

EUGENE 'SNOOKS' AAGESON
Born: December 6, 1917 - Died: April 6, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 11, 2006

Eugene 'Snooks' Aageson

HAVRE — Eugene "Snooks" Aageson, 88, a longtime resident of Havre and Hill County, died of complications from Alzheimer's disease Thursday at a Great Falls care facility.



Aageson

Graveside services are 10 a.m. Maundy Thursday in Highland Cemetery in Havre. His memorial service will follow at 11 a.m. at First Lutheran Church in Havre. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre is handling arrangements.

Snooks is survived by three children, Dr. James (Julie) Aageson of Moorhead, Minn., Rachel Aageson of Kalispell and Mark (Carrie) Aageson of Havre; and seven grandchildren, Erin (Scott) Allee of Juneau, Alaska; Anne Aageson of Bellingham, Wash.; Megan Aageson of Moorhead, Minn.; Amy Hanson of Park City, Utah; Michael Hanson of Kalispell and Gunnar and Ivar Aageson, both of Havre.

Snooks had suffered from Alzheimer's disease the last several years, and his death followed one week to the day the death of his wife, Laura Aageson.

Snooks was born Dec. 6, 1917, in Hingham, Mont., the son of Ella and Asmund Aageson. His siblings all preceded him in death: Wallace Aageson, Arvin Aageson, Lorraine Aageson Gorham and Nan Aageson Nokle-

berg. He helped operate the family's farm until 1942, when he married Laura Miller and they purchased their own farm at Fairchild. Snooks was a member of Goldstone Lutheran Church and helped build and remodel that church. When Snooks and Laura's children were of school age, the family moved to Havre where they were active members of First Lutheran Church. Snooks served on many church boards and always enjoyed working at First Lutheran's Annual Lutefisk dinner.

In later years, Snooks and Laura built a home in West Glacier. Snooks was an avid golfer and loved to travel during the winters visiting most of the United States and Hawaii. He and Laura traveled twice to Europe and especially enjoyed visiting family in England and Norway. Snooks was devoted to his family and proud of his Montana roots. His wide circle of friends included golfing partners, fellow farmers and members of his church and community. The disease that robbed him of his last years of life meant a very long goodbye for his family. Even so, we remember his laughter and smiling eyes, his funny sense of humor, and his warm and welcoming embrace. Blessed be his memory.

Memorials may be made to the First Lutheran Church in Havre or to the Alzheimer's Association.

LAURA (MILLER) AAGESON
Born: October 25, 1919 - Died: March 30, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 2, 2006

Laura Aageson



Aageson

HAVRE— Laura (Miller) Aageson, 86, a Havre resident and homemaker who was active in her church, died of natural causes Thursday at a Havre hospital.

Visitation is 7 to 9 p.m. today at Holland and Bonine Funeral Home. Graveside services are 10 a.m. Monday in Highland Cemetery, followed by her funeral at 11 a.m. at First Lutheran Church. A lunch will take place at the church after the service.

Laura is survived by her husband of 66 years, Eugene "Snooks" Aageson; three children, Dr. James (Julie) Aageson of Moorhead, Minn., Rachel Aageson of Kalispell, Mont., and Mark (Carrie) Aageson of Havre; a sister, Pearl Hamilton of Chinook, Mont.; and seven grandchildren, Erin (Scott) Allee of Juneau, Alaska, Anne Aageson of Bellingham, Wash., Megan Aageson of Moorhead, Minn., Amy Hanson of Park City, Utah, Michael Hanson of Kalispell and Gunnar and Ivar Aageson of Havre.

Laura was born Oct. 25, 1919, in Gildford, Mont., the daughter of Lydia and Henry Miller. She was the youngest of six children: Louis, Leonard, Lillian, Pearl and Henry. Her sister Pearl survives.

Laura graduated from Rudyard High School and attended Northern Montana College. In December 1942, she married Eugene "Snooks" Aageson. Laura and Snooks lived on their family farm at Fairchild and in Havre. During the winter months, they often traveled.

Laura and Snooks were members of Goldstone Lutheran Church until they moved to Havre, where their children began school. They joined First Lutheran Church, where Laura taught Sunday School, First Communion and was an active supporter of Lutheran League and women's groups, and volunteered in many other ways.

Laura and Snooks traveled to many places during the winters, visiting most of the United States (including Hawaii) and many European countries, including Scandinavia.

Laura's love and loyalty to family and friends were gifts to all of us. Her love of farming and Montana shaped her whole life. In her eighties, she still liked "riding the drills" with Mark during seed-time. She learned to paint in her middle years and enjoyed sharing her work with her family.

Laura loved sports, especially basketball and golf, following and attending the games of many family members and was always pleased about her own state basketball title in high school. Her deep faith and trust in God was central to all she did. Most of all, she will be remembered for her generous spirit, lavishing her children, grandchildren, and extended family and friends with unconditional love and support. Blessed be her memory.

Memorials in Laura's name may be given to the First Lutheran Church, 303 6th Ave., Havre, MT 59501.

CAROLE JEAN 'KAY' (RATHBUN) ANDERSEN
Born: Age 68 - Died: September 21, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
September 29, 2006

Carole Jean 'Kay' Andersen

KALISPELL — Havre native and former Hingham resident Carole Jean "Kay" (Rathbun) Andersen, 68, died of natural causes Sept. 21 at Brendan House in Kalispell.

Funeral Mass is 10 a.m. today at Church of the Epiphany in Coon Rapids, Minn., with burial in Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis. Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Kay is survived by her son, Patrick (Tracy) Andersen; daughters Lauren (Ted) Johnson, Kelley Andersen and Diane (Matt) Sibley; grandchildren Jeremy Johnson, Jennifer Johnson, Tara Andersen, Janell Johnson, Amber Andersen, Nichole Andersen and Kyle Sibley; great-grandchildren Destiny Johnson, Jaden Johnson and Robby Johnson; sister-in-law Evelyn Andersen; a brother, Robert Rathbun; and special friends Laurie, Irene and Dennis.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Earl "Pat" and Eleanor Rathbun; husbands John "Jack" Andersen and Lloyd Cady; and a sister, Irene Rathbun.

Condolences may be sent online to greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

GARY WAYNE ASHMORE

Birth: June 15, 1948 – Death: February 10, 2006

Liberty County Times

March 1, 2006



Ashmore



Gary Wayne Ashmore, 57 of Stevensville died Friday, February 10, 2006 in a car accident while on a fishing trip at Lake Roosevelt, WA. On that day, he caught his Walleye limit and netted the largest Walleye he had ever seen.

Gary was born on June 15, 1948 to Leslie "Bud" and Vera Ashmore in Ulen, MN. His early years were spent on the family farm, milking cows...one of his favorite stories was when he was left in charge of the farm chores while his mom and dad took a trip to Montana.

The family moved to Rudyard, MT in 1961. Gary car-hopped at the family A & W until conning his sister Cheryl into taking over and he went to work at several area farms and made the "big bucks." After graduating from Rudyard High School in 1966, he enlisted in the US Army. Honorably discharged, he went to work at the stockyards, put himself through school and graduated from the University of Montana with two bachelor degrees.

In 1982 he married Rhea Cronine; they were later divorced. After 8 years of courtship, he married Lindsey (Bendewald) Moretti on April 30, 1998. The couple lived in Stevensville where Gary retired as postmaster of the Stevensville Post Office in 2003.

Gary enjoyed his retirement to the fullest, catching the big steelhead (or anything else that swam), chasing roosters with his canine companion Tac, spending many Thanksgiving holidays in elk camp, and squeezing in golf and home projects in his spare time. Gary was an avid Grizzly fan...~~(ask Jack)~~. ~~His family and friends~~ treasured him and the special times they shared. His mom and four sisters will truly miss the special hugs he always had for them. Lindsey will miss her true love and best friend.

His father preceded in death in 200 and a niece in 1975.

Gary is survived by his wife Lindsey at the family home in Stevensville; mother, Vera Ashmore, Havre; four sisters; Judy (Bob) Enke, Helena, Cheryl (Ervin) Hamblock, Havre; Kathy (Rich) Fabiano, Helena and Vicki (Jeff) Han, Inverness; as well as 13 nieces and nephews; Alan, Scott, Trisha, Erin, Joe, Kayla, Tyler, Kelsey, Geoff and Alyssa and Don, Steven and Megan also his three godchildren; 5 grand nieces and nephews; stepdaughters; Jessica (JK), Apache Junction, AZ and Danielle (Chris) in Phoenix and special granddaughter Marley Chayse. Also surviving is his mother and father-in-law Sally and Alan Bendewald and sister-in-law Laurie (Dave) Sonju and brother-in-law Michael Bendewald.

Gary is now with his dad and his canine companions, Pal and Gus, enjoying heaven's great outdoors.

Friends were invited to "toast" Gary with his own "special blend" on Thursday, February 16 from 7 – 9 pm at St. Mary's Family Center in Stevensville.

The family suggests memorials to the Whitetail Golf Club, P.O. Box 2, Stevensville, MT 59870.

The Whitesitt Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

ORVILLE 'SWEDE' AYERS

Born: August 24, 1932 – Died: December 8, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

December 13, 2006

Orville 'Swede' Ayers

FORT BENTON — Orville "Swede" Ayers, 74, of Fort Benton, a Navy veteran, died of natural causes Friday at his home.



Ayers



Home is handling arrangements.

His funeral is 10 a.m. today at the Immaculate Conception Church in Fort Benton. O'Connor Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Kathleen Ayers; daughter Lorraine (Nels) DeBruycker of Choteau; sons Wayne (Marcia) of Caldwell, Idaho, Joe (Karla) of Fort Benton, Lawrence (Kathy) of Safety Harbor, Fla., Patrick (Nikki) of Loma, Mark of Cut Bank, Adrian (Ann) of Missoula, Matthias of Dupuyer, and Anthony of Valier; grandchildren Kendall (Charolette), Zac, Chris (Celeste), Elizabeth, Alderic, Amanda, Raymond, Adam, Owen, Gavin, Layton, Shelby, P.J., Michael, Morgan, Isaac, Kelly, Kayle; great-grandchildren Kali, Cian, Aiden, Sadie; brothers David and Jim Ayers; sisters Lavina Elliot, Vada McLaren and Hazel Somers; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Swede was born Aug. 24, 1932, in Minneapolis, Kan., to Charlie and Martha Ayers. He graduated from Ottawa County High School and attended college at Bethany College, Kan., playing football for them. He served in the U.S. Navy from May 1951 to April 1955. While serving in the Navy he was stationed in Japan, and he played football on the Navy undefeated team. After being discharged, Swede attended Loras College in Iowa, where he played college football.

In March 1957, Swede came to Fort Benton, where he worked at Central Service Station. In August of 1958 he married Kathleen LaBarre.

Throughout his long life he worked at the ASCS office, Oscar Kalgard of Big Sandy, Skrieka Brothers in Chester, Greenline Implement as a service and parts manager and as a farm manager in Big Sandy. For 18 years, Swede was the manager of D&K/Ivans Tire in Fort Benton and for the Choteau County Road District for 10 years. He retired in 2004.

Throughout the years Swede was very active. He helped coach football punters, scouted for Loughorn football, served on the Soil Conservation Committee and the Ambulance Board, as president, was a Kiwanis member, spent 12 years on the Fort Benton School Board of which he was chairman for six years. He was also an election judge and precinct committeeman for many years.

In 1980 he saw a need and formally formed and organized the Little Kids Wrestling Program. Many fine young men and women went through his program, which included several state placers and champions. Swede really enjoyed the kids, their wrestling and watching them progress and develop. He ran this program successfully for 20 years, and then turned it over to his son, Patrick. Swede continued to support, help and watch, especially when his own children and grandchildren were out on the mat.

He was very proud of his family. They all brought their own special joy and humor, and each has a unique friendship with their dad.

Swede loved coaching, watching and helping his children, grandchildren and many, many others in his life.

Swede loved having his family around him. He also loved spending time at the family cabin, in his gardens and home. He designed and built greenhouses, and loved fishing.

Swede was the ultimate Ottawa County Champion.

Swede was preceded in death by infant twin daughters, his parents, a sister, Iona Christianson and brothers Winifred, Harvey and Wilbur Ayers.

Memorials are suggested in Swede's name to the Fort Benton Memorial Ambulance, c/o Linda Williams, 1308 Franklin, Fort Benton, MT 59442, or to Little Kids Wrestling, c/o Patrick Ayers, 2500 Day Road, Loma, MT 59460.

Condolences may be sent online to greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

MARJORIE I. (MOFFIT) BERG
Born: April 27, 1918 – Died: August 2, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
August 4, 2006

Marjorie I. Berg

Marjorie I. (Moffit) Berg, 88, of 2621 15th Ave. S., a retired practical nurse, died of natural causes Wednesday in Great Falls.



Berg

At her request, no services are planned. Cremation will take place, with inurnment of ashes in Hillcrest Lawn

Mausoleum.

Survivors include daughters Arlene McDonald of Great Falls and Jeane Lyman of Ellensburg, Wash.; nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Marjorie was born April 27, 1918, in Hingham, Mont., and graduated from Glasgow High School. She worked as a licensed practical nurse for the former Deaconess Hospital from 1947 through 1961, then worked at the Great Falls Clinic until retiring in 1981.

She married Ralph Berg Sr. on Oct. 1, 1936, in Glasgow; he died in 2002.

She enjoyed caring and cooking for family and friends, and spending time at their cabin on Ranch Creek.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Ralph Berg Jr., in 1991.

Memorials are suggested to Peace Hospice of Montana, 2600 15th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405. Condolences may be sent online to croxforde@qwest.net and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

ALICE SOPHIA (FUSK) BILDEN
Birth: November 30, 1918 – Death: August 19, 2006
Liberty County Times
August 23, 2006



Alice S. Bilden

Alice Sophia (Fusk) Bilden was born November 30th, 1918 on the family homestead near Alma, Montana. She was the eldest of five children & the only daughter of Peter and Olianna (Gotsvosli) Fusk. Alice grew up on the family farm north of Joplin and attended the Tingdahl School near there. She finished her education in Joplin where she graduated from J.H.S. in 1938.

Alice started nurse's training, then went to California to help care for an ailing relative. She lived in California for several years before returning to Montana.

She married Harlan S. Bilden on August 4th, 1943 at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. They made their home on the Bilden farm just south of town, where Alice worked dili-

gently as a home-maker & mother of four. The Bilden's retired in 1972 and continued to live on the farm. They had been married 48 years when Harlan died of cancer on February 17th, 1992. Alice remained in their Joplin home until age 80, when her health began to fail. She moved to the Sweet Memorial Nursing Home in Chinook for a few years, then transferred to the Care Center in Havre in 2003. Alice died at the Havre rest home on this past Saturday morning (August 19th, 2006). She was 87 years old.

Alice was a longtime member of Bethel Church and was active in the church circles. In

her later years she enjoyed several memorable trips to Alaska & Hawaii, and she kept detailed journals of these travels.

Her hobbies in her home included sewing, quilting, & baking. She loved to host family get-togethers and was well-known for her delicious homemade buns & cinnamon rolls. She also enjoyed playing cards (especially, Bridge), jigsaw puzzles, and word search games. In recent years she collected stamps for her grandchildren. Alice's preference was working outdoors where she could spend time in her garden or help with the annual harvest.

Alice loved her family and received their love in return.

Even

her nieces & nephews affectionately called her "Grandma Alice" as a nickname of endearment & respect.

She was preceded in death not only by her parents & husband, but also by a son (Walter in 1969) and by 3 brothers (Harold, Donald, & John Fusk).

Alice is survived by 2 daughters, Patricia Meldrum (and husband, Eugene) of Havre and Janet Bilden of San Francisco, California; 1 son, Leroy "Whitey" Bilden of Las Cruces, New Mexico; 6 grandchildren (including Treg, Ward, Jerry, Troy, Shelly, & Ale); 7 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren; 1 brother,

Clifford Fusk of Port Angeles, Wash.; 1 sister-in-law, Marion Bilden Jones of White Sulphur Springs; and numerous nieces & nephews.

Memorial services will be 11:00 a.m. Thursday (August 24th) at the Bethel Church in Joplin. Pastor Dale Wolery will officiate. Della Wolery will serve as pianist and the congregation will sing "The Old Rugged Cross" & "Amazing Grace". Burial of ashes will follow at the Joplin Cemetery. Cremation & arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Bethel Church or the Clergy Recovery Network in Joplin.

FRANCES LEONA (GOMKE) NORSTROM BITZ
Born: Age 79 – Died: February 12, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
February 16, 2006

Frances Leona Bitz

BREMERTON, Wash. — Former Havre and Kremlin resident Frances Leona (Gomke) Norstrom Bitz, 79, who worked at a number of stores in Havre until moving to the Seattle area in 1986, died of natural causes Sunday at a hospital in Bremerton, Wash.

A memorial service is 2 p.m. Friday at The Vintage in Bremerton. Graveside services and burial will take place at a later date at Highland Cemetery in Havre.

Survivors include a sister, Alma Klobofski of Havre; brothers Mel Gomke and Don Gomke of Kremlin; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by sons Alfie Norstrom and Dick Norstrom.

MILDRED JANE (WIGEN) BLACKSTONE
Birth: March 4, 1917 – Death: August 11, 2006
Liberty County Times
August 16, 2006



Mildred Blackstone

Mildred Jane (Wigen) Blackstone was born March 4, 1917 at Chelsea, Vermont. She was one of three children born to Oscar and Mayme (Jewell) Wigen. The Wigen family came to Montana when Mildred was three months old, so she grew up on a farm near Tiber and received her early education there. She finished her secondary education in Chester, where she graduated from C.H.S. in 1933. She spent the next two years attending Northern Montana College in Havre.

Mildred began working as a cashier at the original Buttrey's store in Havre when she met her husband-to-be, Robert L. Blackstone. They were married on July 17, 1937 in Havre and made their home in the Havre community for 30 years. After working for Buttrey's, Mildred was later employed at the Citizen's Bank and the Triangle Telephone Cooperative in Havre.

Bob and Mildred retired in 1965 and moved to the Windsor Mobile Home Court in Mesa, Arizona. They enjoyed their retirement years and the many activities at Windsor Park. They loved "RV get-togethers" and were active in the Good Sam's and Boles Aero Travel Clubs, in fact, they often served as "wagon masters" at special RV events.

After 45 years of marriage, Mildred's husband died on January 23, 1983. She remained in Arizona until 1994, when her health began to fail. Mildred returned to Montana to live at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester, where she could be closer to family and friends. She died peacefully at the rest home on Friday evening (August 11, 2006). She was 89 years old.

Mildred was baptized and confirmed in the Presbyterian faith and maintained memberships in Havre and Mesa. She had been active in Havre home demonstration clubs, in fact, she served as past president of the State Association of Home Demonstration Clubs. Other memberships included the Havre Elks Lodge and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

In addition to traveling, Mildred's hobbies included playing cards (mainly, Hearts and pinochle), board games, shuffleboard, crossword puzzles, and reading.

Mildred was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by an older sister (Dorothy, who died in infancy).

The Blackstones had no children. Mildred is survived by her only brother, Robert "Bob" Wigen of Great Falls, and several nephews and nieces.

A memorial service will be 3:00 p.m. Friday (August 18th) at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. Pastor Dolly Collins will officiate. Pianist will be Karen Stack and the congregation will sing "The Old Rugged Cross". Vocalist will be Anne Seidlitz-Melton. A coffee hour will follow. Mildred's ashes will be buried with her husband at the Highland Cemetery in Havre at a later date. Cremation and arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Undesignated memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester.

RICHARD C. 'DICK' BRAINARD
Born: November 10, 1924 – Died: October 27, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
October 30, 2006

CHINOOK — Navy veteran and retired Army Reserve Lt. Col. Richard C. "Dick" Brainard, 81, of Chinook, former owner and operator of the Conoco Bulk Plant, died of natural causes Friday in a Chinook nursing home.



Brainard

Services are 2 p.m. Thursday in United Presbyterian Church, with burial with military honors in Kuper Memorial Cemetery. Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook is handling arrangements.

Dick was born Nov. 10, 1924, in Bozeman, to Darr and Clara Mae Brainard. He graduated from Chinook High School in 1942 and enlisted in the Navy during World War II.

After his discharge, he returned to Chinook and married Rita Williams in October 1947. The couple had five daughters and one son. Rita passed away in May 1964.

Dick owned and operated the Conoco Bulk Plant and was a bar-keeper in the Mint Bar in Chinook for a number of years.

He was a member of the Army Reserve, and retired as a lieutenant colonel.

In August 1970, he married Ann Kelly Churchill and helped raise her son, Winston. Ann passed away in January 1977.

Dick married Vivienne Deming Kimball in August 1979. They lived in Oceanside, Calif., until his stroke in January 1993.

He was a resident at the Sweet Memorial Nursing Home for a number of years and received outstanding care.

Dick was a colorful part of the Chinook community. He was an avid fan of the Chinook Sugarbeeters activities. He will be remembered for his mischievous smile, his red jumpsuit, and his signature one-finger wave.

Dick is survived by his wife, Vivienne Brainard of Chinook; children Susan (Harold) Moos of Miles City, Nancy (Dick) Stang of St. Regis, Joan (James) Williams of Denver, Amy (John) Anderson of Brady, Mary (Ted) Edwards of Spencer, Idaho, Marc (Joyce) Brainard of Billings, Winston (Amy) Churchill of Fox Island, Wash., Bill (Peggy) Kimball of Chester, Herb (Bonnie) Kimball of Polson, Kathy (Steve) Crabb of Harrison, Ark., and Patsy (Den) Saatjian and Ted (Laura) Kimball, both of Bozeman; a brother, Lee Brainard of Rio Rancho, N.M.; a brother-in-law, Mitch MacGregor of Kent, Wash.; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; special sisters Alberta MacGregor, Anna Mae Brainard and Clara Jean MacGregor; and a brother, Erwin Mitchell. We love you, Dick.

Condolences may be sent online to greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

STELLA (McCANNELL) BRANDON
Born: Age 72 – Died: September 3, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
September 6, 2006

Stella Brandon

HAVRE — Stella (McCannell) Brandon, 72, a retail clerk, died of natural causes Sunday at a Havre care center.

Her funeral is 2 p.m. Friday at the Fifth Avenue Christian Church in Havre, with burial in Highland Cemetery. Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include daughters Jayne Azure and Wendy Gerky of Havre and Terry Hanson of Gilford; a son, Allan Gryde of Hogeland; a sister, Kathy Mazurek of Saskatoon, Sask.; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond Gryde; and a daughter, Lori Sveen, in 1979.

LOIS AGNES (SCHAFFER) BRAUER
Birth: September 4, 1924– Death: May 11, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 24, 2006



Lois Brauer

Lois Agnes (Schaffer) Brauer was born September 4th, 1924 at Great Falls, Montana. She was the youngest of two daughters born to William and Mary (Rogers) Schaffer, homesteaders in the Sweetgrass Hills north of Chester. Lois grew up on the family ranch near Whitlash. In her teens she moved to Seattle, Wash. to live with her Aunt and Uncle Rogers. While there she completed her secondary education at Queen Anne's High School, graduating in 1942. Lois returned to Montana to continue her college education in Missoula, where she studied business. In 1946 she moved back to the Seattle area and began working for the Union Oil Company. While there she met her future husband-to-be, Robert J. "Bob" Brauer.

In the 1950's Lois took a new job with the Calor Gas Company in Spokane, Wash. In 1953 she went on a vacation trip to Whitehorse, Alaska with her folks. She became extremely ill on this trip and was eventually diagnosed with polio. While receiving medical treatment in California, Lois reunited with Bob, whose job had taken him to Los Angeles.

Lois and Bob were eventually married on December 27th, 1966 at Bellevue, Wash. Together, they owned and operated Bestco Building Specialties in the Bellevue and Issaquah communities. Bestco manufactured engraved tactile signs and identifying devices. The Brauer's sold their business in 1981 and retired. In their retirement years they enjoyed traveling; they made several memorable trips to Australia, England, and the Panama Canal.

Although they lived in rural Redmond, Washington during most of their married life, they continued to have close ties to the Whitlash community. After Bob died on April 8th, 2000, Lois brought him back to Whitlash to be buried in the Schaffer family plot.

Lois never recovered from polio and was confined to a wheel chair in her later years. She coped with her illness and maintained a positive attitude. These past few months her medical condition began to fail and she was in-&-out of hospitals. Lois died late Thursday evening (May 11th, 2006) at the Swedish Medical Center in Seattle. She was 81 years old.

Lois had many hobbies. She enjoyed playing cards, especially Bridge. She was a good cook and liked to work in her flower beds. For many years she and Bob had season tickets to the Seattle Seahawks games. They were also fans of the Seattle Mariners. In her quiet time at home Lois enjoyed watching

sports and detective shows on television. And just for the fun of it, she collected snowman figurines and paperweights.

After Bob died, Lois took in a golden lab named "Molly", who has been a loyal companion and friend to her since.

Lois and Bob had no children. She is survived by a niece (who has been her caregiver for many years), Carrie Engstrom of Sammamish, WA; 2 nephews, Mark Engstrom of Whitlash and John Leonard of Seattle, WA; her brother-in-law, Norman Engstrom of Whidbey Island, WA; and 5 great-nieces/nephews.

Lois was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by her sister (Margaret "Margie" Engstrom in 2002).

Her funeral was conducted at 11:00 a.m. Thursday (May 18th) at the Whitlash

Presbyterian Church by Pastor Peter Erickson. Helen Stratton served as pianist and the congregation sang "Just A Closer Walk With Thee". Vocalist/guitarist, Pete Woods, performed "Amazing Grace" and "Lord Help Me Jesus".

Pallbearers were Mark, Zeb, and Katy Engstrom; John Leonard; Doug Demarest; and Arnie Woods. Burial followed at the Whitlash Cemetery, then a luncheon was held at the church.

Arrangements by
 Rockman Funeral Chapel,
 Chester.
 Undesignated memorials
 will be given to the
 Whitlash Church.

SUSANNE A (HOGAN) BRESNAHAN
Birth: August 1, 1909 – Death: November 24, 2006
Liberty County Times
November 29, 2006



**Susanne
Bresnahan**

Susanne A. Hogan Bresnahan of Great Falls passed away on November 24, 2006 at the age of 97. She died as she lived – filled with faith, love and devotion to family.

Susanne was born in Hofa Park, Wisconsin on August 1, 1909 and moved to the Carrington, North Dakota area when she was a child. She completed her nurses' training at St. John's Hospital in Fargo, North Dakota in 1929. Susanne was caring for a new mother and infant in Casselton, North Dakota when she met the infant's uncle, Verne Bresnahan. Following their marriage in 1930, Susanne and Verne moved to Casselton, North Dakota. Susanne carried her strong Irish Catholic values on to her own family, giving up her nursing career for years while she practiced her most important role as mother to five children. In 1954, after moving to Chester, Montana, Susanne received an urgent call for help from Dr. Buker at Liberty

County Hospital. That phone call marked the beginning of a ministry to two generations of mothers and newborns. After 30 years of nursing she said she never lost the feeling that each newborn child was a miracle.

In 1980 Susanne and Verne moved to Great Falls, Montana, where Susanne continued her nursing career at the former Deaconess Hospital before retiring in 1985 at the age of 75. Not wanting to waste her talents, soon after "retiring" she became a volunteer at the Red Cross Blood Bank and at the Columbus Hospital Oncology Department. She also found time to be an active member of the Columbus Hospital Auxiliary.

Susanne was an inspiration to her family and all who knew her. She was extraordinary in her loving nature, kindness, faith, and caring for others. With her loving care of newborn babies and their mothers, her regular coffee parties, her generous gifts of baked goods and flowers, her ceaseless prayers, and her generosity of spirit, Susanne touched countless lives. She reached out to family and friends constantly with letters, newspaper clippings, notes of encouragement, and cards, often signing off with "God loves you and so do I!" She was a loving wife and mother, a gifted nurse, a doting grandmother, and a dear friend.

An avid fan, Susanne loved sports and valued education. She took pride in her family and was blessed with a deep and abiding devotion to her Catholic faith. Often times all these values came together, as

on many evenings when she laid in her nursing home bed, listening to her grandson's games on the radio, rosary in hand – (she had rosaries in all of her favorite teams colors). Whether her grandchildren were facing tests in the classroom or on the athletic field, they knew their grandmother was supporting them.

Susanne was preceded in death by the love of her life, Verne. Two months before his death in September 1999, Susanne and Verne had celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary.

Susanne is survived by son Roger (Marcia) of Hot Springs Village, Arkansas; son Robert (Beverly) of Dover, Delaware; daughter Colleen (Irvin) Rios of Sacramento, California; daughter Patricia (Frank) Akins of Rancho Palos Verdes, California; and daughter Mary (George) Saunders of Great Falls. She has three surviving sisters, Margaret, Eva and Sister Mary Kathleen Hogan, all of Fargo, North Dakota. She leaves six granddaughters: Kathy (Alberto) Lopez, Mary (Kelly) Durbin, Anne Bresnahan, Tracy (Preston) Aldous, Susanne (Todd) Gruwell and Jessica Saunders. The surviving 12 grandsons include the following Bresnahans: Michael, John (Melissa), Thomas (Jacque), James (Isabel), Steven (Paige), Jeffrey (Lisa), Brian (Claudia), Kevin (Jennifer), Patrick (Jill) and Timothy (Emily) Rios, Timothy (Jenna) Akins and Joshua Saunders. These 18 grand children provided

Susanne with 21 great grandchildren.

...and so, with great faith and love, we give back to Dad and to our Heavenly Father the precious gift of Susanne. Closing with your own loving words, Mother... "God loves you, and so do we!"

Funeral Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Great Falls, MT, on Thursday, November 30th, 2:00 p.m., followed by Rite of Committal services in Mount Olivet Cemetery. Vigil services will be held on Wednesday, November 29th, 7:00 p.m. at the O'Connor Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to Peace Hospice of Montana, 1101 26th Street S., Great Falls, MT 59405, or to Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 409 13th Avenue S., Great Falls, MT 59405. Cards of condolence may be sent to the Family of Susanne Bresnahan, C/O the O'Connor Funeral Home, 2425 8th Avenue N, Great Falls, MT 59401.

DUANE ROBERT BROSE

Birth: January 19, 1936 – Death: July 5, 2006

Liberty County Times

July 12, 2006



Duane Brose

Duane Robert Brose was born January 19, 1936 at Sidney, Montana. He was one of nine children born to Roy and Dorothy (Putnam) Brose. Duane's early education was at a country school near the family farm on Burns Creek. He finished his schooling in Savage, where he graduated from high school in 1954.

Duane entered the U. S. Army in 1955. During his enlistment he served in Germany in the 101st Airborne Division, where he received parachute training and attained the rank of Specialist 3rd Class. After 2+ years of active service he obtained his honorable discharge in 1957, then transferred to the Army Reserves. He received his official discharge from the reserves in 1962.

Duane had returned to Montana where he worked as a commercial painter in Glendive for a few years. He married LaVonne Eiker in 1959. They had three children before their marriage ended in divorce.

Duane worked as a professional truck driver during most of his life and was a member of the Montana Teamster's Union. He was living and working in Missoula when he married his second wife, Phyllis Houle, in 1976. In the late-1980's they lived at Box Elder and Chester. In 1992 they moved to Galata

where Duane began working at Westermark Grain Corporation, a job he held until his retirement in 1998. Since then he continued to work parttime seasonal jobs, for instance, he drove a gravel truck for Toole County and worked on the Jerry Smith farm at Galata. In addition, Duane and a friend (Gary Layton) operated a local scrap metal business for a few years.

Duane was diagnosed with advanced liver cancer about six months ago. Still, he continued to get "out-&-about" and socialize with his friends in the Galata and Chester communities. Duane was recently in the Shelby Hospital, but chose to go home and spend his final days there. He died peacefully in his sleep at his Galata residence on the early morning of Wednesday (July 5, 2006).

He was 70 years old.

Duane was a star basketball player at Savage High School. During his senior year he played in the Class C State Tournament. He continued to be an avid sports fan throughout his life; he loved football, basketball, and baseball. In his younger days he enjoyed fish-

ing and had been a longtime member of the N.R.A. Duane was an excellent carpenter, wood-worker, and tool-sharpener. He loved all animals, but was especially fond of cats.

He is survived by his wife of 30 years, Phyllis Brose of Galata; his mother, Dorothy Brose of Sidney; 3 children, Gail Ann Stanley, Gene Brose, and Gary Brose, all of Reno, Nevada; 5 grandsons, James, Ehren, Ian, Logan, and Jared; 1 great-grandson, Dylan; 3 brothers, Dwight Brose of Reno, NV, Ken Brose of Glendive, and Dean Brose of Florence; 4 sisters, Doris Storlie of Glendive, Evelyn Ross of Mustang, OK, Lyla DeLamere of Boise, Idaho, and JoAn Hendrickson of Butte; and many nephews and nieces. Duane was preceded in death by his father in 1961 and a brother (Victor Brose) in 1956.

Graveside services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Monday (July 10th) by Pastor Jon Kibler-MaCabe at the Galata Cemetery. Military rites were provided by a local squadron from American Legion and V.F.W. posts. Flag presentation was by Leonard Matteson. A reception for family and friends followed at the Grand Bar in Chester. Visitation was held Saturday and Sunday (July 8-9) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

DONNA CORRINE (THOMPSON) BROWN
Birth: September 19, 1927 - Death: January 29, 2006
Liberty County Times
February 8, 2006



Brown, Donna Corinne

Donna Corinne Brown age 78, of Bozeman, passed away at her home, on January 29th, 2006. She was born to the late Robert and Mary (Johnson) Thompson on Sept. 19, 1927 in Whitlash, Montana.

Donna attended the University of Montana, in Missoula, and attained a degree in Journalism, in which she excelled.

She married William Arthur Brown in November of 1950 in Great Falls, and together they raised two daughters, while

traveling all over the United States and Hawaii during William's Navy Career. The family settled in Bozeman, MT in 1966.

Donna was an active business woman and journalist. She worked at the Gallatin County Tribune in which she was editor, while at the Tribune she earned many awards in journalism. Donna started the High Country News and ran the newspaper until the late 1970's. She later owned and operated First Treasure

Book Store on Main Street until the early 1990's, when she retired. During her retirement she ran a small produce and flower business for enjoyment.

Donna enjoyed reading, and was an avid gardener and belonged to the Organic Gardening Assn. of Montana.

Donna C. Brown is survived by her two daughters, Leilani Marie (Mario) DeDuca, and Moana Dawn Brown; two grandchildren Nicholas and Ashley DeDuca

all of Bozeman, MT; two brothers Earl (Sunnie) Thompson of Lewistown, MT and Gale (Mary) Thompson of Bozeman and 9 nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William and her sister Dorothy.

A memorial service was held Friday, February 3rd, 2006 at 3:00PM at the Dahl Funeral Chapel of Bozeman. Visitation was Friday before the services from 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

Services in Shelby MT, were held Saturday, February 4, 2006 at 2:00 PM at the Whitted Funeral Home, burial followed at the Mountain View Cemetery. Visitation was in Shelby from 1:00 to 2:00 PM.

JOSEPHINE 'JO' (KANTOROWICZ) BUBNASH
Birth: January 17, 1924 – Death: October 22, 2006
Liberty County Times
November 1, 2006



Josephine Bubnash

Josephine "Jo" (Kantorowicz) Bubnash was born January 17, 1924 on the family farm south of Chester, MT. She was the 12th of fifteen children born to Polish parents, Stanislaw "Stanley" Kantorowicz and Katherine Lopata. Jo received her formal education at the nearby Hay Coulee Country School, located in the "Warsaw" community south of Chester. Following her school years Jo remained on the family farm to help her mother, who passed away in 1941.

Jo married a neighboring farmer, Nicholas C. Bubnash Sr., on November 12, 1942 at Shelby, MT. The following year Nick and Jo acquired their own farm in the south Joplin/Chester community, where they lived and worked throughout most of their married life. In addition to raising 7 children, they worked hard raising wheat, barley, oats, hay, many farm animals, and a big vegetable garden each year.

Josephine suffered from a hereditary blood disorder called "porphyria" and she was diagnosed with polio in 1946. At that time she spent 5+ months convalescing at the Deaconess Hospital

in Great Falls. She developed chronic weakness in her right knee, which became debilitating in her later years, requiring the use of canes and crutches.

The Bubnashes moved to Joplin in 1976 and lived there for 18 years. In 1994 they moved to Chester. After Nick's health began to fail, they sold their Chester home in 2001 and transferred to Yakima, WA to be closer to a daughter, Sue. After 58 years of marriage, Nick died at age 93 in Yakima on May 16, 2001.

Jo remained in Yakima until 2003, then went to Olympia (WA) to live with daughter, Nancy, for a year. She returned to Montana to live with daughter, Judy, in Billings. In December of 2005 Jo went back to Yakima to a retirement home. About two months ago she developed major health complications, so she transferred to the Blossom House Assisted Living facility. Jo received hospice care until her death on this past Sunday morning (October 22, 2006). She was 82 years old.

Jo enjoyed many hobbies. She loved gardening, especially growing flowers. She was a fantastic cook and baker, making all of her breads, cinnamon rolls, pies, and cookies from scratch. In her younger years Jo played the accordion and guitar, and her love of music continued into adulthood. Her favorite country-western artists were Buck Owens, Ernest Tubbs, and Hank Williams; she also enjoyed listening to the local musicians (namely, the Lamplighters, the Chuck Wagon Band, and her husband Nick, who played the harmonica). She also enjoyed

watching television; her favorite shows were "Wheel of Fortune", "Price is Right", and comedies. Jo liked to play cards (mainly, pinochle). Just for the fun of it, she collected porcelain dolls, antique cars/trucks, and plates. She loved to write and to receive letters to/from family and friends. She also loved to shop from catalogs and send gifts to her loved ones.

Of interest was the fact that Josephine was just 7 months old in 1927 when Nick came to the Kantorowicz farm to help cut their crop. When Jo became a beautiful 18-year-old woman, Nick was 34. He always bragged that his patience paid off and that he "robbed the cradle" when they were married.

Jo's survivors include 6 daughters, Andrea Kinyon of Chester, Judy Buflod of Billings, Sue Bubnash of Yakima (WA), Nancy Wuertth of Olympia (WA), Debra Harris of Gilbert (AZ), and Connie Limesand of Snohomish (WA); 1 son, Nick Bubnash of Whitefish; 12 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; 4 sisters, Mary Ennis of Spokane (WA), Bessie Wanken of Chester, Ruth Corbett of Helena, and Bernice McCabe of Muskogee (OK); 1 brother, Al Biggs of Tonasket (WA); 1 sister-in-law, Millie Kantorowicz of Chester and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by 5 sisters (Julia McIntyre, Sophie Lalum, Agnes Kantorowicz, Anna Manchuk, and Sister [Helen] Susanne), and 4 brothers (John, Frank, Chester, and Carl Kantorowicz).

Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Saturday (October 28th) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester by Father Gregory Lively (of Shelby). Marie Woods served as pianist and the congregation sang "Shall We Gather At The River". Special prelude music was provided by Jo's niece and nephew, Mardell and Dick Lockwood, who also sang "In the Garden" and "Mansion Over the Hilltop" during the mass. Altar Server was Ken Osterman, readers were Margie Fay and Vicki Stanton, ushers were Dale Lalum and David Kantorowicz, and Eucharistic ministers were Jack and Margie Fay. The obituary was read by Lorraine Peck, a poem was written and read by Mardy Lockwood, and 4 grandchildren shared personal memories. Pallbearers were Arnold Lalum, Andy Russell, Alan Lalum, Craig Smith, Steve Harris, and Gary Limesand. The service concluded with a harmonica version of "Beyond the Sunset", which was taped by husband, Nick, many years ago. Burial followed at the Chester Cemetery, then a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

HELEN JEANETTE (WEHR) CHAPMAN
Birth: November 8, 1917 – Death: May 28, 2006
Liberty County Times
June 21, 2006



Helen Chapman

Helen Jeanette (Wehr) Chapman, 88, of 3626 53rd Ave. S.W. a retired Registered Nurse passed away Sunday Morning at Peace Hospice of natural causes.

Cremation has taken place and a Graveside Service will be held at Highland Cemetery in late July. Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory is in care of arrangements.

Survivors include daughters; Donna (Eddie) Orr, of Great Falls, Janet (Thomas) Slover, of Henderson, Nev., sisters; Elaine Miller, of Joplin, Mont., and Ruth Van

Wechel, of Chester, and her grandchildren, Chris (Jamie) Orr, and Trent (Dawn) Orr.

Her Husband, Samuel J. Chapman, preceded her in death on September 7, 1994.

Helen was born on Nov. 8, 1917, in Rudyard, and grew up there, graduating from Rudyard High School in 1935. She went to nurses training in Great Falls Deaconess Hospital and graduated in 1939.

She worked as a registered nurse at the Deaconess for 24 years. She also worked for several years as a Cascade County health nurse, which included going to local schools. Helen was a member of the Eastern Star and enjoyed traveling with her husband and being with her friends and family and in her earlier years she liked to square dance.

Memorials in Helen's name may be sent to Peace Hospice, 1101 26th St. S., Great Falls, MT 59405

MARJORIE MARIE (MAKI) CHILDERS
Born: December 29, 1921 – Died: February 28, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
March 2, 2006

Marjorie Marie Childers

BOZEMAN — Marjorie Marie (Maki) Childers, 84, of Bozeman, formerly of Galata, a retired nurse, died Tuesday at her home.



Childers

Visitation is 8 p.m. Friday at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Funeral services are 11 a.m. Saturday at the chapel with burial with military honors following in Mountain View Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Elmer, of Bozeman; sons Warren (Kris) of Charlotte, N.C., Bryan (Deb) of Tucson, Ariz., and Les of Galata; daughters Lynda (Gilbert) Payne of Great Falls, and Denise (Gordon) Thompson of Havre; a brother, Kenneth (Bobbin) Maki of



**Childers
1945**



Belt; a sister, Elvira (Bill) Blackstone of La Jolla, Calif.; nine grandchildren and two great-

grandchildren; as well as numerous other relatives, friends and acquaintances.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Richard and Emily Maki; brothers Roy, George and Henry; sisters, Wilma Urick and Vivian Urick; and one grandson, John Thompson.

Marjorie was born in Great Falls on Dec. 29, 1921, one of eight children, to Richard and Emily Maki of Belt. Upon graduation from high school in Belt, Marge pursued a degree in nursing, becoming a registered nurse in Great Falls in 1944. She eventually served in the Army Nurse Corp, stationed in Korea, at the end of World War II.

She married Elmer Childers on May 20, 1948, and together they raised five children on their farm near Galata, before retiring to Bozeman in 1989. Margie loved her family and friends, gardening, sewing, and "anything new, interesting and different."

Though Marge loved gardening and flowers, it was her hope that, in lieu of these kind gestures, a contribution be made to the Bozeman Deaconess Hospice, or to a local hospice program.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com

AUDIE BERT COLLINS

Birth: July 28, 1939– Death: July 8, 2006

Liberty County Times

July 19, 2006



Audie Collins

Audie Bert Collins, courageous battle with cancer ended on July 8, 2006. He passed away peacefully in his home with his loving and caring wife and family members nearby. Numerous friends and family visited him during his illness.

Audie was born on July 28, 1939 in Spring Valley, Arkansas to Grace Pearl Kinsey and Gordon Flemul Collins. As a young boy he lived in northwest Arkansas where he enjoyed fishing, hunting, and working on cars with his buddies. After graduating from high school, he found a job with a custom cutting crew that brought him to Montana in 1959. It was here that he met Marilyn Rita Graft of Chester, Montana, fell in love and married on February 9, 1963.

Audie joined the United States Army in 1961 and was stationed at Fort Ord, CA, where he proudly served his

Country before being honorably discharged in 1964. Audie and Marilyn then moved to Bozeman where he worked at Northern Auto, Heeb's Grocery, and East Main Texaco. In 1966 he started his own business at the Big Sky Phillip 66 Service Station on E. Main Street. In 1984 Audie built his own shop on Lea Ave. and opened Big Sky Service and Radiator. He remained at this location for 19 years before retiring in 2003.

Over the years, Audie opened his home on Bridger Drive to many in need. He and Marilyn hosted two foster children, as well as numerous teenagers and college students over the years. His door was always open to all. Many good times, large family meals, games, jokes and beers were enjoyed by all who stayed at the Collins home. When a friend or family member was in need, Audie was always happy and quick to lend a helping hand. He was kind and non-judgmental, and had many friends in the Gallatin Valley.

Audie liked to spend his free time gopher hunting, camping, floating the rivers, fishing in all types of weather and playing practical jokes on people. He liked nothing more than for someone to challenge him to a good game of cribbage. He loved the game so much that he taught several people to play! Woodworking and leather crafts were among some of the

other hobbies he enjoyed over the years. Audie and Marilyn liked to spend time in Costa Rica, and they were planning a trip to Alaska this summer with two of their grandchildren. Other vacations Audie enjoyed were trips to the Virgin Islands, Hawaii, Arkansas and Arizona. He loved spending time with his family and the loves of his life, his grandkids! Audie never gave up the hope that he could beat this cancer and always had a positive attitude.

Audie is survived by his wife Marilyn and their four children: Kathy Pratt and her husband Mike, J.P. and his wife Jennifer, Tim and his wife Shelli, Shane and his wife Susan, as well as 13 beautiful grandchildren: Beau, Logan, Tyler, Jordan, Justin, Austin, Megan, Tucker, Rylee, Levi, Fiona, Lexi and Eli. He is also survived by his sister, Francis Tunstill, and brothers Glendon, George, and Howard Collins; all of northwest Arkansas. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother Garland Collins.

Cremation has taken place and a Vigil will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 13 at Dokken-Nelson Sunset Chapel. Funeral Mass will be held at 4 p.m. Friday, July 14 at Holy Rosary Catholic Church. A reception will be at Audie's home at 1509 Bridger Drive after the funeral. Parking in the open field west of the house.

FRANCIS X. 'FRANK' CREPEAU
Born: August 7, 1932 – Died: October 11, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
October 27, 2006

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — Former Montana resident and Air Force veteran Francis X. "Frank" Crepeau, 74, of Brooklyn, N.Y., a retired journalist, died of complications from a stroke Oct. 11 in Brooklyn.



Crepeau



Services have taken place in Brooklyn.

He is survived by his wife, Anne; a son, Alexandre and wife Blanche, and grandchildren Natasha and Nicolas, who all reside in Brooklyn; sisters Sylvia of Chester and Leslie (Harley) of Great Falls; and a brother, Jim (Sherry) of Arlee.

Frank was born Aug. 7, 1932, in Seattle, to Francis X. and Zetta (Wiggins) Crepeau. His father passed away when he was a young boy, and Zetta married Leslie M. Crepeau. They raised him in Simms, where he graduated from high school. He enlisted in the Air Force, and upon his discharge, he attended Montana State University, where he received his degree in journalism. During the summers, he began his reporting career with the Great Falls Leader.

While attending the University of Wisconsin in Madison, he met Anne Fiedler. They were married Aug. 27, 1959.

Frank's career with The Associated Press began in 1960 in Madison, then took him to Boston and New York City, before he was assigned abroad. He reported from Frankfurt, Moscow and Tel Aviv before returning to New York City as the assistant editor on the AP's foreign desk. He retired in 2001.

Frank is remembered for his integrity and insight. He mentored many young reporters beginning their careers as foreign correspondents. Frank was modest about his achievements, which included interviewing Alexander Solzhenitsyn in 1974, when he was stripped of his Nobel Prize and expelled from Russia. Frank also reported from Jerusalem in 1976 when Egyptian president Anwar Sadat was the first Arab leader to visit a Jewish state in the historic peace overture.

Frank will always be remembered for his wry humor and kindness.

Condolences may be sent online to greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

JOSEPHINE (PETLAK) STORES CROWE
Birth: November 2, 1918 – Death: July 19, 2006
Liberty County Times
August 30, 2006



Josephine Crowe

Our mother, sister, grandmother, great-grandmother and great great-grandmother, Josephine Stores Crowe passed away July 19, 2006.

To her best recollection, she was born November 2, 1918. She was the oldest daughter of Frank and Bernice Petlak.

Our mother was a simple woman who appreciated the simple things in life. She loved cats and flowers, and in her younger years loved to dance. She spent most of her early life on the family farm south of

Chester raising her eight children and helping with the farm. She moved to Idaho in 1966, but always called Montana home. In her later years she liked to sit and listen to music, and could remember all the words to the old country songs. The Blue Skirt Waltz was her favorite.

She is survived by four sisters, Frances Hochberger of Chester, Sophie Petlak, Anna Gilbert and Leona Petlak all of Fresno, California. She is also survived by seven of her eight children, Evelyn Eveland of Chester; John Stores of Orlando, Florida; Dennis Stores, Fred Stores and Jim Stores all of the Seattle area; her two youngest daughters, Joanne Steele and Jeanne Gordon of Coeur d' Alene, Idaho. She had numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great great-grandchildren.

We laid our mother beneath a tree near a stream in a beautiful meadow. It is a quiet and peaceful place. She will rest there until we meet again in Paradise.

IRENE M. (INMAN) DAMSCHEN
Born: January 17, 1923 - Died: April 23, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 26, 2006

Irene M. Damschen

HAVRE — Irene M. Damschen, 83, a longtime Havre resident and retired Northern Montana College employee, died of natural causes Sunday in Billings.



Damschen

Visitation is 2 to 7 p.m. today at Holland and Bonine Funeral Home in Havre. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Thursday at Fifth Avenue Christian Church.

She is survived by two daughters, Linda (John) Savage of Redcliff, Alberta, Canada, and Debby (Dan) Folkerts of Billings; a son, Barry (Paddy) Damschen of Helena; eight grandchildren, Kyle (Kari) Kelley, Scott Kelley, Michael (Jana) Hirsch, Ryan (Tara) Damschen, Carrie (Freddy) Krepps, Erik and Emily Hamnes and Connie (Mike) Dowling; 12 great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Irene passed away peacefully Sunday morning, April 23, 2006, in a Billings hospital.

She was born Jan. 17, 1923, in Havre, to Bert and Pansy Inman. She attended country school west of Havre and in 1942 graduated from Kremlin High School.

On May 25, 1942, she married Roy E. Damschen in Bremerton, Wash. During the war, they lived in New York City for a short time before returning to Havre to make their home.

In 1957, Irene went to work at Northern Montana College. What was to be a summer job turned into 26 years, from which she retired in 1983. During her time at Northern, she made many lasting friends and "trained four bosses." For many years, Irene was responsible for planting flowers on the NMC campus. Many came to know her as "the plant lady on campus." In 1984, she received the college's "Excellence Award" for her dedication and years of service at NMC. She always wanted to ride in "The Goose" and never had the chance until September, 2004.

Irene was an avid sports fan. She actively followed her children and grandchildren in their sports, as well as never missing an NMC Lights basketball game for many years. She enjoyed the outdoors. She loved fishing, planting her garden and flowers at the family home, and taking Sunday afternoon rides to Beaver Creek. She was an active member at the Fifth Avenue Christian Church, VFW and Eagles.

In 2003, Irene moved to Billings because of health reasons and to be near family.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Roy; brothers Leroy and Bert; sisters Frances and Helen; her parents and infant twin brother and sister.

Memorials can be made to the MSU-Northern Athletic Department or the Northern Rockies Kidney Foundation. To send condolences to the family online, please go to www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

CLARA GUNHILDA (OPPEBOEN) MARTINSON EDWARDS

Birth: September 4, 1911– Death: May 14, 2006

Liberty County Times

May 24, 2006



Clara G. Edwards

Clara Gunhilda (Oppeboen) Martinson Edwards was born September 4th, 1911 at Van Hook, North Dakota, which is a little town near Williston. She was one of three children born to Olaf and Anna (Dalhin) Oppeboen. Clara received her elementary and secondary education at Van Hook, then continued her schooling in Minot where she completed teacher's college.

Clara married Lloyd Martinson on September 12th, 1933. They lived at Sanish, N.D. until 1936, then moved to Inverness, Montana. Lloyd worked in the grain elevator business throughout the Hi-Line area and Clara taught school. Later, she worked as a homemaker and mother to their two sons. The Martinsons were married 31 years when Lloyd died suddenly in 1964.

Clara's second husband was Lynn Edwards, a north Chester area farmer whom she married in 1966. When Lynn retired in 1974, they moved to Kalispell. They spent their summers in the Flathead Valley and their win-

ters in Mesa, Arizona. After Lynn's health began to fail in 1996, the Edwards moved to the Cambridge Place retirement home in Great Falls. Lynn passed away in 1999. The following year Clara moved to the Hunters Pointe Assisted Living facility in Helena to be closer to her oldest son and family. In 2002 Clara's health began to deteriorate, so she transferred to the Rocky Mountain Care Center. She remained at this Helena nursing home where she died peacefully on this past Mother's Day (May 14th, 2006). Clara was 94 years old. Clara enjoyed those 15 years as a school teacher in North Dakota and Montana. Her teaching sites in Montana included Havre, Inverness, Loma, and Joplin.

Her hobbies were many. She enjoyed crocheting, sewing, craftwork, and gardening. Clara and husband Lynn loved to fish from their little boat on Flathead Lake. They also enjoyed traveling and took several memorable trips to Alaska and Hawaii, among other places. During her quiet time at home Clara enjoyed watching television, especially the Lawrence Welk show.

Clara worked hard to maintain good physical, mental, and spiritual health. She liked to walk and exercise on a regular basis, so staying active probably attributed to her longevity. For those who knew Clara, it was obvious that she had an "eye for fashion". She was always well-kept and well-dressed – best described as a "very classy lady"! Before her

vision and health failed, Clara enjoyed reading. When corresponding with family and friends, she always referred to specific Bible passages in her salutation.

She is survived by her son, Don Martinson (and wife, Rosalie) of Helena, and their daughters, Janice (Dale) Wolf (and children, Craig and Erin) of Great Falls, Donna (Tim) Connors (and children, Callie and Kelsey) of Oakpark, California, and Loni Martinson (and children, Connor, Treavor, and McKenna) of Valencia, California; her son, Larry Martinson (and wife, Linda) of Kremlin, and their daughters, Maria Rae Bickler of Billings and Lisa (Nick) Goodell (and children, Aston and Dylan) of Billings; her step-daughter, Lynda Pleas (and husband, Hap) of Missoula and their 3 children; and several nephews and nieces.

Clara was preceded in death not only by her parents and husbands, but also by her brother (Haaken Oppeboen) and her sister (Mabel Keck).

Clara was cremated per her wishes. Her ashes will be buried with her husband, Lloyd. Graveside services are planned for 11:00 a.m. Thursday (June 29th, 2006) at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Local arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

MABEL GERTRUDE (MUGGLIN) EMERSON
Birth: September 25, 1920 – Death: March 31, 2006
Liberty County Times
April 5, 2006



Mabel Emerson:

Mabel Gertrude (Mugglin) Emerson was born September 25th, 1920 at Bakersville, Ohio. She was the only daughter and youngest of five children born to Joseph and Mary (Jahn) Mugglin.

Mabel grew up and received her education at Walton, New York. Following her graduation from Walton High School in 1937, she continued her education at the Delhi Ag School (Delhi, N.Y.), where she majored in the study of institutional foods.

Mabel married Edwin D. Emerson on April 18th, 1942 at Franklin, N.Y. They ultimately settled near Deposit, New York where they raised a family of four. In the early 1950's Mabel began working as a machine operator for a Division of Bendix Aviation at Sidney, N.Y. The Emerson's were married 38 years when Edwin died in 1980. Shortly after her husband's death, Mabel retired from Bendix and sold her little farm near Deposit. She moved

to nearby Harpursville and lived there for the next 20 years. When her health began to fail in 2004, Mabel moved to Chester (Montana) to be near her daughter. She eventually transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester, where she died peacefully on the morning of Friday (March 31st, 2006). She was 85 years old.

Mabel's father was a German minister, so in her younger years she was active in a Presbyterian Youth Group and loved to sing in the church choir. She was also active in the Glee Club at the Delhi Ag School.

Her hobbies were many. Mabel enjoyed sewing, knitting, crocheting, tatting, cooking, baking, and gardening. She loved to play the piano and enjoyed the serenity of walking in the woods near her home in New York. During her quiet time she liked to read (especially, murder mysteries) and play word games. After moving to the Chester rest home, Mabel looked forward to the many activities there and participated in all of the nursing home programs. She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by her 4 brothers (Gustave, Harvey, Ernest, and Calvin Mugglin).

Her survivors include her daughter, Ruth Fenger (Joel) of Chester, Mt.; 3 sons, Joseph Emerson (Caroline) of Deposit, N.Y., E. D. "Ty" Emerson (Judy) of Hatfield, Pennsylvania, and David Emerson (Connie) of Deposit, N.Y.; 6 grandchildren (inc.

Cheryl, Karen, Craig, Jason, Barbara, and Heather); 4 great-grandchildren (inc. Rachele, Stephanie, Amanda, and Jennifer); and 2 great-great-grandchildren (inc. Ashton and Aceleinn).

Visitation for Montana friends was held Saturday afternoon (April 1st) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Memorials may be given to the Liberty County Nursing Home or donor's choice...

Mabel's funeral will be 2:00 p.m. Saturday (April 8th) at the McClure Methodist Church in Deposit, New York. Following the service she will be buried next to her husband at the Anthony Cemetery near Deposit.

ROBERT JOSEPH ENGLE

Born: May 30, 1947 – Died: October 2, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

November 19, 2006

EVERETT, Wash. — Great Falls native Robert Joseph Engle, 59, a retired salesman, died of natural causes Oct. 2 at a retirement home in Everett, Wash.



Engle

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Dec. 2, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Medina, Wash. A family service will be held in Montana next summer.

He is survived by his daughter Kimberly Lee, his son-in-law Mike Lee and his grandchildren Mitchell and Vivien Lee, all of Bonney Lake, Wash.; his sister Kathleen Warren, his brother-in-law Jay Warren and nieces Joli Pesek, Annalisa Pesek, Mariayna Pesek and Katya Warren, all of Snohomish, Wash., and his youngest sister Sue Engle of Snohomish; extended family members also will miss B.J., including aunts Helen Johnson of Conrad and Lillian Borge of Great Falls, aunt and uncle Evelyn and Paul Johnson of Shelby, and a wealth of cousins who hold fond memories of childhood days together.

Bob, or B.J., as he was fondly known by family and friends, was born May 30, 1947, in Great Falls, to Robert and Josephine Engle. He graduated from Great Falls Central High School, class of 1965.

He then attended the College of Great Falls for two years, followed by his graduation in 1970 from the University of Montana, where he earned a bachelor's degree in sociology. After graduation, Bob held numerous sales positions, including selling radio advertisements for KMON/KNUW in Great Falls and acquiring contracts for TRW Nelson Stud Welding Inc. in Seattle, where he produced the top sales in 13 states in 1983. He retired early from TRW in 1985 after undergoing surgery for a brain tumor.

Bob was married twice; during his second marriage, he and his wife had one daughter, Kimberly.

One of Bob's hobbies was owning, breeding and racing thoroughbred horses. He enjoyed many successful ventures in this arena in the Pacific Northwest, winning numerous races during his career. He also enjoyed swimming and running. While living in Renton, Wash., he was a member of a bowling league; he enjoyed the friendships he made there, and he was proud of the trophies he won during their tournaments.

While his brain surgery left Bob disabled, he never lost his quick wit or sense of humor. He outlived every life-expectancy prediction, and he found joy in other areas of his life. He often bragged about being the youngest resident in his assisted-living facility, and he loved winning at bingo on a daily basis.

Having wonderful, lifelong friends was also a joy in his life. These comrades traveled with him and helped him attend the 2005 Great Falls Central Class of '65 reunion. The fact that he used a walker and sometimes a wheelchair did not hinder his pleasure in seeing his classmates, sharing life stories, and dancing as many dances as anyone else at the reunion. He particularly enjoyed returning to his favorite high school stomping grounds to relish a burger from Burger Master and a pizza from Howard's Pizza. In August 2006, he again met with several of these friends from the Class of '65 at a mini-reunion in Auburn, Wash. He cherished those memories.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother.

Condolences may be sent online to greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

NORM ENGSTROM

Birth: November 12, 1925 - Death: September 23, 2006

Liberty County Times

October 4, 2006



Norm Engstrom

Norm Engstrom, age 80, died Saturday afternoon (September 23, 2006) from cancer at the Careage Nursing Home of Whidbey, Coupeville, Washington. His daughter, Carrie, was at his bedside at the time of his passing.

Norman Wesley Engstrom was born November 12, 1925 in Salina, Kansas to Arnold

and Edith (Bengston) Engstrom. He grew up with his brother, Maurice "Buddy" Engstrom. In 1936 the family moved to Seattle, WA. Norm finished his education in Seattle where he graduated from Queen Anne High School in 1943.

He began working in the parts department at Davies Chevrolet, then was inducted into the U. S. Army during World War II. Norm was stationed in Korea during most of his military term. Following his honorable discharge, he returned to Seattle to his job at Davies Chevrolet where he met a co-worker,

Margaret Alice Schafer. Norm and "Margie" were married September 14, 1951 in Whitlash, Montana. The Engstrom's made their home in Bellevue, WA. and raised a family of two: a son, Mark and a daughter, Carrie. Norm also had a daughter, Eleanor, from a previous marriage.

In 1984 Norm retired from Brooks McKnight Chevrolet, where he worked as parts manager for 39 years. In 1988 Norm and Margie moved to Lagoon Point at Whidbey Island, WA. They loved their home on the island where they enjoyed the beautiful sunsets, watching the busy shipping lanes, and those many opportunities for great fishing!

In his earlier years Norm enjoyed both fishing and bird-and-duck hunting with family and friends. He always had fond memories of the Montana ranch in the Sweetgrass Hills where Margie grew up. After retiring, Norm became an avid golfer and joined the Whidbey Golf & Country Club. During his membership years he was fortunate to "ace" hole #7 on three separate occasions and was able to continue golfing until this past fall, when his health began to decline.

Norm and Margie were very sociable people who enjoyed bowling, camping, and traveling. They experienced many memorable trips, cruises, and RV vacations during their 51 years together. In addition they were devoted fans and longtime ticket holders of the University of Washington Huskies football team.

Norm was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland, the Elks Club in Oak Harbor, and the V.F.W.

Island.

Norm's wife, Margie, died on December 3, 2002. He was also preceded in death by his parents and brother, a sister-in-law (Lois Schafer Brauer), and a brother-in-law (Robert Brauer).

He is survived by his son, W. Mark Engstrom (and wife, Kathy) of Whitlash, Mt.; 2 daughters, Eleanor Engstrom of Manteca, California and Carrie Engstrom of Sammamish, Washington; 5 grandchildren (inc. Zeb, Katy, Kim, Yvonne, and Michael); 4 great-grandchildren (inc. Alyssa, Alexis, Alana, and Michael Jr.); and several nephews and nieces.

A memorial service was conducted at 11:00 a.m. Thursday (Sept. 28th) at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland, WA by Pastor Jim Lindus. A poem entitled "If Ever You've Lived On An Island" was read in remembrance of Norm.

Graveside services were held 2:00 p.m. Tuesday (Oct. 3rd) at the Whitlash Cemetery in Whitlash, MT where Norm was buried next to the "love of his life", Margie. Pastor Peter Erickson offered graveside readings and prayers. Taped musical tributes included "My Wish" (by Rascal Flatts), "What A Wonderful World" (by Louis Armstrong), and "My Way"

(by Frank Sinatra). The service ended with military rites by members of the Galata American Legion Post.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Public viewing was Monday (Oct. 2nd) at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the American Cancer Society, the Trinity Lutheran Church in Freeland, or the Whitlash Community Church in Whitlash.

EDITH M. (COFFMAN) ERICKSON
Born: October 17, 1918 – Died: January 11, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
January 24, 2006

Edith M. Erickson

POWELL, Wyo. — Moore native Edith M. (Coffman) Erickson, 87, of Powell, Wyo., a homemaker, died of cancer Jan. 11 in Powell.



Services have taken place in Powell.

Erickson Survivors include sons Elmer (Jan) Whitcraft of Kalispell, Edward (Sherri) Whitcraft of Canon City, Colo., and Ron (Sue) Erickson of Powell, Wyo.; daughters Margaret (Mike) Halbach of Oostburg, Wis., Marilyn (Bill) Prichard of Columbia Falls, Lila (Frank) King of Monticello, Fla., and Loretta (Roger) Lukkasson of Yuma, Ariz.; brothers Jim (Jackie) Coffman of Hobson, Bill (Sharon) Coffman of Red Lodge; sisters Fern Campbell, June Legg and Joan (Ed) Bartle, all of Great Falls; 21 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

She was born Oct. 17, 1918, in Moore to Elmer and Stella (Manuel) Coffman, and graduated from high school in Buffalo. She married Clarence Erickson on Nov. 23, 1948, in Billings. He died Oct. 19, 2002. With Clarence's jobs, they lived in many Montana towns and with his retirement, moved to White Sulphur Springs from Colstrip in 1983.

A housewife and mother, she was active in the Lutheran Church and was a member of Order of Eastern Star, Montana PTA, the Montana Democratic Women's organization and was a 1978 runner-up for Montana Mother of the Year.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; one son, Frank Whitcraft; two brothers; and a sister.

ESTHER MARGARET (FLESCH) ERICKSON
Birth: April 9, 1924 – Death: December 18, 2006

Liberty County Times

December 27, 2006



Esther Erickson

Esther Margaret (Flesch) Erickson, age 82, longtime Chester area farmwife, passed away early Monday morning (December 18, 2006) at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester.

Esther was born April 9, 1924 on the Flesch family farm at Browns Valley, Minnesota. She was the fourth of nine children born to Edward and Hazel (Jummer) Flesch. The family came to Montana in 1929 to a farm north of Shelby, where Esther grew up. She received her early education at the Flesch country school near the farm, then finished her schooling in Shelby where she graduated in 1942.

Following high school she met the "love of her life", Oscar N. Erickson, of south Chester. They were married in Shelby on March 11, 1943, a few days before Oscar left for active military service in the Army during World War II. Following Oscar's honorable discharge in 1945, they lived and farmed in the south Chester community. They were blessed with one child, a beautiful and adored daughter, Bonnie

Elaine.

In 1957-58 the Ericksons moved to California, where Bonnie attended the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. They also resided in Great Falls until 1961, where Bonnie attended Great Falls Central Catholic High School. In their later years they moved into and were active in the Chester community. Oscar died on April 30, 1999 at the age of 76. Esther remained in their Chester home until January of 2004, when she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home for treatment of Parkinsons. She lived at the rest home until her recent hospitalization.

During her active years Esther was a dedicated member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester where she served as a Sunday School teacher, Eucharistic minister, and member of the Altar Society.

For many years she was an avid Duplicate Bridge player and achieved the status as Life Master. She was well-known as an extremely accomplished Bridge player and with various bridge partners she often won or placed in many state, regional, and national tournaments. As an opponent at the Bridge table, Esther was always very competitive and highly respected. She also enjoyed reading bridge publications and monthly magazines.

Other hobbies included art and painting, sewing and embroidery, flower gardening, playing pinochle, and collecting antique dishes. Esther loved music and playing the piano,

and she taught piano to her grandchildren. In her quiet time at home she enjoyed reading and watching television, espe-

cially "Jeopardy".

A highlight of Esther and Oscar's life was a memorable cruise to the Caribbean in 1990. They had been married 56 years at the time of Oscar's death.

Esther dearly loved her family. She will be remembered for her good heart, sweet disposition, and cheerful spirit!

She leaves to mourn her passing her beloved daughter, Bonnie (Keith) Whalen of Chester; 4 adored grandchildren, Emily (Robert) Gorham of Chester, Erick Wodarz and Margie Wodarz of the Missoula area, and Ivan Wodarz of Seattle; and their father, Roy Wodarz of Havre; 2 brothers, Leo (Rea) Flesch of Shelby and Leroy (Bonnie) Flesch of Brady; 1 sister, Elaine (Ray) Zell of Shelby; and numerous relatives and friends (including a special friend, Patsy Seidlitz of Chester).

Esther was preceded in death by her beloved husband and parents, and by brothers Lawrence, Lyle, Joseph, infant brother, and Vernon Flesch).

Her funeral mass was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Thursday (Dec. 21st) by Father Joseph Diekhans at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Ushers were Ron and Cliff Hanson. Scripture readings were by Emily Gorham and Ivan Wodarz. Eulogist and

Eucharistic Minister was Pat Seidlitz. The communion gifts were presented by Emily Gorham and Erick Wodarz. Altar server was Ken Gagnon. St. Mary's choir sang "On Eagle's Wings", "Ave Maria", "You Are Near", & "O Lord, I Am Not Worthy", accompanied by pianist, Richie Hamel. A special musical tribute, "April

in Paradise", was performed by grandson, Ivan Wodarz. Pallbearers included Erick, Ivan, and Roy Wodarz, Robert Gorham, Robert Pugsley Jr., and Marvin Krook. Burial was at the Chester Cemetery. A luncheon by the Altar Society followed at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

HILBORGE 'HILDA' GERTRUDE (BERGE) EWALD
Birth: July 9, 1915 – Death: August 21, 2006
Liberty County Times
August 30, 2006



Hilda Ewald

Hilborge (Hilda) Gertrude Ewald, 91, a secretary from Shelby died August 21, 2006 at the Marias Medical Center due to natural causes. Funeral services were held at 2:00 pm on Monday, August 28, 2006 at St Luke's Lutheran Church with visitation from 10:00 am until service time. Interment was in the Rudyard Cemetery with a reception following at the Rudyard Senior Center. Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby was in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com

Survivors include her grandson, Brent (Mary) Waters of Malta; great-grandsons Koev Waters of Billings and Klayton Waters of Shelby; sisters Lillian (Clifford) Ulmen and Evelyn Wanke both of Rudyard; sisters-in-law Inez Berge of Rudyard, Violet 'Babe' Boughton of Great Falls, and Ardys Ewald of Billings; as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Hilda was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, daughter, and brother, Sam Berge.

Hilda was born July 9, 1915, the eldest daughter of Eivind and Clara (Sanda) Berge. The family homesteaded north of Rudyard in the Goldstone community. She attended the rural Center School through the 8th grade then furthered her education in Rudyard graduating in 1933. She also attended Northern Montana College in Havre. Hilda and Daniel E Ewald married in February of

1934. They had been married 38 years when Daniel passed away in 1972. To this union one daughter, Louise Elaine, was born. When Louise entered school, Hilda went to work for the Shelby Sheet Metal Works and later went to work for the Star Cleaners. Hilda retired from Mountain Bell Telephone after 35 years as a service representative.

Hilda was a member of St Luke's Lutheran Church, Alpha-Naomi Circle, Sons of Norway Lodge #5078, the Shelby Garden Club, Shelby Business and Professional Women, SSS Club and the Shelby Bridge Club. Hilda's favorite pastime was her genealogy search. She was also an avid traveler having traveled on all seven continents with only flying over Antarctica. She had visited relatives in Norway several times.

WILLIAM 'BILL' JENS FARDEN

Birth: September 4, 1925 – Death: July 11, 2006

Liberty County Times

December 27, 2006



Bill Farden

William Jens Farden, the founder and owner of Outdoor Empire Publishing and Fishing & Hunting News, Bill Farden of Seattle, WA died suddenly July 11th. He was 80. Bill was born Sept. 4, 1925 in Grenora, ND and his childhood years were spent in Joplin, MT. A Navy veteran, Farden served in the Pacific during World War II. He earned a degree in Journalism from the University of Montana. He also earned a degree from Whitworth College and completed the Owner/President Management Program at Harvard Business School.

While teaching English at Spokane's Rogers High School in the early 1950s, he had an idea for an outdoor publication that would offer upcoming weekend opportunities, rather than reporting about what had happened the previous weekend. It was a philosophy that

would guide Bill and those who worked under him for the next 50-plus years. Founded in 1954 as Outdoor Empire Weekly Rod & Gun News, Farden's publication, under the name Fishing & Hunting News, eventually became the premier outdoor news magazine in the West. Bill remained at the helm of Outdoor Empire Publishing until his death.

He was widely regarded as a pioneer and a visionary in the weekly outdoors print media. As an outdoor enthusiast, he also created numerous other publications and educational course materials used in hunter education, boating and bicycle safety and safe snowmobile operation. Following another one of his passions, Bill co-founded Bilingual Books, Inc. which went on to become an industry leader in foreign-language publishing.

In addition to his publishing career, Bill also co-founded Outdoor Emporium, a Seattle-based specialty retailer catering to serious fishing and hunting enthusiasts throughout western Washington. Bill was devoted to the outdoors, but also found time to become a licensed pilot with instrument ratings. He logged hundreds of hours in three Cessna aircraft as he criss-crossed the U.S. selling advertising and working on editorial projects.

From 1995-2002 he owned and managed Bodidris Hall, a 15th century country house hotel and restaurant in North Wales, where he frequently entertained friends and guests on pheasant hunting expeditions.

He also set aside time each year to explore new corners of Europe from Scandinavia to the Mediterranean on his canal boat, the Kristin Merri. Bill is survived by his wife, Nancy, two sons, Eric and Marc, a daughter, Kristinmerri, a stepson, Christopher, and grandchildren, Steven, Michael, Luke, Katie, Becky and Emily. A private Memorial Service attended by Bill's immediate family was held on July 15th. A Celebration of Bill's Life will be held at a later date.

Remembrances may be made to Swedish Medical Foundation/Heart and Vascular Institute, 747 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122

ELIZABETH (KOSLOWSKY) FAST

Born: September 25, 1915 – Died: January 5, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

January 8, 2006

Elizabeth K. Fast

FRAZER — Elizabeth (Koslowsky) Fast, 90, a Frazer housewife who loved gardening and caring for animals, died after a recent stroke Thursday at a Wolf Point hospital.



Fast

Her funeral has taken place. Clayton Stevenson Memorial Chapel handled arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family at csmc@nemontel.net or www.stevensonandsons.com.

Surviving her is her husband of 68 years, Arthur Fast; her seven children, Marlene Fast and Marjorie (Willard) Friesen of Mountain Lake, Minn., Martin (Karen) Fast of the family farm near Frazer, Marliss (Eldon) Busenitz of Clio, Mich., Iris Mardelle (Joe) Troche of El Paso, Texas, Marietta (Ron) Olfert of Lustre and Marla (Loch) Forbes of Chester; sisters Lena Toavs of Wolf Point and Tena Pankratz and Mary Seibel of Hillsboro, Kan.; brothers Pete Koslowsky of Hillsboro and Jake Koslowsky of Newton, Kan.; 26 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren. The family welcomed member #81 on December 31 of last year.

Elizabeth went home to rest on Thursday morning Jan. 5, after a debilitating stroke on Nov. 9, 2005, which left her paralyzed, unable to talk, walk or use her right arm.

Elizabeth Koslowsky Fast was born Sept. 25, 1915, to Martin J. and Mary Lohrenz Koslowsky near Peabody, Kan., the eighth of

twelve children. Liz, along with her family, moved to the Frazer, Mont., area in 1925 to settle on the Fort Peck Reservation. She received her education in Kansas, Frazer and the Grand Prairie community through eighth grade.

Liz's family job was to care for the animals especially the bum lambs which they cared for. Her father died in 1934 of cancer so the family was forced to find paying jobs off the farm. She began working at the Sherman Hotel in Wolf Point until she caught Arthur Fast's eye and he gave her a permanent job. They were married on August 29, 1937, in the Lustre Mennonite Brethren Church.

Her diary says that she accepted Christ as her personal Savior on July 10, 1931, and was baptized in the Lustre EMB Church on July 12, 1939. Her gift was hospitality and many people ate at her table or stayed the night in their home. Even salesmen had to have a roll or pie and coffee before they could leave.

Mom is remembered best for her record keeping and the calendar she kept and the letters she wrote. She knew exactly who had a birthday or an anniversary on that date and had sent thousands of cards. If a calf, kitten or puppy were born on your birthday, she would have an immediate name for that animal. Otherwise she would create one. Her garden was huge with supplies for all winter. She regretted the day when she no longer could come out to help harvest the potatoes or care for the chickens. The cats still come to her house every morning to be fed and given milk.

Elizabeth is preceded in death by her parents; four brothers and two sisters; son-in-laws Jim McKinley and Robert Blackwell; and one granddaughter, Paris McKinley.

Memorials may be made to the Lustre Christian High School, to whom she wrote her last check before her stroke.

MABEL ROSE 'DOLL' (GALLAGHER) FELTON
Born: Age 81 – Died: March 27, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 5, 2006

Mabel Rose 'Doll' Felton

BOISE, Idaho — Former Montana resident and Butte native Mabel Rose "Doll" (Gallagher) Felton, 81, of Boise, Idaho, a retired registered nurse who had lived in Charlo, Great Falls, Chinook and Galata, died of natural causes March 27 in Boise.

Services have taken place, with burial in Cloverdale Memorial Park in Boise.

Survivors include her husband, Edward Felton of Boise; children Larry Felton of Sacramento, Calif., Theresa Mann of Idaho City, Idaho, Linda Coulter of Big Bear Lake, Calif., Lori Felton of Pablo and Jim Felton and Mark Felton of Boise; sisters Frances Keith and Patricia Ague of Great Falls, Colleen Paul of Butte, Rita Gallagher of Pablo and Ethel McCready of Missoula; brothers Seumas Gallagher and Daniel Gallagher of Missoula, John Gallagher of Havre, Edward Gallagher of Alberton and George Gallagher of Deer Lodge; 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

HERBERT W. 'HERB' FENGER
Birth: January 29, 1918– Death: July 27, 2006
Liberty County Times
August 2, 2006



Herb Fenger

Herbert W. "Herb" Fenger was born January 29th, 1918 on the family homestead north of Lothair, Montana. He was one of six children born to Fred & Paulina (Bauer) Fenger. Herb received his formal education at the North Lothair country school, then began his life as a Montana farmer/rancher.

He married Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Benjamin on March 25th, 1941 at Joplin, Mt. They made their home and raised their two sons on a farm 7 miles north of Lothair. In 1979 the Fengers retired and purchased a home near Polson. In addition they spent their winter months at Mesa, Arizona.

In 1998 Herb's wife was diagnosed with cancer. They purchased a home in Chester in 2001 to be closer to their sons and Hi-Line friends. The Fengers had been married 62 years when Betty died on March 26th, 2003. The following year Herb moved to the Liberty County Nursing

Home, where he lived until his death this past Thursday morning (July 27th, 2006).

He was 88 years old.

Herb was baptized & confirmed at the Trinity Lutheran Church north of Lothair and maintained his membership there. He also attended Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester and the Good

Shepherd Lutheran Church in Polson. Additional memberships included the Big Sky Rock & Gem Club, the "Flying Farmers" of Montana, and the Montana Trap-Shooting Association.

Herb had a lifelong love of flying and maintained his private pilot's license for many years. Of interest was the fact that he was one of the early proponents of aerial spraying in northern Montana. Even into his 80's, Herb never passed an opportunity to go flying with his sons. He was also a very talented welder, who did a lot of repairs for area farmers & friends during those early years. He simply loved to work and tinker in his shop.

Herb took up trap-shooting in his late 50's and was proud to earn his "100-straight pin" at a trapshoot in Butte in the 1970's. In his quiet time at home he enjoyed playing the accordion and the mouthharp. He also enjoyed cards, especially whist & pitch. He was well-known by his friends as a "great story-teller"!

In their retirement years the Fengers enjoyed socializing with friends via camping, trav-

cling, rock-hounding, and arrowhead hunting. Herb collected a large assortment of agates, gems, & precious stones, then incorporated his personal skills in silver-&goldsmithing into a newfound hobby; the manufacture of unique jewelry. The results were wonderful! What could possibly be better for a "worldclass tinkerer" who loved to keep his imagination sharp and his hands busy? His beautiful, "one-of-a-kind" jewelry items (i.e., belt buckles, bolo ties, watch bands, necklaces, pins, etc.) have been enjoyed and will continue to be enjoyed by family & friends forever...

Herb is survived by 2 sons, Joel Fenger (and wife, Ruth) of Chester and Gerald "Jerry" Fenger of Galata; a special family friend, Judy Wickum of Chester; 1 sister, Dorothy Tufts of Apache Junction, Arizona; 5 grandchildren, Rachelle Fenger of Helena; Renee (Jim) Kralic of Helena, Mary Fenger of Cut Bank, Matthew Fenger of Galata, and Michael Fenger of Hardin; 4 great-grandchildren (including Joy, Kimberly, Kelli, & Alec); numerous nephews & nieces; and his loving poodle,

"Nikki".

In addition to his wife and parents, Herb was preceded in death by 3 brothers (Clarence, Harvey, & Wilmer Fenger) and 1 sister (Esther Gouchenour).

Funeral services were conducted at 10:00 a.m. Monday (July 31st) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor Pete Erickson. Selected scriptures were read by Rachelle Fenger, cowboy poetry was written & read by Dena Fritz, and the eulogy was shared by Allen Kolstad. The vocal duet of Jim Fritz & Rachelle Fenger performed "Home on the Range" & "The Old Rugged Cross". Karen Stack served as organist and the congregation sang "Just A Closer Walk With Thee". Ushers were Jim Kralic & Ray Tomscheck. Pallbearers were Bill Skinner, Lyle Glee, John Fritz, Claude Hawks, Duane Markuson, & Jerry Hendrickson. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

STEPHEN 'STEVE' FERDA
Born: January 1, 1911 – Died: June 2, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
June 6, 2006

Stephen Ferda

Stephen "Steve" Ferda, 95, of 20 3rd St. N., a longtime Highwood resident and farmer, died of natural causes Friday at Peace Hospice.



Ferda

Visitation is 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday at O'Connor Funeral Home. Funeral Mass is 11 a.m.

Thursday at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fort Benton, with burial in Riverside Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Dorothy E. Ferda of Great Falls; daughters Kathleen (Cal) Nelson of Fort Benton, Pauline (Al) Merenz of Great Falls and Susan Sands of Littleton, Colo.; sons Timothy Ferda of Great Falls, Phillip (Laureen) Ferda and Joseph Ferda of Highwood and Leo Ferda of Ridgecrest, Calif.; sisters Helen Gervais of Cascade, Alice Nilsen of Great Falls and Margaret Bedenbender of Ocean-side, Calif.; nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Michael and Susan Ferda; brothers Michael Ferda Jr., and John Ferda; and sisters Mary Blais, Ann Workman, Elizabeth Carlson and Pauline Ferda.

Steve died June 2, 2006, at Peace Hospice, surrounded by his family.

Steve was born Jan. 1, 1911, to Michael and Susan (Cizmar) Ferda, in Stockett, the fourth of 10 children. In 1915, his father homesteaded on Highwood Creek, moving the family there. Steve grew up there and attended local area schools.

In 1928, the family moved to the Charles Whitney homestead. In 1947, Steve married Dorothy Wendland of Rudyard. Together, they lived on the Lyng place on the Highwood north bench, and raised seven children. He retired in 1978 and moved into the town of Highwood, but as all farmers at heart do, he stayed involved in the farm operation, daily weather forecasts, grain prices and crop conditions. Steve was a member of St. Jane Frances Catholic Church in Highwood and was also a member of the Farmers Union Co-op.

Steve enjoyed farming, fishing, hunting and especially his grandchildren. He was an avid Highwood sports fan, attending many basketball games and following them in the newspaper or the on the radio.

Steve was a most loving and caring husband and father. He instilled in his children the importance of an education, honesty, hard work and family values. Steve left a legacy of love; we will miss him.

Memorials may be made to the Highwood scholarship fund; Peace Hospice; or to a charity of the donor's choice. Condolences may be sent online to www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

SPENSER MICHAEL FISHER

Born: April 11, 1996 – Died: August 19, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

September 7, 2006

Spenser Michael Fisher

GILLETTE, Wyo. — Spenser Michael Fisher, 10, of Gillette, Wyo., who was baptized at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Great



Spenser

Falls, died in a four-wheeler accident Aug. 19 in the Big Horn Mountains.

Services took place Aug. 25 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Gillette, with burial in Mount Pisgah Cemetery. Stevenson-Wilson Funeral Home of Gillette was in charge of services.

Spenser is survived by his parents, Jerry Fisher, who attended Riverview Elementary and North Junior High, and was a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church, and Sara (Hoyer) Fisher, who graduated from Conrad High School; and his brother, Jonathan, all of Gillette; grandparents Jim and Judy Fisher of Great Falls and Charleen Hoyer of Gildford; great-grandpa Ken Mees of Cody, Wyo.; an uncle, Jeff (Richelle) Fisher of Marysville, Wash.; an aunt, Kenna Hoyer of Seattle; two cousins, Marti and Trevor Fisher of Marysville; and his home-away-from-home family, Kevin, Shelley, D.J., Ranae and Katie Rehbein, all of Gillette.

Spenser was born April 11, 1996, to Jerry and Sara (Hoyer) Fisher, in Gillette. He attended Lakeview Elementary School in Gillette.

Spenser was an avid wrestler with the Camel Kids Wrestling Club for four years and was a Wyoming state champion. He played junior football with the Redskins and Panthers teams. He had played baseball since he was 3 years old and was a two-time Little League All-Star on the Gillette National 9-10-year-old team.

Spenser loved riding motorcycles and four-wheelers whenever he could. He loved being outside, whether in the mountains or venturing around town. He enjoyed spending time with his older brother, Jonathan, no matter what they were doing.

Spenser lived his life without a care in the world and marched to his own drum. He had a mind of his own, was afraid of nothing and was a creative thinker. He was very excited to go hunting on horseback in the Teton Mountains with his dad.

Spenser was a huge Pittsburgh Steelers fan. One of his greatest highlights was sitting in the fourth row of the AFC Championship game with his dad this year when the Steelers beat the Broncos.

Spenser was loved and will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by a grandfather, Thomas Hoyer; Great-Grandpa Ray Woell, who shared a birthdate with Spenser; and Great-Grandma Inga Woell.

Memorials and condolences may be sent to Spenser's family, Jerry and Sara Fisher, 506 Rockpile Blvd., Gillette, WY 82716. Condolences may be sent online to stevensonwilson.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

VERNON CLARENCE FLESCH

Born: August 16, 1930 – Died: January 24, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

January 27, 2006

Vernon Clarence Flesch

Vernon Clarence Flesch, 75, of Great Falls, died of cancer Tuesday at a local nursing home.

At his request, no services are planned. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements. Condolences for the family may be left at www.schniderfuneral-home.com.

Survivors include two sons, Douglas V. Flesch and Scott L. Flesch of Great Falls; brothers Leo (Rea) Flesch of Shelby and Leroy (Bonnie) Flesch of Helena; sisters Esther Erickson of Chester and Elaine (Ray) Zell of Shelby; five grandchildren, Kellee, Breann, Kayla, Amber and Wyatt; two great-grandsons; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Vernon was born Aug. 16, 1930, on the Flesch family farm north of Shelby, the seventh of nine children born to Edward and Hazel (Jummer) Flesch, early-day Toole County farmers. He attended the Prairie Dell Country Grade School close to the family farm where he was raised. He then attended his freshman year of high school at Gonzaga High, and graduated from Shelby High School in 1948. After apprentice training in Napa, Calif., Vernon returned to Great Falls and was a well-known painting and wallpapering contractor for the next 45 years, as well as an expert furniture refinisher.

Vernon married Gloria Coteles. They were married for 40 years; they then divorced.

In his younger years, Vernon enjoyed hunting and fishing, but his great pleasure came from his work, at which he excelled.

Vernon was preceded in death by two infant children; brothers Larry, Lyle, Joe; and an infant brother.

FRANCES LOUISE (RICHTER) FRASER
Birth: May 17, 1935 – Death: January 8, 2006
Liberty County Times
January 18, 2006



Frances Fraser

Frances Louise (Richter) Fraser, known affectionately as "Francy" by her many Hi-Line area friends, died Sunday (January 8th, 2006) at the Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls (MT) at the age of 70 years.

Francy was born May 17th, 1935 in Havre, Montana. Her parents were George and Margaret (Schwan) Richter and she was one of 15 children in the Richter family. Francy grew up in the Inverness community and received her early education there. She finished her schooling in Joplin, graduating from J.H.S. in 1953.

Francy married Rudy Bruns in 1955. They worked on various Montana and Idaho ranches and began raising a family of three sons before their marriage ended in divorce. Francy returned to the Hi-Line community and began working for Morris Ewald at his store in Rudyard. She married Rodney Fraser on May 20th, 1961. They made their home on the Fraser farm 20 miles south of Inverness, where Francy worked diligently as a farmwife

and homemaker (she amusingly referred to her role in life as a "domestic engineer"!). In addition to raising her three sons, the Fraser's were also blessed with two daughters to complete their family of five.

After 30 years of marriage, the Fraser's were divorced in 1991. Francy moved to Joplin and made her home there from that time on. Unfortunately, she was diagnosed with bladder cancer in 2000. She received the gamut of medical treatment, but continued to have additional problems in the ensuing years. A major emotional setback for Francy occurred in October of 2004 upon the death of her sister and best friend, Virginia Adams. Still, she carried on as best she could. Additional medical complications four months ago resulted in numerous hospitalizations and a rapid deterioration of her health, leading up to her death on Sunday evening.

Francy was baptized and confirmed at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness and remained a lifetime member. During her adult years in the Hi-Line she was active in T.O.P.S. and the dart and bowling leagues. In 1992 she made a memorable trip to Europe,

where she toured London, Paris, Germany, and Holland. She also enjoyed occasional junkets to Las Vegas and Jackpot, Nevada. During the past five years Francy became an active participant in local cancer walks and fund-raisers.

Her hobbies were many. She made ceramics, stuffed animals, quilts, afghans, and other crafty items. She enjoyed her flower and vegetable gardens. Her kitchen skills (including canning, baking, and cooking) were excellent and she loved to entertain! Francy made many wedding cakes, especially for family weddings, and her cakes were always a hit. And she made the best fried chicken in the Richter family!

During her quiet time at home Francy enjoyed "search word" games. Her favorite television shows were "Jeopardy", "Wheel of Fortune", and "Everybody Loves Raymond". Just for the fun of it she collected copper figurines, especially butterflies.

Francy enjoyed life and spending time with her family and friends. Her personality fit all genders and all ages, so she made friends easily. She will be missed by those who loved her...

Survivors are her 5 children, Randy Fraser of Alexandria, Virginia, Craig Fraser of Chester, Rex Fraser of Sacramento, California, Rhonda Olson of Billings, and Tracy Pfaff of Chester; 15 grandchildren (inc. Christopher, Jacob, Angela, Blaze, Molly, Mikinzie, Clay, Blaze, Michelle, David, Ryan, Brandy, Lindsey, Travon, and Dakota); 10 great-grandchildren; 2 brothers, Chris Richter of Ferndale and Frank Richter of Joplin; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Vigil Prayers were 7:00 p.m. Thursday (Jan. 12th) at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness. Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Diekhans at 11:00 a.m. Friday (Jan. 13th) at the church. Iris White served as organist and the church choir assisted with mass music. Vocalist, Marcus Jochim, performed "Ave Maria", "On Eagle's Wings", and "How Great Thou Art". Scripture readings were by Denise Strissel; the eulogist was given by Sam Richter; personal remembrances were shared by Rex Fraser; Eucharistic minister was Bev Moog; and the altar server was Nick Moog. Ushers were Rick and Bruce Richter. Pallbearers included Blaze Wendland, Ryan Olson, Todd Adams, Greg Richter, Dick Richter, and Jeff Han. Memorial bearers were listed as "all of Francy's

many friends". The service ended with a Vince Gill tape, "Go Rest High On That Mountain". Burial followed at the Inverness Cemetery, then a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Francy was preceded in death by her parents, 4 sisters (Lena, Mary, Agnes, and Virginia), 6 brothers (George, Joseph, Jake, Edwin, Raymond, and John), and 2 infant siblings.

GEORGE ALLEN FREEMOLE

Born: September 21, 1919 – Died: November 14, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

November 17, 2006

George Allen Freemole, 87, of 709 50th St. S., a retired assistant manager for the Social Security Administration, died of complications from a stroke Tuesday at Peace Hospice.



Freemole

A vigil is 7 this evening at Hillcrest Lawn Memorial Chapel. Funeral Liturgy is 1 p.m. Saturday at Sts. Peter and Paul



Catholic Church, with burial in Mount Olivet Cemetery. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

He is survived by his daughters, Margaret Halvorson of Great Falls and Helene Berger of Dillon, Mont.; sons Maynard Freemole of Corvallis, Ore., John Freemole of Polson and Michael Freemole of Missoula; his brother, Francis Edward Freemole of Sun Lakes, Ariz.; 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

George was born Sept. 21, 1919, the son of Wallace D. and Elizabeth (Kohler) Freemole, in Edgemont, S.D., where he was raised and educated.

After graduating from Edgemont High School in 1937, George joined the National Guard and served in Europe during World War II as a 1st Sergeant of the 135th Quartermaster Truck Company, United States Army. He enlisted in the Air Force in 1946, served in many places around the world and retired as a major in 1964.

He married Marjorie Kuhry of Chester, Mont., at Hickam Air Force Base in Honolulu, Hawaii, on July 10, 1947. They had five children: Maynard, John, Margaret, Helene and Michael.

George earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1965 and worked in the Social Security Administration in Kansas City, Mo., until 1967. He then transferred to Great Falls and served as assistant manager of the Social Security office here until his retirement in 1983.

He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1493, the Boy Scouts of America, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. He also served on the board of the Russell Country Federal Credit Union. A Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus, George served as a State Deputy, Grand Knight and Faithful Navigator. He was also active in the Boy Scouts for almost 40 years as Cubmaster, Scoutmaster and Commissioner. He was awarded the Boy Scouts' Silver Beaver for Distinguished Service to Youth in 1975.

George enjoyed hunting, camping, traveling and woodworking in addition to his other interests.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Marjorie Kuhry Freemole, who died in Great Falls in October, 1991.

Condolences may be sent online to schniderfuneralhome.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

VIOLA ELLA (BOSTIC) FREIER
Born: Age 81 – Died: May 30, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
June 1, 2006

Viola Ella Freier

HAVRE — Viola Ella (Bostic) Freier, 81, a Havre homemaker who was active in her church and church circle, died of natural causes Tuesday at a Havre hospital.



Freier

Her funeral is 10 a.m. Monday at the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church, followed

by a fellowship luncheon at the church. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include daughters Sandy Carrier of Spokane, Donna Brewer of Surprise, Ariz., Diane Dolven of Kalispell, Sheryl Burstock of Havre and Jan Donovan of Kremlin; a son, Steve Freier of Havre; a sister, Adlene Klock of Adams Center, N.Y.; a brother, Clayton Bostic of Midwest City, Okla.; 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Edwin, in 2001.

EMMA 'BABE' (POIER) LUDWIG FUNDERHIDE
Born: August 2, 1921 – Died: January 21, 2006
Liberty County Times
February 1, 2006



Emma "Babe" Funderhide

Emma Funderhide, 84 of Greeley, Colorado died in her home January 21, 2006.

Emma was born in her parents' farm near Rudyard, Montana August 2, 1921. She attended country school near Rudyard, where she also graduated from high school. After graduation she married Joseph Ludwig in 1941 in Montana. Her husband died in 1954. She then married Robert Funderhide in 1958. They later divorced. She moved to Loveland working for the US Forest Service in Fort Collins. She retired from the US Forest Service and moved to Fort Morgan, where she lived for 14 years. She moved to Greeley in 1999, and has been here since. She was a professional musician playing the organ, piano, accordion and anything with a keyboard. She also sang. She loved to read and loved baseball. Her father played semi-pro baseball in his younger years. She was a Colorado Rockies baseball fan. She attended her first Colorado Rockies games on her 80th

birthday. The billboard at Coors Field did acknowledge by displaying "Happy Birthday, Babe".

Survivors include her daughters: Lorna (Harry) Willson of Billings, Montana, Susan Schmier of Greeley, Colorado, Cheryl (Michael) Meier of Broomfield, Colorado, sons; Terrence (Toni) Ludwig of Omaha, Nebraska and Robert (Sana) Funderhide of Fort Morgan, Colorado, a brother, Stanton (Ellen) Poier of Kalispell, Montana, 13 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Emma was preceded in death by both of her husbands, 2 sisters Beatrice Poier and Marion Helf and one brother, Leonard Poier.

A gathering of family and friends will be held at 3 p.m., Wednesday in the Birchwood Apartments Recreation Hall

Please visit an online memorial at www.mem.com.

Arrangements by Stoddard Funeral Home

RONALD FREDRICK GAGNER
Birth: January 5, 1926 – Death: June 8, 2006
Liberty County Times
June 14, 2006



Ronald Gagner

Ronald Fredrick Gagner, 80, a longtime business owner from Shelby, passed away Thursday, June 8th, 2006 at the Marias Medical Center from natural causes. Visitation will be held on Sunday, June 11, from 9:00 a.m. till 9:00 p.m. with a vigil service at 7:00 p.m. at the Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Funeral Mass will be 11:00 a.m. Monday, June 12, at St. William Catholic Church with burial to follow in the Mountain View Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com.

Survivors include his two daughters, Rhonda Wiegand and husband Will of Shelby and Sandra Haley and husband John of Creston, B.C.; brothers, Ed (Buster) Gagner of Shelby and Darold Gagner and wife Beverly of Kalispell; five grandchildren, Ron and John Haley, Becky Tooke, Bill and Kathy Wiegand as well as seven great-grandchildren.

Ron is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Lois; sisters, Beatrice Atkins, Della Daley, Lorraine Quinlan and Viola Gagner; and brothers, Emmet and Vincent Gagner.

Ron was born Jan. 5, 1926 at Shelby to Onisme (Gene) and Mederise (LeDoux) Gagner where grew up and graduated from high school. He had suffered from polo in his teen years and later attended watchmaker's school and AFM Tech School.

On June 7, 1948, Ron and Lois Jean Schroer were married and the couple lived in Shelby where Ron worked for Pfannsmith Jewelry. They moved to Los Angeles where he worked for McDonald-Douglas for 2 years working on the hydraulics and the guidance system for bomber aircraft.

They then moved to Chester where he owned Gagner Jewelry for 7 years. In 1960 they moved back to Shelby where they owned and operated G&G Bowling Lanes before retiring in 1988.

Ron was a licensed private pilot and also enjoyed fishing, camping, gardening, and attending high school sporting events, playing cards and keeping up on current events around town. He also loved visiting with his coffee buddies.

He was a great husband and father. His familiar face will be greatly missed by all whose lives he touched.

WILLIAM NORBERT GEHLEN
Born: April 15, 1922 – Died: October 12, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
October 15, 2006

World War II Army Air Corps veteran William Norbert Gehlen, 84, of 1130 17th Ave. S., a native of Hingham, died of natural causes Thursday at a local nursing home.



Gehlen



Private burial of ashes will take place in Hingham Cemetery. Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory is handling arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Bertha "Dolly" Gehlen of Great Falls; sons, William E. Gehlen of Florida and James L. Gehlen of San Ramon, Calif.; a stepson, Al Brodock of Brookings, Ore.; sisters Hildegard Spickler of Great Falls and Lorraine Dorris of Oakland, Calif.; and 10 grandchildren.

He is also survived by nieces and nephews in Great Falls.

William was born April 15, 1922, in Hingham, graduating from Hingham High School in 1940. He was drafted into the Army Air Corps in 1940. After being discharged, William worked for Bank of America in San Francisco as a teller and in the brokerage department. He sold cookware for 10 years, then sold AAA Insurance until 1963. He owned and operated a beauty salon in Hayward, Calif., for 13 years, worked as a wallpaper hanger for 12 years, and was a security policeman for seven years, before retiring at age 65.

He moved to Montana in 1966.

He married Bertha "Dolly" Brodock on Sept. 30, 1994, in Great Falls.

He belonged to the Lions Club, Elks Club and Eagles Lodge. He enjoyed doing crossword puzzles and feeding and watching birds, and in his younger years, he loved to dance.

Condolences may be sent to croxfords@qwest.net and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

JOHN MILLARD GILBERT

Birth: February 27, 1954 – Death: December 13, 2006

Liberty County Times

December 20, 2007



John M. Gilbert

John Millard Gilbert, age 52, died at the Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls from complications of a stroke on Wednesday evening (December 13, 2006).

John was born in Havre, Montana on February 27, 1954. He was one of four children born to Kenneth and Betty (Fitzsimmons) Gilbert. He grew up in the Chester community and received his education there, graduating from C.H.S. in 1973. John continued his schooling for a short time at the Missoula Votech, where he studied forestry.

In September of 1974 John enlisted into the U.S. Army. He spent most of his 2-year stint in Germany. He attained the rank of Specialist 4th Class and earned a marksman award. After receiving his honorable discharge in the fall of 1976, he returned to Montana.

In 1977 John and an old school buddy, Kent Matkin, built a new NAPA store in Stanford, MT.

They worked as partners in this venture until 1979, when John bought out Kent's interest in the store. John continued to own and operate this NAPA dealership until 1995, then he sold the busi-

ness. In 1997 he moved to Great Falls where he worked in retail sales. John also lived in Rigby, Idaho for two years (2002-04), then came back to Great Falls where he was currently employed at Home Depot. John suffered a stroke on November 20th and remained hospitalized until his death.

John married Barb Henga on December 30, 1982 in Stanford. They had two sons before their marriage ended in divorce.

During his life in Stanford, John enjoyed those years he helped coach the Little Leaguers. He was also a member of the Stanford American Legion Post 53.

After moving to Great Falls, John enjoyed volunteer work at Benefis Hospital. He recently became active at St. Ann's Church, where he experienced a "spiritual uplifting" at a Crysillo event. Consequently, many of his recent readings and studies have pertained to the Bible.

John's favorite hobbies were fishing and hunting. He also enjoyed spectator sports, like Nascar, basketball, wrestling, and football (his favorite team was the Montana Grizzlies). In addition he enjoyed cooking, especially holiday turkeys.

Basically, John was a simple man who enjoyed the simple things in life. He loved to be with

people and was well-liked by people, so he established many special friendships over the years. He will be missed by many...

Survivors include his 2 sons, Calvin Gilbert of Great Falls and Kevin Gilbert (presently a student at MSU Northern in Havre); parents, Kenneth and Betty Gilbert of Chester; 2 sisters, Karen (Dave) Mattson of Chester and Keila Gilbert of Ottsville, PA; 1 brother, Jim (Jeri) Gilbert of Sylvania, Ohio; 5 nephews (Brad, Jeremy, Skylar, Colter, and Kent); 4 nieces (Mindy, Marisol, Leidy,

and Lacey); and several uncles, aunts, and cousins (inc. his special cousins, Sande, Gwen, Kay, and Cheryl).

A Vigil Prayer service was held at 8:00 p.m. Saturday (Dec. 16th) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Father Joseph Diekhans officiated and Pat Seidlitz provided special readings.

A coffee hour followed at the St. Mary's Catholic Youth Center.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated at 12 o'clock noon Tuesday (Dec. 19th) at St. Ann's Cathedral (715 - 3rd Ave. No.) in Great Falls. Celebrant was Father Oliver Doyle. Sacristan was Quentin Johnson; the organist was Jeanne Tonkovich; scripture readings were shared by Sande Gilbert and Gwen Anderson; the eulogist was Larry Gilbert; and communion gifts were presented by Karen Mattson and Jim Gilbert. Friends serving as pallbearers were Trigg Danielson, Bing VonBergen, Jake Hicks, Tom Ostertag, Kent Matkin, Bill Fraser, and Ken Osterman.

Graveside services were conducted at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday (Dec. 19th) at the Stanford Cemetery by Pastors Terry and Donna Claver.

Friends from the Stanford American Legion Post provided special military rites. A coffee hour followed at the Calvary Community Church in Stanford.

Memorials may be given to the Stanford Little League program, the Benefis Volunteer program, or the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

ROBERT EUGENE GILLET
Born: November 22, 1923 – Died: April 7, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 10, 2006

Robert Eugene Gillet

Robert Eugene Gillet, 82, of Great Falls, a World War II Army veteran and former salesman, died of natural causes Friday at a local hospital.



Gillet

Visitation is 5 to 8 p.m. today at Chapel of Chimes Funeral Home. His funeral is 2 p.m. Tuesday at



Faith Lutheran Church, with burial in Highland Cemetery.

Survivors include his daughters, Doreen (Tom) Carter of Rochester, N.Y., Debbie (Kevin) Schmid and Danita (Marty) Severson, all of Great Falls; a sister, Dorothy (Bob) Croucher of Kalispell; a brother, Harold (June) Gillet of Missoula; grandchildren Taunia and Sean Carter of Rochester, N.Y., and Holley Schmid, Tanner Schmid, Crystal Severson, Trevor Severson, Misty Severson and Mellissa (Scott) Severson-Hampton, all of Great Falls.

Bob was born Nov. 22, 1923, in his parents' vehicle on the way to the Havre hospital. He was raised and educated in Gildford. He moved to Kalispell in 1941 and then began his career with the U.S. Army as a sharp shooter and

cryptographic technician during WWII. He was honorably discharged in 1946, receiving the Asiatic Pacific Service, Good Conduct and Victory Medals. After WWII he worked for the Burlington Northern Railroad as a signal service technician. In 1960 he married Helen Ruth Cady of Kremlin. He then began a career selling insurance and followed that as a Shaklee coordinator until late 1999. For the last 10 years he has been involved with Bridges as a senior companion.

At 82, he was still very vibrant and lived on his own while working for Bridges five days a week. Bob was a collector of many things, the most extensive being friendships. He enjoyed dancing, flea markets, and following his grandchildren's sporting events. All the while he continued to meet and make people laugh, even through his toughest hours. Bob was a loving father, grandfather, brother, and friend. He will be missed by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Arthur and Dora Gillet; a brother Arthur Gillet; a sister, Margaret Enevold; and his wife, Helen R. Gillet.

GARY JAMES GOTTFRIED
Birth: December 15, 1957 – Death: June 3, 2006
Liberty County Times
June 7, 2006



Gary Gottfried

Gary James Gottfried passed away Saturday, June 3rd in Bozeman, Montana.

He was born on December 15, 1957 in Great Falls, Montana to the late James and Mora Gottfried. Gary graduated from Fort Benton High School and Montana State University with a Bachelors degree in English Education. He was affiliated with Sigma Nu fraternity.

Gary was an Eagle Scout, and wrestled in high school. He was an avid sportsman and especially enjoyed hunting, fishing and snow skiing.

Gary farmed with his dad for several years on the family farm north of Fort Benton, and more recently made his home in Manhattan, Montana.

Survivors include two sisters, Lynn Harris of Colville, Washington, and Jacquelyn (Dan) Martin of Keller, Texas; niece and nephews Kristen and Nathan Dempsey, and James and Michael Martin.

Memorial Service is 2 p.m. Saturday, June 10 in Deer

Lodge, Montana. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Crematorium or Funeral Home, Belgrade, Montana.

MARGARET FRANCES (OSTERMAN) GRIFFIN
Born: February 19, 1925 - Died: July 8, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
July 10, 2006

Margaret Frances Griffin

ARMINGTON — Margaret Frances (Osterman) Griffin, 81, an Armington homemaker, died of natural causes Saturday at Peace Hospice.



Griffin

with burial in Highland Cemetery.

Survivors include daughters Lorraine (Bill) Bell of Suffolk, Va., and Gloria Kowalsky of Greenwood, Ind.; sons Daniel (Karen) Griffin of Great Falls, Steve (Jan) Griffin of Sand Coulee and Dale Griffin of Sparks, Nev.; sisters Mary (Jack) Boettcher of Shelby and Bernice



**Griffin
in 1943**

(Cary) Breeden of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.; brothers Tom (Joann) Osterman of Chester and Walt (Arlene) Osterman and David (Louise) Osterman of Armington; 13 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Margaret was born Feb. 19, 1925, in Great Falls, Mont., to Herman and Mary Osterman. She was raised in the Monarch-Neihart area and graduated from Neihart High School.

She married her life partner, Leonard Griffin, in 1944, and together they raised six children. They farmed in the Logging Creek area for many years until moving to Armington in 1961. They always had a beautiful vegetable and flower garden, and Margaret's home was always open for a warm visit. She loved and took great pride in her family, and enjoyed sharing stories about her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.


She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard Griffin; a son, Donald Griffin; a sister, Helen Thorson; brothers Louis Osterman and Bud Osterman; and her parents.

Memorials are suggested to Peace Hospice.

Condolences may be sent online to croxfords@qwest.net and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

ROBERT H. 'BUD' GUTCHER
Born: November 25, 1922 – Died: February 27, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 13, 2006

Robert H. 'Bud' Gutcher

OAHU, Hawaii — Inverness native and Navy veteran Robert H. "Bud" Gutcher, 83,  of Kaneohe, Oahu, Hawaii, died of natural causes Feb. 27 in Honolulu.

Services took place March 4 at the Kamehameha School's Memorial Chapel in Hawaii.

Survivors include his wife, Gail Gutcher of Honolulu; a son, Gary Gutcher of Virginia; a daughter, Sandra Decker of Honolulu; a brother, Ken Gutcher of Colorado; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Bud was born Nov. 25, 1922, to Roy and Marie Gutcher, in a farm home north of Inverness, Mont. He received his education at Inverness School and Helena Vocational School, enlisting in the Navy shortly after Pearl Harbor, where he was stationed for some time. He met his future wife there, took his honorable discharge, married Gail, and spent the rest of his life in Hawaii.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Betty; and two brothers, Dale and Glen.

INEZ L. (HUESTIS) HALTER
Born: Age - 85 - Died: March 6, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
March 15, 2006

Inez L. Halter

BIG SANDY — Inez L. (Huestis) Halter, 85, a homemaker and rancher, died of natural causes March 6 at a Big Sandy hospital.



Memorial services are 11 a.m. Saturday at Christ Lutheran Church in Big Sandy. Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook is in charge of arrangements.

Halter Survivors include daughters Eldonna Jenkins and Gay Pearson of Big Sandy, Carolyn Norris of Joplin and Joey Hettick of Dixon; sons Butch Halter of Helena and Jack Halter of Rudyard; sisters Mildred Obie of Eugene, Ore., and Leona Faltrino of Havre; 19 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a son, Donald Fox.

REUBEN HARVEY HALVERSON

Birth: March 1, 1918 – Death: November 3, 2006

Liberty County Times

November 15, 2006



Reuben Halverson

Reuben Harvey Halverson was born March 1, 1918 at Broadview, Montana. He was the second of six children born to Harvey and Clara (Johnson) Halverson. Reuben received his formal education at the Liberty Valley Country School near Rapelje, MT. During those early depression years Reuben worked for the C.C.C.'s (Civilian Conservation Corps) near Neihart. His family had moved to Belgrade where he took a job as a telegrapher for the Northern Pacific Railroad. He enjoyed his work for the railroad and eventually transferred to the Great Northern Railway system. Prior to the outbreak of World War II, he had worked for the railroad in Idaho (Post Falls) and several locations in Montana (Lothair, Shelby, and Whitefish).

Reuben enlisted into the U. S. Navy in February of 1943 and earned the rank of Radioman 3rd Class. He was assigned to the ship U.S.N.T.S. Farragut and served in the Asiatic-Pacific and Philippine campaigns during the war. He received his honorable dis-

charge in December of 1945 and returned to Montana.

Reuben began courting a young woman, Doris M. Odden, whom he met before entering the military. They were married on March 3, 1946 at Dutton, MT. The Halversons moved to Chester where they raised a family of five. Reuben worked as the railroad agent at the Chester depot until his retirement in 1978. They lived in their Chester home until three years ago, when they moved to the Wheat Country Estates (assisted-living facility). Because of failing health, Reuben transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in July of 2004. He died there on this past Friday evening (November 3, 2006). He was 88 years old.

Reuben was an energetic guy who liked to stay busy. In addition to working for the railroad, he delivered freight. In the summers he worked as a painter and helped local farmers during harvest-time. After his retirement he worked for Wanken Farms, ran a small engine repair business, served as maintenance man at the Sweetgrass Lodge retirement facility, and worked as caretaker of the Lions Park rest stop in Chester. He also volunteered and worked hard in many community projects.

He offered himself to the community in other ways, too. Reuben served for a term as Chester Mayor and city councilman for many years. He was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church where he served on the church council and taught Sunday school. In addition he volunteered as a Boy Scout leader and Little

League coach for many years. His other memberships included the local V.F.W. Post and the Chester Lions Club.

Reuben enjoyed taking adult education courses, including typing, bookkeeping, and woodworking. He loved to sing, listen to music, and play the harmonica. He was an active member of the "Music Makers" and sang in a local "Barbershop Quartette" in years gone by. He enjoyed his big vegetable gardens each year and sharing his produce with family and friends. He also liked to play cards, especially pan, and in his later years, "Crazy 8's". Reuben loved fishing and hunting, and taught his children and grandchildren how to be good sportsmen and safe hunters. Some of his favorite hunting grounds were along the Marias River at Cockrell Bottom, so it seems fitting that he asked his family to scatter his ashes in this area.

When Reuben was young, his family nickname was "Johnny". During his adult years he was affectionately called "Reub" by coworkers and friends.

Reuben was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Harold Halverson. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Doris Halverson of Chester; 3 sons, Kenneth (Jan) Halverson of Soldotna, Alaska, Larry (Martee) Halverson of Springfield, Missouri, and Gregory Halverson of Manhattan, New York; 2 daughters, Karla (Gerry) Kulpas and Janis Chipman, both of Chester; 4 sisters, Lois Berreth of Billings, Lorraine Miller of Spokane, WA, Maxine Mercer of Twin

Bridges, and Marjorie (Chuck) Pemble of Billings; 7 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces.

A memorial service was held 11:00 a.m. Friday (Nov. 10th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Peter Erickson officiated. Karen Stack served as pianist and the congregation sang "Holy, Holy, Holy", "Oh Master Let Me Walk With You", and "How Great Thou Art". A vocal tribute, "Amazing Grace", was performed by granddaughter, Jayann. Daughters (Karla and Janis) read selected scriptures. Sons (Ken, Larry, and Greg) shared Reub's life's story and personal remembrances. Friends serving as ushers were Jim Carter and Bill Gunderson, who also made the military flag presentation. A luncheon followed in the church fellowship hall. Cremation and arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Memorials may be given to the Chester Swimming Pool fund, Cystic Fibrosis and Multiple Sclerosis funds, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Liberty County Hospital & Nursing Home, or donor's choice...

RODNEY LEE HANSON
Birth: May 20, 1956 – Death: April 30, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 10, 2006



Rod Hanson.

Rodney Lee Hanson was born May 20th, 1956 at Havre, Montana. He was the youngest of four children born to Alfred and Ione (Anderson) Hanson. Rod grew up in the Chester community and received his formal education here. During his school years he was active in Boy Scouts, football, basketball, and wrestling.

Following high school Rod moved to Gillette, Wyoming to work in the oilfields. After two years he came back to Montana and continued working in the oil drilling business for General Wells near Shelby. In 1980 he suffered life-threatening injuries due to an accidental fall of 55 feet from an oil derrick. Rod experienced numerous hospitalizations with surgeries and physical therapies in the months that followed. During this long recuperation period Rod began building his "dream cabin", a small A-frame structure located near the Snow-Slip in Glacier Park.

Since his accident Rod has worked mainly as a farmhand. For a couple of years he farmed for Jack Wells south of Shelby. In more recent years he helped with the seeding and harvesting tasks at the Dallas Romain farm south of Chester.

Rod enjoyed being back in the Chester community near family and friends these past 15 years. On Sunday evening (April 30th, 2006) Rod's mother was unable to contact him by phone, so she went to his apartment to check on him. She found him unresponsive on the kitchen floor. Rod was transported by ambulance to the Liberty County Hospital where resuscitative measures were to no avail. He died just one month shy of his 50th birthday.

Rod's hobbies were many. He loved fishing, hunting, swimming, riding horses, and spending time in the mountains. In his youth he enjoyed playing Monopoly. As an adult he loved to play cards (especially poker, "Hand-&-Foot", and "Kings-in-the-Corners"), but most of the fun was the simple opportunity to bond with friends. In addition Rod liked to play horseshoes and he enjoyed amateur photography.

Rod loved his family. He always looked forward to those quality encounters with his brothers, who both live in Montana. Several years ago he made a memorable trip to Georgia to visit his sister and family. Rod just recently flew to

Arizona to drive his folks back to Montana from their winter stay in Mesa. While there, he and an old high school buddy reunited and attended a Phoenix Suns/Dallas Mavericks N.B.A. game, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Rod was a kind-hearted soul who never harmed anyone during his time here. He cared for his fellow man: examples of this include those times he would call or visit friends who were sick or homebound, the many times he donated blood, and his requested gift of cornea donation following his death. Rod lived life at his own pace on his own terms. He found happiness in simple things, like fishing. In fact, he had gone fishing on Sunday afternoon, the day he left us...

Rod is survived by his mother, Ione Huston (and husband, Tony) of Chester; 2 brothers and spouses, Larry and Juliann Hanson and Calvin and Linda Hanson, all of Helena; 1 sister and spouse, Darlene and Mike Abeln of Douglasville, Georgia; 2 uncles, Albert Hanson of Chester and Bazil Anderson of Westby; 3 aunts, Beth Jensen of Kalispell, Beverly Bergh of Longview, Wash., and Rose Ann Brough of Havre; and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins. Rod was preceded in death by his father in 1991.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Friday (May 5th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Peter Erickson conducted the funeral and Rod's aunt, Rose Ann Brough, shared the eulogy. Special music was provided by pianist, Tammy Duncan. Vocalist, Marcus Jochim, sang "On Eagle's Wings". Rod's sister, Darlene, selected and sang an Alabama tune "The Angels Among Us" in tribute to her brother. The congregation sang "In the Garden". Ushers were Dennis Hanson and Kenneth Gilbert. Pallbearers included Ryan Hanson, Jarred Hanson, Adrian Hanson, Aaron Brauer, Bridget Johnston, Chuck Jodrey, and Dallas Romain. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials may be given to Our Savior's Lutheran Church or donor's choice...

MYRLE ELAINE (LIMESAND) HARADA
Born: November 23, 1928 – Died: May 9, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
May 11, 2006

Myrle Elaine Harada

WOLF POINT — Myrle Elaine (Limesand) Harada, 77, of Wolf Point, died Tuesday at a Wolf Point hospital.

Visitation is 1 to 7 p.m. Friday, with a prayer service at 7 p.m., at Clayton Stevenson Memorial Chapel. Her funeral is 10 a.m. Saturday at Clayton Stevenson, with burial in Greenwood Cemetery.

Myrle is survived by her husband of 54 years, Ben; children Kiyō (Rockie) Ruhd, Leni (Marvin) Loendorf, Steven (Traci) Harada and Jeffrey (Michelle) Harada, all of Wolf Point; nine grandchildren, Ross, Ryan, Justin, Heidi, Krista, Kara, Sara, Dakota and Jake; sisters Shirley (Burk) Taylor of Wolf Point and Helen Heier of Helena; a brother, Lenny (Betty) Limesand of Sun River, Mont.; and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Myrle passed away May 9, 2006, at Northeast Montana Health Services, surrounded by her loving family.

She was born Nov. 23, 1928, in Circle, to Carol (Parsley) and Marvin Limesand. She grew up on the family homestead south of Wolf Point in the Prairie Elk/Weldon community. She attended school in Circle and graduated from Wolf Point High School in 1947.

She met the love of her life, Ben Harada, and they were married April 30, 1952, in Chicago, Ill. They made their home in Wolf Point, raising four children, Kiyō, Leni, Steven and Jeffrey.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Kenny.

Send condolences online at www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries, csmcneumontel.net or www.stevensonandsons.com.

DONALD NORRIS HARRISON

Birth: June 13, 1942 - Death: February 7, 2006

Liberty County Times

February 22, 2006



Donald Harrison

Donald Norris Harrison, 63, of 4001 5th Ave. S., passed away Tuesday, February 7, 2006 at his home in Great Falls of cancer.

A memorial service for Don was held at Hillcrest Lawn Chapel, 1410 13th Street S., on Friday, February 10th at 3:00 p.m. Arrangements were handled by Schnider Funeral Home.

He was born June 13, 1942 in Chester, the son of Norris and Opal (Wolery) Harrison. He graduated from Rudyard High School in 1960.

On July 1, 1967 he was united in marriage to Lois Jean Hofeldt in Chinook. They lived in Shelby and Cascade before moving to Great Falls in 1973.

Don worked for many years for the Montana State Highway Department and ended his career as the Bridge Supervisor for Cascade County in 1993. In addition, he ran a small construction company for several

years.

Don and Jeannie were the organizers of many memorable family campouts; Don always made sure everyone was having fun, whether they were boating, playing cards or games, or just sitting around the campfire telling stories.

Don attended many Montana stock car races as well as the NASCAR races in Vegas.

He also enjoyed rodeos and attended the National Rodeo Finals several times. He was an avid reader and enjoyed doing woodwork in his spare time, creating a variety of household furnishings for family and friends. Don and Jean's travels took them to Massachusetts, England, Alaska, and most of the western U.S. along with many trips to

Dillon and Seattle to visit their grandchildren.

Most of all, Donald took pleasure in spending time with family.

Don was a true friend to so many. He was always helping family and friends with buying and selling vehicles, doing their taxes, moving, building garages, finishing basements, remodeling their homes or anything else that was needed.

Most importantly Don listened to and genuinely cared about his family; he consistently offered words of encouragement and praise, and showed great pride in their accomplishments.

Donald is survived by his wife Jeannie; daughter and son-in-law, Debbie and Jim Huber of Dillon; son and daughter-in-law

Keith and Rachel Harrison of Seattle; four grandchildren, Nicholas and Lindsey Huber, Owen and Sela Harrison; sisters, Shirley Rudolph and her husband Don of Chester, Elaine Hodges and her husband Willie of Cordes Lakes, AZ, Jeannie Stope of Chester; brothers, Robert and Lyle Harrison of Rudyard; in-laws, Henry and Penny Hofeldt, Judy Altenhofen and Torch Scammon, Linda and Jim Smith, Max and Dawn Hofeldt; many cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents Norris and Opal; good friends Roy and Helen Hofeldt (father and mother-in-law); brother-in-law, Robert Schieffer.

Memorials may be made to Montana 4-H Foundation, P.O. Box 173580, Bozeman, MT 59717; Make It Yourself With Wool, c/o MWGA, P.O. Box 1693, Helena, MT 59624 or the charity of one's choice.

ALMONT HARVEY

Born: Age: 84 – Died: December 22, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

December 25, 2006

Almont Harvey

FROID — Almont Harvey, 84, a former teacher in Harlem and Chester and a Froid-area farmer/rancher, died of kidney failure Friday at his Froid residence.

His memorial service is 10 a.m. Thursday at Froid Lutheran Church, with burial of ashes in Kvile Cemetery. Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife of 54 years, Helen Harvey; a son, Jim Harvey; daughters Claudia Harris and Joyce Harvey, all of Froid, and Brenda Harvey of Plevna; brothers J. Torrance Harvey, Bob Harvey and Dale Harvey, all of Kalispell; and a sister, Adelaide Foy, of Boise, Idaho and five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Clifford, in 1983.

BONNIE J. (FUHRMAN) HAUGEN
Birth: February 15, 1940 – Death: April 16, 2006
Liberty County Times
April 26, 2006

Bonnie Fuhrman

Bonnie J. Fuhrman-Haugen, 66, of Margate, FL, passed away on Monday, April 16, 2006 after a courageous battle with illness. Bonnie was born in Merrill, WI on February 15, 1940 to Ed and Augusta Fuhrman. She has been a resident of South Florida since 2001, having previously resided in Mobile, AL. Bonnie is survived by her loving husband, Donald E. Haugen; children, Martin Haugen, Dennis Haugen, Valerie Werner and Steven Haugen; 9 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; and siblings, Florence Benzschawel, Richard Fuhrman, Paul Fuhrman, Shirley Johnson, Eddie Fuhrman, Patrick Fuhrman and Carol Cleveland. Arrangements entrusted to Kraeer Funeral Home and Cremation Center, 1 North State Road 7, Margate, FL 33063 (954) 972-7340.

DONNA L. (PURDY) HAUGEN
Born: May 16, 1929 – Died: June 3, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
June 6, 2006

Donna L. Haugen

KREMLIN — Donna L. (Purdy) Haugen, 77, a Kremlin area farm wife, died after a short acute illness Saturday at Benefis Health Care in Great Falls, Montana.



Haugen

Cremation has taken place and her memorial service is 11 a.m. today at Van Orsdel United Methodist Church in Havre, Montana. A fellowship luncheon will be held at the church immediately after the services. A private family interment will be held at a later time. Arrangements have been entrusted to Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.

Donna is survived by her husband of 57 years, Ed Haugen, of Havre; daughters Pamela Haugen of Great Falls, Mont., Vicki (Mike) Meek of Shelby, Mont., Kristi (Dusty) Kline of Kremlin, and Julie Haugen, of Pleasant Hill, Calif.; grandchildren Sara (Steve) Scheer of Great Falls, Cole Kline, and Courtney Kline of Kremlin, and Brennan Meek of Shelby; and one great-granddaughter, Keylee Kline, of Havre.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents Emmett and Laura Purdy, and a brother, Robert Purdy.

Donna was born May 16, 1929, in Havre, Mont. to Emmett L. and Laura (Conne) Purdy. She was raised and educated in Kremlin, Mont. graduating from Kremlin High School. She married Edwin J. Haugen on Oct. 17, 1948, at the Methodist Church in Kremlin. The couple farmed North of Kremlin where they lived and raised their four daughters.

Donna was a very generous person who gave a lot of time and energy to her church and commu-

nty. She was baptized, raised and married in the Kremlin Methodist Church. She served as a Lay Member of the Annual Conference and was the church pianist for many years. She also devoted time to the Community Concert Association, MTPBS and the Montana Historical Society.

When her children were grown, Donna attended Northern Montana College to obtain her degree in Secondary Education. She student taught at KG High School and enjoyed her experiences immensely.

Donna was an avid reader and had quite a large book collection of Montana and Western history. She was a great record keeper, keeping track of everyone from family, friends, neighbors and community members. She was always sending a card to remember people's special events in their lives. Donna would read the newspaper and when she was done, no one else could read it with all the markings of events that she needed to keep track of.

Donna was very active in her children's, grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's lives and activities. She began her family genealogy and enjoyed tracking the ancestors on both her and Ed's side of the family.

She and Ed moved from the farm in Kremlin in 2000. Even though they lived in Havre, Donna would drive to Kremlin every Sunday to attend church.

Mom, you will be greatly missed and we love you very much.

Memorials in Donna's honor may be made to the Intermountain Children's Home, 500 South Lamborn, Helena, MT 59601 or to a charity of one's choice.

Condolences may be sent online to www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries

JERRY HAYES
Born: Age - 71 - Died: April 1, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 3, 2006

Jerry Hayes



Hayes



HAVRE — Korean War Marine Corps veteran Jerry Hayes, 71, of Havre, a former high school basketball and football coach and Stone Child College professor, died of cancer Saturday at a Great Falls hospital.

Cremation has taken place and his memorial service is 3:30 p.m. Tuesday at St. Jude Catholic Church in Havre, followed by a fellowship luncheon at the church. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre is handling arrangements.

Survivors include a daughter, Joni Swillie of Lakewood, Wash.; sons Jim Hayes of Sauk Rapids, Minn., and Joe Hayes of Frisco, Texas; stepchildren Debbie Hovde, Donna Isbell, and Jerry Olson; sisters Helen McDonald of Rupert, Idaho, and Nora Howard of Idaho Falls, Idaho; a brother, Max Hayes of Las Vegas; four grandchildren and several step-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Elaine Hayes in 1981 and his second wife, Faye Hayes in 1995.

PHYLLIS ELAINE (MORTIMER) HEILBRUN
Birth: July 30, 1938 – Death: May 12, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 17, 2006



Phyllis Heilbrun:

Phyllis Heilbrun, age 67, of north Rudyard (Montana), suffered a heart attack at her home Thursday evening (May 11th).

She received initial medical care at the Chester Hospital, then was transferred via air-ambulance to Great Falls for extended care. She died en route to Benefis East Medical Center early Friday morning (May 12th, 2006).

She was born Phyllis Elaine Mortimer on July 30th, 1938 at Brookville, Pennsylvania. Her parents were Raymond Mortimer and Ruth Williams, and she was one of three children. Phyllis received her early education at Munderf, PA. and finished her high school years at Brookville, PA.

She married Kenneth Snyder Sr. in 1955. They lived at Munderf, where Phyllis worked as a wife, homemaker, and mother of five. In 1966 they moved to Hazen, Pa. The Snyder's divorced in the mid-1970's.

Phyllis married her second husband, Jay W. Heilbrun, in May of 1977. They made their home at Munderf. They were active members of the Warsaw Township Sportsmen's Club at Hazen. In July of 2002 the Heilbruns moved to Montana to be closer to Phyllis' sons. They lived at the Ed Norenberg place 12 miles north of Rudyard, where Phyllis enjoyed spending time outdoors, planting and caring for her flower beds, and raising and caring for her many pets. A lifelong animal lover, she especially enjoyed dogs, horses, donkeys, and birds, but was fond of any and all creatures.

Her other hobbies were many. Phyllis enjoyed attending auctions, yard sales, and rodeos. She loved to play the organ, which she learned to play "by ear" only. She loved to cook and bake; her family will always remember her delicious homemade fudges and spice cakes! She also enjoyed playing darts, games, and cards (her favorite card games were rummy, "cinch", and solitaire). In her quiet time at home she enjoyed crossword puzzles. And just for the fun of it, she collected Native American figurines.

Phyllis loved her family, who affectionately called her "Maw". During her early years in Pennsylvania, she was lovingly called "Sis" by her relatives and close friends. Phyllis always looked forward to that special quality time with her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, 2 infant children (Darlene and Raymond Snyder), and her brother (Wayne Mortimer). Phyllis is survived by her companion of 29 years,

Jay Heilbrun of Rudyard; 3 children, Ken Snyder Jr. of Joplin, Randy Snyder (wife, Barb) of Rudyard, and Becky Snyder of Altoona, PA.; her sister, Margaret Wingard (husband, Ron) of Brockway, PA.; 4 grandchildren, including Ken Snyder III, Cindy Kessler, Michael Snyder, and Samuel Snyder; 2 great-grandchildren, Adrian and Nathan; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Wednesday (May 17th) at the Joplin Community Hall. Pastor Dale Wolery will officiate. Organist, Karen Stack, will play congregational hymns "Amazing Grace" and "The Old Rugged Cross". A taped musical selection by Charlie Pride will be "Mansion Over the Hilltop". Pallbearers will be Ken Snyder Jr., Randy Snyder, Sheldon Kessler, Don Troup, Larry VanDessel, and Tracy Nelson. Following burial at the Joplin Cemetery, a luncheon will be held back at the Joplin Hall. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

DWANE MARVIN HEINTZ
Born: September 9, 1950 – Died: February 28, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
March 3, 2006

Dwane M. Heintz

POWELL, Wyo. — Stanford native Dwane Marvin Heintz, 55, of Powell, Wyo., died of cancer Tuesday at a Powell hospital.

A memorial service is 11 a.m. today at Thompson Funeral Home in Powell, Wyo. Funeral services are 11 a.m. Monday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stanford with burial in Stanford Cemetery. Cloyd Funeral Home in Lewistown is handling arrangements.

Survivors include sons Kip (Erika) Heintz and Hans Heintz, of Powell; his mother, Lorraine Reynolds of Lewistown; a brother, Dan (Marcia) Heintz of Pine Bluffs, Wyo.; sisters Doreen Heintz of Columbus, Mont., and Debbi (Doug) Kramer of Stanford; a grandson, Drake; and seven nieces and nephews.

Dwane was born Sept. 9, 1950, to Marvin and Lorraine (Barrick) Heintz in Lewistown, Mont. He spent most of his youth on a farm/ranch near Moccasin, Mont. He attended schools in Moccasin and Stanford, graduating from Stanford High School in 1968.

After graduation, he attended MSU-Bozeman where he received his degree in political science.

Over the next several years, he worked various jobs in the Stanford area.

On Oct. 1, 1983, he married Ardyce Jensen. To this union two sons were born, Kip and Hans Heintz. They later divorced.

Dwane worked on his father-in-law's ranch from 1983 to 1989. The family then moved to Joliet, Mont. Dwane returned to college at MSU-Billings where he earned a business degree with an accounting option in June 1992.

In July 1993, Dwane moved to Sidney, Mont. and served as the executive director of the Eastern Plains Small Business Development Center until October 1994. From there, he moved to Powell to become the Regional II Director for the Wyoming Small Business Development Centers through the University of Wyoming. He served as the director for a five-county area until the time of his death. Dwane loved his job in Powell especially crunching numbers and working with clients on a one-to-one basis.

Dwane's two boys came to live with him in Powell full-time after the death of their mom in March 1999.

He was preceded in death by his father in 1980, and his ex-wife.

JENNIE CELESTE (HEBBARD) HELLINGER
Born: October 24, 1908 – Died: November 24, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
November 26, 2006

SHELBY — Jennie Celeste (Hebbard) Hellinger, 98, a teacher and longtime Devon-area farm wife from Shelby, died of natural causes Friday at her home.



Hellinger

Memorial services are 2 p.m. Thursday at Whitted Funeral Chapel, with burial of ashes in Mountain View Cemetery.

Survivors include her sons, Donald (Bob), and his wife Marie Hellinger and Dean and his wife Patricia Hellinger, all of Devon; grandsons James Darwin Hellinger of Devon and Douglas (Dana) Hellinger of Ledger; as well as two great-grandchildren, Riley and Madeline of Ledger.

She is preceded in death by her husband Donald.

Jennie was born Oct. 24, 1908, at Kalispell to John and Guenbold (Roberts) Hebbard. The family moved to the homestead, one mile north of Devon, in 1910. She attended grade school there until 1919 when the family moved back to the Flathead Valley. She finished the elementary grades at rural Montford School and graduated from Kalispell High School. She attended two years of Normal School training as a teacher. She then went to summer school at the University of Montana and was teaching in her first rural school two months before her 18th birthday in 1926.

Jennie returned to summer school in Missoula and her second teaching experience was in Devon in 1927 where a sudden winter snow storm hit, stranding many families.

A day after the 1928/1929 school year she married Donald Hellinger in Devon and lived on the family farm north of town. They remained on the farm until 1956 when they moved to Shelby. She and Don traveled extensively throughout Europe, South America and Australia as well as the United States. In 1999, Jennie sold her home and moved into the Marias Heritage Center.

She enjoyed her flowers and large yard, playing bridge and she was a long time member of the Shelby Book Club.

The family suggests memorials be directed to the Marias Heritage Center or the Marias Museum.

Condolences may be sent online to whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

JAMES OTTO HERTSGAARD
Born: January 22, 1928 – Died: August 9, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
August 12, 2006

James O. Hertsgaard

HAVRE — World War II Marine Corps veteran James Otto Hertsgaard, 78, of Havre, a railroad conductor, died Wednesday of natural causes at a local hospital.



Hertsgaard



Services with military honors are 11 a.m. Monday at Holland & Bonine Funeral Chapel in Havre, with a fellowship luncheon to follow at the VFW Club.

Survivors include a son, Tom (Jeannie) Hertsgaard of San Marcos, Calif.; a daughter, Terry (Brian) Lilletvedt of Havre; a sister, Evelyn Schwartz of Big Sandy; four grandchildren, Jamie (Lee) Corcoran of Hemet, Calif., Jake Lilletvedt of Havre, and Amber Hertsgaard and Dain Hertsgaard, both of Oceanside, Calif.; two great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. Jim is also survived by his loving companion, Loretta Gallentine, of Havre.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Ottis; a brother, Ivan; and a grandson, Evin Thomas Hertsgaard.

Jim was born Jan. 22, 1928, in Havre, to Otto and Tilly (Pertrus) Hertsgaard. He was raised in Havre, Gilford and Whitehall, and graduated from Havre High School in 1946.

After graduating from high school, Jim joined the Marine Corps and served in World War II. He was honorably discharged in 1947.

He married Charlotte Vandenberg on June 4, 1949. They later separated.

Over his lifetime, Jim worked for Buttreys, Hill County Electric and Rathbone Vending, but his lifetime vocation was the railroad, where he worked for over 35 years as a switchman, yard master, brakeman and, finally, conductor.

Jim loved camping and picnicking at the Bear Paw Mountains with family and friends. You could always find him at the horseshoe pit. His family has many happy memories of the Glacier and Yellowstone vacations he planned each year.

Jim enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening and learning golf from the Schwartz family. He especially enjoyed telling jokes and swapping stories with all of his friends.

Condolences may be sent online to greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

FERROLL E. HEYDON
Birth: January 2, 1922 – Death: January 11, 2006
Liberty County Times
July 5, 2006



Ferroll E. Heydon
January 2, 1922 –
January 11, 2006

A memorial service for Ferroll E. Heydon, 84 years, will be on Saturday, July 15 at 2 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, north of Lothair, MT. Ferroll died at his home in Dragoon, AZ on January 11 of cancer.

Ferroll was born January 2, 1922 to Frank and Effie Heydon, the seventh of 10 children, on the family farm north of Joplin.

He graduated from Joplin High School in 1946 leaving for Seattle, and working for Boeing Aircraft for 3-1/2 years. He was soon assembling B-17's, helping to build the 5000th B-17, named the "Flying Fortress Airplane," which was signed by all the workers. He then joined the Army Air Corp in WW II, flying in those B-17's as a tail gunner. He ended his tour of duty at Rhein Meinn Air Base in Germany, getting discharged

in 1948. He went to the Chicago Trades Institute on the GI bill. He worked as a mechanic, and as a farm hand. On December 18, 1954 he married Dorothy Olson, a rural

schoolteacher at "Bears Den" Rural School north of Chester. They began farming and ranching on the "Billy Walker" place, 22 miles north of Devon, close to the Sweetgrass Hill for 24 years. In 1978, they moved off the family farm to Havre, MT buying Himebarch Brake and Alignment, and along with their sons, they operated this for 13 years.

In 1992 they retired to Dragoon, AZ where Ferroll drove tractor and built beautiful stained glass windows for his church.

Ferroll leaved to mourn: his wife, Dorothy of 51 years, of Dragoon, AZ; his children Mary Sveum of Galata, MT, Frank Heydon of Vail, AZ, Gary (Michele) Heydon of Topeka, KS, Judy (Farrell) Stensrud of Missoula, MT; sister Fern Keith of Moorhead, MN; granddaughters - Robin Sveum, Shelby Heydon, Sophia Heydon, Karen Stensrud and Lisa Stensrud; grandsons - Dusty Sveum, Jeffrey Sveum, Michael Sveum, Frey Heydon, and Farrell Stensrud; and 5 great-grandchildren.

His parents, brothers - Clyde, Franklin, Cecil, Lloyd and Lyle; and sisters - Haureen, Darma and Lois, preceded him in death.

JACOB J. HOFER
Birth: August 28, 1915 – Death: May 26, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 31, 2006

Jacob Hofer

Jacob J. Hofer was born August 28, 1915 at Alexandria, South Dakota. He was the eldest of 15 children born to Jacob and Rebecca (Kleinsasser) Hofer. He grew up at Alexandria and received his formal education there. At age 16 he moved to Elmspring Colony at Warner, Alberta.

Jacob married Katie Mandel on November 8, 1939 at Sunnyside Colony at Warner. They eventually settled at Eagle Creek Colony north of Chester in 1982. They had been married 56 years when Jacob's wife, Katie, died in 1995.

Jacob's life on the colony was always busy. He was an ambitious worker who loved to stay active. He worked as a cobbler until his retirement about a year ago, then continued to help in the poultry barns. He loved being outdoors.

His health remained good throughout the years. Recently, he was hospitalized with a heart condition, but was discharged to family care at home. Jacob died peacefully in bed at Eagle Creek Colony on Friday evening (May 26, 2006). He was 90 years old. He was preceded in death not only

by his wife and parents, but also by 3 children (Justina, Emma, and Sam), 1 granddaughter (Rebecca), 4 brothers (Joe, Sam, Mike, and Paul), and 1 sister (Rachel).

Jacob is survived by 4 children, Justina Waldner of Harlowton and Mike, Jacob,

and Katie Hofer, all of Eagle Creek Colony; 12 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; 4 brothers, John and Peter Hofer of Brooks, Alberta, Andrew Hofer of Etzikom, Alberta, and David Hofer of Warner, Alberta; 5 sisters, Rebecca Wurz and Mary Hofer of Brooks, Alberta, Sarah Kleinsasser of Taber, Alberta, and Anna and Susie Hofer of Warner, Alberta; and many nephews and nieces.

Funeral services will be at noon Monday (May 29th) at the Eagle Creek Colony Church. Burial will follow at the Eagle Creek Colony Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

PAUL J. HOFER
Born: Age: 84 – Died: June 1, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
June 4, 2006

Paul J. Hofer

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS
— Paul J. Hofer, 84, of Springdale Colony, White Sulphur Springs, a farmer, died of natural causes Thursday at his residence.

His funeral is noon Sunday at Springdale Colony. Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory of Great Falls is handling arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Sarah P. Hofer of Springdale Colony; daughters Mary P. Hofer, Sarah P. Hofer, Dorothy Wipf, all of Springdale Colony, and Susana J. Kleinsasser of Riverview Colony, Chester; sons Paul P. Hofer, Peter P. Hofer and John P. Hofer, all of Springdale Colony; sisters Sarah Kleinsasser of Milford Colony, Augusta and Rachel Kleinsasser of Hidden Lake Colony, Cut Bank; and 12 grandchildren.

DEVIN ANDREW HOLT
Birth: September 27, 1984 – Death: July 3, 2006
Liberty County Times
August 9, 2006

Devin A. Holt

Devin Andrew Holt, age 21, died at his home in Acworth, Georgia on Monday (July 3, 2006).

Devin was born September 27, 1984 at Corvallis, Oregon. He was the eldest of three children born to Charles and Jamie (Nussbaum) Holt. The Holt family moved to Denver in 1987, then to Atlanta in 1991, so Devin grew up and received his education in Georgia. He attended the Big Shanty Elementary School and Kell High School at Acworth, where he graduated in 2003. He was attending Chattahoochee Tech in Atlanta and majoring in broadcast communications at the time of his death.

In his high school days, Devin was active in the drama department. He was a key participant in the production of the school's "Morning Show" and was recognized as Kell High School's "outstanding drama student" during his senior year.

Devin loved music, especially those tunes of the 60's and 70's; he had a large collection of favorite tapes/CD's (the Beattles, Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd, and others). He was also an avid movie buff.

Additional hobbies included bowling and fishing. Devin's favorite holiday was "July 4th" – the more fire-works, the better!

He was a nice young man with a host of friends...

Devin is survived by his loving parents, "Chaz" and Jamie Holt, and his 2 sisters, Jessica and Emma Holt, all of Acworth, Georgia; his paternal grandparents, Troy

and Virginia Holt of Lebanon, Oregon; his maternal great-grandmother, Rose Nussbaum of Laurel, Mt.; and numerous uncles, aunts, and cousins.

Devin's maternal grandmother, Gail (Kammerzell) Nussbaum, a former Chester native, preceded him in death on February 3, 2001. His maternal grandfather, Walter Nussbaum of Laurel, died on this past July 27, 2006.

A memorial service for Devin will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday (August 12, 2006) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester.

Pastor Pete Erickson will officiate. Devin's ashes will be buried in the Kammerzell plot with his grandmother Gail at the Chester Cemetery.

Local arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

TONJA MARIE HOSKINSON
Birth: AGE 43 – Death: August 30, 2006
Liberty County Times
September 6, 2006



Tonja Hoskinson

Tonja Marie Hoskinson, 43, a certified nurse aide, of Havre, formerly of Chinook and Chester, died on Wednesday, August 30, 2006

at a local hospital due to renal failure.

A memorial service will be held at Edwards Funeral Home in Chinook on Wednesday, September 6, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. Schneider Funeral Home is handling local arrangements.

Survivors include her significant other, Robert Wahl of Great Falls; daughters Lanita Hoskinson of Havre and Leslie Hoskinson of Chinook; sons Matthew Hoskinson and Michael Hoskinson, both of Great Falls, and Mason Hoskinson of Chinook; her parents, Richard Dale Hoskinson of Longview, WA and Joyce Hoskinson Kaul of Chinook; a brother, Gregory Hoskinson of Great Falls; and two grandchildren.

THEODORE W. 'TED' HOWSER
Born: December 10, 1906 – Died: April 28, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
May 1, 2006

Theodore W. Howser



Howser

WHITEHALL — Theodore W. "Ted" Howser, 99, of Whitehall, died of natural causes Friday at a Butte nursing home.

A parish vigil service is 6 this evening at K&L Mortuary Chapel in Whitehall.

Funeral Mass is 10 a.m. Tuesday, at St. Teresa's Catholic Church in Whitehall, with burial in Whitehall Cemetery.

He is survived by his daughters Molly (Allen) McLean and Sharleen Anderson; sons Jack (Mary) and Ron (Faith) Howser; grandchildren Barry, Bob, and Mike McLean, Larry, Dale, Danny, and Bill Feight, Tom and Tim Howser, Richard Howe, Pearl Peralta, Maria Walker, Brian, Nick, Jonahus, Kaycee, Colton, and Marcus Howser, and 36 great-grandchildren, four great-great-grandchildren and several stepchildren.

Our beloved father and grandfather, Theodore W. (Ted) Howser was called home, Friday, April 28, 2006. Ted was born Dec. 10, 1906, in Lakota, N.D., to C.C. Howser and Elvira Signa Rasmussen Howser. Ted started school at age 6 in Illinois, and finished his schooling in Kremlin, Mont., where the family had moved. He started farming east of Havre, where he met and married Mabel E. Armstrong on Aug. 24, 1930. The couple lived on a farm until moving to Kremlin, where they farmed for four years.

While living in Kremlin, they had two daughters, Molly May and Sharleen Ann. From Kremlin they moved to Townsend, where Ted worked in a mine out of the Winston until he was injured. After that he worked for the WPA program building the old Broadwater Hospital. From there they moved to Willow Creek, by way of a team and wagon. They lived in the old Ted and Effie Cooper place, (pink house). In 1941 they moved to the Haas place where Teddy Jack was born. From 1942 to 1969, they lived on the Duke ranch where Ted farmed, ranched and worked various jobs. In 1956 a second son, Ronnie William was born. They sold the ranch in Willow Creek and purchased a ranch at Whitehall, where Ted and the two sons farmed and ranched until Ted and Mabel divorced and he moved to Butte. He met and married Martha Medvit in 1975. After Martha passed away in 1982, Ted moved back to Whitehall.

In 1985 he married Della DuMonthier. At age 82 he was working for the Butte Stockyards and suffered a broken neck after an encounter with an angry bull, after which he retired.

He was preceded in death by a younger brother, Harry; his mother and father; his sister, Mary Winter; a brother, Harold; and by previous wives Mabel, Martha, and Lil.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Send condolences online at www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

JADEN RAEANN HUEBSCH
Born: Stillborn – Died: July 13, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
July 17, 2006

Jaden R. Huebsch

HAVRE — Jaden RaeAnn Huebsch, infant daughter of Bill and Tracy (Hansen) Huebsch, was stillborn Thursday at a Havre hospital.

Services will be private.

In addition to her parents, Jaden is survived by sisters Madison, Logan and Devyn Huebsch, all of Havre, and grandparents Dick and Sue Hansen of Gildford and JoAnne Huebsch of Heiena.

K. GRANT JEPPESEN
Birth: March 25, 1928– Death: July 31, 2006
Liberty County Times
August 9, 2006



Grant Jeppesen

K. Grant Jeppesen was born March 25, 1928 at Great Falls, Montana. He was the only son of three children born to Karl and Lillian (Houske) Jeppesen. Grant grew up in the Chester community and received his education here, graduating from C.H.S. in 1946. He continued his schooling at Bozeman where he attended college for two years, then returned to the family ranch 25 miles north of Chester.

Grant married Carol Brown on November 13, 1949 at Great Falls. They made their home on the Jeppesen ranch.

Grant was inducted into the U. S. Army in 1952. After serving a year, he received his honorable discharge and returned to Chester to help with the ranching operations.

In 1973 Grant was appointed by the commissioners to finish Terry Stoppa's term as Sheriff of Liberty County. He served in the capacity as Sheriff and Coroner until 1980, then decided not to seek re-election.

Grant and Carol were divorced in 1981. A few years later he took a job as a jailer for Toole County. Grant eventually became a North Toole County Deputy Sheriff and

made his home in Sunburst. He worked for Toole County for about ten years, then retired. Grant moved back to the ranch in 1993 and lived in the Chester community from that time on.

Even though he had open-heart surgery 4 years ago and suffered from chronic lung disease, Grant continued to get "out-&-about" town as best he could. He visited with family and friends on this past Sunday. On Monday morning (July 31, 2006) an old friend, Richard Burrows, went to Grant's residence to check on him. Grant had apparently gotten up during the night and collapsed. He died at the age of 78 years.

Grant had been a member of the Montana Sheriff's & Peace Officer's Association. When he retired as a North Toole County Deputy, he was recognized by fellow officers with a special plaque which declared him an honorary member of the R.C.M.P.

Grant was a classic Montana horseman; he loved horses and enjoyed working with horses his entire life. He studied horse bloodlines and read every horse magazine he could find. Whether he was shodding horses or riding horses in area cattle drives or packing horses into the mountains/wilderness, he was an equestrian extraordinaire!

Grant also enjoyed working with cattle. He was an amateur veterinarian and did a lot of C-sections on birthing cattle over the years. In addition he was one of the early inno-

vators of artificial insemination of cattle in northcentral Montana.

Although he didn't do much hunting, he did collect a few guns and enjoyed his shooting guns. Related to his police work, he liked to research gun calibration and bullet ballistics.

In his quiet time at home Grant loved to read, especially western and detective novels and ranching magazines. He also enjoyed amateur photography.

Grant had an excellent memory for people, places, dates, and events. He loved to visit with friends and share his stories, experiences, and memories from days gone by...

Survivors include 2 sons, Karl G. "Butch" Jeppesen Jr. (and wife, Melissa) of Hamilton and Bruce Jeppesen of Chester; 1 daughter, Karlene Jeppesen of Great Falls; 2 sisters, Gladee Jewett (and husband, Al) of Phoenix, Az. and Donna Goodbar (and husband, Stan) of Cheyenne, Wyo.; 4 grandchildren, Jeremy Seidlitz, Jeffery Seidlitz, Mindy Claver, and Brittney Scanlan; 4 great-grandchildren; his friend, Carol Jeppesen of Hamilton; and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Grant was preceded in death by his parents, a daughter (Mary Seidlitz in 1983), 1 niece, and 2 nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Friday (August 4th) at Our Savior's

Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor Richard Mullinax. Scripture readings were by Jeffery and Jeremy Seidlitz.

The eulogy was shared by Karen Sloan. Prelude and postlude music was provided by John Seidlitz, Jack and Pa Seidlitz, Dede Brown, Dave and Christina Wrede, and Anne Seidlitz-Melton. The group sang "Valleys of Green" during the service and accompanied the congregation, who sang "Amazing Grace". Soloist, Dede Brown, performed "The Wind Beneath My Wings". Ushers were Wallace Meissner and Jeremy Seidlitz. Pallbearers were Bruce Jeppesen, Ken Jeppesen, Tom Brown, Doug Riggan, Ron Gillund, and Warren Wickum. Honorary bearers were Dick Burrows, Bill Hagen, Lee Scott, and Paul Ferda. Burial followed at the Chester Cemetery, where military taps were played, then Leonard Matteson presented the veteran's flag to the family. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

LORRAINE THERESA (CAMPBELL) JESSOP
Born: Age - 79 - Died: September 19, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
September 22, 2006

Lorraine Theresa Jessop

CHOTEAU — Lorraine Theresa (Campbell) Jessop, 79, a homemaker and former cook, died of natural causes Tuesday at a Choteau hospital.



Jessop

Private family graveside services and burial will be in Choteau Cemetery. Cremation has taken place

under the direction of Gorder Funeral Home of Choteau.

Survivors include daughters Lenore Rogers and Betty Jo Miller of Choteau; a son, Robert T. Jessop of Washtucna, Wash.; a brother, Tim Campbell of Chester; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, George E. "Buck" Jessop, on March 8, 2000.

BERGER ALVIN 'BUD' JOHNSON, JR.
Birth: May 13, 1925 – Death: July 13, 2006
Liberty County Times
July 19, 2006



Berger Johnson

Berger Alvin Johnson, Jr. was born May 13th, 1925 at Joplin, Montana. He was one of two children born to Bertina Kringlen and Berger Johnson Sr. His mother died when he was an infant, so Berger was raised by his father and step-mother (Amelia). He grew up and received his formal education in the Joplin community, then began working with his father on the family farm north of town.

Berger married Olive C. Anderson on October 22nd, 1950 at the Bethel Church in Joplin. They made their home on the Johnson farm, where they raised a family of six. Berger and Olive were affectionately called "Bud & Dolly" by family members and close friends. After 47 years of marriage, Olive died on October 7th, 1997 in Great Falls,

Berger retired from farming in 1998 and moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester. He remained there until 2003, when he suffered a stroke and transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. Berger recovered quite well from the stroke, but was diagnosed with cancer in December of 2005. He died at the Chester nursing home early Thursday morning (July 13th, 2006). He was 81 years old.

Berger was baptized and confirmed at Bethel Church, where he was a life member. He had also been active in the

Sons of Norway and the Havre Elks Club.

The Johnson's loved their life and home in Montana, but enjoyed several memorable trips to Arizona, California, and Hawaii in their later years. Berger loved his family, farm, and music. He was a self-taught accordion player who found hours of contentment in making his own music at home. He also enjoyed those many improvisational "jam sessions" with his son, Duane, and other local musicians. Berger was never a pilot, but he was intrigued by aviation; he enjoyed scenic plane rides with friends in north-central Montana and was always interested in the U.S. space program. In his quiet time at home he enjoyed reading current events or watching "old westerns" on television. He also liked to play cards, especially whist, pinochle, and pitch. In addition he was an exceptional carpenter.

On a personal note Berger could best be described as a wonderful father and a loyal friend. He liked everyone he met and everyone liked him. He had no enemies and he never held grudges. He was a jolly guy with a great sense of humor!

Survivors include 2 sons, Duane Johnson of Helena and Wayne (Sandy) Johnson of Rollins; 3 daughters, Char (Greg) Hill of Billings, Lenora (Ed) Walter of Lincoln City, Oregon, and Terrie (Steve) Shure of Great Falls; 11 grandchildren, Angie, Niki, Kevin, Brian, Mary, Mitchel, Justin, Keith, Krista, Michael, and Miranda; 3 great-grandchildren; 1 sister, Bertina Jerke of Denver, Colorado; 1 half-sister, Arlene Anderson of Joplin; 1 half-brother, Arnold Johnson of Foremost, Alberta; numerous nephews and nieces; and a special friend, Louisa Olson of Chester.

Berger was preceded in death not only by his parents, his step-mother, and his wife, but also by a daughter (Diane) and a half-brother (John).

Funeral services were conducted at 1:00 p.m. Monday (July 17th) by Pastor Brian Pederson at the Bethel Church

in Joplin. Tammy Duncan served as pianist and the congregation sang

"Amazing Grace" and "Borning Cry". Vocalist, Marcus Jochim, performed "How Great Thou Art".

WILLIAM 'BILL' KARST

Birth: January 7, 1938 – Death: March 21, 2006

Liberty County Times

March 29, 2006



William "Bill" Karst, age 68, a long time Sunburst farmer and farm equipment salesman, passed away Tuesday, March 21, 2006 at the Pondera Long Term Care facility in Conrad due to complications from strokes. Visitation will be 1-8 pm, Friday at the Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. His funeral will be 11 a.m., Saturday, March 25th at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Sunburst with burial to follow in Sunburst Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com

Survivors include his wife, Harriet of Sunburst; daughters, Natalie (Jeff Beasley) Karst of West Sacramento, CA, and Teresa Karst of

Kalispell; granddaughter, AnnMarie Beasley; sisters, Mary (Steve) Stevens of Sunburst and their children, Jim Lisa and Melody, Betty (Joe) DeMartin of Rudyard and their children, Brian and Barry, and Margy (Rich) Johnson of Conrad and their children, Kurt and Kevin; brothers, Herb (Carol) Karst of Sunburst and their children, Kristin, Kim and Jeff and John (Val) Karst of Great Falls; sister-in-law, Cora (Ron) Copenhaver of California and their daughter Leza; and mother-in-law and father-in-law, Joseph and Harriet Krall of Conrad.

He was born January 7, 1938 to Joseph and Lucile (Benjamin) Karst in Shelby. He attended the O'Loughlin

Elementary School east of Sunburst and graduated from Sunburst High School in 1954. He then farmed for his father while attending Northern Montana College. He met his loving wife, Harriet Krall, at a high school dance in 1957 and they were married Feb. 7, 1959 in Sunburst where they farmed for the next ten years. He worked for and eventually

managed the Farmers Co-op in Sunburst. He worked briefly for Northern Telephone and in 1985, began selling farm equipment before retiring in 2000. During his retirement, he loved working on his yard, his shop projects and traveling extensively with Harriet.

He was a member of the Sunburst Volunteer Fire Department for 25 years and the Toole County Planning Board for 18 years.

Bill will be remembered as a kind and gentle person. Although he worked several jobs, his favorite was selling farm equipment. He was a people person and selling farm equipment afforded him the opportunity to be around people that shared his love for farming, as he was still a farmer at heart. He also loved children, always having a treat for them when delivering fuel or visiting farms.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Lucile (Benjamin) Karst.

The family suggests memorials to a charity of their choice.

DORATHY MAE (JAMES) KEOUGH
Birth: March 29, 1932 – Death: February 17, 2006
Liberty County Times
March 8, 2006



Dorothy Keough

Dorothy Mae Keough was born March 29, 1932, in Joplin,

Montana to David Farnam and Lillian Alexandra (Meldrum) James. She was raised and educated in Joplin, graduating from Joplin High School in 1950. She attended nursing school at Northern Montana College in Havre.

Dorothy was very proud of her father, David James, who was a representative in the Montana State Legislature for 39 years and acting governor for three days.

She married Donald Keough in 1952 in Joplin.

Dorothy worked as a teller at First National Bank, for the Great Falls Schools lunch program and at various grain companies in Great Falls before her illness forced her to retire in 1976.

She was den mother, a volunteer for the Muscular Dystrophy Association for 20 years, and an officer in the local Independent Order of Foresters.

Dorothy enjoyed baking; spending time with her grandkids and going to Great Falls Dodgers and Great Falls White Sox games. She taught Sunday school for many years at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to her husband, Don; and daughter, Janice, for the loving care they provided for Dorothy in her final years.

Dorothy is survived by her husband, Donald Keough of Great Falls; a daughter and son-in-law, Janice and Darryl Sack of Great Falls; a son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Lana Keough of Great Falls; sisters Doris Nelson of Joplin and Angela Eldridge of Henderson, NV; a brother, Lysle James of Joplin; ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her daughter, Patty Keough in 1999; and her parents Lillian and David James.

Services were held for Dorothy on February 23, 2006 at the Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

JOHN J. KLEINSASSER
Birth: July 14, 1937 – Death: May 17, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 24, 2006

John J. Kleinsasser

John J. Kleinsasser was born July 14th, 1937 at the O.K. Colony at Raymond, Alberta, Canada. He was one of nine children born to John S. Kleinsasser and Kathrine M. "Katie" Hofer. He spent his early years at the O.K. Colony, then moved to Miller Colony near Chouteau (Mt.) where he finished his formal education.

In 1964 he married Susanne "Susie" Waldner at Sage Creek Colony north of Chester. They made their home at Sage Creek and raised their family of four. John worked as a farmer and stockman, in fact, he served as the colony hog manager for 20+ years.

In his later years he worked as the shoe repairman at the colony. About two years ago his health failed, so he retired.

On the early morning of Wednesday (May 17th, 2006), John suffered a stroke and was admitted to the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, where he died later that day. He was 68 years old.

John loved to read and had an excellent memory for people, places, and events. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and will be missed by his family and friends.

Survivors include his wife of 42 years, Susie Kleinsasser of Sage Creek; 2 sons, Ronald (Mary Walener) Kleinsasser and Ike (Lisa Walener) Kleinsasser of Sage Creek; 2 daughters, Bertha Kleinsasser and Tabitha (Jacob) Hofer of Sage Creek; 7 grandchildren; 2 brothers, Sam Kleinsasser of Sage Creek and David Kleinsasser of Miller Colony; 2 sisters, Anna Wipf of Martinsdale Colony and Rachel Kleinsasser of Sage Creek; and numerous nephews and nieces.

John was preceded in death by his parents, 2 brothers (John and Mike Kleinsasser), and 2 sisters (Katie Wipf and Margaret Hofer).

His funeral was conducted at 11:45 a.m. Friday (May 19th) at the Sage Creek Colony Church. Burial followed in the Sage Creek Colony Cemetery. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

WILLA (ERICKSON) KOOCH
Born: October 13, 1936 – Died: February 24, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
February 27, 2006

Willa Kooch

HAVRE — Willa Kooch, 69, of Havre, former owner and operator, along with her husband and daughter, of the Arctic Circle in Havre, died of natural causes Friday at her residence.



Kooch

Her memorial service is 2 p.m. today at Holland and Bonine

Funeral Home in Havre, with burial of ashes in Highland Cemetery, followed by a luncheon at the Vets Club in Havre.

She is survived by her husband, Kenneth Kooch; a daughter Kathy (Lorin) Teske Etchison of Havre; sisters Phyllis Christopherson, Betty (Bill) Hafner, Laura Hafner and Sue Roberts, and a special sister-in-law, Tammy Pozega Erickson, all of Havre, and a sister, Doris (Bob) Bishop of Great Falls; grandsons Shade and Kyle Etchison of Bozeman; brothers Dave and Ron Rowin; and her stepfather, Howard Rowin, all of Havre; several nieces and nephews; aunts and uncles; and her pets, Sassy, K D and Lucy.

She was born Oct. 13, 1936, in Chester, the daughter of Melvin and Ella Erickson. Willa attended Havre High School and worked at Dido's Café and the Eagles Manor. She married Kenneth Kooch on Oct. 12, 1996, in Havre. She has lived in California for many years and has been in Havre since 1970. She owned and operated the Arctic Circle in Havre with her husband and daughter Kathy and son in law Lorin. Her hobbies include arts and crafts, collecting plates, working crossword puzzles, and playing pinochle. She enjoyed spoiling members of her family, including Aaron, Brooke and Scotty. She loved animals and had a habit of spoiling them also. She also loved to camp and fish. She has been a member of the Moose Lodge and Salvation Army.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Ella May (Cady) Rowin; her father, Melvin C Erickson Sr.; her brother, Melvin C Erickson Jr.; sisters Donna Roberts and Charlene Rowin; a niece Roxanne Shelstad; and great-nephews Nathan Green and Clayton Morse.

Memorials in her honor may be made to the Gift of Life, PO Box 7008, Great Falls, MT 59406.

DWAYNE L. 'KRETCH' KRETCHMER
Born: October 17, 1924 – Died: March 3, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
March 8, 2006

HAVRE — Dwayne L. "Kretch" Kretchmer, 81, a Navy veteran, retired Havre businessman and community leader, died of natural causes Friday at his home in Havre.



Kretchmer

A prayer vigil is 7 p.m. Thursday at St. Jude Catholic Church, followed by a gathering at the Elks Club. His funeral is 11 a.m. Friday at St. Jude, followed by burial with military honors in Highland Cemetery. A fellowship luncheon will be held at the parish center after the burial. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Dwayne is survived by his wife of 49 years, Lilly Kretchmer of Havre; daughters Linda (Pat) Parker of Burnsville, Minn., JoAnn Pinski of Great Falls., Deanna Hale of Havre and Jody (Duane) Skoyen of Chinook; a son, Matt (Rose) Kretchmer of Havre; a brother, LeRoy (Bonnie) Kretchmer of Shasta Lake, Calif.; 12 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Dwayne was born Oct. 17, 1924, in Oriska, N.D., to Math Kretchmer and Lillian Cota, at his Aunt and Uncle Crosby's home. His Uncle Crosby was his doctor. He attended school in Oriska and graduated from Oriska "Ramblers" High School in 1942. Dwayne was involved in all school sports, excelling in track and basketball.

Upon graduation from high school, Dwayne served in the United States Navy from 1943 to 1946. He served in the United States Navy Seabees in Iwo Jima. He was honorably discharged in 1946. After the service, he moved to Great Falls and later to Cascade, where he was employed at the Chevrolet Garage.

He met and married Joy Corbitt. Two daughters, Linda and JoAnn, were born of the marriage. He and Joy later divorced.

Dwayne moved to Havre in the early 1950s and was employed by F. A. Buttrey as a carpet layer. After four years of working for Buttrey's, in 1954, Danny O'Neil, Les Freeman, Gordon Suk and Dwayne purchased Bellands Furniture in downtown Havre. In 1959, Dwayne and Dan were the two partners in a new store - Valley Furniture.

Dwayne met Lilly Gilbert and the couple married Aug. 25, 1956, in Kalispell. At that time, Lilly had three daughters, Deanna, Sandra and Jody. Their son Matt was later born in 1958, on his father's birthday.

Dwayne was a community-minded individual who was very active in community and civic organizations. He was a member of the Havre Elks, fulfilling all the chairs and serving as Exalted Ruler from 1964-1965. He was also a member of the Eagles, VFW, Optimist, Lions, Rotary, Ducks Unlimited, Walleye's Unlimited, The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and the American Legion, and served as past president of the Montana Retail Association.

Being an avid sports fan, Dwayne always attended the Blue Pony and MSU-Northern basketball and football games. He sponsored many sporting events. One of his favorite summer sports was softball, especially fast pitch. He enjoyed playing cards, especially pinochle and poker. In his spare time, Dwayne had many hobbies to keep him busy, such as hunting, fishing, boating, working in his yard, bowling, traveling, photography and collecting model cars and trucks. Dwayne also loved to go dancing.

He was a family-oriented man who had a great devotion to his family and friends. Whether it was spending time at any of the lakes or the mountains, Dwayne could always be found outdoors. Dwayne always talked about his fond memories of his hunting trips with the Evans brothers and the Wood Tick Inn.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Sandra Burrington; a son-in-law, James Pinski; his parents, Math and Lillian Kretchmer; a sister, Lorraine Laney; and a niece, Kathleen Swenson.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorial contributions in Dwayne's honor may be made to the Havre Elks Scholarship, P.O. Box 910, Havre, MT 59501; or to the VFW Post 497, P.O. Box 497, Havre, MT 59501.

EILEEN PATRICIA (LAUGHNAN) LABELLE
Born: September 11, 1922 – Died: May 2, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
May 6, 2006

Eileen Patricia LaBelle

Eileen Patricia LaBelle, 83, of 1109 6th Ave. N., died of natural causes Tuesday at Peace Hospice.

Visitation is 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday at Schnider Funeral Home. Vigil service is 5:30 p.m. Sunday at Hillcrest Lawn Chapel. Funeral Liturgy is 1 p.m. Monday at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church with burial in Mount Olivet Cemetery.



LaBelle

She is survived by her husband, Russell J. LaBelle; daughters and sons-in-law Patricia and Robert Laubach, and Denise and Richard Terra, all of Great Falls; a brother, Woody Laughnan, of Fresno, Calif.; four grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.



LaBelle, '41

Eileen Patricia was born in Havre, Mont., on Sept. 11, 1922, to James and Ella (Dillenbeck) Laughnan. She was educated in Butte, graduating from Butte High School. She worked in Havre and while vacationing in St. Paul, she met Russell LaBelle. They were later married in Havre but lived in St. Paul for a year following their marriage. They moved to Havre where Eileen worked as a waitress and hostess. They moved to Whitefish for 20 years before retiring and moving to Great Falls.

She started the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill in Kalispell. One of the highlights of her life was their pilgrimage to Medjugorje, Yugoslavia.

She was active in Catholic Daughters of America, and was a beautiful wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Eileen was very loving and very compassionate and had empathy toward other people. She touched many lives and her family feels they were very blessed to have her.

Eileen and Russell enjoyed traveling and were snowbirds, moving to Arizona for the winters. They had just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Preceding her in death was a son, Daniel; and two brothers, Louis Laughnan, and Lloyd Laughnan.

Memorials may be made to Peace Hospice, 2600 15th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405

Send condolences online at www.schniderfuneralhome.com and/or www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries

EUGENE FRANCIS LANGEL

Birth: May 12, 1955 – Death: September 12, 2006

Liberty County Times

September 20, 2006



Eugene Langel

Eugene F. Langel, age 51, died from complications of cancer at a Las Vegas hospital on Tuesday (September 12, 2006).

A graveside service with burial of ashes is planned for 4:00 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 23rd) at the Rudyard Cemetery in Rudyard, MT. A memorial reception will follow in Rudyard.

Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

Eugene Francis Langel was born May 12, 1955 in Havre, MT. He was one of six children and the first son born to Alice Chvilicek and Arnold "Bud" Langel. Eugene grew up in the Goldstone community north of Rudyard. In 1968 the Langels moved into Rudyard following the untimely death of his father. Eugene finished his school years in Rudyard, where he enjoyed football and wrestling, and he graduated for R.H.S. in 1973.

Eugene attended Northern Montana College in Havre for a quarter before transferring to Helena Vo-Tech, where he studied auto mechanics for a year. While there he took a maintenance/janitorial job at the State Capitol. During that time the legislature had passed the "55 m.p.h. speed limit law" (which, in reality, was a fuel conservation ticket), and Eugene had the distinction of getting the very first \$5 ticket in the state!

In the late-1970's and early-1980's Eugene worked in the oil fields in Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado. He was married for a short time to a Montanagal, Linda Smith Gordon. He moved to Arizona where he worked as a truck driver and auto mechanic during his 10-year stay in the Phoenix area.

In the early-1990's Eugene decided to move to Las Vegas, NV. While there he was employed as a mechanic at several salvage yards, then began working as an auto mechanic on his own for a few years. Unfortunately, Eugene was diagnosed with cancer in the fall of 2003 and went on disability. He fought a brave battle with the disease, but the cancer spread to his bones and vital organs. After a 2-week stay in Valley Hospital in Las Vegas, Eugene was "called home" to be with his loving parents, who preceded him in death.

Eugene was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith at Our Lady of Ransom parish in Hingham. He enjoyed the simple things in life and lived as a "free spirit". He loved football, especially the N.F.L., and earned his high school nickname ("Merc") from an old pro player named Mercury Morris. Eugene enjoyed the past 15 years in Vegas, where he liked the weather, the food was cheap, and he could play little Blackjack!

He is survived by 2 brothers, Bill Langel (Pam) of Inverness and Dennis Langel (Debbie) of Reed Point; 3 sisters, Marrishta Haaland of Federal Way, WA, Janet Twedt (Paul) of Federal Way, WA, and Judy Langel (Mark Brady) of Phoenix, AZ; a stepson, Ramie Gordon and family of California; one niece; and several nephews.

Eugene was preceded in death not only by his parents, but also by his maternal grandparents (John and Marion Chvilicek), his paternal grandparents (Arnold and Helen Langel), a special niece (Jessica Langel), and his ex-wife (Linda Gordon).

EVELYN LOUISE 'NETES' (NARESTAD) LANGEL
Birth: February 6, 1907– Death: July 19, 2006

Liberty County Times
July 26, 2006



Evelyn "Netes" Langel

Evelyn Louise "Netes" (Narestad) Langel was born February 6, 1907 at Iola, Wisconsin. She was one of six children born to Thomas and Bessie (Larson) Narestad. Her father came to homestead in Montana in 1912; the rest of the Narestad family followed in the spring of 1913. They lived on a farm 15 miles northwest of Rudyard.

Unfortunately, Netes' father died in 1913. Her mother eventually married Lawrence Tippie, and a seventh member of the family (sister, Frances) was born to this union. Netes received her early education at the Oreanna Country School north of Rudyard, then finished her schooling at Rudyard High School, where she graduated in 1927.

She married Theodore Donald Langel on January 7th, 1928 in Havre. They lived and farmed in the Goldstone community, then moved into Rudyard in 1936. Netes worked diligently as a

homemaker and mother. The Langel's retired from farming in 1970. They had been married 62 years when Ted died on February 20, 1990 at age 83.

Netes continued to live in Rudyard and remained active in the community until her health failed in 2004. She

transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester, where she died peacefully on the early morning of Wednesday (July 19th, 2006). She was 99 years old...

Netes was a longtime member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and W.E.L.C.A. in Rudyard. She had also been active in the Rudyard Garden Club, the Senior Citizen's Center, and a local Bridge club. In their earlier days Ted and Netes enjoyed traveling or spending weekends at their cabin near Apgar in Glacier National Park.

Playing cards, especially Bridge, whist, and Kings-in-the-corners, was a favorite pastime to Netes. She also enjoyed gardening, quilting, and sewing. She made and collected many dolls and quilts, most of which she gave away to the needy or underprivileged of Havre and surrounding communities. In addition, she was an exceptional cook.

Netes could best be described as a kind lady with a gentle spirit, a sharp mind,

a quick wit, and a pleasant personality.

In addition to her husband and parents, Netes was preceded in death by a son (Donald in 1931), by 2 sisters (Frances Evenson and Gertrude VanWechel), and by 4 brothers (Millard, Evan, Harvey, and Carl Narestad).

She is survived by 1 son and daughter-in-law, Douglas and Marj Langel of Rudyard; 1 grandson, Brandon Langel of Los Angeles, California; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Saturday (July 22nd) by Pastor Brian Pederson at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard.

Scriptures were read by Leah Pederson and personal remembrances were shared by grandson, Brandon Langel. Prelude music was provided by Iris White. Terry Stevenson sang "Amazing Grace" and "In the Garden", accompanied by Sharon Spicher. The congregation sang "Borning Cry". Ushers were Dave Watson and Gary Riecke. Pallbearers were Stanley, Todd, Richard, and Bill Langel; Mel VanWechel; and Darryl Pester. Interment was at the Rudyard Cemetery, followed by a reception at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to donor's choice...

EDWARD J. LARSON
Birth: May 31, 1931 - Death: March 16, 2006
Liberty County Times
March 22, 2006



Ed Larson

Edward J. Larson, a lifelong Ledger area farmer and Army veteran, died after a short illness on Thursday, March 16, 2006 at Benefis Hospital in Great Falls. Funeral services are planned for Tuesday, March 21, at 11:00 am at Pondera Valley Lutheran Church in Conrad. Burial with military honors will follow in the Hillside Cemetery. Visitation will be all day Monday, from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Memorials are suggested to Pondera Valley Lutheran Church, 6th and Delaware, Conrad, MT, 59425. Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby is in charge of arrangements and condolences may be sent for the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com <<http://www.whittedfuneralchapel.com>>.

Ed is survived by his wife of 46 years, Florence; sons, Doug (Christine) of Conrad and Dwight of Billings; grandchildren, Justin Larson and Trenton Larson of Cascade, Trevor Larson of Ledger, Parker

Larson, Blake Larson, and Riley Larson, all of Conrad. Ed was preceded in death by his parents, Chris and Selma Larson.

Ed was born an only child on May 31, 1931 to Chris and Selma (Torske) Larson. He was raised on the family farm east of Ledger and attended Omholt School. He attended high school in Conrad. After high school he was drafted into the Army and completed basic training at Camp Roberts, California. He liked to say that 'he drove across the Golden Gate Bridge, floated under it by ship, and flew over it by plane'. He was a lineman in the service, putting up and taking down communication lines. He was honorably discharged and returned to Montana, and to the family farm. His father, Chris, died when Ed was 26 years old.

Ed and Florence Foss were married on October 1, 1960 in Conrad at Pondera Valley Lutheran Church.

He was a member of St Olaf Church in Ledger for many years. At one time or another, he held just about every administrative position in the church. When his mother's health declined, he attended church at Pondera Valley Lutheran Church in Conrad in order to visit her, and had continued to attend there ever since her death.

Ed loved to tinker at the shop and always had an ongoing mechanical project, or a long winter project. He never felt vehicles had enough power and always worked at changing that. He was told that his first

project could never be done: put a flat-head V-8 into an old jeep. Take a shop full of tools and anything is possible! He enjoyed working on old tractors in his spare time and had fully restored a 1931 John Deere GP. He loved to attend thrashing bees and antique toy shows. Ed enjoyed visiting with fellow farmers about things like the weather and farming conditions, politics, grain prices and neighbors, etc. He loved to talk and visit with just about everyone. Ed's kind-heart and larger than life laughter brought joy to those closest to him. This gentle giant's enormously kind heart was matched equally by his enormously large hands. Work gloves were always a challenge for him to find, but those 'working hands' will be sadly missed.

Ed's greatest joy was his grandchildren. He always had a lap to bounce on or a hand to hold or a story to tell. The flashlight that was permanently in the shirt pocket was always the greatest anticipated toy to play with when visiting Grandpa. It is with utmost sadness that we say goodbye for now to our dear Husband, Father, Son and Grandfather. He will live forever in our memories and our hearts. Until we meet again.....we love you.

DOLORES 'DODIE' LAUGHNAN
Born: Age: 77 - Died: October 16, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
October 19, 2006

HAVRE — Dolores "Dodie" Laughnan, 77, a farm homemaker of Havre, who enjoyed playing cards, bingo, shopping and traveling, died of natural causes Monday at the Northern Montana Care Center.



Laughnan

Funeral Mass is 2 p.m. Friday at St. Jude Catholic Church in Havre

with burial following in Calvary Cemetery. A fellowship luncheon will be held at St. Jude Parish Center immediately after the services at the graveside. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre is handling arrangements.

She is survived by children Michael Laughnan of Missoula, Mont., and Laurie Nordrum of Gildford, Mont.; brothers Bill Davis of Malibu, Calif., and Joe Davis of Havre; sisters Mary Donahue of St. Paul, Minn., and Janet Porter of Seattle; and seven grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Lloyd in 1983.

DONNA MAE (HEPPNER) LINN
Born: August 23, 1938 – Died: November 27, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
December 1, 2006

SHELBY — Donna Mae (Heppner) Linn, 68, a Shelby homemaker, died of heart failure Monday at a Washington hospital.



Linn

Visitation is 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. A celebration of her life is 11 a.m. Monday at

St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby, with burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

Donna is survived by her husband, Bill; a son, Randy (Debra) Linn of Great Falls; daughters Debbie (Brad) Munson of Devon and Pam (Todd) Vandersloot of Ridgefield, Wash.; a sister, Shirley (Bob) Myers of Floweree; a brother, Dennis (Jean) Heppner of Great Falls; seven grandchildren, Joey Adams, Kelly Adams, Katie (Shawn) Holm, David Linn, Casey Vandersloot, Cody Vandersloot and Cassandra Vandersloot; as well as numerous brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews.

Donna earned her wings and was called to heaven, with her family by her side, on Nov. 27, 2006.

Donna was born on the warm summer day of Aug. 23, 1938, in New Deal, Mont., to John and Ione (Nelson) Heppner. She grew up in Plentywood and Great Falls before finding the love of her life, William "Bill" Linn. They were married Aug. 7, 1955, and moved to Shelby in 1965. She enjoyed 51 wonderful years of marriage and had three lovely children.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a granddaughter, Heidi Linn.

Donna had various jobs throughout her life. She ran a day care while raising her children, worked for Gambles until they closed the store, worked briefly at Ben Franklin before going to work at Buttrey (Albertsons) in the bakery department, retiring from there in August of 2000.

During her retirement, she kept busy doing many different things that she loved. Donna lived life to the fullest when she was able to visit with family and friends, or while she was doing one of her favorite hobbies. These included baking her famous banana-cream pies or famous chocolate-chip cookies that the family would always argue over for the last piece. While she relaxed, she enjoyed sewing many craft items and making scrapbooks, chronologically following her children as they grew older. She also enjoyed bowling, playing bingo at the Senior Center and visiting with friends.

Donna was a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Round Robin Pitch League, and the United Food Commercial Workers International Union.

Donna, Mom, Grandma, Ma was what she was called, and we will all miss her smile, her love, the care she gave each one of us individually, and, most of all, the beautiful person whom she was.

The family suggests memorials be directed to a charity of the donor's choice.

She will be truly missed by her family and friends.

Condolences may be sent online to whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

JOYCE M. (GARNER) LIPP
Birth: March 29, 1919 – Death: February 28, 2006
Liberty County Times
March 8, 2006



Joyce M. Lipp

Havre, MT - Joyce M. Garner Lipp, 86, died Tuesday February 28, 2006 at the Northern Montana Care Center of natural causes. Her funeral service will be 10 a.m. Saturday March 4, 2006 at the Holland & Bonine Funeral Chapel with Pastor Charlie Moody officiating. Burial will follow at the Highland Cemetery. Memorials in Joyce's honor may be made to a charity of one's choice. Services and arrangements have been entrusted to Holland & Bonine Funeral Home.

Joyce was born March 29, 1919 one of eight children born to Charles and Gertrude (Lankford) Garner. She attended grade school and High School in Brady, Montana and entered nurses training at the Sacred Heart School of Nursing in Havre in 1939. She graduated as an RN in May of 1942. While at nurses training she met William M. Lipp. They married in Hingham on January 21,

1943. Joyce and William had four children, Eldon (Ed), William A., Patricia and Raymond. During their families years in Hingham, Joyce cooked and cared for her family along with various hired men who helped on the farm. William Sr. died on October 12, 1992. The following spring, Joyce moved to Havre and lived in the apartment building that formally housed the Sacred Heart Hospital where she attended nursing school. In later years, Joyce developed macular degeneration. She was an avid reader up to this point. Joyce will be remembered for her love of cooking, shopping and animals. Her grandchildren and great grandchildren were always sent a card that was specially chosen for their individual special days, to express her true feelings about them.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, her husband William Sr. in 1992; son William A. Lipp; five brothers and one sister.

She is survived by her children: Daughter Patricia (Gary) Hansen of Glenwood Springs, CO; Sons: Eldon (Ed) Lipp and Raymond (Joanie) Lipp all of Hingham, MT. Sister Pearl Kauk of Conrad, MT. Daughter in-law Dorothy Engebretson of Havre, MT, a very dear friend Harriet Brown, 12 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

JENNIE BARBARA (SCHOFIELD) LOVE
Birth: November 14, 1915 – Death: March 20, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 3, 2006

Barbara Love

Jennie Barbara Schofield Love passed away peacefully from natural causes on March 20, 2006, in the Lincoln Lane Assisted Living Home in Billings.

Barbara was born Nov. 14, 1915, in Salt Lake City. When she was 1, she and her parents, Al (Alma) and Jennie Ertman Schofield moved to Anaconda. She graduated from Anaconda High School in 1938, and then earned her bachelor's degree in 1942 from Western Montana College.

She worked for the welfare department in Anaconda and Great Falls before moving to Havre. She enjoyed working with the young people in Havre and Hill County.

It was while she lived in Havre that she met her husband, Orville Love, who was a dry land farmer in Rudyard.

Barb taught in Kremlin, Gildford and Rudyard. Life on the farm wasn't always easy, but she loved to garden and always had a large garden full of various vegetables. She also worked in the hardware store in Rudyard and became proficient in construction and was able to help build her own cabin in Gallatin Canyon near Bozeman.

While in Bozeman, Barbara attended Montana State University and received her master's degree in counseling. Shortly after the cabin was completed, Orville passed away and Barbara accepted a position as a

counselor and teacher in the Ekalaka school system in Carter County.

Barb had a great love for the mountains and retired from teaching to return to Bozeman. In her retirement, she enjoyed the Museum of the Rockies and was made an honorary volunteer. She was a volunteer for the sheriff's department for many years.

When she was unable to further provide proper care for herself she moved to Lincoln Lane Assisted Living Home in Billings. Her life was full and rich with her gardening, reading, volunteering and her pets. While in the Lincoln Lane Home, she was adopted by a beautiful cat named Patches.

Barbara was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of

Latter-day Saints and the Eastern Star.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and her husband, Orville in 1968, and sister-in-law, Cora Schofield.

She is survived by her brothers, Kenny Schofield of Opportunity, MT; Paul and Ruth Schofield of Bozeman; and Don and Nita Schofield of Billings; plus many nieces and nephews.

Barbara will be missed by all her family and friends. A memorial service was held

Smith Downtown Chapel in Billings assisted with arrangements.

GLADYS A. (RUGTVEDT) LYNCH
Birth: September 9, 1919– Death: May 16, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 24, 2006



Gladys Lynch

Gladys A. (Rugtvedt) Lynch was born September 9th, 1919 at the Een homestead south of Rudyard, Montana. She was born, raised, and spent most of her life in the Rudyard community. Gladys passed away at her Rudyard home on the early morning of Tuesday (May 16th, 2006) from congestive heart failure. She was 86 years old.

Gladys was preceded in death by her Norwegian parents, August and Maren (Hegna) Rugtvedt, who homesteaded at Cloverleaf (which is located 3 miles south of the current Lynch farm). She was one of six children, four of whom preceded her in death, including brothers Issac and Art Rugtvedt and sisters Bertha Bilderback and Florine Kulbeck.

Gladys received her early education at the Een country school. She finished her schooling in Rudyard, where she graduated from R.H.S. in 1937. She was baptized, confirmed, and remained a lifetime member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. She taught Sunday school and Bible school, and was an active member of the Hope Circle for

many years. Her church, family, friends, and the Rudyard community were the most important things in her life.

In 1941 Gladys met Clarence Lynch while working as a "soda jerk" in Great Falls. They were married on April 13th, 1942 at Great Falls. They had spent 54 years of married life together when Clarence passed away on June 12th, 1996.

Following their marriage Clarence was inducted into the military during WWII. They were stationed at Hattiesburg, Mississippi when he attended boot camp. After Clarence was sent to fight on the European front, Gladys contributed to the war effort by working at a lumber mill in Spokane, Wash. She also worked as a cook at a restaurant in Corvallis, Oregon. When the war ended, Gladys and Clarence purchased her siblings' share of the Rugtvedt farm and it has been in the Lynch family since. She and Clarence wintered in Mesa, Arizona for many years, but Gladys always looked forward to "coming back home" each spring to see her many friends and family.

In her earlier years she was an active member of the Rudyard Ladies Auxiliary, the Black Coulee Home Demonstration Club, the Garden Club, and the Birthday Club. Gladys was also an avid bowler who spent many years in the local bowling leagues and represented Rudyard at many tournaments. In addition she enjoyed working in her flower gardens, playing cards, and solving crossword puzzles.

Gladys was an excellent cook; her family will long remember her delicious homemade fudges and pie crusts! She collected dolls as a fun hobby. She also enjoyed TV sports, and was an avid fan of the Phoenix Suns basketball team. Traveling was fun, too, and she made several memorable trips to Europe, Hawaii, and the Panama Canal.

She is survived by 4 daughters and their families, Florene (Chuck) Patrick of Billings, Penny Kleingartner (and fiancée, Jeff Sorg) of Lakeside, Colleen Tipp of Laurel, and Jodi (Skip) Harden of Missoula; 7 grandchildren, Rhonda (Gary) Steubs, Jeff (Julie) Patrick, Kelsey (Brent) Milliron, Tara (Luke) Laslovich, Klay Hansen, Courtney (Dana) Ness, and Ashley Harden (a beloved grandson, Randy Patrick, preceded her in death in 1990); 7 great-grandchildren, including Paige, Taylor, Jaidyn, Jordyn, Riley, Maren, and Alex; 1 great-grandson, Rikyn (due to be born in July); 1 sister, Ann Brundige of Spokane, Wash.; and many nieces and nephews.

A heartfelt "thank you" goes out to all of Gladys' family and friends who assisted in her care the last few weeks. Thanks also to the Rudyard Ambulance crew, Dr. Buker, Dr. Earl, Dr. Kozakiewicz, Dr. Young, and the excellent staff at the Liberty County Hospital.

Memorial services were held at 2:00 p.m. Friday (May 19th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. Officiating ministers were Pastor Brian Pederson and Pastor Joseph

Wahlin. Sharon Spicher served as organist and the congregation sang "Borning Cry" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic". Vocalist, Marcus Jochim, performed "In the Garden" and "How Great Thou Art". The 23rd Psalm was read by great-granddaughter, Jaidyn. Personal remembrances were shared by grandchildren, Courtney Ness and Jeff Patrick. Ushers were Bobby Toner and Todd Langel. Memorial bearers included Jeff Patrick, Klay Hansen, Alex Rider, Gary Steubs, Brent Milliron, Luke Laslovich, and Dana Ness.

Graveside services followed at the Rudyard Cemetery, where Gladys' ashes were buried with her loving husband, Clarence. The afternoon concluded with a coffee hour back at the church.

Memorials will be given to Our Savior's Lutheran Church, the Rudyard Ambulance service, the Hi-Line Health Foundation, or donor's choice.

Cremation and arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester, MT.

ALLEN CARL MATTSON

Birth: August 6, 1913 – Death: May 22, 2006

Liberty County Times

May 31, 2006



Allen Mattson

Allen Carl Mattson was born August 6, 1913 at the family homestead north of Chester, MT. He was the eldest of three sons born to Andrew and Minnie (Johnson) Mattson. Allen received his formal education at the Fairview country school, then began working on the family farm. He was 21 years old when his mother died, so he helped raise his two younger brothers.

Allen married Irene Mildred Lakey on December 20, 1939 at Havre. They lived and worked on the Mattson farm where they raised 2 sons and 2 daughters. In addition, they helped with the upbringing of three nieces (Bonita, Charlotte, and Debbie Lakey), whom they enjoyed having as part of their family.

Allen was diagnosed with M.S. in 1969. Being the proverbial "fighter" and always maintaining a positive attitude, he continued to farm and function for many

years to follow. He officially retired in 1976, but his love of the land kept him active in the farming operations into his 80's.

In the early 1990's the Mattson's moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge Retirement Home in Chester. When the Wheat Country Estates (the assisted-living facility) opened in 2001, they were some of the first residents. They enjoyed their life together there for two years, then Allen's health began to decline. He transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in 2003, and Irene joined him the following year. Allen died peacefully at the Chester rest home on Monday afternoon (May 22, 2006). He was 92 years old.

In his youth Allen was baptized and confirmed at the Lutheran church in Joplin. Throughout his adult life he was an active member at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. In addition he was member of the Chester Lions Club and had volunteered as a 4-H leader for many years. He had also served on the school boards of Fairview Country School and Chester High School.

Allen enjoyed the simple things in life. He loved "tinkering" in his shop and had a good imagination for building things. Years ago he constructed an early prototype of a snowmobile. Later he built his version of a "go-

cart" to entertain the grandkids. One other time he refinished an old pump organ that belonged to Gramma Lakey. When he wasn't staying busy, Allen liked to take evening rides through the local countryside to enjoy the crops and scenery.

In his earlier years Allen enjoyed bowling in the men's league and was a longtime member of the "Gilbert's Parts" team. He also enjoyed playing Whist and cribbage. During his quiet time at home, he loved to read the daily newspaper. He was a "good eater" who loved good food, and he always looked forward to those regular "coffee and cookie breaks" with family members at the farm.

Allen and Irene had many fond memories during their 66 years together. One of their favorites was the celebration party of their 50th Wedding Anniversary provided by their children in 1989. Another special memory was in the 1990's when they were

crowned King and Queen of Harvest Festival in Chester.

Allen and Irene had an unconditional love for their family – a love that was given as well as received. Several grandkids affectionately called them "Coolio and Hotstuff", which they thought was neat, but nothing felt better than that common term-of-endearment, "Pa and Ma"...

Allen is survived by his wife, Irene Mattson of Chester; 4 children and spouses, Bob and Carol Mattson of Chester, Andrea and "Tom" Thomas of Billings, Dave and Karen Mattson of Chester, and Vonda and Jim Laird of Bozeman; 10 grandchildren, including Kevin, Jeffrey, and Chris Mattson; Brian Thomas and Nicole Naudet; Kent Mattson, Mindy Hubbard, and Lacey Lalum; and Ian and Patrick Laird; 10 great-grandchildren (Josh, Brady, Joshua, Morgan, Averie, Kylie, Cannon, Braden, Allison, and Camden); and many nephews and nieces. Allen was preceded in death by his parents and his 2 brothers (George and Jennings Mattson).

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Friday (May 26th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Reverend Peter Erickson. Selected scripture readings and special remembrances were shared by several grandchildren. Karen Stack served as organist and accompanied the congregation in "The Old Rugged Cross". Iris White also played the organ while the congregation sang "My Faith Looks Up To Thee". Allen's niece, Jodi Mattson, played the piano and sang three tributes, "St. Teresa's Prayer",

"On Eagle's Wings", and "Pie Jesu". Ushers were Joe Seidlitz and Tim Campbell. The grandchildren and their spouses served as palibearers. Memorial bearers were

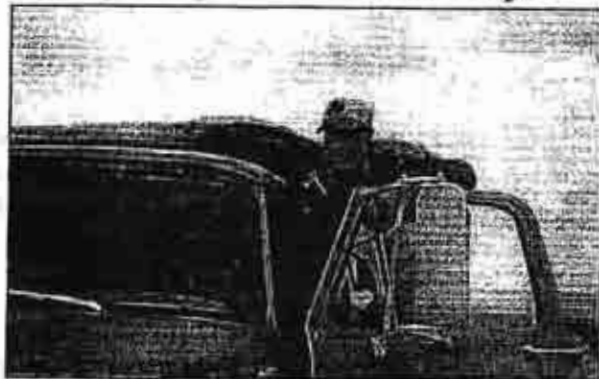
listed as "all of Allen's old community friends". Burial followed at the Chester Cemetery, then a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation, the C-J-I Education Foundation, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, or donor's choice...

Allen Carl Mattson

Born: August 6, 1913 north of Chester, Mt.

Died: May 22, 2006 at Chester Montana

Age: 92 years ... 9months ... 16 days



He who plants a seed beneath the sod...

Believes in God!



Allen's family: Wife, Irene; 4 children & spouses, Bob & Carol, Andrea & Tom, Dave & Karen, and Vonda & Jim; 10 grandchildren, Kevin, Jeffrey, Chris, Brian, Nicole, Kent, Mindy, Lacey, Ian, & Patrick; 10 great-grandchildren, Josh, Brady, Joshua, Morgan, Averie, Kylie, Cannon, Braden, Allison, & Camden; and numerous

Funeral Services:

11:00 a.m. Friday (May 26th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, Mt.

Officiant:

Reverend Peter Erickson

Readings & Special Remembrances: Grandchildren

Organists:

Karen Stack and Iris White

Vocalist/pianist:

Jodi Mattson

Ushers:

Tim Campbell and Joe Seidlitz

Palibearers:

Allen's loving grandchildren, including Brian Thomas, Kevin Mattson, Nicole Naudet, Kent Mattson, Mindy, Hubbard, Jeffrey Mattson, Ian Laird, Chris Mattson, Patrick Laird, and Lacey Lalum

Honorary Bearers:

All of Allen's old community friends...

Interment:

Chester Cemetery

... Luncheon to follow at the Fellowship Hall ...

Memorials:

Hi-Line Health Foundation, C-J-I Education Foundation, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, or donor's choice...

IRENE MILDRED (LAKEY) MATTSON

Birth: February 21, 1917 – Death: September 26, 2006

Liberty County Times

October 4, 2006



Irene Mattson

Irene Mildred (Lakey) Mattson was born February 21, 1917 on the Lakey homestead 12 miles northwest of Chester, MT. Her parents were Alexander and Melvina (Abel) Lakey and she was one of six children. Irene received her early education at the Horse Creek and Grauman country schools near the family farm, then finished her schooling in Chester where she graduated from C.H.S. in 1935.

She married Allen C. Mattson on December 20, 1939 at Havre, MT. They made their home on the Mattson farm north of Chester where Irene worked diligently as a farmwife and mother (her family of four included 2 sons, Bob and Dave, and 2 daughters, Andrea and Vonda). In addition, she helped raise 3 nieces (Bonita, Charlotte, and Debbie Lakey), whom she loved having as part of their family.

The Mattsons retired in 1976, but remained in their farm home until the early 1990's, when they moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge in

Chester. In 2001 they transferred to the Wheat Country Estates and became some of the first residents of this new assisted-living facility. When Allen's health began to fail in 2003, he moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home. Irene joined him in the rest home the following year. They had been married 66 years when Allen passed away this past May 22, 2006 at the age of 92. Irene joined him again, this time on a glorious trip to eternity, when she died peacefully this past Tuesday morning (September 26, 2006) at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester. She was 89 years old.

Irene was active in the Chester community throughout her life. First and foremost, she was a faithful member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and the Esther Circle of W.E.L.C.A. Secondly, she was a loyal supporter of our medical community and served as chairman of the Liberty County Hospital board during those early years of inception. She was also a charter member of the Bear's Den Homemaker's Club and attended "Women's Week" for many years. Several highlights in her life included the "Belle Award" for community leadership, being voted as "Homemaker of the Year", and making the finals for "Montana Mother of the Year." In addition she was active in the Chester Garden Club and received many ribbons at local fairs for her homegrown flowers and displays. She was also a long-time member of the Chester

Lionettes. Irene loved working with children, so she enjoyed being a 4-H leader and a regular chaperone for "Sneak Days" and other school events.

Her hobbies included gardening, bird-watching, crocheting, and sewing. She made many afghans for her family over the years. She did a lot of good cooking during her lifetime, and will be remembered best for her delicious homemade white cakes and divinity candy! In addition Irene was a loyal Chester sports fan.

There are a few interesting tidbits not well known about Irene. In her younger days she was an exceptional shepherd. And throughout her life she was a great shot with a .22 rifle!

Allen and Irene had many fond memories during their long life together. One of their favorites was the celebration party of their 50th Wedding Anniversary provided by their children in 1989. Another was in the 1990's when they were crowned "King & Queen" of the Harvest Festival in Chester.

They had an unconditional love for their family – a love that was given as well as received. Several grandkids affectionately called them "Coolio & Hotstuff", which they thought was neat, but nothing felt better than that more familiar term-of-endearment, "Pa and Ma"...

Irene was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by her 4 brothers (Curt, Houston, Troy, and Gordon Lakey). She is

survived by 4 children and spouses, Bob and Carol Mattson of Chester, Andrea & "Tom" Thomas of Billings. Dave and Karen Mattson of Chester, and Vonda and Jim Laird of Bozeman; 1 sister Ethel Rasmussen of Chester; 10 grandchildren (Kevin Jeffrey, and Chris Mattson; Brian Thomas and Nicole Naudet; Kent Mattson, Mindy Hubbard, and Lacey Lalum; and Ian and Patrick Laird); 10 great-grandchildren (Josh Brady, Joshua, Morgan, Averie, Kylie, Cannon, Braden, Allison, and Camden); and many nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Monday (Oct. 2nd) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church by Reverend Peter Erickson. Irene's obituary was read by Dr. Richard Buker, Jr. Organist, Holly Frederickson, accompanied the congregation, who sang "Amazing Grace". Pianist/vocalist, Jodi Mattson, performed "In the Garden" and "The Lord's Prayer". Irene's grandchildren served as pallbearers and read selected scriptures. Ushers were Kenneth Gilbert and Joe Seidlitz. Following burial in the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation, the C-J-1 Education Foundation, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, or donor's choice... Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

JOHN ANTHONY MAY

Born: June 13, 1924 – Died: October 2, 2006

Great Falls Tribune
October 4, 2006

John Anthony May

CHOTEAU — Army veteran John Anthony May, 82, formerly of Sand Coulee, died of natural causes Monday at Teton Medical Center in Choteau.



May



Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Burial of ashes with military honors is 11 a.m. Friday in Sand Coulee Cemetery with a reception following at the Sand Coulee Senior Citizen Center. Schnider

Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, John M. and Carla May of Choteau; daughters and sons-in-law, Christine and Mark Lakey of Chester and Kathleen and Jerry Miller of Helena; a brother, Ed May of Great Falls; a sister, Cele Konesky of Albuquerque, N.M.; and grandchildren Nicole Henderson, Kyle Henderson, Kelci May, Marissa Miller, Kaylie Miller, Micoyla Lakey and Grant Lakey.

John Anthony May was born June 13, 1924, in Sand Coulee, Mont., the son of Frank and Mary (Pavlik) May. He graduated from Centerville High School in 1942. John then entered the Army and served in WWII in the European Theatre.

He married Marcia Conway in Great Falls in 1962; they later divorced.

John lived in Sand Coulee his entire life, until moving to Teton Nursing Home in 2004.

He was very interested in sports, camping, gardening and playing horseshoes.

He was preceded in death by sisters Annie Surmi, Mary Klapak, Irene Wilson and Vernie Westerman; and brothers Frank May Jr., and Joe May.

The family suggests memorials to Intermountain Children's Home, 500 S. Lamborn, Helena, MT 59601; Teton Medical Center Foundation, 915 4th St. N.W., Choteau, MT 59422; or Centerville Senior Citizen Center, Centerville, MT 59480.

Condolences may be sent online to schniderfuneralhome.com and/or

LEO GEORGE MAY
Born: Age: 82 – Died: August 8, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
August 10, 2006

Leo George May

FORT BENTON — Leo George May, 82, an Army veteran who



May



owned a construction business. Leo May Construction, until retiring for health reasons in the 1980s, died of natural causes Tuesday in Fort Benton. A celebration of his life, with an ice cream social, is 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Golden Age Center in Fort Benton. Benton Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Rita (Painter) May of Fort Benton; children Gene May and Lance May of Winston, Michael May of Fort Benton, Colleen Evans of Great Falls, Kim Elliott of Helena and Lisa Reynolds of Klamath Falls, Ore.; sisters Fiorann Averman of Madras, Ore., and Annette Riley of Inverness; brothers Conrad May of Joplin and Ephram May of British Columbia; 15 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

SCOTT ANTHONY MCDONALD
Born: October 23, 1955 – Died: March 26, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
March 28, 2006

Scott Anthony McDonald

OILMONT — Scott Anthony McDonald, 50, an Army veteran from Oilmont, died Sunday at his home. The coroner has not yet determined the cause of death.



McDonald

A gathering of friends will take place at 2:30 p.m. Friday at the

Kevin Senior Citizen's Center. Whitted Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his mother, Anna McDonald of Kevin; daughters Sarah (Lenny) Cole of Chester and Becky (Tyson) McDonald of Oilmont; a sister, Linda (Mike) Larson of Great Falls; a brother, Rob McDonald of Roundup; a halfbrother, Brian Johnston of California; six grandchildren, Peyton, Ivan, Jasmine, Cain, Taylor and Ryder; nieces Amy and Katy; a nephew, Rian; cousins Pat, Anne, Mick and Mary; and an aunt, Laura.

Scott was preceded in death by his ex-wife, Vickie Nelson; and his father, Marvin McDonald.

Scott was born Oct. 23, 1955, at Downey, Calif. He grew up and was educated at Oilmont Elementary. He graduated from Sunburst High School and attended college at Great Falls. Scott also served in the U.S. Army. He enjoyed hunting, cooking, fishing, rock 'n roll and spending time with his grandkids.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com.

MANNING McINTYRE
Born: Age - 94 - Died: September 20, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
September 24, 2006

Manning McIntyre

CONRAD — Manning McIntyre, 94, a retired Texaco consignee and Navy veteran, died of natural causes Wednesday at a Conrad care facility.



McIntyre

His funeral is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Norley Hall in Conrad, with burial in Hillside Cemetery. Pondera Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Survivors include his wife, Helen (Ophus) McIntyre of Conrad; daughters, June Hovde and Carol Kaldor, both of Conrad, Marlene Moon of Joplin and Ellen Adams of Inverness; sons Gary McIntyre of Parker, Colo., and Dan McIntyre of Missoula; 13 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by a daughter, Kathleen Amestoy, and an infant daughter in 1946.

MARGARET (WARHANK) MCNAIR

Birth: December 2, 1913 – Death: March 26, 2006

Liberty County Times

April 5, 2006



Margaret McNair:

Margaret (Warhank) McNair was born December 2nd, 1913 at Rudyard, Montana. She was one of six children born to Michael and Anna (Popish) Warhank. She grew up in the Goldstone community and received her education at Rudyard, graduating from R.H.S in 1933. Margaret continued her schooling in Havre where she enrolled in a course for nurse's training at the Havre hospital.

She eventually traveled to San Francisco, California and took a job at a tuberculosis sanitarium. After the outbreak of World War II, she worked for the Army Quartermaster at Oakland. In 1946 Margaret returned to Montana to help care for her ailing father.

She married Dorcie V. McNair on July 19th, 1947 at Goldstone. In their early married years they lived in Rudyard, Devon, and Hamilton. In 1958 they moved to Inverness, where they made their home the rest of their married life. Dorcie worked as a mechanic and farmer. Margaret enjoyed her role as a homemaker and mother of three, and worked parttime as an Avon representative.

After her children were all in high school, she began working as a nurse's aide at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. Dorcie retired in 1981. The McNairs had been married 37 years when Dorcie died on April 7th, 1984.

Margaret continued to work at the Chester rest home until she was 80. She loved her job there and was well-known as a very caring and compassionate employee. In fact, after she officially retired, she still came to the nursing home to help with patient baths and to teach bathing techniques to the new aides. She often commented that "she was older than most of the residents that she cared for!"

Margaret remained in Inverness until 1998, when she moved to the Eagles Manor in Havre. She lived there for 4 years, then transferred to the Eagles Manor in Great Falls. In March of 2005 Margaret suffered a heart attack, so she moved to the Benefis Skilled Nursing Care Facility. This past Friday morning she was admitted to the Benefis East Medical Center for treatment of congestive heart failure. She died there peacefully on Sunday morning (March 26th, 2006) at the age of 92 years.

Margaret was raised in the Catholic faith; she remained a life member of the Sacred Heart Church & Altar Society in Inverness. Other memberships included the Eiks and Eagles Clubs in Havre.

Margaret and Dorcie loved to dance and seldom missed an opportunity to do so. Margaret continued to be active at community dances and events for many years following Dorcie's death. In addition she loved to take frequent junkets to Jackpot, Nevada. She looked forward to these trips, not just as a fun escape, but also to renew friendships with fellow travelers and casino workers she met throughout the years.

Margaret's other hobbies included gardening, sewing, and playing cards (especially solitaire). She loved working in her kitchen, mainly baking bread, making homemade noodles, or manufacturing handmade soap. In her younger years she enjoyed singing with her sisters. During her retirement she took a memorable cruise to the Mexican-Riveria. Margaret will be remembered as a happy lady with a beautiful spirit, always loving and kind to family and friends alike.

She is survived by 3 children and spouses, Garth McNair (wife, B.J.) of Butte, Tim McNair (wife, Patty) of Girard, Kansas, and Marlene Killion (husband, Jerry) of Great Falls; 6 grandchildren (inc. JaSainte, Jeni, Scott, Aaron, Macon, and

Timbrelee); 11 grand-children (inc. Chuck, Nick, Jayson, Kayson, Jonathan, Kayle, Brittney, Tyler, Kaylea, Tynan, and Ava); and numerous nephews and nieces. Margaret was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by a grandson (Jason Killion), 2 brothers (Raymond and Carl Warhank), and 3 sisters (Barbara McCann, Esther Earls, and Wilhelmina Patrick).

Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday (March 29th) by Father Joseph Diekhans at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness. Mass music was provided by Sacred Heart Choir, accompanied by organist, Iris White. Music tributes included "Ave Maria" (sung by Marcus Jochim), "Prayer of St. Francis", "Amazing Grace", "On Eagle's Wings", and "Psalm 103". Scripture readings were shared by Loy Chvilicek and the eulogist was Paul Wolery. Eucharistic ministers were Una and Bev Moog. The altar server was Dan Hybner. Margaret's grandchildren and spouses served as pallbearers and honorary bearers. Burial followed at the Inverness Cemetery. A luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel Chester.

JAMES 'GRUBBY' CLAUDE MEYERS, JR.
Birth: November 9, 1948 – Death: October 25, 2006
Liberty County Times
November 1, 2006

James "Grubby" Claude Meyers Jr passed away at his home in Whitefish, early morning on October 25, 2006 at the age of 57. Jim was born on November 9, 1948, in Havre to James C. Meyers Sr and Freda Rathbun Meyers. He attended school in Rudyard and graduated from Rudyard High School in 1967. Soon after graduating, Jim, like many of his friends and classmates, was drafted and found himself in the middle of a war in Vietnam. After returning home, he married Liame Vinson and they settled down to farm south of Rudyard. They were later divorced but have remained lifelong friends. Jim later married Franci Boehm Kraft in Las Vegas in 1983. They lived in Rudyard until their divorce in 1988. Following this divorce, Jim became a very troubled individual & moved around the country a great deal of the time, finally settling in Whitefish. He gained many friends & felt at home.

Jim became very much a loner in later years, but kept in touch with family and longtime friends on the Hi-Line. He was a Vietnam Veteran and a member of the VFW Whitefish where he gave generously to support whatever they were in need of. He was a huge fan of the Rolling

Stones over the years although he never had the chance to see a concert until they appeared in Missoula a few weeks before his death. His trip to that concert was one of the highlights of his life and a very memorable time for those who accompanied him.

Jim is survived by one sister, Linda (Patrick) Foster and a half-brother, Danny "Sam" Hansard and friend, Sharie Haven of Rudyard, a step-brother Richard "Rick" Hansard of Joplin; nieces, Cheri Hudson of Kalispell, Kari (Ed) Zercher of Seattle; nephews, Patrick Foster Jr of Havre, and Christopher (Eva) Foster of Seattle; and great nieces and nephews, Courtney, Kyle, Colt, Tristan, Kazmen, Dezi, Zeke, and Ayasha. He was preceded in death by his mother, Freda Rathbun Hansard, father, James C. Meyers Sr, half sister Tammy Hansard, and half brother, Dale "Ferd" Hansard.

The VFW Post Honor Guard in Whitefish held memorial services on Friday, Nov. 27th in Jim's honor. Jim will be buried in the Veteran's Cemetery at Fort Harrison with military honors at 11am on November 1st with a wake for family and friends to take place at the K-Lines in Rudyard on Friday, November 3rd beginning at 7pm.

SYLVESTER 'LEE' MILLER
Born: Age - 70 – Died: April 2, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 5, 2006

Sylvester 'Lee' Miller

GEORGETOWN, Texas — Former Great Falls resident and Navy veteran Sylvester "Lee" Miller, 70, died of cancer Sunday at a hospital in Georgetown, Texas.



A memorial service is 1 p.m. Friday at Santa Rosa Catholic Church in Andice, Texas, with burial of ashes in Texas Veterans Cemetery near Killeen, Texas, at a later date.

Lee will be sorely missed by his wife of 51 years, Sue Keenan Miller; sons Brett Miller, who is a Lt. Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, retired and living in Jacksonville, N.C., and Eric Miller, a senior associate with Accenture of Grapevine, Texas; and four grandchildren, Brian Miller, Kevin Miller, Caleb Miller and Elise Miller.

Lee was born in Glasgow, Mont., and grew up in Great Falls. He retired as a division marketing manager with the 3M Co. after 30 years. Prior to his career at 3M, Lee served eight years in the United States Navy, graduated from the then-College of Great Falls with a bachelor's degree in science and attended graduate school at the University of St. Louis. He taught high school sciences in Chester, Mont., and then sold insurance for a year or two prior to going to work for 3M. After retirement, Lee and his wife became residents of Sun City, Texas, where he enjoyed many rounds of golf with new and very special friends. Lee was also a Fitness Center devotee at Sun City and was an active member of the Sun City Kiwanis Club.

Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society.

ARTHUR MOLKJER
Born: January 27, 1938 – Died: April 13, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 26, 2006

Arthur Molkjer

LEWISTOWN — Arthur Molkjer, 68, a lifelong Montana resident, died after a long illness April 13 at his home in Lewistown.



Molkjer

At his request, cremation has taken place and no services are planned.

Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook was in charge of arrangements.

Art is survived by his wife, Gina; stepdaughter KariLi (Pat) Dailey and grandsons Sean Dailey and Dylan Hebbelman; sisters Charleen (Andy) Cole and Myla Cole; and several nieces and nephews.

Art was born Jan. 27, 1938, in Turner, Mont. He graduated from Harlem High School and attended trade school, finishing as an electrician and plumber. He spent the following years working in construction and landscaping.

His leisure time was spent hunting, fishing and traveling the backroads. Art was a strong supporter of Walleyes Unlimited.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Amy; father Arthur Killam; mother and stepfather Eloise and Nels Molkjer; and a sister, Meredith St. Pierre.

To send condolences to the family online, please go to www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

ALPHONSINE C. MOON
Born: Age- 85 – Died: April 11, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
April 13, 2006

Alphonsine C. Moon

CONRAD — Alphonsine C. Moon, 85, a former restaurant owner and cook, died of natural causes Tuesday at an extended care facility in Conrad.



Moon

A vigil service is 7 p.m. Sunday at Pondera Funeral Home. Funeral Mass is

11 a.m. Monday at St. Michael's Catholic Church, followed by a lunch at the church. Private family burial will take place at Lakeview Cemetery in Valier.

Survivors include sons Roger Moon of Joplin, Ken Moon and Rick Moon of Helena and Ron Moon of Conrad; daughters Gloria Buchanan of Galena, Alaska, Kathy River of Clancy, Bernie Moon of Lewistown, Brenda Ogan of Conrad and Mona Linse of Ronan; sisters Chris Balazic of Chinook and Loretta Widhalm and Victoria Broesder of Conrad; 26 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Herb Moon, in 1960; a son, Rodney Moon; and daughters Yvonne Eades and Cecelia Moon.

GOLDA BELLE (ALLEN) LAAS MORRISON
Birth: October 26, 1927 – Death: October 25, 2006
Liberty County Times
November 1, 2006



Golda Laas Morrison

Golda Belle Allen was born October 26, 1927 in Chester, Montana. She was one of four children born to Ed and Louisa (Stott) Allen. Golda grew up in Whitlash and received her first through 8th grade education there in a one-room school house. Her high school years were spent in Thompson Falls, Shelby, and Chester where she graduated from C.H.S. in 1945. Golda met her high school sweetheart, August "Gus" Laas, and they were married March 16, 1946 at a Lutheran parsonage in Great Falls. They made their home on a farm 4 miles north of Tiber, where Golda worked diligently as a homemaker and mother of six children. After the loss of her second child, Tedi Anne, Golda searched for truth and became a "Born Again" Christian. She dedicated her life, praying for her family and the entire Chester community for their salvation. After 43 years of marriage, Gus was diagnosed with cancer and went to Heaven on September 17, 1989 at age 65.

In 1995 Golda met a widowed retired pastor, Reverend Alfred Morrison, at a church anniversary in the Chester community. Their friendship grew and they were married on January 6, 1996

at the Chester Methodist Church. From that time on they spent their summers at Golda's home in Chester and their winters at Alfred's home in Blue Springs, Missouri. They were partners in ministry, serving as missionaries to Honduras and Mexico and as prison ministers. The Morrison's also assisted with local Bible study groups and volunteered ministry and musical services at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. They had been married 8 years when Alfred died on May 25, 2004.

Golda continued to live in the Chester community. She remained loyal to her strong Christian faith and showed Jesus to others through her love, understanding, and compassion. She had fulfilled her lifelong dream of serving as a missionary. In April of 2006 she was honored to be ordained as a minister. In May she performed her one and only marriage ceremony in Great Falls. It was about that same time that Golda was diagnosed with cancer. Following a short remission, her cancer returned and her condition rapidly deteriorated this past month. She was cared for by her children in the LaSorte home until recently. She transferred to the Chester Hospital where she died peacefully on Wednesday evening (October 25, 2006), the day before her 79th birthday.

Golda attended many churches during her life, but held membership at the Chester Assembly of God. She served as Sunday school superintendent and Sunday school teacher for many years. She was also a leader in the "Good News Club" for kids and the Christian Women's Club for women. Golda loved to read and study the "Word of God";

she enjoyed her large personal library of religious books, tapes, CD's, etc. In 1996 she published "Poems for the Purpose", a book containing her inspirational writings and poetry. During this past year she wrote several musical choruses.

Golda had many other hobbies. During her school years she played the coronet. In later years she played the piano. She enjoyed embroidery and sewing. In those early years she made many clothing items for her children. In recent years she continued to help make the graduate quilts at the church. Golda loved to build jigsaw puzzles. She also loved to host big family meals. She enjoyed several personal collections, including antique figurines, red glass, angel memorabilia, and rocks shaped like human feet! She also enjoyed her frequent trips to Oregon to visit her family and she attended all special occasions.

Golda was preceded in death not only by her husbands and parents, but also by a 5-year-old daughter (Tedi Anne Laas in 1952) and her only brother (Lester Edwin Allen in 1993).

She is survived by 5 children and spouses, Donnie (Krystal) Laas of Hillsboro, OR, Bonnie (Ben) Shaw and Koni (Mark) Comfort, both of Scappoose, OR, and Cyndy (Joe) LaSorte and Robbie (Tina) Laas, both of Chester; 3 step-daughters, Aleen Pacitti of Virginia, Adell Janzen of Missouri, and Julene Hatlin of Polson, MT; 2 sisters, Evelyn Aiken of Whitlash and Winifred ("Wini") Barnett of Mesa, AZ; 10 grandchildren (inc. Haven, Alesha, Jennifer, Austa, Kaysha, Josh, Jake, Nick, JoAnna, and Alex); 1 great-granddaughter,

Rowan; and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Funeral services were 11:00 a.m. Monday (October 30th) at the Chester Assembly of God Church. Pastor Eric Munson officiated. A selected scripture reading and one of Golda's poems was read by Julene Hatlin. Her obituary and some personal notes from her journal were read by LeRoy Green. Holly Frederickson served as pianist and the Assembly Worship Team sang "Blessed Assurance" and "Victory in Jesus". Taped music from Tracy Laas included "How Great Thou Art", "God is Here", "Promised Land", and "I Will Enter His Gates". Ushers were Jeanne and John Fauerbach. Pallbearers were Ben Shaw, Mark Comfort, Dennis Barker, Brian Hamel, Todd Wanken, and Scott Ross. Honorary bearers were Golda's C.H.S. classmates. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a memorial luncheon was held at the Fellowship Hall at O.S.L.C. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials may be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester, to Cancer and Cystic Fibrosis research, or to the American Bible Society.

LINDA (OTTERSTETTER) JOHNSON MORRISON
Born: Age: 57 – Died: August 2, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
August 5, 2006

Linda Morrison



Morrison

PLENTYWOOD — Linda Morrison, 57, of Plentywood, a grocery manager, died Wednesday of ovarian cancer at a Plentywood hospital.

Services are 1 p.m. today at Fulkerson Memorial Chapel in Plentywood, with burial in Froid South Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband, Jeffrey Morrison of Plentywood; sons Steve Johnson of Fargo, N.D., and Tony Johnson of Williston, N.D.; daughter Bonnie Dean of Williston; stepsons Eric Morrison of Seattle and Josh Morrison of Minot, N.D.; her father, John Otterstetter of Fairview; sisters Fran Lagerquist and Rae Jean Koch, both of Billings, Bonnie Moore of Joplin and Wanda Hansen of Williston; a brother, Mike Otterstetter of Fairview; and numerous grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Jocelyn.

ROBERT ALLEN NEER
Born: September 5, 1958 – Died: June 12, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
June 14, 2006

Robert Allen Neer

Robert Allen Neer, 47, of Great Falls, a construction worker and U.S. Marine Corps veteran, died of heart failure Monday at Peace Hospice.



Neer



Graveside service and burial are 3:30 p.m. Thursday in Highland Cemetery. Chapel of Chimes Funeral Home is handling

arrangements.

Survivors include his sisters, Kim Watson of Great Falls and Bonnie Rue of Colorado; sister-in-law Sally Neer of Chester; eight nieces, four nephews and lifelong friends.



**Neer
in 1976**

He was preceded in death by his parents, Archie and Sylvia Neer;

brothers Merle and Gary Neer; and a sister, Judy Billingsley.

Robert was born Sept. 5, 1958, in Maddock, N.D. He attended school in Black Eagle and Great Falls.

He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1976 and served for three years. He belonged to the union and worked construction around Great Falls and other areas.

He traveled around the U.S. riding his Harley, living his life the way he wanted. He will be dearly missed.

Condolences may be sent online to www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

DONNA CLAIRE (STANDIFORD) NELSON
Birth: October 13, 1931 – Death: August 28, 2006
Liberty County Times
September 6, 2006



Donna Nelson

Donna Claire (Standiford) Nelson was born October 13, 1931 in Chester, Montana. She was the second of 4 daughters born to Mabel "Moutz" Edmister and Glendon "Glen" Standiford. Donna grew up at Lothair and received her early education there. She finished her formal schooling in Chester, where she graduated from C.H.S. in 1949.

Donna moved to Shelby where she met and married John Nesbo in 1951. Donna worked various jobs in Shelby, including J. C. Penney, Shelby Floral, and Oil City Café. The Nesbos had four children before their marriage ended in divorce.

Her second marriage was to Carl K. Nelson in 1963. In addition to working as homemaker and mother, Donna took a job as loan officer at the Shelby Community Credit Union in 1967. She eventually became the branch manager at the

credit union and worked there for 32 years until her retirement in 1999. The Nelsons made their home in Shelby during their 43 years together.

Donna was diagnosed with diabetes in 1978. Her health remained relatively good until one and a half years ago, when she began kidney dialysis. With recent

health issues a month ago, she was admitted to the Missouri River Manor in Great Falls for extended care. Donna died at this nursing facility on the morning of Monday (August 28th, 2006). She was 74 years old.

During her formative years Donna worked at the Lothair grain elevator with her father; she was a strong young lady who wasn't afraid of hard work. Her work ethic continued into her adult years, as she was a diligent and dedicated employee at the local credit union. In fact, the Shelby branch was so successful that it was rated one of the top credit unions in the state.

Donna's hobbies were many. She loved to play cards, mainly "pounce", pitch, whist, and cribbage. She also liked to play Yahtzee for quarters! In addition she enjoyed bowling and had become a skilled pool-player. Donna was a

good cook; she was famous for her homemade pies and "sour cream twists". For several years she made the pies for the café in the local bowling alley. During her quiet time at home Donna enjoyed painting (sceneries) and crocheting (she made many potholders). Just for the fun of it, she collected rocks and glassware.

Unknown to many was her love of motorcycles. In her younger days she looked forward to trips to the mountains on a Harley-Davidson! Donna also loved Halloween, dressing up, and attending ghoulish parties! Last, but not least, Donna had a beautiful singing voice and loved to whistle.

Donna had several affectionate nicknames. Her sisters called her "Fluffy". Her kids called her "Porpoise" and "The Chairman".

She is survived by her husband, Carl Nelson of Shelby; 4 children, Greg (Kathleen) Nesbo of Bothell, Wash., Glenn (Janet) Nesbo of Winchester, Ill., Jane Nesbo-Garsjo of Shelby, and Jean Nesbo of Helena; 2 step-children, Georgie (Dave) Huerta of Missoula and Sheila (Ron) Marquardt of Polson; 10 grandchildren (including Amanda, Janson, Jorey, Chloe, Elaine, Erika, Martina, Nick, Veronica, and John); 2 sisters, Muriel

Steever of Shelby and Marion Wanken of Chester; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Additional survivors include her former husband, John (Dee) Nesbo of Trego; their 4 children, Jerry "Jid" Nesbo of Boise, Id., Dr. Shawn (Tracy) Nesbo of Conrad, Shirley Fulgham of Phoenix, Az., and Sheila

(Rod) Robertson of Phoenix, Az.; and their 7 grand-children, Alexandra, Hunter, Ryan, Jaden, Dustin, Dylan, and Dakota.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents and a sister (Alta Tucker).

It was Donna's wish to be cremated with no formal services. Her family planned a memorial reception, which was held at 4:00 p.m. Thursday (August 31st) at the Shelby Tap Room (where Donna spent many hour playing cards and pool with her friends).

Memorials may be given to donor's choice.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

FERRIS (BUSTER) HARTFORD NESS
Birth: July 17, 1929 – Death: February 23, 2006
Liberty County Times
March 1, 2006



Buster Ness

Buster Ness, lifelong Rudyard resident, passed away Thursday morning (February 23rd, 2006) at his home in Rudyard, surrounded by his loving family. He died peacefully in his bedroom, the same room where he was born 76 years, 7 months, and 6 days earlier.

Buster was born Ferris Hartford Ness on July 17th, 1929 at the family farm. He was the youngest of four children born to Swan and Anna (Wiik) Ness. He grew up in Rudyard and received his education there, graduating from R.H.S. in 1947. In the few years that followed, he worked with his family in the construction business at Pasco, Washington.

During the Korean Conflict, Buster enlisted into the U.S. Army and served from 1950-53. He spent most of his enlistment time as a paratrooper with Company H of the 503d Airborne Infantry Regiment. He had attained the rank of Sergeant at the time of his honorable discharge.

Buster returned to Spokane, Washington where he managed a service station for a while, then began working as a millwright at the Hanford Nuclear Sites near Pasco. In the late 1950's Buster and a Rudyard friend, Robert Rigg, purchased/operated a bowling alley (called "Baghdad Bowl") at Airway Heights near Spokane. In the early 1960's (following the death of his older brother, Bob), Buster returned to

Rudyard to work as a spray pilot and help with the family farm. In 1964 he started "Ag Air, Inc.", a successful aerial crop-spraying business which he owned/operated throughout the rest of his life. In addition, Buster was a partner in "Ag Distributors", a business specializing in chemical and fertilizer sales.

On March 25th, 1965 Buster married Grace I. Richie in Las Vegas, Nevada. They made their home at Rudyard during their 41 years together.

Buster developed diabetes and subsequent renal problems, which required dialysis. He felt very fortunate to receive a kidney transplant in 2000. His health stabilized for a while, then declined about six months ago. Buster was receiving care at a nursing facility when he made a personal decision "to go home to die with dignity".

Buster loved airplanes and was a licensed pilot for 50+ years. He was a past president and board member of the Montana Aerial Applicators Association, a member of the National Aerial Applicators, and a member of the Havre Elks. In 1991 he became a

founding member of the new Association of Montana Aerial Applicators. Buster loved to attend the annual air-races in Reno, Nevada and one of his favorite magazines was "Trade-A-Plane"!

In his quiet hours at home, he enjoyed watching airplane shows and the history channel on television. His "hobbies" were his farm and his work.

Buster was a very practical, unassuming man with a good sense of humor. When conversing with family and friends, he always interjected many original quips and quotes, which his family affectionately referred to as "Buster-isms".

Survivors are his wife, Grace Ness of Rudyard; his children and grandchildren, including daughter Karen Kelly (and husband, John "Bobo") and their 2 children, Elizabeth and Conor, of Anaconda; daughter Amy Carver (and fiancé, Frank Foster) and her 2 children, Eric and Amanda, of Bozeman; son Dana Ness (and wife, Courtney) and their daughter, Maren, of Rudyard; and his special canine "son", Buddy. Buster is also survived by his sister, Grace Ness, of Seattle; a sister-in-law, Joanne Ness of Pasco; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers (Robert "Bob" Ness and Arnold "Arnie" Ness).

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 p.m. Monday (Feb. 27th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard by Reverend Brian Pederson. The eulogist was Buster's son-in-law, "Bobo" Kelly. A vocal tribute by Ashley VanVoast was "Children of the Heavenly

Father", accompanied by pianist, Holly Frederickson.

The congregation sang "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and "On Eagle's Wings". Ushers were Willard Gustafson and Fred Rigg. Pallbearers were Dave Warhank, Lane Rigg, Rick Pester, Wade Rigg, Lowell Strissel, Bob Toner Jr., and Neal Rigg. Honorary bearers were George Walker, Bob Cartwright, Bob Toner Sr., Austin Johnson, Speck Helmbrecht, Lloyd Haymaker, Bill Sheets, Doug Wilson, Sam Thompson, Dick Jacobson, Leonard Gustafson, Jerry Hybner, Jim Briden, and all of Buster's other good friends.

Burial followed at the Rudyard Cemetery. The Havre VFW and American Legion group provided military rites. Family friend, Ophelia Gustafson, made the flag presentation. A final tribute, the "sweet sounds" of airplane engines from the Reno air-races, concluded the ceremony. A coffee hour followed at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

Memorials will be given to the Kidney Transplant Program,

Hi-Line Health Foundation, in Chester, Dialysis Units in Havre and Great Falls, Rudyard Ambulance and Fire Dept., Bear Paw Hospice in Havre, Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard, or donor's choice...

DONALD HAROLD NEUSER
Born: April 5, 1942 – Died: December 9, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
December 12, 2006

Donald Harold Neuser

Donald Harold Neuser, 64, of 1811 21st Ave. S., died of complications from a stroke Saturday at his home.



Neuser

A memorial service is 3 p.m. today at Grace Baptist Church. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Croxford Funeral

Home and Crematory.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara; a son, John Neuser of Great Falls; a sister, Joanne Stokes of California; and a brother, Robert Neuser of Washington.

He is also survived by three grandsons, Jarod, Stephen and Derich, all of Great Falls.

Donald was born April 5, 1942, in Chester, Mont., and was raised in Sunburst until he was 12 years old. He was educated in Sunburst and Great Falls.

He married Barbara Akin in Great Falls on Nov. 20, 1965.

He had been a car mechanic since 1960, and for the past six years did custodial work for Grace Baptist Church.

Don loved to fish and tinker on cars. He especially loved his family, grandchildren and the family pets, Curious George, Smokey the Bear and Sadie.

Condolences may be sent online to croxfords@qwest.net and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

JOHN NORMAN NICHOLSON

Born: November 28, 1941 – Died: November 10, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

November 12, 2006

SHELBY — Army veteran John Norman Nicholson, 64, a Montana Department of Transportation section supervisor from Shelby, died of heart failure Friday while hunting in the Missouri Breaks in southern Blaine County.



Nicholson

Memorial services are 1 p.m. Wednesday at Whitted Funeral Chapel. Burial of ashes will take place at a later date in Chinook Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife of 44 years, Myrna Nicholson of Shelby; a daughter, Peggy (Chad Taylor) Halquist of Tacoma, Wash.; a son, Norman (Becci) Nicholson of Kalispell; sisters Thelma Halteman of Roach, Mo., Alice (Paul) Green of Cut Bank and Barb (Dick) Letang of Great Falls; a brother, Pete (Darlene) Nicholson of Billings; and grandchildren Bradly Halquist of Tacoma and Danielle and Amanda Nicholson, both of Kalispell.

John was born Nov. 28, 1941, at Birchtree, Mo., to John S. and Jessie (Hannah) Nicholson. He moved to the Harlem area as a youth where he grew up and graduated from high school.

He served with the U.S. Army from 1961 till 1963. He married Myrna Scheafer at Harlem in 1962. He worked for the Montana Department of Transportation for many years as a section supervisor and would have retired next August.

He was a member and Past Exalted Ruler of the Shelby Elk's Lodge, Past Worshipful Master of the Shelby Masonic Lodge and Order of Eastern Star Past Worthy Patron.

He enjoyed hunting, farming and spending time with his grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Jessie Nicholson, and brothers Chst and Bill Nicholson.

Condolences may be sent online to whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

LORRAINE D. (OLSON) NORDRUM
Born: Age 78 – Died: February 17, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
February 19, 2006

Lorraine D. Nordrum

HAVRE — Wisconsin native and former Gildford resident Lorraine D. (Olson) Nordrum, 78, a certified LPN who worked many



Nordrum

years at Northern Montana Hospital in the Pediatrics and OB departments, died Friday at Northern Montana Care Center in Havre after a lengthy illness.

Cremation has taken place and her memorial service is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Messiah Lutheran Church. A fellowship luncheon will be held at the church immediately after the service. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre is handling arrangements.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Arnold Nordrum on Dec. 16, 1978.

Survivors include children Gary Nordrum of Bayview, Idaho, Sandy O'Leary of North Bend, Wash., Roger Nordrum, Keith Nordrum and Shannon Verploegen, all of Havre, and Shelly Hauge of Odessa, Wash.; her brother, Henry Olson Jr. of Lodi, Calif.; a sister, Gladyce Hammer of Fosston, Minn.; 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

AUDREY A. (ZANDA) NUXOLL

Birth: September 23, 1932 – Death: September 3, 2006

Liberty County Times

September 13, 2006



Audrey Nuxoll

Audrey A. (Zanda) Nuxoll, age 73 – wife, mother, and “best grandma” – who suffered from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, passed away Sunday morning (September 3, 2006) at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester.

Audrey was born September 23, 1932 in Chester, one of two daughters of Albin and Alma (Larson) Zanda. She grew up in Chester and spent most of her life here. She received her formal education at Chester where she graduated from C.H.S. in 1951. During her high school years Audrey worked on the Clarence and Marion Romain ranch south of Chester.

Audrey married Gerald Johnston just prior to his induction into the U.S. military. They had been married for less than a year when Jerry was killed in the Korean Conflict. Audrey returned to work at the Romain ranch where she met her second husband, John Nuxoll. Audrey and John were married in Chester on September 20, 1954.

The Nuxolls moved to Clarkston, Washington in 1959

to operate a restaurant called the “Come-In Café”. Two years later they returned to Chester to take over the farming operations for Audrey’s mother and sister. They made their home on the farm until 1969, then moved into Chester to accommodate the activities of their three daughters.

For several years Audrey worked as a certified nursing assistant at the Liberty County Nursing Home. She also worked parttime for Libby O’Brien as a State Farm office assistant. The Nuxolls continued to live in Chester during their retirement years and enjoyed traveling to Yuma, Arizona these past 7 winters. They were members of the Good Sam’s RV Club and enjoyed the comradery of fellow-RV’ers at the Rivers Edge Clubhouse in Yuma. Audrey also belonged to a local birthday club in Chester with some of her best friends, who affectionately called her “Aud”.

During her high school years Audrey was a drummer in the band, served on the paper staff, worked as a librarian assistant, and was active in the drama department. In later years she enjoyed crocheting afghans, doing crossword and jigsaw puzzles, and collecting music boxes. Audrey also loved to play cards and games, especially Bridge, Phase-10, “garbage”, Scrabble, and bunco. She was a good cook, known for her delicious homemade caramel candies, caramel rolls, and meatballs-and-gravy.

Audrey enjoyed spending quality time with friends. Most of all, she loved her grandchildren and constantly doted on them!

She is survived by her husband of almost 52 years, John Nuxoll of Chester; 3 daughters and spouses, Wanda and Craig Rude of Cut Bank, Wendy and Ed Wiltzen of Fairview, and Sherry and Scott Decker of Chester; and 7 grandchildren (including Kate and Kari Rude; Kjerstie, Kelsey, and Kendall Wiltzen; and Chris and Cory

Decker). Audrey was preceded in death by her parents and her sister (Hazel Johnson Taylor).

A vigil service was led by Natalie Ghekiere at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday (Sept. 6th) at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Chester. Audrey’s memorial mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Diekhans at 11:00 a.m. Thursday (Sept. 7th) at the church. Greeters were Scott Decker and Ken Gilbert. Scripture readings were by

Craig Rude and Pat Seidlitz. Altar server was Ken Gagnon and eulogist was Ed Wiltzen. The communion gifts were presented by several grandchildren and the Eucharistic ministers were Tyler Streit and Karen Mattson. Mass music was provided by members of the Seidlitz family, including John, Jack, and Anne. Musical tributes were “You Are Near”, “Valleys of Green”, “On Eagle’s Wings”, “Bread of Life”, and “Lead Me Lord”.

Following committal prayers and burial of ashes at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Undesignated memorials will be given to the “stained glass window fund” at St. Mary’s.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

LILLIAN NYGAARD

Born: Age: 78 – Died: December 27, 2006

Great Falls Tribune
December 30, 2006

Lillian Nygaard

WOLF POINT — Lillian Nygaard, 78, of Wolf Point, a farmer and rancher who enjoyed cooking, died of cancer Wednesday at her home.



Nygaard

Her memorial is 2 p.m. today at First Lutheran Church in Wolf Point. Clayton Stevenson Memorial Chapel is handling arrangements.

Survivors include daughters Linda Nygaard of Manzanita, Ore., and Brenda Weeks of Wolf Point; sons Duane Nygaard and Steven Nygaard, both of Wolf Point, Randy Nygaard of Sedalia, Colo., and Bradley Nygaard of Ridgefield, Wash.; sisters Cora Salanski of Cranbrook, British Columbia, and May Blysak of Whitehorse, Yukon; 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Burle Nygaard in 1998.

JULIA F. (HANSEN) O'NEIL
Born: Age 82 – Died: November 6, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
November 9, 2006

Julia F. O'Neil

BIG SANDY — Julia F. (Hansen) O'Neil, 82, a Big Sandy homemaker and former nurse's aide, died of cancer Monday at a Great Falls hospital.



O'Neil

A memorial service is 2:30 p.m. Friday at the Big Sandy Historical Museum, with burial of ashes in Big

Sandy Cemetery. Cremation and arrangements are being handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

Survivors include her husband of 13 years, Fred O'Neil of Big Sandy; children Kurt Hansen of Big Sandy and Carolyn Boyd of Puyallup, Wash.; stepchildren, Leo O'Neil of Denver, David O'Neil of Malta, Ross O'Neil of Rudyard, Tammie Gatzemeier of Hingham and Judy Campeau of Billings; sisters Ann Beeler of Park City and Marge Glasoe of East Helena; 15 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Charles Hansen, in 1991.

WILMA FRANCES (SPRINGER) PALMER
Born: October 16, 1915 – Died: July 27, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
July 28, 2006

Wilma Frances Palmer

Wilma Frances (Springer) Palmer, 90, of No. 20 3rd St. N., a retired apartment owner and manager, died of natural causes Thursday at a local nursing home.



**Palmer
1990s**

Private family services are planned. Cremation has taken place under the direction of

Chapel of Chimes Funeral Home.

Survivors include her special friend, Albert Havens of Great Falls; a son, Thomas W. Palmer of Raynesford; grandchildren Cindy (Walter Schweitzer) Palmer and Wendy (Bruce Shultz) Palmer; and great-grandchildren Kelsey and Hannah Schweitzer and Jack and Georgia Shultz.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas H. Palmer, in 1997; and her brother, Robert Springer.

Wilma was born Oct. 16, 1915, in Great Falls. She married Thomas H. Palmer in Great Falls in 1936. He died in 1997.

In 1951, Wilma began owning and managing Savoy Apartments, which she operated until her retirement. She enjoyed bowling and was a private pilot. Wilma loved living at the Rainbow Retirement Center.

Condolences may be sent online to greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

BEATRICE M. (BROWN) PARK
Birth: February 11, 1916 - Death: June 12, 2006
Liberty County Times
June 21, 2006

Beatrice Park

Beatrice M. Park, 90, of 631 Caring Street, Hillman, Michigan, passed away Monday, June 12, 2006, at Medilodge of Hillman.

Beatrice was born in Lachine, Michigan on

February 11, 1916 to the late George and Lillian (Adrian) Brown and married Gerald B. Park on October 20, 1933 in Lachine. He preceded her in death on October 15, 2000.

Surviving are: 1 daughter, Louise (Mrs. Robert) Henke of Chester, Montana; 5 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews; 2 sisters-in-law, Nellie Dittenbir of Au Gres, Michigan, Bonnie (Monty) Young of Midland, Michigan; 2 brothers-in-law, Raymond (Vivian) Park of Midland, Michigan, Ken Hodgins of Alpena, Michigan.

Preceding her in death were a brother, Jackson Brown; and two sisters, Lucille Park and Mary Lou Hodgins.

Mrs. Park is at the Bannan Funeral Home in Alpena where friends may call on Sunday from 4-8 p.m. and where funeral services will

be held Monday at 2:00 p.m. with Roland Mader and Doris Bloemaker officiating.

Interment: Long Rapids Cemetery

ELLA RUTH (SHARPLES) PATRICK
Born: September 2, 1916 – Died: May 18, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
May 23, 2006

Ella Ruth Patrick

MALTA — Ella Ruth (Sharples) Patrick, 89, a farm homemaker, died after a long illness Thursday at a care center in Helena.



Patrick

Funeral services are 11 a.m. today at Adams Memorial Chapel in Malta with interment in Malta Cemetery.

A luncheon will follow the services at the Little White Church.

Survivors include her children Ralph Smith of East Helena, Donna Coate of Forsyth; Gayle "Buster" (Loretta) Patrick of Malta, and Patricia (George) Taylor of Helena; a brother, Frank (Gwen) Sharples of Chinook; 17 grandchildren, 39 great-grandchildren, five great-great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ruth was born Sept. 2, 1916, in Zurich, Mont., to Judson and Ella (Bosley) Sharples. She was the fifth of seven children.

In 1932, Charles Patrick sent his oldest son, Ralph, to the Sharples farm to buy a special variety of potatoes for his large family in Rudyard, and a love began that will last into eternity. Ralph and Ruth were married in October of that year. They lived on the Hi-Line for several years but in the spring after World War II started, they moved their family to Helena so Ralph could teach welding at Fort Harrison.

Then Ruth became one of the many "war widows" who stayed home to take care of the children, raise victory gardens and keep close track of the ration stamps for sugar, shoes, gasoline, etc. Ralph went as a civilian to Pearl Harbor to weld the ships as they came in damaged from the fighting.

Ruth was not happy when her children and friends lost all their shoes trying to throw them across a creek. They went barefoot the rest of the summer. There were no tires available so the family learned the city of Helena very well by walking everywhere.

When Ralph returned and the war was over, he worked for a plumbing company in Helena but still had the urge to farm so in 1952, they moved from Helena to a farm at Wagner, Mont. Ruth loved the farm and the way of life and had vegetable and flower gardens even though she had to fight gumbo, mosquitoes and an occasional band of sheep that came through her yard.

Her many interests were reading, gardening, knitting, crocheting, playing cards and bowling. She was Malta's Bowler of the Year in 1985-86, at the age of 70. She was also active in Eastern Star, Women of the Moose and The Friendly Neighbors' Club. She was Clerk of the School District of Wagner and Postmistress at the Wagner Post Office.

But always, first and foremost, were her husband, children and eventually grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Although she was only 16 when they married, she read so extensively she was well educated on many subjects. She loved to travel, especially to Hawaii, and had many good trips with Ralph before his sudden death in 1976, but continued to have several international tours after he was gone.

Even though Ruth faced many tragedies in her lifetime, she handled them with grace and strength. She never lost the sweet, giggly charm of that 16-year-old farm girl. Now she has gone home to water the strawberries and check the beautiful blue of the flax and bachelor buttons.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years; sons Shelby and David; a grandson, Scott Smith, three brothers; two sisters; and her parents.

Memorials may be made to the Phillips County Museum or the charity of your choice.

JOSEPHINE 'JO' (ZUELKE) PETERSCHICK
Born: January 24, 1921 – Died: November 30, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
December 3, 2006

Josephine 'Jo' Peterschick

GALATA — Josephine "Jo" (Zuelke) Peterschick, 85, of rural Galata, died of natural causes Thursday at her home.



Peterschick

Visitation is 1 to 8 p.m. Monday at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby, with a rosary at 7 p.m. Funeral Mass is 11 a.m. Tuesday at St.

Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Sunburst with burial to follow in the Sunburst Cemetery.

She is survived by her daughters, Candis and Vicki Peterschick, Elaine (Bill) Running of rural Galata, Deb Peterschick of Chester and Lea Ann (Brad) Hacke and Mary Peterschick of Sun Prairie; a sister, Arleathe (Harper) Jones of Pendleton, Ore.; a brother, Merton Zuelke, of Helena; five grandchildren; Loren (Autumn) Running of Shelby, Missy (Tevin) Chilton of Harlowton, Darcy (Josh) Miller of Nooksack, Wash., Amanda Hacke of Missoula and Tara Hacke of Seattle; and one great-grandchild, Troy Running of Shelby.

Jo was born Jan. 24, 1921, in Cut Bank to Emil and Stephanie (Schauby) Zuelke. She graduated from Cut Bank High School.

In 1940, she met the love of her life, Edward Peterschick, and they were married on Oct. 5, 1940. She worked in the Safeway butcher shop while Ed was in the army overseas during World War II. They moved to Canyon Creek and ranched, then later moved to Bynum. In 1955, they moved to the farm and ranch north of Galata, where she lived until her death. Ed died in January 1977.

Jo enjoyed reading, crossword puzzles, sewing and family genealogy. She later started square dancing with the Hills Hoedowners, which she thoroughly enjoyed.

In addition to her husband, Jo was preceded in death by her parents and four brothers, Earl, Leo, Con and Roy Zuelke.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations be made to the Peace Hospice (Shelby), North Toole County Ambulance or the charity of the donors choice.

Condolences may be sent online to whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

MARK JEROME PETERSCHICK

Born: May 24, 1953 – Died: February 8, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

February 11, 2006

Mark Jerome Peterschick

LEWISTOWN — Mark Jerome Peterschick, 52, of Lewistown, a True Value Hardware store owner, died in a one-vehicle accident Wednesday south of Lewistown.



Peterschick

A memorial service is 10:30 a.m. Monday at St. Leo's Catholic Church in Lewistown, followed by a reception in the Commons. Cloyd Funeral Home is in charge of cremation and arrangements.

He is survived by his parents, Jerome and Hazel Peterschick of Lewistown; brothers Tony (Terri) of Great Falls and Doug (Laurie) of Lewistown; sisters Kathy (Greg) Perrine of Bozeman, Mont., Beth (Todor) Todorov of Great Falls, Mont., Christine (Alan) Schaff of Easley, S.C., and Gayle (Vince) Heard of Helena, Mont.; his adopted son, Brian; maternal grandmother Rose Slanger of Choteau; ex-wife Debra Peterschick of Lewistown; a special friend, Kathy Gilmore of Lewistown; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mark was born May 24, 1953, to Jerome and Hazel (Slanger) Peterschick, in Fort Knox, Ky., where his father was stationed in the Army. They returned to Montana in 1955 to Galata. When Mark was seven, the family moved to Chinook, where he graduated high school in 1971. He then attended Eastern Montana College and worked in the landscaping business in Billings and Big Sky. He moved to Lewistown and worked for U.S. Gypsum at Heath.

In 1976, he married Debra Malach; they later divorced. While married, they owned a Coast to Coast Store in Chinook and later moved to Lewistown to become part owner in the Lewistown True Value Hardware.

Mark enjoyed his family, friends, and working at the store. When you could pull him away from work, he enjoyed fishing, auto racing and playing pool.

Mark was loved by all kids and anyone who knew him. His kind and gentle ways will be missed by all. WE LOVE YOU!!

Friends are asked to make memorials to the Boys and Girls Club of Central Montana or the charity of their choice, and they may be left at the Cloyd Funeral Home.

WILLIAM B. RIBICH
Born: AGE 45 – Died: January 17, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
January 20, 2006

William B. Ribich

William B. Ribich, 45, of 2115 8th Ave. N., a motel desk clerk, died of pneumonia Tuesday at a local motel.



Ribich

His memorial service is 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Hillcrest Lawn Memorial Chapel. Schnider Funeral Home is handling

arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.schniderfuneralhome.com.

He is survived by sons Michael Ribich, Matthew Ribich and William Ribich, all of Great Falls, and Chris Cote of Shelby; a daughter, Shauna Schreurs of Great Falls; his mother, Billie Ribich; brothers Matt Ribich, Martin Ribich, John Ribich, all of Great Falls, and Mark Ribich of Seattle; and sisters Patricia Ribich of Great Falls, Pamela Reid of Missoula and Nancy Nelson of Joplin.

William Boyd Ribich was born in Great Falls on April 15, 1960, to Edward and Billie (Bearden) Ribich. He attended local schools and graduated from Great Falls High in 1978.

He enjoyed collecting knives, fishing, and loved to tell a joke and to tease. He always had a smile on his face, and really enjoyed being around people. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

He was preceded in death by his father, Edward; and brothers Michael, Melvin and David Ribich.

JANICE NANCY 'JANI' ROCKMAN
Birth: November 19, 1943 – Death: August 22, 2006
Liberty County Times
November 29, 2006



Janice Rockman

Janice Nancy ("Jani") Rockman, age 62, died at her home in Everett, Washington on Tuesday (August 22, 2006) following a year long battle with cancer.

Jani was born November 19, 1943 in Chester, Montana. She was the youngest of two daughters born to Willard and Marian Rockman. Jani received most of her formal education in Chester, the place she always called "home". In fact, she and her sister ("Winnie") attended the most recent all-school reunion in Chester in July of 2005.

Janice lived in Washington state during most of her adult life. She enjoyed camping, traveling, movies, decorating, and

cooking. She loved to shop and had a large collection of shoes and purses. Jani also loved the outdoors, especially ocean beaches and warm balmy breezes. She was an exceptional hostess who loved entertaining her family and friends. Those who knew her will always remember her "infectious laugh". She was colorful lady; a lover of purples, blues, and the Red Hat Society.

Janice was preceded in death by her parents and a son (David Kaepfel).

She is survived by her partner of 21 years, Dennis Hancock of Everett, Wash.; 1 son, Todd Kaepfel of Everett, Wash.; 2 grand-children, Ryan Schiffman and Sydney Kaepfel; her sister, Winifred (Rockman) LeVeris of Newberg, Oregon; her uncle, George Rockman of Port Orchard, Wash.; and many other relatives.

Services were held in Washington. This obituary was written by Jani's cousin, Rlynn Rockman, to inform local classmates and friends of her passing.

DALE D. SAILER
Born: Age: 58 – Died: August 11, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
August 14, 2006

Dale D. Sailer

THREE FORKS — Dale D. Sailer, 58, of Three Forks, died of injuries he received in a traffic accident Friday near Bozeman.

His memorial service is 2 p.m. Wednesday at Christ's Church in Bozeman. K&L Mortuaries of Three Forks is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Brenda Sailer of Three Forks, daughters Tami Cataldo of Billings, Joy Dschaak of Three Forks and Traci White of Butte; his mother, Claudia Sailer of Bismarck, N.D.; brothers Allan Sailer of South Heart, N.D. and Bruce Sailer Chester; sisters Denise Portney of Paso Robles, Calif., and Bev Henshaw Atascadero, Calif.; and five grandchildren.

AMBJORG 'AMBY' (JEPPESEN) SCALESE

Birth: June 15, 1914 – Death: September 13, 2006

Liberty County Times

September 20, 2006



Amby Scalse

Ambjorg "Amby"

(Jeppesen) Scalse was born June 15, 1914 at Chester, Montana. She was the eldest of three children born to Emil and Dagny (Hauge) Jeppesen. She grew up on the family farm at Hill, MT (north of Chester near the Sweetgrass Hills). Amby received her early education at the Hill Country School. She finished her secondary education in Chester where she graduated from C.H.S. in 1933.

Amby continued her schooling at Northern Montana College in Havre and earned a teaching certificate. In the years that followed, she taught at the Hill, Grandview, Wickum, Trommer, Meech, and Hawthorne Country Schools.

She married Hales A. Scalse on September 1, 1940 at Cut Bank. In 1945 the Scaleses began ranching in the north Galata community, where they raised a family of three. The ranch has been their home throughout their life together.

Amby's health remained good until this past April, when she suffered a stroke. Even though her condition deteriorated, she was happy and fortunate to continue to live at home, where she received loving care from her family and friends. Amby died peacefully in her sleep at the family ranch on Wednesday evening (September 13, 2006). She was 92 years old.

The Scaleses had been members of the Trinity Lutheran Church north of Lothair, where Amby served as a Sunday school teacher and church secretary. She also served as an election clerk in Galata for many years. When her children were young, Amby volunteered as a 4-H leader. A memorable highlight in her life was trip to Norway in 1972 with her daughter, Karen.

Amby enjoyed her life as a "rancher-ette". She loved to play cards (mainly whist, rummy, hearts, and crazy-8's). She also loved her collectibles, especially her dishes and cups-&-saucers. In addition she loved music, especially the tunes of Lawrence Welk, and she played the

piano as an amateur. Amby was an exceptional cook who enjoyed entertaining family and friends; she never sat down when she was in the "hostess mode" and she loved every minute of it! And report has it that she made "the best fried chicken in the whole wide world"! She also enjoyed photography and she loved her farm cats.

Amby had a wonderful memory for birthdays and anniversaries, and she never missed sending greeting cards to her loved ones.

During their 66 years of marriage, Amby and Hales looked forward to social events and they loved to go dancing. In fact, they were out "cutting the rug" just a year ago! Amby's youthful spirit and love of life and family sustained her during her time on earth, and she will be truly missed...

She is survived by her husband, Hales Scalse of Galata; 1 daughter, Karen Sloan of Havre; 2 sons and spouses, Harold "Sonny" Scalse (Karen) of Sunburst and Steven Scalse (Diane Claxton) of Chester; 6 grandchildren, including Michael Sloan, K'Lynn Sloan, Larry (Belinda) Scalse, Linda (Rod) Keller, Michael (Arlin) Claxton, and Sonya (Ed) Haskins; 4 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandson; 1 sister, Kathryn Jensen of Chester; 2 sisters-in-law, Gladys Meissner of Chester and Teresa Ward of Fairfield; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Amby was preceded in death by her parents, her only brother (Harold Jeppesen), a son-in-law (Dewey Sloan), a nephew (Wes Jeppesen), and a niece (Ardyce Jensen).

Funeral services were conducted at 1:00 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 16th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor Jon Kibler-McCabe and Pastor Pete Erickson. Congregational hymns were "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" and "Holy, Holy, Holy", accompanied by organist Karen Stack. Vocal tributes by Loren Hawks were "The Old Rugged Cross" and "In the Garden". Personal touches were offered by grandchildren: Michael Sloan read scriptures, K'Lynn Sloan read the obituary, and Linda Keller provided pictorial memories set to music. Daughter, Karen Sloan, shared a special eulogy. Ushers were Cody Keller and Wallace Meissner. Pallbearers were Rod and Jordan Keller, Larry Scalse, Michael Sloan, and Kenny and Marvin Jeppesen. Honorary bearers were Denis and Annette Freeland and Monte and Sharon Lerum. Following a luncheon at the church, graveside services were held at 4:30 p.m. at the Grandview Cemetery (17 miles north of Galata). Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

AMELIA CATHERINE (PETERS) SCHAEFER
Birth: January 8, 1919 - Death: December 5, 2006



Amelia Schaefer

Amelia Catherine (Peters) Schaefer was born January 8, 1919 at Conrad, Montana. She was one of six children born to Charles and Anna (Theis) Peters. Amelia grew up on the Peters family farm in the Ledger community and received her early education at a nearby country school. She finished her formal education in Conrad where she graduated from high school in 1937, then attended beauty school for a short while.

Amelia met her husband-to-be, Lawrence Schaefer, a Minnesota native who came to Montana to manage the Gambles store in Browning. They were married on June 15, 1942 in Columbia Falls, MT. Soon after they moved to Chester, which became their home from that time on. In addition to being a homemaker and mother of six, Amelia worked diligently at the Gambles Store, a well-known Chester business the Schaefers owned and operated for over 50 years.

The Schaefers remained in the Chester community following their retirement. After Lawrence died in 2000, Amelia

Liberty County Times
December 13, 2007

continued to live in their home where she appreciated her independence and good health. She was active in the maintenance and yardwork at her residence and enjoyed her daily walks to the post office. On this past Thursday (Nov. 30th) Amelia was admitted to the Chester hospital with acute abdominal problems. The following day she was transferred to Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls.

She died there on Tuesday morning (December 5, 2006). She was 87 years old.

Amelia was a longtime member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester where she was very active in the Altar Society and also served as a religious youth teacher. In addition she volunteered as a Cub Scout Den leader when her boys were young.

Amelia's greatest legacy was her unconditional love of family and her role as caregiver. Over the years she took care of many ailing family members, including her parents, her uncle John, and her husband Lawrence, to name a few.

Amelia was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by 2 sons (Donald in 1976 and infant Gerald in 1957), 1 brother (Donald), and a daughter-in-law (Mavis).

She is survived by 5 children, Dr. Merlin Schaefer (and wife, Joan) of Gunnison, Colorado, Karen Buck of Denver, Colorado, Frances Kammerzell (and husband, John) of Chester, Paul Schaefer of Dallas, Texas, and Dr. Marcus Schaefer of Charleston, South Carolina; 9

grandchildren (inc. Matthew, Sarah, Brad, Lucas, Anna, Jennifer, Pamela, Allison, and Zachary); 4 great-grandchildren (inc. Grace, Ryan, Andrew, and

Bryce); 1 brother, Lester "Bud" Peters of Ledger; 3 sisters, Helen Frank of Kalispell, Agnes "Dot" Schaefer of Livingston, and Rose Pester of Stanford; and many nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Rosary Prayers were 7:00 p.m. Thursday (Dec. 7th) at St. Mary's Church in Chester. Amelia's Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Diekhans at 11:00 a.m. Friday (Dec. 8th) at the church. Richie Hamel served as pianist and members of the community choir provided mass music. Greeters were Don Raunig and Bill Kimball; altar server was Ken Gagnon; scripture readers were Brad and Lucas Kammerzell; communion gifts were presented by Sarah Arthur, Anna Kammerzell, and Jennifer Schaefer; Eucharistic minister was Lucas Kammerzell; and obituary read-

er was Mike Schaefer. Casket bearers were Tom and Ken Osterman, Darrell Aitken, Ken Gilbert, Joe Seidlitz, and Lin Duffin. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Undesignated memorials will be given to the "Stained-glass Window Fund" at St. Mary's Church...

ELIZABETH 'KATIE' (ANDERSON) SCHINDELE
Born: October 9, 1961 – Died: September 27, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
September 29, 2006

Elizabeth 'Katie' Schindele

Elizabeth "Katie" (Anderson) Schindele, 44, of 1221 Filmore St., Sun Prairie, a waitress, died of respiratory failure Wednesday at a local hospital.



A memorial service is 1 p.m. Saturday at Hillcrest Lawn Memorial Chapel, with burial of ashes in Manchester Cemetery. Schneider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Surviving are her husband, Andrew Schindele of Great Falls; a daughter, Kristy Anderson of Great Falls; a son, James Anderson of Great Falls; her father and stepmother, Wright and Nancy Anderson of Ryegate, Mont.; sisters Diane (Dick) Flebotte and Ruth Ann Smith of Great Falls, and Linda (Hal) Gronaman of Springville, Utah; a brother and sister-in-law, Keith and Sally Anderson of Great Falls; a granddaughter, Misty Anderson of Great Falls; an aunt, Carol Smith of Lewistown, Mont.; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Pat and Mariys Schindele of Sun Lake, Ariz., Flo and Stan Frederick of Tucson, Ariz., Fran and Jim Breslin of Anderson, Calif., Tom Schindele of Gillette, Wyo., Kathy and Ben Salwey of Williston, N.D., John and Karen Schindele of Mountain Home, Idaho, Mary Turner of Butte, Jim and Teresa Schindele of Puyallup, Wash., Beth and Jim Roen of Rudyard and Linda Schindele of Great Falls.

Katie was born Oct. 9, 1961, in Roundup, Mont., the daughter of Wright Albert and Lorraine (Smith) Anderson. She was raised in Great Falls and graduated from C.M. Russell High School.

She married Harry Wolf in 1980 in Great Falls; they later divorced. She then married Andrew William Schindele on Dec. 19, 1992.

Katie was employed in the food service business, working at Crossroads Truck Stop, Tracy's and the Gold Dust Casino. She enjoyed ceramics, collecting angels, playing bingo, "going for coffee," spending time with her children and granddaughter, and helping others.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Lorraine Smith, in 2001; and her stepfather, Roy Smith, in 1970.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society, 550 N. 31st St., No. 103, Billings, MT 59101.

Condolences may be sent online to schneiderfuneralhome.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

MABEL GRACE (BIBEAU) RUNNION SCHNEIDMILLER

Born: August 3, 1919 – Died: July 22, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

July 27, 2006

Mabel Grace Schneidmiller

BILLINGS — Mabel Grace (Bibeau) Runnion Schneidmiller, 86, a homemaker, died of natural causes Saturday in Billings.

Services are 10 a.m. Friday at Smith Downtown Chapel in Billings, followed by cremation.

Survivors include her children Joe (Jeannie) Runnion, Margaret Ward, Bertha (Dave) Halverson, Raymond Runnion, Linda (Ken) Neill, Mary (Gary) Evans and Tom Runnion; 13 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by husbands Joseph Runnion and Emanuel Schneidmiller; sisters Mary Knudsen and Katie Vaughan; brothers Louis Bibeau and Raymond Bibeau; and her parents.

Mabel was born Aug. 3, 1919, on the family homestead in south Phillips County, Mont., to Edward and Mary (Neville) Bibeau. She attended school at the Hog Ranch, and after school worked in Landusky, Mont.

She married Joseph Runnion on Aug. 3, 1942. They lived in Auburn, Wash., and Malta, Mont., for some years until moving with their family to Chester, Mont. Joseph passed away in 1962, and Mabel and her family moved to Billings, Mont.

She enjoyed tending her flower and vegetable gardens and walking daily, listening to her favorite country music, and watching golf and rodeos, having collected autographs of the riders. She had a way with animals and enjoyed watching the birds that nested on her deck at home and the rabbits that played in her yard.

Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. Condolences may be sent online to greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

ELLEN CLAUDINE (ALLEY) SMITH
Birth: August 8, 1929 – Death: May 3, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 10, 2006



Smith

Ellen Claudine Alley Smith

Former Great Falls resident and Chester native Ellen Claudine Alley Smith, 76, a nurse's aide and volunteer, died Wednesday at a Kalispell hospital.

Services were that following Monday at 1 pm at Johnson's Mortuary in Kalispell.

Survivors include her three children, Carol (Gene) Harriman, Patricia Sylvia, and Earl "Babe" (Tammie) Harriman; a sister, Una Moog; a brother, Howard Keith Alley; 13 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Ellen was born in Chester on August 8, 1929. She was a nurse's aide for many years in Havre and at the former Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls. She moved to Kalispell in 2001 following an illness.

She was an active volunteer in Great Falls and Kalispell, enjoyed "keeping busy" and helping others. She was a member of the Eastern Star and the Eagles.

She often said the thing that she missed most was dancing. She often had a smile on her face and a twinkle in her eye, and had a wonderful sense of humor.

Ellen was preceded in death by her husbands, daughter Darlene Fay Harriman; granddaughter Dean Divish Kayser; sister VerDel Pourroy; brother Bert Alley; and her parents, Ellen and Howard Alley.

She was "Mom" to many; her door was always open.

Memorials may be sent to either Grace Hospice or Home Options Hospice.

To send condolences to the family online, please go to www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

Per Claudine's wishes her ashes were scattered along a stream near Wolf Creek, MT, one of her favorite fishing spots on Tuesday, April 25, 2006.

GORDON LYLE 'GORDY' STEEVER
Born: June 13, 1964 – Died: December 28, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
January 16, 2007

Gordon Lyle Steever

Gordon Lyle "Gordy" Steever, 42, of South Wind Estates, who enjoyed photography and music, died of natural causes Dec. 28 at a local hospital.



Steever

A private memorial service was held at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby. Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby handled arrangements.

Survivors

include his mother, Muriel Steever of Shelby; sisters Diane (Andy) Anderson and Kelley (Gary) Dye, both of Williston, N.D.; nephews Craig (Crystal) Anderson, Aaron Dye and Gabriel Dye, all of Williston; nieces Kellie (Wyatt) Llewelyn and Megan Dye, both of Williston, and Kasey Anderson of Fargo, N.D.; and five great-nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his father, Lyle Steever.

Gordon was born June 13, 1964, in Shelby, the youngest child of Lyle and Muriel (Stanford) Steever. He attended school in Shelby.

Several years ago Gordon was involved in campaigning for assisted-living complex, South Wind Estates, in Great Falls. When the building was finished, Gordon moved to Great Falls and was one of South Wind's first residents. Gordon loved photography, music, his computer, family and friends.

Condolences may be sent online to whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

LYLE FRANKLIN STEEVER

Birth: August 26, 1932 – Death: August 12, 2006

Liberty County Times

August 16, 2006



Lyle Steever

Lyle Franklin Steever, 73, died Saturday, August 12, 2006 at the Marias Medical Center in Shelby. Memorial services will be held Wednesday, August 16 at 1:00 pm at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby. Whitted Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements. Condolences for the family may be sent to <http://www.whittedfuneralchapel.com>.

Survivors include his wife of 52 years, Muriel (Staniford) Steever of Shelby; brother, Keith Steever and his wife Nancy of Camp Verde, Az; sister, Henriette Brumbaugh and her husband John of Libby; daughters, Diane (Steever) Anderson and her husband Andy, Kelley (Steever) Dye and her husband Gary all of Williston, ND; son, Gordon Steever of Great Falls, Mt.; six grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Lyle was born August 26, 1932, at Basin, MT to Edward and Lenora (Hughes) Steever. He grew

up in the Whitehall area and went to high school in Shelby. He married Muriel Staniford on July 2, 1954 in Shelby at St. Luke's Lutheran Church where they made their home.

Lyle worked for Marias River Cooperative for many years, later moved to Whitehall and worked as a lineman for a couple years and then moved back to Shelby and worked as an independent contractor until his death.

Lyle was an avid golfer, enjoying reading, and a Grizzly fan. He was a member of the Marine Reserve. Lyle was on the board of Northern Gateway Board of directors for many years, Region II Advisory Council, and an Elk member. Lyle loved his family and friends, loved to travel, and to experience history.

AUSTIN STRATTON

Born: September 7, 1918 – Died: January 3, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

January 5, 2006

Austin Stratton

LOTHAIR — Austin Stratton, 87, an Army veteran and retired teacher from Lothair, died of natural causes Tuesday at a Chester nursing home.



Stratton



Graveside services and burial with military honors are 9:30 a.m. Friday in Devon Cemetery. A memorial service is 11 a.m. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby, followed by a luncheon. Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com.

He is survived by his sister, Alvera (Lysle) James of Havre; nieces Lonny Baily of Chandler, Ariz., Janna Severson of Wasila, Alaska, Terry (Chuck) Lorentzen of Kalispell and Mychell Shearer of Havre; and nephews Ron (Carleen) Severson of Kalispell and David James of Havre.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Grayce Johnson.

Austin was born Sept. 7, 1918, on the family farm north of Devon, to Lucius and Freida Stratton. He attended country school, graduating from Shelby High School in 1937, and then went to work for the Civilian Conservation Corps camp in Glasgow. He was called into the service during the war and served in the medical corps while stationed in Panama. After returning to the states, he was stationed at Baxter General Hospital in Spokane until his discharge in 1945.

He then attended Washington State University in Pullman for veterinary science. He went on to attend Pasadena (California) City College for carpentry and then graduated from Northern Montana College in Havre with a teaching degree. Austin taught in many schools in Montana.

Upon retirement, he traveled extensively through Europe and South Africa, where his mother was born. He crusaded twice for Billy Graham at the conference in Amsterdam and in 1992 he was with Campus Crusades for Christ, which sang on Red Square in Moscow.

In spite of all his travels abroad, Austin maintained a home in Lothair for the past 50 years.

The family suggests memorials to the Marias Museum, 206 12th Ave. S., Shelby, MT 59474.

CLYDENE M. (BECK) SWINNEY
Born: Age- 88 – Died: March 20, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
March 23, 2006

Clydene M. Swinney

HAVRE — Clydene M. (Beck) Swinney, 88, who farmed north of Gildford with her husband until retiring, died of natural causes Monday at a Havre care center.



Swinney

A memorial service is 2 p.m. Saturday at Van Orsdel United Methodist

Church, with burial at a later date. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include sons Rick Swinney of Pahrump, Nev., Jerry Swinney of Deer Lodge and Rex Swinney of Gildford.

She was preceded in death by her husband of more than 53 years, Donald M. Swinney; and a son, Donald Martin Swinney.

ELSIE ANN (ADAMS) ALBRIGHT TAYLOR
Birth: September 15, 1924 – Death: June 3, 2006
Liberty County Times
June 7, 2006



Elsie Ann Taylor

Chinook, MT -- Elsie Ann (Adams) Albright Taylor was born September 15th, 1924 at Rudyard, Montana. She was one of 13 children born to Oscar David Adams and Emma Louise Lambott. Elsie grew up in Rudyard and received her formal education there.

In 1942 she married Robert Albright. They made their home in the Chester community where Elsie worked as a farmwife, homemaker, and mother of three. The Albright's had been together 25+ years when their marriage ended in divorce.

Elsie married John Taylor in 1960. They lived in the Chinook community throughout their married life. In 2000 Elsie's health began to fail due to emphysema and Parkinson's Disease. She transferred to the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre where she has lived for the past 6 years. Recently she suffered a serious debilitating stroke followed by pneumonia. Elsie died at the Havre rest home on Saturday evening (June 3rd, 2006) at the age of 81 years.

She was past member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary and the Rudyard Saddle Club. Elsie was a lifelong lover of horses and the Taylor's were always eager participants in the annual Malta-Landusky Wagon Trail rides.

Elsie enjoyed many hobbies. Over the years she played in many softball, bowling, and horseshoe leagues/tournaments. She was an excellent seamstress who made numerous prom and wedding dresses. She was also a wonderful cook, and her family will long remember her delicious donuts, pies, and cinnamon rolls. Elsie enjoyed working in her flower gardens and she was an exceptional woodworker. In her quiet time at home she loved to read (especially westerns by

Zane Grey) or watch television (one of her favorite shows was "The Wheel of Fortune"). She was also a self-taught and talented painter. Elsie was an avid fan of Don Gretak, in fact, she sold his prints in the Chinook area for 8 years. In addition, she loved to shop for antiques. And just for the fun of it, she collected porcelain dolls and birds.

Survivors include her husband of 37 years, John Taylor of Chinook; 2 daughters and spouses, Sandra and Buster Berger of Chinook and Dawn and Mark McAllister of Shelby; 1 son, Joe Albright of Great Falls; 6 grandchildren, Corey Couturier, Camie Jorgenson, Dominique Couturier, Stormy Schilling, Shannon McAllister, and Jade

McAllister; 7 great-grandchildren; 3 sisters, Nellie Lakey of Kalispell, Gladys Johnson of Rudyard, and Joyce Knauss of Bremerton, Wash.; 2 brothers, Charles Adams of Inverness and Zane Adams of Hingham; and many nieces and nephews.

Elsie was preceded in death by her parents, 1 grandson (Jody Staudacher), 2 brothers (Tom and Vic Adams), and 5 sisters (Nora Adams, Marie Dunbar, Helen Sterner, Ione Joyce, and Stella Joyce).

Graveside services will be 3:00 p.m. Wednesday (June 7th) at the Inverness Cemetery. Services will be conducted by nephew, Gary LaValley. Taped musical selections will include "Amazing Grace" and "Peace in the Valley". A memorial luncheon will follow at the Inverness Steak House. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" in Great Falls or donor's choice...

REGINALD HUNT TAYLOR
Born: September 5, 1925 – Died: April 28, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
May 1, 2006

Reginald Hunt Taylor



Taylor



GLASGOW – Retired Burlington Northern Railroad engineer Reginald Hunt Taylor, 80, of Glasgow, a World War II and Korean War Navy veteran, died of natural causes Friday at Valley View

Nursing Home in Glasgow.

His funeral is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Bell Funeral Home Chapel in Glasgow, with burial in Highland Cemetery.

Survivors include sons Dale Taylor and his wife, Kelly, of Great Falls and Gary Taylor and his wife, Ann, of Spokane; a daughter, Lynda Premo and her husband, Roy Jobe of Lacey, Wash.; a brother, James Taylor of Malta; a sister, Grace Potter of Oklahoma; a friend, Barb Dickinson; grandchildren Reggie Taylor, Sara Pund, Shane Taylor, Kirk Taylor, Troy Premo, Jackie Durham and Eddie Anderson; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Reginald was born Sept. 5, 1925, in Two Dot, Mont., to Alfred Taylor and Winnie Mae (Hunt) Taylor. He was raised in

the Kalispell area, attended Mountain Brook School, and graduated from Hingham High School. He then attended Navy boot camp in Athol, Idaho. Reginald served in the Philippines in World War II and Guam in the Korean War.

He hired on with the Great Northern Railroad in 1948 and retired from Burlington Northern Railroad in 1988 as an engineer, serving 40 years with no lost time for an accident.

Reginald was married to Lucy Newbauer and they were later divorced. He then married Virginia Stone; she passed away in January 1967. On Nov. 8, 1968, Reginald married Jacquelyn Jones in Wallace, Idaho. They lived in Williston, N.D., from 1968 to 1972 and have resided in Glasgow since 1972. His wife Jackie passed away in October of 2001.

He took his dog for a walk twice every day, loved to spend time with his grandkids, and enjoyed hunting, fishing, bowling, racquetball, and playing golf. He was a member of the VFW, American Legion, and Elks Club.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Jackie; a son, Larry Taylor in 1988; a brother, Ray; and sisters Beau and Emily.

Send condolences online at www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

EARL FARLEY THISSELLE

Birth: April 10, 1911 – Death: December 28, 2006

Liberty County Times
January 10, 2007



Earl Thisselle

Earl Farley Thisselle was born April 10, 1911 at Kendrick, Idaho. He was one of five children born to Arthur C. Thisselle and Iva Jane Vickers.

In 1913 the Thisselle family came to a Montana homestead in the Russell community north of Carter, where they farmed and raised cattle. In 1921 they bought the Tex Florence ranch on the Marias River south of Chester. In those early years they raised a big garden and hauled their produce by team-and-wagon to sell in the Chester community.

Earl received his early education at country schools. After finishing his formal schooling in Spokane, he returned to the family ranch. Earl married a neighborhood girl, Stella E. Ward, on November 3, 1934 in Shelby, MT. Together, they farmed and ranched and raised a family of three. In 1951 they purchased a home in Chester and moved to town.

Earl served as a Liberty County Commissioner from 1951 to 1964. During his term as commissioner he was privileged to be part of the welcom-

ing committee for President Truman at the Tiber Dam ground-breaking ceremony on September 30, 1952. Earl continued to be of service to Liberty County as Undersheriff, a position he held from 1965 to 1974. In fact, he served for three months as interim Sheriff following the death of Bob Remington. After 23 years of public service, Earl retired to enjoy his remaining years in Chester.

The Thisselle's were married 57 years when Stella died on December 18, 1991. Earl considered himself fortunate to continue to live in their home these past 15 years. He was recently admitted to the Chester Hospital where he died on Thursday afternoon (December 28, 2006) at the age of 95 years.

Earl had been a charter member and past officer of the Chester Rotary Club. He had also served on the board of the Erickson country school and was a past member of the Farmer's Union. His hobbies were many. Earl enjoyed square-dancing with Stella and often served as "caller" at local square dances. In addition he enjoyed playing the harmonica and he loved to whistle. He also liked to play cards, especially pan & pinochle, and he enjoyed fishing. Earl loved his life as a farmer and rancher, and continued raising large vegetable gardens into his 90's. He was thankful to maintain a sharp mind and relatively good health until the end.

Survivors include 2 sons,

Stanley ("Pudge") Thisselle of Chester and Vernon ("Buzz") Thisselle (and wife, Connie) of

Missoula; 1 daughter, Beverly Pugsley (and husband, Robert Jr.) of Chester; 11 grand-children (inc. Leslie and David Pugsley; Robyn Pugsley-Arredondo; Catherine Getty; Wayne, Jon, Christine, Crystal, and Daniel Thisselle; Shayla Glendenning; and Lynnette Anderson); many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Earl was preceded in death not only by his wife & parents, but also by 1 brother (Vern Thisselle), 3 sisters (Florence Thisselle, Violet Schaub, and Ella Rada), and 2 grandsons (Doug and Loren Thisselle).

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Friday (Jan. 5th) at the Chester United Methodist Church by Pastor Dolly Collins. Scripture readings were by Catherine Getty

and Crystal Thisselle. The eulogy was shared by Robyn Arredondo and a power-point presentation was shown by Daniel Thisselle. Pianist was Karen Stack and the congregational hymns were "In the Garden" and "Amazing Grace". Ushers were Dallas Denter & Peter Schuhmacher. Earl's grand-children served as pallbearers and members of the Liberty County Sheriff's office served as honor guard. The service ended with a taped selection, "The Red River Valley". Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Montana Library for the Blind in Helena, the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, or donor's choice.

ROY 'TOM' 'WIGGLY' THOMAS
Birth: January 17, 1938 – Death: November 7, 2006
Liberty County Times
November 22, 2006

Roy "Tom" Thomas "Wiggly," 68, of Billings, died November 7, 2006, at his home.

Born January 17, 1938, in Whittier, California, he spent his childhood in Southern California. He graduated from high school in 1956 at Paramount, California. Tom enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1958, eventually becoming an instructor at Electrician's Mate "A" School before receiving an honorable discharge in 1966.

He married Andrea Mattson of Chester on February 11, 1967, in Las Vegas. Tom and Andrea moved to Billings in 1971, where he worked for Tree Electric, the GSA and Clark Electric Motor Co., which he and Andrea purchased in 1975.

Tom's favorite pastime was fishing, and he enjoyed many days floating the Bighorn with his fishing buddies. He also loved to cook and always looked forward to Sunday dinners, where he could test his latest gourmet creation on family members.

Survivors include his wife, Andrea; son Brian "Boom" Thomas and wife Aurora; daughter Nicole "Crash" and his favorite buddy, grandson Joshua Naudet, all of Billings. He is also survived by a sister, Helen Slater of Redding, California; and a brother, Joe Thomas of Downey, California.

Memorial services were held at 11 a.m., Monday, November 13th at Cremation or Funeral Gallery.

MARGARET LUCILLE (DEHL) THOMSEN
Birth: December 20, 1917 – Death: April 2, 2006
Liberty County Times
April 12, 2006



Lucille Thomsen

Margaret Lucille (Dehl) Thomsen was born December 20th, 1917 at Chinook, Montana. She was one of six children born to Nellie Light and Albert Dehl. Lucille grew up in Chinook and received her formal education there.

She married Emil Guertzgen in 1934. They made their home in Chinook where Lucille worked at the Sugarbeet Factory during those early years. The Guertzgen's began raising their family of five sons before their marriage ended in divorce in 1950.

Lucille's second marriage was to Harold Mock later that year.

The Mock's had no additional children during their 10 years together. They, too, lived and worked in the Chinook community and eventually divorced.

Lucille's third husband was Wallace "Wally" Thomsen, who hailed from Nebraska and was working at the Chinook Oil Refinery when they were married in 1960. At that time Lucille was employed as a cook at Harry's Café in Chinook. In 1965 the Thomsen's bought the "Aero Lounge" in Chinook, which they owned/operated until they sold it

in 1972. Shortly thereafter the oil refinery closed, leaving Wally out of work, so the Thomsen's went looking for another business. They moved to Chester in 1972 and purchased "Pappy's Bar". They operated this little tavern until their retirement in 1976, when they sold it and moved to Joplin.

They made their home in Joplin from that time on.

Lucille suffered from heart and lung problems these past few years. She was recently ill at home when Wally convinced her to go see a doctor. They were en route to the Chester hospital on Sunday afternoon (April 2nd, 2006) when she became unresponsive. Resuscitative efforts in the hospital emergency room were to no avail. Lucille died at age 88.

Her hobbies were many. She enjoyed bowling, gardening, and knitting. During her quiet time at home she loved to read (especially, mysteries), do wordsearch and crossword puzzles, and watch TV game shows. With family and friends Lucille loved to play cards (mainly, pinochle, pitch, and rummy). Socially, she enjoyed playing Bingo at the Senior Center or playing the poker machines around town. During their retirement years, the Thomsen's enjoyed traveling throughout the United States.

Lucille is survived by her husband of 45 years, Wally Thomsen of Joplin; 4 sons and spouses, Melvin "Mick" Guertzgen (Claudia) of Thermopolis, Wyoming, Dale Guertzgen (Sharon) of Randolph, Utah, Byron Guertzgen (Senda) of

Louisiana, Missouri, and William "Bill" Guertzgen of Joplin; 2 daughters-in-law, Diane Guertzgen of Vancouver, Wash. and Erna Guertzgen of Chester; 1 brother, Landis Dehl of Tallahassee, Florida; 8 grandchildren (inc. Janet, Rick, Cord, Page, Byron Jr., Amy, Alvin, and Lisa); and 9 great-grandchildren.

Lucille was preceded in death by her parents, her two ex-husbands, her eldest son (Lawrence), 2 sisters (Ida and Virginia), and 2 brothers (Alvin and Woodrow).

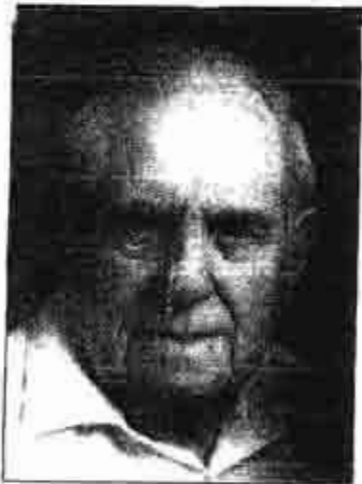
Funeral services were held 2:00 p.m. Thursday (April 6th) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Pastor Peter Erickson officiated. Taped musical selections included "On Eagle's Wings", "Just A Closer Walk With Thee", and "Amazing Grace". Cremation followed the services. Lucille's ashes will be interred at a later date.

WALLACE DALE 'WALLY' THOMSEN

Birth: December 9, 1918 - Death: October 8, 2006

Liberty County Times

October 18, 2006



Wally Thomsen

Wallace Dale ("Wally") Thomsen was born December 9, 1918 at Minden, Nebraska. His parents were Peter H. Thomsen (who was born in Denmark in 1889) and Eva S. Haney (who was born in Nebraska in 1892). Wally grew up in Minden and worked part-time at a local movie theatre during his school years. He graduated from Minden High School in 1937.

After graduation Wally began working as a laborer in the construction of the Ogallala Dam near Ogallala, Nebraska. In the 1940's he continued to live in Nebraska where he was employed as a bus-driver for Greyhound Bus-lines and as a clerk for Woolworth Department Stores. Wally moved to Montana in the 1950's and took a job at the Chinook Oil Refinery.

While living in Chinook, he met and married Margaret Lucille (Dehl) Guertzgen in 1960. They purchased the "Aero Lounge" in Chinook in 1965 and owned/operated this

business for seven years, then sold it. Shortly thereafter, the oil refinery closed, leaving Wally unemployed, so the Thomsen's went looking for another business venture. They moved to Chester in 1972 and purchased "Pappy's Bar". They operated this little hometown tavern until their retirement in 1976, when they sold the business. The Thomsens moved to Joplin and lived there from that time on.

Wally's wife, Lucille, died this past April 2nd, 2006. He continued to live alone in their Joplin home. Wally enjoyed his daily social trips in-and-around the Joplin and Chester communities. He was fortunate to maintain a sharp mind, but his physical health had started to deteriorate in recent months. This past weekend he failed to answer phone calls from out-of-state family members, so local authorities were called to check on him. Wally was found dead Sunday afternoon (October 8, 2006) at his home in Joplin, where he had apparently collapsed in his utility shed sometime Friday evening. He was 87 years old.

Wally was a very talented man who could "fix anything". He was also well-read and educated, and was a "whiz" when it came to completing even the most difficult crossword puzzles. In his quiet time at home he enjoyed watching the old game shows on television. He was also a fan of the N.F.L. (especially his favorite team, the Denver Broncos). Wally was a good cook; one of his best prepared meals was fried chicken and his favorite food was mashed potatoes. He and

Lucille enjoyed playing "500 Rummy" together at home and they also enjoyed playing the poker machines around town. During their retirement years they made several memorable trips throughout the United States.

Wally was an honest man and a hard worker. Lucille's children appreciated his care and friendship to them and their mother during the Thomsen's 45 years of marriage.

Wally was preceded in death not only by his wife and parents, but also by his sister and a stepson (Lawrence Guertzgen).

His survivors include 4 stepsons and spouses, Melvin "Mick" Guertzgen (Claudia) of Thermopolis, Wyoming, Dale Guertzgen (Sharon) of Randolph, Utah, Byron Guertzgen (Senda) of Louisiana, Missouri, and William "Bill" Guertzgen of Joplin; 2 additional daughters-in-law, Diane Guertzgen of Vancouver, Washington and Erna Guertzgen of Chester; 8 grandchildren (inc. Janet, Rick, Cord, Page, Byron Jr., Amy, Alvin, and Lisa); and 9 great-grandchildren.

Memorial services were 3:00 p.m. Friday (Oct. 13th) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Pastor Peter Erickson of Our Savior's parish officiated. A reception for family and friends followed at the Grand Bar in Chester. Wally and Lucille's ashes will be buried together at the Kuper Memorial Cemetery in Chinook at a later date.

ELIZABETH ANN 'BETTE' (BRAUN) TIGGES
Birth: May 11, 1936 – Death: November 10, 2006

Liberty County Times
November 22, 2006



**Elizabeth
(Bette) Tigges**

Elizabeth Ann Braun Tigges (Bette) was born to Arthur and Esther Braun on May 11, 1936 at Waverly, Iowa. Her father was Business P.R. for Wartburg Lutheran College at that time. After living in Waverly for 19 months, she moved with her parents, older brother Art and sister Helen to St. Paul, Minnesota where her father became pastor of Calvary Lutheran Church. Shortly after moving to St. Paul, a younger brother Bob, was born. Bette spent her childhood in the same home, attending Randolph Heights Grade school, graduated from Monroe H.S. in 1954. She entered nurses training in June of that year at Hamline University School of Nursing, M.N. She received her R.N. degree in 1957.

She worked a few months a Ramsey County Emergency Room before her marriage to Donald Lynn Tigges on Aug. 24, 1957. After her marriage to Don, in his third year of Seminary training, they spent

their first year together in Morris, Illinois where Don interned a Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Bette worked as a nurse at Morris Hospital during that year. They again moved back to St. Paul, Minnesota where Don finished his senior year at Luther Seminary and Bette again worked in the emergency room at Ancker Hospital. At this time, their first daughter, Faith Danette was born. When she was three months old they traveled to Plains, Montana where Don began his ministry to a small mission church. Bette continued to practice nursing for the three and a half year they lived there. In October 1962 Don was called to start a home mission church in Post Falls, Idaho. Their next move was to Joplin, Montana. After spending six and a half years there, they ended their ministry after 20 years at Trinity Lutheran Church, Silverton, Oregon on October 31, 1939.

Bette's life was centered around her family and her church. Her grandchildren gave her special joy and she loved being able to be with them. She enjoyed decorating, gardening and taking care of their first home in Silverton, Oregon bought in 1982. She and Don took great pride in their beautiful yard and garden at each place they lived. Playing the piano for her own enjoyment and singing hymns with Don was always a special time as was working in the garden together. The last few years of her husband's ministry she became his parish secretary. In 1994 they moved to Gresham, Oregon and built a home on a special

lot with a beautiful wooded backyard. Bette felt very fortunate to have been able to much traveling with her husband, friends and family. She has traveled to 24 different countries and many parts of the United States, but her favorite place was always at home with her family around her.

Bette was called home to be with Jesus on November 10, 2006, in Portland. She is survived by her husband Don, her children Faith Gabrielson, Port Orchard, WA; Joy Tigges, Portland; Dana and her husband Dave Meyer, The Dalles, OR; and Jon and his wife Chris of Hamilton, VA., 14 grandchildren, sister Helen Miels, St. Paul, MN; brothers: Bob Braun, Coronado, CA, and Art Braun, Red Wing, MN, two Aunts: Marion Peterson and Helen Garey, both living in Iowa, and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held Fri. Dec. 22 at 2:00pm at Gresham Memorial Chapel. Private family interment was held at Willamette National Cemetery.

PAUL B. TIHISTA
Born: AGE 80 – Died: January 14, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
January 17, 2006

Paul B. Tihista

GLASGOW — World War II Navy veteran and longtime Nashua and Glasgow resident Paul B. Tihista, 80, of Glasgow, a businessman and owner of Econo Lumber in Glasgow, died of natural causes Saturday at a Glasgow hospital.



Tihista



Rosary service is 8 this evening at Bell Chapel in Glasgow. His funeral is 10 a.m. Wednesday at St. Raphael's Catholic Church in Glasgow, with burial in Nashua Cemetery in Nashua.

Survivors include his wife, Jean Tihista of Glasgow; a son, Paul Tihista Jr. of Mesquite, Nev.; a daughter, LeAnn White of Kirkland, Wash.; a sister, Irene Stuart of Gilford; brothers Mike Tihista of Auburn, Wash., René Tihista of Sisters, Ore.; one granddaughter and three stepgrandchildren.

HOWARD H. TRACHT
Born: May 10, 1913 – Died: January 3, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
January 5, 2006

Howard H. Tracht

KALISPELL — Howard H. Tracht, 92, who farmed in Rudyard and Kalispell, died of natural causes Tuesday at his home in Kalispell.

His funeral is 11 a.m. Friday at United Methodist Church Epworth in Kalispell. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include a daughter, Maryle (Arlen) Roll; a son, Lloyd; a grandson, John (MaryAnn) Roll; great-grandson Marshall Roll; and a granddaughter, Linda (Don) Robb.

Howard was born May 10, 1913, on a homestead near Joplin, Mont., to Simon and Emma Tracht. He went to grade school in Gildford and attended high school in Rudyard, Mont. He married Anna Shipman in 1935.

Howard worked at the family business, S.J. Tracht and Sons, selling machinery, cars and lumber. He started farming south of Rudyard in the early 1940s and continued until 1952, when he moved to Kalispell and farmed there. He enjoyed living on the farm on the Stillwater River until he moved to town in 2002. He especially enjoyed spending time on the farm with his grandchildren. He enjoyed Marshall, his great-grandson, and particularly on Christmas Eve, when they helped each other open gifts.

He was active in the Epworth United Methodist Church and served on many church boards.

Howard was preceded in death by Anna, his wife and soul mate of 70 years; his parents; a brother, Oliver; and a sister, Mable.

The family suggests memorial gifts be sent in Howard's name to a charity of the donor's choice.

SYLVIA IRENE (CRIST) TWEDT
Birth: October 22, 1924 – Death: May 13, 2006
Liberty County Times
June 21, 2006



Sylvia I. Twedt

Sylvia Irene (Crist) Twedt, age 81, who lived in the Rudyard community in the 1940's and 1950's, died Saturday (May 13, 2006) at the Monte Health & Rehab Center in Montesano, WA.

Sylvia was born October 22, 1924 at Arlington, Minnesota.

Her parents were George and Zola Crist and she was one of 14 children. She grew up and received her formal education in Minnesota.

Sylvia was working in St. Paul, MN, when she met her husband-to-be, Irwin Donald Twedt. They were married at Hingham, MT on February 19, 1944. The Twedt's settled in Rudyard where they raised their family of five children.

In 1960 they moved to Washington state. Sylvia worked in various restaurants in

the Grays Harbor area until she retired in 1981. The Twedts then returned to Montana; they lived at Rudyard, Libby, Lolo, and Missoula during their retirement years.

They had been married 50 years when husband, Don, died on August 25, 1994. Two years later Sylvia returned to Montesano, Washington to be closer to her children. She lived there these past 10 years and was residing in a nursing facility at the time of her death.

Sylvia is survived by 3 daughters and spouses, Dawn and Ted Maki of Missoula, Denise and Myron Osgood of Montesano, and Trudy and Ardie Jenkins of Spokane; 1 son and wife, Randy and Sheri Twedt of Port Angeles, WA; a daughter-in-law, Virginia Twedt of Montesano; 2 sisters, Monica Hunter of California and Dorie Chapel of Minnesota; 1 brother, George Crist of Minnesota; 19 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband and parents, Sylvia was preceded in death by a son (Irwin) and 10 siblings.

Sylvia was cremated in Washington per her wishes. Graveside services are being planned at the Rudyard Cemetery this fall (Saturday, Sept. 22nd). Sylvia's ashes will

be buried next to her loving husband, Don. Local arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

OTTO HARLEY UMPHREY

Birth: March 3, 1928 – Death: November 11, 2006

Liberty County Times

November 15, 2006

Otto Harley Umphrey, age 78, a retired grain elevator laborer, passed away Saturday, November 11, 2006, at his home from natural causes. At his request, no services are planned and burial of ashes will take place at a later date in the Chester Cemetery. Whitted Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife of 57 years Patricia Umphrey of Shelby; daughters, Shelley (David) Berry of Anchorage, AK and Tracy (David) Schildkraut of Seattle as well as five grandchildren.

His parents and one brother precede him in death.

Harley was born March 3,

1928 at Chester to Floyd & Hazel (Secrist) Umphrey. He grew up in the Sweet Grass Hill attending grade school in Whitlash and graduating from Oilmont High School in 1946.

He served with the US Army stationed in Japan toward the end of WW2.

He and Patricia Kronebusch were married on May 19, 1949 at Conrad. He worked in the oil fields of North Toole County for a time and then as a laborer for the Peavy Grain Elevator for over 20 years.

He was a member of the American Legion and enjoyed hunting and being around his family.

DONNA J. (GAARDER) UNDERDAL
Born: December 3, 1933 – Died: November 1, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
November 3, 2006

Donna J. Underdal, 72, of 320 30th Ave. N.E., a retired farm homemaker, died of lung cancer Wednesday at Peace Hospice.



Underdal

Visitation is 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday at Schnider Funeral Home. A celebration of her life is 11 a.m. Monday at Harvest Springs Community Church, with burial in St. Olaf Lutheran Cemetery east of Conrad.

Survivors include a son, Mark Underdal of Vancouver, Wash.; daughters Jan (Kevin) Fisher of Great Falls and Renee Ramirez of Conrad, grandchildren Kristen Underdal, Shannon Underdal and Taran Underdal, all of Oregon, Tosha (Cory) Engel and Jeremy Fisher of Great Falls, Tyler Fisher of Arizona and Cody Ramirez of Arlington, Texas; brothers Harold Gaarder of Fairfield and twin brother Don Gaarder of South Dakota; and great-grandson Kaleb Engel of Great Falls.

Donna was born Dec. 3, 1933, in Great Falls, to Hans and Alma Gaarder, and was raised near Fairfield. She graduated from Fairfield High School and received her teaching degree from Northern Montana College in Havre. She taught school in Great Falls, Havre and Torrance, Calif.

She married Ted Underdal on June 10, 1961. They spent the next 35 years farming and raising their family. Donna moved back to Great Falls in 1996.

She received the American College Student Leaders Award; was a Brownie leader and Sunday-school teacher; served as a Lutheran Brotherhood communicator, president and treasurer of St. Olaf ALCW, deputy registrar and election judge for Toole County; was a member of the Rescue Mission Board, Christian Women's Club, and St. John's Lutheran Church; and was active in FISH.

Donna enjoyed fishing (her biggest catch being a 145-pound marlin), camping and gardening, and was a world-class cook. Everyone loved showing up at her home at mealtime.

She loved spending time with her family and taught her grandchildren how to drive, cook, clean and fish. She was also a great practical joker and never lost a match of arm- (and leg-) wrestling. Above all else, Donna was filled with a spirit of generosity and kindness that allowed her to be called "friend" by everyone she met. She never met a stranger.

She was also known as Grandma Donna to many children. Her memory will live on in our hearts forever.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ted; her parents; an infant son; and an infant grandson.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be sent to St. John's Lutheran Church, 5300 9th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405, or Peace Hospice, 2600 15th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405.

Condolences may be sent online to schniderfuneralhome.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

HELEN ELAINE (BARNES) VAN DYKE
Birth: September 19, 1925 – Death: December 12, 2006
Liberty County Times
December 20, 2007

Helen Van Dyke

Castlewood, South Dakota

Funeral Service was held 1:00 pm, Saturday, December 16, 2006, First Presbyterian Church, Castlewood, South Dakota, Rev. Terry Drew, Officiating.

Interment-Castlewood Cemetery Visitation-4 pm to 8 pm Friday at Geise Funeral Chapel in Castlewood.

Helen Elaine (Barnes) Van Dyke, daughter of Albert John and Johanna Della (Kemink) Barnes, was born September 19, 1925 in Hamlin County, South Dakota. She spent her early years and received her education at a rural school near Castlewood and graduated from Castlewood High School in 1943. After receiving her education she was employed at the Castlewood Telephone Office. She was united in marriage to John Van Dyke on December 21, 1951 in Watertown, South Dakota. After their marriage she was employed at the Estelline Sewing Factory and later at Allstate Lawn Products in Watertown. She retired in 1988. John died on December 11, 1992 and Helen continued to live in Castlewood until entering the Jenkins Living Center in Watertown in 2004. She died there on Tuesday, December 12, 2006 at the age of 81 years, 2 months and 23 days.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Castlewood where she was a member of the choir for many years. She was also a member of the Rebecca Lodge for several years and she enjoyed sewing, knitting and crocheting.

Grateful for having shared her life are two sons, Robert Barnes and his wife Kathleen of Billings, MT, Kim Van Dyke and his wife Linda of Chester, MT; one daughter, Orla Ries and her husband Melvin of Watertown, SD; 15 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; one sister Della Aronson of Castlewood; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Helen was preceded in death by her husband and her parents.

E-mail condolences may be sent to the family at www.geise-funeralhome.com.

ERIK ARTHUR WALSTAD

Born: November 14, 1992 – Died: August 17, 2006

Great Falls Tribune

August 20, 2006

Erik Arthur Walstad

OPHEIM — Erik Arthur Walstad, 13, of Opheim, died as the result of an accidental shooting Thursday in Daniels County.



Walstad

His funeral is 10 a.m. Monday at Opheim Lutheran Church, with burial in Lawndale Cemetery in

Opheim. Bell Mortuary of Glasgow is handling arrangements.

He is survived by his ever-loving parents, Darrell and Maggan Walstad and his sister Ellen, and his grandparents, Lyle and Nina Walstad, all of Opheim; and grandparents Carl-Einar and Ingrid Carlsson of Sweden; his uncles and aunts, Donette (Walstad) and Brad Johnson of Belgrade, Michael and Sherri Walstad of Chester, Paulette (Walstad) and Steve Knaff of Glasgow, Lynnette (Walstad) and David Nelson of Richland, Annette Walstad and John Rausch of Helena, Suzette (Walstad) and Steve Stokke of Belgrade, MT, Bengt and Ann-Christin Carlsson of Askersund, Sweden and Per-Olof Noren of Bastad, Sweden; as well as 22 cousins.

Erik Arthur Walstad died on Aug. 17, 2006, as a result of a tragic accident in Daniels County.

Erik was born Nov. 14, 1992 in Glasgow, Montana. Erik was raised on the family farm and went to school in Opheim. Erik was the joy of our lives. He always had a smile on his face,

had the most contagious laugh, and was a helper and friend to his sister, Ellen, and his parents. In his spare time, he liked going to the lake and playing with friends. His special project this summer was fixing up an old Studebaker pickup together with his Dad. They had a great time together. We were fortunate to take many family trips together; among them are two special trips to visit his grandparents and family in Sweden, and one trip to Disney World, as well as reunions here in the States.

Erik spent lots of time with his Grandpa Lyle and Grandma Nina, both of whom were very special to him. Erik was very social and enjoyed family gatherings. He was a member of First Lutheran Church of Opheim.

Erik was a good student and participated in many school activities. He played the trumpet, and loved to play basketball. He spent a lot of time at open gym shooting around with friends and his dad. Erik also played JH football and ran track. He was a member of the Northern lights 4-H Club, and played little league baseball, making the all-stars team twice. He loved to bake chocolate chip cookies that he shared with many friends and family. He also told many funny stories to his special sister, Ellen. They were best friends.

Erik was a wonderful son. He spent a lot of time helping on the farm this past summer and had grown into a bright young man. He still loved to give hugs, especially to his grandmother and mom. We will miss him so much.

Condolences may be sent online to greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

ADEN E. WARD

Birth: January 8, 1922 - Death: August 1, 2006

Liberty County Times

August 9, 2006



Aden Ward

Aden E. Ward was born January 8, 1922 at Chester, MT. He was one of six children born to Les and Laura (Martell) Ward. Aden grew up on the family homestead south of Chester and received his early education at the Erickson Country School. He finished his schooling in Chester where he graduated from C.H.S. in 1941.

Aden married his young bride, Maxine Schaefer, on April 18, 1942 in Great Falls. They farmed on the homestead, then purchased the land in 1944. After the outbreak of World War II, Aden contributed to the war effort by working in a vegetable cannery in Oregon and an aircraft factory in California. He eventually returned to his farm in Montana. Aden made his home in the Chester community his entire life.

The Ward's purchased a second farming operation near Eastend, Saskatchewan in the early 1960's. They

commuted to Canada for 30 years, then sold the farm in 1993. That same year they purchased another farm south of Rudyard.

Aden was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease about 10 years ago. He worked hard to maintain his health by exercising at the local fitness center and taking his daily 4-mile walks around town.

He did relatively well until six months ago. He recently entered the Liberty County Nursing Home for extended care. Two weeks ago he transferred to the Liberty County Hospital for acute care.

Aden died at the Chester hospital on the early morning of Tuesday (August 1, 2006). He was 84 years old.

Aden was baptized as an adult in the Chester United Methodist Church and maintained his membership there. He had served on several boards over the years, including the A.S.C.S., the South Chester Water Users, and the Liberty Sweeps shovel factory. He also served on the Erickson and Prairie View School boards.

Aden's favorite pastime was woodworking. His carpentry skills were self-taught and exceptional. He constructed quality china and knickknack cabinets, buffets, grandfather-clocks, and other items of fine furniture for family and friends.

Aden also enjoyed dancing, playing cards (mainly pinochle), and attending the high school sporting events of his children and grandchild-

dren. In addition he and Maxine liked to travel; over the years they made five memorable trips to Aden's favorite destination: Hawaii. And just for the fun of it, Aden had a personal collection of over 250 caps!

During Aden's long walks around Chester, he had his favorite places to stop and visit with friends. He loved spending quality time with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Aden loved his life as a farmer. He never officially retired and continued to farm until his health failed. He was well-respected as a farmer. Whenever Aden started the spring work or did something innovative, quite often his neighbors followed suit. He always kept his farmland, grounds, buildings, and machinery in top-notch condition.

Harvest season was one of Aden's favorite times of the year. He was happy to know that this year's harvest went smoothly, the yields were exceptional, and the "crop was in the bin".

And then he left us...

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Maxine Ward of Chester; 1 daughter, Sharon (Ray) Seidlitz of Chester; 1 son, Ron (Priscilla) Ward of Chester; 8 grandchildren, including Aden (C.J.) Seidlitz, Wynnette (Shawn) Maddox, Trina (Cory) Heinzeroth, Juanita (Rod) Spicher, Rory (Kimberly) Seidlitz, Rick (Joy) Ward,

Jermy (Tawnya) Ward, and Ronell Theel; 22 great-grandchildren; 1 brother, Larry (Mary) Ward of Kalispell; brother-in-law, Earl Thisselle of Chester; sister-in-law, Teresa Ward of Fairfield; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Aden was preceded in death by his parents, a great-grandson (Jeremy Seidlitz Bullock), a brother (Walter Ward), and 3 sisters (Vena McCulloch, Stella Thisselle, and Lila Laas).

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday (August 5th) at the Chester United Methodist Church. Pastor Dolly Collins officiated and Pastor Waveland King offered selected scripture readings. A poetic tribute was written and read by Kip Lybeck. Vocalist, Wayne Wardell, performed "The Lord's Prayer". The congregation sang "Harvest Time" and "The Old Rugged Cross". Karen Stack served as organist.

Ushers were Tony and Ione Huston and Bob Wigen. Pallbearers were Stuart Erickson, Tim Gatzemeier, Paul Meissner, Tom Ludwig, Duane Aitken, Kenny Wolfe, Chuck Saxton, Tom Osterman, and Scott Decker. Burial followed at the Chester Cemetery.

A luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Hospital or donor's choice...

AUDREY JEAN (LAYHEE) WATSON
Born: March 4, 1929 – Died: May 15, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
May 17, 2006

Audrey Jean Watson

HAVRE — Audrey Jean (Layhee) Watson, 77, a former Chinook resident and homemaker who was active in the community, died of cancer Monday at her home in Havre.



Watson

A memorial service is 2 p.m. Friday at the United Methodist

Church. Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include her husband, Henry Earl Watson of Havre; daughter Victoria "Viki" Blackburn and husband Don of Wickensburg, Ariz.; sons Craig Allan Watson and wife Linda of Houston, Texas, Henry Douglas Watson and wife Dianne of Havre and James Terry Watson and wife Barbara of Alpharetta, Ga.; 10 dearly beloved grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Marion Kane of Somerset, N.J., and Evelyn Eyre of Torrington, Conn.; two brothers, Patrick Layhee of Watsonville, Calif., and retired Col. Harold F. Layhee of San Antonio, Texas; numerous nieces and nephews and sisters-in-law Jean Watson of Havre, Daisy Watson of Laurel and Gen Layhee of Plattsburg, N.Y.

Audrey was born March 4, 1929, in Plattsburg, N.Y., the youngest of eight children born to Edward Lumas Layhee and Alberta Marguerita (Meador) Layhee. Audrey was raised in Dannemore, N.Y., and met Henry Earl Watson while he was stationed in New Jersey. They were married July 19, 1946, in New Brunswick, N.J., and were looking forward to sharing their 60th wedding anniversary this year.

They traveled out west on the train to Gildford, Mont., where Earl and Audrey farmed north of Gildford for many years. Audrey was very active as a wife and mother, along with her callings in the First Baptist Church Women's Club. In 1964, they moved to Chinook, where she was active in raising her family, supporting her husband in his duties, and in many organizations, along with the Methodist Church, Cowbelle's Association, attending 4-H and Rodeo Club with her children, and a partnership in her own ceramic shop. Audrey was very artistic with clay, along with her floral design and interior design. Earl and Audrey founded and operated Watson Trucking from 1972 until 2003. They moved to Havre in 2004.

Audrey's family was her priority and she enjoyed her many friends. She loved to bake, and her raisin-filled cookies are known by many. She loved to fish, travel, and enjoyed movies, football and basketball games and watching bullriding. She loved to sing and dance, read, and enjoyed gardening.

Audrey was a hard worker, elegant, loving, and dedicated wife, mother and grandmother who will be greatly missed by all who knew her. All will miss you, Mother, your example, your graciousness and humor. Until we meet again.


One of her favorite scriptures was, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the Father but by me." (John 14:6) We love you.

Memorials are suggested to the United Methodist Church in Chinook or Bear Paw Hospice. Condolences may be sent online to www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.

RALPH AUBREY WHELCHER
Born: November 16, 1926 – Died: May 25, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
May 28, 2006

Ralph Aubrey Whelchel

BUTTE – World War II Navy veteran Ralph Aubrey Whelchel, 79, of Butte, a retired Montana Power Company employee and former Chester resident, died of natural causes Thursday at a Butte nursing home.

 Visitation is after 7:30 p.m. Monday at Wayrynen-Richards Funeral Home in Butte. His funeral is 11 a.m. Tuesday at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, with interment in Mountain View Cemetery.

Survivors include his sons and daughter-in-law, Ross and Susanne Whelchel of Cut Bank and Wayne Whelchel of Wilmington, Del.; a daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Steve Andreas of Butte; grandchildren Matthew Whelchel, Jeremy Whelchel, Brian Andreas, Marcus Andreas and Tyler Andreas; a brother, Lyle Whelchel of Albuquerque, N.M.; and his half sister, Leila Ronnberg of Sweden.

Ralph was born Nov. 16, 1926, in Minot, N.D., to Ora Otto and Henrietta (Midtaug) Whelchel. He was raised and educated in Chester, and earned a degree in electrical engineering from Montana State College, now Montana State University, in 1950. He served his country in the United States Navy during World War II. On March 19, 1955, he married Isabel Johnson in Great Falls. He worked as an electrical engineer for the Montana Power Company his entire career, starting in Great Falls, then to Butte, Billings, back to Great Falls and finally back to Butte. He retired in 1988.

He was a member of the Toastmasters, longtime and active member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and belonged to the choir there. He also was a member of the Lutheran Brotherhood. Ralph enjoyed tinkering in the garage, camping and traveling with his wife after their retirement. His grandchildren were the highlight of his life.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Isabel Whelchel on Jan. 31, 2000.

Memorials may be made to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be sent online to www.greatfallstribune.com/obituaries

FRANCES EVONNE (CADY) WHITISH
Birth: June 2, 1935 – Death: April 30, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 10, 2006



Frances Whitish

MALTA-Frances Evonne Whitish, 70 years, a homemaker, died Sunday, April 30, 2006, at the Phillips County Hospital of natural causes.

Graveside services will be 11:00 A.M. Tuesday, May 2, at the Malta Cemetery. There will be viewing on Tuesday, at the Adams Funeral Home from 9:00 A.M. until 10:30 A.M. Memorial may be made to the charity of choice. Adams Funeral Home of Malta is in charge of arrangements.

Frances is survived by her sisters, Joyce Sedivy of Swan Lake, Darla Cook of Piedmont, South Dakota, Merla Warden of Ulm, Bonnie Fraser of Chester; brother, Lonnie Cady of Inverness, many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Duane in 1989, her father in 1962, her mother in 1995, brother, Lloyd in 2002.

Frances was born June 2, 1935 in Havre, Montana, the daughter of Elmer (Swede) and Esther (McGrath) Cady. She was the second of seven children and lived in Minneota area north of Inverness, Montana on a farm. In 1940 at the age of 5, she contacted polio and sleeping sickness. She was in the hospital in Spokane, Washington and spent some time in therapy in Great Falls. She was paralyzed on her right side. She attended school in Minneota and Inverness upon moving to that community in 1948. She lived on the McGrath homestead until 1962 when her father passed away. Frances and her siblings moved to town where they lived with their mother, until she moved to Chester in 1971. In January 1976 Frances moved to Malta

and attended the Malta Opportunity Center for many years. She married Duane Whitish on June 10, 1977 in Malta. They continued to attend the Malta Opportunity Center and Workshop until he passed away in 1989. She was a very friendly lady with a wonderful laugh when she chose to use it. She loved babies and animals. She loved to get gifts mainly for the opening of them. Frances was a great collector of pictures (Didn't always matter if she knew the people or not). She had a dog named Blackie and a dog named Abbey, both of them were very caring

towards Frances. She did painting of stain glass and often gave away her paintings to people that had touched her life in someway. But she always said her favorite hobby was smoking. She got to spent time at her house (which was very important to her) with the help of M.O.I. and P.A.L.S. Special friend Janet Fenger (from P.A.L.S.) had her keep in touch with family and friends for birthdays and holidays. She did many extra things for Frances. The people from M.O.I. (Don, Alisha, and Phyllis) were also very important in her life. Phyllis spent many years with Frances and has many stories to tell about her. We will miss Frances just being Frances.

RUSSEL JOHN WICKS

Birth: January 13, 1952 - Death: February 9, 2006

Liberty County Times

February 15, 2006



Russ Wicks

Russel John Wicks was born January 13th, 1952 at Havre, Montana. He was the eldest of four children born to Walter and Pearl (Jabes) Wicks. Russ grew up in the Chester community and received his education here, graduating from C.H.S. in 1970. He continued his schooling at Helena Vo-Tech and Northern Montana College in Havre, then began farming with his folks near Chester. Russ married Stacy Nelson in 1972. They had a daughter, Celeste, before their marriage ended in divorce.

In 1976 Russ began farming at Eastend, Saskatchewan and was granted status as a "landed immigrant" in Canada.

Russ' second marriage was to a Havre girl, Maureen "Morb" Callahan, on December 29th, 1979. Their family grew to four with the birth of two children, Kali and John. They farmed in Canada until 1984, then moved back to the Chester community where they began farming the Sherrard place near Lake Elwell. In 1999 they made another short move to the Violet Broadhurst farm, where they have lived and worked since.

Russ' health had been good over the years. On the early evening of Thursday (February 9th, 2006), Morb returned home from work and found Russ unresponsive on the bedroom floor; he had apparently collapsed after getting out of bed earlier that morning. Medical assistance was called to no avail. Russ died at the age of 54 years.

Russ was a life member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, where he had been baptized and confirmed. He was also a member of the Montana Grain Growers, the Tiber Dam Water Ski Club, and H.O.G. ("Harley Owners Group"). In recent years he enjoyed volunteering at local schools. He assisted with the "Explore America" program at C-J-I School. He provided a teepee for Native American Days, cooked buffalo burgers, and served as Santa Claus at the Riverview Colony School.

Everyone knows how much Russ loved his "toys", namely, his boats, snowmobiles, 4-wheelers, and his Harley-Davidson motorcycle. This past spring Russ, Morb, and friends took a memorable 4400-mile motorcycle trek to the Alaskan Yukon.

In the summer Russ and friend Bill traveled by motorcycles to Arizona to visit Celeste. Then later, Russ and son John ventured to the motorcycle rally at Sturgis, South Dakota.

Russ loved boating, water sports, and fishing at Lake Elwell.

In fact, he and several friends had been ice-fishing the day before he died. For many years the Wicks family and area friends enjoyed an annual Fourth of July party at Looney Point. This was always a fun-filled event and Russ was given the unofficial title of "camp director"!

In addition, Russ loved big-game hunting. This past season he and friend Mike took their annual trip into the Rocky Mountain wilderness and scored a nice bull elk.

His hobbies were many. He enjoyed playing cards, especially poker, cribbage, and a game he called "Elk Camp Rummy". He also enjoyed dice and the board game "Risk". At home Russ enjoyed movies, playing ping-pong and pool, and "Rock-&-Roll" music. He had a large collection of vinyl albums. In addition, he loved cooking (his turkey dinners were awesome!) and he was very mechanical. Russ and Morb enjoyed traveling and made several memorable trips to Mexico, Hawaii, the Caribbean, and New Orleans.

This was one of Russ' favorite times of the year, as he loved "March Madness" and the Final-4. He kept a file on the yearly brackets and plotted-and-planned how each new basketball season would develop, then sat back and enjoyed the games. One of his favorite teams was Kali's alma mater, the "Zags" of Gonzaga!

Russ loved his life as a farmer. After many years of drought, he finally enjoyed a decent crop this past year. He also enjoyed his friends and neighbors, and was always there to lend a helping hand whenever he could. Most of all, he loved his family and was loved by them in return...

Russ could best be described as a "gentle giant" with a soft heart and a good sense of humor who enjoyed life to its fullest. He will surely be missed by many...

Survivors include his wife of 26 years, Maureen of Chester; 3 children, Celeste of Phoenix, Kali of Spokane, and John of Bozeman; his parents, Walt and Pearl of Chester; 3 siblings, Karen (John) Haughey of Billings, Dale (Teresa) Wicks of Billings, and David Wicks of Chester; and 8 nieces/nephews (Sarah, David, Kathleen, Amy, Paul, Patrick, Matthew, and Kari).

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday (Feb. 15th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Peter Erickson and Father Joseph Diekhans will officiate. Special music will be provided by Our Savior's and St. Mary's choirs ("The Irish Blessing" and "Parable"), Riverview Colony girls choir ("Tears Are A Language God Understands"), the congregation ("Amazing Grace" and "Peace Like A River"), and a cello/piano duet by Karen and Kate Haughey ("The Swan"). Accompanists will be Karen Stack and Richie Hamel. Scriptures will be read

by Bruce Swenson and the eulogy will be shared by Walt Schweitzer. Pallbearers are David Pugsley, Lynn Anderson, Mike Mattson, Jim Laird, Bill Fraser, and Kelly Christenot. Ushers are Kent Matkin, Chris Kolstad, Ken Gagnon, and Rod Oraw. All of Russ' other good friends are honorary bearers. Cremation will follow. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Memorials will be given to the C-J-1 Public School Foundation, the Hi-Line Health Foundation, the Hi-Line Sportsman's Club, or Our Savior's Lutheran Church (all of Chester):...

RUSSEL JOHN WICKS

Born: January 13, 1952
at Havre, Montana
Died: February 9, 2006
at home south of
Chester, Montana
Age: 54 years...
0 months...
27 days...



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard him call;
I turned my back and left it all,
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work, to play;
Tasks undone must stay that way,
I found that peace of close of day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I love, will miss,
Be not burdened with lines of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored so much;
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and share with me

Funeral Services: 11:00 A.M. Wednesday (Feb. 15*) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, Montana

Officiants: Pastor Peter Erickson & Pastor Joseph Dickman

Scripture Readings: Bruce Swenson

Eulogist: Walt Schweitzer

Special Musical Selections

...Friends in Our Savior's & St. Mary's Choir (acc. by pianist, Richie Howell): "Prelude" & "The Irish Blessing"
...Riverview Colony girls (led by Brenda Wig): "There Are A Language God Understands"
...Duet by pianist, Karen Haughey, and cellist, Ken Haughey: "The Swan"
...Congregational Hymns (acc. by organist, Karro Bick): "Amazing Grace" & "Pencil Like A River"
...Closing CD (one of Russ' favorites): "And When I Die" by Blood, Sweat, & Tears

Ushers: Kent Matkin, Chris Kolstad, Rod Oraw, & Ken Dagosa

Pallbearers: Lynn Anderson, David Pugsley, Bill Pauer, Mike Mattson, Jim Laird, & Kelly Christenot

Honorary Bearers: Colin Dowsett (of Albee, America, 5th, Allan, Les, Bob, John, Pat, Owen, Tim, Lou, Ty, Scott, Dennis, Joe, Gary, Randy, and all of Russ' other good friends...

Luncheon: To follow in the Church Fellowship Hall...

Memorial Funds: C-J-1 Public School Foundation, Hi-Line Health Foundation, Hi-Line Sportsman's Club, and Our Savior's Lutheran Church...



Russ' Family: Wife, Maureen; children, Celeste, Kali, & John; parents, Walt & Pearl; siblings, Karen, Dale, & David; nephews & nieces, Sarah, David, Kathleen, Amy, Paul, Patrick, Matthew, & Kari; and a host of friends...



Final Disposition: It was Russ' request to be cremated. His ashes will be scattered according to his wishes by his family later this spring.

Arrangements: Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester, Montana

In loving memory of
RUSS



JOSEPH 'JOE' WILMES
Birth: February 9, 1911 - Death: May 7, 2006
Liberty County Times
May 17, 2006



Joe Wilmes

Joseph "Joe" Wilmes was born February 9th, 1911 at Inverness, Montana. He was one of four children born to Domonick and Valentina (Jerzak) Wilmes. Unfortunately, at the time of Joe's birth his mother and twin-sister died from complications during the delivery.

Joe grew up in the Inverness community and received his education there, graduating from Inverness High School in 1930. During his school years he won several track ribbons and helped win the State track meet in 1928. He also played on the I.H.S. basketball team.

Joe married Grace Marie Anderson in 1933. They began raising their family of three. Joe worked various jobs in the Hi-Line community until 1940, then bought a bar in Joplin. This bar was appropriately called "Joe's Tavern". In 1944 the Wilmes' purchased the old Lear place, a small farm located near Hwy. 2 between Joplin and Chester. Joe sold the bar in 1945 and began farming on a full-time basis.

Joe and Marie had been married 40 years when she died in 1973. Joe met his second wife, Florence "Flo" Rediger, and they were married in 1977 at Las Vegas. During their life together they wintered in Yuma, Arizona and Pahrump, Nevada. Joe continued to farm in northcentral Montana until his retirement in 1998. In July of 2002 he and Flo moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester. When Joe's health began to fail in May of 2003, he transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. He recently developed pneumonia and died from complications on this past Sunday morning (May 7, 2006). He was 95 years old.

Joe was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith. He was a past board member of the Liberty County A.S.C.S. office and had served on the board of directors of the Joplin Farmer's Union Oil Company.

He enjoyed traveling and sightseeing, especially on their many trips to Arizona and Nevada. He liked to watch TV westerns, game shows, and was a fan of pro football and baseball. In his quiet time at home Joe enjoyed reading (mainly westerns by Louis Lamour). But probably his greatest love was farming; he drove tractors into his late 80's and was reluctant to retire at age 88!

Joe is survived by his wife of 29 years, Flo Wilmes of Chester; 2 children, David Wilmes of Shohomish, WA and Rosalie Martinson of Helena; 7 step-children, John Ritland of Haines City, Florida, Harry Kassmeier of Loma, Steven

Kassmeier of Jacksonville, FL, Lynnette Cook of Cheyenne, WY, Donna Arvidson of Helena, Loretta Dunnmeier of Hillsboro, OR, and Deborah Kassmeier of Salem, OR; 7 grandchildren; 12 step-grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; 8 step-great-grandchildren; and 2 great-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death not only by his parents and first wife, but also by a son (Roger Wilmes in 1955), 2 brothers (Ben and David Wilmes), 1 sister (Traisia Wilmes), and several infant siblings.

Graveside services with burial of ashes were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Friday (May 12th) at the Joplin Cemetery by Father Joseph Diekhans. A taped musical tribute, "How Great Thou Art", was sung by the Knox Brothers. The obituary was read by grandson, Joey Wilmes. A memorial luncheon followed at the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester. Cremation and arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Hospital & Nursing Home in Chester or to donor's choice...

JENNIFER GOLDBERG WINTERS
Birth: March 29, 1966 – Death: August 16, 2006
Liberty County Times
August 30, 2006

Jennifer Wintes

Jennifer Goldberg Winters, born 3/29/66 in Havre, Montana, passed away 8/16/06 in Las Cruces, New Mexico. She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Julie and Wayne Treers of Las Cruces and her nieces, Kira Treers of Las Cruces and Kristen Treers of Albuquerque. She is also survived by her cousins, Tim Van Wechel of Inverness and Valerie Hickman of Havre.

Jennifer grew up on the family farm north of Inverness and graduated from J-I High School in Joplin, Montana in 1984. She attended Flathead Valley Community College in Kalispell, Montana. Jennifer worked for many years in the fields of customer service, hospitality and medical records. She worked for several years at the Super 8 Motel and for Triangle Telephone in Havre. She was a talented singer and had a tender heart for people in need and for animals.

Funeral Services will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 1:00 pm at First Lutheran Church in Havre, Montana (corner of 3rd St. and 6th Ave.).

HAZEL EILEEN (WOLF) WOLERY

Birth: January 18, 1926 - Death: November 13, 2006

Liberty County Times

November 22, 2006



Eileen Wolery

Eileen Wolery, age 80, died of natural causes early Monday morning (November 13, 2006) at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester.

She was born Hazel Eileen Wolf on January 18, 1926 in Joplin, MT. Her parents were Henry and Irene (Granger) Wolf and she was one of eight children in the family. Eileen received her formal education in Joplin, where she graduated from J.H.S. in 1944. She went to Seattle for a short time and worked at Boeing Aircraft, then returned to Havre, MT to continue her schooling. She earned her teaching certificate at Northern Montana College.

Eileen was teaching at a country school north of Hingham when she married Elvyn Glenn Wolery on May 9, 1945 in Havre. Elvyn was serving in the military during World War II when he suffered life-threatening injuries. They were living in Walla Walla, Washington during his recuperation period, and while

there, Eileen worked at a Safeway grocery store.

The Wolerys returned to Montana and began farming north of Joplin with Elvyn's brother, Royal. They later farmed the old Suckow place north of Rudyard. In the fall of 1951 they purchased a farm at Turner (MT), where they lived and raised their family of five. In 1976 they leased out the Turner farm and operated a custom harvesting business (from Texas to Montana) for the next 15 years. In 1989 they sold the farm and retired. The Wolerys remained in Turner until September of 2001, then moved to Chester to be closer to old friends and family. They initially made their home at the Wheat Country Estates (assisted living facility). In October of 2004 Eileen transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home, where she resided until her death.

Eileen loved her role in life as a nurturing mother and a meticulous homemaker. Believe it or not, her favorite hobby was probably house-keeping! Her home was always fresh and clean. She ironed everything, including bedding, dish towels, hankies, linens, etc. She was also an awesome cook; she enjoyed making big meals for the harvest crews (her family always joked that "it was her goal to put 20 pounds on every worker!"). Eileen's other hobbies were cake decorating, assorted crafts, and ceramic projects (she made beautiful nativity sets for all of her children). In her quiet time she enjoyed

crossword puzzles and board games.

Eileen was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and was a member of the Turner American Lutheran Church. She taught Sunday school and was active in the church circles, Ladies' Aide, and Bible study groups. She was also a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 50+ years and was a longtime member of the O.D.O. Club ("Our Day Out" Club) in Turner.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Elvyn Wolery of Chester; 4 sons and spouses, Ronald (Della) Wolery of Joplin, Darryl (Ruth) Wolery of Havre, Richard (Elia) Wolery of Elcentro, Calif., and Loren (Mary Ann) Wolery of Turner; 1 daughter and spouse, Gail (Monty) Kantorowicz of south Chester; 14 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; 1 brother, Robert "Bob" (Sharon) Wolf of Crookston, MN; 1 sister, Leila (John) Berg of Des Moines, Iowa; 2 brothers-in-law, Harold "Van" VanDyke of Dunnellon, Florida and Denton Leichner of Bremerton, WA; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Eileen was preceded in death by her parents, 2 brothers (Donald and Gordon Wolf), and 3 sisters (Lucille Cady, Gladys [Johnson] Leichner, and Betty VanDyke).

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Monday (Nov. 20th) at the Fifth Avenue Christian Church in Havre. Pastor Rowlie Hutton of Havre

and Pastor Pete Erickson of Chester officiated. Pianist, Sarah Boyce, accompanied the congregation, who sang "How Great Thou Art". Vocalist/guitarist, Elia Wolery, performed 3 tributes: "On Eagle's Wings", "Borning Cry", and "One Day At A Time". Ushers were Jack VanVoast, Jim Reed, Fred Mohar, Dan Maloney, and Ken Heilig. Grandsons serving as pallbearers were Chet, Joel, and Joshua Wolery; Brad, Cory, and Dane Kantorowicz; Jim Keller; and Bart James. Honorary bearers were friends Mary Hake, Phyllis Hutton, Guenna Norton, Rose and Carla VanVoast, Clarice Kegel, Nedra Cornell, and Bertha Hofer. A luncheon followed at the Fifth Ave. Church.

Graveside services were 3:00 p.m. Monday (Nov. 20th) at the Turner Cemetery in Turner. A coffee hour followed at the Turner Christian Church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials may be given to donor's choice...

STERLING ERNEST WOLERY

Birth: November 9, 1941 - Death: January 11, 2006

Liberty County Times

January 18, 2006



Sterling Wolery

Sterling Wolery, age 64, left this earth for his eternal home on January 11, 2006 after a 23 month battle with glioblastoma multiforme brain cancer. Despite the severity of his diagnosis, he approached it fighting - with the same analytical, problem solving skills he used throughout his life. Along with the help of his family he sought the latest, most advanced treatment known for this type of cancer. His journey took him to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota; a national brain tumor conference in Florida; and the Cedar-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. He ended his journey at Peace Hospice in Great Falls, Montana Wednesday evening surrounded by his family.

Sterling Ernest Wolery was born on November 9, 1941 in Havre, Montana, the second son of three boys born to Olyn and Bernece (Shipman) Wolery. Three excited brothers and surprised parents later welcomed a girl to the family. He was named after his father's boyhood friend, another man of "sterling" quality, Sterling Wardell.

Sterling recalled an idyllic childhood spent on horse back. He was given room to roam, which led to several boyhood adventures. One such adventure that he never forgot was with his father and brother. They were caught several miles from home in a sudden snow storm. The boys were freezing and several attempts to move the wagon failed. Sterling's father eventually put the young boys on a horse and turned it loose to find the way home, as he walked the remaining miles alone in the blizzard. Other adventures were not as scary and typically involved his many cousins. Throughout his life, he continued a love for horses and his cousins and relatives.

When not on an adventure, Sterling attended Grassy Butte School near his country home.

Later he entered high school in Rudyard where he graduated in 1960. With the exception of this past year, Sterling attended a class reunion every five years. He was a committed friend.

After graduation, Sterling attended meat-cutting school in Toledo, Ohio. He returned to open a meat-cutting business on his parent's farm. Eventually it became so successful that it had to be closed to make time for farming.

On November 2, 1963 he married Betty Ann Burgess at the old Methodist Church in Chester, Montana. After their marriage, they briefly lived in Havre and Joplin, as Betty taught school in those locations. Soon his home and farm called him back. Their first daughter, Jill Ann was born shortly thereafter. Three more daughters,

Jane Amber, Jolene Alicia (who died as an infant in 1976) and Julie Allyson joined the family. With the help of his good friend, Jesse Pimley, Sterling built a home, across the road from his parents, to accommodate his growing family. Sterling lived 60 years of his earthly life on the place he loved.

Sterling's vocation was farming and ranching, but his avocation was designing and building. Among his original creations were drill markers, cycle gates, loader tractors (beginning with a simple "bale hand", then a bi-directional loader/tractor, known as the "Earthworm", and a larger loader tractor called "Big Bert"), self-propelled augers and an unusual merry-go-round for the Joplin Park. He could build just about anything and enjoyed working with both wood and metal. His creations were featured in several farm publications over the years. His shop was his favorite place to be.

Though he loved the farm, he also enjoyed traveling to new places. His daughters fondly recall several vacations exploring such places as Canada, the western U.S., Disneyland, and the Grand Canyon. On these trips he often invited his children's friends as guests.

He was known as an unselfish neighbor and friend, willing to lend a hand to anyone for any reason. He and his wife opened their home and hearts to many "extras" -- mostly young men who worked for and learned from Sterling. A bonus daughter, Kathy Sveen of Minnesota, was gained through a 4-H exchange

program. She was instrumental in the early days of Sterling's treatment in Rochester, Minnesota. Sterling was held in high regard by many because he was a decent, honest man.

Sterling served on the J-I School Board for nine years and was a 4-H leader. He also supported the local country church, Immanuel Lutheran.

Sterling and Betty Ann enjoyed hosting a Christmas service on behalf of the church, which featured a live nativity and was attended by neighbors far and wide. Most recently he has attended the Chester Assembly Church.

In the face of brain cancer, Sterling left a lasting gift for his children and grandchildren by recording stories from his life. He was able to attend the Wolery Family Reunion this past summer where he enjoyed the recollection and recording of more stories with his uncles and aunt.

In addition to his wife and three daughters he is survived by sons-in-law, Greg Miller (Jill) of Billings, Darren Beadle (Jane) of Choteau, and Nick Erickson (Julie) of Joplin; 5 grandchildren, Jessika and Christian Reinker, Sydney Miller, and Delaynie and Bellamy Beadle; 2 Brothers, Leroy Wolery of Gildford and Merlin Wolery of Rudyard; 1 sister, Coleen Vestal of Aurora, Colorado; 5 nephews; 2 nieces; two dozen first cousins; and 3 uncles and aunts.

He was preceded in death by his daughter (Jolene), by his parents (Bernece in 2001 and Olyn in 2002).

Memorials are suggested to the Clergy Recovery Network (P.O.Box 313, Joplin, Mt. 59531) in honor of his dearly

devoted friend, cousin and spiritual guide, Dale Wolery.

His illness afforded him an opportunity to reflect on his life here and ever after. He was able to appreciate the richness of this world and to show his deep love for his friends and family. Even as his health deteriorated, he strengthened many relationships – especially with his girls, his wife, and with God.

Friends were asked to dress in casual attire at Sterling's funeral services, which were held 3:00 p.m. Sunday (Jan. 15th) at the Joplin Community Hall. Pastor Dale Wolery officiated and Roger Lincoln shared scripture readings. The

Frederickson family (Dan, Holly, Clint, and Starsha) provided sound and music, including prelude hymns of praise and two service selections ("Be Not Afraid" and "On Eagle's Wings"). The congregation sang "I Was There To Hear Your Borne Cry". Special tributes included "The Brain Tumor Story" by daughter Jill, a taped musical piece "One More Day" by David Bailey, visual presentation "The Greatest of These is Love" by daughter Jane, and a poetic reading "Stay in the Saddle" by Kip Lybeck. Ushers were Dean and Mary Hodges and Dale and Lanae Gunderson.

Pallbearers were Trevor Wolery, Ryan Vestal, Craig Wolery, Clyde Richter, Russ Pinley, and Larry Woodring. Memorial bearers were Ivan and Riley Smith (special friends who are presently serving in the U.S. military). Honorary bearers were all of Sterling's first cousins. Sunset burial rites followed at the Joplin Cemetery. Dale Wolery offered comittal prayers and a musical goodbye ("Now the Day is Over") was sung by Sara Wolery and Holly Frederickson. A memorial luncheon followed at the hall. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

The following poem was written by Sterling's granddaughter, Jessika Reinker (age 11):

Cancer takes many people away from many things,
In this poem, cancer took a rider from his horse,
Like crowns with jewels & gold taken away from kings.
The cowboy had a very rough and difficult course.
One cold winter day the cowboy got sick,
The doctor said he had a brain tumor.
When the horse learned, how furious did he kick,
Which started a farm animal rumor.
The horse doesn't know if its rider is dead,
While the horse and its rider are far –
The horse has in its mind a terrible dread;
The rider soon came home with a walker made of bars.
The wheelchair meant there would be no more riding,
But these friends were really the best of friends,
So over the green hills they went together striding.
The horse and rider, together 'til both of their ends.

MEMORIALS: In honor of Sterling's devoted friend, cousin, & spiritual guide, Dale Wolery, memorials are suggested to the "Clergy Recovery Network"...

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester, Montana

CASKET ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Sterling's casket was lovingly handcrafted by Rick Richter, and its interior was designed by Delia Richter Lybeck.

LILLIAN M. (ROCKMAN) WRIGHT
Birth: May 15, 1917 – Death: May 31, 2006
Liberty County Times
June 7, 2006



Lillian Wright

Lillian M. (Rockman) Wright was born May 15th, 1917 at Lothair, Montana. She was one of ten children in the family. Her parents were Christ ("C.L.") and Helga (Johnson) Rockman. Lillian's father came to Montana in 1908 and purchased the Grand Hotel in Chester. In 1912 the Rockman's filed on a homestead 15 miles north of Lothair near Eagle Creek. They were living on this farm at the time of Lillian's birth.

The Rockman's returned to Chester in 1922 to operate the Grand Hotel on a fulltime basis. They lived on the premises and the entire family contributed to the daily operation of the business.

Lillian received her education in Chester and graduated from C.H.S. in 1935. She continued her schooling at Billings Business College, where she completed clerical courses.

Lillian married Lynn G. ("Skinny") Wright on July 4th, 1937. They lived and raised their 2 daughters, Vi and Sharon, in the Chester community. They had been married 26 years at the time of Lynn's unexpected death in 1963.

Lillian initially started working for Liberty Bank of Chester in 1949. At that time the bank was located in the old historic brick building at the corner of Hwy. 2 and 1st Street East. In 1960 they moved to a brand new building, which is the present location of the Wells Fargo Bank of Chester. Lillian loved her job as a bank teller and she always "greeted her customers with a smile". After 33 years as a faithful employee, she retired from the bank in 1982.

In 1973 Lillian and local farm widower, George Braun, became good friends. They enjoyed their daily visits over coffee and cookies and became familiar companions around town. Every Sunday after church, the two of them traveled to their favorite restaurants in Great Falls, Shelby, Havre, or Inverness for a nice Sunday dinner together. They maintained a loyal relationship for 25 years; she was crushed when George passed away in 1998.

Lillian was a very independent, quiet, unassuming lady who lived in a simple little house in Chester for 65 years of her life. In 2002 at age 85 she finally admitted that she could no longer live alone, so she agreed to move to the Sweetgrass Lodge. She was there for a year when she developed some health maintenance issues, so she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. Lillian died peacefully at the Chester rest home early Wednesday morning (May 31st, 2006). She was 89 years old.

Lillian was very content at the nursing home. She seldom missed any activities, especially church services, musical events, Bingo, and cards. She maintained a good attitude and her mind stayed very sharp until the end.

Lillian had a strong Christian faith. She had been a longtime member of the Chester United Methodist Church and was active in the United Methodist Women. For many years she personally baked the communion bread used in the communion services. Lillian was also very proud of a special Advent wreath that she donated to the church in memory of her daughter, Sharon Malaney, who died of a stroke in 1978.

Lillian took several memorable trips during her life. One was to England, Norway, and Germany with daughter, Sharon. Another was to Hawaii with daughter, Vi and family.

She was a past member of the Chester Royal Neighbors of America and the Joplin Eastern Star. In her quiet time at home Lillian enjoyed reading, crocheting, or watching television. She was the proverbial "Cookie Monster", in the fact that she loved cookies and other baked goods.

To her family (other than her children and grandchildren) she was affectionately known as "Aunt Lil". She could best be defined as a woman with a warm heart, a gentle spirit, and a caring soul who always had a welcoming home and a pleasant demeanor. She never spoke evil of anyone, always wished the best for everyone, and was appreciative of every kind deed given her.

Lillian was preceded in death not only by her parents, husband, and daughter, but also by 6 brothers (Lloyd, Gunnar, Willard, Sid, Harry, and Ed Rockman) and 2 sisters (Ruth Ish and Helen Carr).

She is survived by her daughter, Vi Budden-Topper (and husband, Jack Topper) of Yakima, Wash.; grandson, Todd Budden of Seattle, Wash.; granddaughter, Tracy Koerick (and husband, Tom) of Seattle, Wash.; 1 brother, George Rockman of Port Orchard, Wash.; a special friend and sister-in-law, Cletus Johnson of Chester; 2 sons-in-law, Larry Budden and Joe

Malaney; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday (June 7th) at the Chester United Methodist Church. Pastor Peter Erickson will officiate. Karen Stack will play the organ and Anne Seidnitz-Melton will sing several musical tributes. Grand-daughter, Tracy, will read the obituary and share remembrances. Nieces, Lila Loy Dunn and Tamic Blair, will read scriptures. Several of Lillian's nephews will serve as pallbearers. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon will be held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

MARY EVELYN 'SALLY' (OLSON) ZIEBARTH
Born: January 8, 1925 – Died: March 9, 2006
Great Falls Tribune
March 10, 2006

Mary Evelyn 'Sally' Ziebarth

Mary Evelyn "Sally" (Olson) Ziebarth, 81, of Great Falls, a retired Wells Fargo Bank employee, died of natural causes Thursday at Peace Hospice.



Ziebarth

Services are 11 a.m. Thursday at Faith Lutheran Church, with burial in Highland Cemetery. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Sally is survived by her son, Tim (Charlotte) Ziebarth of Inverness, Fla.; a sister, Almyra Greb of New Rockford, N.D.; brothers Nels Olson (Viola) of Great Falls, Herman Olson of Nashua, Mont., and Bob Olson of Moses Lake, Wash.; and several nieces and nephews.

Sally was born Jan. 8, 1925, in Jamestown, R.I., to Nels Elmo and Emma Almyra (Locke) Olson. She graduated from high school and attended Mayville Teachers College in North Dakota. She taught elementary school in North Dakota for six years.

In 1950, Sally met and married Tim Ziebarth. After living in Chester, Mont., and Minot, N.D., they moved to Great Falls in 1952. Sally worked at Wells Fargo Bank for 28 years, retiring in 1981. Her husband preceded her in death in 1987.

Sally, a 45-year member of Order of Eastern Star, served as Worthy Matron of Olive Chapter No. 10 in Great Falls; Grand Ruth (1995-1996); and Grand Representative of Scotland in Montana in 1981. She also belonged to Social Order of the Beauceant, and was a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Great Falls.

Sally served as a volunteer for the Scottish Rite Language Center for 13 years, 12 years for FISH, and a year for Helping Hands at First English Lutheran Church.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a grandson, Samuel; a sister, Sarah Kohl; brothers George, Charles, and Harry Olson; and her parents.

Memorials may be sent to Scottish Rite Language Center, Great Falls; or a charity of the donor's choice. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.schniderfuneralhome.com.

CONRAD ZUELKE

Born: December 28, 1918 – Died: October 30, 2006

Great Falls Tribune
November 5, 2006

GALATA — World War II Navy veteran Conrad Zuelke, 87, of rural Galata, a retired railroad engineer, died of cancer Oct. 30 at his home.



Zuelke

Cremation has taken place. Graveside services will be held in Helena at a later date. Whitted



Funeral Chapel of Shelby is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his daughters, Norma Harrison of Charlotte, N.C., and Tiana (Mike) Smith of Tenino, Wash.; sisters Josephine Petershick of rural Galata and Arlette Jones of Pendleton, Ore.; a brother, Merton Zuelke of Helena; four grandchildren, Robyn Blanco, Damon Harrison, Paige Hale and Brodie Smith; nine great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews, including Candis Petershick.

Conrad Zuelke died Monday, Oct. 30, 2006, after a courageous battle with cancer. "Con", as he was known to family and friends, was born Dec. 28, 1918, in Cut Bank to Emil and Stephanie (Shauby) Zuelke. He graduated from Cut Bank High School and joined the U.S. Navy. He served four years, being stationed aboard the USS Tuscaloosa. After his discharge in 1941, he went to work for the Northern Pacific Railroad as an engineer, where he worked for 40 years, retiring in 1981. In 1942, during WWII, he was called back into the Navy and was again discharged in 1945.

Throughout his life, Con was a sportsman, fisherman, hunter and an avid horseman, belonging both to the Missoula BCH and the East Slope BCH for many years. He was an accomplished craftsman skilled in woodworking, leatherwork and iron work, building and creating many beautiful and useful items.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Earl, Leo and Roy Zuelke.

Condolences may be sent online to whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or greatfallstribune.com/obituaries.