ANTHONY J. ALEX, JR.
Born: December 26, 1908 - Died: June 30, 1992
Liberty County Times
July 8, 1992

Anthony Alex, Jr.
Anthony J. Alex, Jr., 83 years of age, a resident of the Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd in Havre, Montana since August of 1990, died of natural causes on Tuesday, June 30, 1992 at Northern Montana Hospital in Havre. Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, July 2 at the Holland & Bonine Chapel with Rev. Carolyn Kelli officiating. Soloist Nick Alex sang "On Eagle's Wings", "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Here I Am Lord". Organist was Diana Smith. Pallbearers were Jim Sedivy, David Jones, Dick Ditmar, Donald Blake, Kenneth Hanson and Ed Norenberg. Burial was at the Calvary Cemetery.

Mr. Alex was born December 26, 1908 at Kensel, North Dakota, the son of Anthony Sr. and Nettie (Greb) Alex. The family moved to Hingham, Montana when Anthony was a young child. He graduated from the Hingham High School. September 2, 1933 at Hingham, Montana, he married the former Verda Fern Norenberg. After their marriage the couple lived at Hingham. Mr. Alex drove a gas tanker truck for a period of time. In 1942 the couple moved to Havre where he worked for Ryan Wholesale Company. His wife died in November of 1974. He later was manager of the Eagles Manor Retirement Apartments in Havre. Mr. Alex lived in Las Vegas, Nevada for six years. He was also the manager of the State of Montana Liquor Store in Havre for many years. Mr. Alex was Past President of the Havre Eagles Club, a member of the Elks Club and the Moose Club, all of Havre.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; and two brothers. He is survived by five sons, Edward of York, Pennsylvania, Alan of Havre, Montana, Dennis of Martinez, California, John of Casper, Wyoming, and Thomas of Las Vegas, Nevada; three daughters, Marilyn Lang of Arlington, Washington, Cheryl Evans of Havre, Montana, and Pamela Essary of Idaho Falls, Idaho; three sisters, Myrtle Ditmar of Rudyard, Montana, Mildred Sedivy of Hingham, Montana, and Eleanor Rathbun of Hingham, Montana; two brothers, John Alex of Hingham, Montana and Glen Alex of Inverness, Montana; 16 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorials in Mr. Alex's honor may be made to the Havre Eagles Club or the Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.
TILDA CHARLOTTE ANDERSON
Born: April 1, 1902 – Died: April 19, 1992
Liberty County Times
April 22, 1992

Tilda Anderson

Tilda Charlotte Anderson was born on April 1st, 1902 at Saint Helaire, Minnesota. She was one of six children born to Elizabeth Stalvick and Peter Peterson. Tilda grew up at Cass Lake, Minnesota and graduated from high school there in 1920. She attended the Bemidji State Teacher’s College and received her teaching certificate. She taught at rural schools in Minnesota, then moved to St. Paul where she took a job as a bookkeeper. It was there that she met her husband-to-be, Victor H. Anderson, and they were married at Cass Lake on March 31st, 1927. They lived and worked in the Cass Lake community for the next 20 years, then moved to Chester (Montana). Victor worked for Hank Kolstad at the John Deere dealership in Chester until his retirement. Vic died in 1973 and Tilda continued to live in Chester. Because of health problems associated with old age, she moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in 1986. She died there on the early morning of Easter Sunday, April 19th (1992), at the age of 90 years...

Tilda had been baptized and confirmed in her youth. She had been active at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Cass Lake and had served as secretary of the Ladies Aid for many years. After moving to Chester, she became active in the Joplin Eastern Star. Most of her hobbies were associated with her home. She did a lot of fanciwork like quilting and embroidery. She enjoyed baking, and her family will always remember her special Norwegian baked goods. She loved to have ladies over for coffee. She enjoyed playing the piano (and had given lessons in Minnesota during her younger years). In addition, she liked to read and watch television (her favorite program was the old Lawrence Welk Show). Other than hearing loss, she was happy to have relatively good health over the years.

Tilda is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Leo (Lois) Schaub of Chester; one son, Gerald Anderson of Indianapolis, Indiana; five grandchildren, including LeAnn, Lon, Nancy, Julie and Jim; seven great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. She was preceded in death not only by her husband, but also by her parents, her sister, and her four brothers.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 21st, at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester with Reverend Tom Dunham officiating. Vocalist, Tammy Enghusen performed. The congregation, accompanied by Juanita Wardell on the organ, sang “The Old Rugged Cross”, “Sweet Hour of Prayer”, and “My Faith Looks Up To Thee”. Pallbearers were Lon Schaub, Kris Schaub, Jerry Howell, Faye McDonald and Sid Whifborg. Interment was in the Chester Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. A coffee hour followed at the church.
CECIL A. ASHCRAFT

Born: July 9, 1913 - Died: November 21, 1992

Great Falls Tribune

November 23, 1992

Cecil A. Ashcraft

MOCCASIN — Cecil A. Ashcraft, 79, who was born the first night the tiny town of Moccasin got electricity, died Saturday at his home of natural causes.

There will be a celebration of his life at a graveside service at 3 p.m. Wednesday at the Moccasin Cemetery. A potluck will follow at the Senior Citizens Center in Hobson. Memorials are suggested to the PEAK Program at the Northern Rockies Cancer Center in Billings, in lieu of flowers.

He was born in Moccasin July 9, 1913, the first night the community was on line for electricity. As a young man, he worked at the pool hall with his Dad.

He attended college at Dillon, Billings and Portland, and was a graduate of Utah State. He taught and coached at Hedgesville, Polson, Moccasin and Chester.

He married his wife, Julie, Sept. 5, 1942. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year.

He worked several years for Pioneer Mutual, and then began to represent sporting goods companies through Montana and neighboring states. He retired from Uke's Sports. He then worked helping farmers covered by the Federal Crop Insurance Program.

He loved coaching and playing baseball, and he enjoyed hunting, fishing and being outdoors. He was a fixture at the Western Invitational Tournament in Lewistown and other basketball tournaments.

He is survived by his wife; two sons, Joe, from Metlakatla, Alaska, and Ned of Billings; four daughters, Arden Ashcraft of Arizona, Harva Ashcraft of Helena, and Susan Ashcraft and Sally Ashcraft, both of California; a sister, Burmah Ashcraft Christian of Moccasin; a brother, H. Wayne Ashcraft of Casper, Wyo., and nine grandchildren.

Franklin "Frank" Charles Baker, 69, died of cancer at Good Samaritan Hospital at Corvallis, Oregon. He was born in Chester, Montana to Walter S. Baker and Theresa F. Wirli. Frank attended Chester Schools until he and his father moved to Oregon City in 1938. On December 29, 1945 he married Frances M. Price in Los Angeles, California. They moved to Oregon City in 1946 and in 1948 settled in Corvallis, Oregon. He worked for Medo Land Dairy in Corvallis for many years and for Deluxe Dairy in Salem for the last four years. He was an avid gardener and was especially interested in growing fruit trees. He was a member of the Corvallis Christian Center and his name is written in the Lambs Book of Life.

Survivors include his wife, two daughters, one son and eight grandchildren. He was a nephew of Helen and Charles Baker of the Chester Trading Company.

He is buried at Oaklawn Memorial Park Cemetery at Corvallis, Oregon.
Alvin Joseph Barbie was born on the family homestead located 8-1/2 miles north of Inverness, Montana. His date of birth was July 4th, 1920 and he was the youngest of 13 children, many of whom died in childbirth and infancy. Alvin's parents were Katherine Hoeng and Peter Barbie. He grew up on the family farm and attended country schools near there. Following his formal education, Alvin began farming with his dad, and eventually took over the farming operations in 1945. For many years he worked during the winter months on the railroad section crew, did auto body work with Wayne Dafoe, and worked construction for John May. On September 28th, 1941 Alvin married Anabelle Pettapiece at Fort Benton. They made their home and raised their family of seven in the Inverness community from that time.

Alvin's health remained good until a recent heart ailment developed. He died during surgery at the Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls on this past Wednesday, May 13th. He was 71 years old...

Alvin had been very active over the years. He was a charter member and past president of the Inverness Commercial Club. He served as a committee member on the Hill County A.S.C.S. board for 11 years. He was a life member of the Havre Elks Club and a past member of the Hingham Oddfellows Lodge. He was a lifelong member of the United Methodist Church.

Alvin had many hobbies and activities to keep himself busy. He enjoyed raising a vegetable garden each year and was proud of his shelterbelt and the fruit trees around his farmstead. He liked to work in his shop; he did a lot of welding and metal-lathing. In addition, he did his own meat cutting for many years. Some of his favorite pasttimes were hunting, fishing, and boating. He enjoyed all sports and was an avid spectator fan of high school basketball.

He liked to play card games, and in his younger years he enjoyed bowling. Alvin loved a lot of life’s simple pleasures, like his daily jaunt to the reservoir with the family dog, or a cruise around the countryside to admire some of the nice crops, or simply watch a train go by and reminisce about the history of the railroad, or attend a local auction sale just for the enjoyment of it and he was always joking, teasing, or promoting a friendly argument of some sort. He seemed content with life and his 50-year marriage to Anabelle...

In addition to his wife, Alvin is survived by four sons, including Allen (and wife, Stanleigh) of Inverness, Lyle of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Bill (and wife, Cathy) of Carson City, Nevada, and Larry of Inverness; by three daughters, including Jeannie Belgarde of Forsyth, Mary Ann Barbie of Helena, and Jo Barbie-Redmond (and husband, Tim) of Snyder, Colorado; by nine grandchildren; by one brother, John P. Barbie of Tampa, Florida; and by numerous nephews and nieces. Alvin was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers (Nick and William), one sister (Anna Carlson), and one grandson (Brian Barbie).

Funeral services were held on Monday, May 18th, at 11:00 a.m. at the Chester United Methodist Church with Reverend Charles Woodworth officiating. The congregation sang “Harvest Time”, accompanied by Iris White on the organ. Vocal tributes were performed by Terry Stevenson who sang “Beyond the Sunset”, “Amazing Grace”, and “The Wind Beneath My Wings”. Ushers were Duane Fraser, Roger Zentzis and Ron Lineweaver. Pallbearers included Kenneth Gutcher, Robert Dafoe, Charles Lineweaver, James Fraser and Dennis Kenfield and Clarence Bakke. Some of Alvin’s old friends listed as honorary bearers were Jim Adams, Dean McFadden, Walt Jensen, Ernest Meissner, Wayne Dafoe, Donald Meyers, Bud Meyers, Glen Alex, Bud Johnson and Dalton Dahlke. Following the church services, burial was at the Inverness Cemetery. A luncheon for family and friends was held at the Methodist Church in Inverness. Funeral arrangements were by Rockman Chapel, Chester.
EUGENE VICTOR BENGTSON
Born: July 25, 1927 - Died: February 19, 1992
Liberty County Times
February 26, 1992
and Esther divorced in 1956. He continued working as the depot agent in Inverness and Joplin, and for many years he lived at the Joplin Depot. In 1982 Gene purchased a home in Chester. He shared his home since 1986 with his friend and companion, Sandy Friberg. Gene retired from the B-N Railroad in 1989, after 42 years of dedicated service. On this past Wednesday morning, February 19th, Gene suffered a heart attack at his home. He died at the age of 64 years.

Gene had been a member of the V.F.W. Post #3997 and Sons of Norway. He enjoyed attending functions at the Sweetgrass Lodge and Senior Citizens Center in Chester. Gene liked to read the newspaper and he was an avid football fan of the NFL. With friends he enjoyed playing pinochle or attending dances. Dancing had always been one of Gene's favorite pastimes, so Sandy and he seldom missed an opportunity to "kick up their heels". Gene also enjoyed traveling, and had taken his family on several memorable trips. He looked forward to the summer months so he could spend time with his one-and-only grandson, Wade.

Gene had always been small in stature, but big in respect. Maybe that's why many of his friends affectionately called him "Herc" (short for Hercules). He had always been a kind-hearted, soft-spoken, gentleman.

Gene is survived by a daughter, Mrs. James (Mary) Hartmann of Phoenix, Arizona; a grandson, Wade Kaczmarek; a granddaughter, Margaret Hartmann; a step-daughter, Judi Kase of Havre; and his special friend, Sandy Friberg of Chester. He was preceded in death by his father in 1968 and by his mother in 1982.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, February 24th, at the Chester Assembly of God Church with Reverend Dan Mielke officiating. The congregation sang "What A Friend We Have In Jesus", accompanied by Susan Peterson on the organ. A vocal number entitled "In The Garden" was performed by Dan Mielke, accompanied by his wife, Leslie. Gene loved the music of a local orchestra comprised of Wilbur Eveland, Nick Bubnash, Oscar Erickson, Bonnie Wodorz and Marcella Hull, so they played a few songs in his memory. Friends serving as pallbearers were Bill Gunderson, Reuben Halverson, Joe LaSorte, Chuck Jodrey, Elmer Jensen and Blaine Nieuwenhuis. Usher was Quannah Bailey. Burial was in the Chester Cemetery. Military "taps" were played and the flag was presented to Gene's grandson, Wade. A luncheon followed at the Sweetgrass Lodge. Funeral arrangements were by Rockman Chapel, Chester.
Harlan Sauby Bilden was born on his family's homestead near Joplin, Montana on January 4th, 1915. His parents were Julia Sauby and Lewis Bilden, and he was the only son of three children. Harlan was baptized and confirmed at the Bethel Church in Joplin; He received his education in Joplin, graduating from J.H.S. in 1932. In the years that followed Harlan worked on the family farm. During the outbreak of World War II, he went to Washington where he worked in the Seattle shipyards. He came back to Joplin and continued farming there during the rest of his working years. Harlan and his wife, the former Alice Fusk (whom he married August 4, 1943 at Bethel Church), raised their family of four in Joplin. They retired in 1972, but continued to live on the farm since that time. Harlan's health remained good over the years, but in September of 1991 he was diagnosed with cancer and has gradually deteriorated since. He died Monday afternoon, February 17th, at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester. He was 77 years old...

Harlan's main hobby in life was farming. He enjoyed puttering in his shop and maintaining his farm equipment. In addition to farming, he always ran a small herd of livestock. With family and friends he enjoyed visiting and playing cards (he especially liked pinochle and bridge). During his quiet hours at home he loved to read. Harlan enjoyed his life in Montana. He and Alice had recently celebrated 48 years of married life together.

In addition to his wife, Harlan is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Eugene (Patricia) Meldrum of Havre and Janet Bilden of San Francisco, California; one son, Leroy "Whitey" Bilden (and his wife, Vicki) of Escondido, California; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; one sister, Marion Jones of Checkerboard, Montana; and numerous nephews and nieces. Harlan was preceded in death by his parents, by a sister (Lynette Crachy), and by a son (Walter in 1969).

Harlan was cremated per his wishes. His ashes will be buried in the Joplin Cemetery. Memorial services were held at the Joplin Bethel Lutheran Church at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, February 19th, with Reverend Allen Haugen officiating. Vocal music by Judy Lake included "In the Garden" and "How Great Thou Art", and she was accompanied by Susan Peterson. Following the services a luncheon was held in Kjos Hall. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.
Ben Bradbury

Ben A. Bradbury Sr., 83, a resident of Rudyard, Montana, died Wednesday morning, October 14th of natural causes at his residence. A memorial service was held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, October 17th at the Holland & Bonine chapel in Havre, Montana with Rev. Walter Kirkegaard officiating.

Mr. Bradbury was born on December 4, 1908 at Alexandria, Minnesota, the son of Edward and Augusta (Palmen) Bradbury whom at the time were residing in Clair's home, Alberta. In 1910 he moved from Canada with his family to a homestead four miles north of Rudyard. He attended Rudyard Public Schools and graduated from the Rudyard High School in 1928. He was Valedictorian of his class. In 1929 at Havre he married Beaula May Wilcox. The couple farmed north of Rudyard until 1941. They moved to Seattle, Washington where he worked for the Boeing Aircraft Company. In 1944 he returned to Rudyard where he worked as a carpenter until 1980 when his health failed. He enjoyed visiting with people. He had a good sense of humor and was always ready with a joke. He loved having his family around him and was especially fond and proud of his grandchildren. His hobbies included fishing, hunting, bowling and card playing.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife in 1948, four brothers and four sisters.

He is survived by two daughters, Beverly Leopold of Wichita Falls, Texas, Bonita Baker of Shelton, Washington; one son, Ben Bradbury Jr. of Rudyard, Montana; 13 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

Memorials in Mr. Bradbury's honor may be made to a person's choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.
Carol Beth Cameron was born in Centuria, Wisconsin on March 25, 1936. She was the oldest of six children born to Ruth and Wilbur Eveland. Carol grew up in Chester and attended schools here, graduating from C.H.S. in 1954. After graduation Carol was a bookkeeper for Berg Motors, presently Chester Motors. In February 1955, she married Patrick Murray Cameron, and they made their home in Chester, Alaska and Washington. Carol passed away in Battle Ground, Washington March 22, 1992 with cancer.

Carol enjoyed playing cards, cooking and reading. Carol's survivors include sons Steven of Chester, Timothy of Clayton, California, Kim of Portland, Oregon, and Jodi of Vancouver, Washington; four grandchildren; her father Wilbur Eveland of Chester; two sisters, Joyce Burch of Portland, Oregon, and Judy Ohrt of Junction City, Oregon; three brothers, Glen of Rocker, Montana, Lyle of Edmonds, Washington, and Wayne of Kent, Washington; and numerous aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces and cousins. She was preceded in death by her mother Ruth and a daughter Colleen.

Cremation has taken place.
Art Carlson

Arthur Andrew Carlson was born on July 6, 1901 in Bodo, Norway. When he was just a baby, Art came to the United States with his mother, Antoinette "Nettie" Anderson. They lived in Minneapolis for a while, then moved to Forman, North Dakota where Nettie married A.J. Carlson. Art's sister, Josie, was born in Forman and it was there that they were baptized in the Lutheran faith. Nettie wanted a good education for Art, so she sent him to Canada to attend school and live with relatives. About a year later Mr. Carlson died, so Nettie and Josie returned to Montana where Nettie married Hans Anderson, a south Gildford homesteader. Art came to join them following his 8th grade graduation. He helped on the Anderson farm and also traveled to the west coast in the summer months to work on farms there. Art eventually purchased his own farm seven miles south of Gildford, where he made his home and worked for many years. In 1969 Art married Anna Carlson, a widowed lady friend he had known for a long time. They moved to Portland and Art leased out his farm. He remained in Portland until Anna died in 1982, when he came back to Montana. Art lived at the Rudyard Hotel for about a year, then bought a small house in Rudyard where he has lived since. In the interim he sold his farm. Art's health had remained good until recently, when he was hospitalized in Chester and then transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. He died there on Friday morning, October 16th, at the age of 91 years.

Art's greatest enjoyment in life was reading. He was especially fond of educational literature that dealt with science, health and the environment. "National Geographic" was one of his favorite magazines. Even after his eyesight failed, he continued to read with the help of a magnifying glass! He always kept up on current events so it's not a wonder that he enjoyed "philosophizing" about politics, religion and other issues. Art liked to grow roses in his backyard and fed the birds there all winter long. He loved music, especially the "old-time" songs, and he had apparently been a good boxer in his youth. In addition, he had always been an honest and generous man. Each year he donated to his favorite organizations, like the National Park System, because of the importance of maintaining our forests, clean air, etc.

Art's only survivor is his sister, Josephine Anderson of Hemet, California.

Funeral services are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 21st, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard with Reverend Jeff Olsgaard officiating. Rachel Blake will serve as organist, and Joe Horel will sing "Rock of Ages" and "Over the Sunset Mountains".

Pallbearers will be Ted Pappas, Craig Engbretson, Harold Moos and Robert DeFrance. Graveside services will be at 2:30 p.m. in Havre at the Highland Cemetery, where Art will be buried next to his mother. Funeral arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Any memorials will be given to the Rudyard Ambulance fund.
Edith W. Coats — Edith Winifred Poling Coats, 82, died Thursday in a Culbertson hospital after a long illness.

Her funeral will be at 10 a.m. Monday in the First Congregational Church in Froid. Burial will be in Froid South Cemetery.

Born on Dec. 29, 1909, in Barton, N.D., she grew up on a farm near Crosby, N.D., and graduated from Divide County High School. She married Martin Coats in Poplar on Nov. 22, 1933.

The couple spent many years farming and raising their family near Froid. Later they moved to Alexander, N.D., Chester, and Vancouver, Wash. She was an Avon lady for awhile, managed a motel in Chester and was a nurse’s aide.

Survivors include two sons, Keith of Vancouver, Wash., and Dean of Phoenix; a daughter, Marlene Urbahl of Froid; three sisters, Ila Sandberg of Crosby, N.D., Ilene Scott of Grand Forks, British Columbia, and Cecile Peterson of San Leandro, Calif.; eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Her husband and an infant son preceded her in death.
Edward Michael Cole
Born: March 12, 1901 - Died: June 20, 1992
Liberty County Times
June 24, 1992

Edward Michael Cole was born on March 12th, 1901 at Vinton, Quebec, Canada. He was one of 12 children born to Annie McCormick and William F. Cole. Ed received his formal education at Vinton, then left home at an early age to live with a brother in Detroit, Michigan. While there he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Hawaii and the Philippines. Following his honorable discharge, Ed came to Monhola and worked on bridge construction crews.

Ed was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church. He served as Grand Knight for the Knights of Columbus for many years, and had also served in the Holy Name Society. In recent years he had been active at the Liberty County Senior Citizen's Center, where he enjoyed playing cards and visiting with old friends. Cards have always been one of Ed's favorite pastimes; he especially enjoyed pinochle, hearts, spade, cribbage and poker. Other hobbies over the years included fishing, hunting, bowling and traveling. Ed liked to attend sporting events that involved his grandchildren, and he also enjoyed a good N.F.L. game on television. In his quiet hours at home he loved to read (especially historicals and non-fiction books). In addition, he enjoyed music and he loved to sing. Ed always had a good sense of humor and a quick wit. That's probably why many of his nephews and nieces referred to him affectionately as their "Fun Uncle". His family had always been important to him, and he was always caring and generous to their needs. Recently, while bedridden and ill, Ed "perked up" with joy at the sight of his newest great-grandchild! He was very proud of the lineage and traditions that grew during those 62 years of married life with Peg...

Ed loved his farm, and up until the past few months, he drove out there daily just to see how things were going. Even at age 90, he ran a tractor for a while and drove a grain truck during harvest! And recently, while extremely weak and bedridden, he asked his son to take him on a short road trip to look at the crops. Although his physical body finally gave out on him, Ed was happy that his mind remained alert and responsive to the end...

Ed's survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Agnes of Chester; five grandchildren, Kathy Reinterson of Escondito, California, Mary Fritz of Chester, Wm. "Pete" Cole of Chester, Tim Cole of Soda Springs, Idaho, and Colleen Boucher of Aurora, Colorado; eight great-grandchildren; one brother, Domenic Cole of Detroit, Michigan; two sisters, Susan and Mary Cole of Vinton, Quebec; and numerous nephews and nieces. Ed was preceded in death not only by his wife and parents, but also by two daughters (Mary Agnes and Rosemary), by a great-granddaughter (Amy Fritz), by five brothers (John, Patrick, Vincent, Thomas and Irvin), and by three sisters (Stella, Kathleen and Agnes).

Rosary prayers were recited by Father Tom Harney at 8:00 p.m. Monday, June 22nd, at St. Mary's Church in Chester. The funeral mass was celebrated by Father Harney at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday. Iris White served as organist and the St. Mary's choir sang "Amazing Grace", "The Old Rugged Cross", "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling", "Oh Lord, I Am Not Worthy", and "May the Angels Take You Into Paradise". Ushers were Tom Graff and Charles and Don Hull. Pallbearers included Raymond Fritz, Eldon Graff, James Hull, Joe Gagnon, Lawrence Schaefer and Fred Skierka. Memorial bearers are all of Ed's fellow Knights, Senior Citizens, and other good friends in the Chester community. Altar servers were David Ghekiere and David Hull. Scripture readings were by great-grandchildren: Jennifer Fritz, Ed Cole and Angie Fritz. Communion gifts were presented by great-granddaughters: Becky and Theresa Cole. Burial was at the Chester Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Luncheon given by the Altar Society followed at the church. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Hospital, the Liberty County Hospice, and for St. Mary's Church.
Memorial service this Sunday for Diemert baby

Taylor Berlin Diemert, full-term infant daughter of Kelcey and Nancy Diemert, died on Thursday, February 27th, in Missoula. The parents are presently living in Missoula where they attend pharmacy school at U. of M. Other survivors include a sister, Kelsey Anne; grandparents, Dennis and Sonja Diemert of Galata and Jim and Vi Irons of Lewistown; great-grandmothers, Nellie Diemert and Mabel Kolstad, both of Chester; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

A memorial service will be conducted by Reverend Charlie Hanson at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, March 22nd, at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Burial of cremains will follow at the Chester Cemetery.
Jimmy Dean Englund

Born: June 14, 1972 - Died: August 31, 1992

Liberty County Times

September 9, 1992

Jimmy Englund was born in Great Falls, Montana on June 14th, 1972. He was the eldest of two children raised by John and Marie (Stores) Englund. Jimmy grew up in the Chester community and received his formal education here. He graduated from C.H.S. in 1990. Shortly thereafter, he moved to Great Falls where he worked various jobs and established his residence. Jimmy continued to frequent the Chester area, spending time with his dad or visiting with old friends. On this past Monday afternoon (August 31st, 1992), Jim was found dead at their farm residence south of Chester. He was just 20 years old...

During his school years in Chester, Jim had been active in Little League, basketball, track, and C.Y.O. He spent several summers at Camp Huff-N-Puff, a special program for asthmatics. In recent years he maintained active membership in the Great Falls A.A. group. During his private time he enjoyed working on his automobile. In addition, Jimmy like to play Nintendo and other video games. He loved music of all kinds and recently developed an interest in Country Western rhythms.

Even though Jim experienced numerous medical and personal problems during his short lifetime, he still maintained a unique sense of humor. He will be remembered by his family and close friends as a very gentle, caring and loving individual...

Jimmy’s survivors include his parents, John of Chester and Marie of Havre; his sister, Kathy of Havre (presently at U. of M. in Missoula); his paternal grandmother, Gena Englund of Chester; his maternal grandfather, Ward Stores of Shelby; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Memorial gifts will be given in Jimmy’s memory to the Rocky Mountain Treatment Center in Great Falls or to donor’s choice.

The funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Tom Harney at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Chester at 11:00 a.m. Friday, September 4th. Family friends who participated included Sharon Harmon (Scripture readings); Joanne Osterman and Deb O’Brien (presentation of Communion Gifts); Marge Dahinden, Genevieve Gagnon and Sharon Harmon (Eucharistic Ministers); Bill and Pat Harmon (Altar Servers); Deb Leinart (Eulogist); Jim Foster, Marshall Millikin and Deb O’Brien (Ushers). Two songs performed by classmate Tawna Meldrum were “Friends” and “From A Distance”. Marshall Millikin sang “Tears From Heaven“ and “The Dance”. Tammy Enghusen served as pianist. Pallbearers were Ian Smith, A.J. Stone, Jess Mangold, Ivan Wodarz, Marty Duffin, Dick Harmon and Tom Osterman. Memorial bearers were the “CHS Class of 1990” and Jimmy’s other friends. Burial was at the Chester Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. A memorial luncheon followed at the church.
CATHERINE FRANCES ESPLIN
Born: August 6, 1884 – Died: June 30, 1992
Liberty County Times
July 8, 1992

Frances Esplin

Catherine Frances Esplin, 107 years of age, a resident of the Liberty County Nursing Home for the last ten months, died of natural causes June 30, 1992 at the Liberty County Hospital.

A Rosary Service was at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 1, at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham, Montana with Father Tom Harney officiating. The Funeral Mass was at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, July 2 also at Our Lady of Ransom with Father Harney officiating. Soloist Marcus Jochim sang “Ava Maria”, “Because The Lord Is My Shepherd”, “Just A Closer Walk With Thee”, “Be Still My Soul” and “We Remember”. The organist was Rachel Blake. The usher was Virgil Jurenka. Pallbearers were Craig Patrick, Ralph, Mark, Trevin and Bill Burkhartsmeyer, Joe Hanses, J.J. Hanses and Jerry Hybner.

Graveside services were held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, July 6 at the Holy Cross Cemetery in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Mrs. Esplin was born August 6, 1884 in Ontario, Canada, the daughter of John Ryan and Electa (Crinclaw) Donovan. She attended school in St. Albert, Canada. In 1914 at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada she married Henry Esplin. After their marriage the couple lived in Edmonton. Mrs. Esplin practiced general nursing. She enjoyed her housework and yard work. Her hobbies included knitting and embroidery. Her husband died in 1966. Also in 1966 she moved to Hingham to live with her daughter Doris Burkhartsmeyer. She was a member of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. Until she moved into the Liberty County Nursing Home she was alert and very active.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and eight siblings. She is survived by one daughter, Doris Burkhartsmeyer of Hingham; two grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Memorials in Mrs. Esplin’s honor may be made to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.
JESSIE FLORENCE STAUDACHER FAGERBERG
Born: January 4, 1899 - Died: October 18, 1992
Liberty County Times
October 28, 1992

Jessie Florence Staudacher was born in Choate, Michigan on January 4th, 1899. She was one of five children born to Thomas and Amanda (Crye) Staudacher. Jessie received her early schooling in Medford, Wisconsin. The Staudacher family came to Montana on an emigrant car in 1912, and they homesteaded 6 miles south of Chester. Jessie finished her education in Chester; she was a member of the first graduating class of C.H.S. in 1922. Jessie then went to Dillon where she received her teaching certificate from Montana Normal College. She then transferred to Eastern Washington State College at Cheney and graduated with a degree in education. Jessie then embarked on a 39-year career in public education at Libby, Montana. While there she met Ole E. Fagerberg, and they were married June 14th, 1939 in Helena. They made their home in Libby where Ole worked as a tailor and Jessie was a teacher, principal, and county superintendent. Ole retired in 1961 and Jessie retired in 1963. They moved back to Chester and made their home here from that time on (except in the winter months when they lived in Mesa). Ole died in 1948. Jessie remained in their home until 1948, when ill-health took her to the Liberty County Nursing Home. She died at the Chester hospital on Sunday evening, October 18th, at the age of 93 years...

Jessie had been a member of the Eastern Star and Delta Kappa Gamma. Before her health failed she was active in the First Church of Christ Scientist in Havre and the Mother Church in Boston. Jessie had many hobbies including cooking and canning, raising roses, playing the piano and organ, dancing, and playing cards (mainly, pinochle).

She is survived by one brother, Henry Staudacher of Holcombe, Wisconsin; one sister-in-law, Aina Staudacher of Chester; and several nephews and nieces. She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by two step-sons (Kenneth and Donald Fagerberg) and three brothers (Maurice, Tom and Wesley Staudacher).

The family requests that memorials be sent to the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, P.O. Box 2472, Spokane, Washington 99210-2472.

Memorial services were held at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester on Wednesday, October 21st, at 10:00 a.m. Reverend Tom Dunham of Our Savior's Lutheran Church officiated. Vocalist/guitarist, Jerome Lincoln, performed two of Jessie's favorite hymns, "How Great Thou Art" and "Abide With Me". Jessie was cremated per her wishes and her ashes were interred in the family plot at the Chester Cemetery. A coffee hour was given to family and friends at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.
Rose Fields

Rose Fields, 88 years of age, a resident of Havre, MT, died on December 27, 1992 at a Havre Hospital of natural causes.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, December 30 at 2 p.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Rudyard. Rev. Jeff Olsgaard officiated. Burial was in the Rudyard Cemetery.

Soloist was Judy Lake who sang "In the Garden" and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." She was accompanied by Iris White, organist. The congregational hymns were "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" and "Children of the Heavenly Father."

The pallbearers were Victor Fields III, Tom Bangs, Lloyd Kaercher, Cliff Ulmen, Don Stark and Harold Wanke.

Holland and Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Rose was born on March 15, 1904 in Grand Forks, North Dakota. She married Leon Fields on March 9, 1922.

The couple farmed north of Rudyard until 1959 at which time they moved into Rudyard. Her husband died in 1979. She moved to the Eagles Manor Retirement Apartments and then to Lutheran Home of The Good Shepherd, both of Havre.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one son Victor, and four grandchildren.

She is survived by: one son, Wayne Fields and his wife LaDona Fields of Pocatello, Idaho, daughter-in-law Rose Goar of Havre, MT; one sister, Christine Walker of Havre, MT; one sister-in-law, Cleo Wagner and brother-in-law Clarence Fields of Havre, two brother-in-laws, Oscar Fields and Homer Fields and one sister-in-law, Mabel Hagen of Lincoln, MT; grandchildren, Vic Fields, Omaha, NE; Sandi Fields, Yuma, AZ, Becky Leiseur of Billings, MT and Gwen Goar of Havre. Also 16 great-grandchildren, four great, great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.
ANTONIO ALLEN (TONY) GAGNON
Born: September 11, 1949 - Died: August 1, 1992
Liberty County Times
August 8, 1992

Tony Gagnon
Antonio Allen Gagnon was born in Havre, Montana on September 11th, 1949. He was the eldest of two sons born to Joseph and Rose (Brule) Gagnon. Tony was baptized and received his religious training at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Chester. He attended the Chester School system and graduated from C.H.S. in 1967. Following high school, Tony attended St. John’s College at Collegeville, Minnesota where he received his Bachelor’s Degree in Education. For the next four years he served as a Religious Brother at St. John’s Benedictine Abbey at Collegeville. He moved to Alaska and took a job as building custodian for an oil company at Prudeo Bay. Since 1988 Tony had worked as an accountant for Carr-Gottstein Inc. in Anchorage. This past January, while at work in Alaska, Tony suffered a “seizure-type” episode. Subsequent tests and surgery revealed malignant brain tumors. Tony came home to Chester in April and lived at the Liberty County Nursing Home until his death on the evening of Saturday, August 1st. He was 42 years old...

Tony enjoyed many hobbies over the years. He liked traveling, camping, hiking and related activities. He loved to swim and did alot of open water diving. Although a confirmed bachelor, he was an excellent cook. He also enjoyed reading and writing (he was a loyal correspondent with friends and family). Tony loved music; he enjoyed playing the piano or simply listening to a favorite album. In addition, he had always been a movie buff, and had accumulated a large collection of laserdisk movies (which he has donated to the video library at St. John’s College). Tony loved people in general and was fond of the many friendships that had developed over the years. He had strong religious convictions, and during those times when the “road became rocky” he still remained loyal to his beliefs.

Tony is survived by his parents, Joe and Phyllis Gagnon of Chester; his brother and sister-in-law, Lyle and Rosalie Gagnon of Seattle, Washington; a step-brother, Garth Good of Chester; three step-sisters, Gail Covardell of Kalispell, Janet Saxton of Chester, and Corinne Hill of Great Falls; numerous aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces and cousins; and his pet cat, “Aussie”. Tony was preceded in death by his mother in 1973.

Rosary Prayers will be recited by Lawrence Schaeler at 7:30 p.m. Thursday evening (August 6th) at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Chester. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated by Monsignor Martin Werner at 11:00 a.m. Friday, August 7th. St. Mary’s choir will sing “On Eagle’s Wings” and “Morning Has Broken”. Vocalists, Marcella Hull and Garth Good, will perform “Ave Maria” and “Amazing Grace”, respectively. Ushers will be Don and Charles Hull. Scripture readings will be done by Ken Gagnon, altar servers will be Erik Gagnon and Daved Hull. Eucharistic ministers will be Genevieve Gagnon and Sharon Harmon, and the communion gifts will be presented by Audrey and John Nuxoll. Friends serving as pallbearers will include Fred Skierka, James Gagnon, Chuck Saxton, Louis Hull, Norman Coverdell and Clint Wigen. Memorial bearers will be 1967 C.H.S. classmates. Burial will be in the family plot at the Chester Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Chapel. A luncheon will follow at the church. A memorial service will be held in Anchorage, Alaska at a later date. Memorial gifts will be given to St. Mary’s and/or the American Cancer Society.
EMERALD R. "BUD" GREER
Born: July 27, 1918 - Died: May 28, 1992

Liberty County Times
June 3, 1992

Bud Greer
Emerald R. "Bud" Greer was born on July 27th, 1918 at Potlatch, Idaho. He was one of six children born to Emerson and Florence (Berry) Greer. Bud grew up in Idaho and received his formal education there. In 1940 he came to Montana with $12 to his name. He began working in the oilfields near Cut Bank and later worked on the Tiber Dam project south of Chester. In the early 1950's Bud started his own business, "Greer Construction", with a little truck and a 1/2-sack cement mixer. He operated his business out of Chester for the next 35 years, and during that time he assisted in the construction of numerous homes and other buildings, completed many cement contracts, and sold/erected literally hundreds of Butler grain bins to farmers in the Hi-Line community. In 1989 Bud retired due to failing health, and he was subsequently diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease. In June of 1990 he entered the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. He died there on the evening of Thursday, May 28th, at the age of 73 years.

Bud had one son by his first wife, Mildred Thielman, whom he married in 1940 at Lewiston, Idaho. Mildred preceded him in death in 1948. Bud's second marriage was to Marcia Henry in 1954 at Havre, Montana, and the product of that marriage was five children. Bud had always been extremely proud of his children and grandchildren, his home, and all of his many work accomplishments.

Bud loved to fish and belonged to several private fishing clubs over the years. He also enjoyed hunting; in addition he had his own ammo-bench where he loaded his own shells and he maintained a nice collection of guns. In later years Bud liked to visit people at the Senior Citizen's Center or play pinochle with friends. Bud has always loved music and dancing, and he was especially fond of the "Lawrence Welk Music Hour". Bud was always honest in his business dealings. Over the years he employed a lot of older high school boys in his business, and they all came to respect him as a kind, fair, gentle man...

In addition to his parents and first wife, Bud was preceded in death by two brothers (Aubrey and Clifford) and two sisters (Eva and Vera). He is survived by his former wife and dear friend, Marcia Lemons of Darby, Montana; one brother, Gilbert Greer of Lewiston, Idaho; three sons, Ron Greer of Pasco, Washington, Rockey Greer of Collins, Missouri, and Robert Greer of Winnemucca, Nevada; three daughters, Bonnie Behee of Stevensville, Montana, Dawn Webster of Bakersfield, California, and Robin Jeppesen of Sunburst, Montana; 13 grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Funeral services will be today (Wednesday, June 3rd) at 2:00 p.m. at the Chester United Methodist Church with Reverend Charles Woodworth officiating. Music will be provided by Juanita and Wayne Wardall. Wayne will sing "How Great Thou Art" and "The Wind Beneath My Wings". The congregation will sing "The Old Rugged Cross". A taped tribute by professional recording artist, Roger Whitaker, entitled "Oh My Papa" will be played. Pallbearers will be Stuart Erickson, Tyrone Rockman, Randy Hagen, Dick Burrows, John Hitchcock and Tom Ambuehl. Interment will be in the Chester Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. A coffee hour will follow the burial at the church. Undesignated memorials will be given to the Alzheimer's Association in Great Falls, Montana.
Dolores Gunderson

Dolores P. Gunderson, 63, a homemaker, died of cancer Saturday at her home in Power.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, June 23 at 11:00 a.m. in the Croxford and Sons Rose Room in Great Falls. Cremation has taken place with entombment at the Hillcrest Lawn Memorial in Great Falls.

Dolores was born in Choteau on June 21, 1928, and was raised there. She graduated from Teton County High School. She attended Montana State University for two years. In 1948, she married David Gunderson. They farmed southeast of Power. After he died in 1978, she moved in to Power where she lived until she died. She was also preceded in death by her parents.

Survivors include daughters, Darci Heck of Power and Dani Alex of Hingham; a son, Dru of Conrad, and ten grandchildren.

Memorials are suggested to the Power United Church of Christ.
Freda Russell Hall

Freda Lina Russell Hall, 102, who owned and operated the Ledger Cash Store in her home and was Ledger's postmaster, died Tuesday in a Conrad hospital.

A memorial service will be 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Ledger Hall. Pondera Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Born on March 10, 1890, in Alcader, Iowa, she graduated from high school and moved to Mound City, S.D., where she taught school. She married Ray William Hall in 1909. The couple and their three children came to Montana in 1928, setting first at Broadus and at Ledger in 1942.

She began operating the store in 1942 and after her husband's death, she was appointed postmaster. She retired as postmaster in 1960, but continued to operate the store in her home, which she described as the "mini-mart of Ledger."

Besides being storekeeper and postmaster, she was a 4-H leader, a member of the Community Club, Ledger Women's Club, Democratic Women and Women of the Moose, and wrote the Ledger Shorts for the county newspaper. She was an active member of the Conrad Presbyterian Church, but she also attended the Shelby Seventh-day Adventist Church.

She traveled extensively, attending post office meetings across the country and the Summer Olympics in Mexico and Los Angeles.

When she turned 90, she said "you've got to stay active. When you stop doing things, well, you know what happens."

When she turned 99 in 1989, the Ledger Community celebrated her birthday as part of its Montana Centennial observance.

There was no other place she would rather live than in Ledger, she said in 1980. But she was saddened that people preferred to shop in larger towns. "Our sense of belonging has diminished," she told a Tribune reporter. "It isn't like it used to be when everyone in Ledger helped build Ledger Hall with their own hands," she said.

Survivors include sons, Floyd William Hall of West Glacier and Ray Russell Hall; a daughter, Idell Fern Moore of Ledger; 10 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren.
HARRY BERNARD HANSELL
Born: September 24, 1915 - Died: May 10, 1992
Liberty County Times
May 13, 1992

Harry Bernard Hansell was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on September 24th, 1915. He was the only child born to Dena Dunham and Harry Hansell. He grew up in Philadelphia and received his formal education there, graduating from Overbrook High School in 1933. In the years that followed he was the leader of a 15-piece orchestra called "Harry Hansell & the Casa Del Rio Band". In addition to serving as band leader, Harry sang and played saxophone, clarinet and piano. During the outbreak of WWII, he joined the Merchant Marines and served overseas.

Harry moved to Montana in 1947 and began working at the Ford dealership in Shelby. On March 5th, 1977 he married Doris Dodson, and they made their home in Shelby from that time on. Harry worked for the Shelby School system as a custodian and bus driver until his retirement in 1984. His health remained relatively good until this past year. He moved to the Toole County Nursing Home about two months ago. He died there on Sunday morning, May 10th, at the age of 76 years...

Harry enjoyed people. He liked to walk downtown every day to visit with friends. He loved all the kids he came in contact with and always gave each of them an affectionate nickname. In his younger days he was an excellent baseball player, and his love for sports continued as he remained an avid spectator fan. Music and dancing were an important part of his life. During his quiet hours at home, Harry enjoyed drawing and sketching. He also enjoyed crossword puzzles. Although Harry's illness seemed painfully hopeless at times, he always maintained his good sense of humor and his undying love for his family...

Harry is survived by his wife, Doris of Shelby; five children, including John Hansell of Las Vegas, Nevada, Eleanor Heydon of Joplin, Wayne Hansell of Trenton, North Dakota, Bill Hansell of Shelby, and Lance Hansell of Anchorage, Alaska; five step-children, including Pat Dodson of Missoula, Bonnie LaSorte of Shelby, Linda Sherrard of Cut Bank, Mary Newton of Spokane, Washington, and Ruby Hughes of Spokane, Washington; step-mother, Ruth Hansell of Auburn, Indiana; half-sister, Sally Walker of Sarasota, Florida; 30 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. Harry was preceded in death by his parents and a son (Harry, Jr.).

Funeral services will be today (Wednesday, May 13th) at 3:00 p.m. at the L.D.S. Church in Shelby. Burial will follow at the Mountainview Cemetery in Shelby. Funeral arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.
Nora Hanson

Funeral services for Nora Orissa Hanson, 87, were held Monday, September 28, 1992 at 11:00 a.m. in Trinity Lutheran Church of Lisbon, North Dakota. Nora died Friday, September 25, 1992. Rev. John Wollenzien officiated at the services.

Nora Tostenson was born December 1, 1904, in Kensett, Iowa, to Bertha Medlang Tostenson and Oscar Tostenson. The family moved to Lisbon where Nora attended school. She graduated from Lisbon High in 1922. Upon completion of High School she attended Valley City (ND) State University. She taught at the Woods School in rural Lisbon.

Nora married George Hanson in Minneapolis on July 10, 1930. Upon moving to Lisbon she worked as a cook at the Lisbon Hospital. In 1955 they moved to Rudyard, Montana. Nora worked at the local Post Office and owned and operated the Grand Hotel. She also worked at the Senior Citizens Center. They moved back to Lisbon in 19485. Her husband, George, passed away in 1989. Also, she was preceded in death by a sister, Ina (Mrs. Gus) Hanson, and a brother, Olin Tostenson.

Pallbearers were Galeyn Thompson, Merle Lemnus, Dave Walock, Bryce Walock, Fred Fisher and Curt Hanson. Honorary pallbearers were Adolph Huether, James Medlang, Donald Walock, Karl Tostenson, Robert Walock and Chris Hanson. Organist was Jan Hansen and soloists were Daniel Walock and Lucille (Mrs. James) Medlang. Burial was at Oakwood Cemetery, Lisbon.

Nora is survived by a son, Donald, Valley Falls, Kansas; a daughter, Shirley Walock, Lisbon; two sisters Bernice (Mrs. Lloyd) O'Neill, Enderlin, North Dakota, and Ruth (Mrs. Joe) Civilla, Fridley, Minnesota; seven grandchildren and two great-grandsons.
Helen Harris

Helen Calvert Harris, formerly of Plentywood, Montana, died December 2, 1992 at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan. Helen was born August 22, 1910 in Vanceburg, Kentucky where she spent her early life. She moved with her parents, Huber L. and Vona E. Calvert, to Montana in 1917. The family lived near Scobey the first year. In 1918 they moved 22 miles south of Plentywood to a farm on the Fort Peck Reservation.

In 1925 the Evangelical Conference sent Helen's father to Plentywood as pastor of that congregation. Helen started high school in Plentywood and then the family moved to Rudyard in 1926 where her father was pastor of the Rudyard Evangelical Church, Grace Church north of Rudyard and Bethel Church north of Inverness. Helen graduated from Rudyard High School in 1931. In October of the same year she married and moved to Detroit, Michigan where she and her husband lived for three years. They returned to Montana to farm. Helen also lived for ten years in Wisconsin. She lived in Sterling Heights, Michigan just before her heart condition and failing health necessitated a move to the Temple Boulevard Retirement Home in Detroit.

She is survived by her daughter, Sherrill Geib Eppler; granddaughters, Terry Aubuchon, Karyn Eppler, Sandra (Muffy) Karson; three great-grandchildren; brother Richard Calvert of Eastpointe, Michigan; and sisters, Pauline Marcus of Warren, Michigan and Dorothy Calvert of Salem, Oregon.
ANNE BYFUGLIEN HATLAND
Born: May 19, 1890 - Died: December 24, 1992
Liberty County Times
December 30, 1992

Anne Hatland
Anne Byfuglien was born in Valdres, Norway on May 19th, 1890. She was one of eight children born to Anna Hagene and Svend Byfuglien. Anne was baptized and confirmed in a Norwegian Lutheran Church and attended schools at Brufet, Norway. She immigrated to the United States in 1911 when she came to Minot, North Dakota to join her sisters Gertrude and Marie. They heard of available land in Montana, so she and Marie came here in 1913 and filed "homesteads" 22 miles north of Devon. They learned that some childhood friends, the Manslangrud brothers, had homesteaded north of Chester. Anne and Nils Manslangrud were married in 1914. Just 2 1/2 months after their marriage, Nils died of sunstroke and Anne was pregnant with her daughter, Norma. The following year Anne married Nils' brother, Thorvald Manslangrud, and the product of that marriage was five children. They lived and farmed north of Chester until 1920, when they sold their place to a cousin (Harold Flugum) and moved to the Lewistown area. They continued farming there. Thorvald died from injuries of an industrial accident. The Manslangrud name was eventually shortened to "Rude".

In 1939 Anne married her third husband, Julius Hillstad, whom she met in Lewistown. After Julius suffered a stroke, they moved to the milder climate in Coeur d'Alene (Idaho). Julius died there in 1944.

Anne later married Matt Swenson of Coeur d'Alene and they remained together for 23 years.

In 1970 Anne married her fifth husband, Oliver Hatland, who had been a lifelong friend. Oliver was a retired building contractor who was living in the Seattle area, so they made their home there until his death in 1981. Anne returned to Coeur d'Alene and lived with Norma until 1985, when she moved to Spokane to live with daughter, Edna. Her general health had remained excellent until recent months. Anne died at the Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane on the morning of Thursday, December 24th. She was 102 years old.

Of local interest was the fact that the Manslangrud brothers and other early Norwegian homesteaders carried on their Christian traditions, and they organized the first Lutheran Church in Chester in 1910. Their early meeting place was in the Grand Hotel. Anne and Nils were married on her birthday, May 19th, 1914, and they were the very first couple to be married at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

Anne made her first trip back to Norway in 1950 to visit her 90 year old mother, whom she hadn't seen in 38 years. She made seven more trips to Norway between 1969 and 1982, the last one when she was 93 years old!

Anne always maintained a strong Christian faith. She lived through many struggles and hardships over the years, but she always counted her blessings with God's love.

She is survived by three daughters, Norma Dunn of Coeur d'Alene, ID; Thelma Bissert of Conrad, MT and Edna Darroch of Spokane, WA; one son, Kenneth Rude of Coeur d'Alene; two brothers, Alfred Byfuglien of Coeur d'Alene and Riider Byfuglien of Lewistown; 12 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; 8 great-great-grandchildren; and many nephews & nieces. Anne was preceded in death not only by her husbands and parents, but also by a daughter (Aina Flo), by two sons (Elmer Rude and an infant), by three sisters (Gertrude, Anna and Marie), and by two brothers (Olaf and Sander).

Memorial services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, December 26th at the Valley Nazarene Church in Spokane with Reverend Randall Denny officiating. grandson, Douglas Darroch was eulogist. A taped vocal medley by grandchildren, Ken and Renee Solum, was shared.

Funeral services will be today (Wednesday, December 30th) at 2 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with Reverend Tom Dunham officiating. Special vocal music "How Great Thou Art" and "What A Day That Will Be", will be performed by granddaughter, Neoma Anderson. Special memories will be shared by grandson, Craig Rude, and family friend, Allen Kolstad. Burial will be in the Chester Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. A coffee hour will follow at the church.
JENNIE E. HATLEBERG
Born: July 9, 1909 - Died: October 7, 1992
Havre Sentinel
December 16, 1992

Jennie E. Hatleberg
HAVRE — Jennie E. Hatleberg, 83, Havre, died Sunday at a Havre hospital.

She was born July 9, 1909 in Minnesota, the daughter of Arthur and Marie E. (Enerson) Johnson. The family moved to Joplin in 1910. She attended a country school and graduated from the eighth grade. She attended high school in Chester, and graduated there. She attended the normal college in Dillon and graduated with a degree in elementary education. She taught at different rural schools on the Hi-Line.

On June 3, 1934 in Havre, she married Clifford Hatleberg. The couple lived in Havre and in Glasgow two years, and then returned to Havre. The couple farmed north of Havre. They retired in 1978 and continued to live in Havre.

She held many offices in different clubs. She was a member of the Home Demonstration Club, Lutheran A.L.C.W., Lutheran Circle; Degree of Honor, Rebekahs and many other clubs.

She was also a member of the First Lutheran Church in Havre.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, and one sister.

She is survived by her husband of Havre; daughters, Beverly Orton of Fridley, Minn., Judy Solomon of Havre and Carolyn Tatwiler of Lewiston, Idaho; three sisters, Judy Moss of Havre, Jean Marsich of Billings and Doris Humphreys of Gainsville, Ga.; two brothers, Victor Johnson and Paul Johnson, both of Chester; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.
Cynthia (Waters) Haynes

Cynthia Lurene (Waters) Haynes, age 37, died Saturday, December 5, 1992, at her residence in Kihei (Maui) Hawaii.

For the past year she has fought a battle with a malignant brain tumor. She was born November 19, 1955 in Chester, Montana to Neil and Harriet (Nealy) Waters. She was raised in Chester and Malta. She graduated from Malta High School in 1974.

She went to Acme Beauty College in Billings. She married Bill Haynes June 29, 1975 at the Little White Church in Malta. They lived in Malta, Billings and then moved to Hawaii.

She enjoyed sewing, cross-stitch and especially her family. Cynthia was an example of courage through her whole life.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Haynes; two daughters, Raphael and Stacie all of Kihei; father and mother, Neil and Helen Waters of Malta; and sister LaRae Blunt of Regina; one stepsister and four stepbrothers;

grandparents: Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Waters of Malta, Mrs. Mabel Nealy of Chester; several nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Harriet (Nealy) Waters in June 1960.

Memorial services will be held at Adams Memorial Chapel on Sunday, December 27 at 2 p.m. in Malta.

Those wishing to send condolences may send them to Mr. Bill Haynes, 38 Alania Place, Kihei Maui, Hawaii 96753.
Carl Iverson

Funeral services for Carl D. Iverson, Littleton, CO were held on November 25 at Drinkwine Mortuary Chapel, Littleton. Burial was at the Fort Logan National Cemetery, Denver, CO. He died on November 19 in Denver.

Carl was born on October 31, 1938 at Troy, Montana. He attended school in Columbia Falls and Chester and graduated from Chester High School in 1956. While in Chester he worked at Liberty Drug and The Liberty County Times Office. He received a B.A. from the University of Montana at Missoula. He was also a Commissioned Intelligence Officer and served in Vietnam and Washington. On June 9, 1967 he was married to Mary Lou Cushman at Augusta, Georgia. He was employed as a financial analyst, H.U.D.; and was a member of ACLU, Republican Party, Boy Scouts, Littleton Soccer and the Apache League.

Survivors include his wife Mary Lou (Mimi) of Littleton; three sons, Dan of Seattle, Eric of Denver, and Jon of Littleton, CO; mother, Alice Iverson, Havre, MT; one sister, Nancy Wilmes, Havre, MT; three nephews and one niece.

Memorials may be made in Carl's name to the America Civil Liberties Union.
Donna Jean Raunig was born in Chester, Montana on April 30th, 1963. She was one of three children born to Betty Berg and Donald Raunig. She grew up in Chester and received her education here, graduating from C.H.S. in 1981. For the next three years she attended college in Bozeman at M.S.U. where she studied interior design. She transferred to the Montana School of Cosmetology in Bozeman, where she graduated and became a certified beautician. Donna married Michael D. Iverson in Chester on July 30th, 1988. That same year they moved to Palm Springs, California where they have lived and worked since. For the past year Donna has worked as a hair-stylist for "Sunrise Beauty Supply & Salon" in Palm Desert. This past Tuesday evening, January 28th, Donna was on her way home when she was involved in a single-car accident. She was taken by helicopter to the Eisenhower Medical Center at Rancho Mirage, where she died just after midnight on Wednesday. She was 28 years old...

Donna was baptized, confirmed and married at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester. During her school years at C.H.S., she served as cheerleader for boys football and basketball, participated in journalism and was editor of the school paper, held class offices, and was a member of the Senior Prom Royalty. Donna enjoyed life and kept herself busy. She liked to sketch and draw, she made quilts, she enjoyed cooking, and she liked swimming. She collected Christmas ornaments and as many photographs as she could get of her "one-and-only" nephew, Blake. Donna was an avid fan of many spectator sports and her favorite team was the Boston Celtics. She enjoyed playing board games, especially those associated with "trivia" (she was an excellent movie trivia buff and loved watching the old classic films). Since living in California, her all-time favorite place to go to was "Disneyland". Donna also loved music, and her favorite artists were Prince and Bryan Adams. Donna loved being with family and friends, but she also enjoyed the quiet solitude of home, watching television and eating "M&Ms". Although Donna and Mike had yet to start a family, she adored little kids. She kept herself busy taking care of "Rudy", her pot cat (given to her several years ago by Mike). Donna had acquired numerous nicknames over the years, but the ones she seemed to like best were "Oh My" and "Chico" (given to her by Papa Emmers) and "DeeJ" (which was Mike's affectionate version for "Donna Jean").

In addition to Mike, Donna is survived by her parents, Don and Betty Raunig of Chester; her sister, Mrs. Daron (Denise) Johnson of Minneapolis, Minnesota; her brother, Dean Raunig of Chester; a maternal grandmother, Elsie Berg of Chester; parents-in-law, Dennis Iverson of Helena and Donna Iverson of Polson; two brothers-in-law, John and Eric Iverson; her nephew, Blake Johnson; and numerous uncles, aunts and cousins.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday (February 1st) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Reverend Tom Dunham officiated. The congregation sang "Beautiful Savior", accompanied by organist Juanita Wardell. Two vocal tributes by Dede Brown included "The Lord's Prayer" and "What A Friend We Have In Jesus". A tape-recording of Donna's favorite song, "Heaven" (by Bryan Adams), was played in loving memory at Mike's request. Friends serving as ushers and pallbearers were Dave Wicks, Scott Laird, Mike Waring, Blaine Meissner, Kurt Kammerzell, Don Wolfe, Shaun Shahan, Kevin Murray, Kelly West and John Jordan. Many of Donna's fellow students/classmates served as honorary bearers. Interment was in the Chester Cemetery and a coffeehour followed at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.
MARY M. KAISER
Born: August 24, 1906 - Died: September 8, 1992
Liberty County Times
September 16, 1992

Mary M. Kaiser

Mary M. Kaiser, 86, died of natural causes Tuesday night, September 8, 1992 at the Big Sandy Medical Center Nursing Home.

Funeral services were held Friday at 2:00 p.m. at the Rohrer United Methodist Church in Big Sandy with the Rev. Earl Kainz officiating. The organist was Joanne Kibbe and the soloist was Robert Boettcher who sang, "How Great Thou Art" and "In The Garden". The pallbearers were: Bruce Peterson, Lewis Dielman, Arnold Hokanseh, Gary Geyer, Fred O'Neil and Arnold O'Neil. The honorary pallbearers were: Clarence Pursley, Ray Williams, Peter Norden, Dennis Reichelt, Walt Monson and John Rominger. Burial was in the Big Sandy Cemetery.

Mary was born August 24, 1906 in South Dakota to Harry and Clara Horn Linn. She came to Montana as a child.

Mary was an active member of Rohrer United Methodist Church, VFW Auxiliary, Rebecca Lodge, Gold Star Mothers and the Big Sandy Historical Society. She enjoyed traveling to visit her children but was always anxious to return to her home in Big Sandy. She became a resident of the Big Sandy Medical Center in April 1991.

She is survived by her son, Arthur R. Kaiser Jr. of Chester, son and daughter-in-law, Edwin D. and Jean Kaiser of Long Beach, California; daughters and sons-in-law: Irene M. and Earl Williams of Butte, Sandra Williams of Portland, Oregon; eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; two sisters, Alverta Dielman and Bernice Peterson, both of Big Sandy; several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband on June 1, 1980; a daughter, Clara Merle and her parents.

Memorials may be made to Big Sandy Medical Center or to Rohrer United Methodist Church.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.
Samuel Kalafat

Samuel Kalafat, 49, former assistant administrator of the City-County Health Department who moved to the Chester area six years ago, died of natural causes Tuesday (April 14) in a Great Falls hospital.

Rosary was recited at 7 p.m. Monday (April 20) at O'Connor Funeral Home in Great Falls. His funeral was at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church to which he belonged in Black Eagle. Burial was on the family farm south of Chester at 2 p.m. Tuesday.

Memorials are suggested to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy in Black Eagle.

Sam was born August 13, 1942 and graduated from Great Falls High School and the College of Great Falls. After serving in the Army in Vietnam, he received a master's degree in science from Pennsylvania State University.

He married Barbara Sklerka in 1971 in St. Ann's Cathedral.

Kalafat went to work for the City-County Health Department as a registered sanitarian in 1969. In 15 years with the department he served as air pollution control director, director of environmental services and assistant administrator.

He directed studies to determine the extent of air pollution in Great Falls, handled petitions establishing Cascade County's pesticide program and was involved in establishing the county solid waste district.

He also served on the Cascade County labor negotiations team and the board of directors for the City-County-State Federal Credit Union. He held several offices in the Montana Environmental Health Association and was honored as the Outstanding Montana Sanitarian in 1978.

Kalafat resigned from the Cascade County position in 1986 to move to a farm on the Marias River south of Chester. He continued to be involved in public health services for Chouteau, Liberty, Glacier and Toole counties and was a state consultant for Hutterite colonies throughout Montana. He was Glacier County health officer at the time of his death.

He belonged to the Great Falls Trap and Skeet Club.

Survivors include his wife and children, Samuel, Erik, Vincent, Elizabeth and Regina, all of Chester, and sisters, Mrs. John Mieyr and Mrs. John Margaris, both of Great Falls.
FRANK LAWRENCE KANTOROWICZ
Born: July 7, 1916 - Died: December 31, 1992
Liberty County Times
January 6, 1993

Frank Lawrence Kantorowicz was born July 7th, 1916 on a family homestead located 24 miles southeast of Chester, Montana. He was one of fifteen children born on a family of Chester, Montana. He was one of Army in 1942 and served in Normandy during World War II. He was honorably discharged in 1945 and returned to Montana. Frank worked with his father and eventually took over the farming operations. On May 24th, 1956 he married Laura Mildred Reams in Havre. They made their home on the original homestead the rest of their married lives, and they raised a family of eight. Frank retired in the late 1980's but still remained active on the farm until this past August when his health began to fail. Following treatment for cancer and a long stay in the Liberty County Hospital, Frank died there on New Year's Eve (Dec. 31st, 1992). He was 76 years old.

Frank was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith, and had been active at St. Mary's Church and the Knights of Columbus for many years. He had served as chairman of the Hay Coulee School board for a number of years and was a member of the Farmer's Union organization. Frank was a quiet man who enjoyed many of the simple things in life. He loved to work in his shelterbelt or in the flower/vegetable gardens. At home he enjoyed reading, especially farming journals, newsmagazines, and sports publications. Frank liked to attend auction sales. In recent years he enjoyed watching game shows and sporting events on television.

Frank didn't get married until he was 40 and, prior to having his own children, he had been a loyal friend to his nephews and nieces. He loved all children, especially the little ones, and marveled at the innocence of crying babies in church. He had that special love for his grandchildren, who affectionately called him "PaPa".

Frank is survived by his wife, Millie of Chester; 5 sons, Bruce of Croleville, California, Monty of Chester, Richard of Alamogordo, New Mexico, Kenneth of Billings, and David of Havre; 3 daughters, Alvina Bjornstad of Joplin, Karen Ann Rouse of Croughton (Royal Air Force Base), England, and Anita of Billings; 19 grandchildren; 2 brothers, Carl of Great Falls and Alfred of Tonasket, Washington; 7 sisters, including his twin-sister, Helen ("Sister Susanne") of Santa Maria, California, Catherine ("Bessie") Wanken of Chester, Josephine Bubnash of Joplin, Ruth Corbett of Polson, Bernice McCabe of Muskegee, Oklahoma, and Julia McIntyre and Mary Ennis, both of Spokane, Washington; and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins. Frank was preceded in death by his parents, by 2 brothers (John and Chester), and by 3 sisters (Anna Manchak, Sophie Lalum, and Agnes), by a niece (Margaret Lalum McCarty) and by 2 nephews (Art Lalum and Ron Colliver).

Memorials will be given to the Gift of Life Cancer Center in Great Falls, to the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, or to donor's choice.
Fred Knopes

Fred T. Knopes, 88 years of age, a resident of Havre, MT, a retired insurance salesman, died of natural causes at a Great Falls, MT nursing home on December 4, 1992.

Funeral services were held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 8, 1992 at the First Lutheran Church in Havre, with Reverend Kenneth DuVall officiating. Burial was at the Highland Cemetery.

Fred was born on October 26, 1904 at Asotin, Washington, the son of Harry and Mary (Heyer) Knopes. He attended school in Asotin, Washington. In 1921 he moved to Hingham, MT. Fred graduated from Hingham High School in 1924 as a member of the first High School graduating class there. On October 21, 1926 in the Hi-Line area he married the former Agnes Sande. After their marriage the couple lived in various areas of Northern Montana. The couple lived in Joplin, MT from 1940 until 1953. In 1953 they moved to Havre. Mrs. Knopes died on January 16, 1983.

Mr. Knopes was a member of the York Lodge of Shriners and a member of the Havre Eagles Club F.O.E. #166. He was also a member of the First Lutheran Church of Havre.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, one son in 1962, three brothers and two sisters.

He is survived by one daughter, Betty Peterson of Great Falls, MT, and four grandchildren.

Memorials in Mr. Knopes honor may be made to a person's choice.

Holland and Bonine Funeral home was in charge of arrangements.
ADRIAN S. (STAN) KNUTSON  
Born: August 20, 1909 - Died: November 12, 1992  
Liberty County Times  
November 18, 1992

Stan Knutson

Adrian S. (Stan) Knutson, 83 years of age, a resident of Havre, Montana, died of natural causes on November 12, 1992 at a Havre area retirement home. A memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, November 16, 1992 at the Holland & Bonine Chapel in Havre, Montana, with the Rev. Tim Hauge officiating. Organist was Sharon Spicher and soloist was Terry Stevenson who sang “How Great Thou Art”, “The Old Rugged Cross” and “The Lord’s Prayer”. Honorary pallbearers were Ed Fallo, Don Dees, Bob Finehart, Willis Cady, Gary Cady, Elmer (Bud) Werbelow, Rod Johnson and Keith Donovan. Inurnment of ashes was at the Highland Cemetery of Havre.

Stan was born August 20, 1909 in Greely, Colorado, the son of Carl Anton and Helga (Hoyne) Knutson. The family lived in Greely for one year then moved to Jasper, Minnesota where they lived until 1917 when they moved to Kremlin, Montana, where they lived south of Kremlin in Halfway Coulee. In the spring of 1918 the family moved to Kremlin where he attended school. He worked for his father as a mechanic. August 20, 1932, he married the former Olga Bertina Johnson at Chinook. Around 1942 to 1945 he went to work for O’Neil Construction Company as a mechanic in Great Falls and other areas. He later returned to Kremlin where he worked at the Knutson Garage, again for his father, until 1950 when the garage was destroyed by fire. In 1950 Stan built his own shop called Stan’s Garage which he operated until 1985 when he sold the business. In 1987 Stan and his wife moved to Hillsboro, Oregon where they lived until 1991 when they moved to Havre and became residents of the Eagles Manor Retirement Apartments. His wife died in 1991. Stan’s love was hunting and fishing. He especially loved fishing for Chinook Salmon on the Trask River in Oregon. He was a member of the Kremlin Lutheran Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; one brother, Clifford Knutson; and one sister, Beatrice Irene Donovan.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Arlen and Donna Knutson of Aloha, Oregon; one brother, Kenneth Knutson of Gildford, Montana; grandchildren, Cheryl McClure of Hillsboro, Oregon, Darwin Knutson of Aloha, Oregon, and Kevin Knutson of Bakersfield, California; five great-grandchildren, Katie and Jimmie McClure, Amy and Ryan Knutson, and Kyle Knutson.

Memorials in Mr. Knutson’s honor may be made to the Kremlin Lutheran Church or a person’s choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.
SHIRLEY MAE (BOOTH) LERUM
Born: July 29, 1931 - Died: December 21, 1992
Liberty County Times
December 30, 1992

Shirley had been active in the community. She was a loyal member of the American Legion Auxiliary where she served as past president, District vice-president, and chairperson for numerous benefit dinners. She was a member of the Chester United Methodist Church and had organized the "Election Day Dinner" provided by the U.M.W. for several years. She was active in the Sons of Norway, a local birthday club, and had been a social member of the R.N.A. She was always willing to help with community events and had assisted Art Kaiser in catering many public meals during her years here. Shirley had various hobbies, including embroidery, playing cards, fishing, dancing, crossword puzzles and collecting spoons and "Currier & Ives" memorabilia. She enjoyed music and was an excellent cook (she was especially good at preparing Norwegian dishes like "leseleit") Shirley was a loyal companion and friend, and had always been a supportive family member.

She is survived by her husband, "Porky" of Chester; one sister, Betty Brien of Medicine Lake (Montana); three brothers, Floyd Booth of Rangeley, Colorado, Ronnie Booth of Medicine Lake, and Stanley Booth of Whitefish; and numerous nephews, nieces and friends. Shirley was preceded in death by her parents, an infant daughter, a sister (Cleo Zorn) and a brother (Buddy Booth).

Funeral services for Shirley Mae Booth, Chester, were held at 11 a.m. Thursday, December 24th, at the United Methodist Church in Chester. Services were officiated by Rev. Lyndon Kacick of Chester and Rev. Tom Hux of Gaiata. Vocalist/guitarist, Carole Hanson, performed "In the Garden" and "The Old Rugged Cross". The congregation sang "How Great Thou Art". Organist was Gail Cicon. Usher was Neil Shepherd.

Friends serving as pallbearers included Ray Zorn, Art Kaiser, Jim Carter, Don Buffington, Darrell Fraser and Bob Attkin. Honorary bearers were the American Legion Auxiliary, who also provided special graveside rites. Following burial in the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Shirley Mae (Booth) Lerum was born on July 29th, 1931 at Rock Lake, North Dakota. She was one of seven children born to Ethel Smere and Fred Booth. She grew up in Rock Lake and attended schools there. Following her formal education, Shirley moved to Washington where she began working in the restaurant business. A few years later she went back to North Dakota to help a farming family raise their seven children. In the early 1960's Shirley came to Chester (Montana) to be near her sister. While here she met Gordon Lerum, and they were married in Chester on October 14th, 1968. They have made their home in Chester since that time. Shirley has worked various jobs, including housekeeper at the Sweet Grass Lodge, cook/waitress at the Wagon Wheel Cafe and Chester Tastee Freeze, and maid at the MX Motel. On the evening of December 7th Shirley suffered a heart attack at home. She was admitted to the Chester Hospital and later transferred to the Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls. She died there on the afternoon of Monday, December 21st.

Shirley was 61 years old.
Frank P. Lipp

Frank P. Lipp, 69, of Kalispell, Montana, died in the Kalispell Regional Hospital Saturday, September 5, 1992, following a long illness with emphysema. He was born September 5, 1923, in Hingham, Montana, a son of Andrew and Kathrina Lipp. He had received his education in Hingham and on December 28, 1948, he was married to Norma McKinney of Colo, Iowa. He had farmed in the Hingham area until 1982 when he retired due to ill health and moved to Kalispell. Mr. Lipp had been a member of Our Lady of Ransom Church of Hingham and St. Matthew's Catholic Church of Kalispell. He had been active in church affairs; was a leader of the Knights of Altar Boys Club and member of the Knights of Columbus. He had played in dance bands, the “Hi-Line Trio” and “Mel’s Dance Band” on the Hi-Line and was a member of the Woodmans Lodge. He enjoyed trap shooting and hunting. He was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter, Rose Marie, and is now survived by his wife, Norma, at the family home; three sons, Alan Lipp of Havre, Jerome Lipp of Kalispell and Michael Lipp of Hingham; three daughters, Francie Lipp of Kalispell, Linda Kappes of Elko, Nevada and Joanne Ferrell of Reno, Nevada; three brothers, William of Hingham, Matthew of Havre and Philip Lipp of Kalispell; two sisters, Elizabeth O’Donnell of Havre and Madge Balow of Seattle, Washington; and nine grandchildren.

Christian Wake services were held at 7:00 p.m. Monday, September 7, 1992 in the Johnson Mortuary Chapel. Mass of the Christian Burial was held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 8 in St. Matthew’s Catholic Church with Father Bob Noonan as celebrant. Burial was in the Conrad Memorial Cemetery.
WILLIAM MICHAEL LIPP, SR.
Born: February 1, 1917 - Died: October 12, 1992

Liberty County Times
October 21, 1992

Bill Lipp

William Michael Lipp, Sr., was born on his parents' homestead near Goldstone, Montana on February 1st, 1917. He was one of six children born to Andrew and Katherine (Fisher) Lipp. In 1923 the Lipp family moved to a farm south of Hingham, so Bill grew up there and received his formal education in Hingham. He and his brothers eventually took over the farm and they operated "Lipp Motors" in Hingham. In 1942 during World War II, Bill was inducted into the U.S. Army. He served as a Private in Company "M", 87th Mountain Infantry Regiment, and received an honorable medical discharge later that year. He returned to Montana and married Joyce M. Gamer in Hingham on January 21st, 1943. They made their home in Hingham where they raised their family of four. Bill farmed and worked in the automobile business until his retirement in 1981. During the past few years his health had deteriorated and he was being cared for by his family at home. On this past Monday (October 12th) Bill died at his residence in Hingham. He was 75 years old...

In his younger years Bill had been active in community affairs. He served on the town council and was a member of the Woodman's Club of Hingham. He also held membership in the Havre Elk's and Eagles, and the Chester American Legion. He was a lifelong member of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church and had served in the Knights of Columbus. In the 1980's he became interested in ceramics, so he bought a small kiln and a few molds. This evolved into "Bill's Ceramics", which eventually took over his shop, garage and basement. During the winter months he taught ceramic classes and air-brush techniques, produced a lot of greenware, and fired the finished products for his students and friends. Ceramics was his hobby until his health failed in 1988.

Bill had other hobbies, too. In his youth he belonged to a boxing league and he enjoyed hunting and fishing. In his later years he liked working in his yard, planting trees and flowers. He was well-known for his welding and mechanical skills, and had repaired many implements/machines in the Hingham community over the years. He also repaired and painted numerous automobiles. Bill had been a hard-worker his entire life and he loved northcentral Montana, so he never traveled too far from his work and his home. His family will remember him as a private person with a good sense of humor. He seemed very content with his life and was happy during his 49+ years of marriage to Joyce...

In addition to his wife, Bill is survived by two sons and their wives, Ed & Pat and Ray & Joan, all of Hingham; by a daughter and her husband, Patricia and Gary Hansen of Glenwood Springs, Colorado; by a daughter-in-law, Dorothy Lipp of Havre; by 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; by two brothers, Matt Lipp of Havre and Phil Lipp of Kalispell; by two sisters, Madge Balowot, Washington and Betty O'Donnell of Havre; and by numerous nephews and nieces. Bill was preceded in death by his parents, by a son (Bill, Jr.), and by a brother (Frank).

Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Tom Harney at Our Lady of Ransom on Thursday, October 15th, at 11:00 a.m. Scripture readings were done by son-in-law Gary Hansen. Personal comments were made by son Ed, and nephew Bill O'Donnell. Organist was Sharon Spicher and vocalist was Francie Lipp. Vocal tributes included "Amazing Grace", "Sweet Hour of Prayer", and "Whispering Hope". Ushers were grandsons Jeff and Brian Lipp. Granddaughters presenting the communion gifts were Jackie and Shawna Lipp. Pallbearers included a neighbor Mike Farnik and nephews Tom Lipp, Allan Lipp, Jerry Lipp, Mike Lipp and Bill O'Donnell. Memorial bearers were listed as "all of Bill's old friends". Following the Mass, a luncheon was held in the church basement. Graveside services were held at 2:00 p.m. at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Father Harney provided graveside prayers, followed by a military presentation by the Havre V.F.W. Post. Funeral arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Service Foundation in Chester OR to donor's choice...
George A. Mader

George A. Mader, 78, of 1622 3rd Ave. North, Great Falls, a retired pipefitter, died of Alzheimer's disease Saturday in a Great Falls hospital.

Rosary will be recited at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday (today) at O'Connor Funeral Home. Funeral services will be at 11:15 a.m. Thursday in St. Joseph's Catholic church to which he belonged. Burial will be in Mount Olivet Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association.

Born December 3, 1913, at Blaisdel, North Dakota, George grew up, attended school and worked on farms there. He came to Montana in 1934 to continue work in farming at Inverness.

Mader married Mary E. Richter on June 1, 1938, in Inverness. The couple moved to Great Falls in 1942. He worked for the Great Falls Meat Co. for two years before joining the Anaconda Co. as a pipefitter. He retired in 1975.

His wife died in 1990. Four sisters and four brothers also preceded him in death.

Survivors include daughters, Deanna Greenwood of Great Falls and Karen Richardson of Colquitt, Georgia; sons, George of Snohomish, Washington, and Ted and Roger, both of Seattle; a brother, Kenneth of Stanley, North Dakota; ten grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.
John "Bud" Meyers

John A. "Bud" Meyers, 72, died Sunday morning, August 23, 1992 at a health care facility in Swift Current, Saskatchewan. He had been in ill health for several months.

Bud was born in Kenmare, North Dakota February 25, 1920 to Claude and Mabel Sheenan Meyers. He moved to Montana with his family at the age of 3. He received schooling at Inverness High School and at Northern Montana College. He entered the armed service in 1942 serving 3-1/2 years in the European Theater. After his discharge in 1945, Bud started farming along with running a trucking operation. He married the former Ruth A. Konopatske in Havre October 29, 1947. Upon his father's death in 1954, he purchased and operated the Inverness Hotel and Bar until 1960 when it was sold to Dalton and Myra Dahlke. From then until retiring in 1977, he expanded his farming operation into Blaine County and southern Saskatchewan. After retiring he enjoyed traveling, fishing the Flathead Lake and his grandchildren. He was a past member of the VFW.

He is survived by his wife of Inverness, his sons and daughters-in-law, Phillip and Donna Berg Meyers of Frontier, Saskatchewan; Scott and Dinah Stegatz Meyers of Havre; one daughter and son-in-law, Clark and Jane Meyers Bowen of Seattle; one brother, James Meyers of Reif, Washington; his grandchildren, Craig Meyers, Laura Meyers, Clinton Meyers of Frontier, Saskatchewan; Matthew Meyers, Andrew Meyers of Havre and Christopher Bowen of Seattle; his step-grandchildren, Benjamin Stegatz of Havre, Ted Bowen and Clark Bowen of Seattle.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and two sisters, Donna Ray Meyers and June Meyers Keenan.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, August 29, 1992 at the Holland & Bonine Chapel in Havre, Montana with Rev. George Sagissor officiating. Burial was at the Highland Cemetery.

The organist was Iris White. The soloist was Terry Stevenson who sang "Just A Closer Walk With Thee," "Just As I Am" and "I'll Never Walk Alone."

Pallbearers included Donald Meyer, Dalton Dahlke, Mike Marcinowski, John May, Clarence Bakke and Glen Alex. Honorary pallbearers were Jim Fraser, Duane Fraser, Charles Lineweaver, George Turbak, Frank Santongue and Orville Lea.

Memorials in Mr. Meyers' honor may be made to a person's choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.
Frank O'Neil

Funeral services for Frank R. O'Neil, 85, of Big Sandy, were conducted Monday, July 6, 1992 at the Rohrer Memorial United Methodist Church in Big Sandy with burial in the Big Sandy Cemetery.

A resident of the Big Sandy Medical Center for the past three years, Frank died at the center Tuesday, June 30, of natural causes.

Rev. Earl Kainz officiated at the service. Sharing of memories was done by Bessie Vielleux. Rachel Welty, the youngest granddaughter, read a special poem "Could They Swing By Heaven on the Way." Robert Boettcher sang "Beyond the Sunset" and "In the Garden" and the congregation sang "Nearer My God to Thee." The organist was Joanne Kibbee.

Pallbearers were Shy Horel, Don Hansen, Aaron Boehm, Glenn Cook, Keith Edwards and Alfred Ophus. Ushers were Robert Martin and Deane Courtnage. Masonic Rites were given by Emil Eliason at the cemetery.

A luncheon provided by the UMW was held at the church following the interment. A family dinner hosted by the Eastern Star was held before the service. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre was in charge of arrangements.

He was born in Glenwood City, Wisconsin on December 13, 1906 to Edwin and Anna O'Neil. He came to Montana from Glenwood City with his parents and sister in 1913. They homesteaded in the Black Coulee area and he received his education in the rural schools in that community. He was married to Nellie Parker on August 27, 1928 in Havre and they lived and farmed in the Black Coulee area until 1968 when they retired. They remained on the farm until 1976 when they moved to Big Sandy.

He was a member of the Rohrer Memorial United Methodist Church of Big Sandy, Joplin Masonic Lodge, Order of Eastern Star and Grand Cross of Colors.

For many years Frank was an avid rock hound and could be found walking the coulees and fields of the area looking for arrow heads and that just right rock! He later took to collecting antiques and "junk" and filled his parents homestead house with many of the items. It became known as the "hobbyhouse" and Frank loved to take family and friends on a tour.

Frank, along with "his first lady," enjoyed having their children, grandchildren and later great-grandchildren, home for family dinners and visiting.

He is survived by his four children and their spouses, Fred and Mae O'Neil and Arnold and Margaret O'Neil, all of Rudyard; Mariana (O'Neil) and Marlyn Cornett of Great Falls and Cora Lee (O'Neil) and Gene Welty of Big Sandy; one sister, Marion Lawrence of Big Sandy; 13 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, 12 nephews and 9 nieces, and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins, including Albert Hansen of Rudyard.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, one grandson and one great-granddaughter.

Memorials are suggested to the Big Sandy Methodist Church or the Big Sandy Medical Center.
CLIVE DEVERE OWENS
Born: December 17, 1912 - Died: September 23, 1992
Liberty County Times
September 30, 1992

Clive Owens

Clive Devere Owens was born on December 17th, 1912 at Hudson, Wisconsin. He was one of two children born to Anna Terrill Finn and Lorenzo Owens. While just an infant, Clive came to Montana with his parents, who homesteaded 24 miles north of Inverness. He grew up on the farm and attended the Minneota Country School. He finished his formal education in Inverness, graduating from high school in 1932. Clive continued to work on the family farm, which he took over in 1935. He married Lillian M. Clink on September 21st, 1940 at Havre. They continued farming the rest of their married life and raised their family of three on the original homestead.

Clive's heath had been relatively good over the years, although he did have some arterial disease and cancer surgery in the 1950's and 60's. This past week he had been ill at home. On Wednesday afternoon (September 23rd) he laid down on the couch for a nap, and died peacefully in his sleep. He was a few months shy of being 80 years old...

In his younger days Clive attended Sunday school and church at Minneota. He had been a board member of the Minneota School and the Minneota Hall. In his youth he enjoyed hunting, and played basketball at Inverness High School. Clive liked to stay busy on the farm. He enjoyed working in his shop, especially on his lathe, and he had done some excellent wood-work. He always had a small herd of cattle and enjoyed experimenting with a "beefalo" breed (a cattle/buffalo mixture). During his quiet hours at home, Clive liked to watch his favorite television shows (including "Days of Our Lives", "Wheel of Fortune", "Who's the Boss" and all detective stories). He was known as a tender-hearted man who was always willing to help friends and neighbors, but never expected anything in return. Clive and Lillian were honored with a celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary just two years ago. He was happy with his station in life and always said that he wanted to die on the farm, so it was a fitting end for a good life...

Clive's survivors include his wife, Lillian of Inverness; two daughters, Sherrie Harrold of Chinook and Patsy Owens of Inverness; one son, Kyle Owens, and a daughter-in-law, Sandra Swift Eagle, both of Inverness; four grandchildren, Ione, Janice, Kylene and John; four great-granddaughters, Kimberly, Angela, Whitney and Jessica; and several nephews and nieces. Clive was preceded in death by his parents and his sister (Anita Anderson).

It was Clive's wish to be cremated. A Memorial Service was conducted by Reverend Jeff Olsgaard of Rudyard on Monday, September 28th, at 2:00 p.m. at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Iris White provided organ music and Jerome Lincoln performed two guitar/vocals: "In the Garden" and "Let the Rest of the World Go By". The eulogy was delivered by Jeff Olsgaard. Following the services, a fellowship luncheon was held at the Chester Lutheran Church. Graveside services with burial of the ashes were conducted at 5:00 p.m. Monday at the Highland Cemetery in Havre.

Sept. 30-1992
LLOYD V. PATRICK
Born: January 9, 1914 - Died: September 15, 1992
Liberty County Times
September 23, 1992

Lloyd V. Patrick
Lloyd V. Patrick, 78, of Bigfork, Montana, died Tuesday, September 15, of heart failure at his home on Echo Lake.

He was born January 9, 1914 at LaBelle, Missouri, the son of Charles and Sadie Patrick. As an infant, he came with his family to a farm north of the Rudyard-Goldstone community in Montana. He graduated from Rudyard High School in 1932, and then furthered his education at Northern Montana College in Havre.

In 1935, he married Wilhelmina Warhank, who later preceded him in death.

Lloyd taught and coached in a number of rural Hill County schools in addition to his farming. He also taught at Inverness and Cohagen, and then farmed full time until retiring in 1979.

May 14, 1982, he married Dorothy Foubert, and they made their home in the Flathead Valley since that time. This was the fourth summer the Patricks had lived at Echo Lake near Bigfork.

He had actively participated in the Catholic churches in both Hingham and Havre, and was a director of the Hingham Farmers Elevator for many years. Lloyd played baseball and basketball for a number of years in Rudyard-Goldstone. He also liked bowling, bridge, hunting, and spectator sports of all types. He was an avid collector of antiques and car license plates.

Lloyd is survived by his wife Dorothy at the family home; one son, Darryl Patrick of Huntsville, Texas; two daughters, Loy Ann Chvilicek of Hingham, Montana, and Kathleen Higgins of Ryegate, Montana; four brothers, Raymond, Wayne and Bernard, all of Havre, and Don of Grafton, Iowa; three sisters, Gladys Smith and Ruth Meredith, both of Havre, Montana, and Phyllis Gagnon of Chester, Montana; 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and six brothers.

A Christian Prayer Service was conducted Friday, September 18th at 8:00 p.m. at Holland & Bonine Funeral Home in Havre. Funeral Mass was celebrated Saturday, September 19th at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham with the Rev. Tom Harney officiating. Organist was Rachael Blake and soloist was Marc Jochim who sang "How Great Thou Art," "Amazing Grace" and "On Eagles Wings". Readers were Darryl Patrick, Leonard Chvilicek and Annette Woster. Ushers were Tom Foubert and Terry Farmer. Altar servers were Terry Hybner and Tom Jurenka.

Candle bearers were his granddaughters, Annette Woster, Camille Patrick, Jessica Higgins, Suzann Chvilicek, Billie Higgins and Mariah Higgins. The eulogy was given by Bernard Patrick and the Eucharistic Ministers were Jerry Hybner, Mary Lois Hybner and Dan Hybner. Pallbearers were Charles Chvilicek, Tom Chvilicek, Jerome Chvilicek, Steven Chvilicek, Dane Higgins and Zack Patrick. Ushers were Scott Patrick, Craig Patrick, Tim McNair and Dave Warhank. Burial was in the Hingham Cemetery.

Memorial services will also be held today (Wednesday, September 23rd) at 7:30 p.m. at the Bigfork Christian Church, just east of Streeter's Corner on Highway 83.

The family suggests memorial contributions to a charity of the donor’s choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home of Havre was in charge of the arrangements.
Melissa H. Perkins

A memorial service was held for Melissa Perkins on September 16 at Bel-Air Funeral Home in Madras, Oregon. She passed away from natural causes September 14, 1992 at Mountain View Hospital. She was 72 years old.

Melissa was born in Kentucky in 1920. She married George Lambott in 1938 and moved to Montana. She worked as a clerk at Sanvik’s grocery store for many years. After George passed away she moved to Billings and went to beauty school. She worked as a hairdresser for 28 years, most of which were in Florida. While in Florida she married Don Perkins. The couple were later divorced. After retiring she moved to Madras, Oregon to be near her daughter.

Her hobbies included bowling, volunteer work with the Mountain View Hospital Auxiliary, and traveling to see her family. She was a donor to the Lions Eye Bank program.

Survivors include two sons, Louis Lambott of Brier, Washington, and Ron Lambott of Springfield, Missouri; three daughters, Jean Johnson of Joplin, Missouri, Ginger Morrison of Madras, Oregon, and Crystle Patrick of Durham, California; a granddaughter Terry Myers of Albany, Georgia; 12 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Gary Lambott and two grandsons.

Cremains were to be buried in the Rudyard Cemetery.
HAZEL PRYTZ
Born: ?, 1894 - Died: July ?, 1992
Liberty County Times
July 22, 1992

Hazel Prytz

Mrs. Hazel Prytz passed away at a nursing home in Bellingham, Washington this past weekend. She was 98 years of age. Many hi-line residents will remember her as Hazel Daleen. She farmed north of Chester with her husband Fred Daleen who passed away in July of 1949. Hazel married George Prytz of South Bend, Indiana. After he passed away, she moved to Bellingham and purchased a home where she lived until the last couple of years. She loved gardening and continued raising a garden and flowers until she was 93. Aunt Hazel had a great sense of humor. She got her last driver’s license at the age of 91 and said she enjoyed giving the old folks a ride to church. Besides her first husband Fred Daleen and her second husband George Prytz she was preceded in death by a son LaVern Daleen, a brother Ralph Bowman, and sisters Mary Whitman and Loreen Lyle. She is survived by a grandson LaRoy Daleen, a great-grandson and numerous nieces and nephews.

Submitted by Dean Lyle
Laura Conne Purdy, 93 years of age, died August 30, 1992 of natural causes at Northern Montana Hospital in Havre. Laura was a resident of the Eagles Manor Retirement Apartments in Havre. She was born May 12, 1899 in Grand Forks, North Dakota, the daughter of George S. and Louisa Allen. Her father was an engineer on the Great Northern Railway and was killed in a train wreck in 1901. Mrs. Purdy was raised by her grandparents Sara Allen and Charles Handley and lived on the Milk River West of Malta, Montana, until her grandparents moved to Colburn, Washington in 1906 where they were in business. In 1920 she graduated from the Kinman Business School in Spokane, Washington, and she worked in Spokane. In 1921 she and her grandparents moved to Long Beach, California, where she worked for the Long Beach Water Department. In 1925 she came to Montana to visit her sister Frances and Orla Hoke in the Kremlin area. November 27, 1925, she married Emmett L. Purdy at Havre, and the couple farmed in the Kremlin area until retiring. They moved to the Eagles Manor on December 9, 1981. Mr. Purdy preceded her in death on January 21, 1987, two months after they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in November of 1986. In 1934 Laura joined the Kremlin Extension Homemakers as a Charter Member, and received the Homemaker of the Year Award in 1984. She had been a 4-H Leader and was active in the Friends of the Library group. She also served as the Clerk of the Kremlin School Board #19 for many years. Laura was a member of the Kremlin United Methodist Church.

She is survived by one son, Robert E. Purdy of Great Falls, Montana; one daughter, Donna L. Haugen of Kremlin, Montana; and by eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 3, 1992 at the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church in Havre with Rev. Earl Kainz and Rev. Terry Dunn officiating. The organist was Sharon Spicher, with soloist Terry Stevenson singing "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind". Congregational hymns were "Amazing Grace" and "Be Thou My Vision". Pallbearers included Dusty Kline, Scott Purdy, Tom Mital, Todd Purdy, Ed Chebul and Gene Meek. Burial was at the Highland Cemetery.

Memorials in Mrs. Purdy's honor may be made to the Kremlin United Methodist Church or a person's choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.
Ann B. Jennings Reisenauer

Ann Beryl Jennings Reisenauer, 85, a retired Montana and California teacher, died of natural causes Thursday in a Los Angeles nursing home.

A memorial service will be at 8 a.m. Wednesday in Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Great Falls. Her ashes will be buried in the Chester cemetery.

Born on July 29, 1907, at St. John's, Wash., she grew up and attended school in Washington.

She married Mark Reisenauer in 1931 in Havre.

She taught in eastern and northern Montana in the 1930s and had taught in California, where she lived for the past 30 years.

Her husband died in 1981. A son, Martin, also preceded her in death.

Survivors include a daughter, Rosemary Reisenauer Dailey of Great Falls; sisters, Thelma Morgan of Seattle and Mildred Hodges of Sumner, Wash., four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Ann Reisenauer dies in L.A.

Ann Beryl Jennings Reisenauer, 85, a retired Montana and California teacher, died of natural causes Thursday in a Los Angeles nursing home.

Born July 29, 1907, at St. John's, Washington, she grew up and attended school in Washington. She married Mark Reisenauer in 1931 in Havre. She taught in eastern and northern Montana in the 1930s and had taught in California, where she lived for the past 30 years.

Her husband died in 1981. A son, Martin, also preceded her in death.

Survivors include a daughter, Rosemary Reisenauer Dailey of Great Falls; sisters, Thelma Morgan of Seattle and Mildred Hodges of Sumner, Washington; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.
Marian Rockman

Marian Mellum Rockman, age 80, died March 16, 1992 in Edmonds, Washington. She was born in Minot, North Dakota on August 20, 1911. Her parents were Fredrick H. Mellum and Mattie Roustad Mellum. Marian resided in Chester, Montana most of her life. She and her husband, Willard, owned and operated the Grand Hotel, Bar & Restaurant in Chester for many years. In 1978, Marian moved to Seattle to be near some of her family.

She is survived by two daughters, Winnie of Tampa, Florida and Jani of Edmonds, Washington; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; brother, Bill Mellum; cousin, Kathy Jacobson; and many other relatives. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and one grandchild.

Marian was greatly loved and cherished by all her family and friends and will be missed always.

Memorial services were held Wednesday, March 18, 1992 at Temple Baptist Church in Everett. Her remains are at Bethel Floral Hills Cemetery.
Kendra Jayne Romain, 9, of Chester and Fort Benton, died of head injuries Friday, January 10, 1992, in the Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls.

She had been in a coma since being injured in a horseback riding accident December 26th at the family farm south of Chester.

Her funeral was held January 14 at the Fort Benton High School gymnasium. Pastor Jim Carlson of the Community Bible Church of Fort Benton officiated over the services. Eulogy was beautifully done by her Aunt Jeri Gackle of Covington, Georgia. Letters from her sister, Deanna, grandparents, and mother and father were read. Kendra's sister Wesli read a poem and shared memories of her little sister. Special music was sung by Kibbie DeJarnett, Kendra's favorite Christian singer who flew up from Marietta, Georgia and sang Kendra's favorite song, "Children Are A Gift From The Lord."

Burial was at the Riverside Cemetery at Fort Benton. Graveside services included music by members of the Community Bible Church playing guitars and singing "Nearer My God To Thee." Pallbearers included: Vance Graham, Bob Bailey, Bob Bronac, Robert LaBrel, Calvin Miller and Clayton Romain. Honorary pallbearers included all her uncles: Miles Griffith, Marlo Gackle, Dannis Romain, Brian Romain and Dallas Romain; and friends Stuart Stone, Bruce Siefert and Don Braun.

Kendra was born March 2, 1982 in Great Falls. She was in the fourth grade at Fort Benton Elementary School. Kendra packed alot of living into her all-too-brief lifetime. She loved all her friends. Kendra was active in 4-H and enjoyed raising lambs and all kinds of farm animals; she enjoyed doing many kinds of crafts and had taken ballet and piano lessons. Kendra really liked doing things with her family: traveling, camping and riding horses. When she was only five, Kendra rode her horse on a wilderness trip over the Continental Divide. She was particularly fond of country and Christian music. Kendra loved school; she was a straight "A" student. Her family has established the Kendra Jayne Romain Scholarship Fund as a living memorial to her memory. A scholarship will be given to a graduating senior each year from Fort Benton High School.

Survivors include her parents, Kenneth and Greta Jo Romain, south of Chester; two sisters, Deanna Lynn Romain of Jamestown, North Dakota, and Wesli Wynn Romain and a brother Jesse B. Romain, both of the family home; grandparents, Gene and Jayne Griffith of Stanford and Marian Romain of Great Falls, and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather, Clarence J. Romain in 1982.
Paul C. Rudolph

Paul C. Rudolph, 85, died from natural causes April 3, 1992 at the St. Luke Extended Care Facility at Ronan, Montana. He was born August 8, 1906 in Oregon to Abraham and Clara Rudolph. He grew up and attended schools in Montana near Chester. He married Edna Lehrman on September 24, 1938 and to this union two daughters were born. He farmed and ranched at Chester until his retirement when they moved into Chester. They moved to Ronan 16 years ago. Paul’s greatest joy was his garden. He took pride in having the best garden around. He was a member of the Lutheran church in Chester and the Assembly of God Church in Ronan.

Survivors include his wife Edna of Ronan; daughters Myrtle Rudolph of Ronan and Marie Dutton of Polson, Montana; numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by three sisters, six brothers and his parents.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 7th at 2:00 p.m. at Shrider’s Mortuary Chapel with Rev. Kenneth Eden officiating. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery in Ronan with Shrider’s Mortuary in charge of arrangements. The family suggests memorials to the donor’s choice.
William August Schultz
Born: May 13, 1918 — Died: June 21, 1992
Liberty County Times
July 1, 1992

Bill Schultz

William August Schultz was born in Chester, Montana on May 13th, 1918. He was one of two sons born to August and Mauda (Ferguson) Schultz. Bill grew up in Chester and received his education here. During his school years he enjoyed playing basketball. Following his graduation from C.H.S., he worked on the Grand Coulee Dam project in Washington. In addition, he assisted his parents in the operation of Schultz’s Grocery in Chester. On May 21st, 1941 Mabel Ann Laas said “I Do” to Bill during their marriage vows at Fairfield, Montana. The couple made their home in Chester for the next 30+ years, where they worked and raised their two children. Bill stayed busy during those years here; he ran the grocery store, he operated a family farm, he worked for the Liberty County Sheriff’s Office and the county road crew, and he managed Laas’ Bar for awhile. He held memberships in the Elks and Masonic Lodges, and he was a volunteer fireman for the Chester Fire Department.

In 1975 Bill and Mabel moved to Manson, Washington to operate an apple orchard for the Leffler family. That was their home for the next 17 years, but they made frequent visits back to the Chester community. On May 12th, 1992 they moved to Hamilton, Montana. On this past Sunday morning (June 21st) Bill suddenly collapsed at their Hamilton home. Resuscitation efforts were to no avail and he died at the age of 74 years.

Bill had many hobbies, but his favorites included fishing, reading, playing “pan”, or just having coffee and visiting with the boys...

Bill’s survivors include his wife, Mabel of Hamilton; a daughter and son-in-law, Virginia and Al Green of Cheyenne; a son and daughter-in-law, Nick and Irva Jean Schultz of Columbus; two granddaughters, DeEt Green and Jolene Schultz; a brother, James Schultz of Lewistown; one aunt; and several nieces and nephews. Bill was preceded in death by his parents and an infant granddaughter.

Memorial services were held at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, June 25th, at the Chester United Methodist Church with Reverend Lyndon Kacick officiating. In tribute a song entitled “The Rose” was performed by Bill’s granddaughter, DeEt, and a special reading was done by his other granddaughter, Jolene. The congregation sang “Amazing Grace”, and Karen Stack served as organist. Ushers were Bill and Steve Hamel. Memorial bearers were listed as “all of Bill’s old friends from years gone by...” It was Bill’s request to be cremated, and his ashes were buried in the Chester Cemetery. A coffee hour followed at the church. Local arrangements were by Rockman Chapel, Chester.
CHRISTOPHER LOVELL SCHWEITZER
Born: January 3, 1969 - Died: January 14, 1992
Liberty County Times
January 22, 1992

Chris Schweitzer

Christopher Lovell Schweitzer was born in Anchorage, Alaska on January 3rd, 1969. He was one of five children born to Donna Nicoli and Edward Schweitzer. In 1977 they moved to Hawaii where Chris attended the Pahoa school system. The family came to Rudyard in 1984. Chris finished his education at Blue Sky High School, graduating in 1986. The following year he attended the Billings Vo-Tech Center where he studied the art of cooking. While in Billings he met his wife-to-be, Julie Ballantyne, and they were married October 11th, 1987 at Havre. While waiting to enter the U.S. Army, they lived in Rudyard for several months where Chris cooked at the Rudyard Cafe. He received his "basic training" at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and qualified as a field artillery surveyor. He was stationed in Germany where he spent most of the next four years. Chris served in the Persian Gulf for five months during the "Desert Storm" incident in 1991. He was recently transferred back to Fort Sill to be reassigned. His plans were to attend school to qualify as a Drill Sargent and to become a career military man. Unfortunately, on the early morning of Tuesday (January 14th), Chris was stabbed by his wife at their apartment in Lawton, Oklahoma. He was dead on arrival at the Comanche County Memorial Hospital there. Chris had just turned 23 years old...

During his younger years in Hawaii, Chris enjoyed Little League baseball, swimming, surfing and fishing. In his school years at Rudyard, he participated in football, track and bowling. His favorite classes were industrial arts and home economics, which prompted his early plans to someday have his own wood-working shop and/or become a certified chef. His love for fishing continued and he was looking forward to ice-fishing with his folks later this winter. Chris' other interests included collecting baseball cards, listening to country western music, and watching video television. Chris and Julie had a daughter named "Savannah Mae" and a poodle dog named "Ashley", and Chris enjoyed playing with them. Chris loved life and seemed well-liked by all who knew him. He enjoyed visiting and spending time with family and friends...

In addition to his wife and daughter, Chris is survived by his parents, Edward and Donna Schweitzer of Rudyard; by two brothers, Ken (and wife, Andrea) of Harlem and Ron of Havre; by paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Schweitzer of Havre; by three nieces and two nephews; and by numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Chris was preceded in death by a brother (David in 1981) and a sister (Shelley in 1984).

Rosary prayers were recited by Father Tom Harney at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19th, at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. The funeral mass was celebrated at the church at 10:30 a.m. Monday by Father Harney. Iris White served as organist. Vocalist, Marcus Jochim, sang "One Day At A Time", "The Green, Green Grass of Home", "How Great Thou Art", "The Lord's Prayer", "Whispering Hope", and "Battle Hymn of the Republic". Friends serving as pallbearers included Chris Kline, Corey Heydon, Darrell Hassa, Tate Thorson, John Muller, Tim Langel and Jayson Huntley. Ushers were Jeff and Tony Schweitzer. Altar servers were Joe Domire and Dennis Mangold. Communion gifts were presented by Willy, Cheri and Amy Schweitzer. Beth Schweitzer served as scripture reader and Leander Schweitzer shared the eulogy. Interment followed at the Rudyard Cemetery where a special honor guard from Ft. Lewis (Washington) provided taps, gun salute, and flag ceremonies. A luncheon for family and friends was provided at the Rudyard Catholic Youth Center. Funeral arrangements were by Rockman Chapel, Chester.
JOSHUA MICHAEL SHETTEL
Born: June 13, 1980 - Died: December 8, 1992
Liberty County Times
December 16, 1992

Joshua Michael Shettel was born at St. George, Utah on June 13th, 1980 to Shari Lynn Shettel and Timothy Wiley. Josh was born with a rare genetic disease called “San Filippo Syndrome”, which caused general cellular and neurological dysfunction. His early years were spent in Utah, and then he came to Great Falls with his mother in 1985. Josh attended the special education program at Skyline School in Great Falls until 1948, when he transferred to the Montana Developmental Center in Boulder.

During the past four years he has received special education and medical care at the Boulder Institution. His general health had deteriorated these past few years. Josh suffered a severe seizure on Monday evening, December 7th. He was taken to St. Peter’s Hospital in Helena where he died the following morning. He was 12 years old.

Josh was a typical little boy; he enjoyed riding his 3-wheeler, climbing and sliding on playground equipment, and playing with ropes. He would sit in front of the television and giggle at the “Three Stooges.” He always had a happy disposition with a big smile. He showed unique tenderness, especially when it came to little children and during those quiet times with his mother. His family came to know him affectionately as “Joshie”.

Joshua is survived by his mother, Mrs. Kevin (Shari) Fassler of Great Falls; his father, Tim Wiley of Provo, Utah; his sister, Hilary Fassler of Great Falls; maternal grandparents, Frank Shettel and Teresa Bruno, both of Great Falls; maternal grandparents, Frank Shettel and Teresa Bruno, both of Great Falls; paternal grandparents, Ruth Wiley of Leeds, Utah and Val Wiley of Mesquite, Nevada; great-grandfather, Alva Shattel of Chester; great-grandmother, Florence Par melee of Valier; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 at the Chester United Methodist Church with Reverend Lyndon Kacik officiating. Vocalist, Kristi Shettel, performed “On Eagle’s Wings” and “The Dance”, accompanied by guitarist, Kim Shettel. Gail Cicon served as organist. Pallbearers were Adrian Hawks and Mike, David and Brad Shettel. Usher was Claude Hawks. Internment was in the Chester Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. A coffee hour followed at the church. Memorials will be given to the “Montana HOPE Project” in Helena.
Herbert Showell

Herbert L. (Herbie) Showell, 76 years of age, a resident of Havre, Montana died of natural causes on December 7, 1992 in Great Falls, Montana.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. at the Holland and Bonine Chapel in Havre, with Reverend Lyndon officiating. Burial was at the Highland Cemetery.

The organist and soloist was Regina Gabriel. She sang “Beyond the Sunset” and “How Great Thou Art”.

The pallbearers were Stan Knudson, Dale Lalum, Harley Rudolph, Cliff Kinholt, Frank DeRossa and Bill Silvernale.

Memorials in his honor may be made to The Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd.

Holland and Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.
WILLIAM D. SILBERMAN
Born: January 26, 1907 - Died: July 26, 1992
Liberty County Times
July 28, 1992

Ronan — William D. Silberman, 85, retired railroad roadmaster, died Sunday of natural causes at his residence in Ronan.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Shrider's Mortuary in Ronan. Cremation will follow with burial in Glacier Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell at a later date. Memorials to the City of Ronan Park Fund are suggested.

He was born Jan. 26, 1907, in Sibley County, Minn. He attended schools in Chester.

He married Wilma Ferris of Cut Bank in 1932. Silberman worked for the Great Northern Railway for about 45 years, living in Chester, Browning, Shelby and Fort Benton; he retired in 1968 while living in Great Falls and working as a general roadmaster. He moved to Ronan after his retirement and also lived in Polson, Kalispell and Whitefish before returning to Ronan.

He is survived by one son, Dick Silberman of Ronan; brothers, John Silberman of Bremerton, Wash., Al Silberman of Shelby, and Henry Silberman of Fairfield; sisters, Rose Wilkins and Marth Crane, both of Conrad; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife and one brother.
BRET HART (MICKEY) SMITH
Born: March 18, 1931 - Died: March 26, 1992
Liberty County Times
April 1, 1992

Obituary  April 1-1992

Mickey Smith

Bret Hart Smith was born in Chester, Montana on March 18th, 1931. He was the only son of three children born to Erma Erickson and Joel Smith. As an infant he was given the nickname "Mickey", and the name stuck with him throughout his life. Mickey grew up in Chester and attended schools here, graduating from C.H.S. in 1949. In the few years that followed, he worked for his folks in the Mint Cafe and also harvested for his uncles on the Erickson farm south of Chester. In 1951 Mickey enlisted in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict. He served on the "U.S.S. Virgo" as a machinist mate 2nd class. He received his honorable discharge in 1955 and returned to Montana. Once again, he began cooking at the Mint Cafe. In 1957 he married Barbara Boushe, and they made their home in Chester. In 1959 Mickey began bartending at the Grand Bar, a job he held until he suffered a debilitating stroke at the age of 43. Following a long rehabilitation period at the V.A. Hospital, Mickey returned to Chester and lived with his Grandma Hilda (first at her home and then at the Sweetgrass Lodge). Eight years ago he moved to the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls, where he has resided since. He was diagnosed with cancer two months ago and he died at the Veterans Home on Thursday afternoon, March 26th. He had just celebrated his 61st birthday...

Mickey always had fond memories of his friends and early years in Chester. During his school days he played trumpet in the band and boys basketball. He loved boating and swimming, and was an excellent water-skier. He enjoyed music and dancing. He had been a member of the V.F.W. Post and the Chester bowling leagues. His favorite hobbies were fishing and hunting, and during his private hours he enjoyed reading.

Mickey's survivors include a son, Jody of Billings; a granddaughter, Annah, also of Billings; a sister, Mrs. Frank (Barbara) Dolan of Gresham, Oregon; and numerous aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, by a son (Kevin in 1976), and by a sister (Betty Lou Standiford in 1988).

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday (March 30th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with Reverend Tom Dunham officiating. Juanita Wardell served as organist. Wayne Wardell sang "How Great Thou Art" and Mickey's son, Jody, sang a song entitled "Ships". Ushers were Ed Swank and Ed Kenny. Friends serving as pallbearers included Cliff Hanson, Allen Kolstad, Ray Standiford, Ron Hanson, Allen Brown and Stuart Erickson. Burial was in the Chester Cemetery with traditional military rites. A luncheon followed at the church. Funeral arrangements by Rockman Chapel.
VERNON M. SMITH
Born: January 1, 1919 - Died: December 8, 1992
Liberty County Times
December 16, 1992

Vernon Smith

Vernon M. Smith, longtime area farmer, passed away at his farm home north of Galata at approximately 4:30 a.m. Tuesday, December 8th, 1992.

Funeral services were held at the Galata Lutheran Church at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, December 12th. Interment was at the Galata Cemetery following the services. Reverend Tom Hux officiated. Music was provided by Carole Hanson, accompanied by Laila Lindberg, organist. Pallbearers were John Hanson, Quinten Larson, Bob White, Leonard Matteson, Darwin Snuffer and Scotty Maze. Honorary Pallbearers were Bill White, Bennet Flage, Lloyd Halverson, Allen Cox, John Kossel, Earl Flage, Allan Barbie and all his many friends. Memorials may be sent to the Toole County Ambulance Fund or to the donor's choice of charities.

Vernon was born January 1st, 1919 at Graceville, Montana to Tom and Gladys Smith. His mother and father were both homesteaders and his mother was also a school teacher who taught along the Hi-Line including the schools at Galata, Devon and Dunkirk. He went to high school at Highwood and Havre and then on to college at Dillon.

He entered the Army-Air Corps in September of 1940 and served in the European campaign throughout the war. He returned to Montana after the war.

In June of 1946 he married Frances Flage of Galata and they made their home in the Galata community until his death.

He enjoyed fishing, hunting, gardening, restoring antiques of all kinds and the companionship of friends at auction sales. He attended the Galata Lutheran Church and was a member of the American Legion Post at Galata.

He was preceded in death by his parents and great-granddaughter Alicia. Survivors include his wife Frances, sons Lawrence, Gerald and Bruce. He is also survived by five grandchildren, Hank, Danna, Esther, Bonnie and Brenda.
Patricia Spingola


Patricia Walden Spingola was born in Helena, Montana October 25, 1932 and was adopted at one month of age by Claude and Edna Walden of Chester, Montana. She attended Chester Schools until her junior year when she moved with her parents to Seattle, Washington and completed high school. She was married to Kenneth Spingola in 1950. Together with her husband, she owned and operated Lakewood Lawn Equipment in South West Tacoma.

She is survived by her husband, Kenneth E. Spingola; son and daughter-in-law, Michael K. and SueAnn Spingola; son, Mark S. Spingola; daughter and son-in-law, Maryann and Mark Hummel and her sister, Idella Hunnewell, all of Tacoma; grandchildren, Heather, Benjamin, Ryan, Amysue and Matthew; and two nephews, Dick Hunnewell of Tacoma and David Hunnewell of Chester. Services were held at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 4 in the Mt. View Valley Chapel in Tacoma. Memorials will be given to the Oncology Unit at Tacoma General Hospital.
EVA LORENE COTTRELL STANBERRY
Born: October 22, 1930 – Died: October 8, 1992
Liberty County Times
October 14, 1992

Eva Stanberry
Eva Lorene Cottrell was born in Lewistown, Montana on October 22nd, 1930. She was the seventh of nine children born to Sophia Mae Eichkoldt and Murray Albert Cottrell. Eva grew up at Roy, Montana and received her formal education there. In 1945 she married Alfred Wm. Holding. They lived in Everett, Washington where Eva worked for the Scott Paper Company. In 1962 they moved to Anchorage, Alaska where Eva was employed by the Safeway Corporation. In 1968 she moved back to Montana. Eva met a Rudyard area farmer, Elwin R. Stanberry, and they were married in January of 1969. Together they raised Eva's four daughters and provided care to two grandchildren and 19 foster-children over the years. In addition, Eva was part-owner of the old "Snack Shack" in Rudyard. Eva farmed with Elwin until his death in 1948 and then sold her farming interests to his nephews. She lived in Rudyard until 1984, when she purchased the Grand Bar in Chester. She has operated the bar and made her home here since that time.

Eva became acutely ill on October 4th. She was admitted to the hospital in Chester, but was transferred to the Montana Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls for more intensive care. She died there on the evening of Thursday, October 8th, at the age of 61 years...

Eva's hobbies included embroidery, hunting, fishing and camping. She enjoyed bowling and trap-shooting with Elwin. Some of her fondest memories were with Elwin on the farm. Eva liked people and always enjoyed visiting with friends and relatives. In 1986 she took her four daughters on a Caribbean cruise, a vacation they will always remember.

Eva's daughters include Carolyn Setala of Cleveland, Ohio, Sherry Rutherford of Renton, Washington, Lorene Ludwig of Anchorage, Alaska, and Charlene Ramthun of Indianola, Iowa. In addition, Eva is survived by ten grandchildren; three sisters, Leeta Cobum of Dallas, Texas, Eleanor Cripps of Lewistown, Montana, and Isla Cottrell of San Diego, California; two brothers, Guibert Cottrell of Andalusia, Alabama and Edwin Cottrell of Dillon, Montana; and numerous nephews and nieces. Eva was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by three brothers (Melvin, Harvey and Wayne Cottrell).

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, October 12th, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Reverend Tom Dunham officiated. Juanita Wardell served as organist and the congregation sang "Abide With Me", Vocalist, Terry Stevenson, performed "Beyond the Sunset" and "Goodnight Here, But Goodmorning Up There". Ushers were Greg Vandeventer and Brent Doney. Pallbearers were Dan and Terry Hybner, Dennis Snyder, Norm Shanks, Marilyn Harstad and Curt Plumb. Following the services, a luncheon was provided by the ALCW in the church basement. Graveside services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday at the Highland Cemetery in Havre with funeral arrangements by the Rockman Chapel, Chester. All undesignated memorial gifts will be given to the Liberty County Ambulance equipment fund.
Leonard V. Staudacher, age 63, of 1105 O'Malley Drive in Billings, Montana, died early Friday morning, October 30th, 1992 at St. Vincent's Hospital after a long battle with cancer.

"Lenny" was born February 10, 1929 in Havre, Montana, the son of Leonard and Eunice Staudacher. He graduated from Flathead County High School in Kalispell where he was active in FFA. Lenny farmed in Chester from 1950 to 1990. He was a partner in Staudacher Implement in the 50's, retiring from farming in 1991 and moving to Billings. He spent many winters in Mesa, Arizona.

He was a member of the Chester United Methodist Church of which he was a board member and active in the Men's Fellowship. In Billings he was in close relationship with Faith Chapel. Lenny enjoyed travelling and was interested in historical events and tracking the weather.

Survivors include his mother; two sisters, Mrs. Rink (Elaine) Davis, 1011 O'Malley Drive, Billings, and Lila Kruckenborg of Kalispell, Montana; and several nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial services were held Sunday, November 1st, at 3:00 p.m. at the Rink Davis home in Billings, and Wednesday, November 4th, at 2:00 p.m. at the Chester United Methodist Church.
Mass of the Christian Burial for Shannon Maria Thrams, age 4 months, daughter of Sharla and Bryan Thrams of Sidney was held at 10 a.m. Friday, March 20, 1992, in Saint Matthew's Catholic Church in Sidney, Montana with the Rev. Ned Shinnick officiating.

Wake services were at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 19, 1992, in the Fulkerson Memorial Chapel. Burial was in Richland Memorial Park under the direction of the Fulkerson Funeral Home of Sidney.

Shannon was born November 15, 1991, in Billings, the daughter of Sharla and Bryan Thrams. Shannon will be remembered for playing baby Jesus for the Cum Christo weekend.

Shannon died Monday morning, March 16, 1992 of SIDS at her home.

Surviving her are her parents Sharla and Bryan Thrams of Skaar Rd., Box 4079A, Sidney, Montana 59270; sister, Shandra Lynn Thrams of the family home; maternal grandparents, Joseph and Alma Seidel of 7363 48th St. W. Havre; paternal grandparents Leon and Mary Thrams of Sidney; maternal great-grandmother, Almira Brevick of Chester; paternal great-grandmother Leona Balducke of Miles City; aunts and uncles, Blake and Karen Thrams of Fairview, Mike and Ester Egan of Medora, ND, Steven Seidel and Patty Seidel of Billings, Shelma Seidel of Havre, and Scott and Dana Seidel of Havre.

Music was provided by Sharon Whited, Gary Rauschendorfer and Roxy Rees. Casketbearers were Robert Sperry, Russell Sperry, Todd Leland and Kevin Reid. Honorary casketbearers were Cum Christo family and friends. Ushers were Keith Steinbeisser and Russ Steinbeisser.
Martin Toth

Martin Philip Toth, 50, died of cancer Wednesday, June 24th at Northern Montana Hospital in Havre. A graveside funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, June 27, 1992 at the Highland Cemetery, with Brian Barrows officiating. Two taped musical selections, “One Day At A Time” and “Springtime in the Rockies” sung by Judy Kinsella, Stacey Wald, Jerry Nystrom and Jim Faber were played. Burial followed the service. Pallbearers were Mike Davey, Tom Bergran, Lee Dalton, Sam Ehlang, Dale Wass and Bob Davey. Honorary bearers were Leonard Faber, Allen Chinadle, Bill Overcast, John Rominger, Larry Nitz and all of Martin’s friends.

Mr. Toth was born in Havre on June 22, 1942, the son of Edward and Myra Pagel Toth. He married the former Vicki Dea in Havre on March 7, 1964. Mr. Toth ranched and was employed by Montana Power Company as a gas serviceman for 26 years. He was a member of the Eagles, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Montana Stockgrowers, and was a 4-H Leader.

Mr. Toth is survived by his wife, Vicki Dea Toth of Havre; one son Joseph of Havre; his daughter and son-in-law, Brandi and Erik Lee of Missoula; his mother, Myra Toth of Havre; two sisters and brothers-in-law, Edna and Robert Kuhn, Rita and Richard Richardson, all of Havre; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Dean and Debra Toth of San Jose, California, and Ray and Mardele Toth of Havre; his mother-in-law Dorothy Dea of Havre; one uncle, Henry Pagel of Havre; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father and his grandparents, Philip and Wanda Pagel.

Memorials may be made to the Gift of Life Campgrounds or to a person’s choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.
JOHN O. (ZEKE) TRULSON
Born: March 24, 1928 - Died: December 4, 1992

Liberty County Times
December 9, 1992

Zeke Trulson

John O. (Zeke) Trulson, 64 years of age, a retired railroad track inspector and a resident of Havre, MT and a former resident of Kremlin, MT died on December 4, 1992 at a Havre hospital after a cancer related illness.

A Rosary Service was held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8 at the Holland and Bonine Chapel in Havre with Father Jack Harrington officiating.

A Memorial Mass was held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, December 9 at St. Jude's Catholic Church in Havre with Father Jack Harrington officiating. Inurnment of the ashes was at the Highland Cemetery.

Mr. Trulson was born on March 24, 1928 at Havre, MT, the son of Del and Ida (Sohm) Trulson. He attended school at Fresno, MT. The family moved to Kremlin, MT where Zeke attended school. He graduated from Kremlin High School in 1946. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. In 1952 he went to work for the Great Northern Railroad and later for the Burlington Northern Railroad. He was employed by the railroads for 33 years. In 1954 at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham, MT he married the former Lorraine Gomke. After their marriage the couple lived at Kremlin. In 1986 the couple moved to Havre and purchased the Tip-It-Bar in North Havre. His hobbies included fishing and his love of fireworks that he shared with his kids and grandchildren. He also played drums in Havre with different bands and also in the many Hi-Line areas. He was a member of the St. Jude's Catholic Church.

He was preceded in death by his father.

He is survived by wife, Lorraine Trulson of Havre; his mother, Ida Trulson of Havre; daughters, Lindy Scofield of Havre, Cynthia Lee of Stevensville, MT and Teresa Echelard of Havre; two sisters, Ramona Beck of Mesa, AZ and Bev Heitert of Havre; also four grandsons, Allen and David Lee of Stevensville, Bobby Scofield of Havre, and Jason Echelard of Havre.

Memorials in Mr. Trulson's honor may be made to the Gift of Life, c/o Columbus Hospital in Great Falls, MT.

Holland and Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.
GERALD MADISON WARD
Born: October 17, 1908 - Died: July 1, 1992
Liberty County Times
July 8, 1992

Gerald Ward

Gerald Madison Ward was born at Brulé, Wisconsin on October 17th, 1908. He was one of two sons born to John and Birdie (Martell) Ward. In 1913 his family came to Montana where his father worked in the woods at Columbia Falls and Rexford. Gerald started school at Apgar. They moved to Chester in 1916 and bought a farm south of town (what is now the Good place). Gerald continued his education in the country where he attended the Little Red School and the Erickson School, and then finished his formal education in Chester. On October 23rd, 1933 Gerald married Hazel K. Fisher in Chester. He worked for Walden Brothers during those first years of marriage, then took a job on the Liberty County road crew. They raised their family of eight in the Chester community. In 1966 Gerald accepted a job with the Steward Ranches, and for the next 19 years he worked for them in Arizona, Texas and California. He retired at age 75 and moved back to Chester, where they lived at the Sweetgrass Lodge for two years. In 1986 they moved to Laurel, Montana to live with a daughter. Gerald’s health has slowly deteriorated due to advancement of bone cancer. On this past Wednesday morning, July 1st, Gerald went home to be with the Lord. He was 83 years old...

Gerald enjoyed his 30 years with the Chester Volunteer Fire Department where he drove ambulance and taught first-aid courses. He spent hours listening to his vast collection of albums. He was an avid baseball fan and he loved to play cards (his favorite games were pinochle, cribbage and pan). His spare time was spent with his family whom he so greatly loved...

Gerald is survived by his wife of 58 years, Hazel of Laurel; two sons and their wives, Ted and Judy of Billings and Monte and Lynn of Seattle, Washington; five daughters, Mrs. Pete (Kathleen) Schuhmacher of Chester, Mrs. Phil (Lynda) McKinney of Libby, Karen Gehre of Laurel, Mrs. Bob (Birdie) Lawson of Kissimmee, Florida, and Mrs. Paul (Sherill) Kovacich of Anaconda; a daughter-in-law, Billy Dee Ward of Missoula; a brother and his wife, Merwin and Ruby Ward of Libby; a half-brother, David Ward of Mesa, Arizona; 21 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, a son (David), two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Undesignated memorials will be given to the Big Sky Hospice in Billings.

Memorial services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday, July 6th, at the Chester Alliance Church. Reverend Charlie Hanson officiated. Special readings were done by family members, including the obituary by Pete Schuhmacher, a poem entitled "When I Must Leave You" by Sherill Kovacich, a poem entitled "Family Ties" by Birdie Lawson, a poem entitled "Daddy’s Hands" by Lynda McKinney, and scriptures by Bob Lawson. A great-granddaughter, Darlene Jordon, sang "Amazing Grace". Pianist was Tammy Enghusen; she accompanied Garth Good who sang "These Hands" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic". A special guitar/vocal duet by Wilbur and Glen Eveland was "Silver-Haired Daddy of Mine". Ushers were nephews Forest Martell and Kenny Ward. Per Gerald’s wishes he was cremated, and his ashes were buried in the family plot at the Chester Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the Alliance Church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.
LORENE J. WESTER
Born: October 17, 1909 - Died: April 2, 1992
Liberty County Times
April 9, 1992

Obituary

Lorene J. Wester
Lorene Johnson Wester, 82, of 600 32nd Ave. N.E., Great Falls, who had farmed with her husband in the Joplin and Fairfield areas, died Thursday in a Great Falls nursing home after an extended illness.

Her funeral was at 10:00 a.m. Saturday in Our Savior's Lutheran Church with burial in Highland Cemetery. Croxford & sons Mortuary was in charge of arrangements.

Born on October 17, 1909 at Overly, North Dakota, Lorene came to Montana as a girl and attended school at Alma. She married Eric Jon Wester in Havre on September 19, 1932.

The couple farmed until 1939 in the Joplin area and from 1940 to 1954 on the Fairfield Bench. After retiring they moved to Great Falls and spent summers at their home in Lincoln.

Lorene belonged to Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Sons of Norway and Scandinavian Fraternity. She enjoyed gardening, sewing and crafts.

Her husband died in 1986. A son, Lyle Eric, three sisters and two brothers (Alfred and Paul) also preceded her in death.

Survivors include two sons, Dean Wester of Great Falls and Dexter Wester of Bozeman; three sisters, Mrs. Albert (Julia) Olson of Joplin, Mrs. John (Helen) McKay of Creston, Washington, and Mrs. Larry (Mildred) Aaberg of Great Falls; a brother, Robert L. Johnson of Great Falls, and three grandchildren.
Harold Westrum

Harold Westrum, 86, Turtle Lake, North Dakota, died December 22, 1992, in a Bismarck hospital. Services were held on December 26th at 2:00 P.M. at St. Olaf Lutheran Church, rural Turtle Lake with Pastor Craig Larson officiating. Burial followed in the St. Olaf Cemetery.

Music was provided by Myron Lick and Quentin Love who sang a duet, accompanied by Georgean Lick. Ione Rath was organist.

Pallbearers were Jeremy Westrum, Derrick Westrum, Eldon Halvorson, Leslie Forland, Justin McMillan and Harley Halvorson.

Harold was born October 17, 1906, at Rock Dell, MN. He moved to Turtle Lake in 1909 and was raised north of Turtle Lake. Harold was educated in country schools. He married Lillian Lynne November 14, 1942, and they farmed north of Turtle Lake together until her death in 1971. In 1978 he retired and moved to Turtle Lake.

He loved the outdoors; enjoyed farming and raising cattle; and took an active interest in politics, baseball and boxing. He was a life-long member of St. Olaf Lutheran Church and a member of the McLean County REC.

He was dearly loved and will be missed by many, including five daughters and sons-in-law; Shelby and Robert Rutherford, Reading, PA; Desseree McMillan, Glendive, MT; Averie and Alan Tvenge, Minot, ND; Juanita and Wayne Wardell, Chester, MT; Candace and Armin Hinkelman, Bismarck, ND; three sons and daughters-in-law, Waldo and Sherry, Turtle Lake, ND; Norton and Faye, Fort Benton, MT; Lynn and Joy Ann, Washburn, ND; sixteen grandchildren; one great-grandchild; a sister, Ellen Romansas, Bismarck, ND; brothers, Elmer and Burnett Stenson, Devils Lake, ND and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, a grandchild and a brother.
Ida A. Hall was born at Rudyard, Montana on August 14th, 1912. She was one of eight children born to Sarah Thompson and Andrew Wilson Hall, who were homesteaders in the north Rudyard community. Ida grew up on the farm and attended the Swift and Connor schools near there. Following her formal education she began working at the coal mines at Canada Coulee in northern Hill County. Her husband-to-be, Wesley W. Whitaker, also worked at the coal mines. They were married on June 14th, 1935 at Conrad. They continued to work at Canada Coulee until 1942, when they began farming north of Hingham. They raised ten children during their 56 years of married life together. When they retired in 1987, they moved into Hingham. Wesley died last year (on 11/7/91). Ida’s health had been relatively good until four months ago. She was admitted to Northern Montana Hospital in Havre where she died on the afternoon of Tuesday, November 17th. She was 80 years old.

Ida enjoyed many activities associated with her home. She did quilting and embroidery projects. She liked to work in her yard and always had a nice flower and vegetable garden. Many years ago she played the harmonica and accordion, and enjoyed singing Scottish songs. As a hobby she collected knickknacks and horse figurines. During her quiet hours at home she liked to do jigsaw puzzles and watch soap operas. She was an excellent cook and fry bread was one of her many specialties. In earlier years they enjoyed playing cards, especially “canasta”. Ida was a spectator fan of basketball and always kept up on local high school competitions. She loved to go fishing with Wes, and they had been members of the Whitlash Fishing Club.

Ida’s survivors include four sons, Russell of Fumly, Nevada, Richard of Madera, California, Kenneth of Sweetgrass, and Wesley of Rudyard; four daughters, Lorraine Habner of Kittatis, Washington, Loretta Whitaker of Shelby, Myrtle Ann Rubash of Kelilher, Minnesota, and Patty Penner of Buhler, Kansas; one foster-son, Clarence Wood of Great Falls; 35 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. Ida was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by a daughter (Emily Bjerkness in 1989), a grandson, four brothers (William, Ernest, Raymond and James), and three sisters (Maude, Lillie and Maggie).

Funeral services were held at 1:30 p.m. Friday, November 20th, at the Hingham Lutheran Church with Reverend Tim Hauge officiating. The congregation sang “The Old Rugged Cross”, accompanied by Sharon Spicher on the organ. Vocalist, Sheila Vig, performed “His Eyes Are On The Sparrow”. Ushers were Denny Anderson and Robert Greytak. Pallbearers included Ken Whitaker, Jeff Whitaker, Clarence Wood, Tom Sluiter, Hap VandeSandt and Bud VandeSandt. Burial followed in the Hingham Cemetery. A luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.
FREDERICK GEORGE WILL
Born: August 10, 1921 – Died: January 19, 1992
Liberty County Times
January 29, 1992

FREDERICK GEORGE WILL
Born: August 10, 1921 – Died: January 19, 1992
Liberty County Times
January 29, 1992

Fritz Will

Frederick George Albert Will was born in Sherman Township, Dunn County, Wisconsin on August 10th, 1921. He was the youngest of ten children born to Fredericka Aggart and Fred Will, who had immigrated from Germany in 1893. Fritz grew up on the family farm near Boyceville, Wisconsin and received his formal education at the Hawthorne School in Sherman Township. On July 16th, 1942 he was inducted into the U.S. Army and served during WWII in Casablanca and the French Morocco. He attained the rank of Corporal and was "honorably discharged" on January 9th, 1947. Fritz came to eastern Montana in the early 1950's. February 23rd, 1953 he married Arlene Taasaas in McConne County. They made their home at Lambert, Montana where Fritz worked odd jobs. In 1955 Fritz left the Sidney area and came to the Hi-Line, where he took a job as farmhand for Fred O'Neil south of Rudyard. His marriage ended in divorce in 1957. Fritz remained in the Rudyard community in the years that followed. He worked for Frank and Arnold O'Neil until his retirement in 1990. Since then he has lived in Rudyard in a little house owned by his friends, the Albert Hansen's. When neighbors hadn't seen Fritz on Monday, January 20th, they became concerned and found him dead at his residence. There were no untoward circumstances and he had apparently died peacefully on the day before. Fritz was 70 years old...

Fritz had numerous hobbies. He enjoyed collecting and restoring antiques of all kinds. Over the years he had accumulated a nice collection of toy tractors and Montana license plates. He enjoyed wood-working projects; he made clocks and built toy furniture. Fritz was a member of the N.R.A., but the only hunting he did was for gophers. With friends he enjoyed playing pool and cards (he loved pinochle and solitaire). He kept an immaculate house and had been a conscientious worker. He will be remembered by his Rudyard friends as a gentle, kind, and quiet man...

Fritz is survived by three sons, including Doug Taasaas of Bremerton, Washington, and twins, Richard Will of Sidney and Rodney Will of Greenville, South Carolina; one daughter, Sandy VanHoutean of Cortez, Colorado; nine grandchildren; two brothers, Herbert Will of Boyceville, Wisconsin and Richard Will of Lexington, Indiana; numerous nephews and nieces; and a pet cat ("Mickey"). Fritz was preceded in death by his parents, by five brothers (Herman, Otto, Albert, Walter and Arnold), and by two sisters (Elizabeth and Margaret).

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Friday, January 24th, at Our Savor's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. Reverend Jeff Olsgaard officiated. Stanleigh Barbie served as organist and Joe Horel sang "The King of Love" and "Abide With Me". Friends serving as pallbearers included Richard Tyler, John Wood, Marcel Solum, Don Hansen, Ross O'Neil and David O'Neil, and usher was Shawn Campeau. Burial was in the Rudyard Cemetery. A coffee hour followed at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.
SHIRLEY ESTHER WILLS
Born: June 24, 1930 - Died: February 7, 1992
Great Falls Tribune
February 9, 1992

Shirley E. Wills 9 Feb. (1992)
Shirley Esther Wills, 61, 4037 5th Ave. N., died Friday at a local hospital following an extended illness.

The rosary will be recited at 8 p.m. Monday at O'Connor Funeral Home.

Services will be 11:15 a.m. Tuesday at Holy Family Church.

Burial will be at Mount Olivet Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Holy Family Church or the American Cancer Society.

She was born June 24, 1930, in Shelby. She attended high school in Sunburst and graduated from the College of Great Falls with a degree in business.

In 1954 she married John LeRoy Wills in Great Falls.

Wills had worked for the Great Falls Tribune and the Land Title Guarantee and the clerk and recorder at the Cascade County Courthouse.

She was a member of the NALC Ladies Auxiliary. She was also the treasurer at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Fort Shaw, a member of Holy Family Parish and active in church Bible study groups.

She is survived by her husband of Great Falls; three sons, John T. Wills of Great Falls and Michael S. Wills and Kelly M. Wills, both of Missoula; two sisters, Marjie Dahinden of Joplin and Nancy Fox of Great Falls; a brother, Jerry Gannon of Shingler, Calif.; her mother, Gertrude Gannon, and three grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Sheila Fischer of Great Falls.
Charles "Tommy" Wilson

RUDYARD — Charles "Tommy" Wilson, 93, a retired farmer, died of natural causes Wednesday in a Havre hospital.

His funeral will be 11 a.m. Monday at Our Savior's Lutheran Church here, with burial in Rudyard Cemetery. Rockman Funeral Home of Chester is in charge.

An Iowa native, he came to Montana with his parents in 1913. They homesteaded north of Inverness. He served in the Army from 1919-22.

On returning to Montana, Wilson worked on the family farm. He and the former Alice Gustafson were married in 1925 in Havre. They farmed until 1943, when he began operating the Rudyard Lumber Yard and International Harvester dealership.

He sold those businesses in 1950 and returned to farming with a son-in-law south of here.

Wilson retired in 1973, and he and his wife moved to the Eagles Manor in Havre eight years ago. She died in 1990.

Surviving are five daughters, Lavon Sather of Whitefish, June Toner and Darlene Ditmar of Rudyard, Naomi Jacobson of Great Falls and Mrs. Myra Dahlke of Inverness; 22 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.
Gordon N. Wolf
Born: ?, 1921 – Died: July 8, 1992
Liberty County Times
July 15, 1992

Gordon Wolf
Gordon N. Wolf, 71, born and raised in Joplin, Montana died July 8, 1992 at his home in Port Ludlow, Wisconsin after a long illness. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Wolf of Joplin.

He is survived by his wife Evelyn; two daughters, Barbara Christianson and Judy Goula, both of Los Angeles; five sisters, Lucille Cady of Chester, Montana, Gladys Leichner, Betty Van Dyke, Eileen Wolery of Turner and Leila Berg; one brother, Robert Wolf; and several grandchildren. A brother, Donald, preceded him in death.
ROBERT ALLEN (BOB) WOODWARD
Born: August 29, 1942 - Died: March 5, 1992
Liberty County Times
March 11, 1992

In his younger days Bob enjoyed riding horses. His mother had been a school teacher, so she always encouraged him to read. Reading was a hobby that Bob loved, and it paid off because he was well-informed about a lot of things. Bob had always been a kind-hearted man who enjoyed people. He loved to cook, eat and socialize with friends. In fact, he had entertained some friends at his home the night before he died. Bob’s greatest love in life was playing “bridge”. He affectionately referred to Esther Erickson as his “bridge teacher” because she got him interested in the game in the late 1960’s. Since then Bob had become a “Life Master” player who was always encouraging new players and had even taught bridge classes for a few years. Bob was so well-known in the bridge circuit that many bridge players referred to Chester as “Woodward country”. He played in many tournaments throughout Montana, southern Canada, and the western states, and he won numerous trophies and prizes. This past year he was awarded the Big Sky Cup Montana Best Player (in addition to 1991, he had previously won this award in 1987, 1988 and 1982). The trophy was presented to him at the Christmas tournament in Cut Bank, and he was surprised and proud when his fellow-players gave a standing ovation to Montana’s “Mr. Bridge”...

Bob never married. His only survivors include an uncle, Irvin Hauge of the Chester area; two aunts, Ann Parkell of San Diego, California and Margey Carroll of King City, Oregon; and several cousins. Two cousins whom Bob’s mother helped raise are Jeanie Huppert of San Diego, California and Randy Parkell of Aivivaca, Arizona. In addition to his mother, Bob was preceded in death by his father in 1987 and by his sister (Margery Ann) in 1971.

Funeral services will be today (Wednesday, March 11th) at 11:00 a.m. at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester. Reverend Tom Dunham will officiate. Music will be provided by Juanita Wardell and Tammy Enghusen. Pallbearers will be Jack Seidlitz, Scott Decker, Stuart Erickson, Mickey Kimmel, Tim Spencer, Denny Loring and Richard Floren. Honorary bearers will include Oscar Erickson, Ed May, Felix Feland, Jack Landeryou, Ted Richards, John Nuxoll, Allen Kolstad and Hugh Bartlett. Mort Skari will serve as usher. Burial will be in the family plot at the Erickson Cemetery south of Chester. A luncheon will follow at the church. Funeral arrangements by Rockman Chapel, Chester.