls. She is survived by her husband Ken

Buchholz and children Kim, Lori and Tracy. Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Bonnie R. Buckallew, 93

Bonnie was born Dec. 9, 1926, in Fairview, Montana, to Joe and Mamie Lewis. She was the eighth child of a family of 12 children. She passed away May 8, 2020, of natural causes.

Bonnie was a long-time member of the Church of Christ. She married Donald Buckallew on Feb. 26, 1943. During World War II she served her country by welding on warships in Oregon. After the war they first made their home in Missoula and then moved to Kalispell in 1948, where she lived for the rest of her life. In June of 1959, they bought a farm west of Kalispell where she spent some of the best years of her life and raised her six kids. In 1976, they sold the farm and moved into Kalispell to her current home on Meridian Road.

She was known for keeping a beautiful yard with gorgeous flow-



ers and always loved working on her yard and in her garden.

Bonnie loved God first but loved and took pride in her children and their families.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, all of her siblings, a baby girl and two grandchildren, Jerry Luckey and Tonia (Luckey) Ford.

She is survived by her six children Sandra (Jim) Haupt, Cheryl (Jim) Howard, Vicki (Cecil) York, Charles (Laura Lee), David (Shelly), Dean (Karen), 12 grandchildren and numerous great and great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services are at 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, at the Church of Christ.

## Douglas Allen Buck, 64

*PAL 14 May 2020*  
Douglas Allen Buck went to be with his Lord and Savior on May 11, 2020.

He was born on Jan. 2, 1956, to John and Dorothy Buck. The eldest of seven children, Doug was born and lived nearly his entire life in the Flathead Valley.

Being born and raised in the Flathead instilled a great love of nature in Doug. As a child, he spent many hours fishing and camping with his family. He worked as a sawyer and heavy equipment operator, which allowed him to spend many long days in the woods covered in dirt and pitch. During his life, he also built log homes, was a mechanic, ran a salvage yard and was a miner. His picture was even featured in the Wall Street Journal with an article written about the gold mine Doug started with two of his lifelong friends, Michael and Jim Keys.

Doug developed rheumatoid arthritis in his early thirties and endured constant pain throughout the remainder of his life, however, he seldom let this get him down. A self-proclaimed "incurable optimist," no task was too great with a little ingenuity and some help from the Lord. Even though he was in a wheelchair he never let it stop him from doing what he wanted to do, whether it be running his chainsaw/sawmill, weed eating or gardening. He was truly



unstoppable.

Doug was fiercely outspoken, loyal and generous. He

was a faithful believer in the Lord, loving father, proud grandfather and devoted son. He loved to learn and was an avid reader and a collector of all things. Due to these attributes, Doug's knowledge covered many topics. He will be greatly missed by all that knew him.

He is preceded in death by his sister Ruthie; son JoJoe; and mother Dorothy. He is survived by his father John Buck; daughters Jennifer Grande and Morgan Sutton; sisters Vicki Swartzenburger and Josie Buck; brothers Kenneth Buck, Ronnie Buck and Robert Buck; and the true loves of his life, his grandchildren: Gracie, Colter, Lilly, Michael, Nolan, Garrett, Rory and Will (Little Doug). He also leaves behind many nieces, nephews and wonderful lifelong friends. A graveside service will be held at Conrad Cemetery at 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 16. We encourage you to wear your favorite tie-dye in honor of Doug. Friends are encouraged to visit our website at [www.buffalohillfh.com](http://www.buffalohillfh.com) to leave notes of condolences for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

## Tiann D. Buker, 81

Tiann D. Buker, age 81, of Whitefish, entered fully into the presence of the Lord on March 4, 2020.

Tiann was born to Tivola (Stuber) and Henry DeLong in Peru, Indiana on Sept. 26, 1938. She spent childhood through high school years in Bunker Hill, Indiana. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Wheaton College (Wheaton, Illinois) and a Master of Liberal Arts from John Hopkins University. While at Wheaton, Tiann met and fell in love with her future husband, Gerald Buker.

Throughout her life, Tiann enjoyed reading and studying, especially the Bible. Embracing the relevance of God's word, she was diligent in scripture memorization. She devoted her life to serving the Lord through serving people. She was known for being self-



less and uniquely creative in expressing love for others. Memories of personalized

handwritten notes, gracious hospitality and her genuine love for God and the people He placed in her life are etched in the hearts of all who knew her. She will be greatly missed.

She was a beloved wife, mother and grandmother. Tiann is preceded in death by her parents and her husband. She is survived by three daughters: Cynthia Allison (Donald); Karen Bellm (Tim); and Eva Buker; as well as two grandchildren Carissa and Jeremy Bellm.

"Jesus said... I am the resurrection and the life, anyone who believes in me will live after dying." John 11:25

## John Harvey Bullock III, 60

On the morning of April 8, 2020, John Bullock, 60, passed away peacefully at his home in Coram, leaving his wife Stella (Hislop) Bullock, daughters, Anne, Sarah and Colyne Hislop and his grandson, Connor Hislop.

John was born in Choteau on July 30, 1959, to John Harvey Bullock Jr. and Ruth (Allum) Bullock. He was preceded in death by his father, John Harvey Bullock Jr., and his brother James Floyd Bullock. John's mother Ruth Joanne Bullock followed her eldest son on April 22, 2020. He is survived by his sisters Rita (Dale) Elgen, Jackie (Leo) Brunson, Anne Bullock, and many beloved family and friends who will miss him dearly.

John grew up in Columbia Falls, exploring the banks of the Flathead River with fishing always on his mind. He was an avid fly fisherman, hunter and prankster. He loved exploring the Bob Marshall Wilderness with his family, friends, and the horses and mules in tow. When not fishing, he was dreaming of fall hunting camp and putting fresh meat on the table for his loved ones. John truly lived life to the fullest while sharing his passions and creating endless love and laughter with those he cherished.

Throughout the years, John worked with many area outfitters as a hunting and fishing guide. He also worked in the timber industry as a construction millwright and lift equipment operator, retiring from Plum Creek after 35 years of service.

John was a man of many talents though he would always say, "a master of none." Many who had the privilege to encounter his endless



humor and goodwill always knew there was a joke up his sleeve, never a

dull moment and forever our "Master Prankster." John was a gift to all who knew and loved him, and there was nothing he loved more than spending time with family and friends. His constant state of cheerful happiness and wacky sense of humor will be forever cherished.

In memory of their dad, John's daughters dedicated this final tribute, by Sarah (RJ) Hislop:

"31 years ago, an angel became a permanent addition to our family. He stepped in and took on a role many men wouldn't care to, and from that moment on, became the best man and father we've ever known. Throughout our lives my mom has always praised how special his heart was, capable of immense love and compassion. He raised my sisters and me with that powerful love as if we were his own. Ever talented and always funny, he will remain in our hearts as well as the hearts of every person who crossed his path.

On the bright & beautiful morning of April 8, surrounded by so much love, he joined the angels in heaven (halo-mounted cowboy hat and all). We love you, Dad."

The family would like to hold a memorial for John and his mother Ruth Joanne Allum Bullock at John's home in Coram, on Saturday, Aug. 1, 2020. Please contact the family for further information and directions at colyne.hislop@gmail.com

## Ruth Joanne Allum Bullock, 80

On April 22, 2020, after a long fight with various medical issues,

Ruth Joanne Allum Bullock, age 80, joined her husband John Harvey Bullock Jr. and sons John Harvey Bullock III and James Floyd Bullock in heaven, along with her parents Clarence and Dorthea



Allum; brothers Ray, Ben, Dick and Ed; sisters Hazel Westfall, Betty Fenner, Verna Larson; and half-sister Gertrude Fairchild.

Ruth was born May 30, 1939, in Choteau to Clarence Richard Allum and Dorthea Culp Allum. After graduating in Choteau in 1958, she married John Harvey Bullock Jr. on Sept. 16, 1958. After short stays around Montana, Colorado and Oregon, she settled in

the Flathead Valley, raising five children. Ruth spent over 28 years as a cook at the Night Owl in Columbia Falls. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting and other crafts, along with traveling, reading and watching John Wayne movies.

She is survived by sister Sharon (Glen) Larson; brother Frank (Lordis) Allum; daughters Rita (Dale) Elgaen, Jacquie (Leo) Brunson and Anne Bullock; daughter-in-law

Stella Bullock; 10 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Ruth will be interred at a private family graveside service at Woodland Cemetery, in Columbia Falls. There will be a gathering at her home for friends and family. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for Ruth's family.

## Anna Mae Bunyea, 91

Anna was born to William and Eleanor Lecher on Aug. 6, 1929, in Chadron, Nebraska.

Anna passed away at the Brendan House Nov. 30, 2020.

She attended grade school through high school where she met and married her first husband, Lloyd Thomson. To this union they had three children. After this marriage ended, she moved her family to Bigfork where she later met and married Walter Krause Jr. and to this union was born one son. She was later widowed.

Anna met and married William Sears and a son was born to this union, which later ended; and then met Bud Bunyea, later ending.

Growing up with her family in Bigfork, Anna enjoyed O-Mok-Sees with her children, growing a large garden, square dancing, and playing the accordion at Swan River Hall dances.

Anna worked at Swan River School, before moving to Missoula and then returning to Kalispell where she resided, working for the Carpenters Union until her retirement. For over 30 years she sold Avon in her spare time, receiving awards for top sales. She made many lifelong



friends. She also enjoyed doing a yearly bazaar, weekly Bible study group, and

was an active member of Easthaven Baptist Church until she became homebound.

She was preceded in death by her parents, brother Fred Lecher, husband Walter Krause Jr., and son-in-law James Gilbert.

Survivors include children Gary Thompson of Kalispell, Cheryl Gilvert of Aiken, South Carolina, Kathy Thompson of Kalispell, Bruce and Adele Krause of Kalispell, and Kevin Sears of Bigfork; 10 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

There will be a graveside service on Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 12:15 p.m. at Glacier Memorial Gardens in Kalispell, officiated by longtime friend Ron Pierce of Bigfork. A spaghetti luncheon will follow at 2 p.m. at the VFW in Bigfork.

Arrangements are under the care of Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Charles Eugene Bunyea, 87

Charles Eugene Bunyea, 87, died Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2020, at home.

He is survived by his wife Barbara, and his three children Steve, Julie and Lorie.

Graveside services with military honors will be held at Lone Pine

Cemetery in Bigfork Aug. 21, at 2 p.m., with the Revs. Nathan Bemis and Ron Pierce speaking. Reception with cake and coffee will follow at the Creston Grange.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is assisting the family at this time.

## Lorion Marie Bunyea (Molen), 60

Lorion Marie Bunyea (Molen) died Dec. 26, 2020 at her home in Bigfork at age 60.

She leaves her husband, Steven E. Bunyea, of 36 years and their two children, BreeAnn Webber and husband

Ian of Missoula and son, Austin of Bigfork.

A celebration of Lori's life is planned for a later date.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is assisting the family at this time.

## Barbara K. Burch, 64

Barbara K. Burch, age 64, passed away very unexpectedly on the evening of March 29, 2020 from a pulmonary embolism.



Barbara Lynn Kaiser was born in Dubuque, Iowa to Sally and William Kaiser on January 12, 1956. As the daughter of a Navy chaplain, Barb and her family moved to Japan and various states in the USA before finally settling in St. Paul, Minnesota where she graduated from high school in 1974. She went on to receive her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Montana State University.

She first came to Montana in 1976 when she took a singing waitress position at the Many Glacier Hotel in Glacier National Park. Her beautiful voice and musical talents were showcased in both her daily work as well as special performances for the guests in the evenings. She fell in love with the mountains of Montana and this became a turning point in her life. She enjoyed spending time around the Many Glacier boat dock where she met Scott Burch. They were married in the fall of 1984, spending summers in and around Glacier as she and Scott eventually became owners of the Glacier Park Boat Company. Their children, Sam and Sara, made their love complete. Family was important above all else. Barb also made lifelong friends in all her circles whether that was Glacier National Park, choir, the

*PAT to APR 20 2020*  
"Helena Flats Moms," North Valley Hospital, her card playing gals, or the boat company. Beyond her duties as an owner of the Glacier Park Boat Company, Barb worked as a nurse at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish for 36 years. She loved her job and it was perfectly suited to her caring, gentle nature. She continued to be passionate about music and was a longtime member of the Glacier Chorale, often featured in solos given her beautiful voice. Glacier National Park was always central to her life as it was where she met Scott and the entire Burch clan and where she raised her family. Barb's world-renowned hugs were a gift to countless recipients — whether she knew you well or not. Her generosity of spirit, her warmth and kindness were unsurpassed. The light she brought into this world will be immeasurably missed by all she touched.

She is survived by her husband Scott Burch, their two children Sam and Sara, her sister Karen Kaiser, and the numerous other family and friends who hold her dear to their heart.

In lieu of flowers memorials are preferred.

A viewing will be held for Barb at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home April 9, 2020 from 1:30-6 p.m. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home asks that while attending Barb's visitation that everyone abide by social distancing. We will be allowing 10 people into Barb's viewing at a time. Please be patient and allow appropriate time to attend. A celebration of life for Barb will be held on a later date.

## Joseph Burkey, 78

Joseph Burkey, 78, of Whitefish, died Jan. 17, 2020 at North Valley Hospital. The family

is being cared for by Austin Funeral and Cremation Services in Whitefish.

## Bert D. Butler, 71

Bert D. Butler, 71, of Kalispell, died on Monday, July 27, 2020, at Whitefish Care & Rehabilitation Center in Whitefish.

Arrangements are pending. Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for the family.

## Jesse Butler, 30

Jesse Butler, 30, died in Kalispell on Dec. 26, 2020.

He is survived by his children, Tidas Butler and Noah Butler.

A private service will be held at a later date. Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

## Raymond Gene Burton, 76

Raymond Gene Burton, 76, died on Nov. 1, 2020, at his home in Bigfork.

Private Funeral Services will be held with burial at Bigfork Community Cemetery. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

## Donald J. Buxbaum, 59

Donald J. Buxbaum, 59, of Kalispell, died Monday, Jan. 20, 2020, at his home.

Services are being

planned for Sidney. Darlington Cremation and Burial is caring for the family.

## Samuel 'Sam' V. Bussey III, 54

Sam was the beloved son of Sam and Teri Bussey born in Helena March 26, 1966. He passed away from a heart attack at his home on July 1, 2020.

Sam grew up in Kalispell from the age of 7 and graduated from Flathead High School in 1984. After attending the University of Montana for one year he moved to Seattle and then to San Diego where he worked in construction. He returned to Kalispell where he worked in retail at Drug Fair (Super Fair) at which time he found a passion in photography and camera equipment. His outgoing personality, quick wit and sense of humor were recognized by many of his customers who then became lifelong friends.

Sam became a father to the pride and joy of his life, Logan Samuel Bussey, in March of 1989. The devotional love Sam and Logan shared was remarkable and will last

into eternity. Sam was extremely proud of all of Logan's accomplishments, especially his scholastic achievements and he thoroughly exercised his bragging rights. In 2010 the two of them went on a two-month European tour at which time, while visiting Bientina, Italy, they found the birthplace of Sam's great-grandfather, Fiorendo Bachini. Logan married Anne Macy in 2016 and Sam could not have been happier to have her as a daughter.

Sam opened his own camera store, Sam's Cameras and Electronics, in 1994 where he greatly enjoyed transitioning from film to digital photography. After the store closure, in 2005, he went to work for Burlington Northern Railroad.

An unfortunate accident resulted in a diagnosis of Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (a debilitating, 24/7 condition with no cure). As a hidden blessing, however, he was

able to re-discover his passion for photography and begin another business, Wild Reflections Photography. Sam discovered a few beautiful areas around the state where he was able to photograph wildlife without having to hike deep into the wilderness. The locations are a secret known only to him, but he was proud to share his wonderful photographs with the world.

Additionally, for the last few years, Sam worked for Torent in Kalispell where he was able to work without aggravating his RSD symptoms and was much beloved by his colleagues.

As some of you may know, one of Sam's goals in life was to convert his liberal and socialist close friends to conservatism. You know who you are. We believe he may apply his pressure "from above."

Sam will forever be greatly missed by his surviving son, Logan and wife Anne, his parents

Sam and Teri Bussey, his sister Trina and her husband Pat, his nieces Marissa and Cherise, nephew Mitchell, Uncle Dick Bachini, many good friends and extended relatives.

He was a devout Catholic and is now in heaven with our Lord, his grandparents Sam and Ruby Bussey, and Vasco and Anne Bachini.

At Sam's request, there will be no funeral services. Sam's family would like you to hug the ones you love and tell them you love them often. Sam and his family always say "I love you"; there are no questions in our minds about the love we share.

Donations can be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital or Shriner's Hospitals for Children.

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.

## Samuel 'Sam' Veich Bussey Jr., 86

2020  
6 Dec 2020  
Samuel "Sam" Veich Bussey Jr., son of Samuel (Sr.) and Ruby, was born April 24, 1934, in a small farm house south of Ryan, Oklahoma. He passed away in Kalispell in the early morning of Dec. 1, 2020, from a heart-related event.

Sam had a deep love for his parents and while growing up they moved to 14 different locations so his dad could pursue a career in the United States Air Force. He was fortunate to be able to live in California for many of those years where he was near his extended family. He graduated from high school in San Antonio, Texas, after attending that specific high school for only two months. He always thought that was funny, especially when he got reunion notifications.

In December 1956 he joined the Army and was honorably discharged in December of 1958 while stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He remained in the Army Reserves, then transferred to the Air Force Reserves until December 1962.

He followed his parents to Great Falls in 1958 where his dad was stationed at Malmstrom Air Force Base. He attended college in Great Falls while working at Super Save Drug Store. He was offered a manager position in Havre where he met and fell in love with Teri Bachini.



stories of his fishing skills and laughed heartily about

always out-fishing his father-in-law (Vasco) on lakes, rivers and creeks and how Vasco reacted to being out-fished. In a note left for us to find in his papers, he said "My best times in life was going fishing with my wife, kids and grandkids. We just did not do enough of this. I love you all very much." The last few years his body didn't allow him to fish but we are sure he is dropping a hook with his parents and father-in-law now. Have fun fishing in heaven, Dad!

Sam was a family man and expressed his love often. He always said he wished his kids, grandkids and great-grandkids lived in the same house so he could see them every day. Knowing their happiness and successes in life always brought a smile to his face and made his heart content. We get our work ethic from you, Dad. Thank you for that.

Sam joins his beloved son, Sam (3rd), in heaven who passed away just five months prior. He is also with his parents, a baby brother who died at birth, Anne Bachini (mother-in-law), Vasco Bachini (father-in-law), and many extended aunts, uncles and cousins.

He leaves behind and will be missed by his wife, Teri, daughter Trina and her husband Pat, grandchildren Logan and wife Anne, Marissa and husband Ryan, Cherise and husband Ryan, Mitchell and wife Alli, Anneliese, Ava, brother-in-law Dick, close cousin Quannah Morgan, and his great-grandchildren Parker and Layne.

Sam did not want a funeral so we are honoring that request.

Sam and Teri were married in April 11, 1964. They lived in Helena and had two children, Trina, born April 1965, and Sam (3rd) in March 1966.

The family was transferred to Moscow, Idaho, where he opened the pharmacy and variety store, Drug Fair, in 1969. Their final move was to Kalispell in 1973, where he became a partner in the company, opened and managed Super Fair, later renamed Drug Fair in the Gateway West Mall. He continued this career until the closing of the company in 1993. He loved managing the stores and took much pride in the store's success. He was a great manager and had the respect of his employees that has lasted long after the company's closure. He met many wonderful people during his career and some of his employees remained as his friends to this day.

Sam loved to hunt, but fishing was his passion. He enjoyed telling

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



## Caleb Keilen Buzzell, 31

Caleb Keilen Buzzell, 31, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, June 27, 2020.

Caleb was born April 11, 1989, in Whitefish, and grew up just down the road in Hungry Horse and Columbia Falls.

Caleb had lived a full life during his short time here. As a kid, Caleb loved to camp, hunt and fish with his parents and siblings. Caleb would spend many days with his brother Josh skiing at Big Mountain, skateboarding, riding their bikes and dirt biking as they imagined future X-Games glory. He enjoyed spending time with his family and never left a family gathering without letting you know that he loved you. He was "Uncle Cubby" to his countless nieces and nephews and they loved being around him. To his siblings, he was a chatterbox that always made them laugh. Among the many attributes that his family will miss most, when Caleb had set his mind to something, he had an almost uncanny, and somewhat comical determination to see it through, regardless



ed middle school and high school before joining the Army at 17. He served in Iraq as a fire support specialist (a leader in target acquisition, processing, and coordinating air support among many other critical responsibilities). During his time in the Army, he received the Army Commendation Medal (second award), Army Achievement Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Army Service Ribbon, and Overseas Service Ribbon. He fought on the front lines of the war in Iraq from December of 2007 to March of 2009. He loved being in the Army, but ultimately Montana

of what it was, he wouldn't let you forget.

Caleb attended elementary school in the Canyon and Columbia Falls, where he also attend-

called him home.

After serving in the Army, Caleb would spend time working with his brother on the sod farm and also began developing his handyman skills in the construction trades. He then worked in the oil fields of North Dakota before coming back to the Flathead where his strong work ethic served him in doing construction and helping his dad with the family cleaning business.

Caleb cared deeply about many things, he had strong convictions, and was passionate about his values. However, his proudest achievement was his son, Jett. He worked hard to be the best dad to his son and loved Jett so much. He was such a wonderful father. They loved to go camping, fishing, play video games, build forts, and spend as much time as possible together. He was looking forward to teaching Jett how to ski this winter. Jett was his greatest joy.

Caleb will be missed most by his son, Jett (mother Lexxy Riley) of Whitefish; his mother, Leanne Buzzell of

Columbia Falls; his father, Rick Buzzell of Kalispell; his sister Teri Graham (husband Jeff, kids Maddie, Lacey, Brady) of Boise, Idaho; his sister, Lacey Porrovecchio (husband Matt, kids Andrew, Dylan, Cooper) of Bigfork; his brother, Gabe Buzzell (wife Steph, kids Piper, Oliver, Elsie, Baylor) of Kalispell; his brother Josh Buzzell (wife Meghann) of Kalispell; and his grandma, Carol Buzzell of Kalispell. He is also survived by countless aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A celebration of life will take place on Saturday, July 11, at 2 p.m., at Canvas Church in Columbia Falls. A reception will immediately follow and a private family burial will follow the reception.

In lieu of flowers, there has been a GoFundMe account set up for his son Jett, found under Caleb Buzzell Memorial Fund - for his son Jett.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the Buzzell family.