Mildred ‘Millie’ Aaberg

CONRAD - Mildred “Millie” Aaberg, 87 of Conrad, a homemaker, died of natural causes Sunday, July 20 at Pondera Medical Center Extended Care.

A Memorial Service will be held at Norley Hall in Conrad on August 18 at 11:00 a.m. Graveside services have already taken place.

Survivors include a daughter, Marge Feldman of Edmonds Wash.; sons Les Aaberg of Billings, Marvin Aaberg of Riverside, Calif.; and Curt Aaberg of Valier; a sister Helen McKay of Creston, Wash.; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Larry Aaberg, and an infant son.
SPOKANE — Rozella M. (Pourray) Aakre, 89, a former Conrad resident, died of natural causes Wednesday at a Spokane care facility.

Her funeral is 2 p.m. Wednesday at Heritage Chapel in Spokane. Graveside services are 11 a.m. Friday at Hillside Cemetery in Conrad. Heritage Funeral Home of Spokane is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include a son, Melvin (Barbara) Aakre of Tacoma, Wash.; a daughter, Gladys (Robert) Minarik of Spokane; two sisters, Edythe Orcutt of Conrad and Louise Olson of Chester; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Rozella was born Oct. 2, 1918, in Conrad and graduated from high school there.

She married John M. Aakre in 1937; he passed away in 1975.

Rozella worked at Arnot’s Furniture Store and was a member of and officer for the Montana State Bowling Association for many years. She also enjoyed needlework and quilting, and was Senior Citizen of the Year in Fergus County in 1987 and 1994.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
LINDA 'KEMMIE' (KAMMERZELL) AASHEIM  
Birth: August 31, 1941 – Death: November 12, 2008  
Liberty County Times  
November 19, 2008

Linda Aasheim  
Linda (Kemmie) Aasheim, 67, of Lakeside, passed away early Wednesday, November 12, 2008 in Kalispell, Montana from pancreatic cancer. In 2002 with her husband, Glen, she retired to Montana the state of her birth and the place she dearly loved.

Kemmie was born in Chester, MT August 31, 1941 and spent her childhood there. She received her BA degree from UM in Missoula, MT. While a student, her lifelong leadership skills began with life in the Alpha Phi sorority, president of Associated Women’s Students, Junior Sponsor, and many other student organizations. She met Glen in college, there were married June 1964. They moved to several military locations following Glen’s medical education and training before settling in Tacoma, WA. There they raised their family and Kemmie continued her education by earning a Master’s Degree at Pacific Lutheran University.

Kemmie worked at Tacoma Community College, followed by several years as Dean of Instruction at Green River Community College in Auburn, WA, a position from which she retired. She loved her work with the students as she helped to prepare them for a more productive life. She often remarked how her position gave her a lot of self-satisfaction and she felt more productive because she didn’t need the job so she could more freely speak her mind and was more able to help those she worked with. She had a lot of success making people realize their potential.

Kemmie’s sons, David, Daniel and Jesse were very important to her and she enjoyed her role as Mom. She did feel the best was yet to be discovered, and came to her as grandchildren! Carly, Olivia, Ben and Lucille were her lights and they are her legacy.

Her hobbies were quilting, gardening, horseback riding, reading and cooking. She was most generous with what she created and also very skilled.

She was very active in Lakeside community activities. Among the many were the West Shore Food Bank board, the West Shore Community Library board, and Lakeside Community Club past president.

Kemmie is survived by her husband of 44 years, Glen, Lakeside; sons David (MarySue) of Scottsdale, AZ, Dan of Los Angeles, CA and Jesse (Brigid) of Los Angeles, CA. Grandchildren, Carly and Olivia of Scottsdale, Ben of Los Angeles, CA and Lucille of Los Angeles, CA. She also leaves her brothers, Gordon (Joyce) Kammerzell, Lakeside and John (Frances) Kammerzell of Chester, and a sister Kay (John) Warner of Helena. Brother-in-law Gary Aasheim (Peggy) of Billings, mother-in-law, Velma Aasheim of Kalispell. Also several nieces and nephews survive her.

She was preceded in death by her parents, A.C. and Lucille Kammerzell, sister Gail Nussbaum and daughter-in-law, Becca Aasheim.

A memorial service honoring Kemmie will be held at 2:00 pm, November 24, 2008 in Lakeside, MT at the Lakeside Community Chapel. Cremation has taken place. Memorials in her name can be made to the West Shore Food Bank, PO Box 192, Lakeside, MT 59922. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home caring for the family. To send condolences please go to www.buffalohillfh.com.
JOYCE L (GREEN) ANDERSON
Birth: April 21, 1926 – Death: November 18, 2008
Liberty County Times
November 26, 2008

Joyce L. Anderson
Joyce Anderson passed away at St. Vincent Healthcare on November 18, 2008. She was born on April 21, 1926, on a farm near Jessie, North Dakota, the 4th child of Lee and Hattie Green. Weighing only a pound and a half, Joyce defied the odds and lived another 82 years in spite of her ominous start when the country doctor signed her death certificate and told her parents to fill in the time of death when it occurred.

Her early education was in a country school near Sutton, North Dakota, and she graduated from Sutton High School in 1943. After attending Business College in Fargo, Joyce went on to work at the Farmers Union Grain Elevator in Sutton. On November 19, 1944, Joyce married the love of her life, Armand Anderson, in Mabel Lutheran Church in Sutton. They continued to live in Sutton until they moved to Chester, Montana, in the fall of 1952. From 1963 until her retirement in 1990, Joyce worked for Dr. Richard Bunker at the clinic as an insurance agent. During Armand’s farming years, she worked side by side with him. For about 20 years she and Armand wintered in Arizona and they moved to Billings in June of 1998.

Joyce has always been active in any church to which she belonged, and at Atonement Lutheran Church, she was deeply committed to a Bible study group, the Quilting Group, Prayer Shawl Group, and Friendship Club. Traveling with her husband, entertaining family and friends, sewing, creating beautiful afghans, watching the Red Sox, doing crossword puzzles, and playing games occupied much of her free time. Joyce played to win, but, win or lose, she always laughed and had a great time.

Joyce was a gentle soul who walked her journey of faith every day, treated everyone with kindness and respect, offered us her unconditional love, and lived her life with grace and dignity.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters Winnifred Hochberger and Gladys Cooper; brother Kenneth Green; and son-in-law David Smith.

Joyce is survived by her husband, Armand; son Allen (Lynda) Anderson of Parker, AZ; daughter Lois Smith of Billings; grandsons Aden (Sherri) Anderson, Pastor Darrell (Emily) Anderson, Dakota Smith, and Colter Smith; 4 great-grandchildren: Levi, Elizabeth, Megan, and Jaime; sister Virginia (Myron) Kjelgaard; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 10 am Saturday at Atonement Lutheran Church with interment to follow at Mountview Cemetery. The casket will be open at the church prior to services.

Memorials may be made in Joyce’s name to Atonement Lutheran Church Designated Memorial Fund at 407 Wicks Lane, Billings, MT 59105 or to the charity of one’s choice.

Michelotti-Sawyers Mortuary has charge of arrangements. Remembrances may be shared with the family by visiting www.michelottisawyers.com.
STEVENSVILLE — Former Great Falls resident Gertrude S. (Hughes) Armstrong, 90, of Stevensville, died of natural causes Monday at her home.

Her memorial service will take place at a later date. Whitesitt Funeral Home of Stevensville is handling arrangements.

Survivors include her daughters, Iris "Dolly" Hughes and Ronnie Anderson of Stevensville, Fern Hegli of Huntley and Rose Yeager of Chester.
FREDERICK EARLE ‘FRED’ BARRETT  
Birth: November 22, 1919 – Death: October 9, 2008  
Liberty County Times  
October 15, 2008

Fred Barrett  
Frederick Earle “Fred” Barrett was born November 22, 1919 in Missoula, Montana to Simeon and Emily (Bates) Barrett. Fred was the youngest of 6 sons and he also had a younger sister. He grew up and received his formal education in Missoula, graduating from Missoula County High School in 1937. He continued his schooling at the University of Montana where he earned his B.A. Degree in teaching with majors in Spanish and English; he graduated in 1941.

While attending college, Fred met his wife-to-be, Ruth Ellen Plank of Chester. They were married in Bozeman on September 28, 1941. Fred was student teaching that fall when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, so he was called to serve in the military. With 4 years of ROTC training, Fred entered the U. S. Army as a 2nd Lieutenant on January 13, 1942. In the 4 years that followed, he served in northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes, and Central Europe as a Commanding Officer of Company “D” of the 83rd Infantry Division. His service during WWII earned him 5 campaign battle stars, a combat infantry badge, and the Bronze Star Medal for Heroic Action. Fred achieved the rank of Captain and was honorably discharged on November 27, 1945. He continued to be an Army Reservist until 1953, when he was released with the rank of Major.

Following his military discharge, Fred returned to Montana to teach at Cut Bank High School for two years. In 1947 the Barretts moved to Chester, where they operated a family farm until 1970. Fred became very active in local community and political affairs. In 1951 he was elected to the Montana House of Representatives and served Liberty County in this capacity for 5 terms. Notably, he served as the House Majority Leader in 1957, Chairman of the Education Committee, and Vice-Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. In addition he was State Chairman of the Democratic Party from 1962-1967.

Locally, Fred was a member of the Chester reception committee to greet President Truman in 1952 at the ground-breaking ceremonies for the construction of Tiber Dam. He was active in the Chester V.F.W. Post #3997, served as State Commander of the V.F.W. in 1956, and was a 6-year board member, 1 year as President, on the National V.F.W. Children’s Home (of Eaton Rapids, Mich.). In addition he served on the boards of the Liberty County Museum in Chester and the Intermountain Children’s Home in Helena (as Chairman for 1 term). Other memberships included the Chester Commercial Club and the “Sons of the Pioneers.”

The Barretts retired from farming in 1971 and moved to Helena. Fred was employed by the State of Montana as the Administrator of the Employment Security Division from 1971-1981; he worked those years under the auspices of Governors Forrest Anderson and Thomas Judge. He finished his career as Deputy Commissioner of the Dept. of Labor & Industry under the administration of Governor Ted Schwinden. Fred also served on the Public Employees Retirement Board in Helena for 4 years.

In 1982 the Barretts retired to their home on the Missouri River south of Cascade, where Fred stayed busy with remodeling and gardening projects. During the winter months they enjoyed traveling to a second home at Sun Lakes, Arizona. In 2004 they sold their Cascade home and moved to Great Falls to be near their daughter and family. Fred’s health had been failing and he became as resident of the Missouri River Manor in 2007. He was recently admitted to Benefis Medical Center, then to Peace Hospice where he died on the early morning of Thursday (October 9th, 2008). He was 88 years old.

Fred enjoyed many hobbies, including woodworking, gardening, biking, hiking, golfing, and reading. He also enjoyed writing, especially stories and experiences; he published a personal book entitled “Ruth and Fred Barrett’s Story – Who went Where and Why.” Fred’s favorite hobby was his music; throughout his life he sang in many church choirs, cantatas, Barbershop and Gospel Quartettes, and he loved to play the chromatic harmonica.

Fred was a lifelong and loyal Methodists; active in churches at Missoula, Chester, Helena, Cascade, Sun Lakes (Az.), and Great Falls.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a son (Monte, who died in 1963 at age 14), and his 6 siblings (George, Henry, Robert, Herbert, Elmer and Ethel).

Fred is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ruth Barrett of Great Falls; his daughter, Carolyn (Bob) Dolderer of Great Falls; 2 granddaughters, Pam (Dan) Gabriel of Okinawa and Stacy (Joe) Bugline of Pendleton, Oregon; 5 great-granddaughters, Brenna, Morgan, Sydney, Kyndra and Avery Jo; and an extended family of nieces, nephews, and friends.

A memorial service will be 11:00 a.m. Monday (October 20th) at the Christ United
Methodist Church [2900 - 9th Ave. So. in Great Falls]. Cremation and arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Fred's ashes will be buried in the Chester Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the Intermountain Children's Home [500 So. Lamborn, Helena, Mt. 59601], the Liberty County Museum in Chester, or any United Methodist Church of donor's choice...
ORVIN BECK
Born: March 30, 1925 – Died: February 24, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
February 28, 2008

Orvin Beck
HELENA — Orvin Beck, 83, of Helena, a Navy veteran, died of heart failure Sunday at a Helena hospital.
Cremation has taken place under the direction of Retz Funeral Home of Helena. Burial of ashes will be at Highland Cemetery in Glasgow over Memorial Day weekend.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Yvonne; son Myron and wife Marion of Lodi, Calif.; daughters Vivienne Herron of Chester, Janet Nelson and husband Dick of Horseshoe Bay, Texas, and Karen Revious and husband Bud of Helena; "adopted" son Denny Eickert of Helena; sister Alice Sheldon of Havre; grandchildren Stacy and Daniel Mullens, Karl and Danny Henden, Brad and Lindsay Herron, Clay and Jessie Herron, Brett and Tina Nelson, Marc Nelson, Beth and Dave Lindal, Lloyd Revious, Jason and Trudie Revious, Darby and Jeff Garden and Doug Revious; 15 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild and numerous nieces and nephews.

Orvin passed away surrounded by his loving family on Feb. 24, 2008.
He was born March 30, 1925, in Baylor, Mont., to William and Louisa Beck. He was raised in Glasgow, Mont., graduating from Glasgow High School in 1943, and then entered the Navy.

He married the love of his life, Yvonne Rose Barker, on May 6, 1944, in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
After his Navy discharge in 1946, he and his wife returned to Fort Peck, Mont., where he was employed by Montana Fish and Wildlife. He went to work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1947, and retired as the administrative chief in 1985. Orvin and Yvonne moved to the Waterford in Helena in May 2005, to be closer to their children.

While raising his family, he was an officer on the Fort Peck Youth Council, a projector operator at the Fort Peck Theater, was the Fort Peck School clerk for 17 years and was active in the American Legion.

Orvin loved gardening and, for many years, grew three large gardens. He loved all sports, especially bowling, football and basketball, and loved to bet on the games with his sons. He loved bowling so much he actually bowled while in a back brace with a broken back. He also spent many hours playing pinochle and whist with friends, and could always be found dancing if there was music.

He was preceded in death by his son, Jan; granddaughters Callie and Trystan Revious; brothers Clarence, Sam and Marvin; a sister, Gertrude White; and his parents.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made in Orvin’s name to the Fort Peck Community Church, c/o Jean Carlson, Fort Peck, MT 59223; or to a charity of the donor’s choice.
Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
She returned to school in Havre in the early 1940s and received her nurse's training at the old Deaconess Hospital. After earning her nursing degree, Myrtle spent the next 40 years working as an R.N. Most of this time was spent in the Tacoma, Washington area.

While living and working in Washington, many of Myrtle's family members passed away. In 1980 she retired and returned to Montana to care for her brother, Algol, on the family farm near Rudyard. She lived on the farm the past 25 years and was a very independent woman. Recently, her health began to fail and she reluctantly moved to Glasgow this past March to be near a niece. Myrtle died at the Valley View Nursing Home in Glasgow on Saturday morning (August 16, 2008). She was 95 years old.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her 7 siblings (Alson, Art, Algol, Eugene, Ada, Emily, and Esther).

Myrtle was well-known for her "handiwork," including needlepoint, hardanger, and tatting. She valued education and her religious upbringing.

Myrtle never married. She is survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Saturday (August 23rd) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard by Pastor Arden K. Barden. Organist was Sharon Spicher and the congregation sang "Onward Christian Soldiers," "Amazing Grace", and "O God Our Help In Ages Past." Myrtle's niece, Shantel Zeiger, served as eulogist. Pallbearers were Merlin, Trevor, and Paul Wolery; Stu Smith; Shane Garrick; and Jeff LaBorta. Honorary bearers were Wayne Wolery, Norman Kapperud, Bud VandeSandt, and all of Myrtle's nieces and nephews. Following burial in the Bergstrom plot at the Joplin Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the Rudyard church. Memorials may be given to the "Gift of Life" in Great Falls, Goldstone or Our Savior's Lutheran Churches in Rudyard, or to any university/college of donor's choice. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.
Russell Betz
SUN CITY WEST, Ariz. — Russell "Coach" Betz, 72, of Sun City West, Ariz., and Hamilton, died of natural causes Thursday at his home.

His memorial service is 3 p.m. March 14 at Daly-Leach Funeral Home in Hamilton, with a reception at the Hamilton Golf Club at 5 p.m. Camino del Sol Funeral Chapel is handling Arizona arrangements.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Karen; sons Rob (Marianne) of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Brent (Cassie) of Hamilton; a sister, Karla (Dale) Bjorge of Whitefish; a brother, Kyle (Julee) of Tucson, Ariz.; and his beloved grandson, Nick of Idaho Falls.

Russell was born on Sept. 8, 1935, in Glasgow, to Paul and Zola Betz. On Aug. 11, 1957, Russell married Karen Nicholson of Culbertson. He attended college at Western Montana College in Dillon for two years, then transferred to Minot State Teachers College in Minot, N.D., where he received his teaching degree. After his graduation in 1958, Russ and Karen moved to Lignite, N.D., where he started his teaching and coaching career. After spending four years in Lignite, he accepted a teaching/coaching position in Chester, where he led the boys' basketball team to the state championship game in 1966.

In 1967, Russ and Karen moved to Hamilton, where he not only taught social studies but also coached football, girls' basketball and golf at Hamilton High School. Along with teaching and coaching, he also was the athletic director for many years.

He spent his summers buying and fixing up houses, then selling them, which led him to become a real estate agent.

Before Russ began his teaching and coaching career, he had various jobs of which he had fond memories, including working as a child on the sugar beet farm, selling cars and, probably his favorite with the best stories, a bellhop.

After Russ retired from teaching in 1986, he and Karen began spending their winters in Arizona, where they lived on the golf course and Russ could pursue his passion for golf all year.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Arden. Honorary pallbearers are Sig Moen, Ray Burchett, Clayton Huntley, Don Schultz, Norm Dow, Fred Wilson, Jerry Schwarz, Arnie Cahela, Art Boese, Bart Bertino, Bill Casey, Jerry Stevens, Jim Laux, Tom King, Kyp Curtis, Arlen Seman, Wayne Jones, Jim Mildenberger and Dal Womack.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made on behalf of Russ to the Hamilton Golf Course, c/o Ravalli County Bank, P.O. Box 150, Hamilton, MT 59840.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
HAVRE — Betty Botts, 78, died of natural causes Tuesday at a Havre care center.

Cremation has taken place and her memorial service is 2 p.m. Saturday at Holland and Bonine Funeral Home Chapel, with burial in Highland Cemetery.

Survivors include sons James L. Hanson of Salt Lake City and Alfred K. Hanson of Gildford; and one grandchild.
VIOLET HILMA "VI" (BENGTSON) BREDESON
Birth: May 13, 1918 – Death: March 24, 2008
Liberty County Times
April 9, 2008

Violet Hilma ("Vi") Bredeson was born May 13, 1918 in Dawson, Minnesota. She was the only child of Axel Bengtson and Hilma Anderson, who died during childbirth when Vi was born. Violet was raised by various relatives in the Dawson community, where she graduated from high school at age seventeen. In the few years that followed, she worked in a local general store.

On July 3, 1941 Violet married Burton S. Bredeson in Kahoka, Missouri. Burt served in the U.S. Army from 1942-45 during WWII. The Bredeson's resided in Maynard and Montevideo (Minnesota), where their three children were born. They moved to Cut Bank, Mt. in 1952 and subsequently to Chester in 1955. They lived and worked in the Chester community the rest of their married life.

Vi's husband, who worked locally as a master plumber, died on November 7, 1983. Vi continued to live in Chester until 2004, when she moved to Portland, Oregon to be near her family. While there, she resided at the Park Place Assisted-Living facility, where she enjoyed relatively good health these past few years.

In mid-March Violet became ill and was admitted to the St. Vincent Hospital in Portland, where she passed away on the early morning of Easter Monday (March 24, 2008). She was 89 years old.

Violet loved needlework, house plants, bird-watching, and playing cards and Bingo. She fondly remembered the good people of Chester, and their friendships were always "close to her heart."

Survivors include 1 daughter, Suzanne (Marvin) Pederson of Fargo, North Dakota; 2 sons, Neil (Nancy) Bredeson of Basin, Wyoming and Jeff (Debbie) Bredeson of Beaverton, Oregon; 6 grandchildren (inc. Gina, Tim, Peter, Cari, Kami, and Brian); and 8 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday (May 9th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester.

Following burial of ashes at the Chester Cemetery, a reception will be held at the church hall.

Cremation and arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.
Jennett Ann "Jackie" (Kinder) Brubaker
Birth: June 17, 1921 - Death: December 23, 2008
Liberty County Times
January 24, 2009

Funeral notice for Jackie Brubaker:

Jennett Ann "Jackie" (Kinder) Brubaker passed away on December 23, 2008 (the day before her 70th birthday) in Carson City, Nevada from complications of lung cancer.

Jackie was born December 24, 1938 in Great Falls, Montana. She was one of four children born to Murvel A. and Ellen (Een) Kinder. She received her early schooling in Havre and finished her formal education at Rudyard High School. Jackie returned to Havre and began working with her aunt (Gen Dritchulas) as a bookkeeper at Eddy's Bakery.

Jackie met and married Jack Hebert in Havre. They worked together at Tillerman's; Jackie as a bookkeeper and Jack as a parts man. They were married about 8 years when Jack died.

Jackie met a Havre construction worker, Jim Davie. They enjoyed a 5 year relationship before Jim suffered a fatal heart attack.

Jackie later married Kenny Brubaker. The Brubakers moved to Big Sandy, where they owned and operated "Pep's Bar & Lanes", a local bowling alley business. After their marriage ended in divorce in the early 1990's, Jackie moved to Laughlin, Nevada. She worked in sales for Harrah's and the Golden Nugget casinos. During her 10 years in Laughlin, Jackie developed circulatory and other medical problems. When her health continued to decline, she moved to Carson City, NV to live with her sister, Pat, in September of 2008. She died there 3 months later.

Jackie was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her sister, Pat Newcomb of Carson City, NV; 2 brothers, Ron Kinder of Great Falls and Wayne Kinder (and wife, Cheryl Pritchard Kinder) of Carson City, NV; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Jackie was cremated in Nevada. Her ashes will be buried in the family plot at the Rudyard Cemetery. A graveside memorial service will be 4:00 p.m. Friday (June 26, 2009) at the Rudyard Cemetery during Rudyard's "In-Gathering" weekend. Pastor Arden Barden will officiate and a reception will follow at Our Savior's Lutheran Church basement. Memorials will be given to the American Cancer Society and the ASPCA.

Local arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.
ALBERT BUDEAU
Liberty County Times
March 26, 2008

Albert Budeau

Albert Budeau joined the world on April 23, 1910 in Anamoose, North Dakota. He was the 7th of 13 children born to Samuel and Salomina (Schmaltz) Budeau. Albert grew up, attended school, and worked at Anamoose until 1934, when (during the middle of the depression years) he decided to try his luck west to Montana; he got off in Havre and took a job herding cows for Fred Elling Sr. He also worked as a bartender for Oglesby and Ralph Kline. In the few years that followed, Albert returned to North Dakota on several occasions "to do a little courting." His efforts were successful, as the "love of his life," Leora Wendland, came to Montana by train in the fall of 1938 to marry him. The Budeaus made their home in Rudyard and were blessed with a family of three: Joan, Paul, and Gail.

Albert stayed busy in the community: He worked for S. J. Tracht for several years before opening a grocery store in the old Ledin building. He ran this store for 3 years, then began farming in 1945. In the years that followed, Albert worked at all of the local elevators; did a little barbering on the side; served as a brand inspector; delivered rural mail; worked as a mechanic at Don Twedt’s garage; hung the mail bags for the train and picked up the dropped-off mail bags; worked many winter months at the Rudyard post office; and served in the area as a Hill County deputy sheriff for 7 years. Throughout the years he continued to run a successful farming operation.

Albert was an avid sports enthusiast. He loved the game of baseball and was active in the men’s league for many years. He served as a high school baseball referee and as a Little League umpire for many years.

Of special note, Albert ran the time-clock at Rudyard High School basketball and football games for 42 years! He also enjoyed fishing, hunting, and bowling. When he retired at age 75 he took up the game of golf; he scored a hole-in-one that first year and continued to enjoy golfing into his 90’s.

The Budeaus were active at St. John’s Lutheran Church in those early years, then transferred their membership to Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Rudyard. Albert served on the Rudyard school board for two terms and volunteered on the Rudyard ambulance crew for 27 years.

Albert and Leora were married 27 years when she died in 1965. Albert continued to farm until 1975. He remained independent and spent his retirement years at their home in Rudyard. In 2002 he moved to the Wheat Country Estates in Chester, where he enjoyed his "new home" and extended family. Albert recently suffered a fractured hip and was transferred to Billings to be near his daughter during his surgery and recuperation. He was admitted to the Aspen Meadows nursing facility, where he died Saturday afternoon (March 15, 2008) at the age of 97 years, just one month shy of his 98th birthday.

In addition to his wife and parents, Albert was preceded in death by 1 sister (Mary) and 6 brothers (Andrew, Rueben, Emil, Jakie, Carl, and Adam).

He is survived by daughters, Joan Mazzucola of Billings and Gail (Jim) Brady of Bozeman; son, Paul Budeau of San Francisco, Ca.; 4 grandchildren, Kevin (Gina) Mazzucola of Philadelphia, Pa., Beth (Jay) Warnow of Billings, and Colin and Dane Brady, both of Bozeman; 4 great-grandchildren (inc. Kellen, Addison, Jack, and Madia); 2 sisters, Sarah Lund of Bismarck, ND and Esther Fiskum of San Jose, CA; 3 brothers, Ernest and Henry Budeau, both of Idaho Falls, ID and Eddie Budeau of Minot, ND; and numerous nieces and nephews. Also surviving are his extended families, the Fred and Elva Elling’s and the Fred and Lu Rigg’s, and his very good friends, Millie Pester and Gary Jensen.

Thanks for all of the wonderful memories, Albert. You have enriched our lives!

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Good Friday (March 21st) at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Rudyard by Pastor Arden Burden. A grandson, Kevin Mazzucola, read the obituary and shared personal memories. Sharon Spicher served as organist and the congregation sang “Abide With Me”, “How Great Thou Art,” and “Amazing Grace.” Ushers were Wade and Neal Rigg. Pallbearers were Colin and Dane Brady, Jay and Kellen Warnow, Kevin Mazzucola, and Lane Rigg. Following burial at the Rudyard Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Undesignated memorials will be given to the Wheat Country Estate in Chester.
KATHLEEN JOANNE ‘KATHY’ (KOUTNIK) BURCHARD
Havre Daily News
July 23, 2008

KATHLEEN JOANNE
BURCHARD obituary
Kathleen “Kathy” Joanne (Koutnik) Burchard, 60, passed away unexpectedly on Monday July 21, 2008, at Northern Montana Hospital in Havre due to failing health related to diabetes. A Memorial Service will be 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 28, 2008, at the Community Alliance Church with Pastor John Chapman officiating. A fellowship luncheon will be held immediately after the service at the church. A private burial will take place later at the Highland Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Edwards Funeral Home in Chinook.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Network of Praise/KXEI at P.O. Box 2426, Havre, MT 59501, the Boys & Girls Club of the Hi-Line at 500 1st Ave., Havre, MT 59501, or the American Diabetes Association.

Kathy Burchard was born in Havre on April 13, 1948, to Robert and Arlene (Roubal) Koutnik. She attended Kremlin schools graduating in 1966. Later that year she married Russ Richter and to that union a daughter Kelly was born. She later married Gary Burchard and to that union Chad and Travis were born. In 1971, they moved to Plains to follow a railroad career, where they lived and raised their family for the next 19 years. Work travels then took them to Havre and Topeka, Kan. Upon retirement Kathy settled in Havre and took pride in caring for her mother, Arlene Koutnik, for several years.

During Kathy’s life she made many special friends. She was a very compassionate person and a special friend to many. Kathy loved her Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. She attended churches in the towns that she lived and enjoyed the fellowship of fellow Christians. Kathy enjoyed many things in life including spending time with her family, friends and, especially, her grandchildren as they were the apples of her eye. She spoiled her grandchildren as much as possible. Her grandchildren loved her deeply. She enjoyed playing all sorts of games, especially cards and dominos, camping, gardening, going for drives in the mountains, and her family pets.

Survivors include her children, Kelly (Calvin) VonHeeder of Plains, Chad (Tammy) Burchard of Spokane, Wash., Travis (Michelle) Burchard of Havre; brother, Randy (Laurie) Koutnik of Clancy; sisters, Cindy (Butch) Marshall of Spokane, Wash., and Trease Bertsch of Meridian, Idaho; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her father, Robert (Bob) Koutnik, and mother, Arlene Koutnik.
RILEY WILLIAM CHILDERS

Born: May 16, 1919 – Died: June 13, 2008

Great Falls Tribune
June 19, 2008

Riley William Childers

BIGFORK — Riley William Childers, 89, a lifelong farmer and rancher from the Galata area, died of natural causes Friday at a Bigfork care center.

A family memorial service celebrating his life is planned for later this summer. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Survivors include his sons, Riley Childers and Vern (Marla) Childers of Bigfork, and Cecil Childers of Evanville, Wyo.; a daughter, Donna (John) Ganiere of Bigfork; a brother, Elmer Childers of Bozeman; a sister, Doris (Darwin) Snuffer of Great Falls; nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, Suzanne Childers, Steve (Kristen) Childers and son Cody, Debora (Gregg) Hanzel and daughters Ellie and Hanna, Kristine Arndt, Lori (Jeff) Cormier and son Garrett, Cathy (Tom) Adolph and children Seth and Lauren, Cheryl (Jack) Saunders and daughters Julia and Jaclyn, Michelle (Jesse) Remington and children Blake and Sierra, and Bret (Sara) Childers; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Riley was born May 16, 1919, in Galata, to Van and Ethel Childers. He attended rural elementary school through eighth grade, and graduated in 1938 from Galata High School. Riley worked on the family farm until 1940, when he married his high-school sweetheart, Nell Asselson. They continued farming and began their family of three children, Riley Gordon, Vern Alan and Donna May. In 1951, they divorced.

Riley later married Alice Peterson-Berg and they had one son, Cecil Howard. Riley was widowed in 1959.

Riley was actively involved in cooperatives throughout his life. He served 31 years on the board of directors of the Union Elevator Co., was a charter member and organizer of the Galata Cooperative Oil Co., and a charter member of both the Marias River Electric Cooperative and the Northern Telephone Cooperative Association, all located in Toole County. In 1962, Riley became the CEO of Montana Associated Utilities, an association of rural electric cooperatives, and served in this position until his retirement in 1982.

Since his retirement, he spent his summers at his home in Great Falls, and the winters in Mesa and Apache Junction, Ariz., where he pursued his main hobby and lifelong passion of playing and singing country western music.

Riley was a very active person and enjoyed involvement with people, music and politics. The farm was always a great place for family gatherings. He loved his family, and his grandchildren always held a special place in his heart.

Condolences may be posted online at www.buffalohillfh.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Carol Ruth Klay Clark passed away of natural causes on December 28, 2008 in Missoula, Mt. She was 78 years old.

Carol was born December 4, 1930 in Great Falls, Mt to Lawrence and Cora Klay. She has one surviving sister.

She graduated from high school in Great Falls, Mt 1949.

Married June 13, 1949 to Kenneth Nelson Clark, and lived on a wheat farm just North of Ft. Benton near the Goose Bill. They had four children; She lived there until 1975 when her husband Kenneth passed away. She lived in Chester for a while and worked at the Nursing home there. She moved to Helena, Mt. To be closer to her son Bruce, and worked as a care giver for many years taking care of Jane Tobin as a personal care attendant for many years. She moved to Kalispell, Mt in 1987 where she retired and was involved in several activites. She had some health problems and moved to Missoula, Mt to be close to her daughter Nancy where she lived in an assisted living facility in 1999.

Carol had a love for birds, and music, she was a caregiver, a homemaker, had been retired for many years and had a love of the lord. She loved to sing and it wasn't uncommon to see her playing her records and dancing around in her apartment in Missoula. You could often see her writing letters to her friends she had left behind and she tried to keep in touch with them.

She is survived by one sister Margaret Klay Carver, four children, Nancy Clark Rishoff, Missoula, Mt, Ruth Clark Warner, Abbottstown, Pa., Ella Clark Jones, Chester, Mt. and Bruce Clark, Missoula, Mt. Eight grand children Marvin Rishoff, Trinidad, Ca., Cindy Rishoff, Kalispell, Mt, Richelle Warner Simerly, Abbottstown, Renee Warner Snyder, Dover, Pa, Ryan Warner, E. Berlin, Pa, Brent Clark, Billings, Mt., Mitchell Clark, Bozeman, Mt, Matthew Clark, Missoula, Mt. Five great grandchildren, Hunter Snyder, Ethan Snyder, Callie Simerly, and Austin Warner, and Morgan Warner.

She was well loved by all of her many friends and family and will be missed by everyone she touched in her life. She will always be remembered as the sweet lady with a great sense of humor and a song in her heart.

Services were held at the Benton Funeral home in Fort Benton on Saturday January 3. Burial followed in Riverside Cemetery.
Barbara J. Conrad, 66, 715 42A St. N., a daycare provider, died of kidney failure Sunday at Peace Hospice.

At her request, no services are planned, and cremation has taken place under the direction of O'Connor Funeral Home.

Survivors include her mother Gertrude Conrad of Great Falls; her nephew, Rich Conrad; a niece, Crystal Conrad; a great-niece, Brianna; an aunt, Marilyn Temple of Joplin; an uncle, Joe Gillis of Anacortes, Wash.; and many cousins, aunts and uncles.

She was preceded in death by her father, Harry Conrad; and her brother, John Conrad.

Barbara was born June 21, 1941, in Great Falls. She grew up and attended schools in Great Falls, graduating from Great Falls High School.

She worked at Hestads and the Plaster Craft Shop. She also owned and operated her own daycare, Cuddle U, for 30 years.

Barbara was interested in making crafts for the children she worked with, and she was an avid reader.

Memorials are suggested to Gertrude Conrad, 2917 2nd Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405.

Condolences may be posted online at www.mem.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Dr. ALAN B. ‘BIG AL’ CURTIS
Great Falls Tribune
April 23, 2008

Dr. Alan B. Curtis

SAN DIEGO — Former Montana resident Dr. Alan B. “Big Al” Curtis, 80, a Navy veteran and retired dentist, died of complications from lung cancer April 9 at a San Diego hospital.

At his request, no services are planned and cremation has taken place.

Survivors include his wife, Claire; children Clint, Carla and Craig; a brother, Dave and wife Phyllis; a sister, Laura Jacobs; and seven grandchildren.

Born in Joplin on May 15, 1927, to Herbert and Lillian Curtis, he was one of 12 children and spent his early years in Brady. He served in the Navy during World War II, from 1944-45.

In 1952, he met his wife, Claire, in chemistry class, and obviously the chemistry was right because they were married for nearly 52 years.

After graduating first in his class from Northwestern University Dental School, the couple settled in San Diego, where he practiced dentistry for 40 years in North Park, until his retirement in 1997. During his career, he served as the president of the San Diego County Dental Society in 1972-73 and as president of the California Dental Service in 1978-79.

He was preceded in death by a brother-in-law, Ralph Jacobs.

He will be deeply missed by all who loved him.

Donations in his memory may be made to the Children’s Dental Health Center in San Diego.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Arthur L. Ditmar

FORT BELKNAP — World War II Army veteran Arthur L. Ditmar, 83, of Fort Belknap, a farmer and rancher, died of natural causes Thursday at a Havre hospital.

His funeral is 10 a.m. Monday at the Red Whip Center in Fort Belknap, with burial in the Highway Church Cemetery. Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook is handling arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Selena Ell Ditmar of Fort Belknap; adopted son Pat Ditmar of Fort Belknap; stepson Phillip Shortman of Fort Belknap; stepdaughters Myrna Gardipee and Lois Shortman of Fort Belknap; a brother, Dick Ditmar of Rudyard; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Greg Ditmar.
EMMA BARBARA (GRISMER) DOLPH
Born: January 29, 1925 – Died: June 26, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
June 29, 2008

Emma Barbara Dolph

KALISPELL — Great Falls native, Emma Barbara Dolph, better known as Barbara, 83, died of natural causes Thursday in Great Falls at the home of her sister.

Visitation is noon to 5 p.m. Monday at Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home in Kalispell and until service time on Tuesday. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Tuesday at the funeral home, with burial in C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

She is survived by one sister, Marie Gebert; two brothers, Leo and Henry Grismer, all of Great Falls; and many nieces and nephews.

Barbara became ill in March 2008 of congestive heart failure and moved to Great Falls on June 10. She was born Jan. 29, 1925, in Minot, N.D., to Jacob and Barbara (Voeller) Grismer.

Barbara graduated from Great Falls High School in 1943. She worked at the telephone company before marrying Russell Dolph on Feb. 14, 1949, in Great Falls. They farmed in Hingham, Mont., until retiring in 1977, at which time they moved to Polson, Mont., and later to Kalispell in 1989. She enjoyed bowling, was an avid golfer, and liked playing cards with her group of friends.

Barbara was preceded her in death by her husband; Russell, in 1999.

Condolences may be posted online at www.jgfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Lillian Dove

Lillian (Berg) Dove, 94, a Great Falls homemaker, died of natural causes Saturday in Great Falls.

Her memorial service is 1 p.m. April 11 in the Fireside Room of Faith Lutheran Church. Schneider Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include her son, Milton Allen Dove of Kalispell; her sister, Margaret Throckmorton of Great Falls; brothers Arthur and Vernon Berg of Kremlin, Mont.; sister-in-law Margaret Berg of Bozeman; grandsons Jay Noffsinger of Hamilton and Jim Noffsinger of Whitefish; son-in-law Jim Noffsinger of Whitefish; four great-grandchildren and three step-grandchildren.

Born Aug. 29, 1913, in Kremlin, Mont., Lillian attended school in Kremlin, graduated from Havre High School and attended Northern Montana College.

She married Howard R. Dove on Oct. 14, 1939.

She was active in church and Eastern Star.

Lillian was preceded in death by her husband in 1991; a daughter, Gail Noffsinger; infant son, Milton Ray Dove; her parents, August and Margith (Skjaldhammer) Berg; sisters Alice Mathews and Helen Belland; and brothers Alfred, Leon, Morris and Marvin Berg.

Condolences may be posted online at www.schneiderfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
ANA MAY (IVERSON) EARL
Birth: September 26, 1912 - Death: January 4, 2008
Liberty County Times
January 9, 2008

Annie Earl

Anna May (Iverson) Earl was born September 26, 1912 on the family homestead in the Sweetgrass Hills in northern Liberty County, Montana. She was one of two children born to Carl and Anna May (Wicklander) Iverson. She and her brother were raised by their parents; however, she became known simply as “Annie” (a nickname that stayed with her throughout her life).

Annie received her early education at country schools in the Sweetgrass Hills and at Whitlash, then finished her secondary education at Chester. Following her graduation from C.H.S. in 1931, she continued her schooling at Northern Montana College in Havre and Eastern Montana College in Dillon where she earned a teaching certificate. Annie returned to rural Liberty County to teach at the Good and Earl country schools south of Chester.

She married William H. Earl II on August 9, 1935 at Cody, Wyoming. They made their home on the Earl homestead south of Chester, where Annie worked diligently as a farmwife and mother of four. In the early 1960's they semi-retired and purchased a small hobby farm near Sun River, where her husband enjoyed raising quarter horses. They officially retired in 1971 and moved permanently to their home in Great Falls. In addition they traveled to Mesa, Arizona in the winter months.

The Earls had been married 53 years when Bill died on June 7th, 1988. Annie remained healthy and independent in their Great Falls home until age 92. In 2004 she moved to the Rainbow Assisted-Living Community. On this past December 17th she transferred to Peace Hospice, where she died peacefully on the early morning of Friday (January 4, 2008). Annie was 95 years old.

She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by her brother (Carl Iverson) and an infant daughter.

Annie was baptized and confirmed at the Whitlash Presbyterian Church. After moving to Great Falls she became active at the First Presbyterian Church, where she served as a deacon. She had also been active in home demonstration clubs in the Chester and Sun River communities. In recent years Annie and several Great Falls friends enjoyed their weekly Pinochle Club.

Annie and her husband enjoyed horseracing, rodeo, and cowboy polo events. They also loved baseball and were loyal fans of the Great Falls Electrics for many years. In addition they enjoyed square-dancing.

Annie was described as a “content homemaker” who enjoyed cooking and caring for her family. She was ecstatic when her “baking powder biscuits” won first place at the Montana State Fair many years ago! Another family favorite was her “chocolate popcorn balls”. She also enjoyed crewel work and collected China teacups as a hobby. In her quiet time at home she enjoyed reading (especially poetry and Montana histories).

Generally a mild-mannered and soft-spoken lady, Annie had a strong will and wasn’t afraid to express her opinion when needed. Her family described her as “an early women’s lib’er” who easily earned their love and respect. She will be sincerely missed.

Surviving are her 4 children, Blythe (Ken) Brandvold of Great Falls, Joyce (Gordon) Kammerzell of Lakeside, Bill (Linda) Earl of Chester, and Kay Andersen of Seattle, WA; 8 grandchildren, inc. Benny, Joni, Kari, Kristie, Kurt, Dawn, Brent, and Zak; 16 great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Evelyn Furlong of Great Falls; and many other loving nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Dolly Collins at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday (Jan. 8th) at the Chester United Methodist Church. Karen Stack served as organist and the congregation sang “What A Friend We Have In Jesus.” Vocalist, Anne Seidritz-Melton, performed “Blest Be The Tie That Binds” and “The Rose.” Annie’s grand-children shared scripture, poetic, and personal remembrances. Her four grandsons served as pallbearers and her two sons-in-law served as ushers. The service ended with one of Annie’s favorite songs, “Oh Susanna,” performed by guitarist/vocalist, Pete Woods. Burial was in the family plot at the Chester Cemetery. A reception followed at the church. Arrangements were handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials may be given to the Great Falls Receiving Home (P. O. Box 1061, Great Falls, Mt. 59403), the Chester Swimming Pool Fund, or donor’s choice...
ERWIN ORIN EFFINGER
Liberty County Times
March 26, 2008

Erwin Orin Effinger, age 86, a Hingham area farmer, died of natural causes on Sunday (March 16, 2008) at his winter home in Jenks, Oklahoma.

Funeral services were conducted on Wednesday (March 19th) in Oklahoma. Erwin was laid to rest in the Calvary Cemetery at Tulsa, OK.

Erwin was born January 23, 1922 at Alberta, Canada. He was one of four children born to Erwin W. Effinger and Oringa (Johnson) Effinger.

When he was a child, the family moved to Montana and started the Effinger Oil Company at Hingham. Erwin received his education in Hingham, where he graduated from high school in 1940.

He served in the U. S. Army from 1942-44 during World War II, then returned to the family farm at Hingham.

He enjoyed his life as a Montana wheat farmer until his retirement in 1996 at age 74.

Erwin and wife, Dorothy, spent many of their winters in Arizona before purchasing a home in Jenks a few years ago.

During his life in Hingham Erwin went by many nicknames, including “E.O.,” “Sonny,” and “Smokey.” He was known for his great sense of humor and he loved to tease.

He was preceded in death by his parents, 2 brothers (Clarence and Glenn), a daughter (Janie), and a stepson (David).

Survivors are his wife, Dorothy Effinger of Jenks, OK; daughter, Marla Almeida of Milwaukie, OR; son, Doug Effinger of Hingham; daughter, Donna Forkan of Lincoln; stepson, Dan Nader of Tulsa, OK; sister, Irene Kannberg of Phoenix, AZ; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, and nieces.

No Hi-Line services have been scheduled at this time.

RockmanFuneral Chapel assisted the family with preliminary details.
PAUL MELVIN ENGLISH obituary

Paul Melvin English, 77, passed away April 13, 2008, at the Sweet Memorial Nursing Home in Chinook due to natural causes.

A celebration of life will be 2 p.m. Thursday, April 17, 2008, at the Edwards Memorial Chapel, 500 Indiana, in Chinook with burial to follow at the Calvary Cemetery in Havre. A dinner will be held in the Vineyard Room of the Duck Inn in Havre following the graveside service.

Paul was born Nov. 2, 1930, in Kenosha, Wis., to Anthony and Leona (Armitage) English. He grew up and attended schools in Havre and was employed by the Great Northern Railroad as a time keeper before enlisting in the U.S. Army. He married Armida Santoni in Chicago and they had one son, Louis. They later divorced; Paul returned to Havre and worked for the state Highway Department as a laboratory technician until retiring. During this time he met and married Mildred "Skip" Turner Aug. 23, 1968, the couple later divorced. He also met and married Bess Morin in 1981.

Paul enjoyed camping, playing his guitar and loved the Bear Paws. He had a great interest in geology and archeology and encouraged young people to take interest as well, often taking them on field trips and teaching them what he knew. He loved Native American culture and enjoyed attending sun dances and powwows where he developed relationships with many lifelong friends and associates.

He served on the H. Earl Clack Museum board for many years and often gave talks and presented slide shows within the community on his various interests. He also took a great interest in the Wahkpق Chu'gn Buffalo Jump. He was a founding member of the Milk River Archeological Society and the Montana Archeological Society.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents, Anthony and Leona; brother, Roger English; wife, Bess English, and uncle, Emilio English.

He is survived by his son, Louie English; sister Mary Ellen (Pete) Carrera of Union Mills, Ind.; sister-in-law Joanne English of Stevensville; aunt, Bea English of Chinook; former wife and good friend, Mildred "Skip" English and her children Linda (Larry) Nitz, Ben (Mary) Turner, Gloria Leeds, Velda Nicholls, and Donna (Vaughn Delceuw) Wood, and their families; his nephews, Roger English of Butte, Chris (Michelle) Carrera of Goshen, Ind., Paul (Maureen) Carrera of Walkertown, Ind.; nieces, Paula Carney of Hamilton, Lori (Tom) Young of Manhattan, and Julie (Chuck) Panarella, of Bellevue, Wash., and their families; cousins, Frank (Diane) English of Rapid City, S.D., Cookie (Bob) Brendgard of Bozeman, Betty Quinn of Portland, Ore., Tony (Dixie) English of Chinook, David (Dana) English and Ed (Sue) English of Spokane, Wash., and their families; and many wonderful friends.

Paul will be fondly remembered as the English family historian. He passed on wonderful family stories and local history and lore for generations to come. He always made himself available to take youngsters on field trips to discover the remnants from the past in our local area.
LEONA JEAN (HUESTIS) FALTRINO
Havre Daily News
February 13, 2008

LEONA JEAN FALTRINO obituary
Leona Jean Faltrino, 82, passed away, Monday, Feb. 11, 2008, peacefully in her home, with family by her side. Born Leona Jean Huestis, Aug. 23, 1925, in Westington, S.D., to Francis Huestis and Florence (Smith) Huestis.

Leona was always known by the nickname “Onie” since childhood. As an infant Leona traveled from South Dakota to a North Hingham Homestead with her family where she and nine siblings grew up. She loved telling stories of the hard times, yet good times and life they had. She remembered her school days at the Huestis School, how they got to school by horseback or horse and buggy and how terrible it was in the winter to get to school.

After she married Louie Faltrino on Feb. 6, 1946, they lived in a converted shed on property owned by Louie’s father south of Havre, where they eventually settled down. It was here that they built a home and raised a family on the farm and ranch south of Havre.

Leona helped her husband, build up their land and raise wheat, cattle and horses. Leona was the beloved mother of three children: grand mother of four and great grandmother of two. She was proud of them and loved them all so much.

As a young mother Leona was involved in her children’s activities. She was a leader in both Brownie and Cub Scouts. She was always involved in her children’s lives offering support when they needed her and always ready to do run things.

She loved gardening always growing a large garden and putting up the produce in the fall. She loved flowers and tending her flower beds and passed that love on to her children. She loved caring for the animals, always anticipating the baby calves, foals and ducklings in the spring.

In her later life she had rheumatoid arthritis and was in a wheelchair since 1994 and her life greatly changed, no longer able to get around very easily. She had seen life through windows, house and car. Her favorite view was sunrises over Saddle Butte. She loved seeing her grandchildren and her flowers, especially tulips, iris and peony. She liked seeing her family working in the yard and tending to the flowers she loved. Her favorite things were playing her hand held game; watching the birds in her bird feeders — she had seen many varieties of birds there — and watching the pond and all the wildlife that it attracted to the farmstead. She had to see her favorite old horses Sonny and Desi through her window every day and her little dog Maxx had to be near by. She loved the Bear Paws spring, summer and fall and winter. We would load up Maxx and go to the mountains until she was no longer able to.

In later years, her two sisters Evelyn and Inez were an important part of her life. They always awaited the spring flower catalogs to come in the January mail so they could plan their gardens over coffee and snacks and a lot of laughter. They got together as often as they could although they all had frail health. She had a good life with her husband and children and she always loved seeing family and friends whenever they could get together.

Leona is survived by her sister, Mildred (Huestis) Obie of Eugene, Ore; her children, Tara Rai Faltrino of Havre; Dean Faltrino (Terry) of Rangeley, Colo.; Carrie (Rick) Linie of Havre; her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Memorial services for Leona will be held Friday, February 15th at 1 p.m. at the Fifth Avenue Christian Church with Rowlie Hutton officiating. Luncheon will immediately follow in the church fellowship hall.

The family suggests contributions be made to the Fifth Avenue Christian Church or to a favorite charity in Leona’s name.

Services are in the care of Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre.
DOROTHY 'ROSE' (DION) FARNIK

Birth: July 29, 1926 – Death: November 15, 2008

Liberty County Times

November 26, 2008

Dorothy Farnik

Dorothy "Rose" Farnik, 82, a longtime resident of Hingham and Great Falls, died of natural causes at Peace Hospice of Montana in Great Falls on Saturday evening (November 15, 2008). Her family was at her bedside and are comforted that her passing was peaceful.

Dorothy Rose Dion was born July 29, 1926 in Havre, Montana. Her parents were Frederick and Elizabeth (Allen) Dion and she was one of 12 children. Dorothy was raised on a farm south of Havre with her 6 brothers and 5 sisters. She received her formal education at St. Jude's Catholic School and Havre High School.

In 1943 she married Joseph J. Farnik. They made their home on the Farnik farm north of Hingham, where Dorothy worked diligently as a farmwife, homemaker, and mother of four boys. She was a talented musician who served as organist for Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church for many years. Dorothy also enjoyed entertaining weekly at the Inverness Supper Club, accompanied by many local musicians. She "tickled the ivories" at other various events throughout the community. In addition she was an avid supporter of the music programs at Hingham High School. Other social activities included bowling and bridge. During her 30+ years in Hingham she was always neighborly to everyone, and her good friends affectionately called her "Rose."

Dorothy moved to Great Falls in 1976. She owned and operated "Keyboard Music," a Hammond organ store. Dorothy continued to entertain at Great Falls rest homes and community events, and was an active participant in the Golden Slippers dancing troupe for over 20 years. Other local memberships included Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church (30 years), the V.F.W. Auxiliary (20 years), and the Eagles Lodge (30 years). In addition to her music and dancing, Dorothy loved to bake bread for all her friends. She baked bread almost every day, and over the course of her baking years, she actually wore out numerous bread machines — this was how she became known as the "Bread Lady!"

Dorothy's other hobbies were reading, knitting, playing cards, and baking (mainly, Czech delicacies, sweets, and poppy seed recipes). She loved dogs, especially an Irish setter named "Cheswick." Dorothy enjoyed attending jazz festivals, but always loved the "good old music" of Lawrence Welk and Tennessee Ernie Ford. One of her fond memories was dancing with Lawrence Welk and Myron Floran. During her quiet time at home Dorothy enjoyed watching television; she was a diehard fan of "Jeopardy" and the PBS channel. Last, but not least, Dorothy was a very charitable lady, especially to needy children.

The family wishes to acknowledge their sincere appreciation to Dorothy's close friends in Great Falls who offered special love and care to her — namely, Pat Hubbard, Adele Meister, Tracy Rice, Margie Lee, Lanie San Agustin, and many others too numerous to mention. Dorothy was fortunate to enjoy relatively good health throughout the years. After she fell and broke her hip 2 months ago, her medical condition deteriorated. She accepted her fate and passed away quietly...

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a son (Eddy), and 10 siblings (Harriet Dion, Joseph Dion, Myron Floran, Catherine Sirginson, Peter Dion, Alfred "Tex" Dion, Joseph Dion, Oliver Dion, Mary "Alice" Coffing, and Louis "Bud" Dion). Survivors are her 3 sons, Douglas (JoNell) Farnik of Joshua Tree, California; Jerry (Marilyn) Farnik of Prague, Czech Republic; and Michael (Denise) Farnik of Hingham; 9 grandchildren (including Jennifer, Melody, Jim, Bill, Jared, Autumn, Havalind, Alex, and Linda); 4 great-grandchildren (Bryce, Bradan, Jacob, and Isabella); 1 brother, Walter (Barbara) Dion of Havre; and numerous nephews, nieces, great-nephews, and great-nieces.

A Vigil Prayer service was held at 6:00 p.m. Thursday (Nov. 20th) at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Great Falls. The prayers were recited by Father Lou Krauth. Special remembrances were provided by David Martinson, who performed "Just A Closer Walk With Thee," "Amazing Grace," and "The Old Rugged Cross."

The Funeral Mass was celebrated at 2:00 p.m. Friday (Nov. 21st) at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham by Father Lothar Krauth and Father Joseph Diekhans. Mass music was provided by Sharon Spicher (organist) and Marcus Jochim (vocalist). Selected songs were "How Can I Keep From Singing," "You Are Mine," "Unless A Grain of Wheat," and "Song of Farewell." Dorothy's loving grandchildren were pallbearers and Dillon Lipp served as usher. Mass participants were Terry Hybner (Altar server), Dan Hybner (Reader and Eucharistic Minister), Doug Farnik (Eulogist), and Jerry Farnik (Special Message: "Hope of the Gospel"). Following burial rites at the Hingham Cemetery, a reception was hosted by the Altar Society at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials may be offered to Peace Hospice in Great Falls or donor's choice...
ARTHUR H. FAST
Born: January 8, 1913 – Died: April 5, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
April 8, 2008

Arthur H. Fast
LUSTRE — Arthur H. Fast, 95, died of natural causes Saturday at a Wolf Point hospital. Visitation will begin at 5 p.m. Wednesday at Clayton Stevenson Memorial Chapel. His funeral is 4 p.m. Thursday at the Lustre EMB Church, with burial in the Fast Family Cemetery.

He is survived by his children, Marlene Fast and Marjorie (Williard) Friesen of Mountain Lake, Minn., Martin (Karen) Fast of the family farm, Marlys (Elden) Busenitz of Clio, Mich., Iris (Joe) Troche of El Paso, Texas, Marietta (Ron) Olfert of Lustre, and Marla (Loch) Forbes of Chester; three brothers and one sister, Arnold (Beth) Fast of Salem, Ore. twins Harry (Adeline) Fast and Helen (Larry) Fitzwater of Dallas, Ore., and Marvin (Paula) Fast of McMinville, Ore.; 26 grandchildren and 36 great-grandchildren.

Art was born in Mountain Lake, Minn., on Jan. 8, 1913, the oldest son of Henry G. and Helena (Klassen) Fast. When he was 3, his family got off the train at Oswego and settled on a homestead in the Grand Prairie community of Lustre, where he lived for the rest of his life.

Attending schools in Mountain Lake, (excelling in High German) and various country schools in Lustre, Art finished eighth grade. Education was a priority for him, encouraging higher learning for his own and other people's children. As for himself, Art was an avid lifelong reader. He also took overseas tours to the Holy Land and to his homeland, Russia, following each with a lively slide presentation.

Arthur H. accepted the Lord into his life at an early age and was baptized at the age of 13, which meant a lot to him. However, Art remembered his mother reproving him for being more concerned with the fact that he was still wearing knickers at his baptism while the other fellows already had long pants. Somewhere along the way he learned to be unconcerned with what people thought of him, trying out many new ideas and standing for his convictions.

He was conservative in his politics and in his lifestyle. He often reminded his children that “Pennies make dollars.” Water, electricity, energy and dollars were commodities to be used, but not wasted.

His grandfather thought he should be a preacher and prayed to be saved to that end. Art did serve the Lustre Evangelical Mennonite Brethren Church as co-lay pastor for 11 years, then continued as church moderator, Sunday School teacher, and was active in the music ministries. He had a gift for story telling and friendliness and was very interested in people and their stories.

Art loved to tell the story of how he courted his wife, Elizabeth Koslowsky, a neighbor working at the Sherman Hotel. She was not ready to marry him, finally admitting to him that she did not have a hope chest, her earnings going to her mother. But when his parents decided to move to Oregon and sold him the farm, he told Liz she absolutely could not be a bachelor and she would have to marry him. She felt sorry for him and they were married Aug. 29, 1937; when she died in January of 2006, they had celebrated 66 years of a great marriage.

Working at Fort Peck in 1936 during its construction found him climbing to the top of the spillway scaffold; later he was always available to do high-rise windmill and roof maintenance. Farming was his primary occupation; he enjoyed new equipment but making adaptations from his “scrap pile” was his passion. Having an entrepreneurial spirit, on the side he hauled cream, drilled water wells, used his scraper for dirt work, sold and hauled fuel in his pet trucks “Blackie and Yellow Boy” as well as selling eggs to townsfolk for many years. Art was known for “getting a deal” but he also enjoyed “giving a deal.”

Arthur was preceded in death by his wife, Elizabeth Koslowsky; infant brother, Gerhardt; brother, Peter W. Fast; sister, Olga Wall; sons-in-law Robert Blackwell and Jim McKinley; and granddaughters Paris McKinley.

Memorials may be designated to Samaritan’s Purse, P.O. Box 3000, Boone, N.C. 28607. Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
INA-BELLE ‘KITTY’ (FURLONG) FOREMAN
Liberty County Times
June 25, 2008

Ina-Belle ‘Kitty’ Foreman

Born Ina-Belle Furlong in Chester on February 24, 1925, passed away March 20, 2008 while recovering from a serious stroke. One of 10 children of Ina Marie (Keith) Furlong and Edward R Furlong, Ina was always known to her friends and family as “Kitty”. Kitty Furlong spent her early years helping to take care of her younger siblings. A calling she would follow through the rest of her life. While attending nursing school in Great Falls, Kitty met Mickey Foreman and her cousin Rose and they all became lifelong friends. One day Mickey introduced Kitty to her twin brother Willis. Will and Kitty were married in Great Falls on June 19, 1946. After they graduated from school, they relocated to California and eventually settled in La Habra. They raised four children, Marie, Sue, Jay, and Ed in that home. Willis passed away on March 20, 2003, 5 years to the day before Kitty. Marie and her daughter Christine and her granddaughter Evangeline lived with Kitty after Willis passed. But, while Kitty lived in California, she always kept her roots in Montana, visiting regularly (but never often enough), and keeping up with events in the High Line by subscribing to the Liberty County Times. Kitty spent her whole adult life as a Registered Nurse taking care of others; occasionally taking time off from her professional career to tend to family or friends in need. Over the years she qualified for many specialties and worked in coronary care and intensive care, but her specialty and her favorite place to work was always pediatrics. Even after retirement, she volunteered for special projects such as painting murals on the walls of the children’s wing and making appliqued cartoon quilts for long term patients. Kitty’s favorite pastimes included sewing, painting and sketching, crossword puzzles, children of all ages, and the study of people and places. Oh, and straightening out young know-it-all doctors. Kitty is survived by her brother Noel; her children Marie, Sue, Jay, and Ed; eight grand children, and one great grandchild. We would love friends and family to join us in a graveside service to be held at the Chester cemetery on Saturday June 28 at 3 p.m.
JOYCE ANN (SMITH) GILILLAND
Birth: May 1, 1960 – Death: August 1, 2008
Liberty County Times
August 13, 2008

JOYCE GILILLAND
Joyce Ann (Smith) Gililand was born May 1st, 1960 in Prosser, Washington. Her parents were Dorothy Fay Brown and French Edward Smith, and she was the oldest of four daughters. Joyce’s family moved to where work took them. She received her formal education in Riverside, California and Thompson, Georgia.

While living in Georgia, Joyce was just a teenager when she met a young serviceman, George L. Gililand. With parental consent and the blessings of a local clergyman, Joyce and George were married August 24, 1974 in Augusta. Soon after, they transferred to Germany for two years to fulfill George’s military obligations. While there, Joyce worked as a supply boxer at a German factory.

Missouri, she was active at the United Pentecostal Church where she enjoyed teaching Sunday School. In addition to cooking, baking, and canning, Joyce loved gardening, crocheting, and embroidery. In her quiet time at home she enjoyed watching television, especially the “SciFi” channel and professional wrestling. Her hobby was collecting ceramics (mainly, chicken memorabilia) and antiques; most of these treasures she bought at flea markets and garage sales. Joyce had excellent decorating skills and her homes were always done in an appealing color scheme and theme. A personalized plaque on her living room wall, which reads “Gililand’s Island,” was her term of endearment for her humble home.

Joyce’s family will remember her as a caring person with a big heart. Another living room plaque is embroidered with the following sentiment: “Hand & Heart Will Never Part”...

George says he was the “hand” and Joyce was the “heart”!

Joyce never had children.

The Gililand’s returned to the states and spent most of their married life in Joplin, Missouri. She was an excellent baker, so she worked in the restaurant business. She was initially employed at the Po’ Folks Café, where she was well-known for her homemade biscuits. She later worked at the Radio Grille at Wal-Mart, where she earned the position as assistant manager. Joyce had developed adult diabetes and heart problems in the mid-1990’s. She was forced to quit working at Wal-Mart following a major heart attack in 1999. Her health continued to deteriorate the past ten years with additional ailments, including hypertension and chronic lung disease.

The Gililand’s made a trip to Montana in 2007 to visit family. Joyce’s breathing was much better here, so they decided to make Montana their home. They moved to Chester about ten months ago to be near Joyce’s sister in Joplin. Her husband, George, took a job at Mike’s Thriftway. Joyce’s health was tenuous in recent months; she was homebound on oxygen and had recently suffered several mini-strokes. She collapsed at her Chester residence on Friday morning (August 1, 2008) and was dead on arrival of ambulance personnel. She was just 48 years old.

Joyce was baptized at the Apostolic Church in Augusta, Georgia. While living in Joplin, Joyce was also a member of Midland, Texas; her mother and stepfather, Dorothy and Len Moser of Midland, Texas; 3 sisters, Linda (Terry) Wigent of Midland, Texas, Sherry Smith of Midland, Texas, and Frances (Terry) Blair of Joplin, Montana; 2 half-sisters, Rita (Frank) Herpesche of Eliasville, Texas and Judy Robbins of Arlington, Texas; her maternal grandmother, Thelma May Brown of Midland, Texas; 1 nephew and 3 nieces. Joyce is also survived by a special family friend, Alfred Wigent (who the Gililand’s have cared for the past 8 years) and her two pets, “Morticia” the cat and “Muffin” the dog.

Joyce was preceded in death by her father (French Smith), her step-mother (Gladys Smith), and a step-brother (Charles Smith).

A memorial service was conducted at 12 noon Sunday (August 10th) at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor Val Metropoulos. Organist, Karen Stack, accompanied the congregation, who sang “It Is Well With My Soul” and “Amazing Grace.” A coffee hour for the family and friends followed in the fellowship hall. Cremation and arrangements were handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.
SALLY JEAN (MONGAN) GLENN
Born: Age: 49 – Died: July 5, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
July 9, 2008

Sally Jean Glenn

INVERNESS — Sally Jean (Mongan) Glenn, 49, of Inverness, a former customer service representative, died of lung cancer Saturday at a Great Falls hospital. At her request, no services are planned. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements. She is survived by sons Mark Michael Riggles and Bradley Allen Riggles of Kalispell; her mother, Gloria J. Baldwin of Spokane; sisters Julie Ann Merkel of Great Falls, Marlaina Thiel of Homer, Alaska, and Melanie Richart of Spokane; brothers Joby Mongan and Tim Wilkes of Spokane and Curtis Wilkes of Seattle; and four grandchildren.
HAVRE — Judy Ann Goodian, 54, of Havre, died of natural causes Friday at Northern Montana Hospital due to complications of natural causes.

Her funeral service is 11 a.m. Wednesday at First Lutheran Church in Havre, with burial in Highland Cemetery. A fellowship luncheon will be held at the church immediately following the graveside service. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre is handling arrangements.

Judy is survived by her husband of 37 years Ed Goodian of Box Elder; her children, Arron Goodian of Kremlin, Ell(Williams) Kampf of Winnemucca, Nev.; her mother in-law, Margaret Swick of Havre; several nieces, nephews and the many close friends that she shared her life with.

Judy was born March 15, 1953, in Havre to Samuel and Thelma (Williams) Kampf. She was raised and educated in Havre graduating from Havre High School in 1971. Shortly after, she and Ed Goodian married on May 22, 1971, in Havre. The couple moved to Great Falls for the first 2 years, where Judy worked at a bank, before moving home to run the family farm in the Box Elder area.

Judy and Ed had three children which were her entire world. Judy worked at First Security Bank in Havre for a few years and also at Vyonne’s Dress Shop. However most of her time was spent working on the farm with her husband Ed and raising their beautiful children. Judy was the “Mom” of all Moms and was very active in her children’s activities. She made sure she was present for every event they participated in even if it included out of town games, she was always there. She had a warm heart and acted as the “caregiver” to all of the other kids whose parents weren’t able to attend their events. She always gave her time to her family, making sure they were safe and well taken care of.

Judy was very knowledgeable and had an impact on everything and everyone she touched. She helped with things like writing a grant with the Fish Wildlife & Parks Department to help with the operation of the Havre Trap Club and also helped to coordinate two NRA banquets to help raise funds for the Havre Trap Club. Whatever needed to be done, Judy would put her heart and soul into accomplishing the task. She was currently planning her daughter Elli’s wedding that is to be held this April in Sacramento, Calif.

Judy loved playing cards, especially pinochle where she could sit and play for hours or even days never tiring of the game. She enjoyed working out, listening to her ipod, walking, road trips in her Escalade, eating Chinese food and purchasing purses and watches of which she had a large collection. She enjoyed watching all types of sports on television and she was a huge Denver Nuggets fan. Her recent enjoyment was the Nintendo Wii that she got for Christmas. Judy also enjoyed the baking of the Gildford Colony, where she purchased bread and buns for many years. Judy and Ed were always together whether it was traveling together to meetings, to see their children or to just go out for dinner, you rarely saw one without the other.

Judy was a friendly person who could enter a room of strangers and leave with many of them being her friends. She was a devoted wife, mother and friend who never asked for much and had a lot of compassion and love to give. Being such a caring and forgiving person, she always put other’s concerns before her own. She truly will be missed.

She was preceded in death by her father, Samuel Kampf of Winnemucca, Nev.; her mother in-law, Margaret Swick of Havre; several nieces, nephews and the many close friends that she shared her life with.

Judy was born March 15, 1953, in Havre to Samuel and Thelma (Williams) Kampf. She was raised and educated in Havre graduating from Havre High School in 1971. Shortly after, she and Ed Goodian married on May 22, 1971, in Havre. The couple moved to Great Falls for the first 2 years, where Judy worked at a bank, before moving home to run the family farm in the Box Elder area.

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She was preceded in death by her parents.

Memorial contributions in Judy’s honor may be made to a charity of one’s choice.

Condolences may be posted online at hollandbonine@mtintouch.net and/or gftribune.com/obituaries.
ROSEMARY E. (MICHAEL) GRAGERT
Liberty County Times
May 21, 2008

Rosemary Gragert
Rosemary E. Gragert, 88, of Guymon, Oklahoma passed away Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at Baptist St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo, Texas.

Rosemary Edith Michael Gragert was born Sept. 14, 1919, in Illinois to Harry and Nanette Sinclair Michael.

She married Elmer Gragert on July 18, 1936. Mrs. Gragert was primarily a homemaker and enjoyed arts and crafts, visiting with her friends and taking care of her family. She previously lived in Adams, OK before moving to Guymon, OK in 2001.

She was preceded in death by her husband, a son Michael Gragert, a brother William "Bill" Michael and a sister Annabelle Bardle.

Survivors include four sons, Robert "Bob" Gragert and his wife, Marilyn, and Donald Gragert and his wife, Karen, all of Tillamook, OR., Charles Gragert and his wife, Sharon, of Broadview, Mont., and Eldon Gragert and his wife, Audry, of Adams, OK; a daughter-in-law, Irene Gragert, of Allen, OK; two brothers, Jack Michael and wife, Marie, of Ohlman, IL and Clarence "Punch" Michael and wife, Mary, of Pratt, KS; 12 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; three step great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; three step great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be at 10:00 A.M. Monday, May 19, 2008 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Hooker, Oklahoma with Rev. Thomas House officiating. Interment will be in the Lutheran Cemetery in Hooker, Oklahoma.
VERONICA "VERNA" (KIELPINSKI) ALISCH GRELE
Great Falls Tribune
May 18, 2008

Veronica "Verna" Alisch Grele

CULBERTSON — Veronica "Verna" Alisch (Kielpinski) Grele, 95, of Seattle and formerly of Culbertson, died of natural causes Thursday in Seattle.
Visitation is 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Culbertson, followed by a wake service at 7 p.m. Graveside services are 10 a.m. Thursday in Froid South Cemetery in Froid. A memorial service is noon Monday at St. Frances of Assissi Church in Burien, Wash. Clayton Stevenson Memorial Chapel in Wolf Point is in charge of arrangements.
Survivors include her children, Rose Sivak of Seattle, Lorena Evans of Roundup, Spencer Alisch of Pullman, Wash., and Paul Alisch of Chester; a sister, Rose Milder; a brother, Lawrence Kielpinski; 13 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.
She was preceded in death by her first husband, Russell Alisch, in 1955, and her second husband, Isidore "Issy" Grele, on March 20, 1973.
CHARLIE GRIFFITH
Birth: June 9, 1924 – Death: August 31, 2008
Havre Daily News
September 12, 2008

CHARLIE GRIFFITH obituary
GILDFORD — Charlie Griffith, 84 of Gildford, died of natural causes at the Liberty County Hospital on Aug. 31, 2008. Funeral Services were at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 6, 2008, at the Holland & Bonine Funeral Home with Pastor Eddie Fallo officiating. Burial followed at the Highland Cemetery.

Charlie was born on June 9, 1924, to Frank and Josephine Griffith. He grew up in Alida, Minn. Charlie served in the U.S. Navy during WWII. He farmed north of Gildford until he retired from farming in 1988.

Charlie endured the difficulty of four years of living with the aftermath of a laryngectomy due to cancer. Through this struggle he experienced a transformed life after giving his heart to Jesus Christ and trusting him as his Lord and Savior. Charlie was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Josephine Griffith; sisters, Bernie Baurie, Irene Rountree, Mary Smith of Oregon, Clara Bakke of California, Fern Cartwright of California, Carol Steward of Oregon, and Florence Butler.

He is survived by his wife, Esther Griffith of Gildford; a brother, George Griffith of California; two sons, Gary (Jan) Griffith of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Chuck (Diane) Griffith of Bozeman; one daughter, Liana (Mike) Cooper of Racine, Wis.; five grandchildren, Shari (Matt) Winslow of Federal Way, Wash., Aaron (Morgan) Griffith of Federal Way, Wash., Cameron Cooper of Palantine, Ill., Michelle (Kris) Jenks of Franksville, Wis., and Christopher Cooper of Racine, Wis.; and three great-grandchildren, Suzannah Grace Winslow and William and Benjamin Jenks. Memorials are suggested to the Liberty County Hospital.
Miles Daniel Griffith

Miles Daniel Griffith, 53, of Great Falls, a Navy veteran and homebuilder, died of brain cancer Sunday at Peace Hospice.

Memorial services are planned at a later date. O'Connor Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Jo Ann Griffith of Great Falls; daughter Somer (Chet) Williams of Helena; son Shaun Miles Griffith of Chester; daughter Kady Griffith of Great Falls; parents Gene and Jayne Griffith of Loganville, Ga.; and sisters Greta (Kenny) Romain of Chester and Jeri (Marlo) Gackle of Loganville.

He was preceded in death by a niece, Kendra Romain; and a nephew, Jesse Romain.

Miles was born July 21, 1954, in Great Falls. He grew up and attended schools in Alaska, Maine, California, Utah and Windham before graduating from high school in Miles City - the result of being an Air Force brat.

He married Susan Jeffery in 1975, and later married his current wife, Jo Ann Cobban, in 1985.

Miles served in the U.S. Navy for six years before entering the Naval Reserve, then later the Army Reserve and then the Army National Guard.

He managed Little Big Man Pizza; worked at Sears in Lewistown; worked at the Eagles Lodge in Lewistown; managed Willow Oak Farm in Madison, Ga., for 14 years, and most recently served as project manager for various home builders in Georgia, finally returning to Great Falls in January 2008.

Miles served as a scoutmaster for Troop 91 in Madison, Ga., and enjoyed volunteering in the local school systems and churches. He also was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hiking, hunting, fishing and whitewater rafting.

He was a fan of NASCAR, the NFL and the Atlanta Braves.

Memorials are suggested to your local Boy Scout troop.

Condolences may be posted online at www.mem.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
ROSE E. (OBIE) GROVEN
Liberty County Times
November 26, 2008

Rose E. Groven, 85, of Corvallis, passed on to heaven Oct. 11, 2008 to be with her loving husband, Norman; daughter, Sharon; and grandson, Darrol Cory. She passed away at her home, with her family at her side. She was truly beautiful from inside and will be dearly missed. Rose was born Jan. 26, 1923 in Joplin at the family homestead to Edwin and Ann Obie. After graduating High School in Chester she married Norman Groven Dec. 14, 1940. The couple lived in Joplin, Great Falls and Bozeman before settling in Shelby in 1953 where they owned and operated two motels and raised their four children, Sharon and Darrol, Patty and Kim. During this time she was also employed by Toole County Hospital as a surgical technician, a job she loved. In 1981 Rose and Norman retired and moved to Corvallis where they enjoyed raising a garden, playing bingo, cards, some traveling and spending time with their family. Rose was a huge Grizzly football fan and took joy in her massive collection of stuffed animals. Rose's loving husband, passed away Nov. 1, 1998 just weeks before their 58th anniversary. Also preceding her in death were her daughter, Sharon Cleveland; sons-in-law, Mike Cleveland; and Herb Smith; her parents; two brothers, Norman and Willard Obie and grandson Darrol Cory Groven. Surviving her are two brothers Gordon (Mildred) and Laurence (Carol) Obie, Eugene Ore.; sister Gillette (Roland) Ritter, Bozeman; sister-in-law Marlene Obie, Kenmore, WA; her son, Darrol (Pat) of Caldwell, ID; daughters Patty Smith (partner Jim Delauter) of Helena, and Kim King (partner Tim Hollar) of Hamilton; grandchildren, Allen (Michelle) Hot Springs, AR, Chrystal Cleveland, Carrollton, TX, Lisa (Rick) Ehni, Redmond, WA, Brad Groven, Fontana, CA, Tanya (Josh) Fritz, Wall, SD, and Robin (Shawn) Garland, San Diego, CA; and son-in-law Rick King, Corvallis. She is also survived by 14 great grandchildren, two great-great grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews and special pet, Sly. Rose was also blessed to have an extended family which includes Indika DeSilva and her sons Melinda and Shawnika, Boise, ID and the Hollar family who added four more grandchildren and six
Rose Gustafson

Rose Marie (Johnson) Gustafson passed away December 18, 2008, at her home in Mesa, Arizona, after a long illness. Rose Marie, AKA, Johnnie to family and friends, was born in Great Falls, Montana as the first of four children to Hilmer and Ruth Johnson. She is survived by her husband of 58 years, daughter, Debbie Albright of Corona, California, daughter Susan Gustafson of Scottsdale, Arizona and son Steve Gustafson of Mesa, Arizona. She was preceded in death by Owen, an older half brother and is survived by brother Paul Johnson of Spokane, Washington, sister Louise Runyon of Richland, Washington and sister Patsy Nelson of Camano Island, Washington.

She graduated from Chester High School and worked in Missoula at White Pine Lumber Company and then worked for the Forest Service Fire Control office where she met her future husband Roy W Gustafson. Roy was a pilot who patrolled for forest fires and later retired as the most senior Eastern Airlines pilot. As a pilot his job moved them from Miami, Florida, to Kenner, Louisiana, Alexandria, Virginia, and Palatine, Illinois. They retired initially to Lake Havasu, Arizona and then moved to Mesa, Arizona where they have lived the last eighteen years.

Just like the snow birds from the northern states, Gus and Johnnie were sun birds, migrating back to the Montana Bitterroot Valley to visit family and friends and to fish the Bitterroot River every summer, returning to Arizona each September.
FRANCES (MELBY) HALTER
Birth: N/A – Death: September 2, 2008
Havre Daily News
September 16, 2008

FRANCES MELBY HALTER obituary
AUBURN, Wash. — Frances Melby Halter of Kremlin, Mont., Havre, Mont., and Auburn passed away from complications of pneumonia on Sept. 2, 2008, in Auburn, where she had resided for 40 years. Services were held on Sept. 13, 2008, at 4 p.m. Arrangements are through Price-Helton Funeral Home in Auburn.

Frances grew up in Kremlin, graduated high school and worked at and met her husband Douglas at the Morris Cafe which his parents owned in Havre.

They left Montana, went to Alaska to become missionaries and ran an orphanage too. After the birth of a daughter, Dolonda, and son Charles, they left and ended up in Wyoming where another daughter, Darla, was born.

Eventually they ended up in Auburn, where they settled down.

Frances was preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Douglas, in June 2007.

She is survived by her children, Dolonda Raynor of Auburn, Charles (Kim) Halter of Bonney Lake, and Darla Pomber, Federal Way; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.
CHRISTINE (BURKHARTSMEYER) HANSES
Birth: December 27, 1911 - Death: August 17, 2008
Liberty County Times
August 27, 2008

Christine B. Hanses

Christine (Burkhartsmeyer) Hanses was born December 27, 1911 at Strasburg, North Dakota. She was one of 4 children born to Gottlieb and Josephine (Geisinger) Burkhartsmeyer. Her family were German immigrants, so Christine's first language was German. The Burkhartsmeyer's moved to Montana and settled in the Hingham community in 1913. Christine received her early education in Hingham, where her teachers had to learn German to teach her the English language. She was an excellent student and graduated as Valedictorian from Hingham High School in 1929.

Christine married Joe F. Hanses on November 24, 1932 in Hingham. In the years that followed, they lived in Glasgow, Great Falls, and Kalispell, where Joe worked in the trucking business. Christine kept busy as a homemaker and mother of seven. In 1958 the Hanses returned to Hingham to farm with Mike Burkhartsmeyer. They retired in 1966. They were married 46 years when Joe passed away on August 4, 1978. Christine remained in Hingham until her health began to fail in 2005. When she transferred to the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre. She went home to be with Jesus on Sunday evening (August 17, 2008). She was 96 years old.

The Hanses were faithful members of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham and Christine was active in the Altar Society. She enjoyed cooking, gardening, sewing, crocheting, and playing cards. In her quiet time at home Christine liked to read and do crossword puzzles. As a hobby she enjoyed genealogy and keeping up on the "family tree."

Christine was preceded in death by her husband and parents, a daughter (Betty-Jo Riley), a grandson (Kenny Osler), her sister (Katherine Yeager), and a brother (Mike Burkhartsmeyer).

She is survived by 4 daughters, Carolyn Hauser of Gildford, Rose-Marie Carruthers of Camas, WA., Kathleen Mallette of Shelby, and Chris Hanses of Arkansas; 2 sons, Joe Hanses (wife, Patti Ann) of Shiprock, New Mexico and Mike Hanses (wife, Karron) of Zillah, WA.; 19 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren; 1 brother, "Burk" Burkhartsmeyer of Chinook; and many nieces and nephews.

The family appreciates those many friends and neighbors who were so good to Christine in her later years. A special "thank you" goes to Gene and Dora Peterson, Craig and Linda Patrick, and the "Thursday Ladies"...

Christine donated her body to the W.W.A.M.I. Medical Education Program at M.S.U. in Bozeman (as did her husband, Joe). Her additional requests were that no formal funeral services would be held and that Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester would handle her bequeathal details.
Sylvia Lorraine Hansen

Sylvia Lorraine Hansen, 82, passed away April 28, 2008 in Billings. She was born the twelfth child to George and Myrtle (Pritchard) Poe on September 21, 1925 in Hector, AK.

Lorraine, as she was usually called, accepted the Lord when she was 13 and enjoyed southern gospel music which “lifted her spirits.” She married Richard Hansen in Seattle, WA on August 14, 1945 while Richard served in the Navy. They moved to Joplin, MT in 1946 where they farmed for 40 years until retiring to Great Falls. Lorraine and her husband enjoyed meeting people from all walks of life while he worked as a correspondent for the Great Falls Tribune (and numerous other papers) during his farming years and after “retiring” to Great Falls.

During their years in Great Falls she was well-known for her beautiful flower gardens, latched hook wall hangings and decorative pillows. She and Richard also enjoyed cruises (taking more than ten). Tahiti and Bora Bora were favorites.

In April of 2000 she moved to Billings to be closer to her family. Lorraine is survived by her husband, Richard, daughter, Linda (Gil) Sommerville, son Larry (Donna) Hansen, grandchildren; Serena Sommerville, Tonya (Jim) Oberg, Sonja (Steve) Hardiman, Kelsey (Brent) Milliron, and Klay Hansen plus great-grandchildren. She also has two surviving sisters, Mildred and Gen.

Cremation has taken place and a private family memorial service will be held at a later date. Memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.dahlfuneralchapel.com
ALBERT MORGAN HANSON
Liberty County Times
December 31, 2008

Albert Morgan Hanson was born September 6, 1919 in Coultts, Alberta, Canada. He was the eldest of six children born to Leatha Katherine Morgan and Albert Chris Hanson. He spent his childhood years in Whitlash near the Sweetgrass Hills before the family moved to Chester, where Albert received his formal education.

He was inducted into the U.S. Army in 1942 and served for the duration of World War II. Albert spent most of his military time in the South Pacific and achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant. He earned a Philippine Liberation Medal and an Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal. Following his honorable discharge in 1945, he returned to Montana.

Albert married Anna Mae Wolfe on March 23, 1946 at Great Falls. They lived and worked on the St Warrington farm south of Chester for several years. In 1950 they built a home in Chester, where they raised their 2 children, Dennis and Sheila. In addition to farming, Albert worked winter months at Boyd's Sheet Metal in Chester, where he assisted in the installation of many furnaces and air conditioners throughout the Hi-Line community.

The Hanson's celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary just six months before Anna Mae died of cancer on October 13, 1996. Albert continued to live in their Chester home and remained active in the community from that time on. Albert was fortunate to have good health until several months ago, when he was diagnosed with lung cancer. He died at the Liberty Medical Center in Chester on the early morning of Monday (December 22, 2008). He was 89 years old.

One of Albert's passions was farming. He farmed for over 50 years when farming was fun, and continued to work in his fields until age 80. In addition he loved his family, and always backed them whether they were right or wrong. His grandchildren were the "apple of his eye!"

Albert's pride-and-joy was his garage. This building was one of the most organized and immaculate buildings in Chester; everything in it had its place and you could "eat off the floor!" When friends went looking for Albert, they always checked the garage first to find him. He was never one to just sit around; he was continually "on the go" doing one project or another, and always ready to lend a helping hand to his many friends in Liberty County. In addition to completing many carpenter and metal projects, Albert also loved cooking, baking, and canning. He raised a big garden each year and always shared his produce.

Friends and family loved his delicious "dilly beans" and his famous "bunko mustard" (if anyone asked him for his secret mustard recipe, he would run to his garage to get them a copy!).

You could "set your clock" each day when Albert arrived at the Vets Club to allow Dennis to run errands and do banking business. And he loved seeing the boys at 5 o'clock for the usual cocktail hour! Albert enjoyed cooking for the Monday Night Football crowd and similar gatherings at the Vets Club; most of these meals featured wild game recipes. His favorite gig was cooking wall-eye and elk ribs for the annual Super Bowl party, always with the help of Charley Frey and Larry Hendrickson. In addition, he loved to show up with unannounced "treats and snacks" for the bar patrons.

Hunting and fishing seasons were his favorite times. He was an accomplished wild game butcher and would help anyone process their game. Staying at Tiber Lake in the camper or an early morning walleye trip made his day - to be out fishing with his son was a bonus!

Albert was an avid sport fan throughout his life. He loved the New York Yankees and the Montana Grizzlies. He loved his Lund boats and his Yamaha 4-wheeler. He loved to shake dice and play cards. He especially enjoyed being around people and he made friends easily.

He was a longtime member of the Chester Lions Club, VFW Post #3997, and Our Savior's Lutheran Church. He was also active in Walleye Unlimited and the Hi-Line Sportsman Club.

Albert was preceded in death not only by his wife and parents, but also by his brother (Alfred Hanson) and 2 sisters (Mary Hanson and Edith Reams). Immedeate family survivors include his son, Dennis (Glenda) Hanson of Chester; daughter, Sheila (Bruce) Peterson of Fort Peck; 4 grandchildren, Heather (Loren) Cantrell of Bozeman, Heidi Hanson of Chester, Zak (Stephanie) Peterson of Dickinson, N.D., and Lindsey Peterson of Fort Peck; and 2 great-grandsons, Owen and Morgan Cantrell. Albert is also survived by 2 sisters, Beth Jensen of Kalispell and Beverly (Jim) Bergh of Longview, Wa; several in-laws, inc. Jone Huston, Roger Wolfe, Gerry Wolfe, Fay Wolfe, and Kenny (Betty) Wolfe, all of Chester; and numerous nephews, nieces, and friends.

Funeral services were 1:00 p.m. Saturday (Dec. 27th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Lay minister, Cheryl Muncy, officiated. Family readings were by Heidi and Glenda Hanson. The congregation sang "Borning Cry," accompanied by Karen Stack.
A vocal duet, "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore," was performed by Mary Ann Zorn and Steffani Wanken. Taped music included "You Raise Me Up" and "Holes in the Floor of Heaven." Ushers were Cliff Nelson and Bob Nordstrom. Pallbearers were Charley Frey, Jim Briden, Donnie Wolfe, John Kleinsasser, Boyd Nealy, and Joe LaSorte. Burial followed at the Erickson Cemetery south of Chester. Military taps were played and Tom Osterman presented the vet's flag to the family. A coffee hour was held at the church.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Sportsman Club or donor's choice...

FISHERMAN'S PRAYER...

I pray that I may live to fish until my dying day. And when it comes to my last cast, I then must humbly pray: When in the Lord's great landing net and I'm peacefully asleep; That in His mercy I may be judged this enough to keep?!

ALBERT MORGAN HANSON

BORN: September 6, 1919 in Coutu, Alberta, Canada
DIED: December 22, 2008 in Chester, Montana
AGE: 89 years ... 3 months ... 16 days

Funeral Service: 1:00 p.m. Saturday (Dec. 27th, 2008) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, Montana

Officiant: Lay Pastor, Cheryl Muncy

Musicians: Organist, Karen Stack...
Vocal duet, Mary Ann Zorn & Steffani Wanken...

Obituary & Personal Remembrances: Granddaughters, Heather Cantrell and Heidi Hanson

Ushers: Cliff Nelson and Bob Nordstrom

Pallbearers: Charley Frey, Jim Briden, Donnie Wolfe; John Kleinsasser, Boyd Nealy, and Joe LaSorte

Honorary Bearers: Friends, Larry Hendrickson, Terry McCordle, Mike McLean, Lynn Markuson, Larry VanDessel, Earl & Wanda Keith, Anna Belle Fransen, Allen Cheetham, Gail Johnstone, the Stivers boys, the Benchmark boys, and many, many more...

Interment: Erickson Cemetery [15 mi. south of Chester]

Burial Rites: "Taps" ... followed by presentation of the Military Flag by old friend, Tom Osterman...

...Reception to follow at Our Savior's fellowship hall...
Memorials: Hi-Line Sportsman Club or donor's choice...
Arrangements: Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester, Mt.
LORRAINE AVIS (VANCE) HANSON
Great Falls Tribune
March 5, 2008

Lorraine Hanson

SHELBY — Lorraine Avis Hanson, 82, a retired educator, died of natural causes Feb. 22 at a hospital in Pendleton, Ore.

Her memorial service is 11 a.m. Friday at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby, with burial of ashes in Mountain View Cemetery. A reception will be held in the church fellowship hall after burial. Whitted Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

She is survived by a son, David Hanson of Pendleton.

Lorraine was born May 16, 1925, on a farm near Nome, N.D., to Alfred and Emma Vance. She attended a rural consolidated school through her junior year, then went to Lisbon, N.D., for her senior year. She graduated in 1943.

Because of the war effort, there was a shortage of teachers in the rural schools at the time. The state administered a battery of tests and you received an emergency two-year certificate if you passed. Lorraine rode horseback 20 miles round-trip to sign her teaching contract at age 18.

She did her own janitorial work, and the stove was in such terrible condition that one day when she was shaking the ashes down, the grates fell into the ashes. She did all this work for $90 a month for teaching all eight grades.

She met her husband, Ove, when he returned home from 2½ years in the South Pacific. As there was a shortage of tires, they had two flat tires going to get their marriage license.

Lorraine and Ove had one son, Dave, who got his masters' degree in counseling, and eventually retired from counseling in the Pendleton School District.

After six years of teaching in North Dakota, they moved to Chester, Mont. Dave had asthma, and his doctor advised a higher, drier climate. It worked, as Dave's health improved after the move. Lorraine taught in Chester for two years, from 1956 to 1958, and then in 1958 went to Shelby, where she taught for 27 years until retiring in 1985. In all, she taught 35 years. In 1993, Lorraine left Shelby and moved to Pendleton to be closer to her son.

Lorraine graduated with honors from high school and college. She started the first grade-school science fair in Toole County, directed plays and coached declamations. She taught tap dancing and was a member of NEA, Classroom Teachers and Delta Kappa Gamma. She held many offices, and one year was voted Educator of the Year. She began teaching Sunday school at age 15, was Sunday school superintendant in two parishes, was Bible school superintendent and was the chairman of a ladies' circle.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ove Hanson, in 1974; her parents, two brothers and one sister.

Memorial contributions in her name may be made to Peace Lutheran Church, c/o Gray's West & Co., 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.
EARL HARDEN

Birth: September 20, 1920 - Death: December 5, 2008

Liberty County Times
December 10, 2008

His memorial service will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester on Saturday, December 13, 2008, at 11 a.m. Interment of ashes will take place at a later date. Schnider Funeral Home is handling local arrangements and Rockman Funeral Home of Chester is handling arrangements in Chester.

Dad was born September 20, 1920, on the homestead at MacWorth, Saskatchewan, Canada, to Claude and Pauline (Sorenson) Harden, the third of nine children: two girls and seven boys. He grew up on the prairies of Southern Saskatchewan and Northeastern Montana. He served in the Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945.

He married Thelma Rennick in 1943 and they had two children. They later divorced.

Earl, his dad and six brothers, worked on the Hungry Horse Dam construction project from 1948 to 1952, then worked on the Tiber Dam Project at Chester from 1952 to 1955.

He married Grace Nelson of Shelby on December 7, 1954.

Dad and Uncle Cliff established Harden Brothers Construction in 1955 in Chester, doing construction jobs throughout the Golden Triangle and beyond. The Harden Brothers Business was retired in 1996.

Earl came to live with his daughter, Vicki, at Ulm in 2005.

Survivors include his wife, Grace (Nelson) Harden of Chester; daughters Vicki (Ron) Stevenson of Ulm and Jill Harden of Washington State; sons James (Janis) Harden of Great Falls and Jack Harden of California; brothers Clifford (Lois) Harden of Shelby, Lloyd (Millie) Harden of Billings, Wallace (Beatrice) Harden and John (Beryl) Harden, all of Fir Mountain, Saskatchewan, Canada, and A.D. Harden of Rockglen, Saskatchewan, Canada; grandchildren Jamie (Darryl) Rensmon of Helena, Carrie (Wes) Keller of Billings, Stacie Stone of Niceville, FL, Jason (Heather) Stevenson of Olympia, WA, and Joanna (John) Ellis of Boise, ID; and 15 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one brother; and two sisters.

Condolences may be left at www.schniderfuneralhome.com
ALICE ANN (MILLER) HARSHAW
Born: June 30, 1925 – Died: January 23, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
January 26, 2008

Alice Ann Harshaw

HAVRE — Alice Ann (Miller) Harshaw, 82, died of natural causes Wednesday at a Havre care center.

Visitation is 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at Holland and Bonine Funeral Home. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Monday at the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church, with burial in Highland Cemetery. A fellowship lunch will be held at the Eagles after the burial.

Alice is survived by her children, DeeAnn Brese of Havre, Mont., Carolyn Weber of Great Falls, Mont., Marilyn Cliffe of Ashland, Ky., and Mel (Shiela) Harshaw of Spanaway, Wash.; daughter-in-law Anne Bulman of Havre; her only sister, Dolly "Lillian" (Roy) Haugen of Shelby, Mont.; 16 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, one great-great-granddaughter and several nieces and nephews.

Alice was born June 30, 1925, in Havre, to Paul and Harlett (Butterfield) Miller. She was raised in Havre and attended schools there.

She married Paul Bulman in 1943, and they farmed in the Kremlin area. They had four children. Paul passed away in May of 1955. Alice married Fred Harshaw on Nov. 12, 1960. He passed away in March of 2001. Alice worked as a waitress, and also as a clerk at IGA, until she retired in 1985.

Alice was an avid fisherman and enjoyed camping. She also enjoyed playing pinochle and bingo. She had many lifelong friends and enjoyed visiting and playing cards with them. She loved her children and grandchildren dearly. Alice was a member of the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church and a lifelong member of the Havre Eagles.

In addition to her husbands, she was preceded in death by her parents; sons Richard Bulman and Vernon Harshaw; brothers Vion Hyslop, Williard (Emma) Hyslop; one grandson, John Kampf; and a son-in-law, Bill Weber.

Memorial contributions in Alice's honor may be made to the Hi-Line Sletten Cancer Center, c/o Northern Montana Health Care Foundation, P.O. Box 1231 Havre, MT 59501.

Condolences may be posted online at hollandboxine@mtintouch.net and/or gftribune.com/obituaries.
**MYRTLE ELEANOR (BERG) HARSTAD**

**Birth: March 25, 1916 - Death: April 26, 2008**

**Liberty County Times**

**April 30, 2008**

**Myrtle Harstad**

Myrtle Eleanor (Berg) Harstad was born March 25, 1916 in Alexander, North Dakota. She was the only child raised by Godfrey and Annie (Halquist) Berg. Myrtle attended country school at Patent Gate and finished her formal education at Alexander High School.

Her husband-to-be, Harvey Neil Harstad, had come to Montana in 1940 to work on a farm near Dutton. Myrtle came to Montana the following year. They were married on June 5, 1941 in Great Falls. They lived at Dutton where Myrtle cooked for a harvest crew.

In 1943 the Harstads returned to North Dakota where Harvey worked as a farmer and implement mechanic. Myrtle kept busy as a housewife and mother of four. In 1959 they moved back to Montana where Harvey accepted a job as yard mechanic at Chester Implement. They purchased a house in 1963 and Chester became their "home" from that time on. In the late 1960's and early 1970's Myrtle worked as a dishwasher at the Tip Top and Wagon Wheel Cafes. The Harstad's were married 48 years when Harvey died on Sept. 19, 1989.

During their years in North Dakota, Myrtle was active in the Aide Circle at the Alexander Trinity Lutheran Church. After moving to Chester she was loyal member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and the Esther Circle of the A.L.C.W. Her other memberships included the Chester Garden Club and the Sons of Norway. The Harstad's were also active in the local bowling leagues in the 1960's.

Myrtle's health remained relatively good and she was fortunate to live at home during her "golden years." Her loving daughter, Elaine, served as her personal caregiver throughout the years. Recently, Myrtle was being treated for cellulitis. On April 22nd she was transferred to the Marius Medical Center in Shelby where she died of congestive heart failure on the early morning of Saturday (April 26, 2008). She was 92 years old.

In her youth Myrtle enjoyed riding horses, herding cattle, playing kitten ball, attending barn dances, and playing the organ and guitar. The Alexander community had a large Norwegian population, so they always enjoyed "Yula Bokken" (a form of Christmas caroling).

Myrtle's other hobbies included crocheting, sewing, embroidery, gardening and planting flowers, and playing cards (mainly, whist, rook, and pinochle). She loved cooking and canning (especially picking and canning chokecherries). During her quiet time at home she enjoyed "search and word" puzzles, listening to music (especially the polkas and waltzes by Lawrence Welk and the Grand Old Opry), and watching her favorite TV soap operas ("General Hospital" and "Days of Our Lives"). And just for the fun of it, she collected coins and seashells.

Myrtle was well-known by family and friends as a loyal correspondent; she wrote many letters and greeting cards throughout the years. She was a very loving and understanding mother who was always concerned about her children's health and well-being.

Spirituality was important, too, as she was insistent that her family shared daily prayers and devotion.

In addition to her husband and parents, Myrtle was preceded in death by 2 infant sons, an 8-year-old daughter (Annie, who died of pneumonia in 1966), and her brother (Lawrence).

Survivors include her 3 children, Neil, Marilyn, and Elaine Harstad, all of Chester; 1 nephew, Gerald Harstad of Pomona, CA; and 1 niece, Lori Dodds of Jacksonville, FL.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday (April 30th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. The minister will be Pastor Val Metropoulos and the eulogist will be Chris Kolstad. Special vocal music by Wayne Wardell with be "How Great Thou Art" and "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be". Karen Stack will be the accompanist. Taped music will include "Sweeter Than The Flower" and "Der Blir Norget For Bormen." Ushers are Gary and Carmen Jensen. Pallbearers are Curtis Melland, Rodrick Neer, Donald Zeman, Don Heimbigner, Quannah Bailey, and Chris Kolstad. Honorary bearers will be Myrtle's friends in the Chester Garden Club. Following burial in the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon will be held at the church. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.
JOHN COLIN HASLER
Havre Daily News
March 14, 2008

CHINOOK — John Colin Hasler, 33, died Tuesday, March 11, 2008, of an apparent heart attack.

A visitation is scheduled for family and close friends at 6 p.m. Friday, March 14, 2008, at the Edwards Memorial Funeral Chapel, 500 Indiana Ave. in Chinook. His funeral service is scheduled for 11 a.m., Saturday, March 15, 2008, at the American Lutheran Church in Chinook with Pastor Charles Sider officiating. The burial will follow at the Kuper Memorial Cemetery in Chinook. A fellowship reception will be held at the church after the committal.

In lieu of flowers the family has requested that donations be made to a trust account for the family at the Wells Fargo Bank in Chinook.

Services are under the direction of Edwards Funeral Home in Chinook.


After graduating he worked on a ranch south of Chinook. He also worked for Bill Henry Construction in Havre.

He met Stacey L. Wood and they married July 22, 2000. The couple then moved to the Sweet Grass Hills area. To this union two children were born, Raynee and Lane. While living in Sweet Grass he worked for Pepsi. The family later moved to Chinook and John started working for the railroad.

John enjoyed life and his family. He had a good heart and was a very caring person. He was also considered fun-loving and always willing to help others. He enjoyed the out of doors and all the activities offered. He loved camping, hiking, fishing, horseback riding, and time in the Bears Paw Mountains with his family.

John is survived by his wife, Stacey Hasler, and his two children, Raynee and Lane, all of Chinook; his parents, John and Gloria Hasler of Havre and Malta; grandparents Bud and Laura Belle Hasler, John's hero, of Malta; sisters, Lorrie (A.J.) Keller of Havre, Ginetta (Trent) Frost of Bozeman and April (Dan Ritchey) Hanson of Malta; mother- and father-in-law, Jon and Janice Wood of the Sweet Grass Hills area; sister-in-law, Mandy (Brian) Morris of Lake Zurich, Ill; brother-in-law Justin (Suzanne) Wood of Meridian, Idaho; brother-in-law Aaron Wood of Butte; seven nephews and one niece, and numerous cousins.

He was preceded in death by grandparents William and Elsa Bieber; grandfather-in-law Jim Wood; uncles Jonathan, LeRoy and Elmer Bieber and Joe Lucas; cousins Lynnette Dowling and Eric Bieber.
Barbara Beatta Hauge

TURNER — Barbara Beatta (Baird) Varner Hauge, 82, died of natural causes Saturday at her home in Turner. A celebration of her life is 11 a.m. Monday at the American Lutheran Church in Turner, with burial in Turner Cemetery. Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook is in charge of arrangements.

Barbara is survived by sons Dave (Becky Metaggart) Hauge of North Pole, Alaska, Dan (Linda Jo Johansson) Hauge of Naugdoches, Texas, Dwight (Alice) Hauge of Kremlin and Darel, and Maria (Randy) Walker and family of Fort Belknap and Ida (Joe) Purvis of Bossier City, La.; granddaughters Stacy Ann (Justin) Ballek and children of Fort Collins, Colo., and Char (Jason) Delaney of Golden, Colo.; and grandsons Kaleb, Curtis, and Sean Hauge, all working in the movie industry in Los Angeles, Garrett Hauge of Laramie, Wyo.; Adam Hauge of Great Falls and Evan Hauge of MSU-Northern in Havre, sister-in-law Sara Baird of Chinook, and many nieces, nephews and stepgrandchildren.

She was preceded in death by husbands Frank Varner and Art Hauge; parents Stanley and Bertha Baird; brothers Allen and Wes Baird; and sister Frances Varner.

Barbara was born Aug. 20, 1925, in Gresham, Ore., to Stanley and Bertha (Crawford) Baird. When she was a year old, the family moved back to the family ranch north of Zurich. "Barbie," as she was known growing up in Zurich with brothers Allan, Wes and sister Frances, was taught by her mother in country school. She attended Chinook Junior High and graduated from Chinook Senior High School in 1942 while working full time as a bookkeeper for Farmers Union Oil.

Barb married Frank Varner at age 18. Frank served with the 96th Infantry Division and was killed on Okinawa Island during the last battle of World War II. Barb worked for Chinook's U & I Sugar Co., and then for three years as bookkeeper for co-ops in Ophelm, Mont. She later became the junior fieldworker for Montana Farmers Union in Great Falls. Barbara also attended Encampment for Citizenship, a training program for Leadership in Democracy in New York City, where she met many famous people. She also wrote for various newspapers and magazines.

Barbara met Art Hauge in the autumn of 1947 and they married Jan. 30, 1948, in Conrad. To this union four sons were born, Dave, Dan, Dwight and Darel, and they raised two foster daughters, Maria Walker and Ida Purvis. They raised their family on the Hauge farm south of Turner.

After 30 years of farming, they retired to Turner, and traveled by RV abroad, seeing much of the world and America. In the summer, they were caretakers at Montana Farmers Union Camp in the Highwood Mountains.

Her favorite pastimes included dancing, music, poetry gatherings and scrapbooks of her and her family's lives, her writings, reading and anything her children and grandchildren were involved with. She also put together six books of the Baird and Hauge family genealogy. Art passed away in November 2005, leaving Barbara without her best friend and the love of her life.

Barbara's Golden Anniversary bookmark read, "Do the best you can for as long as you can and your life will follow God's own plan."

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
CLARENCE DELBERT ‘DEL’ HERRON
Born: March 24, 1916 Died: September 12, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
September 17, 2008

Clarence ‘Del’ Herron
Clarence Delbert ‘Del’ Herron, 92, of Great Falls, a retired plant manager for Hilde Construction Co., died of cancer Friday at Peace Hospice. His memorial service is 2 p.m. Saturday at Eagles Manor.
Schnider Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.
Survivors include his wife of 73 years, Helen Marie Herron of Great Falls; sons David Herron of Chester and Gary Herron of Great Falls; grandsons Chad Heppner of Spokane, Wash., Brad Herron of Bozeman and Clay Herron of Billings; and nine great-grandchildren.
Del passed away Friday, Sept. 12, 2008, with his family and special friends by his side, after a courageous battle with cancer.
He was born March 24, 1916, in Judith Gap to Joseph Arwin and Ina (Morgan) Herron. His mother died in surgery when Del was only 12 years old. Following the loss, Del lived part-time with his father and part-time with his sister Effie and husband Bill Bristow and family, where he was loved and cherished.
Del attended school in Townsend, where he met the love of his life, Helen Marie Horne. They were married in Butte on May 2, 1936.
He owned and operated the school buses in Townsend and Broadwater County for years. After moving to Great Falls, Del was the plant manager for Hilde Construction until retiring.
Del was a very special person with an outgoing, lively, optimistic, humorous, delightful personality. He loved life and all those around him. He enjoyed every day of life, and he will be sorely missed.
He was preceded in death by his parents; two daughters, Carolyn, who died at birth and Ilene Heppner; sisters Mabel, Bernice and Effie; a brother, Carol; his stepmother, Mary Maxwell Herron; and a brother-in-law, Bill Bristow.
Condolences may be posted online at www.schniderfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Richard Heydon

FORT BENTON — Richard Heydon, 68, died of natural causes Monday at his home.

Graveside services are 2 p.m. today in Riverside Cemetery. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Benton Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife of 23 years, Marion "Toots" Heydon of Fort Benton; stepchildren Paula (Tony) Jaconetty of Choteau, Nancy (Joe) Steckler of Las Vegas, Nev., Cole (Brenda) Price of Fort Benton and Jamie (Wendy) Price of Mooresville, N.C.; a sister, Peggy Strandberry of Joplin; brothers Dean (Eleonore) Heydon of Joplin and Earl (Peggy) Heydon of California; 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Richard was born April 6, 1940, in Joplin, to Clyde and Verna (Saue) Heydon. He farmed the Goosebill area for many years, then later sold the farm and moved into Fort Benton. He then purchased the Overland Bar and together with his wife, Toots, managed the bar for 12 years. They then sold the bar and retired.

Richard loved farming, bowling, darts, computers and NASCAR.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
DILLON WAYNE HOLLAND
Born: December 5, 2007 Died: August 17, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
August 21, 2008

Dillon Wayne Holland

TRACY — Dillon Wayne Holland, 8½-month-old son of Robert and Kandi Holland of Tracy, died of unknown causes in his sleep Sunday at his home.

Services are 1 p.m. Saturday at Faith Lutheran Church, with visitation at the church an hour before the service. Burial will be in Highland Cemetery. Croxford & Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by three older sisters, Jessica, 14, of Indianapolis, Ind., and Jordin, 4, and Jenna, 2, of Tracy, and older brother Robbie, 10, of Indianapolis; great-great-grandmother Eva Amundson of Missoula; great-grandparents Don and Priscilla Pimley of Chester, Bob and Inez Barger of Butte and Charlene Carlstad of Great Falls; grandparents Ken and Kathy Carlstad and Diana Carlstad, all of Great Falls, and Clayton Holland and Carol Holland of Missoula; aunts and uncles Brad and Marti Hege of Missoula, Eric Holland, Sabrina Olson and Matt and Kendra Liesch, all of Great Falls, Kevin and Michelle Carlstad of Rome, N.Y., Trevor and Heather Haney of Pasco, Wash., and Corey Jensen of Billings; cousins Sierra and Mikaila Liesch, James Holland, Ashton Olson and Chloe Jensen, all of Great Falls, Khilee Carlstad of Rome, N.Y., Samantha and Erica Hege of Missoula and Alanna and Christian Haney of Pasco, Wash.; and many other extended family members.

Dillon was born Dec. 5, 2007, in Great Falls.

He enjoyed spending time with his sisters Jordin and Jenna, and loved being cuddled by his mother. He found great joy in walking along the edge of the furniture and thoroughly enjoyed crawling into his sisters' room and playing with their "big kid" toys. Jordin loved packing her little "Dilly" around the house, and Jenna loved showering him with kisses.

Dillon was a very happy, smiley, giggly, precious little guy. His sisters know that they now have an angel watching over them and they know that their little buddy is at peace in heaven.

We will always miss you, Dillon. You will always be in our prayers and forever in our hearts. You will always be our little Bugaboo. We love you, little buddy. — Dad and Mom

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Dillon Wayne Holland Memorial Fund, c/o U.S. Bank, 511 Central Ave. W., Great Falls, MT.

Condolences may be posted online at www.croxfordfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
IRVIN GEORGE HUTCHISON
Birth: March 21, 1923 - Death: July 16, 2008
Liberty County Times
July 23, 2008

Irvin Hutchison
Irvin George Hutchison was born March 21, 1923 in Chester, Montana. He was the youngest of three children born to John and Blanche (Oakley) Hutchison. Irvin grew up and received his education in Chester, graduating from C.H.S. in 1942.

He married Delores E. Romain on June 8, 1943 in Conrad. They lived in Shelby where Irvin worked as a contractual newspaper route and hauled mail to and from the post office and railway station. Before long he took a job at the Shelby Promoter, then transferred to the Conrad Independent newspaper office. In 1946 a business opportunity became available in Chester, so Irvin and his partner (Darby O'Brien) purchased the Liberty County Times from Thomas Busey. In 1948 Irvin bought Darby's interests and became sole-proprietor of the “Times.” He worked as publisher, editor, newsman, ad salesman, typesetter, linotypesetter, photographer, printer, maintenance man, and other assorted jobs associated with the business. Irvin was proud to be one of the first small town newspapers to include photos in his publications. His weekly editorial column, called “Ad-Lib,” was a favorite of the local Hi-Line readers.

Irvin and Delores raised five children, all of whom assisted in various capacities in this family business. After 40 years of “getting the news out on time,” the Hutchisons sold the business to Alan and Kathy Johnson in 1985. Within a month the original Times building was destroyed by a fire and the shop was relocated. The newspaper struggled, so in 1987 Irvin enlisted the help of his son (John) and came out of retirement to save the business. He eventually resold it to Albert and Jeanne Liebten-Governor, but Irvin continued years as an advisor for several more years.

In 1989 Irvin was recruited by then Lieutenant-Governor Allen Kolstad to serve as editor of the Montana Centennial Publication in Helena. In 1993 he was honored by the Montana Newspaper Association as “Master Editor and Publisher of the Year.”

The Hutchisons continued to live in Chester during their golden years. They enjoyed spending time with the Milk River Good Sams Club and at the local Senior Center. Irvin had served as the Liberty County representative to the Council on Aging. As a member of the Montana Legacy Legislature he was instrumental in getting a bill passed in 1997 urging Congress to investigate price-fixing of prescription drugs. In 1994 he was recognized as the Area 3 “Senior Citizen of the Year.”

During his high school days, Irvin enjoyed playing the clarinet. In fact, he formed a dance band called the “Toe Ticklers” that played at local dances and celebrations. Unfortunately, the clarinet got “put on the shelf” during those busy years at the Times. He picked it up again in retirement, and he enjoyed playing in the Kitchen Band and with the Chester Music Makers in the years that followed.

Irvin was an active community man throughout his life. He was a volunteer fireman and served as the local weather observer for over 40 years. He was a past member of the Chester Commercial Club and a longtime active member of the Chester Rotary Club. In 1967-68 he was elected president of the Montana Press Association.

Irvin was a man of strong Christian faith; Baptized and confirmed at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, he remained active there his entire life. He served on the church council in many capacities, sang in the church choir, and volunteered as Sunday School Superintendent for many years. He was a member of the Men’s Prayer Breakfast group and the Gideon’s. He and his family enjoyed spending time at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. He loved and coordinated Lay-Witness Missions and Lutheran Lay-Renewal conferences. He enjoyed Bible studies and was always eager to do guest ministry/preaching to share “The Good Word.”

Irvin was always a social man who enjoyed time in the coffee shop with friends. During times of solitude, he enjoyed his walks around Chester. When he made these walks, he always carried dog biscuits to appease the local canines. During his quiet time at home, he enjoyed watching the daily news every night.

“The Hutchisons were blessed with 65 years of married life! They just celebrated this special anniversary with all of their children and five of their seven grandchildren.

Irvin’s health remained relatively good over the years. In June 2008 he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. On July 14 he was admitted to the Chester hospital, where he died on Wednesday evening (July 16, 2008). Irvin was 85 years old.

He is survived by his wife, Delores of Chester; 3 sons, Robert of Portland, OR, Greg (and wife, Marie) of Simi Valley, CA, and John of Portland, OR; 2 daughters, Julie Demaree (and husband, Gary Kunz) of Portland, OR and Mary Stevens (and husband, Rick) of Havre; 7 grandchildren (inc. Jennifer, Amanda, Kelsey, Oliver, Carolynn, Rachel & Julei); 2 great-granddaughters (Alana & Rebecca); 1 brother, William Hutchison of Big Fork; 1 sister, Ethel Norman of Seattle, WA; and numerous nephews and nieces. Irvin was preceded in death by his parents.
Funeral services were 2:00 p.m. Tuesday (July 22nd) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Michael O'Hearn officiated and was assisted by Cheryl Mancus, P.A. Karen Stack served as organist and the congregation sang "Beautiful Savior" and "Holy, Holy, Holy". Pianist, Mary Stevens, accompanied her daughter, Julie Stevens, who sang "Through It All" and "Something Beautiful." A piano/clarinet duet by Mary Stevens & Michael O'Hearn was "Just A Closer Walk With Thee." Pallbearers were Rodney Keith, Paul Overlie Jr., Chris Kolstad, Carmen Jensen, Wayne Wardell, and Gary Jensen. Honorary bearers were Allen Kolstad, Dr. Richard Bucker Jr., Lee Didier, Albert Larson, Charles Green, and Irvin's other good friends. Burial followed at the Chester Cemetery, then a reception was held at the church. Memorials may be given to donor's choice.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

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Irvin George Hutchison

Born: March 21, 1923
in Chester, Montana

Died: July 16, 2008
in Chester, Montana

Age: 85 years ...
3 months ... 25 days

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A PRAYER

Holy Spirit, heavenly dove,
Descend on me from above.

Holy Spirit, search my heart,
Tell me when I am wrong in part.

Holy Spirit, show me the way,
Keep me humble, lest I stray.

Holy Spirit, heavenly guide,
Always be close, by my side.

...Mary Hutchison, approx. 1974
ANNE MARIE (DIEKHANS) JAYNES
Born: July 5, 1937 – Died: January 18, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
January 27, 2008

Anne Marie Jaynes

THAYER — Anne Marie (Diekhans) Jaynes, 70, of Thayer, Kan., and formerly of Fort Benton, died of brain cancer Jan. 18, at a hospice in Neodesha, Kan.

Cremation has taken place under the direction of Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home in Neodesha. Her memorial service is Feb. 18 at St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Neodesha, with inurnment in Star Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband, Duane Jaynes; a daughter, Kathy (Heater); a son, Brian (Jane); three grandchildren and one step-grandchild, all of Thayer; sisters, Rosita Moe (James) of Hammond, Mont., and Celeste (Harold) Diekhans of Fort Benton; and brothers Rev. Joe Diekhans of Chester and John A. Diekhans (Wanda) of Cheyenne, Wyo.

Patti Shaw, all of Fort Benton.

Anne passed away after a six-month battle with brain cancer.

She was born July 5, 1937, in Fort Benton, to Joseph and Rose Diekhans of Shonkin.

She spent her early years at the ranch there and attended lower Shonkin Grade School. She graduated from Great Falls Central High School in 1955, and Carroll College in 1959, with a degree in history and secondary education. She taught for a year each at Geyser, Joliet and Billings Central. In 1963, she entered the University of Washington in Seattle and earned a master's degree in library science.

She went to Bamberg, Germany, and taught English in that city's school system for a year. She then went to work for special services, U.S. Army at Bad Comstatt (near Stuttgart), where she worked as a librarian for the base and for military intelligence as an interpreter. Anne was fluent in German and Spanish.

She married Chief Warrant Officer 4 Duane Jaynes in the Army Chapel in Bad Comstatt on Sept. 18, 1963. They lived in Germany; Fort Campbell, Ky., Fort Sill, Okla., and Fort Hood, Texas. Duane continued his career in the Army and Anne hers – raising two Army brats, interpreting for military intelligence and as a librarian at base libraries. During that time, her husband served two tours in Vietnam.

In 1982, Duane retired from the Army and they moved to Thayer, Kan., to his family farm.

Anne was then employed as the director of library services for the City of Independence Public Library and served in that capacity for 18 years, retiring in 2001. During her tenure there, she oversaw extensive remodeling and construction of the facility.

Anne made a special effort each year to come to Montana and visit her mother, family and friends; the last time in May 2007. Her mother, Rose, passed away on Dec. 13, 2007.

She was a member of St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Neodesha, Friends of the Library in Independence and served on the board of directors of the Friday Reading Club of the Thayer Library.

Anne loved her family, books, education, heritage, history and her faith. She is now in a plate of eternal light and can read to her heart's content.

Anne was preceded in death by her parents and a nephew.

Memorials may be made to Friends of the Library in Independence, Kan., or Thayer Library c/o Penwell-Gabel Funeral Home, Neodesha, KS, 66757, or the charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftbune.com/obituaries and/or www.penwellgabel.com.
JACK JOSEPH JELINEK
Great Falls Tribune
February 7, 2008

Jack Joseph Jelinek

COFFEE CREEK — Jack Joseph Jelinek, 74, a lifelong farmer and rancher who enjoyed fishing, gardening and spending time with his grandchildren, died of cancer Wednesday at his home.

His memorial service is 10:30 a.m. Saturday at the Denton Town Hall. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Cloyd Funeral Home & Cremation Service.

He is survived by one son, Ed Jelinek of Coffee Creek; three daughters, Nancy McKinley of Hingham, Charlene Lensing of Stanford and Connie Hotvedt of Helena; a sister, Georgia Hamill of Cadillac, Mich.; 11 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean (Ludtke) Jelinek, and one great-grandson.
KATHRYN (JEPPSESEN) JENSEN
Birth: January 13, 1921 - Death: July 30, 2008
Liberty County Times
August 6, 2008

In the summer of 1946 Kathryn was visiting the family farm. She and her brother went to the ranch of a neighbor to help with haying. This neighbor was Harold Jensen, who would later become her husband. Kathryn and Harold were married December 27, 1947 at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Great Falls. Kathryn began her new career as a farmer and rancher’s wife, homemaker, and mother of two daughters. Her first born, Ardyce, came into her life in 1948. This birth was a wonderful time, bringing together 3 generations: Dagny, Kathryn, and Ardyce. Her second daughter, Connie, arrived on the scene in 1952. Through the years Kathryn, Harold, and the girls all worked together as a family, raising cattle and wheat on their north Liberty County ranch.

Even though Kathryn’s days were busy with keeping house, cooking and baking, feeding cattle, haying, and harvesting, she still found time for other activities. She was a past-president of the Liberty County 4-H Council and enjoyed her role as a 4-H leader, helping her daughters and other children to learn valuable life skills. Kathryn had also served as Superintendent of the Sunday School program at Trinity Lutheran Church. In addition to teaching Sunday School and Bible School, she continued her other passion: singing in the Trinity Church choir.

Kathryn was an excellent cook; her family has fond memories of her specialty Norwegian cookies. Kathryn also enjoyed gardening in her younger days. During her quiet time at home she liked to read, especially nonfictional publications and current events (i.e., “U.S. News and World Report”). She could best be described as an unassuming lady who enjoyed the simple things in life.

The Jensen’s lived and worked on the ranch throughout their 53 years of married life. After Harold died on February 28, 2001, Kathryn moved to their home in Chester, where she enjoyed spending time with family and old friends, as well as making new friends. She remained independent and relatively healthy until a few months ago.

On June 11th she entered the Shelby rest home, then transferred to the Chester nursing facility on July 17th. She remained there until her death on this past Wednesday evening.

Kathryn was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by her daughter (Ardyce Heintz Buechler in 1999) and her 2 siblings (Harold Jeppesen and Amby Scalese).

Survivors include her daughter, Connie (Ted) Mathis of Belgrade; 3 grandsons, Kip and Hans Heintz of Powell, Wyoming and Gavin Mathis of Belgrade; 1 great-grandson, Drake Heintz of Powell, Wyo.; sister-in-law, Gladys Meissner of Chester; brother-in-law, Hales Scalese of Galata; and numerous members of her extended family, including several loving nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were 11:00 a.m. Saturday (Aug. 2nd) at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester. Officiants were Pastor Val Metropoulos of Chester and Pastor Jon Kibler-McCabe of Galata. Karen Stack served as accompanist. The congregation sang “How Great Thou Art”. The vocal duet of Mary Ann Zorn and Steffani Wanken performed “The Old Rugged Cross,” “The Lord’s Prayer,” and a 3-song medley. Scriptures were read by Michael Sloan, K’Lynn Sloan, and Kip Heintz. The obituary/ eulogy was shared by niece, Karen Sloan. Pallbearers were the children and grandchildren. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a reception was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be offered to the Liberty County Senior Center in Chester, the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester, the C.I.I. School Foundation in Chester, or donor’s choice...
Florence E. Johnson

TIGARD, Ore. — Former Great Falls resident Florence E. (Helm­brecht) Johnson, 90, of Tigard, Ore., a retired secretary for the former Great Falls superinten­dent of schools, who enjoyed sewing and travel, died of natural causes Dec. 7 in Tigard.

Services have taken place under the direction of Finley-Sun­set Hills Mortuary in Portland, Ore.

Survivors include children Cathy Steen of Spring Creek, Nev., and Bonnie Marsh of Tigard; her brother, Speck Helm­brecht of Hingham; four grand­children, eight great-grand­children and two great-great-grand­children.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Wayde Johnson, on Oct. 3, 2005.
JOYCE (GIBSON) JOHNSTON
Born: December 8, 1919 Died: October 18, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
October 22, 2008

Joyce Gibson Johnston

MISSOULA — Joyce Gibson Johnston, 88, died of natural causes Saturday in Missoula.
Services are 2 p.m. Saturday at Twitchell Funeral Home in White Sulphur Springs. There will be coffee at the Senior Center following the service.

Joyce was preceded in death by, in her words, "practically everybody" and is survived by her son, Jon David (Solly) Johnston of Bozeman; daughters Judy (Gene) Olsen of Spokane and Kristy Johnston (Dr. Paul Miller) of Missoula; eight grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild; two sisters-in-law; many nieces and nephews; one favorite cousin; and a few lifelong friends.

She was an accomplished artist, astute business partner, fantastic cook and queen of the dry one-liner. Yet, if you asked Joyce, her greatest accomplishment was being the Gibson Girl that landed David H. Johnston. Now, after 10 years, they are together again.

Joyce was born in Blanchard, Okla., on Dec. 8, 1919, while her family was on holiday from their homestead in Chester, Mont. At 2½ years old, her parents Roy and Martha, older brother Esten, sister Janet and she moved back to Oklahoma, where she spent her youth. Moving back to Montana at the age of 15, after brief stops in Hobson and Moore, the family (including new brother Rissy) settled in White Sulphur Springs. There she met Dave and a 60-year partnership/love affair began.

They lived most of their lives in Laurel, running Dave's Mobil along with various other side businesses. On retirement they traveled and enjoyed each other, still holding hands and behaving like people much younger than they were. When Dave passed away in 1998, Joyce moved to Spokane with her daughter Judy. When Joyce became very ill she chose, like Dave, to come home to close out her life in the state she loved.

She spent her last months in Missoula. After all, this was the family that sang the Montana state song in the car every time they crossed the border coming home from a trip. Joyce never left the house without earrings, always wanted the crusts cut off her bread, and believed that, depending on the dish, it could be helped with a lump of butter or a splash of vanilla or a large sprinkle of cinnamon. She was diminutive, feisty, stubborn, proud, and never a quitter.

Donations may be made in Joyce's name to Partners Hospice Services, 2887 Palmer St., Suite B, Missoula, MT 59808.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
GALATA — Korean War Army veteran Neal Thomas Johnston, 68, of Galata, a ranch hand, and auto-body and fender man who enjoyed motorcycles and spending time outdoors, died of cancer Monday at a Shelby hospital.

A graveside service with military honors is 2 p.m. Saturday in Mountain View Cemetery. Whit ted Funeral Chapel of Shelby is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include a daughter, Wendy Jones of Oroville, Calif.; his mother, Emma Johnston of Shelby; brothers Dan Johnston and Robert Johnston of Galata; and two grandchildren.
MARY LOUISE KANEFF
Great Falls Tribune
September 21, 2008

Mary Louise Kaneff

SHELBY — Mary Louise Kaneff, 61, a Shelby homemaker, died of cancer Friday at her home.

Visitation is 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at Whitted Funeral Chapel. Her funeral is 2 p.m. Monday at the First Baptist Church in Shelby, with burial at Hillside Cemetery in Conrad. After the burial, a reception will be held at 4 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.

Survivors include her husband and soul mate of 42 years, James E. Kaneff of Shelby; daughter Tina Cox of Rudyard; son James G. Kaneff of Shelby; her mother, Ila Baily of Winston-Salem, N.C.; granddaughters Heather Marie Cox of Kalispell, and Miranda Sue Anderson of Missoula; grandsons Josh and Shawn Kaneff of Shelby; and great-granddaughter Neveah of Kalispell.

She was preceded in death by her father.

Mary was born Jan. 21, 1947, at Winston-Salem, N.C., where she grew up and was educated.

She married James E. Kaneff on Feb. 14, 1966, at Shelby. Mary spent the last 42 years as a busy homemaker, along with being a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

She always was helping people in need, and lending a hand wherever she could. Mary enjoyed camping, fishing, doing crafts and, most of all, spending time with her family.

Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
LEIF WILLIAM KAPPERUD
Birth: June 5, 1918 - Death: September 8, 2008
Havre Daily News
September 10, 2008

LEIF WILLIAM KAPPERUD
obituary
Leif William Kapperud, 90, died Monday morning Sept. 8, 2008, at the Northern Montana Care Center of natural causes. Family will be welcoming friends for visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, at the Holland & Bonine Funeral Home. Leif’s funeral will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 12, at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Rudyard with Pastor Arden Barden officiating. A luncheon will be held at the church immediately after the service. Leif’s burial will be held at 3:30 p.m. in Havre at the Highland Cemetery.

Memorial contributions in Leif’s honor may be made to the Hingham Lutheran Church or the Northern Montana Care Center. Services and arrangements have been entrusted to Holland & Bonine Funeral Home.

Leif was born June 5, 1918, North of Gildford, to Lars Ole and Anna Mathilde (Anderson) Kapperud. Leif was raised in the Gildford area and attended Muzzey Country School and the Hingham Public School, returning to the farm to help his father. On June 5, 1943, on his 25th birthday he married Tootie (Bebe Jean) Schroeder in Hingham. Together they made their home on the family farm north of Gildford. Leif lived and farmed north of Gildford with his three sons, Ron, Gary and Bruce until he and Tootie moved into Gildford in 1982. Leif moved to the Northern Montana Care Center in 2005 due to failing health.

Leif was very active in the Hi-Line communities. He served as the director of the NFO, the Hill County Fair Board, the church council and school board and was also a member of the Elks, Eagles and the Sons of Norway. He was part owner in AC Supply.

His hobbies included playing cards, bowling, golfing, fishing, boating, snow skiing, snowmobiling and traveling.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Helen Floren; and his brother-in-law, Clair Smith.

Leif is survived by his wife of 65 years, Tootie Kapperud of Gildford; his three sons, Ron (Mary) Kapperud, Gary Kapperud and Bruce Kapperud; one sister, Gudrun Smith of Cut Bank; and one brother, Norman (Donna) Kapperud of Gildford; a brother-in-law, Wallace Floren of Missoula; seven grandchildren, Ryan (Christina), Kristen (Dave), Kara (Greg), Justine, Tyler, Hall and Ian; four great-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren.
DORIS M. (PACKER) KEGEL  
Liberty County Times  
March 19, 2008

Doris M. Packer Kegel  
beloved mother, grandmothers, sister and aunt died peacefully in her son's home in Junction City, Oregon on March 3, 2008 at the age of 91. Doris, the second child of Erwin and Martha Packer, was born in Hingham, Montana and grew up on a farm north of Inverness.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Kegel, her parents, Erwin and Martha Packer, two sisters, Marie Lincoln and Cora Mae (Brownie)-Theobald, her only brother, Bruce Packer, and her beloved son-in-law, Mike Voigt. She is survived by her sister, Dorothy Duncan, of Joplin, MT., her children, Sibyl (J.D.) Hughes of Whitefish, MT., Jerry (Peggie) Kegel of Junction City, OR., Barbara (Jim) Delsigne of Clancy, MT., Clint (Martha) Kegel of Topeka, KS., and Helen Voigt of Everett, WA. She also leaves fifteen grandchildren, and nineteen great-grandchildren, as well as Packer, Suckow and Kegel family members, and innumerable friends and relatives she cared for and loved throughout her life.

Doris attended country schools in their rural community, roomed and/or boarded in Rudyard and Havre during her high school and college years, got a Life Certificate in Elementary Education at N.M.C. in Havre and began teaching when she was just 19 years old. She and Charlie Kegel married in Glasgow, Montana on October 19, 1940 after a lengthy courtship. Charlie was a Great Northern employee and they lived in Nashua, Glasgow and Chinook before settling in Havre where they raised their family of five and she resided until shortly before her death.

A biographical sketch of Doris’ life comes nowhere close to measuring the enormous presence she had in the lives of her family, nor the impact she had on the lives of those with whom she shared her love and friendship. She gave generously, graciously, sincerely and devotedly to her community and church - and without exception or reservation - to her family and friends. She was a wise and able mentor to all who sought her counsel. Her central focus in life was as a caretaker who was truly altruistic in giving of her time, attentions, and energies.

Doris had a special place in her heart for all children, but most especially her own children, grand-children and great-grandchildren. Each one became intimately interwoven in the fabric of Doris’ life and family. Doris was a deeply spiritual woman whom was steadfastly and immutably committed to her faith and was intensely active in the life of her church. Simply put, no matter what else was going on in her life, Doris could be counted on to set aside her own priorities to be present for and to serve others - but first and foremost - her family.

Memorials may be given to the Van Orsel United Methodist Church, 410 Fifth Avenue, Havre, Montana 59501 or Hospice Services in your home community or at Hospice Services, Cascade Health Solutions, 2650 Suzanne Way, Suite 200, Eugene, Oregon 97408. 

A “Celebration of Life” service is pending. Her services will be held at the Van Orsel United Methodist Church in Havre, Montana when a date has been set.

Doris attended country schools near the Packer home in northwestern Hill County. She roomed and boarded in Havre her freshman year of high school, roomed in Rudyard where she completed high school, and began college the fall of 1934 at N.M.C. in Havre where she roomed and boarded and got a teaching permit after 5 quarters of college. Taught at Little Jewel School near Turner the March through November terms of 1936 and 1937. Taught at the Osler School near the Sweet Grass Hills from January through June in 1938. Attended summer school at N.M.C. in 1938 getting the 18 credits needed to receive a Life Certificate in Elementary Education. Taught in the Rudyard School District from the fall of 1938 through the spring of 1940. Taught north of Sacro during the 1940-1941 school year.

Doris’ #1 love was her family - immediate and extended. Doris had been raised in a musical family and music was vital within her own home - both vocal and instrumental. She supported the band and choral programs in both church and community over all the years.

She was active, as were her children, in the Community Concert program most of her adult life, made sure her children had music lessons on instruments of their choice and sang in the various choirs available to them, and urged participation in community and church activities using their musical abilities. She loved barbershop harmony and was particularly tickled when sons, Jerry and Clint, and Jerry’s 2 boys got involved in that medium. Barb, an able pianist, was involved in the Helena Chorale and her hill became quite an accomplished pianist. Both Helen and her Jamie are fine pianists and Sibyl developed a fine repertoire of solos and piano/organ duets within her community. Some of the great grandchildren are showing considerable musical aptitude which pleased her no end.

When Doris’ nest emptied, she began genealogical work on both sides of the family and was a painstaking archivist, recording the histories, documents, pictures, old letters and stories of her beloved family. In collaboration with various relatives, she was responsible for the production of Kegel, Hoska, and Suckow family history books and contributed to the production of the Packer history book. Doris was an avid letter writer and corresponded religiously with each and every member of her family and regularly with a multitude of friends. She never failed to send greetings and a letter of news, congratulations or sympathy to one and all for birthdays, anniversaries, bereavements, Christmas, weddings, graduations, or any occasion that merited recognition.
Reading was always a source of great pleasure for Doris and she read voraciously when time permitted. Doris and her family loved to camp and spent wonderful vacation time in both Glacier and Yellowstone Parks. She and Charlie toured Hawaii, Alaska and Europe and traveled for visits to see family members and/or interesting places across the nation.

Doris grew up in the Evangelical United Brethren Church. The local church was built on a parcel of land donated by her mother, Martha Suckow Packer, on Martha's homestead north of Rudyard, Montana. Her grandfather and three great-uncles were circuit riders in the Dakota Territory for the Evangelical Church. Doris was a member of the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church in Havre for 61 years and was actively involved in an array of church programs over the years including Sunday school teacher, youth program leader, and committee member on many committees. She was a member of the Lewis Ling Kraut Women’s Circle at Van Orsdel for about 55 years, served as president of this organization numerous years, and actively participated in whatever manner of service was needed throughout her membership. Doris was the recipient of the Sharon Clawson Memorial Faithful Servant Award in 2006 for her faithful service in the many ministries and faith of the church, an honor given by the Donna Weed Circle. Doris received a prayer shawl in 2006 made by the United Methodist Women honoring her for her many years of devotion to the membership and programs of the VOUMC. Doris ministered to the sick, infirm and less fortunate, regularly visiting and tending to the needs of shut-ins, hospital patients, and friends at The Home of the Good Shepherd Rest Home, the Northern Montana Care Center and the Eagles Manor retirement home. Her areas of ministry were letter writing, reading, helping with paper work, shopping, providing transportation, making phone calls, listening and food preparation. From the inception of the Giveaway House in north Havre, Doris volunteered her time and energies one or two days each week. She worked on the election board for many years. Doris served as a census taker for many years. She participated in the annual Community Concert drive for approximately 50 years. Doris was an active member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She hosted and provided luncheons for numerous committees and club gatherings and participated in vast numbers of pot lucks, receptions, church dinners, etc. She served as a den mother with the Boy Scouts of America when her boys were youngsters. Doris was an active member of the P.T.A. during the years her children were school age. Granddaughter, Leann Hughes, lived nearby the last ten years and Doris helped her frequently by babysitting Caylan while Leann helped Doris with transportation and shopping. It was a lovely and very beneficial relationship for all three of them.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness and faith, meekness and temperance.” Galatians 5:22-23

“To everything there is a season. A time to be born, a time to die, a time to plant, a time to pluck what is planted; a time to kill, a time to heal, a time to break down, a time to build up, a time to weep, a time to laugh, a time to mourn, a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, a time to gather stones, a time to embrace, a time to refrain from embracing; a time to gain, a time to lose, a time to keep, a time to throw away, a time to tear, a time to sew, a time to keep silence, a time to speak; a time to love, a time to hate, a time for war; a time for peace. He has made everything beautiful in its time.” Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8, 11
SARAH J. A. KLEINSASSER
Liberty County Times
January 23, 2008

Sarah Kleinsasser

Sarah J. A. Kleinsasser was born September 9th, 1926 at Mitchell, South Dakota. She was one of eleven children born to Rev. Jacob S. Kleinsasser and Anna J. Hofer. She grew up at the Rockport Colony near Mitchell and received her early education there. Her family moved to Raymond, Alberta in 1934 and she finished her formal schooling at the OK Colony.

In 1949 the Kleinsassers moved to the Miller Colony near Choteau, Mt. They lived there until 1961, then moved to the Sage Creek Colony north of Chester, where Sarah made her home from that time on. In her younger days she served as a cook at the colony, then began teaching kindergarten, a position she thoroughly enjoyed for more than 15 years. Sarah remained active at the colony until age 69, when she retired due to declining health. During many of her later years Sarah was confined to a wheelchair. She recently spent a week at the Chester hospital and was discharged this past Sunday (Jan. 13th) to home care by her loving family. She died peacefully at her Sage Creek Colony home on Wednesday evening (January 16th, 2008). She was 81 years old.

Sarah was preceded in death by her parents, 5 sisters (Anna Kleinsasser, Susanna Wurz, Rachel Wurz, Mary Wurz, and Rebecca Wurz), and 4 brothers (Jacob, Samuel, John, & Sam Kleinsasser).

Sarah loved gardening, knitting, & singing. She was a very generous lady who loved to share anything she had with her family & friends.

She never married. Her survivors include 1 brother, Peter “Speedy” Kleinsasser of Sage Creek Colony, and many nieces & nephews.

Her funeral was conducted at 11:00 a.m. Saturday (Jan. 19th) at the Sage Creek Colony Church by Rev. Andrew Wurz. The song leader was John Wipf. Burial followed at the Sage Creek Colony Cemetery.

Sarah’s family would like to thank everyone for their kindness and care, especially Dr. Young, Dr. K., and the nursing staff at the Liberty Medical Center in Chester. Also, thanks to the staff at Rockman Funeral Chapel for their assistance & concern.
ALLEN CHRIS KOLSTAD
Birth: December 24, 1931 - Death: August 2, 2008
Liberty County Times
August 13, 2008

Alten Kolstad

Allen Chris Kolstad was born December 24, 1931 in Chester, Montana. He was the eldest and only son of five children born to Henry and Mabel (Webb) Kolstad. Allen grew up and received his education in the Chester community. After graduation from C.H.S. in 1949, he attended Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, where he played on the college football team.

While on a train trip to college, he met Iva M. Matteson, a young woman from the north Galata community who was also traveling to school at Concordia. Allen and Iva were married on September 2, 1951 at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester [of interest is the fact that they were the first couple to be married in the new church]. They moved to a farm in the Ledger community 25 miles south of Chester to raise their family. When their children became active in the Chester school system, the Kolstad’s bought a home in town in 1967. After their kids all graduated from high school, they sold their Chester house in 1976 and began RV’ing to Arizona in the winter months. They enjoyed many fun adventures and many new friends throughout their 56 years of married life, but always looked forward to returning to their Montana farm and friends during the planting, growing, and harvesting seasons.

Allen was diagnosed with cancer in 2002. His health became tentative this past year with numerous hospitalizations. He died at the Liberty Medical Center in Chester on Sunday evening (August 2, 2008) at the age of 76 years.

Allen was an active businessman in Liberty County. In addition to farming and ranching for 56 years, he owned/operated two community businesses in the 1970’s. The first was Chester Implement Company, a well-known John Deere dealership in Chester. The second was Kolstad Grain Company, a grain-purchasing business in Lothair.

He was active in community service. Allen was a loyal Rotarian; during most of his 40 years in the Chester Rotary Club he volunteered as “Santa Claus” at community Christmas festivities, a tradition started by Allen’s father many years earlier.

He was a past master of the Galata Masonic Lodge and strong supporter of the Shriner’s Hospital program. Allen also served as a past state director of the Montana JayCees and the Montana Chamber of Commerce. He served as chairman of the Montana Chamber’s Agriculture Committee and was past president of the Montana Water Development Association. For several years he served as an alumni board member at Concordia College. He was chairman for 8 of the 12 years that he helped to organize the annual “Montana Picnic” in Mesa, Arizona.

Allen was active in his church community. He held membership at St. Olaf’s Lutheran Church in Ledger since 1953, and served as council president on three separate occasions. He had close ties to Our Savior’s in Chester, where he was confirmed and later married. On a related vein, Allen served as past president and board member for 12 years at the Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd in Havre. The Kolstad’s loved church and community events and were faithful attenders at weddings, funerals, baptisms, Xmas programs, and assorted fundraisers (especially, the annual Ludeskif dinners). Allen never refused special requests to read scriptures or share eulogies at funerals, and did many of them over the years! On a personal note, he enjoyed starting each day with a short reading from his devotional book.

Another busy activity, and probably his favorite, was politics. Allen was elected to the Montana House of Representatives in 1968 (as the first Republican to serve Liberty County in 48 years!), then to the Montana Senate in 1975. He served on many committees during his 20 years in the State Legislature, including Chairman of the Legislative Consumer Council and Chairman of Montana’s Legislative Council. He served as Montana’s Chairman of the American Legislative Exchange Council (and on their Export & Trade Council), Chairman of the Interim Legislative Committee of Problems in Agriculture, and as Agriculture Committee man on the National Council of State Legislators.

Allen thoroughly enjoyed the 3 sessions he served as President Pro-Tempore of the Montana Senate. In the mid-1970’s he served under President Gerald Ford on the District Export Council for the Western States. In 1976 he was Montana’s Co-chairman for “Reagan for President” and in 1980 he was Montana’s Co-chairman for “Farmers & Ranchers for Reagan.” From 1988-1991 Allen was honored to serve as the Lieutenant Governor of Montana under Governor Stan Stephens. On of his first tasks as Lt. Governor was Chairman of the Montana Centennial in 1989. The Kolstads worked diligently to organize this state celebration and Allen was an active participant; he road horseback in the Centennial Cattle Drive and dedicated the Fort Union National Park. In 1990 Allen took on another challenge, a hard-fought campaign for the U.S. Senate against the eventual winner Max Baucus. Winding down his political career in 1991 Allen was appointed by President George Bush Sr. at the U.S. Commissioner to the International Boundary Commission, a position he held until 1993. Since that time Allen has continued to be
active, serving as a Montana Republican National Committeeman and remaining loyal to the Republican party. He enjoyed his 30 years in the political spotlight and made many good friends along the way (including some good Democrats).

Allen’s life was good and he “counted his daily blessings.” His family was very important to him. He enjoyed spending quality time with his children, sorting/colllecting coins, fishing, arrowhead hunting, and weekend getaways. And he loved playing cards and board games (“Scrabble” and “Boggle”) with his grandchildren. In his younger days Allen enjoyed bowling and archery. He’s always loved quality cars and pick-up trucks, and has collect-ed many vintage automobiles over the years. He loved to play poker with his buddies and maintained a good attitude when it came to both winning and losing. Allen had a great sense of humor, loved to socialize, and was always happy to see old friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, 2 children (Cary Kolstad and Corrine Neill), and a sister (Hannah Johnson).

Survivors are his wife, Iva Kolstad of Ledger; 2 sons, Cedric (Tom) Kolstad of Mesa, AZ and Chris (Vicki) Kolstad of Ledger; 1 daughter, Cheryl (James) Gagnon of Fort Benton; son-in-law, Wayne Neill of Scottsdale, AZ; 11 grandchildren (Tara, Krystal, Allen, Amanda, Cary, Brittney, Daina, Alexandra, Benjamin, Robert, and Jeffrey); 3 sisters, Doris (Bill) Fraser of Chester, Kay (Sam) Pederson of Westminster, CO, and Sonja (Dennis) Diemert of Galata; many nephews and nieces; and a host of good friends.

Funeral services were 2:00 p.m. Thursday (Aug. 7th) at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Val Metropolitan officiated. Karen Stack served as organist and the congregation sang “Children of the Heavenly Father.” Vocalist, Mary Ann Zorn, performed “On Eagle’s Wings” and “The Wind Beneath My Wings.” A special harp tribute was played by Diana O’Hara. Scripture readings were by Esther Bengston and Wayne Neill. Personal remembrances included the obituary by Pastor Val; the eulogy by Stan Stephens; “Children’s Memories” by Chris, Cheryl, and Cedric; and “Grandchildren’s Memories” by Benjamin Gagnon. Ushers were Bud Broadhurst, Kent Matkin, Bob Nordstrom, and Ted Zorn. Pallbearers were David and Verges Aageson, Allen Brown, Lorne Cassidy, Marlyn and Neil Harstad, J. D. Lynch, Darryl Meyer, and Jim Mockler. Honorary bearers included Allen’s brothers-in-law, Dennis Diemert, Bill Fraser Sr., Stanley Johnson, Leonard Matteson, George McGuire, and Sam Pederson; his cousins, Dayton, Galen, and Howard Kolstad and Shirley Stephans; and his fellow Rotarians. A coffee hour followed at the fellowship hall.

Graveside services were 6:00 p.m. Thursday at the St. Olaf Cemetery (33 miles south of Chester). A reception followed at the St. Olaf Lutheran Church.

Arrangements were handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to St. Olaf Lutheran Church, Our Savior’s Lutheran Church, or donor’s choice.

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Allen Chris Kolstad

Born: December 24, 1931 in Chester, Montana
Died: August 2, 2008 in Chester, Montana
Age: 76 years ... 7 months ... 9 days

FINAL HARVEST...

He was born to the land from the day of his birth; His roots anchored deep in the fertile earth. Nurtured, sustained, by the soil he grew, And his life, like his furrows, ran straight and true.

In faith, each spring, he planted the seeds – In hope, to reap his family’s needs. With patience he waited for the harvest to come, To gather the fruits of his labor home.

Ever turning seasons, the years sped past, Till the final harvest came at last. Then claimed anew by the beloved soul – He was gathered home to be with God.

...by Barbara W. Weber

Allen was preceded in death by his parents (Henry and Mabel), son (Cary), daughter (Corrine), and sister (Hannah).
ARLENE LEONA (ROUBAL) KOUTNIK


Havre Daily News
May 28, 2008

ARLENE LEONA KOUTNIK obituary

Arlene Leona Koutnik, 84, died Saturday, May 23, 2008, at Northern Montana Care Center of natural causes.

Her memorial service will be 11 a.m. Saturday, May 31, 2008, at the Community Alliance Church with Pastor John Chapman officiating. A fellowship luncheon will be held immediately after the service at the church. A private burial will take place later at the Highland Cemetery.

Memorial contributions in Arlene's honor may be made to First Baptist Church C/O John Chapman, 625 Fourth Ave., Havre, MT 59501 or Your Network of Praise/KXET Box 2426, Havre, MT 59501. Services and arrangements have been entrusted to Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook.

Arlene was born Oct. 3, 1923, in Wallace, Mich., to Fred and Stella Roubal. She was raised in Wallace on her parents' dairy farm and attended Wallace Country School. On Oct. 7, 1944, Arlene married Robert "Bob" Koutnik in Menominee, Mich. To this union four children were born: Randy, Kathy, Trease and Cindy.

Arlene spent the majority of her life being a homemaker. From 1968 to 1975 Arlene was a teachers aid in the Kremlin and KG school districts, a job she very much enjoyed. She was also a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Kremlin Homemakers Club and numerous Bowling Leagues. Throughout the years Arlene attended Kremlin Lutheran Church, Gildford Baptist Church, Fifth Ave Christian Church, and First Baptist Church.

Arlene enjoyed reading and collecting chickens or roosters in various forms. The major highlight of her life was accepting Jesus as her Savior in March 1973, and then several years later being baptized by her son Randy at a church camp.

She was very proud of her children and grandchildren and attended as many events as she could that they participated in. During her years at the Care Center, she developed many close friendships with her care givers. Of special remembrance were her wheelchair races with Clint Widdekind and breakfast at his cabin last fall in the Bears Paw Mountains.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Stella Roubal; husband, Robert, in 1986; brother, Fredrick Roubal.

Arlene is survived by her four children Randy (Laurie) Koutnik of Helena, Kathy Burchard of Havre; Trease Bertsch of Meridian, Idaho, and Cindy (Butch) Marshall of Spokane, Wash.; two sisters, Jeanette Paulson and Grace Theuerkauf both of Menominee, Mich.; and brother Lenny Roubal of Florida and Colorado; nine grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.
WILFRED ANTHONY KUHRY
Birth: October 16, 1913 - Death: July 13, 2008
Liberty County Times
July 23, 2008

Wilfred A. Kuhry
Wilfred Anthony Kuhry was born October 16, 1913 in Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada. He was the eldest of five children born to Elizabeth Helen Zettel and Peter Miller Kuhry. Wilfred came to Montana as a child, first to Great Falls in 1915 and then to Chester in 1917. He grew up and received his formal education in Chester, graduating from C.H.S. in 1931. He continued his schooling at St. Jerome’s College in Berlin, Ontario until 1933, then returned to Montana.

In the years that followed, Wilfred worked as a cowboy in northern Liberty County. Initially, he rounded-up wild horses for the state, then began working on the Prescott Ranch near the Sweetgrass Hills. In those early years he earned two endearing nicknames: “Will” and “Peter.”

He was inducted into the U. S. Army in 1941. Will served in several campaigns during World War II, including Naples-Foggia, Casablanca, Africa, Anzio, Rome-Arno, Southern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe. He attained the rank of Corporal and was active in Company A of the 756th Tank Battalion. Following his honorable discharge in 1945, Will returned to Montana.

He began working for Great Northern Railroad, then later for Burlington-Northern Railroad. Will worked as a signal maintainer in East Glacier, Whitefish, Poplar, and Havre. In 1966 he moved to Havre, where he retired in 1977 after spending 32 years on the railroad.

Will was a confirmed bachelor until age 70, then he met a Havre widow, Ann (Matovich) Lambert. They were married in Las Vegas, NV, on “Pearl Harbor Day”: December 7, 1983. They lived in their Havre home until 1998, then moved to the Park View Apartments.

Will & Ann loved to dance. They enjoyed square-dancing and the “old style” dances, and seldom missed an opportunity to “kick up their heels”! Will also enjoyed his daily 3-5 mile walks around Havre, which probably contributed to his good health and longevity. He remained relatively active until two months ago, when he was hospitalized. He transferred to the Northern Montana Care Center on June 2nd. Will died peacefully at the Havre nursing facility on Sunday morning (July 13, 2008). He was 94 years old.

Will was active at the Hill County Senior Center, where he enjoyed playing pool. His memberships included St. Jude’s Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus, the Havre Eagles Club, and the Havre V.F.W. Post. He was a longtime union member of the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen.

Will loved the “great outdoors” and was well-educated on the care of trees, plants, and foliage. He was described as a “man of action” who enjoyed utilizing his skills as a talented handyman and mechanic. In his younger years he liked to fish. Throughout his life he loved classical music, reading, and his sweet tooth for “chocolate.”

Will was preceded in death by his parents, his brother (Florian Kuhry), and his 3 sisters (Helen Ann Aaberg, Marjorie Freemole, and Mary Pace O’Connor).

He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Ann Kuhry of Havre; 1 step-daughter, Linda Lambert of New Orleans, La.; 2 grand-children (Delano & Maddeson Clare); 1 great-grandson (Daniel Garcia); 6 nieces, Maynard Freemole of Corvallis, Or., John Freemole of Polson, Mike Freemole of Missoula, Dan Pace of Great Falls, Phil Aaberg of Chester, and Steve Aaberg of Billings; and 2 nieces, Margaret Halvorson of Great Falls and Helene Berger of Dillon.

Rosary Prayers were offered by the “Catholic Daughters” at 7:00 p.m. Friday (July 18th) at St. Jude’s Catholic Church in Havre.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Saturday (July 19th) at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Chester by Father Joseph Diekhans. Special music was provided by pianist, Phil Aaberg, and vocalist, Marcus Jochim, who sang “Ave Maria” & “On Eagle’s Wings”. Steve Aaberg served as eulogist. The communion gifts were presented by Agnes Cole & Pat Seidltiz. Readers were Linda Lambert & Helene Berger. The Eucharistic minister was Jill Dahinden. Honorary bearers were listed as Will’s old friends and neighbors, fellow railroad workers, and friends in the dancing circuit.

Burial of ashes followed at the Chester Cemetery, where military “taps” were played by bugler, Spencer Fisher. The military flag was presented to the family by Dan Pace. A reception followed at St. Mary’s Church. Cremation and arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.
SUZANNE 'SUZIE' PAULA (HORVATH) LARSEN

Birth: July 6, 1948 – Death: August 9, 2008

Liberty County Times

August 20, 2008

Suzanne Larsen

Suzanne (Suzie) Paula Horvath Larsen passed away August 9, 2008, at Northern Montana Hospital after an illness she fought courageously for six years. Memorial service celebrating the life of Suzanne Larsen were held Friday, August 15, 2008, at 11:00 A.M. at the First Lutheran Church in Havre, Montana. Burial followed at the Highland Cemetery in the Calvary Section. A fellowship luncheon will be held immediately after the graveside service at the church. Memorials can be made to the Gift of Life, P.O. Box 7008, Great Falls, MT 59405 or to the Montana Chapter of the American Cancer Society, 550 N. 31st St. Ste. 103 Billings, MT 59101. Services and arrangements have been entrusted to Holland & Bonine Funeral Home.

Suzanne was born on July 6, 1948, the only child of Laszlo and Eva Horvath in Vasvar, Hungary. In November of 1956, Suzie escaped with her parents from Hungary during the Hungarian Revolution. She and her family made their way to Billings, Montana, in January of 1958. Suzie moved to Havre in 1965 and graduated from Havre High School in 1967. She attended Northern Montana College and graduated in 1971 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and English. She returned to Northern to further her education and received her degree in elementary education in 1975.

Suzie married Ron Larsen on July 17, 1976. Their daughter, Meagan, was born in 1981 and their son, Tyler, followed in 1985. They lived on the family farm in Rudyard, Montana, until 1988 when they moved to Havre. Suzie’s teaching career included positions in Fromberg, Inverness, Havre Middle School, and most recently fifth grade (Sunnyside) in Havre.

She was an active member of the First Lutheran Church in Havre, serving on the Fellowship and Christian Education Boards along with teaching Sunday school for thirteen years.

Suzie was a past member of the MSU-Northern Alumni board, W.I.F.E. (Women Involved in Farm Economics) and numerous other organizations.

Suzie loved teaching and was a nurturing, caring teacher. She wanted all of her students to excel and believed in the talents of each and every one of them. She believed teaching was a privilege and an honor. Suzie kept in touch with many of her former students as they moved from elementary to high school and finally out into the world. Their love, care, and support helped her through many difficult days of her illness.

In October of 2002, she was diagnosed with a rare form of breast cancer and bone cancer. Even so she continued teaching into May of 2008. She went through continuous chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery, but continued on as her chosen career gave her a sense of inner peace and focus.

Her hobbies included walking, yoga, reading, traveling, visiting with her many friends, collecting rocks, home decorating, and embroidery work. She loved music and dancing. Her passion was gardening. She lovingly tended her flowers in Havre and at the farm. She added new varieties of flowers and read many books on the subject, keeping updated. She loved to share her gardening knowledge and plants with her friends. She spent many hours in her garden just observing and spending peaceful time there.

Suzie participated in every cancer awareness and fundraiser that she could. She walked in the Susan Komen Race for the Cure in Helena, played golf in the Hi-Line Breast Cancer golf tournament, and was a regular in the survivor lap for the Relay for Life.

Suzie’s life was full, first with her family and faith in God, her friends, and her teaching career.

She was proceeded in death by her grandparents in 1971, her father-in-law in 1988, and her beloved father in 1997.

She is survived by her husband, Ron (Havre), daughter, Meagan (Missoula), son, Tyler (Havre), mother, Eva Horvath (Havre), aunt and uncle, Alex and Vilma Reich (Billings), cousins Erika (Leon) Giles of Seattle and Judy (Roger) Rothrock of Portland, and her many friends and students whom she taught and loved.
WANDA (RAINES) LIGHTNER
Great Falls Tribune
April 1, 2008

Wanda Lightner

BURLEY, Idaho — Former Montana resident Wanda Light­ner, 97, died of natural causes Saturday at her daughter’s home in Burley, Idaho.

Her funeral is 1 p.m. Friday at Pondera Funeral Home in Conrad, with visitation an hour prior to the service. Burial will take place at Lake View Cemetery in Valier. Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley and Pondera Funeral Home of Conrad are in charge of arrangements.

She is survived by one daugh­ter, Sandra Tracy of Burley, Idaho; a son-in-law, Jack Rowekamp of Conrad; nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Born in Galata, Mont., in 1911, Wanda was the youngest child born to Alexander and Ellie Raines. As a child, she moved with her family to Valier, where she attended school. There, she met and later married Lloyd Lightner in 1929. The couple farmed north of Valier, where they raised their family until they retired and moved to Conrad.

Wanda’s interests were varied. She enjoyed music and taught herself to play the piano and gui­tar. Gardening was one of her greatest pleasures, and she raised all varieties of flowers. An accomplished seamstress, she made most of her own and her daugh­ters’ clothes in her younger years and later enjoyed knitting, tatting and quilting. While living in Valier, Wanda was a member of the Order of Eastern Star, where she held several offices.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lloyd, in 1987; a son, Donald in 1983; a daughter, Patsy in 2000; daughter Grace in 2005; grandson Mark Rowekamp in 1997; and son-in-law Don Tracy in 2006. Wanda was also preceded in death by her five sib­lings, Jenny Raines, Zail Raines, Basil Raines, Oakle Campbell and Audrey DeVinney.

Because of her love of animals, particularly cats, the family requests donations be made to the Conrad Animal Shelter or the Humane Society in Great Falls in lieu of flowers.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
DOROTHY MARGUERITE (MAY) LINEWEAVER
Birth: May 1, 1929 – Death: November 1, 2008
Liberty County Times
November 5, 2008

Dorothy Lineweaver

Dorothy (May) Lineweaver was born May 1, 1929 on the family farm near the Canadian Coulee 30 miles north of Inverness, Montana. She was one of four children born to George and Anna (Peterson) May. Dorothy grew up in Inverness and received her formal education there, graduating from Inverness High School in 1947. She continued her schooling at Northern Montana College in Havre for a short time, then took a job with a local telephone company.

On October 1, 1950 she married Charles F. “Chuck” Lineweaver, a lifelong admirer dating way back to their kindergarten days. They celebrated their wedding at the United Methodist Church in Inverness. The couple moved to the Lineweaver farm north of town, where Dorothy worked diligently as a farm wife, homemaker, and mother of three. The Lineweavers loved their farm home, where they remained content and comfortable their entire married life.

Dorothy’s health began to decline about two years ago. Last month she developed pneumonia with complications.

Following a two-week stay at the Benefis Medical Center in Great Falls, she died there on the early morning of Saturday (November 1, 2008). She was 79 years old.

Dorothy had three main loves in her life – she loved to cook, she loved to shop, and she loved her family!

Cooking and baking was her forte. Each family member had their own favorite dishes and Dorothy always tried to accommodate each of them when they visited. Her “Oreo cookie ice cream dessert”, pumpkin ice cream pie, chocolate jelly roll, homemade breads and cinnamon twists, milk shakes, and cheesy eggs were some of the family favorites. On short notice she could “whip out a meal” for 3 people or 10 people, and not miss a beat! She had always been a basic “meat & potatoes” cook; vegetables and salad weren’t necessary, just occasional extras. Over the years she accumulated a large collection of cookbooks to improve her cooking skills.

Dorothy truly loved to shop, especially for shoes. In her younger years she loved shoes that made her taller, and she often said, “the taller the better!” After her knees began to hurt and she lost some of her balance, she still enjoyed buying shoes – mainly Dr. Marten’s brand or other styles that didn’t look like “little old lady shoes”! One of Dorothy’s favorite pastimes was the “girls day out” shopping sprees with her daughters and granddaughters. She loved spoiling them and always said, “I will not be around forever, so I’m buying you something – period!” On these special occasions they all “shopped til they dropped!”

Last but not least, her greatest love was her family. Dorothy and Chuck first met when they were in kindergarten, and they both knew at that early age that they would always be together. Their dream came true – they remained constant companions and best friends throughout their lives. They were married 58 years, but claimed to have been “in love” for 74 years! Dorothy made their children promise to take care of Chuck after she was gone, and they assured her that they would keep him stocked-up with lots of ice cream bars. Dorothy loved each and every one of her children and grandchildren – unconditionally – for who they were in her life...

Her other interests included gardening and flowers. In her quiet time at home Dorothy enjoyed reading and watching television. She was an avid fan of the N.B.A.; her favorite teams were the Chicago Bulls and the Los Angeles Lakers. Her past memberships included the Inverness United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women and the Inverness School P.T.A.

In addition to her husband, Chuck of Inverness, she is survived by 2 daughters, Susan (Craig) Berg of Kremlin and Bernie (Glen) Phelps of Butte; 1 son, Ron (Debbie) Lineweaver of Joplin; 5 grandchildren, Chris (Rachel) Berg, Kimberly Berg (and fiancé, Mark Larson), Kels Phelps, Randi Phelps, and Curt (Autumn) Lineweaver; 2 great-grandchildren, Katie Sue and Michael; 2 brothers, John May of Inverness and Uriel May of Missoula; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents, an infant sister (Katherine May), and a grandson (Kevin Lineweaver).

Dorothy was cremated per her wishes. Her ashes will be buried in the family plot at the Highland Cemetery in Havre.

Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

Memorials may be given to the Kevin Lineweaver Memorial Scholarship Fund (Box 124, Joplin, MT 59531), the United Methodist Church in Chester, or donor’s choice...

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. today (Wednesday, Nov. 5th) at the Chester United Methodist Church. The service will be conducted by Pastors Dolly Collins and Arden Barden. Special vocal music by Terry Stevenson will include “The Lord’s Prayer” and “Amazing Grace.” Christy Fossen will serve as organist and the congregation will sing “The Old Rugged Cross.” Family members will share readings: Glen Phelps (obituary and personal remembrances), Randi Phelps (poetic reading), and Kels Phelps (scripture reading). A reception will follow at the church fellowship hall.
PATSY LEE ‘PAT’ (JACKSON) LONG
Birth: May 17, 1932 – Death: May 12, 2008
Liberty County Times
May 21, 2008

Patsy Long
Patsy Lee “Pat” (Jackson) Long was born May 17, 1932 in Portland, Oregon. She was the eldest of two children born to Marie B. Huber and Russell T. Jackson but was raised as an only child after her brother, Thomas R. Jackson, died only three days after his birth. Since much of her childhood was spent without playmates on family farms, she resolved at an early age to have a big family of her own. As with many things she set out to do in her life, she would accomplish this goal with gusto.

Pat received her early education in the Portland area before her parents moved to a farm outside Ronan, Montana in 1943. A few years later, they moved to Rudyard to the original Jackson homestead north of town. Pat finished her secondary education at Rudyard High School, where she enjoyed dancing and basketball before graduating in 1950 as class Valedictorian. Throughout her childhood, Pat spent many hours on the tractor and otherwise assisting her father on the family farms.

Immediately after high school, she enrolled in technical college in Minneapolis where she completed a one-year certification as a hospital laboratory technician. This was all that was required at the time to work in hospitals throughout the country. Years later, after this requirement was increased to a four-year microbiology degree followed by a year of on-the-job training, the state of Montana required her to undertake two days of exhaustive written exams in Helena just to prove she had the knowledge to do the job she’d already been performing successfully for years. It was a source of great satisfaction for her when she was one of the few who passed the exam on the first try.

In 1951, while still in Minneapolis, she met and married Elder Max Bloch. They returned to the Rudyard community in 1953, shortly after the birth of their first son (Thomas). While living there, the Blochs had another son (Stephen) and a daughter (Jeanine) before their marriage ended in divorce in 1957.

After her divorce and a brief stint as a waitress, Pat moved to Chester to take a job at the Liberty County Hospital where she did laboratory work, took x-rays, assisted in surgery, typed, and generally helped Dr. Bukuw with whatever he asked. It was there she met a local farmer, Vern O. Anderson, who began courting her during his frequent visits with his mother in the adjoining nursing home. They were married at the end of 1958 and moved to the Anderson family farm north of Lothair, where they lived full-time for several years before purchasing a home in Chester in the mid-1960’s. Pat continued to work at the hospital even after she and Vern added three more boys (Scott, Terry, and Collin) within a few years of their marriage. The Anderson’s divorced in early 1970, and Pat moved with her children to Simms.

Later that year, she married her third husband, William A. “Bill” Long, a telephone lineman for Mountain Bell. Shortly thereafter she began commuting to work as a full-time Laboratory Technician at the Deaconess Hospital (now Benefis) in Great Falls and continued to do so after the family moved to Belt in 1971.

Pat thoroughly enjoyed her work, but it was to have negative consequences for her as well. In 1977, she contracted a severe case of hepatitis B when she accidentally poked herself while drawing blood from a sick patient. Though she recovered after registering some of the worst liver function numbers for a surviving patient in the history of the Deaconess hospital, she was forced to go on permanent disability and give up the career she so enjoyed.

Later in 1977, Pat moved to Raynelford with Bill and the youngest remaining kids, which then included a “sixth son”, Mike Quinn, who lived with the family while completing his last three years of high school in Belt. In 1978, she began commuting to the College of Great Falls (now UGF) to take classes in sociology and criminal justice. She performed well, receiving A’s in her classes, and was so diligent that she would type her notes on an old manual typewriter after returning from school each day.

In 1982, with the family all grown and out of the house, the Longs moved to Great Falls and opened “Falls Phone Center”. They eventually sold the business, but continued to live in the community, where Pat took care of her house on the north side, was proud to be invited to participate in a community leadership program called “Leadership Great Falls”, and thoroughly enjoyed visiting with old friends and making new ones.

Pat moved to Ennis in 1988 when Bill was transferred there by his then employer. Soon
Lee Blanscet, from 1994-2002. One of the highlights of this time of her life was a trip to visit historic sites in France and England. She then decided to return to the Hi-Line to be closer to old friends and family, settling in Havre in 2002. Although she had difficulty walking after a stroke in 2000, she still managed to socialize and attend special events with friends and family in the area and to keep in touch with many others by phone.

Pat endured much physical hardship after her return to Havre and received considerable help from friends in the area in order to remain in her beloved home for as long as possible. When her health took another major downward turn in November of 2007, she was forced to spend the remaining months of her life in and out of the hospital and three nursing facilities. Recently, after breaking her hip in a fall, she was transferred to the Missouri River Manor in Great Falls, where she died last Monday (May 12, 2008). She was just five days shy of her 76th birthday.

Besides visiting with family and friends and her work, Pat had many interests and talents, including: pinochle, reading, dancing, collecting tea pots, bowling, watching game and true crime TV shows, crocheting and doing needlepoint, cooking, dining out, oil painting, writing, genealogy, taking Sunday drives, viewing wildlife, and watching her kids play sports, especially wrestling. While she liked seeing new places, she loved living in Montana and would not have considered living anywhere else.

Pat always took an interest in young people, especially those who might have been struggling a bit or having a little trouble at home, and she became a "second mom" to many throughout her life. She embraced people of all nations, races, ages, religions and sexual orientations, serving as an example to her children to do the same. She had an amazing ability to recall details about other people, especially birthdays but even such minutiae as middle names or even blood types. She was proud to have raised her children to be strong and independent, even if it meant scattering them to the four winds and seeing them less as a result. She took great comfort in her Christian faith but was not dogmatic or judgmental — attending church in various denominations and often saying she didn't think God much cared what the sign said on the church door. She was a fighter and stubborn to a fault but always maintained her optimism and sense of humor.

Pat was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, a granddaughter (Lisa Bloch), and a daughter-in-law (Wendy Anderson). Her three husbands also died before her.

Survivors include her 6 children, Tom (Connie) Bloch of Williston, ND (and their children, Stacy, Kristy, and Russell), Steve Bloch of north Chester (and his children, Stephen Jr., Johan and Melanie), Jean Flynn of Berkeley, CA (and her daughter, Ruby), Scott Anderson of Mukilteo, WA (and his children, Shannon and Sean), Terry (Susan) Anderson of Campbell, CA (and their children, Renee and Shelby) and Collin Anderson of Chicago, IL. In addition to the 11 grandchildren, Pat is survived by 5 great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated 11:00 a.m. Monday (May 19th) at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham by Father Joseph Diekans. Sharon Spicher served as pianist and Dave Chinnelle sang "How Great Thou Art" and "Amazing Grace." In addition there were taped musical selections by Andrea Bocelli and Charley Pride. Scripture readings were by Rachel Blake, Michael Sloan, and Mike Quinn. The obituary was read by Ed Staudacher and personal reminiscences were shared by Mary Ghee and Karen Sloan. The communion gifts were presented by the family of Tom and Connie Bloch. Eucharistic Ministers were Jerry and Mary Lois Hybner. Altar servers were Neill Sweeney and Karl Koontz.

Memorial bearers included Donnie and Nick Blake; Dr. Richard Bucker; Tom Croff; Fred, Wes, and Tim Fenger; Frank Ghee; John Huber; Tony Juarez; Danny Long; Jerry Ness; Rod Oranw; Bryce Rockman; Hales Scalsee; and all of Pat's many friends — past and present.

Graveside services with burial of ashes followed in the Jackson family plot at the Rudyard Cemetery. A reception for family and friends was held at the Rudyard Senior Center. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.
LAURA HELEN MALLEY
Great Falls Tribune
April 26, 2008

Laura Helen Malley

HARLEM — Laura Helen Malley, 89, of Harlem, died of natural causes Wednesday at a Havre hospital.

Her graveside service is 2 p.m. today in the Harlem Cemetery.

Malley Edwards Funeral Home in Chinook is handling arrangements.

Survivors include a sister, Myrtle Cameron of Oregon; sons Douglas Malley of Sarasota, Fla., Stanton “Swede” Malley and John Malley of Havre; daughters Helen Shettel of Chester and Donna Malley of Havre; 19 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Malley; and a daughter, Coreen Anderson.
VIRGINIA H. (GRAVES) MARTIN
Birth: August 28, 1924 – Death: March 1, 2008
Havre Daily News
March 19, 2008

VIRGINIA H. (GRAVES) MARTIN obituary

Longtime Montana resident Virginia Martin, 83, passed away as quietly as she had lived, the evening of March 1, 2008, at the home of her daughter in Bremerton, Wash.

Virginia was born Aug. 28, 1924, to Clarence and Mary Graves on a farm at Clear Creek, 22 miles south of Chinook, Mont. She received her early education in a one-room school house south of Lohman, Mont. and graduated high school at Hingham, Mont.

Virginia met the love of her life, Luther B. (Brock) Martin on a blind date. She was a first year nursing student in Havre, and he was a handsome young railroad telegrapher. They married Sept. 3, 1943. Virginia followed Brock from one railroad town to another as he accepted a series of promotions with the Great Northern Railroad. There was often little or no advance notice on the transfers, but she happily packed their children and belongings and looked forward to the new adventure without hesitation. Brock passed away in 1964 and she never remarried.

Following Brock’s death, Virginia supported her family by working several years as a nurse at hospitals in Great Falls and later as a clerk at a neighborhood drugstore. In the early ’70s Virginia partnered with a business associate to purchase and operate the Medical Arts Pharmacy. The business operated successfully for many years in downtown Great Falls.

Virginia was preceded in death by her parents and siblings, Robert, William and Mary Ann.

She is survived by her younger sister, Ruby DeFrance of Missoula. Virginia is also survived by her loving children: daughters, Laura Leigland Aimi (Alfred) of Lolo, Mont., Marilyn Adair (John) of Bremerton, Wash., Dennis Nicholson (Ole) of Seattle, and her sons: Alan Martin (Susan) of Issaquah, Wash., David Martin (Suzanne) of Florence, Mont., Lacey Martin (Anne) of Coventry, R.I., and Brandon Martin (Debby) of Glendive, Mont., and grandchildren who will miss their Gramma Martin very much.

Cremation has taken place, and Virginia’s wishes were to be buried near Brock. Her children will make it so in the spring when the leaves on the cottonwoods are green.

Memorial donations to Hospice of Kitsap County, 3100 Bucklin Hill Rd, Silverdale, WA 98383.
Death: September 10, 2008

Liberty County Times
September 17, 2008

CHRISTABEL ‘CHRIS’ MATTESON


Christabel Matteson

After a courageous fight with cancer, Christabel “Chris” Matteson left this world for her heavenly home on September 10, 2008. She died at the Marias Care Center in Great Falls, Montana. On her father’s homestead 18 miles north of Galata and attended the Grandview and Eide country schools. She finished her secondary education in Shelby where she graduated from high school in 1952. During her school years Chris was very active in 4-H. She was honored to receive the “Heisey Award” at the 4-H National Congress in Washington, D.C. for her special project on “home improvement.”

Christabel Lineea Matteson was born November 10, 1934 in Great Falls, Montana. She was the third of four children born to Malvin and Margaret (Ek) Matteson. Chris grew up on her father’s homestead in Liberty County, North Dakota. She attended the Grandview and Eide country schools. She finished her secondary education in Shelby where she graduated from high school in 1952. During her school years Chris was very active in 4-H. She was honored to receive the “Heisey Award” at the 4-H National Congress in Washington, D.C. for her special project on “home improvement.”

Chris continued her schooling at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota where she graduated in 1956. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education with minors in History, Psychology, and Political Science. For the next 19 years Chris taught 5th and 6th graders in California (San Bernardino) and Montana (Sunburst, Havre, Helena, and Shelby). During her teaching years she spent the summer months in Galata, where she ran a small antique store. In 1976 she purchased “The General Store” in Galata and became a full-time businesswoman. In addition to antiques, she sold groceries and produce (and specialized in Scandinavian products like cheeses and lutefisk). Chris proudly advertised Galata and her store as “The Cheese Capitol of Montana!” On May 17th of each year she celebrated “Scandinavian Days” with the Galata community by offering delicious foods, recipes, and products from the old country. In 1992 Chris sold the building, retired, and moved to Shelby.

She continued to be an avid collector of antiques. She especially loved “the hunt” for these items, then “sharing” the items for resale or simply giving them away to friends. Some of her personal favorite collectibles included handmade furniture by our homesteaders, clay items by her students, and cleverly mended items that showed our ancestors’ ability “to make do with what they had.” Chris consigned many of her special antiques to stores in Shelby, Conrad, and Cut Bank. She also enjoyed volunteering at the Cedar Closet (a second-hand store associated with Shelby hospital).

Chris was a lifelong lover of animals, especially dogs. After she retired she attended a grooming school, then opened “Chris’ Dog Grooming” business in Shelby. Unfortunately, her time as a groomer was cut short in 2000 when cancer drained the strength she needed to brush and pamper her canine friends. She continued to offer a “dog-sitting” service to local pet owners. Going through medical treatments, Chris appreciated the affection and companionship that she both received and offered to the visiting dogs – it was a “win/win” situation for her.

Chris’ health remained fairly stable until this past year. She spent several months at the “Gift of Life” housing in Great Falls, then moved from her home to the Marias Heritage Center. On August 5th she transferred to the Shelby nursing facility, where she resided until her death on this past Wednesday evening.

Christabel was a lifetime member of the Trinity Lutheran Church, where she was baptized and confirmed. She had a strong Christian faith and tried to live her life accordingly. She was also a patriotic woman, a charter member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Galata, and she proudly served as chairwoman of the local Girl’s State program from 1968-2007. In addition, she was a 30-year member of the Normont “Sons of Norway” club and belonged to several professional organizations during her teaching career.

Chris loved the Hi-Line communities and was always willing to help with special projects, especially those dealing with preservation of local history. In recent years she promoted the development of “Champion’s Park” in Shelby (to commemorate the infamous boxing match between Jack Dempsey and Tommy Gibbons), but couldn’t continue the project due to failing health. After she sold her Galata business, Chris constructed and donated a mini-display of an “old general store,” which is currently on exhibition at the Liberty County Museum in Chester.

Chris never married and had children of her own; she “adopted” many of her nieces/nephews, treated them as “grandkids,” and did her best to spoil them! She will be remembered as a special sister, aunt, and friend, who was loving and generous to the end...

Chris was preceded in death by her father in 1981, her mother in 1986, her sister (Phyllis McGuire in 1985), her brother-in-law (Allen Kolstad in 2008), a niece...
Arrangements: Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester, MI.

Shelby, any program that begins with the life of children...

Memorials: Trinity Lutheran Church, Champion's Park, MI.

Lunch to follow at the Trinity Church.

Graveside Hymn: "America the Beautiful".

Burial: Trinity Cemetery (north of the Trinity Church).

Honorary Bearers: All of Chris' family and friends.

Gaugon, Wayne; Nelson, Ronald; Malson, and Rick Howell.

Maleson, Hal; Schiefert, David; McQuay, Dean; Johnson, Jim; Kolstad, Clete; Kosklaid, Greg; Woodworth, Karen; Ston.

Eulogy: Karen Ston.

Vocal Tributes: "I'll Fly Away" and "Spirit Song".

Vocal Duet: Diana & Art Adamson, (with Art on the guitar).

"I Was There To Hear You Borning".

Congregational Hymn: "I Was There To Hear You Borning".

Pianist: Connie Dubeck.

Organists: Pastor Jon Knabe, Macabe, and Pastor Charles Woodworth.

Funeral Services: 2:00 p.m. Tuesday (Sept. 16th, 2008) at the Trinity Lutheran Church (north of Champion's Park), Galata, MI.

Fly Away.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Champion's Park, Galata, MI.

She is survived by her sister and children; and a host of friends...
VERNA J. (MOOG) McCOLLUM
Great Falls Tribune
May 18, 2008

VERNA J. McCOLLUM

DICKINSON, N.D. — Verna J. (Moog) McCollum, 45, of Dickinson, N.D., and formerly of Chester, died Wednesday at her home as the result of an accident.

Visitation is 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Ladbury Funeral Service in Dickinson, and one hour before service at the church.

Her funeral is 10 a.m. Monday at Break Forth Bible Church in Dickinson.

She is survived by her husband, Brian; their three children, Andrew, Heather and Christa McCollum, all of Dickinson; three stepchildren, Jamie, Jessica and Jennifer; her parents, Vernon and Beverly (Falla) Moog of Inverness; 11 brothers and sisters, Ken (Lita) Moog of Joplin, Patty (Dave) Burleson of Hill City, S.D., Rita (Greg) Davis of Missoula, Lorraine Moog of Havre, Debbie Moog of Billings, Angie (Gene) Cantley of Great Falls, Joe Moog of Billings, Chris Moog of Suwannee, Ga., Tony (Tiffany) Moog of Clancy, Nick Moog of Inverness and Julie Moog of Englewood, Colo.; a brother-in-law, Randy Wasson and family of Topeka, Kan.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Verna was born Dec. 20, 1962, in Chester to Vernon and Beverly (Falla) Moog. She attended elementary school and three years of high school at Inverness before graduating from J.J. High School in Joplin in 1981. While in high school, she was very active in sports including basketball, track and gymnastics. She graduated in 1983 from Northern Montana College in Havre, Mont., with a paralegal degree.

Following her graduation from high school, she worked in Glasgow for a time, then as a nanny in Boston. She also worked for awhile for the Coast Guard in Boston. After two years in Boston, Verna returned to Montana, where she lived in Chester and worked as a paralegal. Here she met her future husband, Brian McCollum, and they were married on April 8, 1995.

Brian and Verna moved to Dickinson in July 1997. Verna was active in her children’s lives and activities, such as 4-H, Showdeo and rodeo, saddle clubs and helping in their schools when possible. She enjoyed tending to and caring for their animals and the ranch. Visiting with her family, shopping (“browsing”), and horse sales and shows brought great enjoyment.

Verna was preceded in death by both her maternal and paternal grandparents, J.M. and Eva Falla and Otto and Irene Moog, and a sister, Rosanne Wasson in 1999.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries and/or www.ladburyfuneralservice.com.
VIRGINIA ANN (LEE) McDANIEL  
Havre Daily News  
February 11, 2008

VIRGINIA ANN MCDANIEL obituary

Virginia Ann McDaniel, 78, died the evening of Friday, Feb. 8, 2008, evening at the Northern Montana Hospital from natural causes.

Cremation has taken place and her memorial service will be 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2008, at the First Baptist Church with Pastor John Chapman officiating. Graveside services and burial will follow at the Highland Cemetery. A luncheon will be held at the V.F.W. immediately after the graveside services.

Memorial contributions in Virginia’s honor may be made to The First Baptist Church, The Gift Of Life P.O. Box 706 Great Falls, MT 59406 or to the Hi-Line Sletten Cancer Center c/o NMHC P.O. Box 1231 Havre, MT 59501.

Services and arrangements have been entrusted to Holland & Botine Funeral Home.

Virginia was born Oct. 15, 1929, in Livingston to Thomas and Mable (Dinsmore) Lee. She was raised and educated in Havre, graduating from Havre High School. After attending college in Roseman, she returned to Havre and was a member of the first graduating class of licensed practical nurses from the Sacred Heart Hospital.

Virginia married Clarence C. McDaniel on Nov. 17, 1949, in Havre. Together they made their home in Havre and raised their family. Virginia worked at the Highland Park Nursing Home, The Sacred Heart Hospital and the Deaconess Hospital. She later worked as a private nurse in people’s homes.

Virginia enjoyed camping with her family and friends at Beaver Creek Park, fishing and knitting. She and Clarence enjoyed traveling the state camping and fishing. She enjoyed a good game of cards and visiting with her close friends.

Her greatest love was for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a mother and grandmother to many and when her grandchildren were sick they always came to grandma’s. She served as a Girl Scout and Boy Scout leader when her children were younger.

Virginia was a member of the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church, where she taught Sunday school and sang in the choir for many years. She was also a member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary. Later in years, she went to First Baptist Church with her daughter and they found comfort and support with her new church family.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Clarence “Chuck” McDaniel, in 2002.

Virginia is survived by her daughter, Myrna (Chris) Christopherson of Saint Marys, Ga.; son, Tom (Susan) McDaniel of Havre; six grandchildren: Scott (Emmy) Ceynar of Great Falls; Brandell (Will) Rathbun of Havre; Chris McMullen of Missoula; Thora Christopherson Dodson of Saint Marys; Tisha Christopherson of Saint Marys, and Casey (Dan) Parisian of Havre; 10 great-grandchildren, and her very special friends for many years Alice “Apple” Brown, Cecila Ratliff, Carol Filfer and many others.
E. JUNE (STANDIFORD) MCDOWELL
Birth: June 14, 1907 – Death: May 7, 2008
Liberty County Times
May 14, 2008

In 1934 the McDowells began renting land from Jack's cousin, Dodds Keith. They eventually purchased this place and other farmland, located 23 miles north and east of Chester. In addition they leased other property in the area and maintained milk cows, sheep, cattle, and horses. Even though June stayed busy as a homemaker and farmer's wife, she continued to teach in area country schools and provided "boarding" in their home to many of her students.

In 1960 Jack became a Liberty County Commissioner, a position he enjoyed for 14 years until his health began to fail. After 40 years of farming, the McDowell's sold their place in 1974 and moved into Chester. Following Jack's death in 1976, June bought a home in Shelby so she could be close to her church family. A charter member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church, June actively ministered to community friends and acquaintances with frequent visitations to homes, hospitals, and nursing facilities. She remained independent until age 95, then sold her home in Shelby and moved to Marysville, Wash. in 2002 to live with her daughter and son-in-law, Mary Nell and Lloyd Ott.

June transferred to Linda's Adult Family Home in 2005. After she fell at the home this spring, her health steadily declined. June was recently hospitalized and was comforted to have her family at her bedside. During this 9-day vigil she received love and support and songs of "celebration and praise." June transferred back to Linda's Home where she died peacefully on Wednesday morning (May 7, 2008). She was just one month shy of being 101 years old.

June was a charter member of the Bears Den Home Demonstration Club north of Chester and remained connected to this club until moving to Washington. In earlier years she was active in the local 4-H program where she shared her sewing talents with the youngsters. June was an excellent seamstress, making most of her own clothes and family garments throughout the years. In addition June contributed to farm life by maintaining a huge vegetable garden each year. Gardening became a pleasurable hobby that she enjoyed until age 95. June also loved walking and exercising; one of her last memorable hikes was a trip to "Devil's Chimney" at age 86!

In the summer of 2007 June was elated when many family and friends traveled to Marysville to celebrate her 100th birthday! She was loved deeply by all who knew her. June will be remembered as a compassionate, generous, loving lady with a kind heart and gentle spirit...

She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by her 2 sons (Keith and James McDowell), 1 sister (Beulah Wickum), and 2 brothers (Glen and Gordon Standiford).

Survivors include her daughter, Mary Nell Ott (and husband, Lloyd) of Marysville, WA.; 3 granddaughters, Rebecca Chamberlain of Olympia, WA., Bonita Baczewski of Harper, TX., and Bethany Greetham of Key Peninsula, WA.; 4 great-grandchildren (including Michal, Trevor, Brenden, and Katheryn); 1 sister, Barbara Backen of Chester; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday (May 14th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. June's former pastor, Bill Whitney, will officiate. The congregation will sing "Amazing Grace", accompanied by pianist, Tammy Duncan. Special vocal tributes by Mary Ann Zorn will be "He Touched Me" and "Saved by Grace". Pallbearers are P.J. Johnson, Roy Haugen, Bob Wigen, Jim Laird, Tyler Clute, Buddy Sinclair, and Ray Standiford.

Following graveside rites at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon will be held at the church. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials may be given to Liberty Medical Center in Chester.
ROBERT Wayne 'BOB' McSWAIN
Birth: February 7, 1944 – Death: January 24, 2008
Liberty County Times
January 30, 2008

Bob McSwain
Bob McSwain, age 63, of Lothair, died peacefully on Thursday evening (January 24th, 2008) at the Peace Hospice in Great Falls from complications of lung cancer.

Robert Wayne McSwain was born February 7th, 1944 in Seattle, Washington. He was one of two sons born to William & Mildred (Poe) McSwain. In the late 1940's the McSwains lived on a small farm north of Inverness, Mt. Soon after, they sold the farm and returned to Washington where Bob received his formal education. He graduated from high school at age 16 from the Auburn Academy in 1960, then attended prep school at the Seventh Day Adventist College at Walla Walla. He later transferred to the Edmonds Community College to earn his Associate's Degree, then finished his schooling in advanced math at the University of Washington.

Bob fathered two sons (Robert & Richard) from an early marriage that ended in divorce. His second wife was Lila (Neubauer) Franklin, whom he married on August 1st, 1969. They lived in the Seattle area where Bob worked in quality control at various machine shops. In addition he worked as an FFA inspector at Boeing Aircraft until he became disabled in the late 1980's.

Bob & Lila remained in Seattle until 1994. They decided to enjoy the “simple life” in rural Montana, so they bought a small home in Lothair. Soon after their arrival in Montana, Bob took a job as football coach at the North Toole County High School in Sunburst. For the next five years he served as the Junior High football coach at J-I Schools in Joplin. In addition he worked part time at the Liberty County Library and drove school bus for the Chester School system.

Bob was diagnosed with leukemia in 2004 and received successful treatments. He did well until the fall of 2006, when he was diagnosed with lung cancer. Recently, he spent a week at Benefis Hospital, then was transferred to Peace Hospice for extended care on Jan. 22nd.

Bob enjoyed breeding & training dogs, especially Doberman Pinchers, and his favorite Dobie was “Sir Bosco”. For many years he served in the U.S. & Canada as an AKC Tracking Judge and a UKC Obedience Trial Judge. He gave lessons in tracking & obedience in Washington & Montana. He helped organize a UKC Obedience Club in Great Falls in 1995 and also assisted local 4-H'ers in obedience training.

Bob's other hobbies included fishing, playing board games, watching old John Wayne movies, and working on his computer. Bob also enjoyed music, dating back to his school years when he played both trombone & baritone in the H.S. band and sang in the traveling choir. And last, but not least, he was an avid football fan, especially of the Seattle Seahawks & the Montana Grizzlies.

In 2000 the McSwains began attending church at the Central Assembly of God in Great Falls, where they found loving care & wonderful ministry. They also enjoyed church fellowship in the “West of 60” Club.

Bob is survived by his wife of 38 years, Lila McSwain of Lothair; his mother, Mildred McSwain of Bellingham, WA; 2 sons, Robert (Melody) Anderson and Richard (Michelle) Anderson, both of Everett, WA.; 2 step-sons, Douglas (Kay) Franklin of Arizona and Raymond (Wendy) Franklin of Everett, WA.; 12 grandchildren; his brother, Don (Ann) McSwain of Bellingham, WA.; and several nephews & nieces.

Bob was preceded in death by his father and an infant sister.

A memorial service will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday (Jan. 30th) at the Central Assembly of God Church (at 201 Central Ave. in Great Falls). The service will be conducted by Pastor Robert Bryant and special remembrances will be shared by Pastor Joel Cornelius. The pianist will be Tamia Miller and a vocal duet of Bob & JoAnne Bryant will perform “Face to Face” & “That Will Be Glory”. A reception will follow at the church.

Bob was cremated and his ashes will be returned to Seattle, Washington for final disposition. Arrangements were handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester, Mt.
CHARLES ‘BUD’ CHAUNCY MELBY
Liberty County Times
September 3, 2008

In 1953, he married Marlene Jolly, the love of his life. They had five children together and enjoyed nearly 55 years of marriage.

Bud was known for his gentle spirit, quick smile and eternal optimism. His silent demeanor made people respect him.

Bud loved to farm, and he loved his cows. He was very involved in helping his children and grandchildren with their 4-H calves and proud of the successes Melby cattle had at the county fair.

He was an active member of the Kremlin Lutheran Church, often serving on its council. He was also a little league coach, school board trustee and board member of the Kremlin Farmers Union.

He also had a special interest in sports, whether he was playing basketball, rooting for his children and grandchildren in high school sports or watching the TV from his easy chair. He was an avid bowler, participating in mixed and men’s leagues with many of his lifelong friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Raymond Melby and Arlan Melby; a sister, Lois Knutson; and a grandson, Josh Rambo.

He is survived by his wife, Marlene Melby; in-laws, Art and Vera Berg of Kremlin; two daughters, Anita (Randy) Solberg of Box Elder and
RITA MARIE (LAIRD) MELONAS
Birth: November 15, 1931 – Death: February 2, 2008
Liberty County Times
February 6, 2008

Rita Laird Melonas
Rita Marie (Laird) Melonas
was born in Havre, Montana on
November 15, 1931 to John and
Marie Laird. She spent her
early years on a large wheat
farm near Chester, Montana
where she was the only daugh­
ter in a family of 5 brothers.
She graduated from Holy
Names Academy in Spokane,
WA with a degree in Education.
She taught elementary school in
Cody, Wyoming and
Stevenson, WA where she met
and married Sam Melonas, her
devoted husband of 50 years.
Rita and Sam had three sons,
twins Gus and Louie, who work
for BNSF Railway and Steve, a
special education teacher at
Columbia River High School in
Vancouver, WA.

After moving to Vancouver
in 1964, Rita quickly made a
number of lifelong friends
through her many volunteer
projects. She was awarded the
Golden Acorn Award in the
1970’s for her tireless work
with the Vancouver Public
Schools. Rita was a devout
Catholic who never missed
mass or a Holy Day at Our
Lady of Lourdes Parish. She
also took an active interest in
Sam’s affiliation with Holy
Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
in Portland.

A woman of supreme class
and character with an unerring
moral compass, Rita found her
greatest pleasure in life through
her three sons and their wide
array of friends. Her advice was
always dead-on and usually
given whether it was wanted or
not. Forever a champion of the
underdog, her intellect, humor
and level-headedness provided
many friends with clear direc­
tion and hope in their darkest
hours. Her door was open to
everyone and her home was
always filled with visitors.
After one impromptu dinner for
a number of Steve’s friends
from college, one of the guests
told Rita that “they couldn’t
believe mothers like her existed
anywhere other than on TV”.

In her later years Rita took
pleasure in her participation in
china painting, collecting
antiques, cooking, reading, trips
to the Oregon Coast, and her
shih-tzu dog, Lily, whom, until
last week was hand-fed.

Rita died peacefully on
Saturday, February 2, while
outside the snow was gently
falling. She is survived by her
husband, three sons, her brother
Jim Laird of Chester, MT and
a large number of nieces and
nephews.

There will be a Recitation
of the Rosary on Friday,
February 8th at 7pm at
Hamilton Mylan Funeral Home
in Vancouver. A funeral mass
will be held at Our Lady of
Lourdes Parish, 4723 NW
Franklin St., Vancouver, 98663,
on Saturday, February 9th at 10
a.m. Burial will be in the family
plot in Stevenson.
Charles Joseph Mikulecky

Birth: August 26, 1934 - Death: April 15, 2008

Liberty County Times
April 23, 2008

Chuck Mikulecky

Charles Joseph ("Chuck") Mikulecky was born August 26, 1934 in Havre, Montana. He was one of five children born to Catherine Janice Clark and Charles J. Mikulecky. Chuck grew up in the Hi-Line and received his early education at Rudyard. He graduated from Hingham High School in 1953. He often "bragged" that he was the class Salutatorian, understanding of course that he was one of two graduates that year! During his school years he enjoyed working on the Brennan farm north of Hingham.

Chuck married a young school teacher, Patricia Louise Peschel, on September 7, 1958 at Ronan, Montana. They made their home on the MK ("M K Bar") Ranch south of Rudyard, where they raised a family of three. In 1974 the Mikulecky's purchased a home in Rudyard so they could enjoy their children's school activities. Chuck continued to farm until 1991, when he retired, sold the farm, and enjoyed his passion for fishing.

Chuck suffered from asthma and emphysema, and his health declined steadily these past few years. He was recently admitted to the Liberty Medical Center in Chester and was comforted to have his family at his bedside during his final days. He died peacefully at the Chester Hospital on the early morning of Tuesday (April 15, 2008). He was 73 years old.

In his earlier days Chuck was an active member of the Rudyard Gun Club, the Rudyard Saddle Club, and the Farmer's Union. Throughout his life he was a staunch Democrat who proudly served as a Central Committeeman for the Democratic Party for many years. Although he never ran for a political office, he loved politics and was very knowledgeable of political history. He kept abreast on current political issues, thanks to C-Span and CNN, his two favorite television channels. He also enjoyed reading the daily newspapers.

Chuck's other hobbies were many. He was a "cowboy at heart" who loved the "great outdoors." He liked to hunt in his younger days and he took many pack-trips with friends into the Bob Marshall Wilderness over the years. After his health began to fail, Chuck was still eager to go on these trips and he enjoyed serving as the "camp cook." Chuck also experienced several "once in a lifetime" fishing trips to the Alaskan wilderness. These trips were truly wonderful, but some of his best times and memories were at Duck Lake, where he enjoyed fishing with old buddies, especially Joe Farnik.

Other outdoor activities included boating, waterskiing, and shooting gophers. In his quiet time at home Chuck enjoyed reading, especially historical and political publications and magazines like "Outdoor Life." He also liked to play cards, mainly poker, and he enjoyed cooking. Described as a messy cook, but a good cook, he was known for his delicious German chocolate cakes with caramel icing!

Chuck's acquaintances would probably describe him as a shy, quiet man. His friends would say that he was a great story teller with a quick wit and a good sense of humor. His family will remember him as a loving man with a kind heart and a gentle soul.

Chuck was preceded in death by his parents, who were lifelong residents of the Rudyard community. Also preceding him in death was a stillborn brother (Charles Jr.) and a sister (Shirley Kroshus).

Surviving are his wife of almost 50 years, Patricia Mikulecky of Rudyard; 1 son, Edward Charles Mikulecky of Libby; 2 daughters, Sandra Louise Moog (and husband, Bruce) of Libby and Lisa May Iverson (and husband, John) of Stayton, Oregon; 8 grandchildren, inc. Kevin Haas, Daniel Mikulecky, Mitchell Haas, Faryn Iverson, Jasmine Mikulecky, Andrea Moog, Cassandra Moog, and Caliope Mikulecky; 2 sisters, Jean VanRisswick of Vancouver, WA, and Joyce Mikulecky of Ocean Park, WA; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were 11:00 a.m. Friday (April 18th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. Pastor Arden K. Barden and Father Joseph Dickhans conducted the ceremony. Scripture readings were shared by daughter, Sandra. Organist was Sharon Spicher and the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art" and "Amazing Grace". Vocalist, Terry Stevenson, performed "The Old Rugged Cross." Chuck's twin-granddaughters, Andi and Cassi, sang "On Eagle's Wings." Pallbearers were Ed Mikulecky, Bruce Moog, John Iverson, Kevin Haas, Daniel Mikulecky, and Mitchell Haas. Following burial at the Rudyard Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

Memorials may be given to the Rudyard EMS or O.C.E.A.N., a charity established by Lisa and John Iverson to help fund the education of Uganda children. This past fall Chuck spent an enjoyable month in Oregon where he experienced the plight of nine visiting Ugandan kids and realized the importance of this charity:

"One Child Educates A Nation," Cascade High School, 10226 Marion Road S.E., Turner, Oregon 97392.
DALE ROGER MUNCY

Birth: May 20, 1933 – Death: March 18, 2008
Liberty County Times
March 26, 2008

Dale Muncy

Dale Roger Muncy was born May 20, 1933 at home in Chester, Montana. He was the youngest of four children born to Lloyd and Freda (Braun) Muncy. He grew up in Chester and received most of his education here. In his junior year Dale transferred to Joplin High School where he graduated in 1951.

Dale joined the U.S. Air Force in 1952. During his 4-year enlistment he attained the rank of Airman 2nd Class and earned the United Nations Service Medal, the Korean Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal. After his honorable discharge in 1956 Dale returned to Montana, whereupon he met a Canadian girl, Anna Mary Bakic, who was living and working in Chester. They were married on October 28, 1957 in Bangor, Saskatchewan. The Muncy’s made their home in Chester and raised 2 daughters. Dale worked as a city employee until the early 1970s, then began farming with his uncle (George Braun). In addition he had worked for the county as a deputy sheriff and had assisted with maintenance of the Whitlash Road. For several
years he drove the Chester school bus to special activity trips. Dale and Anna were happily married 22 years when she died on October 4, 1979.

Dale remained in the Chester community until 1982, when he met and married Nancy Loudermilk. They lived in Cut Bank, where Dale worked at the H.C. Davis Elementary School. He began having some minor health problems in the 1990s and he retired. After Dale and Nancy divorced in 1995, he moved to Helena to be near his daughter and to receive medical care at Fort Harrison. Initially, he lived at the Eagles Manor in Helena, then transferred to Hunter’s Point. By then he had developed some major health issues, including aneurysm surgery.

In 2001 Dale returned to Chester to live at the Wheat Country Estate. He eventually transferred to the Sweetgrass Lodge, which became his home from that time on. While living in Chester, Dale established a special relationship with an old high school friend and widow, Lillian Tempel, and he enjoyed their daily companionship these past few years.

On this past Tuesday morning (March 18, 2008) Dale was getting ready to go to the Helena veteran’s clinic when he became acutely ill at home. He was rushed to the Liberty Medical Center in Chester, where he died a short time later. He was 74 years old.

Dale held memberships in the Chester V.F.W. Post and the Cut Bank Moose Lodge. He had also served as a volunteer on the Liberty County fire department for many years.

In his younger days he enjoyed softball and bowling. In later years he liked to fish, golf, and take road trips to Nevada. He was an avid fan of high school sports, old John Wayne movies, and the TV series “Little House on the Prairie.” Dale loved to play “Bingo” and cards (especially pinochle and pan). His favorite food was fried chicken! He enjoyed his family and friends and always maintained a good sense of humor with a positive attitude. He will be missed by many...

Dale was preceded in death not only by his wife and parents, but also by his brother (Elmer Muncy), his uncle (George Braun), and his brother-in-law (Bud Haupt).

Survivors are his 2 daughters, Kathryn (Erne) Johnson of Elliston and Teresa (Wes) Fenger of Galata; 2 grandsons, Kevin and Brice Fenger; 2 sisters, Lorraine (Larry) Polacek of Yucaipa, CA and June Haupt of Cut Bank; 2 sisters-in-law, Norma Layton and Olga Mattson; both of Chester; 1 brother-in-law, Milon Bakic of Salt Coats, Sask.; his special friend, Lillian Tempel of Chester; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials will be given to Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester, the New Swimming Pool Fund in Chester, and Lifesaver’s Animal Rescue in Polson...

Funeral services were 11:00 a.m. Saturday (Mar. 22nd) at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Val Metropoulos officiated and was assisted by Dale’s niece, Cheryl Muncy LPA. The obituary and the 23rd Psalm was read by niece, Bonnie Tomac. Organist, Karen Stack, accompanied the congregation, who sang hymns “On Eagle’s Wings” and “The Old Rugged Cross.” Ushers were Jim Fritz and Jerry Fenger. Pallbearers were Kevin and Brice Fenger, Michael Mattson, Elvin Sundgren, Quannah Bailey, and Ted Zorn. Burial with military rites followed at the Chester Cemetery. Friend and neighbor, Bill Gunderson, presented the veteran’s flag to Dale’s daughters.

A reception was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.
Brandon Keith Myers

BILLINGS — Brandon Keith Myers, 21, of Billings, died in an auto accident Monday near Roundup.

Visitation is 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. today at Michelotti Sawyers Funeral Home in Billings, followed by cremation. His memorial service is 11 a.m. Saturday at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Brandon is survived by his father, Keith Myers of Billings; his mother, Diane Raisland Myers of Big Timber; sisters Kristina Myers and Da’Lene Myers of Big Timber; grandfather Ben Raisland of Big Timber; numerous aunts, uncles and cousins, and his Wal-Mart family.

Tragically and with great sorrow, we have lost our beloved son, brother, grandson and cousin, Brandon. Brandon was taken from his family and friends on Monday, June 16, 2008.

He will be remembered as the guy with a big heart. Born in Havre, Mont., on March 18, 1987, Brandon was the first of three children born to Keith Myers of Havre and Diane (Raisland) Myers of Big Timber.

Brandon began his education in Havre, Mont., and graduated from Skyview in Billings in 2007. After graduation, he worked full time at Wal-Mart in the Heights.

Brandon loved hunting, fishing, the Green Bay Packers and spending time at the cabin with his family. He could be found hanging out with his cousins or friends from Wal-Mart. Brandon had a heart of gold and wanted to please everyone. He enjoyed life to the fullest.

Brandon was confirmed in the Missouri Synod and was a member of the Westend Lutheran Mission Church in Elder Grove.

He will best be remembered by those closest to him as a caring and giving person. Brandon always had a smile, especially for those who needed cheering up.

He was preceded in death by grandparents Willis and Louise Myers of Havre and Edna Raisland of Big Timber; and a cousin, Tyrel Raisland of St. Ignatius.

Memorials may be made to any hunting or fishing organization.

Condolences may be posted online at www.michelottisawyers.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Gerald "Buzz" Myers
CARTER — Gerald "Buzz" Myers, 72, who worked for Chouteau County road department, died of a heart attack Sunday in Chouteau County.

Visitation is 2 to 7 p.m. Friday at Benton Funeral Home. His funeral is 2 p.m. Saturday at the Agricultural Museum in Fort Benton, with private burial in Carter Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Edna Myers of Carter; daughters Lori (Vernon) Anderson of Fort Benton and Janet Myers (Terry) Jewell of Carter; a son, Jerry (Janice) Myers of Lothair; sisters Shirley Clark of Fort Benton and Ida Joe Nieffer of Fort Shaw; brothers Walter (Lily Mae) Myers of Hingham and Robert (Shirley) Myers of Floweree; and seven grandchildren, Hollie and Christopher Anderson, Jeremy Myers, Dustin Jordan, Melissa Jordan, V.J. Anderson, Abby Atkin, Casey Anderson and Payton Robertson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Buzz was born July 23, 1936, in Great Falls, Mont., and was raised in Floweree. He married Edna (McDonnell) Myers on April 20, 1960, in Great Falls. He worked for Montana Elevator for seven years, General Mills for 33 years and the Chouteau County Road Department for 13 years. He belonged to the Volunteer Fire Department, Eagles, Elks and had served on the Carter Water District Board and as a school board trustee.

Buzz lived his life to the fullest! He was an amazing husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. Buzz enjoyed playing cards, camping, boating, fishing, hunting, traveling and spending time with his family and friends. He will be greatly missed by all.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Ruby Myers; and his brother and sister-in-law, Willis and Louise Myers.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Adeline Evelyn Nelson

Adeline Evelyn (Nordrum) Nelson, 86, of Great Falls, a retired custodian at Northern Montana College, died of natural causes Thursday at Peace Hospice.

Her graveside service will be held a later date at Highland Cemetery in Havre. Cremation has taken place under the direction of the O'Connor Funeral Home.

Survivors include her daughters, Janice McGiboney of Great Falls and Linda (Bill) Arlinit of Kalispell; a sister-in-law, Grace Nordrum of Havre; 10 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence Nelson in 1973; sons Ralph Nelson in 1966, and Donnie Nelson in 2006; brothers Arnold and Percy Nordrum; and a sister-in-law, Lorraine Nordrum.

Adeline was born May 27, 1921, in Barnesville, Minn. She grew up and attended school in Barnesville. She married Clarence Nelson in 1940, and he died in 1973.

In Havre, Adeline worked at Sacred Heart Hospital, Deaconess Hospital and Northern Montana College until her retirement in 1986.

Adeline was an active member of the Havre Eagles Lodge, participating on the drill team.

Memorials are suggested to Peace Hospice, Eagles Auxiliary in Havre or to the donor's choice.

Condolences may be posted online at www.mem.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
JOHN B. NICKOL
Born: Age-89 Died: September 29, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
October 2, 2008

John B. Nickol

SHELBY — John B. Nickol, 89, who farmed and ranched in south Toole County and enjoyed collecting firearms and playing the harmonica and was known for his ability at reciting poetry, died of natural causes Monday at his home.

A vigil service is 7 this evening at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Funeral Mass is 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Conrad, with burial at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Conrad.

Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Betty Nickol; children LeAnn Nickol and Barbara Bouma of Choteau, Patrick Nickol of Ledger, David Nickol of Helena, Ramona Kinyon of Galata, Bernadette Nickol of Kalispell, Juanita Rodriguez of Conrad, Philip Nickol of Shelby and Konrad Nickol of Missoula; a sister, Mary Spain of Alaska; 24 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a grandson.
BILL J. NORDEN
Birth: July 8, 1960 – Death: May 9, 2008
Havre Daily News
May 19, 2008

BILL J. NORDEN obituary
Bill J. Norden, 47, of Gibbon
died Friday, May 9, 2008, in
North Platte. Funeral services
will be 10:30 a.m., Wednesday,
May 14, 2008, at the O'Brien­
Straatmann Funeral Home in
Kearney with Rev. Mike Shields
officiating.
Interment
will be at
1:30 p.m.
in the
Parkview
Cemetery
in
Hastings.
Visitation
will be
from 5 to 8
p.m.,
Tuesday at
the funeral
home. Memorials are suggested
to the family, to be designated
later. Online condolences or
personal reflections can be sub­
mitted at osafh.com. O'Brien­
Straatmann Funeral Home of
Kearney is in charge of
arrangements.
He was born July 8, 1960, in
Havre to John and Pearl
(McIntyre) Norden. He grew
up in Havre and the surround­
ing area and received his edu­
cation there. On February 17,
1979, he married Joan Mallo in
Havre. They later divorced. On
October 4, 1997, he married
Connie (Gruber) Miller in
Hastings. She died on January
he married Linda (Garrison)
Richter in Kearney. They lived
in Gibbon. He was employed
by Brown Transfer. He had
lived in Vacaville, Calif., Boise,
Idaho, Morgan City, La.,
Calais, Maine, Hastings, Neb.
and Fairfield, Neb. He had
worked for Firestone for over
20 years and also for Eaton
Corporation, and Picks Pack
Haulers.
His hobbies included golf,
cooking, and entertaining fami­
ly and friends. He loved drag
racing and raced at Kearney
Raceway Park. He won the 1997
ET Finals in Scribner.
Survivors include his wife,
Linda of Gibbon; son, Billy
Norden and wife Ashley of
Gibbon; daughters, Erica
Maughan and husband C.J. of
Hastings and Melisa Amato
and husband Dominic of Havre;
stepson, Daniel Richter and
wife Kaci of Lincoln; step­
daughter, Megan Richter of
Kearney; sisters, Deborah
Lancaster of Hastings and
Beverly Norden-Halter of
Rudyard; and grandchildren,
Rhianne, Paige, Caleb
Maughan, Dominic Amato and
Carson Richter.
He was preceded in death by
his parents; wife, Connie
Norden; brothers, Daryl and
Warren Norden; stepmother,
Gladys Norden; niece, Linda
Ann Norden; and nephew,
Stanley Norden.
Born: April 7, 1958 – Died: March 1, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
March 3, 2008

Becky Sue Olsen

CASCADE — Becky Sue (Standley) Olsen, 49, of Cascade, died of liver failure Saturday at a local hospital.

A celebration of her life is at 11 a.m. Thursday at Cascade United Methodist Church in Cascade. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory. Her ashes will be buried next to her parents' in Hillside Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband, Keith Olsen of Cascade; sisters Elaine Schuchard, Paulette Linabary and Louise (Bob) Falk, all of Great Falls, Jan (Jerry) Albright of Shelby and Kathy (Doug) James of Billings; a special niece, Barb (Scott) Milner of Ketchikan, Alaska; stepsons Josh (Jesse) Olsen of Great Falls and J.D. Olsen of Bozeman; and granddaughter Taylor Olsen of Great Falls. Becky is also survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, friends and her dogs, Karma and Muttley, and feline friends.

Becky died March 1, 2008, surrounded by her sisters and husband. She was born April 7, 1958, in Great Falls, Mont., to Lester and Bertha Standley. On Sept. 5, 1999, she married Keith Olsen in Cascade, Montana. They resided at the Standley family farm where they raised cattle and hay. Becky completed her life in the home of her childhood. She attended Cascade Public Schools and graduated from Cascade High School in 1976. She maintained close relationships with many of her classmates and enjoyed their frequent reunions. She began working at the Great Falls Clinic in September 1976, and continued working there until her death. Her many friends include co-workers from the clinic.

Becky was an active member of the Cascade United Methodist Church, serving as a Sunday school teacher, on several committees, and as organist and pianist. Becky also accompanied community soloists when needed. She was a member of Cascade Chapter #101, OES, and served as Worthy Matron in 1991-92 and held other offices.

Becky is remembered for her love of animals and the farm, her strong work ethic, her loyalty to family and friends, and her care for her aging parents. She enjoyed needlework, reading, crossword puzzles, creating family videos, gifts and calendars. Becky also enjoyed attempting to continue the tradition of "Bertha's Doughnuts". She enjoyed attending Cascade High School athletic and musical events, stock car races and family gatherings.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lester and Bertha; brothers-in-law Don Schuchard and Mike Webster; her father-in-law, Ray Olsen; and a nephew, Kirby Albright.

Memorials may be made to Cascade United Methodist Church or the donor's choice.

Condolences may be posted online at www.croxfordfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
FREDERICK LEROY O’NEIL
Birth: June 22, 1929 – Death: December 17, 2008
Liberty County Times
December 24, 2008

Fred O’Neil
Frederick Leroy O’Neil was born June 22, 1929 in Great Falls, Montana. He was the eldest of four children born to Nellie Agnes Parker and Frank R. O’Neil. Fred grew up on the family farm in the Black Coulee community south of Rudyard. He attended first grade in Big Sandy and finished his formal education at the Prairie City School near the farm.

In 1950 Fred entered the U. S. Army. While stationed in Indiana, he met his wife-to-be, Sarah Mae Miller. Following his honorable discharge, Fred returned to Montana. He and Mae were married in Havre on December 17, 1952. They made their home on the O’Neil farm 21 miles south of Rudyard and raised a family of six children. They were married 40 years when Mae died of pulmonary disease on April 25, 1993.

Soon after, Fred began courting a widow friend, Julia (Fisher) Hansen of Big Sandy. They were married in Havre on November 27, 1994. Through this union, Fred acquired Julia’s two adult children as part of his extended family. The O’Neils made their home and new life together in Big Sandy. They were married 12 years when Julia died of cancer on November 6, 2006.

Fred continued to live in Big Sandy and enjoy quality time with his family. He was recently on a road trip, stopping in Billings for Thanksgiving. Unfortunately, he became ill and was admitted to St. Vincent’s Hospital on Nov. 21st. Fred remained hospitalized in Billings until his death on this past Wednesday evening (December 17, 2008). He was 79 years old.

Fred enjoyed many hobbies. He loved to fish and hunt, and always looked forward to elk season. He liked to play cards (mainly, pinochle and cribbage) and he liked to read (his favorites were westerns). He loved everything about the farm – from planting the crops to watching the crops grow to “tinkering” in his shop. Fred loved little kids, especially his grandkids, and enjoyed picnics at the river with relatives and friends. A devoted family man, Fred talked to his kids on a daily basis. He always loved to have someone around, sitting close, visiting, or holding a hand. He had special nicknames for all of his children and grandchildren, and they affectionately called him “Grampa Snowy.” Fred also enjoyed traveling and was a lifetime member of the Masonic Lodge.

He was preceded in death not only by his wives and parents, but also by a son (Warren) and a granddaughter (Misty Dawn).

Survivors include 3 sons, Leo (Penny) O’Neil of Denver, Colorado, David (Angie) O’Neil of Malta, and Ross (Rose) O’Neil of Rudyard; 2 daughters, Tammie Gutzeimier (Ted Brown) of Hingham and Judy (Shawn) Campeau of Billings; 13 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren; 2 stepchildren, Kurt (Thelma) Hansen of Big Sandy and Carolyn (John) Boyd of Puyallup, Wash.; 1 brother, Arnold (Margaret) O’Neil of Big Sandy; 2 sisters, Mariana (Marilyn) Cornett of Great Falls and Corn Lee (Gene) Welty of Big Sandy; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 p.m. Monday (Dec. 22nd) at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Rudyard by Pastor Arden K. Barden. The service began with special rites provided by Masonic friends. The congregation sang “The Old Rugged Cross,” accompanied by organist, Sharon Spicher. Vocal tributes by Marcus Jochim included “In the Garden” and “Put Your Hand in the Hand.” The obituary was read by daughter, Tamnie.

Personal remembrances were shared by grandchildren, Jeromy and Morgan. Fred’s loving grandkids served as pallbearers. Ushers were Jessie Dibblee and Patrick Field. Burial was at the Rudyard Cemetery, where grandson Justin made the military flag presentation. A reception followed at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials may be given to the Shriner’s Children’s Hospital, the American Cancer Society, or donor’s choice...
Daniel Bruce Packer
Liberty County Times
August 20, 2008

Daniel Bruce Packer, of Lake Tapps, WA died July 26th while scouting a wildland fire in Klamath National Forest in Northern California. He was 49 years old. Dan was born August 12, 1958 in Havre. As an only child, he shared responsibility for the family ranch north of Rudyard and developed an ambitious discipline that served him well throughout his life. He rode broncs, roped cattle and was well-liked for his sense of humor. At 17 he moved to the Seattle area for his senior year of high school where he met his future wife, Marylee. While they did not date at the time, they were very good friends and in those early years laid the foundation for their 28-year marriage.

Dan and Marylee married in 1980 and had four daughters. Dan enjoyed being a father and took parenting girls very seriously. His daughters greatly admired and respected him. For all his gruffness he was a soft-hearted man who doted on his family.

Dan began working for the fire service in 1981. For the first 13 years of his career he served in Burien, WA. In the 1994 he accepted a position as Battalion Chief of Bonney Lake (WA) Fire Department and became Chief in 1995. As Chief he facilitated the creation of East Pierce Fire & Rescue, a successful merger of several smaller departments. His vision for the department and its service to the community was very large and it showed in how he approached his work. In 2004 he assumed the presidency of the Washington Fire Chiefs, a position he retained until July of 2008.

In 2006 Dan's first grandchild was born. Together with Marylee, he spent a great deal of time with his grandson, often having sleepovers and recruiting his "little shadow" to help with projects such as washing the car and mowing the lawn. His devotion to his children and grandchildren was surpassed only by his love for his wife.

Dan's service was held August 7th and he was buried with honors in Sumner, WA the same day. He is survived by his wife Marylee, his mother Winnie, his daughters Nicole, Katrina, Rachael and Nellie and his two young grandchildren Wilson and Violet.
HERBERT R. PASHA JR.
Born: June 2, 1926  Died: September 4, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
September 5, 2008

Herbert R. Pasha Jr.

HIGHWOOD — Herbert R. Pasha Jr., 82, of Highwood, a Navy veteran, died of natural causes Thursday at Peace Hospice.

Cremation has taken place and his memorial service is 11 a.m. Monday at Croxford Funeral Home & Crematory.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Lila; a son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Ann Pasha of Highwood; and two daughters and sons-in-law, Barbara and Tom Albers of Miles City and Leslie and Don Hanson of Kremlin. He is also survived by eight grandchildren, Erin and Sam Weisgerber of Helena, Jeffers and Andrea Pasha of Highwood, Tyler Pasha of Helena (attending Carroll College), Michael Albers of Aurora, Colo., Kara Albers of Billings, Eric and Genevieve Hanson of Helena, Dr. Marilsai Hanson of Roseburg, Ore., and Whitney Hanson of Bozeman; and two great-granddaughters, Addison Weisgerber and Cambrie Pasha.

Herbert was born to H.R. and Lorene Pasha on June 2, 1926, in Bozeman, Mont. He was raised and educated in Bozeman, and upon graduation, Herb hitchhiked to Butte to enlist in the Navy for World War II. He became a radio corpsman, serving on the Island of New Caledonia in the South Pacific.

Upon returning from the war, he attended Montana State College in Bozeman, where he joined Sigma Chi fraternity and received a degree in fish biology. He also met his sweetheart, Lila Swan, and they were married June 26, 1949, in Great Falls.

Together, they moved to Highwood to farm and ranch in 1951. They then formed a partnership with Lila's brother, Miles Swan, and his wife, Doris, and have made Highwood their home since.

They raised their three children, and Herb was involved with many local organizations, including the Sewer Board, Rifle Club and Commercial Club. He served as school clerk and on the school board and Soil Conservation Service Board.

In later years, he served on several other boards, including Cascade Mutual Insurance and Sun River Electric. He was a member of the Benton Masonic Lodge No. 42, and Faith Community Church.

He enjoyed woodworking and gardening, but especially enjoyed traveling and visiting his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Memorials in Herb's name are suggested to Peace Hospice of Great Falls, Highwood Scholarship Fund, American Cancer Society or to the donor's choice.

Condolences may be posted online at www.croxfordfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Anna Louise (Crandall) Patrick was born July 27, 1911 at Lewis County, Missouri. She was one of three daughters born to Mary Agness Dement and Ralph Crandall. Anna grew up in Missouri and received her formal education there, graduating from Lewistown High School in 1929.

She married Harry Audra Patrick on October 4, 1929 in LaGrange, Missouri. They lived and farmed in Lewis County for seven years. In 1932 the Patricks made a trip to Montana and fell in love with the state. In 1936 they moved to Montana and purchased the Schnieble farm 20 miles north of Rudyard. In the years that followed Anna worked diligently as a farmwife, homemaker, and mother of three. The Patricks retired in 1973. The farming operations remained in the family, so Anna and Harry continued to live in their farm home. They were married 52 years when Harry died on March 14th, 1982.

Anna remained in the family home until 1998, when she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. She died peacefully at the rest home on this past Tuesday morning (July 8, 2008). She was 96 years old.

The Patricks had been active in the Grace Evangelical Church north of Rudyard and the Hill County Farm Bureau. After their retirement, they made several memorable trips to Montana and Hawaii.

Anna enjoyed gardening, singing, and cooking (her holiday meals were always fabulous!). In her quiet time at home she loved to read, especially religious publications, poetry books, and business magazines. She also enjoyed “painting-by-number” pictures. Anna will be remembered as a caring friend and a very loving mother.

In addition to her parents and husband, Anna was preceded in death by a son (Gene Patrick), 3 grandsons (Kenneth and Russell Solum and Craig Patrick), and a sister (Mary Nell Bozarth).

She is survived by 2 children, Ralph Patrick and Mary Ellen Solum, both of north Rudyard; 1 sister, Emma Brose of Plano, Texas; 8 grandchildren (including Dennis and Steve Patrick, Anemone Reeves, Colleen Tew, Phil and Ed Solum, Lisa Hawk, and Tanya Taylor); 29 great-grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were 2:00 p.m. Monday (July 14th) at the Calvary Evangelical Church in Rudyard. The funeral was officiated by Pastor Don Hardesty. Ruth Maatta served as pianist and the congregation sang “I’ll Fly Away” and “Because He Lives”. Special vocal music by Renae and Sonya Solum included “Oh What A Day That Will Be” and “Safe in the Arms of Jesus”.

Pallbearers were Ed and Phil Solum, Joe Lincoln, Tom Dolezal, Calvin Tollefson, and Craig Patrick. Honorary bearers were Norman Kapperud, Hap and Bud Vandesandt, and all of Anna’s great-grandchildren. Roger Lincoln served as usher. Following burial at the Rudyard Cemetery, a coffee hour was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester for use at the Liberty Medical Center.
HAROLD M. ‘HAP’ PLEAS
Birth: July 26, 1933 – Death: February 29, 2008
Liberty County Times
March 12, 2008

Harold M. “Hap” Pleas, 74, of Missoula, passed away from cancer at the St. Patrick Hospital on Friday, February 29, 2008. He was born July 26, 1933 at the Vidette Gold Mine in British Columbia, Canada, the son of Rupert Pleas Sr. and Treazer Turner.

Hap served in the Korean War with the US Air Force and trained and patrolled with the AP Canine Unit. On July 29, 1989, he married Lynda Edwards Knoyle in Coeur d’Alene, ID. The couple resided in Missoula where they owned and operated a check cashing business. He thoroughly enjoyed family, friends, socializing, hunting, fishing, golfing and all of God’s creations. In 1955, he married Avonnelle Anderson and they later divorced.

He is preceded in death by his parents and brother Rupert Pleas Jr. Survivors include his wife Lynda, of Missoula; daughter, Kelly Pleas (Vicki) of Billings; daughter Michele Haack (Bob) of Great Falls; stepsons David Knoyle (Glenda) of Renton, WA; Greg Knoyle (Traci) of Missoula; Jerry Knoyle (Ann) of Billings; Numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren; brother Mel Pleas (Pattie) of Mt. Vernon, WA; Several nieces and nephews. “Brother-in-law three times removed” Dick Meisinger (Carol) of Missoula.

Gatherings to celebrate Hap’s life were held Saturday in Missoula by his family and in Hemet, CA by his friends at Mountain Shadows. No other services are planned, however phone calls from family and friends will be appreciated. Private interment at a later date will be in Havre. The family suggests memorials to: Shriner’s Hospital for Children, P.O.Box 2472, Spokane, WA 99210-2472; or the Poverello Center, P.O.Box 7644, Missoula, MT 59807; or to St. Paul’s Lutheran Church 202 Brooks, Missoula, MT 59801.

Local arrangements are under the care of Garden City Funeral Home.
ELIZABETH JOAN (WALES) POPE
Born: January 8, 1933 - Died: December 1, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
December 4, 2008

Joan Pope

ST. IGNATIUS — Joan (Wales) Pope, 75, died of natural causes Monday at a Ronan hospital.

Services are 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Helmville, with burial in Helmville Community Cemetery. A reception will follow at the Helmville Community Center. Shrider-Thompson Funeral and Cremation Services of Ronan is in charge of arrangements.

She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Frank Pope; children Marilyn (Tom) Jurenka of Hingham, and Dave (Irma) Pope of St. Ignatius; sisters Dede (Glenn) Cook of Deer Lodge and Shirley, Wales of Missoula; six grandchildren, Mike (Megan) Jurenka, Kevin Jurenka, Molly Jurenka, Brandon Pope, Kinley Pope and Kail Pope; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Born Elizabeth Joan to Earl and Ruby Wales on Jan. 8, 1933, in Deer Lodge, she was raised in the Helmville Valley. She attended grade school in Helmville, and graduated from Loyola Sacred Heart in Missoula in 1950. She attended St. Mary's College in Kansas City, Kan., and graduated from St. James School of Nursing in Butte. She worked as a nurse at Fort Harrison, St. Joseph Hospital in Deer Lodge, Galen and Warm Springs, and Mission Valley Hospital in St. Ignatius.

Joan married Frank Pope on July 3, 1955, at St. Thomas Parish in Helmville. They ranched in Helmville until 1974, and then moved to the Mission Valley. She worked side by side with her husband to build a successful ranching operation. She was the hardworking woman behind the successful man. Joan was a member of the Daughters of Isabella, Western Montana Simmental, Montana State Simmental Association and the Mission Parish. She was very active in her communities and churches where she lived.

Joan will be dearly missed by her family and friends. Aunt Joan to many, she was the inventor of a good practical joke, a good time at cards, and wonderful songs at the piano. She worked the fields and the stock, and the kitchen, and found time to garden. She liked to fish. Her keen sense of humor and wry smile were with her to the very end.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Ed and Hugh Wales; and sisters Anna Maria (Cooper), Rupert Jean (Larson), Frances Bernadette (Senecal).

The family suggests memorials to the American Diabetes Association, 3203 3rd Ave. N., Suite 203, Billings MT 59101; or a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
VERLE LAVERNE RADEMACHER
Liberty County Times
August 20, 2008

Verle Laverne Rademacher
Verle Laverne Rademacher was born Feb. 13, 1937, on a farm at Floyd, Iowa, to Gerhard George and Stella Blanche Shaw Rademacher. Verle passed away Aug. 12, 2008, in Cooney Convalescent Home from Alzheimer and Parkinson diseases.

Verle married his high school sweetheart Patricia Miner on April 7, 1956. Verle and Patricia raised four children, Verle Jr., Robin, Diann and Rachel.

After graduation from Floyd High School in 1954, Verle attended Linotype Trade School and started his life of newspapering. In September 1954, Verle went to work at the newspaper in Webster City, Iowa. From there he went to Nora Springs newspaper and then to Owatonna, Minn., where he worked for Jostens Year Book Company. From Owatonna, Verle went to Faribault Daily News in Faribault and from there he went to work for the Dakota County Tribune in Farmington, Minn.


Verle was an avid hunter, bagging mountain sheep, mountain goat, mountain lion, moose, elk, antelope, deer, ducks and geese. He loved to take his children and grandchildren with him hunting to teach them the love and respect of the outdoors.

Verle was a member of Diamond City Lodge No. 7, serving as master two times and secretary for many years. As well as a charter life member of Bannack Historic Lodge, an Eastern Star member and a Rainbow Dad. He was also a member of the Algeria Shrine and Scottish Rite. He was on the Private Lands Public Wildlife Board for Gov. Marc Racicot, and was on the Montana Printing Board many years. Verle went on the Centennial Cattle Drive in 1989, and printed a paper of each day’s events while on the drive, eventually publishing a book of his experience. Verle was president of Montana Newspaper Association in 1983, and served on many boards for the Newspaper Association. Verle was chairman of the White Sulphur Springs Ducks Unlimited Chapter for numerous years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother and two sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia; son, Verle Jr. (Lynn); daughters, Robin (Doug) Hutchinson, Diann (Cary) Levandowski, Rachel (Douglas) Bawden; mother-in-law, Eleanor Miner; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials may be made to Montana Ducks Unlimited, Don Babcock, P.O. Box P, WSS, MT 59645; or Shrine Hospital in Spokane, WA. Twichel Funeral Home assisted the family.
EDNA JUNE (NORENBERG) RICHTER
Birth: June 26, 1923 – Death: March 27, 2008
Havre Daily News
March, 2008

EDNA JUNE (NORENBERG) RICHTER obituary

Edna June (Norenberg) Richter of Havre, 84, known as “June” to her friends, passed away at Northern Montana Hospital Thursday morning, March 27, 2008, of natural causes.

Memorial services will be held at the church.

June was born on June 26, 1923, to Alma (Voss) and Edward Norenberg, on the family farm north of Hingham.

She met and later married John Richter on September 30, 1942, and they farmed south of Gilford, Montana for several years.

June was the last of the eight siblings to pass. They were: Louise Blake, Ray “Buzz” Norenberg, Dorothy Jones, Verda Alex, Vera Rambo, Ed Norenberg and Marlene Hanson. She was also preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, John Richter, in 2001; an infant son Ronald in 1957 and a daughter Shirley, who passed away 2001.

June had a closeness with her children that was to be emulated, probably because of her ability to listen without judging. June was a homemaker; she also assisted John in managing his business. She liked to play bingo, cards and various games of chance. She loved serving, baking and quilting for her children and grandchildren. All her children were constantly amazed at her ability to feed 10 or more visitors at the drop of a hat — where all the food came from was a mystery! Her recipes will be listed at a public auction Web site!

She is survived by her children John Jr. of Post Falls, Idaho; Russell Richter of Lolo; Lee Richter of Havre; and Alvin Richter of Santa Rosa, Calif; 10 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild; also numerous nieces and nephews.

Thank you to her caregivers at NMCC and NMH. Special thanks to Kathy Bouchard for helping mom in recent years playing spite and malice, zilch and just being there for her. Also her guardian angel Denise Strissel for watching over Mom during her stay in the hospital and care center. There have been others over the years and we apologize for not being able to mention all of you.

Memorial donations may be made in her name to NMCC, 24 W. 13th St., Havre, MT 59501; The American Cancer Society, 1599 Clifton Rd. NE. Atlanta, GA 30329; The American Heart Association, 1200 South Parker Road, Denver, CO. 80231
Cyrus Jerome "Cy" Rishoff, age 102, passed away peacefully in his sleep at the Lake View Care Center in Bigfork early Saturday morning (Feb. 16, 2008).

Cyrus was born May 17, 1905 in Gary, Minnesota. He was one of seven children born to Anton and Martha (Holm) Rishoff. He received his formal education in Minnesota, then came to Montana as a young man to work on his uncle's farm north of Lothair. While there Cy met the neighbor girl, Ovedia Olson, and they were married in Chester on October 6, 1928.

They lived in Shelby for many years where Cyrus worked for the Toole County road department. He enjoyed baseball, pheasant hunting, collecting copper & brass, and playing cards (especially pinochle). He retired in 1970.

The Rishoffs moved to Bigfork in 1988 and tended to the cherry orchards on their property at Woods Bay. They were thankful for good health and lived independently into their 90's. In 2004 Cy transferred to the Bigfork care center, where he received excellent care from the entire staff. During his stay at the rest home he enjoyed playing bingo and pinochle, and he loved the many visits from his family members.

Cy was preceded in death by his parents, a son (Orville Rishoff), his brother (Marvin Rishoff), and his 5 sisters (Hazel Standiford, Lillian Berglund, Eva Edmister, Margaret Janewski, and Dorothy Themis).

Survivors include his wife of 79 years, Ovedia Rishoff of Bigfork; his son, Jack Rishoff of Bigfork; his daughter, Betty Fjeld of Kalispell; 8 grandchildren, Susan (Jerry) LeBouef of Newport Beach, CA., David (Robyn) Rishoff of Etiwanda, CA., Laney (David) Paine of Newport Beach, CA., Debbie (Jack) Sparks of Albany, OR., Kim Hickman of Neptune, NJ, Mick (Ruthie) Renna of Rudyard, Donna Benner of Kalispell, and Ed (Tari) Renna of Meridian, ID.; 13 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11:00 a.m. Friday (Feb. 22nd) at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby by Reverend Joe Haugestuen. Special music will be provided by pianist Laila Lindberg and vocalist Carolyn Burns. The congregation will sing "How Great Thou Art". Pallbearers are Ed & Mick Renna, David & Jim Rishoff, Gary Standiford, and Tracy Dumas. Burial will be at the Mountainview Cemetery in Shelby followed by a luncheon at the church. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.
Mary Chloe Rockwell

Mary Chloe (Gatzemeier) Rockwell, 86, a former rural mail carrier, railroad dispatcher, secretary/receptionist, sales associate and administrative assistant, died of natural causes April 22 at a Great Falls hospital.

A prayer vigil is 7 p.m. Wednesday at St. Jude Catholic Church in Havre. Memorial Mass is 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Jude, followed by a luncheon at the parish hall. Burial will take place at 3 p.m. in Hingham Cemetery.

Survivors include daughters Charlotte Lewis and Teri Rockwell-Williams of Billings, Donna Rowley of Great Falls and Kathryn Kuhr of Havre; brothers Joe Gatzemeier of Havre, Edward Gatzemeier of Helena; sisters Hazel Gatzemeier of Havre, Helen Krejci of Rudyard and Martha Haag of Fort Wayne, Ind.; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Albert Eder, in 1949; and an infant daughter, Barbara Ann Eder, in 1948.
LARRY JAMES SARGENT
Bozeman Daily Chronicle
January 26, 2008

People come into this world and fill so many different roles. A little baby boy was born in Billings, Mont. On June 21, 1965. He grew to become a lifelong source of joy and happiness to his family and countless more. His wit, his concern for the feelings of others, his quiet nature and his artistic talents impressed and amazed many, time after time. His artistic hand, eye and mind seemed inexhaustible: Any medium from painting to floral arranging; home decorating to the culinary arts; stained glass to woodworking; still photography to film making; stage, prop, and costume design to dance, Music, and theatre; Larry's work was always distinctive, extraordinary, and inspiring. He revealed a world of beauty.

Larry James Sargent's role on this earth ended all too soon at age 42. He passed away January 23, 2008, in Bozeman following complications from a broken arm and pulmonary embolism.

Forging his own creative path from an early age, Larry started drawing as soon as he could pick up a crayon. He noticed things others missed and liked to draw even the ordinary. During a trip to Great Falls, he insisted on a stop in Townsend so he could sketch the water tower. At 7 years of age, he illustrated his dad's story, "The Tall Ladder." He progressed to creating puppets, building a stage, and performing puppet show with his cousin. Before graduating from Bozeman Senior High in 1984, he created paintings, illustrations, short films, ceramics and a variety of unique objects and artworks.

At age 9, he joined 4-H and was anxious to prepare a demonstration. His interest was in the preparation of charts and showing results, not in speaking. In fact, he gave his first demonstration on how to shine a penny without saying even one word. A few years later, he won a trip to the Western 4-H Roundup in Denver with a demonstration in photography.

Throughout his years, he did artistic work for many different companies and individuals. Never one to follow someone else's script or make decisions based on money and time, Larry poured his energy into project after project. One of his window displays won the top honor in a contest for the Montana State University Homecoming.

After attending MSU, he was a set designer, graphic artist, stagehand and office manager for Jay Owenhouse's magic show. For several summers, he cooked at Camp Mimanagish, south of Big Timber. Later, he ran his own floral shop in Dillon, Mont. Most recently he was a customer service agent for SkyWest United Airlines where he enjoyed his coworkers and the travel. Bozeman dance and theatre audiences saw many of his backdrops, stage and prop designs, costume work, and graphic arts. Eventually they saw him on stage, as he moved from behind the scenes to perform various roles. Perhaps his first appearance was singing, dancing, and playing the part - Sises will be held at the Methodist church in Bozeman at 11 a.m. on Monday, January 28.

He is survived by his parents, Jim and Alice Sargent of Bozeman, sister Sharon Sargent of Bozeman, and sister and brother-in-law Linda and Leonard Wood of Gilbert, Arizona. Preceding him in death was his sister Janice Arlene. He also leaves behind many dear aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Larry fulfilled his role on this earth trying to make it a kind, gentle, more loving place for all. Had he more time, he would have continued to share his creations, live by his own script, and pursue life and his talents with his gentle spirit and generous heart. We are grateful for his gifts still with us, many in material form, many more in the depths of our hearts.

If you would like to leave a memorial for Larry, he would be pleased to have you choose where it is to go.
STUART JAMES ‘STU’ OR STUEY’ SCABERY
Liberty County Times
August 6, 2008

His love of Chester brought him back and he began working as a carpenter. Before long he took a job as partsman at Marias Equipment. This experience was invaluable, so he transferred to another job as partsman for Uniquip in Great Falls. Again, a better position became available at Big Sky Equipment in Conrad. Stu lived and worked in Conrad for five years and earned a special award from J.I. Case as “Master Club Parts Manager.”

Looking for a change, Stu returned to the Chester community and began working for Arrowhead Farms: he initially worked for Schweitzers, then Morkrids, for a total of 13 years. For the past two years he has worked for the Columbia Grain Elevator in Tiber. Stu was on-the-job at the elevator on Wednesday (July 30, 2008) when he suddenly collapsed. He was dead on arrival of medical personnel. He was just 53 years old.

Stuart enjoyed many hobbies, like boating and “sea-doing” on Lake Elwell. He collected decorative tin cans and model tractors. He enjoyed TV and was an avid “X-Files” fan. He loved music, especially Roy Orbison, Elvis Presley, and classic rock & roll. Stu was an excellent self-taught mechanic. He enjoyed simple pastimes with friends, like ice-fishing, shooting gophers, or playing “pitch” and poker. He could be very outspoken and opinionated with adults, but also had a loving and tender side when dealing with children. He will be missed by all who loved him.

Stuart is survived by his mother, Glora Lomen of Chester; his father, Jim (Darlene) Scabery of Portland, OR.; half-sisters, Roilene (Larry) Fain of Woodbridge, VA. and Terri (Mark) Magelssen of Havre; half-brother, Barry Lomen of Chester; step-brother, Matt (Shirley) Monroy of Portland, OR.; and several uncles, aunts, nephews, and nieces.

Funeral services were conducted by Pastor Val Metropoulos at 11:00 a.m. Monday (Aug. 4th) at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester. Organist was Karen Stack and the congregation sang “Amazing Grace.” Vocalist, Anne Seidellitz-Melton, performed “On Eagle’s Wings.” A favorite taped selection by Elvis Presley entitled “My Way” was played. Stu’s uncle Bud Broadhurst, served as eulogist. Ushers were Jon Thisselle, Rod Wolfe, and Steve Scalese. Pallbearers included Barry Lomen, Cal Keith, John Wicks, Randy Hagen, Jerry Myers, and Dave Pugsley. Honorary bearers were all of Stu’s old friends and fellow-workers. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a reception was held at the church. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

Stuart Scabery
Stuart James Scabery (better known to his family and friends as “Stu” or “Stuey”) was born November 17, 1954 in Havre, MT. He was the only child of James Scabery and Glora Broadhurst. Stuart grew up in the Hi-Line and received his formal education at Havre and Chester. He finished his Junior year at C.H.S., then began working on an elevator construction crew. He eventually completed his secondary education and earned his G.E.D.

In the mid-1970’s Stu began working at Frontier Aviation in Chester. At that same time he and a friend operated a local snow-mobile sales and service business called “S-&-S.” In 1978 Stu was seriously injured in a snowmobile accident; he suffered paralysis and remained disabled for the next five years. During his rehab period, he attended school at Northern Montana College for a short time. Stu was very fortunate to recover from his injuries. He returned to the work force as groundskeeper at Sleeping Buffalo Hot Springs near Saco.

Stu was very fortunate to have his family and friends around him. He was raised by his mother and step-father, Jim Scabery; his father, James Scabery, his former wife, Cheryl Magelssen; step-siblings: Mark Magelssen, Darlene Fain, Glora Monroy, and a half-sister, Roilene Fain. His grandparents and uncles were very close-knit and always welcomed Stu.

Stu was a loving son, brother, uncle, nephew, friend and colleague. He was outgoing and loved meeting new people. Stu’s love of Chester brought him back, but it was his true love of his family and community that brought him back home.}

STUART JAMES ‘STU’ OR STUEY’ SCABERY
Liberty County Times
August 6, 2008

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ELAINE ELLEN (STANDLEY) SCHUCHARD
Born: October 29, 1937 – Died: June 12, 2008

Great Falls Tribune
June 14, 2008

Elaine Ellen Schuchard
Elaine Ellen (Standley) Schuchard, 70, of 210 36th St. N., died of natural causes Thursday at a local hospital. Her memorial service is 1:30 p.m. Monday in the Rose Room at Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory, with burial in Highland Cemetery.

Survivors include three children, Barb (Scott) Milner of Ketchikan, Alaska, David Lambert of Deer Lodge and Pennis (Dee Dee) Lambert of Sparks, Nev. Also surviving are nine grandchildren; sisters Jan (Jerry) Albright of Shelby, Paulette Unabary and Louise (Bob) Falk of Great Falls, and Kathy (Doug) James of Billings. Other survivors include numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her husband, Don, who preceded her in death in 1992, she also was preceded in death by her parents, Lester and Bertha Standley; a sister, Becky Olsen; a brother-in-law, Mike Webster; and a nephew, Kirby Albright.

Elaine was born Oct. 29, 1937, in Helena, Mont., to Lester and Bertha (Fraser) Standley. She attended school in Helena during the first and second grades, until the family moved to Cascade in 1944. She continued her grade-school education at Travis School and graduated from Cascade High School in 1955. After attending Rocky Mountain College for a semester, she began working in the insurance claims business in Great Falls.

She retired in 2002, and thoroughly enjoyed the time she had to work on puzzles, crocheting and crafts. A Sudoku expert and master at crafts, Elaine was famous for the many potholders she crocheted as gifts and craft sale items. Sisters, grandchildren, nieces and nephews treasure the crocheted afghans received for numerous occasions.

Elaine was a member of Insurance Women; VFW Auxiliary 5580; and the Cascade Chapter, No. 101, OES.

On Oct. 28, 2007, many friends and relatives gathered in Cascade to help Elaine celebrate 70 years of life. It was a joyous special day for her. In 1998, Elaine had a bout with cancer and recovered for the most part. Just recently, she had spent time in the hospital. On Wednesday, she became very ill and was hospitalized until her death Thursday morning. She passed away with her loving sisters, Paulette and Louise, by her side.

Elaine is greatly missed already. We remember her with much love.

Condolences may be posted online at www.croxfordfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
William E. Schweitzer

William E. Schweitzer, 73, passed away unexpectedly at his home on April 3, 2008 in Fernley, NV. He was born May 4, 1934 in Havre, MT to Anton and Elizabeth Schweitzer and spent his first five years on a farm in Goldstone, MT. In 1939, he moved with his family to a farm four miles outside of Rudyard, MT. Willy graduated from Rudyard High School in 1952, and shortly after graduation joined the U.S. Navy. He married Cherie Marshall on September 3, 1965 in Havre, MT; they were stationed in Florida, Georgia, Alaska and California. Willy retired from the Navy in 1976 after serving his country for 21 years.

Willy and Cherie moved to Reno in 1976 where Willy worked construction and as a truck driver and with Bill Lear Aviation. After retiring in 2004 they moved to Fernley, NV. Willy liked to spend his summers camping and traveling in his fifth-wheel to Oregon and Montana. In the winter, you could find him in Yuma, AZ. He enjoyed fishing, shooting pool, pitching horseshoes and visiting with friends and family. He was a Fleet Reserve Association member, Branch 274, and every year Willy and Cherie attended VR-21 Reunions to share sea stories with other Navy retirees.

Willy is preceded in death by his parents, stepdaughter Ramona "Zazey" Kramer and brothers Lawrence and Joe Schweitzer. He is survived by his wife Cherie, daughter Amy Darnel (Mike) of Sparks, NV, stepsons Chip Kramer (Pam) of Fallon, NV, and Clarence Dale Kramer (Pam) of Choteau, MT. He also leaves behind brothers Leander, Ed, Marvin, Richard, Don and Randy Schweitzer, and sisters Helen McCann, Leona Lakman and Beverly Smith. Willy is also missed by 9 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at Rose Burke and Knobel Mortuary, 1588 C St., Sparks, NV, on Tuesday, April 8 at 11 am. A military service and interment at Northern Nevada Veteran’s Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, NV took place later in the week.
THOMAS SHERRARD, JR.
Birth: January 27, 1943 - Death: November 19, 2008
Liberty County Times
July 29, 2009

THOMAS SHERRARD, JR.
OAKES, N.D. - Former Ledger area resident and decorated Army veteran Thomas Sherrard Jr., 65, of Oakes, N.D., a farm laborer and security guard, died of a heart attack Nov. 19 at a hospital in Oakes.

Cremation took place under the direction of Dahlstrom Funeral Home, and services were held at the Methodist Church in Oakes. A memorial service was held at St. Olaf Church on Saturday July 25 at 2:00 p.m.

Survivors include his wife, Jeannie; children Lyle Sherrard of Jamestown, N.D., Layne Sherrard of Belgrade, Tim White of Phoenix, Ariz., Launa (Mike) Taylor of Great Falls and Danielle Sherrard of Oakes; his mother, Katheryn Sherrard of Chino Valley, Ariz.; brothers Mike (Jo) Sherrard of Shelby and Roy (Tammy) Sherrard of Chino Valley; a sister, Patti (Perry) Culp of Spokane; grandchildren Lindsey, Chad and Jayden; and a great-grandson, Kade.

Born Jan. 27, 1943, in Conrad, Tom grew up in the Ledger area and was a member of St. Olaf Lutheran Church. He attended school on the Bootlegger Trail and graduated from Shelby High School.

Tom served his country in the Army during the Vietnam War, receiving a Purple Heart. After being honorably discharged, he returned to the Helena area.

He married Jeannie White on Sept. 24, 1994, in Oakes, where they made their home.

He enjoyed doing all kinds of construction projects, playing cards, attending rodeos and watching them on TV. His favorite activity was spending time with his children and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his father, Thomas; a daughter, Darla; and a grandson, Bryon.

Memorials are suggested to an educational fund for his daughters in care of 222 S. 7th St., Oakes, N.D. 58474.
Dorothy M. Siemens

BILLINGS — Dorothy M. Siemens, 86, who ranched on the Marias River with her husband and enjoyed playing the guitar and piano, sewing, cooking and entertaining, died of natural causes Saturday at a Billings care center.

Cremation has taken place, and her memorial service is 2 p.m. Friday at Holland & Bonine Funeral Home in Havre, followed by a fellowship luncheon at the Eagles Lodge. Private burial will take place at a later date.

Survivors include a son, Charles P. Siemens of Billings; four grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Peter, in 1983.
EMMA L. (LUX) SIRRINE  
Born: June 28, 1918 – Died: April 21, 2008  
Great Falls Tribune  
April 27, 2008

Emma L. Sirrine

SHELBY — Emma L. (Lux) Sirrine, 89, a retired LPN from Conrad, and longtime Shelby resident, died Monday of natural causes at Marias Care Center in Shelby.

Her memorial service is 11 a.m. Friday at St. Luke’s Lutheran Church in Shelby, with inurnment in the Mountain View Cemetery. Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include a granddaughter, Karie Dee (Bernard) Boos of Hudson, Colo.; a grandson, Robert (Holly) Lee of Hawaii; a brother, Martin Lux of Shelby; a great-grandson, Robert (Danniel) Ashdown of Sand Point, Idaho; a great-great-grandson, Samuel Ashdown; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Emma was born June 28, 1918, to Christian and Malawian (Kar-ius) Lux in Kremlin, Mont., where she was raised. She graduated from high school in Oroville, Calif. She later received her LPN degree at the California School of Dental and Nursing. During and after World War II, she lived and traveled extensively in the United States and Europe.

Emma married Delbert Sirrine on July 5, 1952, in Shelby. She worked as an LPN for the Marias Clinic and Medical Center for 20 years.

She was a member of St. Luke’s Lutheran Church and a charter member of the Marias Golf and Country Club, where she was past president of the ladies auxiliary. She golfed until she was 80 years old. Emma also belonged to the Marias Valley Bridge and Card Club. She enjoyed crocheting, knitting, oil painting, and hunting and fishing with her husband, Del.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Del Sirrine; a son, Robert C. Lee; a sister, Bertha Curry; and brothers Chris, Otto and Emil Lux.

Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
ABBBIE ANNIE MARY (DIEMERT) SKIERKA
Birth: June 10, 1918 – Death: January 13, 2008
Liberty County Times
January 16, 2008

Just before Christmas Abbie became ill and subsequent medical tests revealed cancer in her bone marrow. She was transferred to the Cut Bank hospital this past Wednesday (Jan. 9th) for extended care. She passed away just four days later.

Abbie was baptized and confirmed in the traditional Roman Catholic faith and was a member of St. Mary’s Church and Altar Society in Chester during her younger days. In her later years she enjoyed attending church at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel in Black Eagle.

She was a longtime member of the Montana CowBelles, a charter member of the Eagle’s Auxiliary in Cut Bank, and an active member at the Parkview Senior Center in Cut Bank.

Abbie loved her life as a homemaker and mother. She also enjoyed her work as a cake decorator for over 20 years in the Cut Bank community.

Her hobbies were many, including gardening, sewing, crocheting, fancywork, writing, singing, dancing, fishing, and traveling. She loved to play cards, especially pinochle and "nertz." She enjoyed her collections of stamps and China cups. For several years she bowled on the women’s league in Browning as a member of "Grandma’s Team." In her quiet time at home Abbie enjoyed oil painting (mainly scenic and still-life's) and reading. She also loved photography, so much that she traveled to the Browning Community College in 1988 and earned two credits in the use of cameras and photo-taking.

Abbie was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by an infant son (Joe Skierka), a sister (Jessie Diemert), and a brother (Clark Diemert).

She is survived by 1 son, Raymond (Sandy) Skierka of Waverly, Iowa; 1 daughter, Connie (Norman) Fugle of Cut Bank; 1 sister, Edna Wickens of Great Falls; 6 grandchildren (inc. John Fugle, Gordon Fugle, Robin Skierka, Dr. Roger Skierka, Russell Skierka, and Randy Skierka); 9 great-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

Funeral Mass will be 11:00 a.m. Friday (Jan. 18th) at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel (2200 Smelter Ave. in Black Eagle, MT). Viewing will be at the church 1 hour prior to the service.

Graveside Services will be 2:30 p.m. Friday (Jan. 18th) at the Crown Hill Cemetery in Cut Bank. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester, where viewing will be available all day Thursday (Jan. 17th).
Lucille (Schend) Slaght, of Great Falls, died Nov. 27 at a local nursing facility after a short illness. She was 100.

Cremation has taken place under the direction of Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory. Memorial Mass is 3 p.m. Dec. 17 at St. Ann's Catholic Church, followed by a reception at 3810 Lower River Road.

Lucille leaves behind a daughter, Shirley Davis and husband Russ of Great Falls; a son, Lyle Slaght and wife Jeannie of Missoula; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Lucille was born June 2, 1908, in Tintah, Minn. She moved to Kremlin, Mont., with her mother and two brothers on the train from Tintah to join her father, who had acquired a section of farmland.

She graduated from Havre High School and worked for the Buttrey store in Havre before moving to Malta, where she was a waitress.

She married Mayo Slaght on June 7, 1940, in Malta, and became a full-time homemaker and mother. After her husband's death in 1970, she moved to Great Falls to be near her daughter, Shirley, and granddaughter Monica Weaver.

Lucille was always busy gardening, doing needlework or just plain working at something.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents and six brothers.

Memorials are suggested to the donor's choice.

Condolences may be posted online at www.croxfordfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
GUDRUN (KAPPERUD) SMITH
Born: June 16, 1923 - Died: December 21, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
December 25, 2008

Gudrun Smith

CUT BANK — Gudrun (Kapperud) Smith, 85, a former Selective Service secretary, died of natural causes Sunday at a Cut Bank care center.

Her funeral is noon Monday at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cut Bank, with visitation an hour prior to the service. Burial will be in Crown Hill Cemetery. Whitted Funeral Chapel of Cut Bank is in charge of arrangements.

Gudrun passed away peacefully Sunday, Dec. 21, 2008, at the Northern Rockies Medical Center. She was surrounded by her family singing her favorite song, "What a Friend we have in Jesus," as she slipped away to meet her Savior.

Survivors include daughters, Sonja Smith of Cut Bank and Candace (Woody) MacLeod of Sammamish, Wash.; sons Greg (Vickey) Smith of Memphis, Tenn., Clarke (Lori) Smith of Livingston, Mont., and Grover (Carrie) Smith of Keller, Texas; brother Norman Kapperud of Gildford; 10 grandchildren who will cherish her memory, Jennifer Smith Foringer, Debra Smith, Kent Smith, Tyler MacLeod, Amber MacLeod, Skye MacLeod, Adia Smith, Dillon Smith, Chad Howard and David Howard. She also leaves nine Foringer great-grandchildren and one MacLeod great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Clare Smith; a sister, Helen; and a brother, Leif.

Gudrun was born June 16, 1923, in Havre, to Lars Ole and Anne Mathilde (Anderson) Kapperud. She, her sister and two brothers were the first generation born of a Norwegian family in America. Gudrun grew up on the family homestead 21 miles northwest of Gildford, where she attended Muzzey Country School through the eighth grade. She graduated as valedictorian of the 1941 Gildford High School senior class.

Following one year of college at Northern Montana, she began working as a secretary for the Selective Service System at Havre from 1942 till 1946, when she transferred to the Helena office and helped close local draft boards as World War II ended.

While on temporary assignment in Shelby in 1944, she met Clare Smith at the railroad depot. They were married Sept. 28, 1947, at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Havre. They settled in Shelby before moving in 1953 north of Cut Bank, where they raised their family. Gudrun worked for the draft board at Cut Bank during the Vietnam War and as a secretary for the Cut Bank High School.

Gudrun's deepest pleasure and joy was her family and being married to her beloved Clare for 58 years. She always gave of herself, teaching Sunday school and vacation Bible school, and leading Brownie and Girl Scout troops. She sewed dresses for her two daughters and endless Scout awards onto her son's uniforms.

Her other interests included Sarah Circle Women's Bible Study, volunteering at the local food pantry, serving on the birthday cake committee for the senior center, and singing with the Guys & Dolls at the nursing home and for other events in Cut Bank.

The family suggests memorials to St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Duane G. "Dewey" Snyder

Duane G. "Dewey" Snyder, 62, of Shelby, died Sunday at Gift of Life Housing in Great Falls due to complications from cancer. Visitation will be 1-8 p.m., Thursday at the Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby with a vigil service at 7 p.m. Funeral Mass will be 11 a.m., Friday at St. William Catholic Church in Shelby followed by burial with military honors in Mountain View Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com.

Survivors include his wife of 39 years, Cathy of Shelby; his daughters, Lori (Allen) Stratton and Diane (Tony) Hershey and his grandchildren, Alissa, Kayla and Allison Hershey and Alex and Jackie Stratton all of Shelby. He is also survived by his siblings, Lois Kuruc of Colfax, N.D., Leola Heyen of Bismarck, N.D., Dennis (Judy) Snyder of Chester and Daryl (Ardyce) Snyder of New Rockford, N.D.

He was born October 15, 1946 in Breckenridge, Minnesota to Leo and Adeline (Groen) Snyder. He grew up in Wyndmere, N.D. where he graduated from high school.

He attended the North Dakota School of Science and received an Associates Degree in Accounting from Dakota Business College in Fargo. He served in the U.S. Army from 1965-1968, serving tours in Vietnam.

He returned to North Dakota and married Catherine Zon on October 18, 1969 in Reynolds, N.D. Dewey worked as a truck driver before they moved to Shelby in 1978. He worked for Dick Irvin Inc. as a dispatcher for several years before going to work for the Shelby Job Service for a time and then became a Montana G.V.W. Enforcement Officer until his retirement.

He was a member of St. William Catholic Church, VFW, the American Legion, Marias Valley Archers, Toole County Cemetery Board, and the Elk’s.

Dewey enjoyed camping, fishing, hunting, trying to fulfill his childhood dream of riding horses and socializing over coffee. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family, especially his grandkids.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and siblings, Donald Snyder and LaMae Jacobs.
ARNOLD E. 'RED' SORENSON
Birth: September 26, 1913 – Death: May 13, 2008
Havre Daily News
May 19, 2008

ARNOLD "RED" SORENSON
obituary


Red was born Sept 26, 1913, to Carl and Anna (Erlandson) Sorenson in Havre. Red was the oldest of three children.

Red lived and worked on the farm his parents had homesteaded south of Kremlin.


Red farmed most of his life, he continued to farm into his late 80's. He had also worked on the railroad section crews for a time and at the Air Force base in Great Falls. Red served on the Kremlin School board.

During his life Red's hobbies included flying. He and his wife were members of the Montana Flying Farmers and enjoyed many traveling trips in their plane. He also enjoyed fishing and his dogs.

In the 1960's Red and Janet purchased property in Lake Havasu City, Ariz., where they began to spend their winters away from the cold of Montana.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Anna Sorenson, his wife, Janet, and his sister, Hazel Sorenson.

He is survived by his brother, Harry (Margaret) Sorenson of Calistoga, Calif.; his children, son, Arnie (Cindy) Sorenson of Kremlin; daughters, Sonya Sorenson of Bremerton, Wash., and Sandra Sorenson of Lake Havasu City, Ariz.; 13 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Memorials in Arnold's "Red's" memory can be made to Feed My Sheep Community Soup Kitchen 611 2nd St. Havre, MT 59501 or Bullhook Clinic Voucher Program, 110 13th St. Havre, MT 59501.

Burial will be held at a later date in the Highland Cemetery. At the request of Red no funeral will be held. Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook is in charge of arrangements.
ALLAN LEROY STANDIFORD

Liberty County Times
July 2, 2008

Allan Standiford

Allan Leroy Standiford was born July 23, 1934 at the Sacred Heart Hospital in Havre, Montana. He was the eldest of five children born to Hazel L. Rishoff and Gordon M. Standiford. Allan grew up on the Standiford farm east of Lothair. He attended elementary schools in Lothair, then finished his secondary education in Chester. Following graduation from C.H.S. in 1951 as the Class Valedictorian, Allan continued his schooling at Northern Montana College in Havre.

He married Betty Lou Eleanor Smith on August 22, 1953 in Chester. They farmed near Lothair, operated a lumber yard at Galata for a number of years, and raised a family of 7 children. In 1970 the Standifords moved to Chester, where Allan worked as a carpenter. He was employed by Alvin Olson, whose crew built numerous homes, garages, and other buildings throughout the Hi-Line community. Allan and Betty Lou’s marriage ended in divorce in 1979.

Sometime later Allan entered into a relationship with a lady friend, Michelle Davis, and together they had a son.

Allan moved to Minneapolis in 1981 to work for a general contractor who built custom homes. He enjoyed Minnesota, so he continued to live there. In the years that followed Allan worked as a general repair man at a bowling center in Shakopee. In 1997 he became employed on the janitorial and maintenance staff at the Mystic Lake Casino in Prior Lake, MN. After ten years at the casino, he retired in 2007.

Allan returned to Chester to be closer to family and friends. On this past Monday afternoon (June 23, 2008) he collapsed outside of a Chester business. He was taken by ambulance to the Liberty Medical Center, where resuscitative measures were to no avail. He died at age 73.

Allan was a lifelong sports enthusiast. In his younger days he enjoyed town team basketball, hunting, fishing, and archery. He was active in the local baseball, softball, horseshoe, and bowling leagues for many years. In recent years he looked forward to relaxing and sailboating at Lake Elwell. During his quiet time at home he was an avid reader (he was especially fond of westerns and mysteries). A highlight of Allan’s life was in 1998 when he took a memorable baseball trip with a few sons and grandsons. They attended several games and visited the stadiums at Chicago, Detroit, Toronto, Montreal, Baltimore, and New York. Being a long-time loyal “Cubs” fan, Allan was thrilled to meet the infamous Harry Carey! In addition, he thoroughly enjoyed the history and memorabilia at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

Allan was preceded in death by his father in 1962, his mother in 2004, and his ex-wife, Betty, in 1988.

He is survived by 8 children, Allan Standiford Jr. (Adrianna) of Great Falls, Stanley Standiford of Fresno, CA., Joel Standiford (Vikkie) of Spanaway, WA., Alana Larson (Jim) of Arnegard, N.D., Sharyn Gunderson (David) of East Helena, Christine Altemus (Rich) of Missoula, John Standiford (Lisa) of Inverness, and Travis Standiford of Shakopee, MN.; 14 grandchildren; 1 great-grandson; 4 siblings, Leland Standiford of Chinko, Gary Standiford (Joanne) of Chester, Ray Standiford (Deanna) of Chester, and Nancy Harrison of Chester; and numerous nephews and nieces.

A memorial service was 2:00 p.m. Saturday (June 28th) at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester. Cheryl Muncy, L.P.A. and family friend, officiated. Della Wolery served as pianist. The congregation sang “How Great Thou Art” and “Amazing Grace”, Ushers were nephews, Gordon and Adam Standiford. The obituary and personal remembrances were shared by brother, Ray Standiford. Honorary bearers were all of Allan’s old friends. A coffee hour followed in the fellowship hall.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Allan was cremated per his wishes. There will be private disposition of the ashes.
RON STEPHENS
Liberty County Times
February 27, 2008

Ron Stephens passed away peacefully at his home in Bozeman, MT on February 12, 2008 following a number of years of failing health. He was born in Butler, PA on November 28, 1933 to Caroline Cross and Howard Stephens. Ron was raised by his mother in the home of her parents.

He was especially proud of being a member of the 1949 Penn Township Western Region Class C championship basketball team. After high school, Ron went west to Denver to attend Denver University.

Ron married Shirley Kolstad after college in 1956. Ron and Shirley had two children, Mark and Cathy, while farming the Kolstad family farm south of Chester, MT. Ron and Shirley were divorced in 1967.

He then moved to Missoula, Spokane, and then Boise following new career interests but always keeping his finger on the pulse of the political movements of the day.

Ron married Susan Sanders in 1973 and moved to the Milwaukee area during this same time. Ron and Susan had a son, Jefferson, who was later adopted by Susan’s next husband, after Ron and Susan divorce early in 1977.

Late in 1977, Ron married Sandra Guest who brought her own 3 children into the family. Ron helped raise Jennifer, Leslie, and J.D. while he was married to Sandra until their divorce in 1988.

Ron had moved to Alexandria, VA to be near business interests in the D.C. area. He later moved to Martinsburg, W.V. for a time to be near the VA Medical Center.

He moved to Bozeman in July 2004 to be closer to his children and grandchildren during his last few years.

Ron was a member of the Masonic Lodge. Ron had a life long interest in hunting and fishing, enjoyed photography, and world travel.

Ron is survived by his daughter Cathy Stephens of Great Falls, his son and daughter-in-law, Mark and Susan Stephens of Bozeman and their daughters, Karli, Randi, and Staci. It is requested that any memorials be made to the American Cancer Society, in the names of Ron and his late mother, Caroline Cross.

A more complete history of Ron’s professional life can be viewed at www.dahlcares.com

A memorial will be held at 4:00 pm on March 1, 2008 at Hope Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be sent to the family at <http://www.dahlcares.com>
WALTER A. STRATTON
Birth: March 1, 1931 - Death: December 17, 2008
Liberty County Times
January 7, 2009

Walter Stratton, 77, lifelong Whitlash farmer and rancher, passed away Wednesday, December 17, 2008 at the Marias Medical Center following a long illness.

Funeral services are 1:00 PM Saturday Dec. 19th at the Trinity Lutheran Church north of Lothair with burial to follow in the Whitlash Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the Trinity Lutheran Church and condolences to whittedfuneralhome.com.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Helen of Whitlash; daughters, Lora (Brian) Vogt of Idaho Falls, ID and Tracy Moneypenny of Colorado Springs, CO; son, Clay (Val) Stratton of Whitlash; five grandchildren, Clint Frederickson and Colt Frederickson of Bozeman, Crystal Moneypenny and Zachary Moneypenny of Colorado Springs, CO, and Briar Rose of Whitlash; and two great-grandchildren; as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Walt was preceded in death by his parents; son, Montie Stratton; grand-daughter, Courtney Frederickson; and sister, Ethel Anberge.

Walt was born March 1, 1931, the youngest of two children born to Allen and Bertha (Ullman) Stratton, homesteaders in the Whitlash area. He attended Whitlash School which was moved from one place to another wherever there were the most children. He and Helen Lippa were married on July 1, 1957. To this union were born two daughters and two sons.

Walt’s favorite pastime was working the farm/ranch he purchased from his parents as well as working on and repairing old trucks and tractors along with all the repairs that needed done while running a ranch. He was always more than willing to help out the neighbors with whatever they needed. He also enjoyed playing guitar, riding motorcycles and 4-wheelers, hunting, camping, fishing, and spending time with his children and grandchildren. He also loved the calves in the spring.

Walt was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church at Lothair.
ETHEL MARIE (CARLSON) STROM

Birth: February 27, 1904 – Death: June 17, 2008

Liberty County Times

June 25, 2008

Ethel continued to live at the Lodge and enjoyed good health in the years that followed. Just two months ago, at the age of 104, she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. She died peacefully at the rest home on Tuesday morning (June 17th, 2008).

Ethel was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and was active in the Lutheran parishes at Ypsilanti and Chester. At Our Savior’s Lutheran in Chester she enjoyed her membership in the Lydia Circle of WELCA. Ethel was a devout Democrat throughout her life. Because of her longevity, she was recognized for several years as an “Honored Centenarian” by the Governor’s Conference on Aging.

Her hobbies were many. She enjoyed gardening, canning, cooking and baking bread. She loved lefse and lutefisk! Ethel had been active in the Kitchen Band at the Sweetgrass Lodge, where she played the “shakers”. In her younger years, she liked to square-dance. At family gatherings Ethel enjoyed playing board games and cards (especially, whist). She had excellent penmanship and she loved writing (and receiving) letters. She enjoyed tatting doilies, and just for the fun of it, she collected bells. During all of her life’s experiences, she never had the desire or need to drive an automobile or get a driver’s license!

Ethel stayed very active at the Lodge and in the community. She enjoyed her daily exercise sessions at the local Fitness Xpress, where she worked out 5 days/week and peddled 3 miles/day on a stationary bike. At 104 years old, Ethel was proud to maintain good physical, mental, and spiritual health!

She was preceded in death not only by her husband & parents, but also by an infant daughter (Donna), an infant granddaughter (Jolene), 2 brothers (Axel and Richard Carlson), and 3 sisters (Lydia, Olga, and Margaret Carlson).

Ethel is survived by her daughter, Shirley (Harry) Heimbigner of Chester; 4 grandchildren, Stanley Heimbigner, Roger (Denise) Heimbigner, Cheri (Rodney) Larson, and Neil (Carla) Heimbigner; 6 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Friday (June 20th) at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor Val Metropoulos. The congregation sang “In the Garden” & “Softly & Tenderly”, accompanied by organist Karen Stack. Vocal tributes by Anne Seidlitz-Melton were “On Eagle’s Wings” & “Sweet Hour of Prayer”. Kip Lybeck shared a poetic reading, Linda VanDyke read the obituary, and Carla Heimbigner offered family remembrances. Ushers were Laurel Styke and Shirley Peck. Candle-lighters were Kayla Larson and Bradley Heimbigner. Communion assistants were Michelle and Jessica VanDyke. Pallbearers were Don Raunig, Arlo Skari, Kim VanDyke, Quannah Bailey, Steve Ghekiere, and Boyd Neuly. Honorary bearers were “all of Ethel’s special friends”.

Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was provided by WELCA at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to Liberty Medical Center, the Chester Swimming Pool, or Our Savior’s Lutheran Church.
ELEANOR LOIS (BECK) STRUCK
Great Falls Tribune
July 27, 2008

Eleanor Lois Struck

Eleanor Lois (Beck) Struck, 81, of Great Falls, a retired teacher, died Wednesday of a head injury received in an auto accident in Great Falls.

Her memorial service is 11 a.m. Monday at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Please come and celebrate Eleanor's long and wonderful life.

Eleanor Struck, beloved mother, sister, aunt and dear friend, passed away Wednesday night.

Eleanor was born Feb. 24, 1927, to Otto and Mary (Weidner) Beck in New Leipzig, N.D. She and her family soon moved to Hogeland, Mont., where she grew up. She graduated from Hogeland High School in 1945. She worked in Minneapolis and Portland, Ore., prior to beginning college in 1951. She attended Northern Montana College, University of Hawaii and Eastern Washington University. She began teaching school in 1952 in Hogeland. She continued her teaching career in Rudy and after moving to Great Falls, at Paris Gibson and East Junior High.

Eleanor married Harold Struck Aug. 29, 1954. They built and operated an A&W drive-in at Rudy for several years. They had two wonderful children together, Loni and Hal. They later divorced.

After retiring from teaching in 1991, she kept extremely active doing volunteer work throughout Great Falls. She traveled the world as part of the Montana Friendship Force. Volunteer activities included the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, AAUW, Benefis’ gift shop, Great Falls Symphony, Great Falls Community Concert, Gallery 16, book club, Farmers Market and many more. She also knitted stocking hats for newborns at local hospitals.

She was an accomplished cook who enjoyed entertaining in her home and spending time with her constant companion, Bandit. She was dearly loved by her family and will be sorely missed.

She is survived by her loving children, son Hal (Sandra) of Glendale, Ariz., and daughter Loni of Great Falls; and sisters Florence (Dick) Hamilton of Great Falls, Marge Cole (Don Doss) of Riverside, Calif., and Gladys (Don) Morris of Baker; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested donations in her name to McLaughlin Research Institute, 1520 23rd St. S., Great Falls, MT 59405; Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1326 1st Ave. N., Great Falls, MT 59401, or to a charity of your choice.

Condolences may be posted online at www.schniderfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
IRENE (AEVERMAN) STRUCK
Liberty County Times
January 14, 2009

Irene Struck
Irene Struck, 88, passed away on Sunday, December 28, 2008 at the Heritage Place in Kalispell, Montana. She was born on May 12, 1920 in Rudyard, Montana to Louis and Matilda (Koch) Aeverman.

Irene received her early education in Rudyard and graduated from high school there. After marrying Clarence Struck in Rudyard, the family moved to Kalispell, Montana. Irene enjoyed playing cards, ballroom dancing, gardening and canning. She loved her trips to Reno, Nevada and was active in the Eagles Auxiliary.

Irene was preceded in death by her husband, one brother: Clarence and a son: Clifford. She is survived by a son: Darvin Struck and wife Bonnie of Kalispell, MT; three grand children: Andrew Struck and wife Mandy of Costa Masa, CA; Jennifer Rodriques and husband Steve of Madison, WI; and Shelley Smith and husband Miles of Kalispell, MT; and her daughter-in-law: Marlene Struck of Kalispell, MT.

Memorial services for Irene will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, January 17, 2009 at Valley Community Church of God: 2149 Hwy 2 East with Pastor Bill Harper officiating. Irene will be placed next to her husband in C.E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery.

Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is caring for Irene's family. You are invited to go to www.jgfuneralhome.com to offer condolences and sign Irene's guest book.
Rosalie Sunderland

Rosalie Margaret (Rehal) Sunderland was born February 6, 1919 in Joplin, Montana. She was the fourth of six children born to Shebel and Sophie (Sawaya) Rehal. Rosalie received her formal education in Chester, then went on to Beauty School in Great Falls. She returned to Chester where she worked at Albright’s Barber Shop for a number of years. In the early 1950’s Rosalie and her sister, Louise, opened adjoining businesses: “Rosalie’s Beauty Shop” and “Louise’s Shoppe” (a women’s clothing/accessories store). Rosalie owned and operated her successful business for 40+ years before retiring in 1992.

In addition to working as a beautician, Rosalie raised her two sons in the Chester community. She was actively involved in the lives of her children and grandchildren. She seldom missed their special events and kept scrapbooks of their many accomplishments. She was always available to help family and friends, and was a great source of strength to all who knew her. Rosalie was very proud of Chester and appreciated the support and friendship she received here over the years. She remained in her Chester home until October of 2004, when she transferred to the Park Place Health Care Center in Great Falls. Recently, she was admitted to the Benefis East Medical Center with pneumonia. After a 10-day hospitalization, Rosalie passed away on Tuesday evening (August 26, 2008). She was 89 years old.

Rosalie was a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church and the Royal Neighbors of America. She enjoyed playing the piano, which she accomplished without any formal lessons. In those early years she played the piano at many dances throughout the Chester and Hi-Line communities. In addition to playing music, she loved listening to music and dancing. She also enjoyed walking, reading, and flower gardening.

In her later years Rosalie was thankful for many special friends who were always there to assist her when needed. Recognition goes out to friends Cletus Johnson, Myrna Cady, and Kaylee and Mike Nussbaum. Rosalie was preceded in death by her oldest son (Ron Sunderland), her parents (Shebel and Sophie Rehal), 3 siblings (Norman, Louise, and Eleanor Rehal), daughter-in-law (Linda Heck Sunderland), and brother-in-law (Roy Green).

She is survived by her son, Marvin Sunderland (and wife, Charlotte) of Billings; 3 grandchildren, Shay Sunderland Klomp Beuters (and husband, Bart-Jan Klomp Beuters) of Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Brock Sunderland of Massapequa, New York, and Brock O’Hara (and wife, Jennifer) of Montgomery, Alabama; 2 sisters, Lottie Rehal (and special friend, Harold Prihoda) of Chester and Kathryn Green of Great Falls; 2 nephews, Steven Green of Billings and Robert Green of Spokane, WA.; and 2 nieces, Charlotte Hoiland of Miles City and Carolyn Williams of Manitoba, Canada. Rosalie is also survived by extended family members, including the families of Mike and Kaylee Nussbaum, Roger and Ann Stromberg, Steve Green and Gail Sweeney, Tom and Teresa Heck, Vicki Heck, and Alice O’Hara.

Cremation has taken place and her ashes will be buried in the Chester Cemetery. Services will be announced at a later date. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

Cards of condolence can be sent to Marv Sunderland or 1575 Westridge Circle, Billings,
SCOTT EMERY SWANSON
Havre Daily News
February 14, 2008

SCOTT EMERY SWANSON obituary
Scott Emery Swanson, 49, died unexpectedly Wed.
February 6, 2008, at his home in Havre. The cause of his death
has not yet been determined.

His memorial service will be 2 p.m. Saturday,
February 16, 2008, at the Fifth Avenue Christian
Church with Pastor Rowlie Hutton officiating.

Burial of the cremated remains will follow at
the Highland Cemetery. A fellowship luncheon will be held at
the church immediately after the graveside services.

Memorial contributions in Scott’s honor may be made to
the Sand’s Memorial Foundation, P.O. Box 1450,
Havre, Montana 59501.

Services and arrangements have been entrusted to Holland &
Bonine Funeral Home.

Scott was born Feb. 21, 1958, in Havre to Raymond and
Marvel (Wilson) Swanson. He was raised and educated in
Havre, graduating from Havre High School in 1978.

He went to work for Abercrombie Pipeline for a few
years, then the City of Havre, and then worked in mainte-
nance for the Havre Public Schools. Scott was a hard work-
er, a very loyal friend and had a compassionate heart.

He enjoyed coin and antique collecting and carpentry work.
He liked older cars, especially his '67 Chevrolet Nova. He
enjoyed boxing when he was younger and was a loving
father and grandfather. His greatest enjoyment was when
he was with his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Scott is survived by his two children: Jared Swanson of
Bozeman; Morgan (Nick)
Jensen of Roland, Okla.; his sisters: Shannon (Paul) Sohm
of Kremlin, Shelly (Doug) Erhard of Havre and Sandy
(Bill) Martian of Helena; brothers: Steve (Shirley) Swanson of
Westminster, Colo. and Stuart
Swanson of Havre; two grand-
daughters: Rylee and Makenzie,
and numerous nieces and nephews.
HERBERT LEE TANGEN
Great Falls Tribune
June 23, 2008

Herbert Lee Tangen

CHOTEAU — Herbert Lee Tangen, 75, of Choteau, died of aspiration pneumonia caused by vascular dementia Saturday at Teton Medical Center in Choteau.

Visitation is 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Gorder Funeral Home in Choteau. His funeral is 11 a.m. Wednesday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Choteau, with burial in Choteau Cemetery, followed by a luncheon at the church.

Herbert Lee Tangen died June 21, 2008, in Choteau. He spent his last day here signing “I Love You” and blowing kisses at his grandchildren. In his passing, he was surrounded by those who love him.

He was born Dec. 28, 1932, to Gregor I. and Margaret Pearl Haddley Tangen at their home in Farmington, Mont. He attended elementary school at East Farmington and Choteau High School in Choteau, where he was actively involved in 4-H, FFA and football.

He attended college at MSU-Bozeman for one semester, but returned home to take over the family farm after his father experienced a back injury. On Oct. 16, 1954, he married Patricia Ann Clark. Together they had five children: Kathy Jones, Douglas Tangen, Amy Sangwin Wicks, Janice Fowler and James Tangen, all still living.

He was confirmed in the Trinity Lutheran Church along with his sister, Helen, in 1945, and Herb was a member of the Trinity Lutheran Church his entire life, first in Farmington, then in Choteau. He was on the Farmer's ditch board, the church council and the school board, which allowed him to give his two eldest children, Kathy and Doug, their diplomas.

Herb worked around the clock and around the calendar, but was faithful to two very special annual trips: the family trip to Seeley Lake and the anniversary trip he and Patty took to the Oregon coast. He also loved going to the mountains, snowmobiling, playing cards, his tractors and checking crops on an evening drive.

Herb first started having severely noticeable symptoms 18 years ago this spring. Several doctors and hospital stays later, dad was officially diagnosed with the disease that took his life. During the trials of the disease, Herb and Patty were divorced. On March 5, 2000, Herb married Margaret “Meg” Gribble.

Herb was a strong, strong man. He survived the losses he endured by the trust he instilled in all of us. We, his family, give that back to him now, and pass it on to our children.

Herb is survived by his wife of 42 years, Patricia Ann Tangen; his wife of eight years, Margaret “Meg” Gribble Tangen; his children, Kathy (John) Jones, Douglas (Kim) Tangen, Amy (Dave) Wicks, Janice (Darren) Fowler and James Tangen; two sisters, Helen (Don) Rice and Judy (Leonard) Ober; 14 grandchildren; one great-grandson; three nieces; and a nephew.

He is preceded in death by his granddaughter, Dusty (Kathy and John) Jones; a niece, Dorothy (Helen and Don Rice) Knobel; and his parents, Gregor and Margaret Pearl Tangen.

Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
IRENE M. (SULLIVAN) TERWOLBECK


Liberty County Times

April 22, 2009

Irene Terwolbeck

Irene M. Terwolbeck was born May 30, 1929, in Anaconda, Montana. She was the youngest of five children born to John and Margaret Sullivan.

Irene was educated thru the Anaconda schools system. She completed high school there and continued her educational goals at St. Mary College in Leavenworth, Kansas, graduating with a B.A. in Education.

Irene taught school in Columbia Falls, Montana, before moving to Joplin, Montana, where she taught highschool economics and science, kindergarten and first grade.

As a young teacher, Irene met a handsome, well-loved local boy, Lawrence Terwolbeck. Their love for each other led them to exchange wedding vows on June 27, 1953. In 1954 their love was blessed again with the birth of their only child Carolyn. They were together for 42 years when Larry passed away in December of 1995.

Irene had a deep passion for inspirational reading and volunteering for worthy causes, participating in Bible studies, quilting, and striking up conversations with anyone interested in the topic of the day. She was a feisty, worthy opponent and continually encouraged others to stand up and count for something before it turned to nothing. She challenged many to be the best that they could be. Irene was a faith-filled and faithful member of the St. Mary’s Catholic community of Chester, Montana. She poured many cups of coffee and good faith along the way.

Irene was blessed with good health and a rewarding independent lifestyle for most of her years until being diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig’s Disease) in April of 2008. She soon moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, in June 2008, to be near her family. She passed away 6 months later on December 6, 2008 at Three Rivers Nursing and Rehabilitation. She was 79 years young.

She is survived by daughter and son-in-law Carolyn and Tom Ratterman of North Bend, Ohio. Grandchildren Jeff (Molly) Ratterman of Bloomington, Indiana; Kim (Kirk) Strohman of Eugene, Oregon, and Scott Ratterman of Spokane, Washington. A great-granddaughter due this summer; sister Betty Daniels of Lemon Grove, California; Sisters-In-Law Eloise Sullivan of Anaconda, Montana; Nora Terwolbeck of Havre, Montana, and Theresa Fossen of Joplin, Montana; and many nieces and nephews.

Irene was cremated and her ashes will be buried at a private ceremony this Spring. A Memorial Mass will be held at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Chester on Saturday (May 9, 2009) at 11:00 a.m. with a luncheon to follow the service.

As desired, memorial donations may be directed to Liberty County Library, P.O. Box 458, Chester, Montana, 59522.
Fred L. Thackeray, 84, died of natural causes Monday at his home in Havre. Services are 2 p.m. today at Havre Community Alliance Church, with burial in Highland Cemetery.

In lieu of donations, send flowers. A scholarship fund may be established at a later date.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Gladys Thackeray of Havre; son Darryl and wife Sharon Thackeray of Chinook; daughters Jacalyn and husband Donald Carey of Cut Bank, and Tammy and husband Robert Voise of Billings and Dodson; and two grandchildren, Susan (Thackeray) Schmelle and Monica Thackeray. Susan is the mother of two great-grandchildren, Jackson and Gavin. Fred is also survived by brothers Webster and Raymond Thackeray and their families of Havre.

Fred Thackeray was born on the Thackeray Ranch in the Bear Paw Mountains on Feb. 16, 1924. He attended elementary school in the Bear Paws and high school in Havre, until he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943 and served until 1946. He was awarded an honorary high school diploma from Dodson High School in 1944.

He married Gladys Astrid Crites on June 29, 1947, in Havre. They moved to Dodson, where Fred owned a service station and auto repair shop. In 1956, he ran the first buses for the Dodson School District and continued for nearly 40 years.

Fred bought his first combine in 1957 and eventually ran harvest crews from as far south as Oklahoma back to Montana and into Canada for many years. He served as mayor of Dodson for more than 25 years.

Fred won top car salesman of the year two times for the Northwestern District, which includes several states. In later years, he often judged the auto mechanic competition at Montana State University-Northern. However, he was most honored to be known as “Grandpa Fred” to countless youngsters.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gfrtribune.com/obituaries.
EVELYN ALICE (BEERMAN) TRICK
Born: September 20, 1919 - Died: December 13, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
December 17, 2008

Evelyn Alice Trick

POWER — Evelyn Alice (Beer­
man) Trick, 89, of Power, died of
natural causes
Saturday at a
Great Falls
hospital.
Cremation
has taken
place, and her
memorial serv­
ice is 1:30 p.m.
Thursday in
the Rose Room
at Croxford Funeral Home and
Crematory, followed by a recep­
tion at Temple Baptist Church.
Burial of ashes will take place at a
later date in Highland Cemetery.

Survivors include a daughter,
Mary (Curtis) Sloan; two sons,
Harold F. Miller and Howard G.
Miller; grandchildren Harlan
Sloan, Duaine Sloan, Randal
Leken, Chris Leken and Nathan
Leken; and two great-grandchil­
dren. Her extended family
includes the Merja family from
Sun River, Mont., as well as
numerous nieces, nephews and
cousins.

She was born in Lewistown, Mont., on Sept. 20, 1919, a
daughter of Howard C. Beerman and Mary Pearl (O’Harrah) Beerman. She was raised in the Lewis­
town and Power areas, graduat­
ing from Power High School.

On May 9, 1942, she and Floyd
Miller were married. They owned
and operated a dairy.

Floyd passed away in 1952, and she continued operating the
dairy with her three children until
1961. She cooked at the Sun
River Truck Stop Café, where she
met Kenny Trick. They were mar­
rried in 1964, and moved to Merja
Farms at Power to be the fore­
man and crew. After Kenny’s
death, she continued at the farm
up until the time of her death.

She enjoyed horses, snowmo­
bling, camping and cooking over
an open campfire for hunting
camp. She had outstanding artis­
tic ability for drawing with pen
and ink, and pencils. She drew
many subjects, but her favorite
subject was old trees.

Condolences may be posted
online at www.croxfordfuneral­
home.com and/or www.gftribu­
tune.com/obituaries.
EDITH B. (GRAHAM) TURNER
Born: October 6, 1918 – Died: May 14, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
May 16, 2008

Edith B. Turner

KALISPELL — Former Havre resident Edith B. (Graham) Turner, 89, died of natural causes Wednesday at her home in Kalispell.

Her memorial service will take place at a later date.

Johnson-Gloschat

Funeral Home and Crematory is in charge of arrangements.

She is survived by three daughters, Fay (Wes) Wolf of Kalispell, Mont., Judy (Dick) Seibert of Zillah, Wash., and Jan Kuno of Sierra Vista, Ariz.; a son, Ivan (Marlene) Turner of Bigfork, Mont.; daughter-in-law Jan Turner of Big Sandy, Mont.; a sister, Amy Johnson of Sand Coulee, Mont.; nine grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Edith was born at the family home near Havre, Mont., on Oct. 6, 1918, to Charles and Lillian (Nystrom) Graham. She graduated from Havre High School and Northern Montana College and received her master's degree in Bellingham, Wash.

On May 26, 1940, Edith married Kenneth Turner in Havre. She was a farm wife and teacher, having taught elementary school at several rural schools before retiring after 22 years at Kremlin, Mont.

Edith loved being with her family, and enjoyed gardening, ceramics, genealogy, quilting and reading. She also was a 4-H leader in the Great Falls area for many years.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her parents; a son, Wayne; brothers Carl and Fred; sister Ann; grandson Warren; great-granddaughter Alexis; and a son-in-law, C.J. Kuno.

Condolences may be posted at www.jgfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
SETH REYNOLDS 'ZEBBY' TURNER
Born: March 15, 1979 – Died: June 4, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
June 8, 2008

Seth Reynolds 'Zebby' Turner

SHELBY — Seth Reynolds "Zebby" Turner, 29, of Great Falls, a certified diesel mechanic, died of congestive heart failure Wednesday at his home.

Visitation is 1 to 6 p.m. Monday at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. His funeral service is 10 a.m. Tuesday at the family farm, 62 Sourdough Lane in Oilmont, followed by burial in the family plot on the farm. A potluck will follow and the family asks that you please bring a chair.

Survivors include his parents, Dave and Dolores "Dee" Turner of Oilmont; sisters Courtney (Drew) Dahlgaard of Bothell, Wash., and Hillery (Josh Uylak) Turner of Missouri; brothers Matt (Sarah) Turner of Oilmont and Josh (Kris) Turner of Blaine, Wash.; good friend Alicia Gahlbeck and her daughter, Abby; grandparents Earl and Sunie Thompson of Lewistown; nieces and nephews, Aedon, Thane, Bryson, Grace, Gus, Linea and Oriana; cousins Brandi (Nathen) Farbo of Ponca City, Okla., Haeli Turner of Oilmont, Megan (Chris) Huber of Gillette, Wyo., Cassie Evans of Los Gatos, Calif., Linsey (Joey) Purvis of Panama City, Fla., the Bianchi family of Alberta, and the Gottfried cousins; exchange students Jean and Yajie of China, Jeff and Garam of South Korea, and Estaban, Roberto, Efren and Camilo, all of South America.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, R.M. and Marion Turner; an aunt, Debbie Turner; an uncle, Glen Turner; Gottfried great-aunts and -uncles, Joe and Marjorie, Jim and Mora, Lawrence, Ed, Jim Boltz and Louis Wolfer; great-aunts Dorothy Bianchi and Donna Brown; and a cousin, Cory Turner.

Zebby was born March 15, 1979, in Chester to Dave and Dolores (Thompson) Turner. He grew up on the family farm east of Oilmont with three years spent in the Musselshell Valley and the Glendive Badlands. He graduated from North Toole County High School in Sunburst. He then attended MSU-Northern at Havre and received a degree in auto body. Seth also was a certified diesel mechanic and worked for Great Falls Caterpillar.

He had served as an assistant football coach for North Toole County High School. He enjoyed guns, cars, hunting and had a passion for farming. He also worshipped God under the Big Blue Sky.

Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
ELAINE K. (KNUDSVIG) VOGEL
Havre Daily News
May 12, 2008

ELAINE K. VOGEL obituary

A memorial celebrating Elaine's life will be held Wednesday, May 14, 2008, in Townsend at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church at 11 a.m. Funeral services will be held in Havre Friday, May 16, 2008, at 11 a.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church with internment at Highland Cemetery.

Elaine was born Oct. 1, 1945, in Williston, N.D., to Martin and Wanda (Storm) Knudsvig. Elaine moved with her family to Havre in 1955. She attended schools in Havre, was confirmed at the First Lutheran Church and graduated from Havre High School in 1964. While attending Northern Montana College, she worked as a dental assistant for Dr. Rector.

During this time, Elaine met Randolph Vogel of Kremlin. They were married on Oct. 1, 1966, and to this union were born three children. In 1967, the Vogels moved to Townsend.

Elaine had a very caring heart and enjoyed being around and helping people. Broadwater County Hospital employed her as a nurse's aide. After her daughter was born, Elaine began a daycare and balloon business, Elaine's Flyin' Balloons, so she could stay at home and raise her family. In doing so, she raised many local children as well. In 1994, she began working at Hennessy's, which later became Dillard's, in Helena. She retired in December 2006 due to her diagnosis of Scleroderma. In October 2007, Elaine and Randy moved to Seattle to be closer to the University of Washington hospital and await a lung transplant.

Elaine was very active in her church. She loved to help with making lefse each year. She participated in Extension Homemakers. Elaine enjoyed socializing and creating unique items for her family. Her favorite sport was bowling. She attended several state bowling competitions. She enjoyed sewing and made several outfits for her children. Elaine was a bargain shopper! She could spot a good deal from 50 feet! Elaine enjoyed boating, camping and traveling with her family. The family made it to destinations such as Disneyland, Devil's Tower, the Black Hills and a very special trip with her daughter, Ryndee, to New York City!

She was preceded in death by her father, Martin Knudsvig.

She is survived by her husband of 41 years, Randall; her children, Max and daughter-in-law, Terra of Havre; Rodney and daughter-in-law, Theresa of Durango, Colo.; and daughter, Ryndee and son-in-law, Pete of Billings; her grandchildren, the joys of her life, Alara and Carsyn Vogel (Max and Terra), CaraLenor Vogel (Rodney and Theresa), and Peter J. and Jace Hamilton (Ryndee and Pete); her mother, Wanda Knudsvig; and sisters, Mary (Gene) of Bozeman and Michelle (Cliff) of West Point, Miss.; brothers, Bob (Margo) and Bill (Laura) of Seattle, Wash. and Leroy (Rhonda) of Whitefish; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorials in Elaine's memory can be made to the Scleroderma Foundation, 300 Rosewood Drive, Suite 105, Danvers, MA 01923 or to a charity of one's choice.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.
Dorene (Holmes) Volkrich

Dorene Lynn Holmes-Volkrich was born on October 30, 1956 in Fremont, Nebraska and passed away the morning of October 17, 2008 after a long illness. She was a loving sister, mother and friend who will truly be missed. Her spirit lives on in the lives of her two children, Victoria and Emily. Dorene will be remembered by those who knew her and the lives she touched. Dorene was preceded in death by her mother, Marilyn Jean Holmes. Along with her two children, she is survived by her husband, Dennis Volkrich, her father, Bernard (Maggie) Holmes, sister, Janese Holmes, brother Kirk (Liz) Holmes and numerous nieces and nephews. Dorene also leaves behind a very special friend, Linda Norman, who stayed by her side until the Lord called.

In lieu of flowers, Dorene asked that a memorial fund be established for her children. Donations can be sent to: Yakima Federal Savings, PO Box 579, Ellensburg, WA 98926 in memory of Dorene Volkrich.
BERTHA HANSINA (HOLTER) VUKASIN
Born: April 16, 1914 Died: October 24, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
October 26, 2008

Bertha Hansina Vukasin

BLACK EAGLE — Bertha Hansina (Holter) Vukasin, 94, of Black Eagle, a retired waitress, died of natural causes Friday at a local nursing home.

Visitation is noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Schnider Funeral Home, and an hour prior to the service. Her funeral is 10 a.m. Wednesday at First English Lutheran Church, with entombment in Hillcrest Lawn Mausoleum.

Bertha was born April 16, 1914, to John and Karen (Holland) Holter in Glasgow, where she was raised and educated.

She married Byron Wagar in Glasgow, and they had four daughters. They were divorced, and Bertha later married Nick Vukasin in Great Falls. Nick passed away in 1986.

She worked as a waitress at various restaurants in Glasgow and Great Falls, until retiring from Schell Town House, where she worked for almost 30 years. Bertha was very active in the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union from the time she worked in Glasgow up until after her retirement. She was one of the first members of the union and enjoyed attending the national union conventions, often serving as a delegate.

Bertha was an Avon representative for a number of years, and also was active in the Women of the Moose, and was a member of the Great Falls Senior Citizens Center. She loved dancing and continued to dance past her 90th birthday. She lived independently until four months prior to her death.

Survivors include daughters Julia Wilson of Great Falls, Lois Chinadle of Dearborn, and Rita (Scotty) Maze of Joplin; a sister, Inga (Tom) Shay of Bremerton, Wash.; brothers Casper Holter of Glasgow, and Arthur (Frances) Holter of Racine, Wis.; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her husband, Bertha was preceded in death by a daughter, Clara Robinson, and a sister, Elsie Kesler.

Memorials are suggested to a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be posted online at www.schniderfuneralhome.com afd/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Leslie Allen Wade

CUT BANK — Leslie Allen Wade, 72, a Korean Army veterinarian, died of complications from a chronic medical condition Thursday at a Cut Bank hospital.

Cremation has taken place under the direction of Hi-Line Funeral Home. His memorial service will be held at a later date.

Survivors include his son, Sterling (Tina) Wade of East Helena; daughters Kathy (Curt) Garrett and Trena (Mark) Larson of Helena; brother Bruce (Patty) Wade of East Helena; sister Diane (Don) Miller of Gildford; stepsister Neil Folden of San Jose, Calif.; stepsister Ann Thielman of Great Falls; and grandchildren Brit, Brianna, Kenzie, Jessica, Wade and Ashley.

Les was born in Glasgow to Lyle and Alvira (Dixon) Wade on Oct. 27, 1935. Les' father passed away on June 11, 1947, and his mother remarried Olaf Folden.

Les grew up and attended school in Opheim and graduated from Joplin High School in 1954.

On Nov. 12, 1954, he married Joyce Pimley in Joplin. They raised their family in the Hi-Line communities, settling in Cut Bank. They later divorced.

Les worked for the Highway Department for a number of years in Lima, Rudyard and Cut Bank. After settling in Cut Bank, he worked for the Cut Bank School District as the building and ground maintenance supervisor until his retirement in June 1998.

Les enjoyed collecting coins, guns and die cast cars and would always bring out the collection to show you his new pieces.

Les was preceded in death by his parents, stepfather, ex-wife and sister Belva B.J. Stratton.

The family asks that donations be made to the Parkview Center c/o Senior Citizens Center, 715 E. Main Street, Cut Bank, MT 59427.

Condolences may be posted online at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
PEGGY LOU (KELLEY) WAGY
Liberty County Times
January 16, 2008

While in Chester she met her husband Clay Wagy and the two were married in 1979 and settled in Mandan, North Dakota. The couple had two children, Christopher and Nicole before the couple was divorced. Peggie lived in Colorado for a time, then moved back to Chester in 1986 and had a third child, Kelly, in 1988. In 1989 she moved to Havre and attended Northern Montana College, then she moved to Billings, and later to Oklahoma.

She settled in Lincoln, Nebraska where she passed away due to a Pulmonary Embolism January 7, 2008; she was 52 years old.

During her youth in Chester she was involved in Rainbow Girls and later Royal Neighbors. In school she was very active in drama and choir and enjoyed track and field. She always loved art and took classes while attending NMC. She enjoyed watching sports, especially football, and became a die-hard Husker fan when she settled in Nebraska. Peggie liked to bake, draw, knit and cross-stitch in her spare time. However, Peggie’s favorite activity was a good “gotcha” joke; anytime and anywhere! In Lincoln, Peggie was very involved in the Northern Lighthouse Church in Lincoln and her potato salad and deviled eggs were always a favorite at any gathering.

However, her life was her kids and grandkids!

All three of Peggie’s kids lived near her in Lincoln, and she had 10 grandchildren. She spent a lot of time with the grandkids and loved them dearly. Every call to relatives or friends would include an update, good or bad, on everything the crew was doing. Photos accompanied every letter; and often came with nothing more than a note explaining the photos and who was in them.

Peggie had health problems for many years. She was diagnosed with a lung ailment in 1989 and fought weight problems her entire life. She took it all in stride and just continued to “do her thing” as much as possible.

Peggie was cremated and a service in celebration of her life was held Friday, January 11, 2008 at Northern Lighthouse Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Peggie was survived by her children: sons Christopher (Sarah) Wagy and Kelley Robin of Lincoln, Nebraska; Daughter Nicole Wagy of Lincoln, Nebraska; Grandchildren: Mylilah Thompson, Mateo Lewis, Miah Lewis, Melias Mason, Alexis Soderstrom, Grant Soderstrom, Madilynn Wagy, Zymia Wagy, Calysta Wagy, Isabelle Gibbler - all of Lincoln, Nebraska; Brothers: William (Anne) Smith of Tallahassee, Florida, Charles “Mike” (Nancy) Moore of Muskegon, Michigan, Scott (Susan) Kelley, Henry “Skeeter” (Judith) Moore of Chesapeake, Virginia. Sisters Diana “Peanut” Grimes of Portsmouth, Virginia and Shellie (Carol) DuBois of Acton, Massachusetts. Peggie had six uncles and aunts on her father’s side, some of which were more like brothers and sisters – Jim (Bobbie) Kelley of Helena, Lewis (Romy) Kelley of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Amy Smith of Chinoak, Bonnie (Gary) Eppers Of Fort Benton, Dorothy Overlie of Chester and, especially the youngest, Ray (Karen) Kelley of Lodi, California. She was also survived by her stepmother, Shirley Kelley and by numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Peggie was preceded in death by her father - Shelby “Joe” Kelley, mother - Rosa Mae Smith, “Mom and Pop” – June and Marion Kelley, Grandma and Grandpa Smith and a grandson, Shai-Prieze Wagy.

Aspen Cremation and Burial Service of Lincoln, Nebraska handled the arrangements (to view this on-line obituary or email condolences, please visit Aspen Cremation & Burial Service’s website www.aspenaftercare.com).
AMY RACHEL (PALMER) WALL
Birth: March 30, 1910 – Death: January 8, 2008
Havre Daily News
January 9, 2008

AMY RACHEL WALL obituary
KREMLIN — Amy Rachel Wall, 97, passed away early the morning of Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2008, at the Northern Care Center in Havre. Cremation has taken place through Holland & Bonine Funeral Home of Havre with her ashes to be buried on the family farm near Kremlin. A memorial service will take place this spring in Kremlin.

Mrs. Wall was born the daughter of William and Annie (Wimpset) Palmer on March 30, 1910 on her family’s farmstead east of Bozeman. She was the last surviving child of 13.

She was educated in the Bozeman area. On a visit to her sister in Kremlin in 1933 she met Raymond Wall, the man she would later marry. They married on Feb. 25, 1935, in Kremlin. Amy then assisted Ray in running the family farm. To this union four children were born, Mary, Stan, Leo and Ruth.

Mrs. Wall loved to quilt and sew. She knitted slippers for many for several decades up until 2004 when failing eyesight prevented her.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Raymond in 1997; her youngest daughter Ruth Karmy in 2007.

She is survived by her sons and daughters-in-law Stan and Claudia Wall and Leo and Karen Wall, all of the Kremlin area; her daughter and son-in-law Mary and Ray Demaris of Prineville, Ore; nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren.
PRISCILLA MARIE (SERIGHT) WARD
Birth: May 9, 1950 – Death: April 25, 2008
Liberty County Times
April 30, 2008

Priscilla Ward
Priscilla Marie (Seright) Ward was born May 9, 1950 in Fort Benton, Mt. She was one of six children born to Cecil and Marjorie (Frielings) Seright. Priscilla grew up and received her education in Fort Benton, graduating from F.B.H.S. in 1968.

She married Ronald L. Ward on Feb. 6, 1968 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. They lived in the Chester community, where Priscilla enjoyed her life as a homemaker and mother of three. In the late 1970's she operated a small craft store called "Cilla's Crafts." In the early 1980's she worked as a meat-cutter at the BnW Food Farm in Chester. Priscilla was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 1982. She tried to stay as active as possible, but the disease caused progressive debilitation. Over the years Priscilla's family played an active role in caring for her at home. She has resided at the Liberty Medical Center for the past four months, where she appreciated the many acts of love and kindness. Priscilla died at the Chester nursing facility on Friday evening (April 25, 2008). She was 57 years old.

Priscilla's hobbies were many. She loved crafts, especially sewing, crocheting, painting, ceramics, macramé, and doll-making. She liked to cook; on special occasions she enjoyed preparing delicious 7-course meals. When her children were young, she enjoyed camping trips and outings. Priscilla loved her collections of Elvis Presley memorabilia, teddy bears, bells, oil lamps, and antiques. In her quiet time at home she enjoyed watching her favorite soap opera, "Days of Our Lives." She loved her toy poodles named "Digger" (a loyal companion from years gone by) and "Coco" (her present pet puppy).

She was preceded in death by her mother (Marjorie in 1996), a brother (Raymond in 2001), and her father-in-law (Aden Ward in 2006).

Survivors include her husband of 40 years, Ron Ward of Chester; 3 children, Rick Ward (and wife, Joy) of Billings, Jenny Ward (and wife, Tawnya) of Great Falls, and Ronell Theel of Chester; 11 grandchildren (Jordan, Taylor, Rece, Jace, and Emma Ward of Billings; Jorje, Victoria, and Cedilla Ward of Great Falls; and JR, Brittnee, and Brandon Theel of Chester); her father and step-mother, Cecil and Mary Seright of Fort Benton; 3 sisters, Betty (Leonard) Peterson of Great Falls, Valerie (Richard) Layton of Tacoma, WA., and Tina (John) Menghini of Fairfield; 1 brother, Shane (Renee) Seright of Hamlet, IN.; her sister-in-law, Maxine Ward of Chester; her sister-in-law, Sharon Seidlitz of Chester; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday (April 30th) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester by Father Joseph Diekhans. St. Mary's choir will sing "On Eagle's Wings" and selected mass music. Gospel hymns by Elvis Presley will be played. The eulogy will be shared by niece, Donna Cook. The pallbearers will be family members Richard Cook, John Menghini, Aden Seidlitz, and Rory Seidlitz. Mass participants will include scripture readers (Arlene Meissner and Marilyn Brown), greeters (Ray Seidlitz and Norm Anderson), presentation of gifts (Elayne and Mark Wickum), and Eucharistic minister (Karen Mattson). A coffee hour will be provided by the Altar Society at the church. Memorials may be given to the New Swimming Pool Fund in Chester or the Hi-Line Health Foundation.

Priscilla will be cremated per her wishes and her cremains will be buried in her mother's grave at Fort Benton at a later date.

Local arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.
AUGUSTA — Former Augusta resident Joan Josepha (Didier) Watson, 75, of Helena, a retired legal secretary, died of natural causes Wednesday at a Helena hospital.

Cremation has taken place under the direction of Big Sky Cremation. A celebration of her life will take place in Augusta at a later date.

Survivors include a daughter, Lynn Bowman of Helena; a son, Richard Watson of Sazoy, Ill.; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lloyd Watson.
BOB A. WEAR
Born: June 27, 1949 – Died: July 29, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
July 31, 2008

Bob A. Wear

BRADY — Bob A. Wear, 59, an Air Force veteran and group home worker in the field of mental health, died of congestive heart failure Tuesday at a local hospital.

His memorial service is 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Vineyard Christian Fellowship. Cremation has taken place under the direction of O'Connor Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife, Leslie Wear of Brady; mother Joy Wear of Great Falls; daughters Heidi (Jim) Delbridge of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Dixie (Shaun) Riley of Orofino, Idaho; son Paul (Jennifer) Wear of Great Falls; sister Leah (Larry) Loomis of Great Falls; brother Norm (Myrna) Wear of Tacoma, Wash.; 10 grandchildren, two nephews, Andy and Jake Wear of Seattle; a few aunts and many cousins.

Bob was preceded in death by his father Leon.

Bob was born June 27, 1949, to Joy and Leon Wear in Twin Falls, Idaho. He grew up and attended schools in Great Falls, where he excelled in football at CMR and later at Montana State University.

He married Leslie Tempel in 1986 in Great Falls.

He served in the U.S. Air Force as a firefighter. He worked for many years in the mental health field and was passionate about the patients in his care.

Bob was an avid outdoorsman who loved camping, fishing, woodworking, stamp collecting and animals, especially his dog Duke. He loved to make people laugh. His grandchildren were the lights of his life. He was strong in his faith; now the Lord has called him home.

Memorials are suggested to the Center for Mental Health or Vineyard Christian Fellowship.

Condolences may be posted online at www.mem.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
CLINTON SEAN WEHR
Liberty County Times
September 10, 2008

Clinton Wehr

Clinton Sean Wehr, age 29, a Whitlash native, passed away Tuesday, September 2, 2008 in Chinook. Visitation will be 4-9 p.m., Friday, September 5th at the Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. His funeral will be 11 a.m., Monday at the Whitlash Church with video feed provided at the Whitlash Community Hall. A luncheon will follow the service. Clinton’s ashes will be spread on the Wehr Ranch. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com.

He is survived by his wife Kathy Wehr of Billings and her children, Ashley Shippen, Jayme Shippen, Emie Demerais and Casey Campanian; his mother, Virginia Woods-Wehr of Butte, MT; his father and step-mother, Ron and Toni Wehr of the Sweetgrass Hills; his siblings, Amber Broch of Hamilton, MT, Mary McGuire of Tuam Co. Galway, Ireland, Jackson Wehr of Soldotna, AK, twin sister Colleen Matoon of Shelby and Wendy Wehr of Whitlash; paternal grandmother, Norma Wood of the Sweetgrass Hills as well as step-brother, Mac Cochran of Three Forks and step-sister, Jan Roland of Casa Grande, AZ and eight nephews.

Clinton was born September 7, 1978 to Ron and Virginia Wehr in Chester. He spent the majority of his childhood living in the Sweetgrass Hills. After attending school in Sunburst, he had several occupations, including oilfield work, construction and mining. However, his true love was working on the ranch with his dad. One of his favorite things was wrestling calves with his brother, Jackson.

Clinton’s charming ways never failed, and his love of life and sense of humor prevailed through the hardest times. He had the ability to love and be loved by people through all walks of life.

He was preceded in death by his infant brother, Max Melvin Wehr; his maternal grandparents, Edgar and Gertrude Woods and his paternal grandparents, James Wood and Melvin Wehr.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, all donations be sent to the Clinton Wehr Memorial Fund at the Sunburst Schools.
ELMER H. "BUD" WERBELOW obituary

Elmer H. "Bud" Werbelow, 84, of Sheridan, Wyo., died Tuesday, March 25, 2008, in Memorial Hospital of Sheridan County.

Bud was born April 4, 1923, in Greybull, Wyo., to Martin and Ella (Blank) Werbelow.

Bud grew up and attended schools in Emblem, Wyo. He farmed on the family farm until serving in the U.S. Army during WWII. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Bud married Elizabeth Banhauer on August 20, 1947, in Salzburg, Austria. After the war, they moved to Fort Lewis, Wash., to finish his enlistment. After the service, they returned to Emblem where he farmed until 1955 when they moved to Kremlin. He worked for Hill County as an equipment operator. They returned to Emblem in 1962 and he farmed for Werbelow Brothers. In 1966, they returned to Kremlin and he worked as the custodian for Kremlin Public School. He worked there until retiring in 1990. They moved to Sheridan in 2005.

Bud was an active member of Kremlin Lutheran Church and also a member of Zion Lutheran Church in Emblem, Trinity Lutheran in Sheridan, the American Legion and V.F.W. Bud enjoyed music, playing guitar and harmonica. Bud also enjoyed bowling, pinochle, hunting, fishing, telling jokes, roller skating, attending sporting events and having coffee with his friends. He was an award winning Christmas decorator. Bud loved his family and was a devoted husband and father.

Bud was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Frank and Dick, and a son-in-law Curt Brenden.

Bud is survived by his wife Elizabeth of Sheridan; sons John of Riverton, Wyo., Ken of Buffalo, Wyo., Ray of San Angelo, Tex., and Pat of Bismarck, N.D.; daughter Deanna Brenden of Sheridan; brothers Joe of Emblem, George of Emblem, Clarence of Powell, Wyo., and Pete of Greybull; sisters Irma Olbricht of Hamilton, Gladys Behneman of Boise, Idaho, Doris Schmidt of Lovell, Wyo., Evelyn Ellison of Powell, Becky Henderson of Greybull, Jean Werbelow of Monterey, Calif., and Mary Shepard of San Jose, Calif.; eleven grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

Viewing will be 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday, March 27 at Champion Ferries Funeral Home. Funeral service will be 1 p.m. on Friday at Zion Lutheran Church in Emblem with the Rev. Phil Grovenstein officiating. Interment will be in Emblem Cemetery. Arrangements in Emblem are with Atwood Family Funeral Directors and local arrangements are with Champion Ferries Funeral Home.

Memorial may benefit Trinity Lutheran Church, 135 Crescent Dr., Sheridan, Wyo., 82801 or Zion Lutheran Church in Emblem or the Disabled American Veterans.
Daniel J. Whalen

HAVRE — Daniel J. Whalen, 80, a military veteran who was employed with the railroad for 41 years, died of natural causes Sunday at a Havre hospital.

His prayer vigil service is 7 p.m. Thursday at Holland and Bonine Funeral chapel. Funeral Mass is 2 p.m. Friday at St. Jude Catholic Church, followed by burial with military honors in Highland Cemetery.

Survivors include a son, Keith Whalen of Chester; brothers Stephen Whalen of Great Falls, Charles Whalen of Kookamunga, Columbia, and John Whalen of Bridger; sisters Frances Crum­mey of Fargo, N.D., and Elizabeth Thayer of Hanford, Calif.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris, in 2000.
BYRON SIGURD WIGEN
Great Falls Tribune
March 30, 2008

Byron Sigurd Wigen
DEVON — Byron Sigurd Wigen, 92, a longtime farmer and World War II Army veteran from Devon, died of natural causes Wednesday at a Shelby hospital.
At his request, cremation and family services have taken place. Whitted Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.


Byron was proceeded in death by his parents; brothers Jurgen, Alton and Arthur Wigen; sisters Cora Johansen and Olive Sparks; and great-granddaughter Megan Audrey Kieninger.

Byron was born Feb. 16, 1916, to Olai and Kari (Kvello) Wigen at the family farm near Devon where he grew up, attended grade school, and later graduated from Galata High School. He was assigned to heavy artillery with the U.S. Army at Hawaii weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Byron and Audrey Benner were married in February 1957, in Choteau.

Byron farmed the family farm until his retirement at age 72. He was a member of the Devon Lutheran Church and enjoyed woodworking, furniture restoration and horses, especially draft horses.

Byron's passion was his family. He adored his children and grandchildren.

Some of his happiest times were spent camping and traveling with his grandchildren, and delighting in all their accomplishments. He was loved beyond measure and will be deeply missed by his entire family.

Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.
Velma Clara (Spencer) Wigen
Liberty County Times
December 3, 2008

Velma Clara (Spencer) Wigen was born September 20, 1922 at Vidor, Saskatchewan, Canada. She was raised by Elbert and Effie Stowman in Havre, Montana. Velma received her formal education in Havre, graduating from H.H.S. in 1940.

In the early 1940’s during World War II, she contributed to the war effort by working in the shipyards in Washington. She returned to Montana and worked as a waitress. Velma married Sherman “Aubrey” Hill in 1946. They lived and farmed north of Lothair until 1959. Their marriage ended in divorce.

In the mid-1960’s Velma married Jurgen Wigen, a Devon area farmer. They retired from farming in 2001 and moved to Chester, where Jurgen died in 2003. Velma remained in their Chester home, where she died peacefully in her sleep on the early morning of Monday (November 24, 2008). She was 86 years old.

Velma was a past member of the Eastern Star in Galata. During their golden years, Velma and Jurgen made several memorable trips to Arizona and Alaska. They enjoyed hunting, fishing, and camping together.

Velma’s hobbies were many. She enjoyed working with stained glass and ceramics. She loved to play cards, especially “Skip-Bo” and “Pitch.” She was excellent at cooking and canning. In her quiet time at home she enjoyed reading (mainly, mysteries) and watching television (mainly, westerns and detective movies). And just for the fun of it, she collected bells. Last, but not least, she loved animals (especially, dogs), and was a loyal contributor to an animal society (ASPCA).

She was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by a daughter-in-law (Joyce), a grandson (Jurgen), and a sister (Frances).

Survivors are her 4 sons, Elbert (Carla) Hatcher of Havre, Dennis (Dorothy) Hill of Elkmont, Alabama, Lauren (Rose) Hill of Devon, and Warren (Debbie) Hill of Chester; 8 grandchildren, incl. Doran, Jurgen, Sherman “Andy,” Lisa, Shelley, Sara, Amanda, Jesse, and Matt; several great-grandchildren and her beloved pet dachshund, “Fritz.”

Private viewing and family services were 1:00 p.m. Saturday (Nov. 29th) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Pastor Richard Mullinax shared scriptures and prayers with the family. Cremation followed the services.
MARIE ANNA (KULBECK) BOEHM WILSON
Liberty County Times
August 27, 2008

Marie Anna Kulbeck was born August 31, 1914, on the family farm west of Big Sandy, Montana. She was the second of five children born to Elsie Hanson and Walter Kulbeck, who homesteaded near Big Sandy in 1912.

Marie grew up on the farm and attended country schools. She graduated from Big Sandy High School in 1932. She continued her education in Havre at Northern Montana College where she earned a teaching certificate. For the next two years she taught local schools.

In the summer of 1935 the Kulbeck family traveled to Wisconsin to visit relatives. While there, Marie met her husband-to-be, Herbert Boehm. Herbert and Marie courted each other throughout the fall and were married on October 30, 1935 in Bloomer, Wisconsin.

Soon after, they returned to Montana to work on a farm near Valier. In 1940 they purchased the Fred Gerhardt place south of Rudyard, where they farmed, ranched, and raised a family of three. The Boehms were married 38 years when Herb died suddenly while on a fishing trip off the Washington coast on September 11, 1973. Their son, Aaron, took over the farming operations and Marie continued to live in their home on the farm.

A few years later Marie began spending time with a longtime friend and neighbor, Aaron Wilson, whose wife had died in 1974. Their relationship grew and they were married on November 18, 1978 in Hingham. They made their home in Rudyard and were active in the community. They also enjoyed traveling and camping with friends in the “Good Sam Club.”

The Wilson’s had 17 happy years together before Aaron’s illness and subsequent death on May 21, 1996.

Because of failing health, Marie transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester in 2005. She resided there until her death on Tuesday evening (August 19, 2008). She was 93 years old.

Marie enjoyed quilting, canning (especially, jams and jellies), dancing, and playing cards (mainly, pinochle and whist).

She is survived by 2 daughters, Elsie Hassa of Rudyard and Frances Mosely of Raleigh, N.C.; 1 son, Aaron (Linda) Boehm of Rudyard; 8 grandchildren (inc. Colleen, David, Darrell, Bret, Karmen, Dani Jo, Tiffany, and Brian); 16 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Marie was preceded in death not only by her parents and husbands, but also by her 4 siblings (Charles, Willis, Neil, and Ruth Kulbeck) and 2 infant children.

Marie was cremated. Private family services were 7:00 p.m. Monday (Aug. 25th) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Prayers were led by Natalie Ghekiere. A special musical interlude, “Whispering Hope,” was played. Marie’s ashes were buried with her husband, Herbert, in the Rudyard Cemetery on Tuesday morning. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.
William Walter Wiwsianyk
Great Falls resident and former Air Force veteran William W. Wiwsianyk, 57, died of a massive heart attack August 5th at 10:26 pm at Benefis Hospital.

He served in the Air Force for 17 years at Malmstrom AFB and Grand Forks AFB. He received a general discharge in 1988. He returned to Great Falls and worked in automotive sales at Taylor Auto Max and Holiday Motors, Bleskin and Lithia.

He was born March 3, 1951 and was raised in Albany, NY. He married Dawn Aitken of Chester in 1978. They were later divorced.

Survivors include his daughter Stefi Carlson of Chester; brother Jerry Wiwsianyk of Albany, NY; nephew Nicholas; nieces Jennifer and Melissa and special friend Suzy Kress; and dog Brutus Beastiah.

He is preceded in death by his parents Walter and Eva in 2006.

Cremation has taken place under the direction of Sneider Funeral Home.

No funeral is being held at his request.
MARY ANN (NEWELL) WOLERY
Born: Age: 51 Died: September 16, 2008
Great Falls Tribune
September 19, 2008

Mary Ann Wolery

TURNER — Mary Ann (Newell) Wolery, 51, a Turner homemaker, died of Pallido-Ponto-Nigral-Degeneration, a neurological disease, Tuesday at a Chester hospital.

Her funeral is 11 a.m. Saturday in the Turner High School gym, with burial in Turner Cemetery. Edwards Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include her husband, Loren Wolery of Turner; a son, Chet Wolery of Chester; a daughter, Brenda Maloney of Turner; her mother and stepfather, Mary and Bill Hake of Turner; a brother, Chet Thomas of Yucca Valley, Calif.; sisters Lela Kaiser of Helena, and Betty Offerdal of Conrad; and three grandchildren.
Darlene Fraser Wood passed away August 31, 2008 at the Regional Medical Center in Payson, Az. after recently being diagnosed with cancer. She is survived by her husband of 51 years Harold (Nick) Wood of Payson; sons Bryan (Natalie), Gilbert, AZ, Bruce (Shellie) Lewistown, MT; daughter Darla Wood, Phoenix, AZ; brothers Donald, Rodney, Bill, Charles, Duane and Darrell; sisters Eleanor, Ruby and Ann; grandchildren Jessica, Kristen, Whitney, Laci and Brandie.

Her main hobby was crocheting beautiful afghans for her family. Memorial services will be Thursday Sept. 11 at 11:00AM at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin.

A memorial may be contributed to The American Cancer Society.
Richard Wood

LINCOLN — Former Brady resident Richard W. Wood, 80, of Lincoln, a Korean War veteran, died of the effects of Alzheimer's disease Monday at a Helena care center.

His memorial service will take place at a later date. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Big Sky Cremations of East Helena.

He is survived by his wife Lilly Wood of Lincoln; daughters Vicki West and Debra Wood of Lincoln; a son Douglas Wood of Puyallup, Wash.; brothers Milton Wood of Lincoln, Harry Wood of Condon, John Wood of Rudyard, Robert Wood of Ely, Minn., and Jim Wood of Condon; sisters Hazel Kimmons of Onamia, Minn., and Dorothy Dye of Buffalo, Minn.; and five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a grandson.
GLORIA CORRINE (SILVER) WUNDERLICH
Great Falls Tribune
February 8, 2008

COUR D'ALENE, Idaho – Former Shelby resident Gloria Corrine (Silver) Wunderlich, 78, of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, died of natural causes Tuesday at a Coeur d'Alene assisted-living center.

Her memorial service is 4 p.m. Saturday at Yates Funeral Home in Coeur d'Alene.

Survivors include her sister, Kay Ferguson (Dave); six children, Craig Graham, Carla (Louie) Persling, Cayme (Chuck) Jodrey, Kevin (Patty) Wunderlich, Kim (Paula) Wunderlich and Darren Wunderlich; 15 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and four nieces and nephews.

A resident of Coeur d'Alene, Gloria will be lovingly remembered for her kindness, wit and engaging smile. A friend to many, she leaves behind a large and close family.

Gloria was born in Asotin, Wash., to Carl and Grenda Silver on March 8, 1929. She and one sister lived there in her early years. Those were years filled with an abundance of activities – singing, performing, cheerleading and many clubs and school programs. The maid of honor at her sister's wedding, she fell in love with the best man, Gerald "Jerry" Wunderlich, who she later married. They raised a family of six children and lived in many rural areas of the Northwest, including Moscow, Idaho; Bellevue, Idaho; Shelby, Lowell, Idaho; and Coeur d'Alene. While work outside the home was a part of her life, her focus was always on the care of her family and home.

Gloria's family greatly enjoyed the outdoors and their times together. They took advantage of all nature had to offer, including hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, skiing and ice skating. Gloria made the best sandwiches and black-bottom rolls! Very creative and an artist in her early years, she engaged in many projects throughout her life. Her children carry on many of her talents.

Later in life, Gloria and Jerry bought the Cougar Canyon Station at Three Rivers (Lowell), Idaho. A convenience store and gas station, the store was open from April to November. That allowed them to spend extended, precious time with family and friends during the winter months. Three Rivers also was a welcome place for reunions and family togetherness. After retiring, they moved to Coeur d'Alene and, again, touched the lives of many with their love and generosity.

Gloria never lost her quick wit and great sense of humor. There are many memories and stories to tell – the quick dips into a cold stream upon the first thaw of spring, the fishing trips to local lakes, long rides on the weekends on the roads in the remote backcountry, spelunking uncharted caves and mines, camping and huddling by the fire on cold nights, rock hounding, huckleberry picking and all the domestic and family associations that continually drew a large family closer together throughout the years.

Jerry left her for our Lord on April 26, 2005. Gloria went to live at the Four Seasons, Autumn Cottage. There she developed many close friends and touched the lives of residents and staff alike. She will be missed, but is now walking with those that have gone before and with our Lord and Savior.

Condolences may be posted online at www.yatesfuneralhomes.com and/or www.gfgtribune.com/obituaries.