

Helen Madler Hensleigh, 102

Helen Madler Hensleigh passed away on July 12, 2020, at the age of 102. Helen fit a lot into those 102 years.

She was a wife, mother, faithful Catholic and an extraordinary player of the game of bridge. She was born in Baker, Montana, but left Baker at age 16 to attend business college in Great Falls and two years later started her career as bookkeeper for Montana Dakota Utilities in Baker.

Helen married Lyle Hensleigh on Jan. 31, 1943, in Baker and relocated to Kalispell while Lyle served in World War II. During the initial years in Kalispell, Helen worked as a bookkeeper for Winkler Dress Shoppe. She then devoted her energy to raising five children, Bill, Jim, Sheila, Tom and Mary Kay. She cheered them on in all their athletic endeavors, but basketball was her favorite sport to watch. Helen could be found watching NBA ball games even up until the end in the company of her son Bill; always rooting for the winning team! Helen and Lyle celebrated their golden anniversary during the summer of 1993.

Helen was a member of St. Matthew's Catholic Church and dedicated her time, talent and treasure to make sure it thrived.

Helen founded the Kalispell Duplicate Bridge Club in 1954, originally in the family home, before it moved to Main Street above Jordan's Cafe. The Bridge Club could be called her second family as she devoted more than 75 years of her life to the game. Many articles in the Daily Inter Lake chronicled her successful career. She was very proud to be a



Gold Life Master of the game. There are countless people who enjoy playing bridge as a result of attending the many classes she taught.

Our mom was very social and enjoyed entertaining. She and Lyle hosted many parties and Mom continued to do so for several years after Lyle's death. She didn't have a driver's license and was frequently seen walking about Kalispell, usually at a very brisk pace.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband Lyle in 1993, her grandson Brian, her great-grandson Rhys and son-in-law Robert Hobbs.

She is survived by her children, Bill and Bonita Hensleigh (Heath, Garth, Devon.); Jim and Jennifer Hensleigh (Liza, Dan); Sheila Hobbs; Tom and Mitzi Hensleigh (Chris, Tyler); and Mary and Mark Thane (Emilie, Lindsay); as well as her brother, Robert Madler, and eight great-grandchildren. She is also survived by lifelong friend Florence Sutherland, former daughter-in-law Lisa Hensleigh, and devoted niece Rayna Weiss.

The family is very appreciative of all those who cared for our mom from the periphery, including Flathead Valley Bridge Club members, Crevier's, Eagle Transportation, and members of St. Matthew's Parish. Special thanks to the staff of Prestige/Expressions and Frontier Hospice who took such good care of our mom in her later years.

Memorials may be directed to Feed the Flathead, Meals on Wheels or the Helen Hensleigh Memorial Scholarship for students attending St. Matthew's School.

The funeral Mass will be celebrated Friday, Sept. 25, at 1 p.m. in St. Matthew's Parish.

Thelma Herbst, 95

After 95 years, Thelma Herbst joined her beloved husband, Leonard Herbst, who preceded her in death.

Thelma, born on Jan. 29, 1925, passed away on Nov. 28, 2020, surrounded by loved ones. Thelma was constantly surprised and saddened that she was the last person standing in her family.

Thelma was born in a small prairie town 60 miles east of the Black Hills. She grew up during the Depression and survived the loss of her dad when she 15 years old, leaving her mother to raise seven children on this small South Dakota prairie homestead. From this she learned independence and developed a drive to make something of herself. Her high school years were spent in Sturgis, South Dakota, where she boarded with a local family who had a big influence on her life.

She attended Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, South Dakota, where she earned her Bachelor or Arts degree and also met her future husband Leonard Herbst who had recently returned home from World War II where he was a medic with the 3rd Army Air Force. Thelma Murphey and Leonard Herbst were married on Sept. 1, 1946, in Sturgis and moved to Presho, South Dakota, where their teaching careers began. Their family began with the birth of their daughter Leanna and followed by the birth of another daughter Janelle. In 1956 the family moved to Kimball, South Dakota, where Thelma taught high school and Leonard was the superintendent.

After seven years in Kimball the family



moved to Pony, Montana, where Leonard served as the superintendent and

Thelma taught high school and junior high. During the summer both Thelma and Leonard completed their advanced education at Montana State University. After two years in Pony, Thelma and Leonard, took teaching positions in Kalispell. Leonard became the principal of the junior high and Thelma taught at Birch Grove country school, and then she moved to the Evergreen Junior High. They remained in the Kalispell education system until they retired in 1980. During their retirement years travel, grandchildren, hiking Glacier National Park and gardening kept them busy. In 2001 Leonard passed away, leaving Thelma to continue without him.

Thelma is currently survived by her two daughters, Janelle Logan (Terry) from Somers, and Leanna Konechne (Patrick) from Berthoud, Colorado; and grandchildren, Lindsay and Jordan Reece, Jessica Kruse and Alex Logan. She is further survived by nieces and nephews in the Union Center, South Dakota area. Thelma was also very close to her beloved beagle, Mary Fern, and chow mix, Honey Bear, as well as several cats.

She also cherished her church family at the Epworth United Methodist Church, PEO and BSF.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.

CELEBRATING A CENTURY

2 July 2018

Helen Hensley



HELEN HENSLEIGH, right, gets a look at her birthday cake with her daughter, Mary Thane, at her 100th birthday celebration at the Flathead Valley Bridge Center in Kalispell on Friday. Hensleigh joined the original Kalispell Bridge Club in the 1950s and became its first certified director in 1961. In addition to many years of playing and directing at the club, Helen also taught bridge lessons and wrote bridge columns in *The Daily Inter Lake*. (Casey Kreider photos/Daily Inter Lake)



HELEN HENSLEIGH tears up as she speaks with her friend Bob Howard at her 100th birthday celebration. Howard donated generously towards the building of the new bridge center on Village Loop.



THE BIRTHDAY cake for Helen Hensleigh's 100th birthday celebration at the Flathead Valley Bridge Center in Kalispell on Friday.

Carol Wynette Hecker, 83

PAS 30 Dec 2020

Carol Wynette Hecker passed away peacefully on Dec. 20, 2020, at The Lodge at Buffalo Hill Terrace in Kalispell, at the age of 83.

She was born Carol Wynette Gray Nov. 20, 1937, at 10:10 p.m. in Plumas County, California, to Wynette Alma Evans and Lyart (Mutt) Osborne Gray. Her parents owned the Greenville Bakery and she grew up surrounded by flour and the smell of baking bread. When she was in the third grade, she was found to need glasses but by that time, her difficulty seeing had put her far behind her peers. She had to take remedial classes which affected her profoundly; because of this experience, she was determined that no one ever feel stigmatized by their disabilities. It also left her with a lifelong interest in helping children learn to read.

She attended Portola High School and Chico State College where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Primary Education degree. While in college, she met James

Paul Hecker and was married May 24, 1958, in Carson City, Nevada. He, too, was a teacher and they started their first teaching jobs in 1959 in Hanford, California. Eventually teaching took them to Pacifica and Colfax, California, and, in 1969, Kelowna, British Columbia. Along the way, they had two children, Sharon and Steve. The birth of her children inspired her to start the first cooperative nursery school in Colfax in 1963.

In British Columbia, Carol continued her work as a fourth grade teacher. In the late 1970s, she earned an Master of Arts in Counseling degree from Gonzaga University in Spokane. This was followed by several years as a high school psychologist. Next, she became a literacy specialist for the school district. This career was her passion and she spent years working with teachers and students on developing reading and writing skills.

In 2000, she and her husband, Jim, moved to Butte to be closer to family. Carol loved Butte as it reminded her of the

mining towns where she grew up and she spent 19 years there involved with her grandchildren and the community.

In her life, she was very active in community activities. She was a member of the California Teachers Association, the British Columbia Teachers Federation, and the South Okanagan Planning board. She was an ardent member of a consciousness raising group in Kelowna (where she developed lifelong friends) and several book clubs. In Butte, she belonged to the Drama Study Club and the Burros Club. She cherished her friends as a member of Gold Hill Lutheran Church. There, she regularly participated in a Bible study group, the Gold Hill book club, Stephen Ministry, and the Prayer Shawl Knitters.

Her family life was very important to her. Her children remember her cooking big picnic suppers and taking everyone up to a mountain lake where they would picnic by the shore. (Some fishing happened at those picnics, but all

we can remember was exploring, chatting and eating.) Her grandchildren remember Easter egg hunts where clues from children's literature were hidden with each egg and would eventually lead to a basket (usually filled with books).

Carol was preceded in death by her parents Wynette and Mutt Gray, her husband Jim Hecker, and her brothers Cliff Gray and Kenneth Gray.

She is survived by her sister, Vicki (Gray) Smith, her children, Sharon Hecker and Steven Hecker, and her grandchildren, Caitlin Webb, Cicily Webb and Taylor Hecker. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews and their families.

A memorial service is will be announced at a later date, likely the summer of 2021.

Friends are encouraged to visit the website at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolence for the family. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for the family.

Harold 'Herb' Herbig, 88

Harold "Herb" Herbig died peacefully Tuesday night, Nov. 19, 2019, at Immanuel Lutheran Senior Living Community, Kalispell, surrounded by his family.

Herb was born June 18, 1931, in Melstone, Montana. He was adopted and raised in St. Ignatius by Burt and Lavonne Herbig. Attending St. Ignatius schools, Herb graduated with honors from St. Ignatius High School. He attended Montana State University, graduating in 1954 with a degree in civil engineering. While attending college he was an active ROTC member.

Herb was an avid outdoorsman, due in part to his growing up hiking, fishing and exploring the Flathead Valley and Mission Mountain Barge. Hunting, fishing, skiing, hiking, climbing and camping were a few of his passions. The love of



the outdoors was passed onto his children, grand- and great-grandchildren.

After college he moved to Los Angeles but shortly returned to Montana to work for the Anaconda Company in Columbia Falls. He joined the Air Force in 1954 and attended officer training school at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio. Herb was assigned to Ladd Air Force Base in Fairbanks, Alaska, where he was part of 11th Air Division designing and installing the DEW Line and numerous "White Alice" throughout northern Alaska in support of U.S. Cold War efforts. While stationed in Fairbanks, Herb met a young woman from Idaho, Virginia Sulzle. Marrying in 1956, Herb and Virginia



enjoyed a full and happy marriage having celebrated

63 years in September. Herb and Virginia moved from Fairbanks back to Montana working and living in Columbus Falls, Billings, Great Falls, Missoula and then Butte. In Butte, Herb worked as a civil engineer for the Anaconda Company. His four children attended Butte schools and graduated from both Butte High School and Butte Central High School. He continued to work as a civil engineer until his retirement in 1999 from the City of Spokane.

Retirement years were spent traveling around the U.S.A. in their motorhome and enjoying their lake house on Flathead Lake with their family and friends.

He was preceded in

death by his parents, Burt and Lavonne Herbig and his granddaughter, Kelly Rose Cortesi.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia, and his four children, Debora Walker, Douglas Herbig, Mary Cortesi and Gretchen Herbig Glasgow (Rick). He is also survived by his adored grandchildren, Matthew Walker (Brookie Booher), Kathleen Walker, Hannah Herbig, Heather Herbig Straus (Derek Straus), Haley Herbig and Kyle Cortesi; and great-grandchildren, Dean and Mark Straus, Chelsea, David and Emma Boden, and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held in Kalispell on Nov. 23. A celebration of life will be held in June at the family home on Flathead Lake.

Memorials are suggested to Touch a Child Foundation <https://www.touchachild.org/>

Leigh Gordon Herman, 90

Leigh Gordon Herman, 90

PAT 7 Jan 2020

On Jan. 1, 2020, Leigh Gordon Herman of Niarada, Montana, passed away at 90 years of age in Polson.



semi-truck pulling a straight trailer and an 18-foot truck used to haul livestock within the state

seen driving around in his '91 Ford pickup checking neighboring towns and ranches (as he said, snooping).

Leigh was born to John Otho "Coke" Herman and Louise Ulrich Herman on Nov. 25, 1929, in Kalispell. He was born into a ranching family, being the only grandson of early pioneer Johnny Herman, who came to the Elmo/Niarada area in 1888 and established his ranching headquarters just off the Flathead Reservation. Leigh attended schools in Battle Butte, Lonepine, Hot Springs and Kalispell. After his father died when Leigh was 13 years old, his mother took charge of running the ranch. Leigh boarded with different families in Kalispell and Hot Springs. He came home to help on the ranch weekends and during summer vacation. Leigh graduated from Flathead County High School in 1947.

of Montana. For a number of years, he custom hayed. It was not work all the time, as he enjoyed helping to produce local rodeos. He also entered these rodeos on his calf horse "Jimmy."

He became active in the Western Montana Stockman's Association, and over the years, served on the board of directors as secretary/treasurer and president. Other boards and committees Leigh served on were the Hot Springs School Board, Soil Conservation Board of Sanders County, Hot Springs Saddle Club and the board of directors of the LaRue Hot Springs Museum. He was a Mission Valley Elks Club member for 42 years.

Leigh was preceded in death by his parents, John Otho "Coke" Herman and Louise Ulrich Herman, and his wife, Judith Herman.

He is survived by his children and their spouses, Patti, John and Rae, Bob and Denise, and Kay; 17 grandchildren and their spouses, and 10 great-grandchildren.

Services will be at Lonepine Hall, Lonepine, on Friday, Jan. 10, at 2 p.m. A viewing will take place before the service

Following in the footsteps of his grandfather and father, Leigh continued the Herman family ranching tradition in Niarada. On Sept. 24, 1958, he and Judith Adelaide Mullen were married in Polson. This was the beginning of their 56-year journey together. Four children were born to this union, Patricia Louise, John Edward, Robert Leigh and Katherine Lea "Kay." Aside from ranching, Leigh wore different hats over the years. During the 1960s, he managed a Christmas tree yard for Walter's Tree Company, purchasing, grading and shipping trees in the fall. When the Kalispell Livestock Auction opened, Leigh worked at the yards on sale days for the next seven years. For the next 13 years in the 1970s, he was in the trucking business with a

reception will follow the service. Burial will take place Saturday, Jan. 11, at 11 a.m. at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the LaRue Hot Springs Museum, Hot Springs, or Pinehaven Christian Children's Ranch, St. Ignatius.

Memories and condolences may be sent to the family at www.thelakefuneralhomeandcremation.com. Arrangements are under the direction of The Lake Funeral Home and Crematory.

Carol Jean Herring, 71

PAT 13 Dec 2020

Carol Jean Herring was born in North Dakota, on Dec. 27, 1948, to Art Thingstad and Viola Seney Sundgren. She was a lifelong resident of Kalispell. Carol passed away unexpectedly on Dec. 1, 2020, at the age of 71.



death by her mother Viola Sundgren, father Irwin Thingstad, stepfather Art

Carol is survived by her two sons, Howard Trainer, John Trainer and his wife Ashley of Kalispell; five grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren; sister, Judy Kinyon, her husband, Clare, of Kalispell; sister, Donna Ten Eyck; multiple nieces, nephews and friends.

Sundgren, brother Ronald Thingstad, sister Betty Thingstad and great-granddaughter Katie Jean Trainer.

Carol loved camping and fishing. She will be remembered for her love of adventure and her giving spirit.

A private family gathering will be held at a later date.

She was preceded in

Darlene Hill, 84

PA 4
Darlene Hill, 84, of Bigfork, passed away peacefully at her home on Sept. 28, 2020, after a long illness.

Darlene was born to Oren and Edna Doty in Remer, Minnesota.

She and Jack were married in 1967, lived in Washington for 18 years then settled in Montana for the last 33 years.

Between them they had one son, Dan. Darlene was the proud mother to six boys, one stepson and one stepdaughter.

Darlene was also a wonderful wife and friend. She was an excellent cook, baker and was especially known for her delicious, homemade pies. She was an avid reader, loved gardening, sewing and crafting, which produced many beautiful quilts, ceram-

6 OCT 2020
ics and other unique specialties.

Darlene was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Jack, two sons, Andy and Ernie Campbell, her sister Crystal Gilkey, and two brothers Lee and Glen Brue.

She is survived by four sons, Jim, Mike, Steve and Dan, along with numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home.

We would like to invite all friends and family to join us in celebrating her life this Saturday, Oct. 10, 2 p.m. at Ferndale Grange Hall.

Memorial contributions will be accepted at the service.

Jedidiah Alexander Hill, 6 months

PA 7
Jedidiah Alexander Hill, 6 months, passed away on Oct. 11, 2020, in Kalispell.

God took our baby home.

Dear God, thank you for giving us the privilege of taking care of your angel. We grieve that you needed Jedidiah in heaven so soon. Amen.

Jedi was so loved by mother, Janie Hill, and father, Jared Hill, of Columbia Falls. He fell asleep comforted that



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his daddy, mommy and three playful brothers were there. Jedidiah is also survived by his elder brother Benjamin Hill of East Palo Alto, California, grandmas, grandpa and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Jedidiah Alexander Hill's loved ones were

blessed at the compassion and professional excellence of all who tried to keep him earth bound. God bless the Kalispell Police Department, first responders, numerous doctors and nurses who never gave up fighting until the battle was over; also, our special deputy/deputy coroner Ryan Stoll.

We thank Columbia Mortuary, which surpassed every aspect with excellence; the Fraternal

Order of Eagles for hosting Jedidiah's celebration — we could not have done it without you; and last, but not least, the Ramsey Keller Foundation. They are the silent, humble giant of a foundation that made Jedidiah's details beautiful and possible.

We are holding a celebration of life at the F.O.E. North Valley Lodge, No. 4081 in Columbia Falls on Oct. 24 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Mathias Aden 'Pete' Thomas Hoagland, 92

He was simply, the best.

Mathias Aden "Pete" Thomas Hoagland, age 92, lover of ice cream, drank a milkshake, closed his eyes and peacefully left our world on Monday, April 20, 2020.

Aden "Pete" was born and raised on a dairy farm in Malta, Montana, where his love of gardening and agriculture began. He was one of seven siblings born to parents Pete and Elizabeth Hoagland. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the Navy, serving as a fireman, 1st Class on the USS LCS. He was honorably discharged from the Navy with an Asiatic Pacific Area Company medal and a World War II Victory medal.

When he returned from the Navy he attended Montana State University (Go Bobcats!), graduating with a bachelor's degree in agriculture. He moved to Whitehall where he taught botanical agriculture and met the love of his life, Ann Jean. They were married in 1953 and, in 1956, after welcoming three daughters into their lives, they moved to Kalispell where Pete taught seventh grade at Central Junior High School and developed many lifelong friendships.

In 1960, and two sons later, Pete received a National Science



Foundation grant to attend the University of Utah where he earned his master's degree in mathematics with a secondary degree in science. Following a Spring Break trip to Santa Cruz, California, Pete and Ann decided sunshine, opportunity, and great schools looked promising so in 1961 they moved their family to California and welcomed their sixth child and third son into their lives.

Pete taught middle school and high school for 31 years, 22 of those years in the Palo Alto Unified School District and one year as the first-ever exchange teacher at Waimanalo School in Waimanalo, Hawaii. He had an enthusiasm and passion for teaching and inspiring his students to be the best they could be. Until the day he died, former students visited, sent cards, special gifts, and/or called him. He retired from Gunn High School, in Palo Alto, where he was recognized as Teacher of the Year.

For 25 summers he worked in Glacier National Park as a campground caretaker. He loved telling people he was a member of the "ROTC" (Royal Order of Toilet Cleaners). He also spent many years as the timekeeper for football games at Stanford University, something he loved doing.

In 1987 Pete and Ann retired, returning to the Flathead and built a lake-side home in Somers. He loved the beauty and peacefulness of living on

the lake and sharing it with family and friends. He never met a stranger. Any person he came in contact with was a friend and welcomed into their home for a drink, a meal, a game of cribbage, and a joke or two.

Not one to sit still, he was always busy doing something, whether it was working in the yard, planting flowers, nurturing his garden, shoveling snow, puttering in the garage, or helping neighbors with projects. If he was sitting, he was exercising his mind watching "Jeopardy" or "Wheel of Fortune" or cheering on the 49ers, SF Giants, MSU Bobcats, and Stanford Cardinal.

There were many things that brought Pete joy but nothing more than his family. Whether you were his child, grandchild, niece, nephew, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, or cousin, he made you feel special. There wasn't a child that came into his life that he didn't sing "Mairzy Doats," give a horsey ride, or make sweet clucking sounds to make them smile. He was the epitome of a quintessential human being, modeling kindness, compassion, integrity, commitment, honor, responsibility, faith, and so much more. His love for his family and his church surpassed nothing.

Aden "Pete" is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ann Jean; his children Vicki Costa-Price, Terri (Mark) Evett, Scott (Debra) Hoagland, Tim Hoagland, and Bill (Donna) Hoagland; his grandchildren Jon,

Brooke, Dennis, Kevin, Wyatt and Colton; his great-grandchildren Tyler, Skylar, Jazi, and Calvin; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and in-laws, all who adore and love him very much.

He was preceded in death by his parents Pete and Elizabeth Hoagland; his brothers Jim and Bill; his sisters Anna Jane, Ramona, Marlene, and Sue; his daughter, Jami; and his grandchildren Jack and Rachel.

"When you are sorrowful look again in your heart, and you shall see that in truth you are weeping for that which has been your delight." — Khalil Gibran

Ann Jean and the kids invite you to plant your favorite flower or tree and to take a moment to express your love and tell the important in your life what they mean to you. Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be sent to the charity of your choice or to S.O.F.T. (Support Organization For Trisomy) at trisomy.org or 2982 South Union Street, Rochester, NY 14624.

Due to coronavirus restrictions, a memorial service and celebration of life will be held at a later date.

MEMORIALS

Aden 'Pete' Hoagland, 92

The memorial service for Aden "Pete" Hoagland, 92, who died

April 20 will be private and take place July 23 at Risen Christ Church.

Robin Ann Highfill, 65

Robin Ann Highfill, 65, passed away at home on the morning of May 14, 2020



from ovarian cancer.

Robin was born in Richmond, Virginia on Oct. 1, 1954 to Dr. Robert E. and Dorothy Merritt. She was the second of two children. Her early childhood was spent living in Farmville, Virginia. At that time, integration of schools was being protested. She spent much of third grade going to school in the basement of a church because public schools were closed. Wisely, her parents elected to move the family and relocated to Indiana, Pennsylvania. Her father was a professor of biology and her mother was also a teacher. Both parents instilled in her the importance of public education at a young age.

While in high school, her parents divorced. This experience instilled in her the importance of family. She completed high school in 1972 and attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania, graduating with a bachelor's degree in teaching in 1976. That summer she met her future husband, Army 2nd Lt. William Highfill, on a blind date. Lt. Highfill was the best man at a wedding she attended. She moved to Denver and they were married on June 4, 1977.

As the wife of an army physician, she moved to Honolulu, Hawaii when her husband graduated from medical school in 1979. There they had two children, Melissa Lee Highfill in 1979 and Thomas Merritt Highfill in 1982. The family then moved to Fort Benning, Georgia for three years, and then to Denver, Colorado, where William completed his military

career. In 1995, the family moved to Great Falls. They resided there until 2004 when they moved to Kalispell.

While formally trained as a teacher, she never taught full time and considered herself a full-time mom. Her children were her number one priority and she was always active in the schools. She served as the president of the Medical Wives Alliance in Great Falls and was a member of the retired military wives group of the Flathead Valley.

She was first, foremost and always a mom, and no one knew that more than her children. She never missed a soccer game, a swim meet or a triathlon, no matter the distance. Robin was the glue that will continue to hold the family together.

Her hobbies included knitting, hiking, traveling to the national parks and kayaking. Having lived in Denver for 14 years, she was an avid Broncos fan. After her son graduated from Gonzaga University, she became a devoted fan of their men's basketball team.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her husband William, her brother Thomas Merritt, her children Melissa and Thomas and her granddaughter Olivia.

Due to the pandemic, no services are planned at this time. Information about a celebration of life will be provided at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to your local humane society, the Veteran's Food Pantry of Kalispell or the American Cancer Society in her name. Her beautiful and giving soul will always be missed.

Friends are encouraged to visit our website at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

Layne Hoeldt, 59

Layne Hoeldt, 59, was suddenly taken from us April 6, 2020.

Layne was born July 7, 1960, in Kalispell.



Layne was best known for his honesty, integrity, quick wit and humor. He was a tremendous tease. He had an absolute love and loyalty to his family and friends. It is for these qualities and many more that he had deep and life-long friendships. Layne enjoyed everything outdoors, fishing, hunting and camping.

Although we have a space in our lives that can never be filled, we are consoled with the hope that he is reunited with those he loved and missed so dearly, that preceded him in death, his beloved family,

father Kenneth Hoeldt; his one brother Russell Hoeldt; his sisters, Liz Hoeldt, Jeweldeen Studeny, Laurel Hoeldt, Kelly Bigoness; and his nephew Kyle Joe Hickok, who was "taken too soon."

Layne is survived by his sons Caleb and Kenny Hoeldt; grandsons, Carter and Bentley Hoeldt; granddaughters America and Jasmine; his mother Marlys Hoeldt; sister Diane Nelson; Lisa Stubblefield and her husband Billy; many loved nieces and nephews; and of course "his Becky" who was always there for him.

Layne is loved and will be dearly missed and never forgotten by those who knew and loved him. Goodbye dearly loved son, brother, father, uncle and grandfather, we all love you.

George T. Hoerner, 87

George T. Hoerner, 87, died at his home June 20, 2020.

A service will be announced to take place

in July. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Leon Anthony Hoerner, 69

PAGE 25 Mar 2020
Leon Hoerner, 69, was taken up by the angels on March 18 at 12:27 p.m. while in his home, surrounded by loved ones and while looking into his son's eyes.

Leon was born to Anton "Tony" and Delores Hoerner of Columbia Falls on Nov. 13, 1950. He served as an altar boy at his family church, St. Richard Catholic Church in Columbia Falls, where he also attended high school until he left school to serve his country during the Vietnam War, where he served as a squad machine gunner in the United States Marine Corps from Aug. 5, 1968, until he was honorably discharged. He took great pride and honor in being "Marine strong."

He is survived by brother Alan and wife Terry of Arizona; sister Susan and husband/friend Don Salminen of Columbia Falls; as well as his three children: Angel Hoerner of Columbia Falls, Marc and Nikki Hoerner of Columbia Falls, Janna Hansen and husband Matt of Washington; and his many grandchildren: Jayden, Blake, Chase and Dawson of Columbia Falls, Andy and Paxton



of Washington, and Krystina, Kytrina, twins Karrie and Kimberly, all of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; as well as numerous



nieces/nephews.

There will be a public viewing at Columbia Falls Mortuary on Thursday, March 26, from 12 to 2 p.m. followed by a family only (due to coronavirus) graveside service officiated by family friend and St. Richard Deacon Doug Cordier, with a full military honors send off. Once the coronavirus situation is safe, there will be an announcement made with the date/time of his memorial/celebration of life service.

He is and will continue to be deeply missed by his family. His passing was a most beautiful expression of God's love and mercy. He left this earth in the same manner he lived upon it. Go big or go home he always use to tell us. He did both.

Betty Hoff, 95

Betty Hoff, 95, of Columbia Falls, died Oct. 11, 2020, at The HealthCenter.

Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Colleen Mary Hofland

PAGE 8 Jan 2020
Colleen Mary Hofland passed away peacefully Dec. 29 2020, following a sudden stroke. Cremation has taken place.

She was born Oct. 7 1957, in Cut Bank to Daniel and Joyce Hofland, who have preceded her in death, and whose loving care she is now in.

A fifth generation Montanan, she was a true cowgirl at heart who enjoyed the many treasures the state offered. After graduating from Great Falls High school in 1976, Colleen lived briefly in Billings and Missoula before settling in the Flathead Valley and working in banking as a teller for many years.

With her love of design and eye for detail, she could make any home a true place of beauty and warmth, especially the many blossoms that gracefully adorned the surroundings.

Her Catholic faith was a constant and one of



her favorite Bible verses was Ephesians 4:32: "And be kind and compassionate

to one another, forgiving one another just as God also forgave you in his name."

She is survived by her friend Scott Larsen of Kalispell, daughter Jamie Beaumont Myers (Jason) of Idaho Falls, her son Daniel Rose of Kalispell, sisters Danette Bell of Bozeman and Katie Collins (Brad) of Salt Lake City, and many cousins, nieces and nephews

A celebration of life will take place this summer, her favorite time of year.

Condolences may be sent to Danette Bell at 1905 Garden Way Kalispell, MT 59901.

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

Arthur J. (Duke) Hoiland, 87

Arthur J. (Duke) Hoiland, 87, died on Oct. 2, 2020 in Polebridge.

Services are pending.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Ross Holcomb, 32

PAC 14 APR 2020
Ross Holcomb—father, son, brother, friend, Marine and dedicated public servant—died on Friday, April 3, 2020, at his home in Ronan. He was 32 years old.

Born on October 30, 1987, to Ronald Holcomb and Helen (Bushby) Tyree, Ross was known for his compassionate heart and love of the outdoors; however, it was his daughter, Angela, that was truly the light of his life.

Ross graduated from Bigfork High School in 2006 and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 2007. Ross proudly served in the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, serving combat tours in both Iraq and Afghanistan. In 2011, Ross and his young family returned to their beloved home state, Montana. Ross studied at the University of Montana in Missoula and in 2017 was sworn in as a Deputy Sheriff in Lake County.

Ross is survived by his beloved 9-year-old daughter Angela; former



Nace and his wife Emily, Kodi (Nace) Sohl and her husband Mathew and eight nieces and nephews.

An online memorial service is planned for later this month. A burial with military honors will be held at the Bigfork Community Cemetery this summer. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to a managed account for Angela. Friends are encouraged to visit www.thelakefuneralhomeandcremation.com to send memories and condolences to the family.

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

spouse, friend and mother of his child, Serena Zavala; cherished parents Ronald Holcomb and Helen (Bushby) Tyree; siblings Kyle

Michael Ainsworth Holien, 76

Michael Ainsworth Holien, 76, of Polson, died Friday, Nov. 27, 2020.

No services are being planned. Arrangements are under the care of Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory.

Faye McKenzie Holm, 83

Faye McKenzie Holm passed away on June 23, 2020.

Faye was born Dec. 1, 1936, in Whitefish to Ed and Laura McKenzie.

Faye grew up working with her sisters and parents at the family-owned Bay Point Resort in Whitefish. They rented cabins, led horse rides and took guests on tours of Whitefish Lake on the Ranger, a boat built by Ed McKenzie. The family also



member of the ski team, newspaper staff, and Who's Who of American students. After graduation she married the love of her life, Carl Holm. Together they had four

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owned and operated Bay Point Drive-In Theater and Grill.

In high school

Faye was a

Faye enjoyed garage sales, reading, hosting family dinners and traveling. She also had a lifelong love of horses. Faye also enjoyed monthly classmate luncheons with childhood friends from Whitefish. She was also a member of a weekly breakfast group in Columbia Falls.

Faye was preceded in death by husband Carl, and son McKenzie "Mac."

Faye is survived by daughters, Carla Holm and Laura (Scott) Prichard of Columbia Falls; son, Gene (Cheri) Holm of Kalispell; 11 grandchildren; three sisters, Sue O'Leary of Iowa, Nancy Garrett of Kalispell, and Kona Luke of Columbia Falls.

Faye was interred at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls with Carl and Mac at a small family gathering.

Wanda Mary Peterson Hollensteiner, 87

Wanda Mary Peterson Hollensteiner passed peacefully at home in Rollins, Montana, surrounded by her loving family and devoted dog, Mox IV, on Sunday, May 31, 2020.

Though very physically limited by Parkinson's Disease, she lived an extraordinary and adventurous life until the very end, arriving in Rollins from Chicago via her first RV trip just two days earlier.

Wanda was born to Alf Victor and Mary Wanda Peterson in Chicago on June 9, 1932, during the Great Depression. Her list of many accomplishments began at two years of age when she was voted the "World's Most Beautiful Baby" at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1934, and she remained beautiful her entire life. She was baptized at the Fourth Congregational Church in Chicago and her faith always remained important to her. Her first prayer was "God bless mother and daddy and make me a good girl." And a "good girl" she was...gifted with musical talent, she had perfect pitch, made her first recording at age four, and was a brilliant pianist.

Not only was Wanda a "good girl" but she was also an "amazing woman."

Wanda attended Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin, and double majored in psychology and art. She was on the Homecoming Court and accompanied the Beloit's Men's Choir, the Chorallers. In 2009, the Wanda Peterson Hollensteiner Art Gallery was founded at her alma mater to renovate the museum and to fund ongoing restoration of significant works of art. Wanda and her college girlfriends founded the



Beloit Bridge Club (aka BBC), and while they never played bridge,

they met regularly and shared a lifelong friendship.

In her early twenties, the adventurous Wanda went to Germany for two and a half years to work for the U.S. Army Special Services. Based primarily out of Amberg, she was the highest-ranking female officer at the Service Club where her job was to provide entertainment and cultural experiences for off-duty soldiers. When asked about her experiences, she laughingly responded, "Ever been on a field trip with 30 GIs?"

After Europe, she returned to Chicago and met Jim Hollensteiner at a reunion party for North Park Academy, where they both attended high school. Wanda's beauty, charm, and yellow sweater immediately attracted Jim's eye. They became engaged shortly thereafter and married six months later on Dec. 6, 1958, at the Fourth Congregational Church. They honeymooned on a ski trip to the Laurentian Mountains of Canada.

Wanda became a mother to five children even as she continued with her own musical interests, teaching myriads of students over 35 years. She was part of the leadership of the Northwest Music Teachers' Association and the Chicago Lyric Opera. She also played piano on a regular basis for patients in the Elgin State Mental Institution. In addition, she founded and led the Honey Lake 4-H Club in Barrington, Illinois.

During her lifetime,

Wanda visited over 60 countries. Unbelievably, while Jim was studying for the Illinois State Bar Exam, she took three of her children - ages one, three, and five - and her disabled mother on a four-month tour of Western Europe. As a "People-to-People" Ambassador for piano teachers, she traveled to Russia and Eastern Europe. She also had many adventures with her family to Africa, South America, and Europe, including a "Ladies Day Out" month-long trip to Eastern Europe with her two daughters.

She was an organizer, contributor, and promoter of the James & Wanda Hollensteiner Foundation which supports approximately 35 organizations annually in Northwest Montana as well as a number of other charities across the country. Significant local beneficiaries of the Foundation include the Northwest Montana History Museum, Kallispell Regional Medical Center and Flathead Valley Community College.

Wanda enjoyed spending her summers with family at their home in Rollins where she loved tending to her garden, boating and water-skiing on Flathead Lake. Glacier Park was a favorite place of hers to hike and look at wildflowers. She made many trips to Sperry and Granite Park chalets and loved to visit her children when they held summer jobs in the park.

Her five children are grateful for her bringing them into this world. Throughout her life, she impressed upon them to value and nurture the gift of family and friends, to help those less fortunate, and to go beyond societal norms and expectations.

She encouraged them to dream their own dreams, to live their own lives, and to have fun along the way. She was not only their mother, but also their friend and confidante.

Wanda was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease 17 years ago and despite burdensome physical challenges, she was an inspiration to all as she continued to laugh, never complained, and lived for the next fun adventure. She said: "It is what it is" and "You have to make jokes." In her last year of life, she drove a golf cart six miles down U.S. 93, operated an excavator, bounced on a trampoline, floated in an inner tube on Flathead Lake, dressed up as the Queen Mother for Halloween, jumped into a pool in her clothes into the arms of a random man, and even rode piggyback five days before she passed.

Wanda is survived by her husband, Jim, of 61 years of marriage; her five children Lisa, Jamie (Diane), Jena (Pend Armistead), John, Andrew; her grandchildren Logan, Connor, Thomas, Andrew, Matthew, Walt, Will and Anna; and step-grandchildren Scott and Sarah Armistead. The family is very grateful to her caregivers who cared for her so lovingly the last few years of her life. "The caregivers are all so serious. I play tricks on them and get them every time." Wanda said with a smile and a laugh.

Memorial contributions in Wanda's honor may be directed to the Northwest Montana History Museum - 124 Second Avenue East, Kallispell, MT 59901. Memorials will be held in Kallispell and Barrington, Illinois with details to follow.

Donald Russell Holman, 94

A lifetime on this earth of service, generosity, instruction, commitment, passion, and love came to a close on Friday afternoon July 10, 2020, with the peaceful passing of Donald Russell Holman at his home in Kalispell. It was a very typical Montana summer day with a scattering of clouds, sun, a slight breeze, and a spattering of light rain showers from time to time.

Born to the cattle ranching family of Phillip Stephen "Steve" Holman and Jessie Gertrude (Trotter) Holman on Feb. 24, 1926, at Wagner, Montana, Don joined a Holman Hereford family clan that would make an indelible mark on the Hi-Line of northern Montana stretched between the prairies and Milk River country of Wagner and Great Falls. Along with five brothers and two sisters, Don would master the art of ranching, survival and self-sufficiency at an early age, tending to cattle, machinery and all that is the makeup of a Montana ranching family. He learned to expertly operate heavy equipment in his youth, a skill that would serve him well a few years later as a combat construction specialist with Company C of the 578th Construction Engineer Battalion with the U.S. Army in Korea, where unguarded, he spent many months building and maintaining the main road and tributary routes to Pork Chop Hill

— he, his dozer and a lone M1 rifle.

An adventurous spirit compelled Don to strike out on his own at the age of 16 to begin a long career of trucking: hauling cattle, horses, machinery, goods and people all over the greater USA. After serving in the Navy during World War II and, later, in the Army during the Korean conflict, Don would return to Montana to make a home in Billings. Initially renting a room in the Francis "Smitty" and Mary Smith family home, he became big brother to Barbara, Darlene and Vickie. Don would teach the girls how to drive and, of course, some shenanigans. Over his 94 years he was Uncle Don and friend to a multitude of young people, many of to whom he was not related by lineage. It was in Billings that he would begin a long and illustrious career as a truck driver and bus operator for the North Pacific Transport, a division of the Northern Pacific Railroad. He would retire from the NP after 26 years of accident free driving, an accomplishment for which he was very proud.

In 1960 Don met Marcella "Sally" Hunkele Agnew, and in 1961 they



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married at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Bismarck, North Dakota. Along with his new bride, her sons, John Agnew and Ted Agnew Jr., who tagged along, Don moved the family to Billings. Montana life agreed with them all as Don forged ahead, in his trucking career, as well as with an insightful knack for buying and selling real estate. In 1978, Don and Sally would retire to the good life sojourning between Billings and the community of Venture Out in Mesa, Arizona, for 15 years. In Arizona Don honed his skills at slow pitch softball and pool, occasionally taking a break to play golf, another game he truly enjoyed playing. In 1993 he and Sally moved to Kalispell to be closer to their grandchildren, from where they continued their travels for another 17 years to Arizona and other parts of the USA, Canada, and many parts of the world, until Sally's death in 2010. After Sally's passing, Don somewhat reluctantly continued going to Arizona over the winter months, but it was just not the same for him without Sally. In this life, Don would become good friends and family with so many people over the years that it would take volumes to acknowledge them here in this, his obituary, and for that the writers regret.

In 2011 Don, "Donnie" to his softball buddies, would make his last slow pitch for the team, and

hang up his cleats and glove at the age of 84. Don did however; continue following the team from the dugout and bleachers until shortly before his death, offering a little bit of advice along the way.

Don was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years, Marcella E. "Sally" Holman; his parents, Phillip Stephen "Steve" Holman and Jessie Gertrude (Trotter) Holman; and all of his seven brothers and sisters, Vera Black, Orville Holman, Everall Holman, Doris Elrick, Carol Holman, Clifford Holman and Harvey Holman.

Don is survived by stepsons, John Agnew (Roz), and Ted Agnew Jr.; grandchildren, Keo Slemberger, Dan Agnew (Toni), Montana Agnew, and great-grandchild, Ella Agnew. He is also survived by a multitude of nieces and nephews, and those remaining members of his extended families, the Smiths, the Andrews, and the Keenes. They and many others thank you for all your love, help, generosity and dedication over your many years on this earth, and wish you Godspeed.

In lieu of flowers, donation are suggested to your local VA food pantry.

A military honors graveside service will be held at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell on Saturday, July 18, at 10:30 a.m. where Don will be laid to rest next to Sally.

Fredrick Allen Holmes, 70

PR 7 18 Oct 2020

Fredrick Allen Holmes died Oct. 5, 2020, in Arizona.

Fred was born Oct. 29, 1949, to John and Marva Holmes. Fred grew up in California and Kalispell. He was baptized at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. When Fred's mom married Vernon Schmid in 1961, Vernie became a loving and steady presence in Fred's life. Fred was a teenager in the '60s. During this time, he wore his blonde hair long, and sported an impressive set of lamb chops. He loved to ride choppers, and at one time drove a hand-painted VW van.

Fred served his country in Vietnam for two tours of duty with an



honorable discharge.

When arriving back home to Kalispell, Fred began working with

Vernie and other family members, thinning trees for the Forest Service.

Fred graduated from Flathead Valley Community College, and in 1978 began his career with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, retiring after 37 years of service as Kalispell Unit fire supervisor. Fred was a dedicated and valuable employee.

In 1997, Fred married the love of his life,

Karen. They spent 23 loving years together. Fred and Karen bought a second home in Arizona. They enjoyed taking long walks together, golfing and four-wheeling in the desert.

Fred was preceded in death by his father, John Holmes; mother, Marva Schmid; stepdad, Vernon Schmid; and siblings, Karen, Mary and Danny. Fred was also predeceased by his loving pets Casey and Annie.

He is survived by his loving wife, Karen; his two sons, Chad and Steven; his stepmom, Helen; and siblings, Jack Holmes, Sharon Hagel and Shawn Schmid.

There are no services planned at this time.

Earl Holst, 90

PR 6 12 Nov 2020

Earl Holst passed away Nov. 10, 2020.

Earl was born Sept. 20, 1930, in Westby, Montana, the youngest child of Peter and Nellie (Larsen) Holst. He was raised there until his second year of high school, when they moved to Kalispell where he graduated from Flathead in 1948. He graduated the University of Montana in 1953 with a degree in business administration.

He married Sandra Moore that year and they had two sons. They were later divorced.

He served his country in the Air Force and was honorably discharged as a first lieutenant.

In 1965 he married Judee Goodwin and they had 55 years together. His working life was spent at Anaconda/Arco as an accountant. After retiring he spent another 10 years at Montana Power.

He was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church since 1947 and



served as a deacon and trustee.

He was preceded in death by his parents and all his siblings. Survivors include Kevin



(Sharon) Holst of Lewiston, Idaho, Kent (Donna) Holst of Papillion, Nebraska, and stepdaughter Laurie (Bob) Graber of Helena; lots of grandchildren, great-grands, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Viewing at Johnson Gloschat Funeral Home Monday, Nov. 16, from 5 to 7 p.m., with family burial at C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 2 p.m.

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

Marilyn Gay Holzwarth, 83

Marilyn Gay Holzwarth, 83, of Kila, died Sept. 4, 2020, in Kalispell.

She is survived by her husband Robert.

No services are being held at this time.

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

Agnes Hoon, 96

Agnes Hoon passed away peacefully on Jan. 20, 2020, at the age of 96 surrounded by her family at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray; her parents, Peter Melsten and Jessie Ayres; her brother Bob Melston; and grandson Tim Shelley.

She left her daughters behind, Eleanor Ann Shelley of Kalispell, and Nancy Williams (husband Earl) of Yakima, Washington; sons, Mick Hoon (wife Brenda) of Kalispell, Dan Hoon of LaQuinta, Colorado, and Tom Anstead of Muleshoe, Texas; grandchildren, Tammy Birk, Tara Jacobs (Aaron), Travis Williams (Heather), Dustin Hoon (Erin), Cody Hoon (Caitlyn), Nathan Hoon (Elsa), and Megan Hoon; and great-grandchildren: Colton, Nicole, Illyhia, Marshall Birk, Natalie and Paxton Hoon, Gillian Hoon, Easton, Ely, Noah, Samson and Silas Hoon.

She attended Dayton High School in Dayton, Washington, in 1941.

Agnes Melsten married Ray Hoon on Sept. 20, 1941.

She enjoyed genealogy and her Norwegian heritage, also sewing, gardening, quilting and flowers, and was secretary of Centiannas homemakers club.

She had a special and personal relationship with her hairdresser and nail operator, and always had pink in her hair. She thought the world of Dean, her



mechanic. She participated with her girls in Rainbow girls and Campfire

girls, and in sporting events with her sons.

Agnes was proud of being a Rebecca.

She was an avid fan of the Spokane Indians, Seattle Mariners and they were ticket season holders to the Missoula Ospreys. Agnes followed along with her husband on baseball, basketball, football and any other sports you name, including Tiddlywinks.

Agnes loved to cook. Whenever someone was sick, she came with a big pot of chicken soup. She was quick to provide meals to anyone in need.

She loved her thimble collection, long rides with ice cream following; her favorite place was Avalanche Lake, the buffalo range and picnics, breakfast burritos and lattes at McDonald's.

Mom's handwriting was so very beautiful that she would get compliments.

Funeral services for Agnes will be at noon on Monday, Jan. 27, with a viewing at 11 a.m. at Darlington Cremation and Burial Service, 3408 U.S. Hwy. 2 East, Kalispell. A catered lunch will follow.

Inurnment will take place at a later date.

Darlington Cremation and Burial Service is caring for Agnes and her family.

Jay Robert Hoover, 30

Jay Robert Hoover, 30, of Whitefish, passed away unexpectedly on Aug. 30, 2020, while camping at Blue Lake in Stryker.

He was born on July 24, 1990, in Kalispell to Kevin and Barbie (Bonner) Hoover. Jay was raised and attended school in Eureka, graduating from Lincoln County High School with the Class of 2009. He then went on to attend Motorcycle Mechanic Institute in Phoenix and graduated on Nov. 18, 2011. He then worked for a year in North Dakota, but returned back to Montana to work at Big John's Saw Shop in Kalispell where he excelled and loved being a small engine mechanic.

Jay loved many things, but all had to do with the outdoors and family, especially his kids. He loved hunting, fishing, camping and snowmobiling. He was also an outstanding dirt bike rider, winning many trophies during his lifetime. As a father he raised his children in the same way to love the outdoors and the adventures of being outdoors.

Survivors include his



partner, Courtney Holler, and her daughter, Veronika Holler, whom he loved

like she was his own; children, Lia Hoover and Elias Holler-Hoover; parents, Barbie and Butch Gwynn, and Kevin Hoover; sisters, Paige Pluid-Pisk (Jackson), Gracie Hoover and Brea Gwynn; honorary sister and family, Jodie, Lukas and Kaitlyn Davis; grandparents, Jerry and Billie Bonner, Pauline Hoover and Mike and Cindy Hoover; plus numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Jay was greatly loved by his family and friends.

Graveside services will be held on Saturday, Sept. 19, at 2 p.m. at the Eureka Cemetery with a reception following at Jerry's in Fortine. Arrangements are by Schnackenberg Funeral Home in Eureka. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.schnackenbergfh.com

Lester Hopkins, 56

Lester Hopkins, 56, died Jan. 30, 2020 at The HealthCenter. No services are planned at

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

Donna Shane Hopkins, 77

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Donna Shane Hopkins' generous and expansive heart, beating since her Valentine-Day birth 77 years ago, 1943, finally gave up trying to cope with all the medical challenges she experienced over the years, including a battle with COVID-19 that she survived.

Her big and open heart, so filled with love and joy, had no more room to function. On Tuesday, Sept. 15, while recuperating at North Valley Hospital in Whitefish, she let go. Now, hundreds of people, friends and family can remember and share the happiness she brought us. Each story, every friend, and all the time spent with those who loved her was a memory embraced by her, relived in every conversation, text, email and Facebook post, providing her with joy in each encounter.

Donna's love of travel and learning was eclipsed only by her love for family and friends. She collected friends and connected her expansive network of "sisters" everywhere she traveled and lived, whether shopping at the local Safeway, crossing an ocean to live and work in Australia, or traveling the Silk Road. At every stop along her journey, whether a few hours or years, her heart opened for new friendships, bringing her a staggering number of loving connections.

She was born in Stoughton, Wisconsin, where her mother, Mildred (Onsrud) had gone to be with family for her pregnancy during the height of World War II. Donna didn't meet her B-25 pilot father, Donald Hopkins, until she was walking and more than a year old.

Wanderlust started early for Donna. By the



end of the war, Don, Mildred and Donna settled in Missoula. Donald intended to finish his studies at the University of Montana, which had been interrupted four years earlier with his enlistment in the Army Air Corps.

Starting in Missoula, Don took his young family on a tour of the developing radio broadcasting industry. She first heard his booming voice coming from a box sitting on a dresser in 1946 and wondered where "Papa" was. During eight years of moves, from Missoula, to Tacoma, Washington, to southern California, Donna attended four different grade schools until the family finally settled in Bakersfield, California, in 1953 with its newest addition, Roger.

Other than the final 15 years of Donna's life in Whitefish, the years spent in Bakersfield were the most settled for her. After graduating from Bakersfield High in 1961 and collecting her first set of enduring friendships, Donna spent two years at the community college. She continued her studies at UCLA, ultimately transferring to the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where in 1967 she got her Bachelor of Science in Education and English degree and another group of lifelong friends.

Teaching brought her back to Bakersfield. But before she settled into a two-year career teaching high school English, she embarked on a cross-country adventure with friends and her 13-year-old brother in a brand new 1967 Ford

Mustang. Adventure called again in 1969 when she boarded a ship bound for Australia. That journey forged more lifelong friendships and experiences she treasured the rest of her life, including teaching English at an all-boys high school — a young, blond, beautiful American woman coping with a class full of Aussie boys. Torn between a longing for home and lust for adventure, she ended her two years in Australia with an around-the-world adventure, traveling across Asia, the Middle East and Europe, collecting more friends along the way.

She returned to the states and settled to work and play in San Francisco. She also continued her education, receiving a Master of Arts in Anthropology degree at Cal State Hayward in 1978. Little did she know that degree would be her ticket home to Montana. In 1977-'78 she wintered in Northern Maine, in part to test her mettle for living through a Montana winter. By 1979, Donna had committed to her goal of returning to the one place she felt the greatest heart connection — her grandmother and Whitefish.

As a child Donna spent summers in Whitefish with Edgar and Elizabeth Hopkins. The complete and unconditional love between grandparents and grandchild formed an unbreakable bond with memories that Donna drew upon during her eventual retirement at the Hopkins' homestead.

Together Donna and Roger committed to caring for Elizabeth, starting with her 90th birthday party in 1979, and culminating in Donna's hire at Flathead Valley Community College in

Donna Shere Hopkins 77

Kalispell, where she created and led the fledgling Community Education Program. For more than six years Donna, who ultimately became dean of community education, lived with Gramma Hopkins while building the program into what it is today.

Another bout of wanderlust took over, this time leading her to Mexico, Central and South America, California, Texas and Hawaii, where she ultimately settled in Honolulu to work for the U.S. Small Business Administration. It was there that Donna found her heart connection with a young Cambodian orphan who would become Donna's only child; if not legally, absolutely in spirit.

She was introduced to Chantha Suon and the Future Light Orphanage of Worldmate (FLOW), through the Sunrise Rotary in Honolulu. As a sponsor, Donna not only made routine contributions of financial support, but in 2009 traveled to the orphanage outside of Phnom Pehn to meet her "daughter" for the first time. The bond between Chantha and Donna was immediate and unbreakable, and Donna made several other visits, helping as a mentor and teacher at FLOW.

Despite making another dozen or more close, lifelong friendships in Hawaii, it wasn't long before Donna got "island fever." Life away from mainland friends and family was too burdensome. She transferred to the Small Business Administration in Las Vegas, working as an economic development specialist, focusing on helping women succeed in starting and growing

small businesses.

While in Las Vegas, Donna brought her mentorship of women into her home, sponsoring a foreign exchange high school student from Germany. As with all of Donna's connections, her commitment and love for Hanife Koch carried beyond the 2003-2004 school year.

Shortly after retiring from the SBA in Las Vegas and moving to Whitefish, Donna committed her time and attention to bringing Chantha to the U.S. She was ultimately successful, and "gave" Chantha away in marriage to Tra Yin in Hawaii in 2014.

Even in retirement, Donna never stopped expressing her creativity, her love for friends, and especially her fondness for Whitefish. During the last years of local artist James Bakke's life, Donna interviewed the artist — a longtime personal family friend — and collected a number of his works to publish, "James R. Bakke, Montana Artist: From the Prairie, to Whitefish, to Glacier National Park" in 2012.

Sister, auntie, "mom-mie," and dear, dear friend and spirit, Donna is survived by Chantha and Tra Yin, Honolulu;

brother Roger, and her "heart sister"/fellow valentine Lenny Granger of Columbia Falls; niece Elizabeth (Hopkins) Records, Jerry Records, and grand-nephew Campbell Records, of Kalispell; nephews, Treyson Hopkins and Noah Hopkins-Martin, Columbia Falls; Hanife Koch of Cologne, Germany; cousins, Marianne, Ed and Sue Madler, of Whitefish; cousins, Catherine and Andy Onsrud-Ewing, and David Onsrud of Madison, Wisconsin; and Onsrud and Luding cousins across the country. And, of course, her "sisters" around the world.

She will be interred in Whitefish Cemetery with her grandmother Elizabeth and next to her grandfather Edgar, the two souls who filled her heart with a sense of place and peace, and gave her a home for her final rest.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Donna's memory to the organization sponsoring Cambodian orphans: eGlobal Family, P.O. Box 2536, Honolulu, HI 96804-2536.

Austin Funeral and Cremation Services in Whitefish is caring for Donna's family.

Opal A. Horstman, 101

Opal A. Horstman, 101, passed away peacefully April 2, 2020, in Kalispell.

She was born in January 1919 in Garden City, Missouri to Ora A. and Beulah (Oesch) Miller. They moved to the Flathead Valley when she was 3 months old. She was the oldest of eight children.

Opal married Bernard E. Horstman and they spent many wonderful years together. Traveling was a favorite pastime. She spent many win-

ters in Arizona and traveling to visit family and friends. When not working, she was volunteering at church, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, The Red Cross and Kalispell Regional Hospital.

Opal was preceded in death by her husband; son Harlan; brothers Orville and Fred; sister Donna; stepson Forrest (Frosty) Horstman; and grandchildren Brett and Dawn.

She is survived by her son Alan (Carol) Horstman; daughter

Jeanne (Terry) Dodson; stepson Ed (Kathy) Horstman; brother Jake; sisters Lela, Norma Jean and Marilyn; 10 grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

At her request no services are planned.

Friends are encouraged to visit our website at www.buffalohillfh.com to leave notes of condolences for the family.

Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

Eugene Houser, 72

Eugene Houser, 72, passed away on March 17, 2020.

Eugene was born in Los Angeles, California, to Willard and Anna Mae Houser. He met Janet Davis at Azusa Pacific University, and they were married in 1970. In their 40 years of living in Modesto, California, they raised three sons and were very involved in the Modesto Free Methodist Church, where they made many lifelong friends. Although he had a degree in biology and had experience as a chemistry and physics teacher, Eugene was happiest running his own company as a painting contractor. After retiring in 2012, he and his wife moved to Kila and fulfilled a lifelong dream of living in the mountains, where their home was always full of



family and friends.

Eugene was a greatly loved and respected man. He had a generous heart and gave freely of his time to mentor many people, personally and professionally. He was exceptionally diplomatic, and always found kind and compassionate ways to express himself. Eugene was musician, designer, painter, builder, writer, entrepreneur, humorist, sportsman, philosopher, Sunday school teacher, wine connoisseur, and Blues Brothers fanatic! He had a dry, witty sense of humor, and a hearty laugh. Eugene was extremely proud of his three sons and their families, and nothing gave him more joy than playing with his grandchildren.

He is survived by wife Janet, sons Jason (Greg Lewis), Stephen (Heidi Borg), Michael (Sarah Greenfield) and grandchildren Hudson, Mason, Clyde, and Adelaide.

Myron 'Mike' Houston, 86

Myron "Mike" Houston passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020.

He was born in Kalispell on Dec. 13, 1933, to Clinton and Bernice Houston. He attended Elrod Elementary, Central and Flathead High School. He graduated in 1952. He worked at Kalispell Lumber Company until he entered the Army in 1955. He became a paratrooper and served in Germany for two years. He came home and began working with his father and brother (Charles) in the family business at Meridian Dairy. During this time he married Janice Barrier and had two sons, Mathew and Tod. After their marriage ended, he went on to marry Regina Strand in 1965. They had a daughter, Laralee, and adopted a son, Cory.

He has been preceded in death by his parents Clint and Bernice, as well as his brother Charles, his mother-in-law Hilda Strand and his father-in-law Melford Strand.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Regina, his sons and daughter, and his six grandchildren.

In addition to working at the family dairy, where many people came to know him as "Milkman Mike," he went on to work with Melford at Strand Homes



from 1969 to 1974.

In 1974 he began his career in the insurance business. Starting with Farmers Union, he then moved

on to the Les Tinseth Agency, where he worked until his retirement in 2019 at age 85, after 45 years in the business.

Mike loved to serve his community and help people. He was a volunteer fireman with the Smith Valley and Bigfork departments. He also was an active member and leader at the Moose Lodge and the VFW.

In addition to his work he was an outdoorsman. He loved to hunt and enjoyed living for many years on Echo Lake in Bigfork. It was here that he taught his kids how to drive his boat, swim, water-ski and fish.

Everyone knew him to be genuine, sincere and just a really good guy. He will be greatly missed by all of his family and friends.

He requested that no funeral service be held at this time but a celebration of his life will take place next spring.

Arnie Alan Hove, 64

Arnie Alan Hove, 64, of Kalispell, died Aug. 22, 2020, in Kalispell.

No services are being held at this time.

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

Eldon 'Don' Howard, 93

PAH
Eldon "Don" Howard passed away July 26, 2020, at North Valley Hospital with family members by his side holding his hand.

He was born in Hettinger, North Dakota, Jan. 16, 1927, to Milo and Arabelle Howard. The family moved to Kalispell in 1934.

After graduating from Flathead County High School, Eldon enlisted in the Navy and attended Naval Air Gunner Training. He graduat-



21 Nov 2020
ed from the Combat Air Training unit in Pensicola, Florida, on Nov. 15, 1945. Eldon married Rae Parks on Aug. 9, 1947.

Eldon hired out with the Great Northern Railroad on June 9, 1949, and after 40 years, retired as BNSF locomotive engineer on June 17, 1989. Eldon and Rae raised two sons and three loyal German shepherds.

He is survived by his wife, Rae, of 73 years; two sons, Gary (Sharon) Howard and Darrell (Wendyolyn) Howard; and grandchildren, Jessica Howard, Tristyn Howard, Daniel Howard, Melinda Yount and Jamie Howard; and great-grandchildren.

Jason W. Howard, 50

Jason W. Howard, 50, of Lakeside, died Sept. 28, 2020, at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Services are pending. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family

Arthur Richard Howell, 92

PA6 9 Aug 2020
Arthur Richard Howell, 92, passed away Aug. 1, 2020, at Mountain View Manor in Eureka.



Art was born in the family home in Rathdrum, Idaho, on May 20, 1928, to William and Mary Howell. As a child, art attended school in Rathdrum, but he was mostly found hunting and fishing. At the age of 19, Art joined the army and was stationed in Germany where he served in the Korean War. He always said he loved the German beer. Art came to Montana at the age of 24 and began is lifelong career as a logger. He met and married Rosann Paradis from Whitefish where they started their life together in Olney. Art moved his family to Eureka a short time later, where they raised six children.

Through the years, Art logged in Eureka, Kalispell, McGregor Lake and Alaska. Art was the saw boss for King Logging, Graves

Logging and Clyde Smith Logging. When Art retired from logging, Art and Rosann moved to Brookings, Oregon, where he was a commercial fisherman for a number of years. After returning to Eureka, they became campground host for the Forest Service for the past 23 years. They were at the Rexford Boat Ramp and later at Kamloops Terrace in Rexford. Art loved to catch and smoke fish with his special recipe. Visitors never left his house without a bag of smoked fish.

Art was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, one brother, sons Walter and David Howell, and a grandson Jeff Howell.

He is survived by his wife Rosann, children Bill Howell, Matt Howell, Janet Howell and Mary Graehl; 23 grandchildren and 43 great-grandchildren.

A potluck memorial service will be held Aug. 15, at 4 p.m. at Kamloops Terrace campground in Rexford.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff at Mountain View Manor for the love and care they provided to our loved one.

Shelli 'Russ' Howell, 70

PAG 18 Oct 2020
Shelli "Russ" Howell passed away at his home in Columbia Falls on Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2020.

He was born on Dec. 2, 1949, in Glendale, California, to Robert and Helen (Nordgren) Toole Howell.

Russ graduated from Cupertino High School in 1968. He joined the Navy in 1970 and was an electronics technician aboard the submarines USS Blueback and the USS Fort Fisher. During his time in the Navy he began flight lessons and eventually obtained his commercial pilot license. He was discharged from the Navy in December of 1976.

Russ was married briefly and son Rusty was born in December of 1981 in Simi Valley, California. At about this time Russ started work with GM. He left that job in August of 1990 and he and Rusty moved to Montana.

Russ attended Flathead Valley Community College and received an Associate of Science degree in May of 1997. While attending FVCC and later at Montana State University, he enjoyed tutoring other students. He was close to finishing a degree at MSU when he suffered a debilitating stroke that left him paralyzed on his right side and unable to speak for nearly a year.

Therapy allowed him to recover sufficiently to buy a home in Columbia Falls in 1998. With the help of his son he restored it and added a



large shop/garage. When Rusty was killed in an automobile

accident in 2003, Russ struggled with the loss of his son and friend.

Russ underwent a stem cell transplant as treatment for multiple myeloma in Seattle in 2014. The treatment could not be done without a full-time caregiver, and his sister Betty filled that role for four and a half months.

Russ had many health problems the last several years of his life. His friends, Ann Blethen and Dave Yeats, helped him through as best they could. He was also aided by special caregivers from Epaga Home Care, Frontier Hospice, Norco and Rotech. Even though Russ was often unable to express his appreciation, he truly felt gratitude for all who helped him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his son Rusty, and his brother Ray Toole.

Survivors include his sisters, Betty Turner, Barbara Nelson and Linda Upton, and brother, Richard Toole.

Graveside services for Russ with military honors will be held at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. Attendees will practice social distancing and masks are highly recommended.

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

Anita L. Hoye, 81

PAG 16 Aug 2020
Anita L. Hoye, 81, of Kalispell, passed away Aug. 11, 2020 in Kalispell.



Anita was born into the loving home of Homer and Mae Sheets Sept. 15, 1938, in Wells County, Indiana. After completing her early childhood education Anita went on to be a teacher for 30 years in the public education system.

Anita found much joy in serving her community, from working as the Flathead County auditor for three terms, retiring in 2002, to working with many of the Republican organizations in the Flathead, she was always willing to extend her hands in helping. Anita was also a dedicated Cub Scout leader, Sunday school teacher and a Lioness. Her love could be felt throughout Epworth United Methodist Church where she served as treasurer for many years.

Anita had many hobbies in her life — cross country skiing, hiking in Glacier National Park, bicycling, jogging and, by far her favorite, spending time with her granddaughter Serena.

Anita was predeceased by her son Shawn Hoye, and brothers Michael K. Sheets and Bruce K. Sheets.

Anita is survived by her husband Ronald G. Hoye, sister Karen S. Dubach (Jim) of Linn Grove, Indiana, and brother Jerry D. Sheets (Barb) of Bluffton, Indiana.

There will be a graveside service held 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 18, at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

Memorial donations may be made to FVCC Scholarship Fund, 777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell MT 59901; or Epworth Methodist Scholarship Fund 329, 2nd Ave East, Kalispell MT 59901.

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

Marion Hoyt, 89

Marion Hoyt, 89, formerly of Ferndale, died June 24, 2020, at

her daughter's home in Forest Grove, Oregon. Services are pending.

Auralio Howk and Erin Howk

An informal memorial gathering to lay the urns to rest for the children of Brittainy Howk — Auralio Howk, 9 months, who died Aug. 27, 2011, and Erin Howk, 15, who

died April 26, 2019 — will be held at 11 a.m. Sept. 8 at Woodlawn Cemetery in Columbia Falls.

Columbia Mortuary is caring for the family.

Jeanette Adele Hoxmer, 79

PAL 13 Mar 2020
Jeanette Adele Hoxmer passed away peacefully to the Lord on Feb. 4, 2020.

She was born in Kalispell on March 1, 1940, to Charles and Dora Therrien. She was the middle child with both an older and younger brother. She attended St. Matthew's School and earned the nickname, Butch, because of her strong, fun-loving personality and extreme leg-wrestling skills. Jeanette spent most of her life in the Flathead Valley and graduated from Flathead County High School in 1958, the year she married her high school sweetheart, Gary. Gary enlisted in the Navy, and they lived on Coronado Island in California early in the marriage.

Jeanette was a wonderful mom who loved her children dearly. She stayed at home with them in the early years, and during that time, she developed a passion for horses and sewing. When she wasn't working on keeping the house spotless, she would accompany her daughters to horse related activities, including traveling across the country for shows. When her kids were old enough, she "ran" the family business, Western Neon Sign Company, as the bookkeeper, receptionist,



secretary and customer service guru.

During her later years, Jeanette "Nana"

was devoted to her two grandchildren, Colter and Bridger Goss. She attended any and every activity that they were a part of, and spoiled them with love, affection and a lot of video games. She also spoiled her sweet dog Hanna with plenty of dog treats and cuddles. She loved sewing, making purses, embroidering and especially quilting. Her close family will all cherish the beautiful quilts she gave as gifts.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, Gary, her daughters Laurie and Geralyn, and her parents.

Jeanette is survived by her son Steven Hoxmer and daughter Valerie Goss of Kalispell, grandson Colter Goss of Panama City Beach, Florida, grandson Bridger Goss of Kalispell, and brothers Jack and Terry Therrien of Kalispell.

No services are planned, but a celebration of life is planned for the summer of 2020.

"Yes, I was a beauty queen!"

John Cicero Hughes, 47

PAL 6 Feb 2020
John Cicero Hughes, 47, died on Jan. 28, 2020.

He was born on June 15, 1972, in Memphis, Tennessee, to Karen and Max Hughes.

John attended Tarpon Spring High School in Palm Harbor, Florida, where he played string bass in the orchestra, which eventually brought him and the love of his life, Wendy Hughes, together. They married Oct. 15, 1988.

John served as OS3 in the United States Navy. He loved all things outdoors, music and history.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Karen Hughes, Floy and Charles Britton, and Mary and Dr. Max Hughes.

John is survived by his wife, Wendy Hughes; his sons, John Jacob Hughes (Niki) and children, Trenton, Sofia, Liam and Riley Ann; Joshua Hughes and



daughter Scarlett; Joseph Hughes (Kyle) and daughter Haisley; and Jackson Hughes; his father- and mother-



in-law, Sonny and Robin Moran; brother-in-law Benjamin Moran; his nieces, Mikaila Shires (Landon) and children, Bentley and Everleigh; and Justice Moran.

He will be greatly missed by his family and his many friends.

Funeral services will be held at Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls today, Feb. 6. Public viewing will be at 2 p.m., followed by the service at 3 p.m. with a reception to follow at True Life Church in Whitefish.

Rocky T. Hughes, 57

Rocky T. Hughes, 57, died on Thursday, Nov. 19, 2020, at Libby Care Center.

Arrangements are by Schnackenberg Funeral Home in Libby.

Thomas J. Hulett, 88

Thomas J. Hulett, 88, of Condon, died Feb. 19, 2020 in Kalispell.

He is survived by his children Thomas J. Hulett III, Tim Hulett, Tony Hulett and Tiger

Hulett.

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

Robert William Hull, 79

PAG 13 Sept 2020

Robert passed away peacefully on Friday, Aug. 28, 2020.

Robert was born on June 20, 1941, to his parents William and Marie Hull. After growing up in Whitefish Robert went on to the military, enlisting in the Air Force and spent a few years as an aircraft refueling specialist. Robert left the military and returned back to Whitefish and began working for the Great Northern Railroad as a call boy working his way up to brakemen. Robert spent 35 years working for the railroad in many capacities and retired in 1995.

Robert had a larger than life personality and was well known for his gregariousness in many local stores, bars, saloons, jails and courthouses. Robert was well known for his vocabulary with swear words making out most of the punctuation; for him it wasn't cursing, it was a comma. His love



for the Montana outdoors was unmatched and he passed that love along to all of his surviving family.

Robert is survived by wife Janice

Hull of Kalispell, his sister Sharon Stutheit of Parma, Idaho, his daughter Kim Hull of Whitefish, his son Kelly Hull and his wife Stacie Hull of Kalispell, his grandchildren Gaike Mower, Payton and Raimey Hull, his son Kerry Hull and his wife Kim Taylor Hull of Cleveland, Missouri, his grandchildren, Logan and Lindy Hull.

Robert's wishes were to be placed on a ridge in the South Fork overlooking the reservoir where he had fished since he was a kid.

Ernest Mantz Hutchinson, 74

PAG 2 April 2020
Ernest Mantz

Hutchinson, 74, passed away at his home in Kalispell on Feb. 24, 2020. Mantz spent his final years among a loving and cherished group of friends in the AA community and at Sykes Market where he lived, conversed and shared opinions.

Mantz was born in Whitefish and grew up living a life of adventure with his closest friends before moving on first, to Montana State University and then the University of Montana, obtaining a master's degree in economics. Graduation was followed by 10 years in Helena, first at the Montana State Legislative Council where he was instrumental in rewriting the state's tax code, now considered one of the most fair tax systems in the country and in reforming state banking laws. Mantz then became the assistant director for the Property Tax Division of the Montana Department of Revenue. While serving his state, Mantz also served his



country as an Army Reserve officer, retiring in 1978 with the rank of captain.

After leaving the Legislative Council in Helena, Mantz returned

to his native Whitefish where he helped to modernize the state property assessment system by piloting a computer system in the Flathead County Assessor's office. Mantz went into private practice in 1992 and continued as a private property appraiser until his retirement in 2008.

Mantz survived by his sister, Ann Shattuck and nephew, Chris Walton, both living in Bainbridge Island, Washington.

Services will be held at the Alano Club in Kalispell. A date and time will be announced after the current health advisories have been lifted.

Jon David Hunt, 62

P A 6 17 Oct 2020
Jon D. Hunt, 62, passed away on Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020.

A private memorial is being held.

Jon's family has requested memorial donations be made in his memory to your local animal shelter, your children's hospital or cancer center.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home in Havre has been entrusted with services and arrangements. Please visit Jon's online memorial page to leave a message of condolence for his family at www.hollandbonine.com.

Jon was born on Oct. 25, 1957, in Phoenix to Robert and Willa (Ellis) Hunt. He was raised in Arkansas and Oklahoma. He met his wife Terri while working in Montana, and they married on Sept. 8, 1978. The couple married and had two children. Jon attended Northern Oklahoma College and Oklahoma State University, graduating with a bachelor's degree in accounting with a minor in human resources. He worked as a pharmacy technician for many years in Oklahoma and Kalispell. In 2007 Jon was awarded the Montana Pharmacy Technician of the Year award.

Jon was a loving, caring, generous man. He enjoyed music, fishing, hunting, photography, reloading, storytelling, and "window picking."



He adored his wife, children, grandchildren, siblings, nieces and nephews, and pets.

He truly was a family man.

Jon is survived by his wife of 42 years, Terri Hunt, of Kalispell; a son, Matt Hunt, of Great Falls; two daughters, Samm (Trevor) Nimmick of Havre, and Joni (Mike) Pollin of Bartlesville, Oklahoma; three brothers, Robert (Mary Kathleen) Hunt of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Kevin (Maureen) Hunt of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Marvin Hunt of Fort Smith, Arkansas; two sisters, Mary Ann (Michael) Boviall of Grand Junction, Colorado, and Sherry (Jim) Johnston of Wichita, Kansas; a brother-in-law, Nathan (Tammy) Jungers of Chinook; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert Clair Hunt (father), Willa Mae Ellis Hunt Koehn (mother), and Elmer Koehn (step-father); sister, Verna Kathryn Hunt; in-laws, Leonard and Audrey Jungers; a brother-in-law, Ralph (Jalene) Jungers; and nieces and nephews.

Roger Huston, 77

Roger Huston, 77, of Bigfork died Dec. 19, 2020, in Bigfork.

Private family services are being held.

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

Michael Hutzel, 49

Michael Hutzel, 49, died Dec. 31, 2020.

He is survived by his mother, Teresa Hutzel.

No services are planned at this time.

Columbia Mortuary in Columbia Falls is caring for the family.

Jane McFarland of St Augustine, Florida, Gary Wayne Hyer of Whitefish, Montana, 12 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. The family is planning a private interment of Ashes Ceremony at Desert Hills Lutheran Church Columbarium in Green Valley.

adjacent land which they later sold to the developers of Iron Horse. In 1997, Don and Tootie moved to Green Valley, Arizona where they celebrated 70 years of marriage before Tootie passed away in 2017.

Don is succeeded by his four children, Ronald Mark Hyer of Herndon Virginia, Ann Louise Canet of Green Valley, Arizona, Linda

geological and managerial positions with the company at various locations in Texas, Louisiana, New York and Alberta.

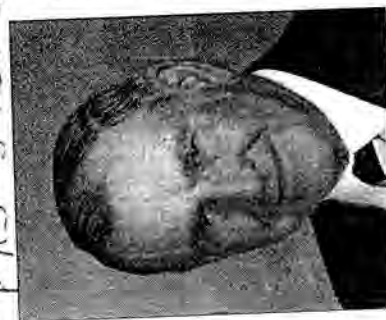
In 1988, Don and Tootie moved to Whitefish into their newly built retirement home. Don was involved in the neighborhood development which became Suncrest. He and his partners also began plans to develop a new golf course on the

from the service in 1945, he resumed his studies at Indiana University where he met Elvera Louise (Tootie) Bittner. Don and Tootie were married in 1947 in Richmond, Indiana. After graduation, Don began a long and successful career with the Texas Oil Company (Texaco) in 1952. He retired from Texaco after 36 years having progressed through various

Donald Eugene Hyer

P A 3 5 Feb 2020 Whitefish
Donald Eugene Hyer, 94, passed away peacefully on Jan. 27, 2020, at the Santa Cruz Regional Hospital in Green Valley, Arizona, with family by his side.

Don was born in Eaton, Indiana, in 1925 and was the youngest son of Ralph Earl and Millie Ethel Hyer. Don served in the U.S. Air Force during WWII as a flight navigator. After his discharge



Catherine Lee Hunter, 77

PAGE 2 Aug 20 20

Catherine Lee Hunter, 77, passed away on July 23, 2020 at her home.



Catherine was the first baby of the New Year in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, 1943 on January 3rd; the only child born to Argyle Lee Hunter and Dorothy Edith Howard. Dorothy went on to have four more children in different marriages. Catherine was raised by her father and stepmother in California. Her childhood was full of cruelty yet she found sanctuary in nature. She had one person in her young life who understood her and taught her how to be strong and have a kind heart, her "Favorite Grandmother" Olivia Hunter.

Catherine married Charles Robert Vacker in 1961 in Salinas, California, and had a daughter Connie in 1963. They lived in Salinas, California, until Catherine divorced Charles and traveled with her daughter and Paul Martin to find a new home up north. Their travels took them up to

Canada then back down to the wilds of Montana in 1975. Catherine had another daughter Pamela in 1976. They lived in Kila for several years as the only residents on Wild Bill.

Catherine was not reunited with her mother, nor met her half siblings, until she was in her 20s. Lynn Phipps was second oldest and he adored his older sister he called her "Mom's First and Mom's Best." Julieanna "Julie" was her closest sister they formed a bond that surpassed death. Her sister Julia had two children Billy and Luv Marie; when Julia died from breast cancer in the late '80s Catherine brought her daughter Maria from Colorado to raise her as her own. Maria called Catherine "Momma II" and later, even when Maria moved back to Colorado, Catherine always considered her as a daughter. She also met her brother Mark and they hit it off immediately. Myra was Catherine's youngest sibling, Myra had two wonderful children a daughter Erica and her son Elton, he was one of Catherine's favorite kids his phone calls always brought her joy.

In 1990, Catherine and her daughters moved to the big city of Kalispell and there she met her future soul mate Gregory

Wayne Kerzman. When Greg and Catherine fell in love so did Greg's three brothers and she had a whole other family to enjoy.

Catherine had experience working as a physical therapist in the late '60s. When she came to Kalispell in 1975, she noted all of the different industries and centers available to help special needs children and adults in the valley. She volunteered to help with the Special Olympics, thinking her skills as a physical therapist would be welcomed. They liked her so much that she was asked to stay on as a permanent staff member of Flathead Industries. When FVCC was just getting going and the community was being built she went to college and earned her AA in human services. Later, after a car accident, the same spirit of wanting to help others led her to work with the state mental health.

A simple write-up such as this cannot contain the many aspects of such a diverse life. Catherine loved the beaches of Monterey and the fields of eastern Montana, she made an old schoolhouse into a home in the hills of northern California and lived in a rustic log cabin with no electricity in the mountains of Montana.

One of her favorite things about Montana was the Native Americans and the history. She loved going to powwows and cherished Native American artwork. Catherine loved children and would always find a way to enjoy the simple ways that children view the world and play. Using her unique talents, she was able to help many children learn how to read and do simple arithmetic while always making it fun. Knowing how her life began and the sorrow in her childhood she sought to share nothing but joy with others and help them through their own sorrows.

Catherine is survived by her husband Gregory Wayne Kerzman, daughter Connie Rennay Vacker, daughter Pamela Rose Martin, honorary daughter Maria, brother Lynn Phipps, brother Mark Phipps, sister Myra, honorary brother Keith Kerzman, honorary brother Ken Kerzman, and honorary brother Jeff Kerzman. Through Gregory she is survived by her two honorary daughters Beverly Henry and Jen Kerzman and granddaughter Makaila Kerzman and grandson Gregory Michael Kerzman.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home is caring for the family.