

HOWARD KEITH ALLEY

Born: July 17, 1933 – Died: December 9, 2011
Liberty County Times
August 1, 2012



Howard Alley

Master Sgt. (retired) Howard Keith Alley went to be with his Lord on Friday, December 9, 2011, he was 78 years old. He was born in Chester, Montana to Howard Vincent Alley and Ellen Keith Alley on Monday, July 17 1933.

Master Sgt. Alley served 21 years in the United States Air Force and was stationed in many places around the globe. He did his basic training in

San Antonio and was then transferred to specialty training in Colorado and Wichita Falls, Texas. After completing his training in radar and electronics, he was sent to England for 4 years where he served some winters in North Africa because of the weather in England. Master Sgt. Alley was then transferred back to the states to be stationed in California. While there, he was made an instructor of aircraft electronics and radar. He had to rotate his stay in California to 4 months in Spain, 4 months in the U.S. and an additional 4 months in Germany. When another 4 years had passed, he was sent to Big Springs in West Texas where he did additional training of troops going to Viet Nam. It was in Big Springs that he also gained his most treasured honor of Master Instructor.

After 2 years there, he was transferred to Florida where he taught a while and was then sent to the Philippines to repair the planes that were coming back from Viet Nam. After serving 2 years in the Philippines, he then resigned

from the service in 1974 to start on his education in Florida at the University of Florida. He studied there for 2 years and then moved his family to Mineola in 1977 where he resided until his death.

While living in Mineola, Master Sgt. Alley finished his degree at the University of Texas in Tyler. Later he taught Electronics at Tyler Junior College for 3 years. He then went to work for the Texas Department of Transportation where he worked for 14 years before he retired and worked full time as a cattleman and farmer.

He served his community and was very involved in raising of his children and grandchildren and those of his wife's, Jean, until her death in 2004. Several children called him "Grandad" because he became one to them.

Master Sgt. Alley was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Bert, his sister Verdell and Claudine, a stepson Dale Hudgins, and his wife Jean Clanton Alley.

He survived by his now wife Linda Shanks Alley, and a sis-

ter Una Moog and he husband Bob of Inverness, Montana. Also surviving him are two sons, David Mark Alley and wife Dawn of Ipswich, England and Vincent Keith Alley of Arizona, and one daughter Elizabeth (Beth) Ann Bush and husband Dan of Mena, Arkansas. He is also survived by 3 step-sons, T.C. Hudgins of Flower Mound, Steve Shanks of Mesquite, and several nieces and nephews. He also had 18 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

DEAN RICHARD BAKER

Born: August 27, 1925 – Died: September 27, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

September 29, 2011

Dean R. Baker

LEWISTOWN — Dean Richard Baker, 86, of Lewistown, a Navy veteran, died of natural causes Tuesday, Sept. 27, in Lewistown.



Baker

His funeral is 1 p.m. Saturday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stanford,



with burial in Stanford Cemetery. Central Montana Crematorium handled cremation.

A dedicated husband, honored father, grandfather, great-grandfather and loyal friend, Baker passed away peacefully at Judith Peak hospice care in Lewistown.

Dean was born to Albert and Bertha Voigts Baker on Aug. 27, 1925, in Stanford. He graduated from Stanford High School in 1943, and immediately joined the Navy. He served in the Navy for three years, in the Marshall Islands in the South Pacific. After his discharge from the Navy, he returned to Stanford to work on the family ranch.

Dean and Jerrie were married Dec. 24, 1946, at the First Presbyterian Church in Great Falls. They made their home in the Stanford area, farming and ranching. Dean served as undersheriff in Judith Basin County under Sheriff Charlie Loberg. In the early 1970s, Dean and Jerrie sold the farm and moved to Liberty County, where he served as sheriff.

They also lived in Fort Benton, then Great Falls, where he and Jerrie purchased two apartment complexes. Dean was involved in selling RVs, vehicles and farm equipment. In 1975, they moved to Lewistown, where he and Jerrie worked in several different business ventures, including owning and operating Big Sky mini storages. Dean was an active participant in Missouri Synod Lutheran Church in Stanford, Great Falls and Lewistown, serving in various offices and committees over time.

Dean is survived by his wife, Geraldine L. Baker; children and their spouses, Charlotte and O.J. Cartwright of Owings Mills, Md., Shelley and Daryl Johnson of Livingston, Mont., and Michael and Lesli Baker of Magalia, Calif.; sons-in-law Douglas Krings of Lewistown, and Greg Bovee of Jefferson City; grandchildren Jim Allen of Washington state, Karen (Randy) Roof of Maryland, Jim (Cora) Forsman of Alaska, Jeanne Forsman, Beth (Scott) Kirsch, Bonnie (Scott) Haigh, Doug (Marnie) Krings, Holly Krings, Michelle Johnson and D.J. Johnson, all of Montana, and Shaun (Ashley) Craig, Derek (Lisa) Craig and Breanne Craig, all of California. In addition, he is survived by 24 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two daughters, Janie Krings of Lewistown, and Kathy Bovee of Jefferson City; brothers Glenn, Harold and Ray; and sister Leona.

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

MAUDE EDNA (MARSHALL) BASSETT
Born: August 16, 1921 – Died: March 20, 2011

Liberty County Times
March 23, 2011



Maude Bassett

Maude Edna (Marshall) Bassett was born August 16, 1921 at Chester, Montana. She was the second of nine children born to Sadie Taplin and William Robert Marshall. Maude grew up and received her education in Chester, graduating from C.H.S. in 1939.

She married her high school sweetheart, Larry E. Bassett, on March 15, 1943 at Port Orchard, Washington, where Larry was working in the shipyards. They returned to Chester in 1946. Larry served as a respected custodian at the Chester School system for 37 years. Maude enjoyed her role as wife, homemaker, and mother. In 1969 she began working with Larry as an assistant custodian at C.H.S. The Bassett's retired in 1984 and remained active in the community. They were married 46 years when Larry died on December 26, 1989. Maude continued to live in their Chester home until 2004, when she moved to the Wheat Country Estates (assisted-living facility). In January of 2011 her health began to fail, so she transferred to the local nursing home. Maude died peacefully on Sunday evening (March 20, 2011). She was 89

Maude was a lifelong member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and the women's circle. She and Larry served as church custodians for many years. Maude was also active in the Chester R.N.A. ("Royal

Neighbors of America").

Throughout the years the Bassett's enjoyed camping, gardening, and working in their yard. In addition, Maude enjoyed cooking, quilting, crossword puzzles, and word search games. As a child Maude played the harmonica, but didn't pursue this musical talent until a few years ago. Of interest is the fact that she had an excellent memory of the words and melodies to many songs.

Maude could best be described as a quiet, private, unassuming lady who appreciated her life and love of her family. She was very content throughout her married years and loved being called "Maude" or "Honey" by her soul mate, Larry. Maude's life was enriched and fulfilled in 1995 when their eldest daughter, Bonnie, was reunited with the Bassett family.

Maude was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by 3 brothers (infant, William Jr., and Darrell and James Marshall), and 2 sisters (Dorothy Stores and Ethel Belstad).

She is survived by her 3 daughters, Bonnie Greenland of Bothel, WA., Linda Eveland (and husband, Lyle) of Edmonds, WA., and Lila Langel of Great Falls; 4 grandchildren (inc. Brenda, Blaine, Amy, and Adam); 16 great-grandchildren; 3 sisters, Janet Nesson of Great Falls, Mabel (Ralph) Jacobson of Chester, and Edith (Jack) Cherry of Houston, TX.; 1 sister-in-law, Betty Marshall of Chester; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Thursday (March 24th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor John Fauerbach. Maude's obituary was read by her daughter, Lila. Scripture readings were by Lila Langel and Brenda Ruiz. Personal remembrances were shared by Amy and Chloe Braulick. Pianist, Holly Frederickson, accompanied the congregation, who sang "What A Friend We

Have In Jesus" and "Softly & Tenderly". A taped selection by Kathy Mattea, "Where've You Been", was played. Ushers were Steve Ruiz and Steve Cameron. Pallbearers were Lyle Eveland, Adam Langel, Tim and Logan Braulick, Rod Wolfe, and Duane Aitken. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held in the church hall. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

**MAUDE EDNA
(MARSHALL) BASSETT**

Born: August 16, 1921
at Chester, Montana
Died: March 20, 2011
at Chester, Montana
Age: 89 years ... 7 months
... 4 days



THE GARDEN OF PROMISE...

*There is a place, I have been told – Beyond an open gate;
All have been invited – Where friends and loved ones wait.
It holds eternal promise – Of everlasting peace;
No pain or sorrow ever comes – And teardrops there have ceased.
Abundant life is evident – Constant, fresh, and new;
A garden of provision – With Eternity in view!
The promise is awaiting – A place we can abide;
Fulfilled for all who answer – The call to come inside.*

FUNERAL SERVICES: 11:00 a.m. Thursday (March 24th)
at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, Montana

OFFICIANT: Pastor John Fauerbach

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Lila Langel & Brenda Ruiz

PERSONAL REMEMBRANCES: Amy & Chloe Braulick

PIANIST: Holly Frederickson...

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS: "Softly & Tenderly"
and "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

TAPED SELECTION: "Where've You Been" (by Kathy Mattea)

USHERS: Steve Ruiz and Steve Cameron

PALLBEARERS: Lyle Eveland, Adam Langel, Tim Braulick,
Logan Braulick, Rod Wolfe, and Duane Aitken

INTERMENT: Chester Cemetery

...Reception to follow at the Fellowship Hall...

MAUDE'S LOVING FAMILY: 3 daughters, Bonnie, Linda (Lyle), and Lila; 4 grandchildren, Brenda, Blaine, Amy, & Adam; 16 great-grandchildren; 3 sisters, Janet, Mabel, & Edith; and many nieces & nephews

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester

BARBARA ALICE (GERARD) BROWN
Born: December 30, 1939 – Died: September 30, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
October 6, 2011

Barbara A. Brown

CONRAD — Barbara Alice (Gerard) Brown, 72, died of natural causes Friday, Sept. 30, at her home in Conrad.



Brown

Graveside services are 11 a.m. Saturday at Hillside Cemetery in Conrad. Pondera Funeral

Home is handling arrangements.

Barb was born Dec. 30, 1939, in Billings to Lester and Lorraine Gerard, later attending school in Laurel. She married Richard Brown in 1957 and shortly thereafter started her family with the birth of Mike, followed by another son, Jeff. During this period of time, Barb lost her mother, Lorraine; but later gained a very special stepmother, Elaine, who played an important part in the lives of Barb and her family.

In 1960, the family moved to Chester, where her third son, Gary, was born. In the family's short time in Chester, many long-lasting friendships were built and always remembered. In 1963, the family made their move to Conrad in order to purchase an ag dealership. Barb's fourth son, Brad, was born. Barb worked alongside her husband for many years while raising a family. After her family was raised and beginning lives of their own, her path led to time spent in

Seattle, Las Vegas, Great Falls, and eventually back to Conrad.

Even though our mom was small in stature, she was never afraid to smack the backside of one of her knot-head four sons with a broom, if necessary. She frequently commented "How did I ever make it through raising you four boys!" Mom had a special bond with her grand- and great-grandchildren, and helped create many special memories. In her later years in Conrad, Barb enjoyed volunteering time at the Conrad Transportation Museum. Several special friendships were made while working there. Barb will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

Survivors include her stepmother, Elaine Gerard of Las Vegas; sons, Mike (Leesa) Brown of Great Falls, Jeff Brown and Gary (Angela) Brown of Conrad and Brad (Diane) Brown of Billings; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; her cat, "Jake"; and many extended family members.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Les and Lorraine; twin brother Bob; and former husband Richard.

Memorials in Barb's honor may be made to the Conrad Transportation Museum or a memorial of the donor's choice.

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

REBA ELIZABETH (HAN) BOUCHER
Born: June 21, 1918 – Died: December 23, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
December 29, 2011

Reba Boucher

BILLINGS — Reba Elizabeth Han Boucher, 93, formerly of Rudyard, died of natural causes Friday, Dec. 23, at Valley Health Care Center in Billings.



Boucher

Her memorial service is 11 a.m. Thursday at Atone-ment Lutheran Church, 406 Wicks Lane, in Billings. Smith Funeral Home of Billings is in charge of arrangements.

Reba was born June 21, 1918, in her parent's tiny homestead shack, and she died peacefully Dec. 23, 2011.

Reba was the daughter of L. B. and Fanna Reba Han, who homesteaded south of Inverness. She spent her childhood on the farm with her four siblings, and attended the one-room Hay Coulee School through eighth grade. Afterward, she continued her education at Inverness High School and graduated in 1936. Reba worked for room and board for the first two years of her high school education. She played basketball for her school and graduated as class valedictorian.

Though Reba wanted to go to college and had earned a scholarship, family circumstances prevented her from doing so. She worked on her family farm for three years and, on Feb. 4, 1939, married Kenneth Boucher at the

Lutheran parsonage in Shelby. The two lived briefly in Inverness, then Shelby, and then moved to Bremerton, Wash., for two years. When Kenneth was drafted during World War II, Reba returned to Montana with her first daughter, Carol, and worked in Inverness and Rudyard at local stores. Shortly after Ken returned from the war, the two acquired their farm east of Rudyard, where they raised their four children and were active in the Lutheran church, the Republican Party and the Farm Bureau. Reba started a local Farm Bureau newsletter, which she published in her basement. Their contributions included a trip to Washington, D.C., to testify during hearings on a farm program in the early 1960s. In the early 1970s, Reba was elected the first female president of Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council in Rudyard.

Reba was a force who spent her life in productivity and sharing. She was an avid gardener, often working there in the earliest hours of the day and sharing the abundant produce with visitors. She had a ministry of hospitality and shared baked goods and huge meals with friends and family alike. She crocheted afghans for her children and many grandchildren and — until the last days of her life — her concern was always for her husband, siblings, children and grandchildren.

During the prime of their life, Reba and Ken traveled widely in their motor home from Montana to the Baja

Peninsula to Alaska to Florida, and through much of the continental United States. In more recent years, they traveled to Las Vegas each winter, where Reba's younger brother lived, and often volunteered their time in charity organizations.

For the past eight years, Reba and Ken spent much of their time in Billings, staying with their daughter Nyda. As always, Reba was a vital part of her family's life, connecting them to each other through her ever-present concern, and showing her love through generosity and good food.

Reba is survived by her husband, Kenneth; her four children and their spouses, Carol Anderson and John Schwechten, Nyda and Ken Wolery, Byron and Kathy Boucher, and Jayme Schlepp and Keven Van Dyken; her brothers, Ken and Richard Han; 16 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews in her very large extended family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, Charles Dudley Han; her sister, Dorothea Haaland; and her son-in-law, Dennis Schlepp.

Memorials may be given to New Beginnings Lutheran Church in Rudyard, or Hi-line Health Foundation, 315 West Madison Ave., Chester, MT.

F. MAX BROWN

Born: June 9, 1922 – Died: October 11, 2011

Liberty County Times

October 19, 2011



Max Brown

F. Max Brown was born June 9, 1922 on the family farm west of Chester, Montana. He was the oldest of 3 children born to Frances Curtis and Fred Brown. Max learned farming skills in his youth and received his early education at the Tiber country school. He finished his formal education in Chester, where he graduated from C.H.S. in 1942.

Max married Susan Naomi Gifford on November 23, 1943 in Great Falls, Mt. They made their home on the family farm and began raising their family. The Browns moved into Chester in 1950 and built a new home in 1957. After the children were grown, they began travelling to Mesa, Az. in 1973. Two years later they bought a home at Windsor Park, where they enjoyed their winter months. Their summers were spent in Chester, where Max loved his life as a Montana farmer with his brother, Steve.

Max was diagnosed with cancer in 1989 and responded well to the recommended treatment. Even though his health had failed these past two years, he continued to be both positive and active. In fact, when he returned from Mesa this spring, he was able to get on the tractor one more time. Two weeks ago when Max's condition continued to weaken, the Browns moved to the Wheat Country Estates for assisted living. He was moved to the Liberty Medical Center, where he died peacefully on Tuesday evening (October 11, 2011). He was 89 years old.

In the late-1930's Max learned the grocery business at the Chester Trading Company, where he worked for Charlie and Helen Baker during the winter months. Max later went to work at Shamey's Grocery, then purchased this store in 1949. During those years Max became a skilled meat-cutter. After he sold the store, he continued cutting beef at the farm for family and friends for many years.

Max had always been active in the Chester community and was a "gitter done" kind of guy. He was a charter member of the Chester Lions Club. He served as the club's first "100% President" and initiated many of their endeavors. Max was instrumental in establishing the Chester Park Board, including the new softball field and related programs. He also served on the Ches-

ter School Board for many years; during his tenure on the board he successfully promoted the first grass football field and a quality high school track. As chairman of the school board, he was privileged to award diplomas to many local graduates, including four of his own children. Whenever there was a special community function like an "All School Reunion", Max was always there to volunteer his time and talents. Over the years he served as the local "parade master", general organizer, or judge at countless community events. The Browns enjoyed their membership at the Chester United Methodist Church.

Max was also very active in Mesa. Not long after they bought their home at Windsor Park, he was elected president of the park club. During the past 38 years Max helped to revitalize the club. He always encouraged comradery and friendship at the many pancake breakfasts and steak frys. As the years went by, so did the participation numbers at their "fun and game" events (like Bingo, dances, and movies). Max and Sue also helped every year with the annual "Montana Picnic" in Mesa. Whatever was happening, they always seemed to be in the mix and promoting fun!

Max enjoyed many hobbies over the years. He loved to golf, but had to wait 80 years to celebrate his first "hole-in-one" in 2002. He loved his collection of old coins and

decorative liquor decanters. He enjoyed raising geraniums in Montana and roses in Arizona. Although he was content to be a "homebody", Max did enjoy experiencing new things and places. Mostly, he was happy being a "steward of the land" and appreciated his moniker as "Farmer Brown".

The Browns enjoyed being with people and were loyal friends. They seldom missed important events like anniversaries, graduations, birthdays, weddings, and funerals, so Max's passing is a great loss not only to his family, but to the entire community. He will be missed...

Max is survived by his wife of 67 years, Sue Brown of Chester; 2 daughters, Diana Solle (Bert) of Deer Lodge and Barbara Hess (David) of Stone Mountain, Georgia; 3 sons, Fred Max "Bud" Brown Jr. (Charlene) of Kalispell, Richard "Dick" Brown (Drea) of Helena, and Stuart Brown of Skagway, Alaska; 1 sister, Carol Jeppesen of Hamilton; 1 brother, Steve Brown of Chester; 15 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, a son (Curtis Brown), and a granddaughter (Janelle Solle).

Funeral services were 10:00 a.m. Saturday (Oct. 15th) at the Chester United Methodist Church. Pastor Grover Briggs officiated. Special readings & memories were shared by family members. Gail Cicon served as pianist and the congrega-

tion sang "Here I Am Lord" & "How Great Thou Art". Vocalist, Rudy Cicon, performed "Hymn of Promise". Ushers were Bert Solle and David Hess. Grandchildren who served as pallbearers were Rick, Joshua, & Mike Brown; Darrien Hess; Alfons & Brodrick Brown; and Ryley Campbell. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a reception was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials may be given to the United Methodist Church (Box 487, Chester 59522) or "Sunshine Acres" (3405 N. Higley Road, Mesa, AZ 85215).

F. MAX BROWN

BORN: June 9, 1922 at Chester, Mt.
DIED: Oct. 11, 2011 at Chester, Mt.
AGE: 89 years ... 4 months ... 2 days



THE FARMER'S CREED...

I believe in Farming. I believe a man's greatest possession is his dignity and that no calling bestows this more abundantly than farming.

I believe hard work and honest sweat are the building blocks of a person's character.

I believe that farming, despite its hardships and disappointments, is the most honest and honorable way a man can spend his days on this earth.

I believe my children are learning values that will last a lifetime and can be learned in no other way.

I believe many of the best things in life are indeed free: the splendor of a sunrise, the rapture of wide open spaces, and the exhilarating sight of your land greening each spring.

I believe true happiness comes from watching your crops ripen in the field, your children grow tall in the sun, and your whole family feel the pride that springs from their shared experience.

I believe when a man grows old and sums up his days, he should be able to stand tall and feel pride in the life he's lived.

I believe in farming because it makes all this possible!

FUNERAL SERVICES: 10:00 a.m. Saturday (Oct. 15th) at the United Methodist Church in Chester, Montana

OFFICIANT: Pastor Grover Briggs

MUSICIANS: Pianist, Gail Cicon... Vocalist, Rudy Cicon...
Vocal Tribune, "Hymn of Promise"...

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS: "How Great Thou Art" and "Here I Am Lord"

Max's "life story", personal remembrances, & scripture readings will be shared by family members.

USHERS: Sons-in-law, Bert Solle and David Hess

PALLBEARERS: Grandsons, Rick Brown, Darrien Hess, Joshua Brown, & Mike Brown; and Great-Grandsons, Alfons Brown, Brodrick Brown, & Ryley Campbell

INTERMENT: Chester Cemetery

...A reception will follow at the church fellowship hall...

MEMORIALS: United Methodist Church (P.O. Box 487, Chester, MT, 59522)...OR...Sunshine Acres (3405 N. Higley Road, Mesa, AZ, 85215)

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester, Mt.

MAX'S FAMILY: Wife, Sue; 2 daughters, Diana/Bert and Barbara/David; 3 sons, Bud/Charlene, Dick/Drea, & Stuart; 1 sister, Carol; 1 brother, Steve; 15 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; and numerous nieces & nephews...

DANIEL 'BARBER DAN' CHINADLE
Born: November 17, 1950– Died: February 9, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
February 13, 2011

**Daniel 'Barber Dan'
Chinadle**

SHELBY — Daniel "Barber Dan" Chinadle, 60, of Shelby, died of complications from diabetes Wednesday at a Great Falls care facility.



Chinadle

A rosary was said and no formal services are planned. Burial will take place in Havre. Schnider Funeral Home was in charge of arrange-

ments.

Dan was born Nov. 17, 1950, in Havre, Mont., to Alfred and Helen Chinadle, and was one of five children. Dan attended barber school in Washington state, and upon returning worked in shops in Great Falls and Choteau before settling in Shelby. He purchased a building, and with his father's help remodeled it into a barbershop.

Dan's hobbies included bargain hunting at pawn shops, rummage sales and second-hand stores, where he could frequently be found. He found great joy in family and friends, and loved to visit at family get-togethers and camping trips, or with anyone who came into his barber shop.

He is survived by his mother, Helen Chinadle of Great Falls; daughters Rachael Chinadle and Kelley (Tim) Chinadle-Terry of Canby, Ore.; a brother, Pat (Margie) Chinadle of Hingham; sisters Gail (Andy) Mygland of Great Falls, Jane (Jim) Lewis of Lewistown, and Beverly (Jay) Zebntner of Great Falls; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, Alfred.

Memorials may be sent to Cascade County 4-H Foundation, 1807 3rd St NW, Westgate Mall Ste 36, Great Falls, MT 59404.

Condolences may be posted online at www.schniderfuneral-home.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

DORA BELLE (WELLS) HEIMBIGNER CHRISTENOT

Born: February 11, 1917 – Died: December 2, 2011

Liberty County Times

December 14, 2011



Dora Christenot

Dora Belle (Wells)

Heimbigner Christenot was born February 11th, 1917 at Elberton, Washington. She was the youngest of two daughters born to Virgil and Alice (Jackson) Wells. Dora attended first grade at St. John (WA), second grade at Longview (WA), and grades three through twelve at Plummer (Idaho), where she graduated from high school in 1934. She continued her education at the Moler Barber & Beauty School in Spokane (WA). While there she met a fellow student from Montana, Harry A. Heimbigner, and they were married in Spokane on February 25th, 1935. They spent the next four years in St. Maries (ID) and Colfax (WA), where Harry worked as a barber and Dora enjoyed her life as a homemaker & mother to their only son (Harry Jr.).

The Heimbigners moved to Chester (MT) in 1939 and opened the "Model Barber Shop", which Harry operated for 47 years. Dora worked at the local Gamble Store in the early 1950's, then took a job as clerk typist at the Liberty County Clerk-&-Recorder's office in 1955. She was eventually appointed Deputy Clerk before being elected to the position of Clerk-&-Recorder in 1970. After 27½ years of faithful public service, Dora retired in 1982.

The Heimbigners were divorced in 1969 and Harry died in 1986. Following Dora's retirement, she married her second husband, Harley Christenot, on December 29th, 1982. They enjoyed hunting, fishing, mining for Montana Yogo Sapphires, and camping in California during the winter months. They were married 11 years when Harley passed away in 1993.

Dora was fortunate to maintain relatively good health and lived in her own home into her 90's. Even though her vision failed, she somehow managed to navigate/walk to the post office and senior center on a daily basis. In April of 2011 she transferred to the local nursing home for extended care. Dora died peacefully at the Liberty Medical Center on Friday afternoon (December 2nd, 2011). She was 94 years old.

Dora was baptized in the Methodist faith and remained a member of the church throughout her life. She was also a 65-year member of the Royal Neighbors of America and was an active member of the Democratic Party.

She enjoyed many hobbies, including crocheting, knitting, sewing, playing cards (mainly pinochle & whist), and Bingo. In her prime years Dora was an avid bowler with many pins & trophies to her credit. Believe it or not, she actually enjoyed raking & bagging leaves each fall! And last, but not least, she loved quality time with her grandchildren.

Survivors are her son, Harry Heimbigner Jr. (and wife, Shirley) of Chester; 4 grandchildren, Stanley Heimbigner of Williston, ND, Roger (Denise) Heimbigner of Laurel, Cheri (Rodney) Larson of Laurel, and Neil (Carla) Heimbigner of Centennial, CO; 6 great-grandchildren (Bradley, Brandon, Britney, Eli, Annika, and Kayla); 1 great-great-granddaughter, Gracie; 1 niece, Barbara McCormick; 2 nephews, Norman & Steve Bruce; the Christenot step-children & their families; several cousins; and a host of friends. Dora was preceded in death by her parents, her husbands, her sister (Gladys Bruce), and a

granddaughter (Jolene).

Dora was cremated per her wishes. Her ashes will be buried in the family plot at the Chester Cemetery.

A memorial service will be 11:00 a.m. Monday (Dec. 19th) at the United Methodist Church in Chester. Reverend Grover Briggs will officiate. Dora's life story will be shared by friend, Pat Seidlitz. Vocalist, Wayne Wardell, will perform "In the Garden" & "Amazing Grace". The congregation will sing "The Old Rugged Cross", accompanied by Holly Frederickson. A luncheon will follow. Memorials may be given to any cancer fund or donor's choice. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

DORA BELLE (WELLS) HEIMBIGNER CHRISTENOT

BORN: February 11, 1917 at Elberton, Washington

DIED: December 2, 2011 at Chester, Montana

AGE: 94 years ... 9 months ... 21 days



*"We give comfort and we
receive comfort, some-
times at the same time."*

BEAUTY SECRETS...

For attractive lips – speak words of kindness.

For lovely eyes – seek out the good in people.

For a slim figure – share your food with the hungry.

For beautiful hair – let a child run his fingers through it once a day.

For poise – walk with the knowledge you'll never walk alone.

We leave you a tradition of the future – the tender loving care of human beings will never become obsolete.

People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, redeemed, & redeemed – never throw anyone away.

Remember, if you ever need a helping hand – you'll find one at the end of your arm.

As you grow older, you'll discover that you have two hands – one for helping yourself and one for helping others.

You have great days still ahead of you – may there be many of them!

*(This poem by Sam Levenson was requested
by Dora to be printed on her memorial card.)*

MEMORIAL SERVICE: 11:00 a. m. Monday (Dec. 19th 2011) at the United Methodist Church in Chester, Montana

OFFICIANT: Pastor Grover Briggs

DORA'S LIFE STORY: Read by friend, Pat Seidlitz

PIANIST: Holly Frederickson

Congregational Hymn: *"The Old Rugged Cross"*

VOCALIST: Wayne Wardell

Vocal Tributes: *"In the Garden"* and *"Amazing Grace"*

A luncheon will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

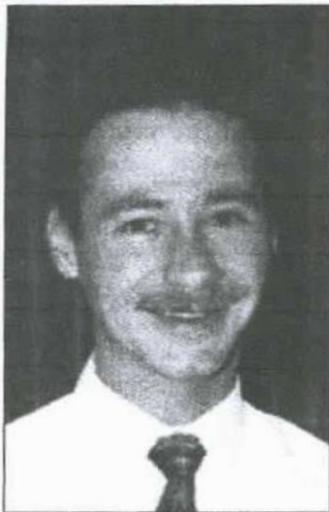
FINAL DISPOSITION: Dora's ashes will be buried in the family plot at the Chester Cemetery.

MEMORIALS: Any cancer fund or donor's choice...

DORA'S FAMILY: Son, Harry/Shirley; 4 grandchildren, Stanley, Roger, (Cheri), & Neil; 6 great-grandchildren, Bradley, Brandon, Britney, Eli, Annika, & Kayla; 1 great-great-granddaughter, Gracie; 1 niece, Barbara; 2 nephews, Norman & Steve the Christenot step-children & their families; several cousins; ; and a host of friends...

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester

LORENCE WADE CHRISTENOT
Born: April 16, 1970 – Died: January 16, 2011
Liberty County Times
January 26, 2011



Lorence Christenot

Loren Christenot, age 40, died at his Chester residence on Sunday morning (January 16, 2011). No foul play is suspected and the cause of death is being confirmed per post-mortem studies by the Liberty County Coroner's office.

He was born Lorence Wade Christenot on April 16, 1970 in Billings, Montana, the second of three sons to Kenneth and Linda (Cox) Christenot. His father travelled in the construction business, so Loren grew up and received his education in various communities, including Gillette and Mountainview (Wyoming) and Worden, Forsyth, Shepherd, and Chester (Montana). He graduated from high school in 1988 at St. Johns, Arizona. In the two years that followed, he continued his education in general studies at the Northland Community College in Snowflake, AZ.

Loren enlisted into the U. S. Army in 1991. He was stationed in Germany where he worked as a mechanic on specialized "Bradley fighting vehicles". As a direct consequence of his military employment, Loren suffered severe hearing loss and was offered an honorable discharge with medical disability in 1993. He returned to Arizona and be-

gan working in retail sales at a pharmacy outlet. Sometime later Loren found employment in the maintenance division at a commercial tomato-growing facility, a job he held for several years. By 2000 he had developed additional medical problems for which he was granted V.A. and S.S.I. disability payments.

Loren remained in Arizona until the summer of 2008, when he moved to Chester to be near his family. He was generally a quiet and private man who lived alone. Loren wasn't feeling well on Saturday and Sunday (Jan. 15th & 16th) and spent the weekend recuperating at home. He did commit to a family breakfast planned at his parents' house on Monday morning (January 17th), but when he didn't show up, his father and brother went to his home to discover that he had passed away the previous day.

Loren was baptized in the L.D.S. Church and maintained his membership there. He enjoyed gardening, canning, and cooking, and his specialty was preparing Mexican meals. He loved being in the great outdoors, so hiking, camping, and fishing were favorite pastimes. Loren was also a photography buff who appreciated natural scenery as his preferred medium. He loved building projects; one of his best was a patio and rock garden at his home in Arizona. In addition he loved to rebuild old cars and was presently restoring a 1976 Ford Maverick. And just for the fun of it, he collected Chinese memorabilia.

Loren is survived by his parents, Kenneth and Linda Christenot of Chester; 2 brothers, Kenneth Christenot of Billings and Jason Christenot of Chester; his paternal grandmother, Helen Christenot of Chester; 1 niece, Samatha; 1 great-nephew, Haden; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Loren was cremated. A memorial service is being planned for a later date. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

MAUREEN YVONNE (BRANDT) CICON

Born: July 1, 1944 – Died: May 15, 2011

Liberty County Times

May 25, 2011



Maureen Cicon

Maureen Yvonne (Brandt) Cicon was born July 1, 1944 in Havre, Montana. She was one of two children born to Loren and Florence (Cross) Brandt. Maureen grew up and received her education in Rudyard, graduating from R.H.S. in 1962. That fall she attended a beauty school in Billings.

On February 20, 1963 Maureen married her high school sweet-heart, James L. Cicon Jr.; the young couple eloped to Coeur D'Alene, Idaho. They lived in the Chester community, where Jimmy ranched and worked for Montana Power and Maureen enjoyed her life as a homemaker and mother of two. The Cicons were married 10 short years when Jimmy died of injuries from an industrial accident in 1973.

In 1980 Maureen took a job for Liberty County, where she worked for Alma Soper as Deputy Clerk-&-Recorder. Following Alma's retirement

in 1994, Maureen was elected to the position of Liberty County Clerk-&-Recorder, an office she held for three 4-year terms. After 26 years of dedicated employment for Liberty County, Maureen retired in 2006.

Maureen was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2003 and received progressive treatments. She did relatively well until this past year, when her condition deteriorated. She was recently admitted to the Liberty Medical Center in Chester, where she died in the early morning of Sunday (May 15, 2011) at the age of 66 years.

Maureen was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. She became an active member of the Chester Assembly of God Church, where she served as church treasurer for several years. In addition Maureen had served as secretary of the Liberty County Airport Board and had been an active member of M ACO during her years as an elected official. Some of her other memberships were the Bear's Den Homemaker's Club, the Liberty County Red Hat Society, Weight Watchers, and the local WABC organization.

Maureen enjoyed many hobbies, including camping, bowling, cooking, gardening, and walking. During her quiet time at home, she loved to crochet and read. At family gatherings she enjoyed playing games and cards (es-

pecially, pinochle and cribbage). And just for the fun of it, she collected ceramic eggs. Maureen also enjoyed travelling; she made memorable trips to Disneyland, Alaska,

and Ireland, just to name a few. In recent years her favorite destinations were weekend getaways to Tiber Dam or family get-togethers in the Flathead Valley. Maureen loved attending family events and never missed those many special reunions, graduations, weddings, and anniversaries. Maureen was a loving daughter, too, serving as loyal companion and caregiver to her aging mother, "Grandma Who", until her mom's recent death this past October. Maureen cared deeply for her entire family and will be dearly missed by all who loved her...

She was preceded in death by her father (Loren in 1948), her step-father (Alfred Johnson in 1963), her husband (James in 1973), and her mother (Florence in 2010).

Surviving are her 2 children: daughter, Jodi Cicon of Great Falls and son, Kevin Cicon (wife, Kimie) of Augusta; 6 grandchildren (inc. Eric, Greg, Kimberly, Preslie, Kelli, & Madison); brother, Loren Brandt (and companion, Cindy Bradley) of Missoula; step-sister, Marlene Hanson (husband, Ed) of San Rafael, CA.; sister-in-law, Glenda Albee (husband, Bill) of Chester; brother-in-law, Howard Cicon (wife, Geraldine) of Rollins; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Maureen's funeral was 11:00 a.m. Saturday (May 21st) at the Assembly of God Church in Chester. Pastor Eric Munson conducted the service. Prelude music was provided by Gail Cicon (harpist) and Rudy Cicon (guitarist). Holly Frederickson served as pianist and the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art" & "Surely the Presence". Holly also sang a special tribute, "The Anchor Holds". In addition Maureen's niece, Brenda Lewis, performed a medley of songs ("Give Me Jesus", "We Will Gather at the River", and "When the Saints Go Marching In"). Bill Albee served as the eulogist. Ushers were Jim Fritz & Phil Wardell. Pallbearers were Clyde Brandt, Steve Jackson, John Cicon, Leroy Green, Lance McDowell, & Duane Johnson. Honorary bearers were friends from the Hi-Line WABC, inc. Jan Nelson, Elayne Wickum, Carlene Diemert, Tina Wood, Ann Wickum, and Penny Walston, who placed pink roses on Maureen's casket during the graveside services at the Chester Cemetery. A luncheon followed at OSLC Fellowship Hall. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

**MAUREEN YVONNE
(BRANDT) CICON**

Born: July 1, 1944 at Havre, Mt.

Died: May 15, 2011 at Chester, Mt.

Age: 66 years ... 10 months ... 14 days



God saw you getting tired,
When a cure was not to be;
So He wrapped His arms around you
And said, "Come to Me"
He closed your tired eyelids
And lifted you to rest;
God's garden must be beautiful,
He only takes the best.

Author unknown

MAUREEN'S LOVING FAMILY: Daughter, Jodi; son, Kevin/Kimie; 6 grandchildren, Eric, Greg, Kimberly, Preslie, Kelli, & Madison; brother, Loren/Cindy; step-sister, Marlene/Ed; sister-in-law, Glenda/Bill; brother-in-law, Howard/Geraldine; and many extended family & friends...

Arrangements: Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester

FUNERAL SERVICES: 11:00 a.m. Saturday (May 21st)
at the Assembly of God Church in Chester, Montana

OFFICIANT: Pastor Eric Munson

EULOGIST: Bill Albee

PRELUDE MUSIC: Gail Cicon (harpist) &
Rudy Cicon (guitarist)

PIANIST: Holly Frederickson (Vocal: "The Anchor Holds")

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS: "Surely the Presence"
"How Great Thou Art"

VOCALIST: Brenda Lewis

USHERS: Phil Wardell and Jim Fritz

PALLBEARERS: Steve Jackson, Clyde Brandt, Lance McDowell, John Cicon, Leroy Green, and Duane Johnson

HONORARY BEARERS: Maureen's special friends
in the WABC...

INTERMENT: Chester Cemetery

...Reception to follow at the church hall...

RAYMOND ELI 'PETE' CLAUSEN
Born: June 6, 1927 – Died: February 21, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
February 24, 2011

Raymond E. 'Pete' Clausen

ZORTMAN — Raymond Eli "Pete" Clausen, 84, of Zortman, died of Alzheimer's disease Monday, Feb. 21, at a Havre care center.



Clausen

A memorial service will be held in the spring. Holland & Bonine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Pete was born June 6, 1927, in Malta, to Edward and Blanche Clausen. His father died when he was 11 years old. He attended elementary school in Malta until halfway through the sixth grade, when he moved to Ruby Gulch with his mother and stepfather Harry Combs, who worked at the Ruby Gulch Mill. A few years later, they moved to Great Falls, where he attended Great Falls High for three years, completing his last high school year by correspondence while in the Navy and stationed at Pearl Harbor.

Through his high school years, he worked on his Uncle Barne's ranch south of Malta during summers, no doubt where he learned how to work, something he always mentioned is not taught anymore. Following his first discharge from the Navy, he spent a year in Spokane, where he attended the Cheney Art School. Because of his tremendous artistic talent, a man by the name of Walt Disney offered him a job in

California, but Pete declined and headed home to Montana. He was a very artistic person, very good with his hands. He enjoyed doing artwork throughout his life when time permitted. He later spent two additional stints in the Navy as a recruiter, once in Great Falls and once in Helena. Following that time, Pete worked with H-O parts supply as it introduced businesses at several locations around Montana.

Pete married Joyce Flesche of Malta on Nov. 21, 1954, while working at the Malta Motors Ford garage as a parts man. He later became owner of the Enco bulk plant in Malta, delivering fuel around Phillips County, sometimes with his three young sons bouncing around the cab. He became a partner in Clausen-Long Ford dealership after that, along with Phillips bulk fuel distributorship and gas/tire station in Malta. Pete also began selling and building Eaton grain bins in 1960, then going with Behlen Building Systems in 1961 after meeting Chub Park, selling and building grain bins, curvets and metal buildings, primarily in the Phillips County area.

He was proud to have been a longtime school board member with the Malta school system. He also was a member of Malta Lutheran Church, Toastmasters, and the VFW. He enjoyed several years as a Montana Fish and Game commissioner, forever wearing the badges on his favorite cowboy hat. While serving on the commission, he was instrumental in the creation of the Montana Outdoors publica-

tion.

In 1972, he left the fuel and car business in Malta, moving his family to the small mining town of Zortman in the Little Rocky Mountains, an area the family loved and had spent most weekends in over the previous years, so why not move there permanently? Pete kept the building business so that he could involve his whole family with work in a place he thought was the perfect setting in the mountains. Together with his family, Pete built a successful construction company, Pete Clausen and Sons. With his guidance and work ethic, the business steadily grew and was a source of great pride for him. He enjoyed the time working in the mountains with the rise and fall of Pegasus Gold, a time when home was close to work. He loved the Little Rocky Mountains, the Missouri River Breaks and the Larb Hills — and any time spent there or with the people who lived there, whether working or recreating.

Pete loved rides in the country — anywhere in southern Phillips County — hunting, shooting or exploring. He loved visiting with people about the history of the area, politics and life in general. He loved turning the countryside he explored into wonderful works of art. He loved being and working with his family. He was a square, honest, hard-working man. Pete retired from the business in 1993, and remained in Zortman as long as he was able. His beautiful wife Joyce passed away May 20, 1998. After spending 44 years of marriage with her, losing Joyce really took the wind

out of his sails. Shortly thereafter, Alzheimer's began its ugly process.

Pete and Joyce had five children, David Clausen of Havre, Robert (Rachel) of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Fountain Hills, Ariz., Brent (Rhonada) of Ukiah, Calif., Colleen (Kelly) Murray of Malta, and Kelly (Scott) Koteles of Tucson, Ariz.; grandchildren Melissa (fiancé Chris Pappas) Murray, Kenny (Diedra) Murray, Jake (Mary) Murray, Autumn (Curt) Lineweaver, Charlotte Clausen, Remington and Isabelle Clausen, Tess and Elle Clausen, and Makena and Macyn Koteles; and great-grandson Kellen Murray.

In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his father, Edward Clausen; his mother, Blanche Combs; his brother, John (Laura) Clausen of Malta; and sisters Eleanor (Irwin) Wink of Havre and Bigfork, and Grace (Rene) Loyd of Spokane.

Those who knew Pete, and who had the honor of calling him "friend," will never forget him. He was the best son, father, grandfather, brother and husband anyone could ever have. Pete was "a man's man," generous and loyal to the very end.

Memorial contributions in Pete's honor may be made to the MSU-Northern Foundation Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 1691, Havre, MT 59501; or to the Space for Grace, c/o NMHF, P.O. Box 1231 Havre, MT 59501; or to the Phillips County Museum.

Condolences may be posted online at hollandbonine@q.com and/or gtribune.com/obituaries.

AVA LEE MELTON-COLANTUONO
Born: September 4, 2011 – Died: September 4, 2011
Liberty County Times
September 21, 2011



***Services for
Melton-
Colantuono
infant:***

Ava Lee Melton-Colantuono, infant daughter of Taylor Melton and Albert Colantuono of Chester, was delivered en route to Great Falls on Sunday morning (September 4th, 2011). She died a short while later at the Benefis East Medical Center. At the hospital emergency room the precious little angel was baptized by her great-grandmother, Patricia. Ava was just 26-weeks gestation with

an expected delivery date of December 27th, 2011.

In addition to her parents, baby Ava is survived by maternal grandparents, John & Anne Melton of Chester; paternal grandmother, Ann Colantuono of Chester; maternal great-grandparents, Jack & Patricia Seidlitz of Chester; paternal great-

grandmother, Julie Colantuono of Orlando, Florida; 2 maternal uncles, Zack & Derek Melton of Chester; 1 paternal uncle, Junior Tecuanapa of Mexico; and 1 paternal aunt, Jessica Elwell of Naples, Florida.

A private family memorial service was held at 1:00 p.m. Sunday (Sept. 18th,

2011) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Father Joseph Diekhans officiated. A musical selection entitled "Held" (sung by recording artist, Natalie Grant) was played at the ceremony. Cremation & arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

GERTRUDE 'GIGI' (GILLIS) CONRAD

Born: Age: 92 – Died: May 19, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

May 21, 2011

**Gertrude 'GiGi'
Conrad**

Gertrude "GiGi" (Gillis) Conrad, 92, a Great Falls homemaker, died of natural causes



Conrad

Thursday, May 19, at a local care facility.

Services will be held at a later date. Cremation took place under

the direction of O'Connor Funeral Home.

Survivors include a sister, Marilyn Tempel of Joplin; a brother, Joe Gillis of Anacortes, Wash.; three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harry Conrad, in 1988; her son, John Conrad, in 1996; and her daughter, Barbara Conrad, in 2008.ne.com/obituaries.

KATHRYN LEILA (TIMMONS) CURRIE
 Born: August 16, 1926 – Died: September 24, 2011
 Liberty County Times
 October 12, 2011



Kathryn Currie

Kathryn Leila (Timmons) Currie was born in Davis Creek, California on August 16, 1926 to Ethel Linda Belle (Henderson) and Huston Samuel Timmons. She was raised in the Davis Creek area with her six sisters (Orytha Ninita, Dorytha Adela, Evelyn Jane, Daphne Lorraine, Virginia Belle, and Nancy June). Just before the start of WWII the family moved to Oakland to live with the oldest sister, Orytha. They remained in the Oakland area throughout the war years.

Kathryn graduated high school at Emeryville High in 1945 and went to work in Alturas and Susanville. She was employed at the local Susanville radio station, where she met Carlton E. Currie. Kathryn and Carlton enjoyed going to movies and dinner together. They also watched many baseball games where Carlton served as the radio announcer. Carlton proposed to Kathryn in the car after going to the movies. The couple were married at Reno, Nevada in 1953.

The Curries made their home in southern California where they both worked in electronics. Kathryn was proud to have worked on specialized equipment that was used in the NASA program; some of this equipment actually made it to the moon! In 1973 they started a new life managing motels at Laguna Beach and Newport Beach before moving to Los Banos in 1977 to manage another motel. After raising their

two children, Debra and Susan, the Curries retired in the early 1980's. Kathryn started working as a substitute in the library system in the Merced area. She worked her way up the ladder and eventually became a full time librarian in Santa Nella, CA while caring for Carlton until his death in 1988. Kathryn happily worked for the library for about 25 years before retiring in 2009 due to health reasons. While recovering from hip surgery that year, she moved to Montana to live with her daughter (the Huhtala family in Chester). On Saturday morning (September 24, 2011) Kathryn collapsed at home and was taken to the Chester

hospital for initial treatment. She was transferred to the Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls, where she died later that evening. She was 85 years old.

Kathryn had many passions, but she most enjoyed reading mystery and suspense novels, completing crossword puzzles, gardening, watching

sports (including golf, football and baseball), as well as keeping up with her children and grandchildren in Montana and Ohio. One of her most favorite memories was her first ride on elephant, which was just one of the many stories she loved to tell her grandchildren.

Kathryn was preceded in death by her parents, her husband (Carlton), 5 sisters (Orytha, Dorytha, Evelyn, Daphne and Virginia), a son-in-law (Gary Brewer), and many of her loved ones.

She is survived by her 2 daughters, Debra (Stan) Huhtala of Chester, Mt. and Susan (Jon) Fouty of Toledo, Ohio; 1 sister, Nancy June Fuson of Fairfield, CA; and many nieces and nephews. Kathryn will also be remembered fondly by her five grandchildren: Gary Jr. (Lorena), Rebecca (Clint), Janna (Bobby), Allyson (Casey) and Ian (Christy). She was happy to meet three of her great-grandchildren, (Katie, Kyle and Gary) and she was eagerly anticipating the arrival of another great-grandbaby this coming November.

Kathryn was cremated per her wishes. No formal funeral services are planned; however, a private family memorial service will be held in mid-October. Local arrangements were handled by the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. In lieu of flowers please donate to your favorite charity in memory of Kathryn.

VIOLA (SIMON) DAVIDSON

Born: September 24, 1917– Died: January 19, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

January 21, 2011

Viola Davidson

HAVRE — Viola Davidson, 93, of Havre died of natural causes Wednesday at Northern Montana Care Center.



Davidson

Memorial services will be conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church. Burial will take place in the Montana Veterans Cemetery in Fort Harrison, at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre.

She was born Sept. 24, 1917, in Rudyard, Mont., one of six children born to Joseph and Edith Mary (Slaymaker) Simon. She attended school in Hingham, Mont., graduating in 1936. She met Noel R. Davidson, and they were married Nov. 3, 1941, in Wibaux, Mont., where Viola said "I DO" and Noel mentioned at the time of her death, that she did. They made their home in Havre, Mont., at first. To this union four children were born, Millie, Noel, Marie and Joe.

"Momma and I are very proud of our Kid Crop."

Although Noel and Viola moved around the country in their early married life, their hearts remained in Havre. They lived in Oregon, Idaho, Washington, Canada, and ended up for a time in Los Alamos, N.M., where Noel worked for a time in heavy equipment maintenance. They returned to Havre in the winter of 1947, at 25 degrees below zero, with a rocking chair, a mirror and a cedar chest.

Noel and Viola were very active members of the Havre community. Noel was instrumental in the development of the Highland Park subdivision area of town building homes, rebuilding and remodeling along the way. Viola was an interior decorator to Noel's building.

Viola was a dedicated homemaker and mother, and was a den mother of the second-largest Cub Scout den in the United States. These troops under Viola's direction were responsible for planting the ash trees in College Park.

She loved to bowl and did so for more than 40 years. She was an avid baseball enthusiast, cheering on the Atlanta Braves and was an accomplished artist of oil painting, teaching art to others. She loved to play baseball and will be remembered for her cooking.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sisters, Clara, Dorothy and Gladys; and also her brothers, John and Joe. She also preceded in death by her son-in-law, Bill Schoenfeldt; and her daughter, Millie Sgrignoli, both in 2009.

She is survived by her loving devoted husband of 69 years, Noel R. Davidson of Havre; her son, Noel Q. Davidson (Pam) of Big Sandy; daughter Marie Schoenfeldt of Spokane; son Joseph Davidson (Beth) of Havre; her son-in-law John Sgrignoli of Miles City; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made in Viola's name to Hospice of Havre; Van Orsdel United Methodist Church of Havre, or the Shriners Hospital for Children.

Condolences may be posted online at hollandbonine@q.com and/or gftribune.com/obituaries.

LEE ANTHONY DIDIER
Born: July 3, 1933 – Died: April 1, 2011

Liberty County Times
April 6, 2011



Lee Didier

Lee Anthony Didier was born July 3, 1933 at Saco, Montana. He was one of two children born to Theodore E. Didier and Hazel Mae Schwartz Lee. He spent his childhood years on a ranch near Cree Crossing. Lee received his education in Malta, where he lived with his grandmother, Charlotte Lee. During his high school years Lee played saxophone in the band and attended many music festivals in Medicine Hat and Havre. After graduating from Malta High School in 1951, Lee spent that summer and fall working for the Gulf Exploration Seismograph crew in Oklahoma. In 1952 he continued his education at the Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis, where he learned his skills as a linotype operator.

Lee returned to Malta and began working for the Phillips County News. In 1954 he moved to Chester to work for Irvin Hutchison at the Liberty County Times. While living in Chester, Lee met a local girl, Almira Lela Shettel. They were married on September 7, 1957. Lee and Lela lived in the Chester community throughout their married life and raised a family of four.

In addition to working in

the printing business, Lee also served as a policeman for the Town of Chester and later assisted Cliff Hanson as an electrician's apprentice. He finished his working years as a parts man for two local automotive businesses, Keith Chevrolet and Chester Motors, before retiring in 1985.

Lee was diagnosed with prostate and bone cancer in 2007 and responded well to treatments. In recent months his health had failed. On this past Thursday Lee collapsed at home and was admitted to the Liberty Medical Center for acute care. He died of an apparent stroke at the Chester hospital on early Friday morning (April 1, 2011). He was 77 years old.

Lee was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus, and often attended the community "Men's Prayer Breakfast" group. In his early years in Chester, Lee was a charter member of the Jaycees and served as a scoutmaster to the local Boy Scouts club. In later years he assisted with several Montana Farmer's Union camps and was a member of the Chester AA group.

His hobbies were many. In his younger years he enjoyed swimming and bowling. He also liked to cook, especially meatloaf and chili. During his quiet time at home, Lee loved to read and he maintained a large collection of science fiction books and magazines (i.e., Popular Science and Popular Mechanics). He also enjoyed playing cards, primarily solitaire, cribbage, pinochle, and UNO. Other favorite pastimes were oil painting and shooting gophers. And last, but not least, Lee was an amazing handyman who could fix most anything.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Lela Didier of Chester; his

4 children, LeAnn Dinsdale of Portland, TX., Thaddeus Didier (and wife, Jennie) of Lothair, Jed Didier [retired U.S. Army] of Chester, and Charlotte Kelly (and husband, Edward) of Chester; his 6 grandchildren (inc. Levi, Sasha, and Seth Dinsdale and John, Erik, and Cory Kelly); his sister, Diane Smith of Malta; 1 sister-in-law, Alma Seidel (and husband, Joe) of Havre; 2 nephews (Steven and Scott Seidel); 3 nieces (Terry Lodmell, Shelma Seidel, and Sharla Thrans); and several cousins. Lee was preceded in death by his parents and his grandmother.

A Prayer Service was held at 7:00 p.m. Sunday (April 3rd) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. The Funeral Mass was 1:00 p.m. Monday (April 4th) at the church. Father Joseph Diekhans served as Celebrant. Scripture readings were by daughters, LeAnn and Charlotte. Altar servers were grandsons, John and Cory Kelly. The communion gifts were presented by sons, Thaddeus and Jed. Eucharistic Ministers were Alma and Shelma Seidel and Marj Dahinden. Greeters were Mike Mattson and Dave Wicks. The eulogist was Alma Seidel. Pianist, Christy Fossen, accompanied St. Mary's choir, who performed mass music including "Amazing Grace", "On Eagle's Wings", "Were You There". Friends serving as pallbearers were Gene Allen, Bud Welker, Don Raunig, Steve Cameron, Ron Miller, and Craig Fraser. Honorary bearers included Ed Staudacher, Dave Boyer, Bill Brannon, Bob Milne, lifelong friends in the Eveland family, and friends from "Prayer Breakfast". Following burial in the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Funeral arrangements were by Rockman

Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Museum, Chester Boy Scout Troup #1430, or donor's choice...

LEE ANTHONY DIDIER

Born: July 3, 1933 at Saco, Montana

Died: April 1, 2011 at Chester, Montana

Age: 77 years ... 8 months ... 29 days



WHEN THINGS GO WRONG...

*When things go wrong, as they sometimes will;
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill;
When the funds are low and the debts are high;
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh –
When care is pressing you down a bit;
Rest, if you must, but don't you quit!
Life is queer – with its twists and turns;
As every one of us sometime learns;
And many a failure turns about –
When we might have won had we stuck it out.
So don't give up – though the pace seems slow;
You may succeed with another blow.*

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester, Mt.

EVENING PRAYER SERVICE: 7:00 p.m. Sunday (April 3rd) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester, Montana

FUNERAL MASS: 1:00 p.m. Monday (April 4th) at St. Mary's Church

CELEBRANT: Father Joseph Diekhans

MASS MUSIC: Pianist, Christy Fossen, and St. Mary's Choir

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Daughters, i.e. Ann & Charlotte

ALTAR SERVERS: Grandsons, John & Cory

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS: Sons, Thaddeus & Jed

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Alma & Shelma Seidel and Matj Dahinden

EULOGIST: Sister-in-law, Alma

GREETERS: David Wicks & Michael Mattson

PALLBEARERS: Gene Allen, Bud Welker, Ron Miller, Don Raunig, Steve Cameron, and Craig Fraser

HONORARY BEARERS: Ed Staudacher, Bob Milne, Bill Brannon, Dave Boyer, lifelong friends in the Evcland family, and friends from the "Men's Prayer Breakfast"

INTERMENT: Chester Cemetery

... Reception to follow at St. Mary's Church basement ...

MEMORIALS: Liberty County Museum, Chester Boy Scout Troup#1430, or donor's choice...

GEORGE H. DOLEZAL

Born: October 9, 1917 – Died: November 20, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

November 23, 2011

George H. Dolezal

HAVRE — George H. Dolezal, 94, a veteran of the Marine Corps and a Pearl Harbor survivor, died of natural causes Sunday, Nov. 20, at his home in Havre.



Dolezal

His funeral is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Holland & Bonine Funeral Home, followed by burial with military honors in Highland Cemetery and then fellowship at St. Jude Parish Center.

George was born Oct. 9, 1917, on the family homestead farm 15½ miles north of Hingham, to Jerry and Grace (Lehmann) Dolezal. He attended Mariner Elementary School north of Hingham.



Dolezal, 1940s

He entered the Marine Corps when he was 21 years of age in September 1940. He served in the artillery, then the 2nd Engineers. His tour of duty included Pearl Harbor, the South Pacific, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Guadalcanal and Guam. On Dec. 7, 1941, George was one of the few active-duty servicemen to be armed and readily active in providing anti-aircraft artillery during the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. His niece Penny Velk has recorded George's oral history of these events.

He was honorably discharged in spring 1946 as a sergeant. Returning to Montana after World War II, he

attended Northern Montana College, majoring in welding and carpentry. In 1951, he worked for Ross and Powers on the welding crew, building natural gas lines from north of Chester to Havre. He worked for Montana Dakota Utilities as service crew foreman from 1953 - 1954. In the late 1950s, he worked as a welder for Clyde Sutter, building grain elevators at Gilford and Kremlin.

He married Betty Montgomery of Havre in 1952, and they had one son, Jerry. The couple purchased and operated the Lariat Bar at Kremlin in 1954. Later in the 1950s, George joined his two younger brothers in operating the Dolezal Brothers Ranch in the Sweetgrass Hills east of Whitlash until 1978, when he retired to his current home in Havre. George was once quoted as saying that the Sweet Grass Hills had priceless scenery. It was like you walked into heaven.

George enjoyed playing games, cards (especially Solitaire), attending teatime at 4Bs, taking long walks and telling stories and was known for his funny one-liners.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Betty; his son, Jerry; and his daughter-in-law Debbie.

George is survived by his granddaughter, Stacey Dolezal; great-granddaughter Harper Dolezal of Havre; sister Frances Ordway of Chinook; brothers Robert Dolezal of Chinook, and Valerian "Jack" Dolezal of Chester; 14 nieces and nephews; and numerous great-nieces and great-nephews.

Memorials in George's honor may be made to Disabled Veterans of America.

Condolences may be posted online at hollandbonine.com and/or gftribune.com/obituaries.

HOWARD OWEN DOLPH
Born: November 22, 1925 – Died: March 1, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
March 4, 2011

Howard O. Dolph

HAVRE — Howard Owen Dolph, 85, of Havre, died Tuesday, March 1, at his home, of complications from pancreatic cancer.



Dolph

Visitation begins at 9 a.m. today until the vigil service at 7 this evening, both

at Holland & Bonine Funeral Home. Funeral Mass is 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Jude Catholic Church, followed by cremation and later burial of ashes in Highland Cemetery.

Howard began this life on Nov. 22, 1925, one of five children born to Daniel and Nancy (Mullen) Dolph on a farm south of Hingham, Mont. He attended school and eventually graduated from Hingham High School. He met and later married Nadyne Larson on Nov. 25, 1949, and to this union seven children were born. Howard and Nadyne's family spent the school year in Havre, and the summer months farming and ranching south of Gilford and Hingham. After retiring in 1986, they lived in Havre. Howard had many hobbies, including hunting, crossword puzzles, drawing and painting, and also was known for the many trophies won in horseshoes and bowling.

Howard was a past delegate for the Harvest States Cooperative Association of Minneapolis, Minn. He was an active member in the Eagles and Elks lodges, was a devoted member of St. Jude Catholic Parish and an Honorable Knights of Columbus member. He was admired for his hard work ethic and, through the many trials and tribulations, loved farming.

He was a great provider for his large family, an avid St. Jude's & NMC Booster Club member, and had a beautiful singing voice that was reminiscent of his father's.

Preceding him in death his were parents; his loving wife of more than 43 years, Nadyne (Larson) Dolph; his sons, Howard Owen Dolph II and Philip Dolph; his brother, Daniel Russell Dolph; his sister, Phoebe Alex; and his grandson, Andrew Dolph.

Survivors include his sons, Daniel Dolph and James (Sharon) Dolph of Havre, and Thomas Dolph of Sparks, Nev.; and daughters Nancy (Chuck) Schatzka of Havre, and DeMarise (Mike) Raunig of Missoula.

Memorials in Howard's name may be made to St. Jude's Tuition Scholarship Fund.

Condolences may be posted online at hollandbonine@q.com and/or gftribune.com/obituaries.

WAYNE DONOVEN

Born: May 15, 1936 – Died: July 26, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

July 29, 2011

Wayne Donoven

KREMLIN — Wayne Donoven, 75, a Kremlin farmer and Army veteran, died of cancer Tuesday, July 26, in Kremlin.



Donoven

A vigil service is 7 p.m. Sunday at Holland & Bonine Funeral



Home of Havre. Funeral Mass is 11 a.m. Monday at St. Jude's Catholic

Church, with burial in Highland Cemetery.

Born May 15, 1936, to Don and Clara Donoven, he was raised and educated in Kremlin, Mont. He joined the Army in 1956. After basic training, he married June Beck on Nov. 16, 1956. Wayne was stationed in Germany until his honorable discharge in 1958. His hobbies included farming, camping, bowling and watching his grandchildren's many activities.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years; his children, Paula (Denny) Melby, Twila (Norm) Dyrland and Todd (Margaret) Donoven; and seven grandchildren, Richie, Branden and Skyler Melby, Natasha and Britnee Dyrland, and Casey and Brent Donoven, all of Kremlin.

He also is survived by brothers Gene Donoven and Lowell (Darlene) Donoven, both of Havre; his sister, Donna (Arlen) Knutson of Oregon; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his daughter, Carla.

Memorials are suggested to Sletten Cancer Institute, 1117 29th St. S., Great Falls, MT 59405; Bear Paw Hospice, 30 W. 13th St., Havre, MT 59501; or to the donor's choice.

Condolences may be posted online at hollandbonine.com and/or gftribune.com/obituaries.

KATHLEEN RUTH (BELEY) EBELT
Born: October 8, 1937 – Died: April 12, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
April 15, 2011

Kathleen R. Ebel

CUT BANK — Kathleen Ruth (Beley) Ebel, 73, died of natural causes Tuesday, April 12, at her home in Cut Bank.

Visitation is 3 to 7 p.m. today at Whitted Funeral Chapel. Her funeral is 2 p.m. Saturday at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, with burial in Crown Hill Cemetery.



Ebel

Kathy is survived by her husband, the Rev. Gerald Ebel of Cut Bank; daughters Kaye Ebel of Missoula, Sharon Ebel-Unruh and George of Gig Harbor, Wash., and Kim (Pat) Quinn of Helena; son Jon (Letha) Ebel of Helena; brothers Joe (Jan) Beley and Byron (Carol) Beley; and sisters Marion Beley and Trish (John) Rice. She also cherished time spent with her five grandchildren, Casey, Chelsi, Ryan, Rhett and Dane; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Hans and Jaretha Beley.

Jerry and Kathy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family in August 2010.

Kathy was born Oct. 8, 1937, in Big Timber, and graduated from Sweet Grass County High School. She received a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1959 from the University of Montana, and then earned her master's degree in education in 1993 from Northern Montana College. Her teaching career spanned 29 years in Livingston, St. Paul, Coeur d'Alene, Hingham, Miles City, Shelby and Cut Bank.

Kathy's love for teaching could not be measured. She always looked forward to the start of a new school year, where fun activities filled every corner of the classroom. A sand box, Eskimo igloo, airplane, NASA space orbiter, U.S. post office and play kitchen awaited the incoming students, and she shared their enthusiasm for exploring and learning. One year, she gave her students a copy of "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom." Then, she worked for weeks to orchestrate a surprise visit by the book's author, John Archambault, so he could meet the students. She retired in 2001, after 22 years teaching in Cut Bank.

Retirement was spent camping at Jerry and Kathy's favorite Montana locations, with a grandchild or two always along for the ride. Trips with Grandma always ended with her handing out one-dollar bills.

She was a passionate sports fan. She followed all Cut Bank Wolves teams and rarely missed a game, would stay up late watching Seattle Mariners baseball games and kept close tabs on the Griz. She also never missed an opportunity to watch her grandkids participate in their numerous activities.

Yahtzee was her favorite board game, and she never liked to lose. She loved the music of Willie Nelson. Kathy was famous for her Monster cookies, popcorn cakes, Flubber and gingerbread decorations. She loved doing arts and crafts with her grandchildren.

Kathy was an avid knitter and participated in the annual Toys for Tots drive at the local bank. She also had fun knitting doll clothes for family reunions and craft sales, and had recently started making Griz bear dolls to be donated to children in need. Kathy was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and a member of Rebekah Circle women's worship group.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to the Northern Rockies Medical Center or St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

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

MAUDE ISABELLE (STEVEN) ECHOLS

Born: May 25, 1915 – Died: April 9, 2011

Liberty County Times

April 13, 2011



Maude Echols

Maude Isabelle (Steven) Echols was born May 25, 1915 on the family homestead north of Shelby, Montana. She was the eldest of two children and only daughter born to Lavinia "Minnie" Cockell and William Steven. The family

moved to Canada for a few years, then returned to Shelby where Maude received her formal education. After graduating from Shelby High School in 1932, Maude attended business school in Washington, D.C. and learned bookkeeping skills.

Maude met her husband-to-be, William Leonard "Bill" Echols, and they were married in Great Falls on February 12th. Bill served as a consultant in the mining industry, so the couple lived and worked throughout North, Central, and South America in their early married years. They returned to Montana in 1951 and settled at Philipsburg. While there Bill enjoyed mining explora-

tion and fishing, and Maude took a job as assistant clerk for the Granite County Clerk and Recorder's office. She retired in 1980. The Echols were happily married for 44 years when Bill passed away in 1983. Maude continued to live alone in their Philipsburg home until her health began to fail in 1999. At that time she moved to the Sunrise Bluff Estates (retirement home) in Fort Benton to be close to family. About 10 days ago Maude transferred to the Missouri River Medical Center for treatment of pneumonia and congestive heart failure. She died at the Fort Benton hospital on the early morning of Saturday (April 9, 2011). She was 95 years old.

Maude had been a loyal member and treasurer of the Philipsburg Presbyterian Church for many years. She was also active in the Eastern Star. Maude was a master at sewing, crocheting, and quilting projects for her family and friends. The Echols had no children, but thoroughly enjoyed their many beloved dogs, spending time together fly-fishing and rock-collecting, and developing wonderful friendships with community neighbors.

In addition to her husband and parents, Maude was preceded in death by her only brother (Rae C. Steven in 2004) and a niece (Martha Rae Steven in 1967).

She is survived by her sister-in-law, Martha Steven of Fort Benton; two nephews, William Steven of Shreveport, Louisiana and Jim Steven (wife, Carol) of Chester; one niece, Ida Steven (husband, Ray Gonzales) of Lakeville, Minnesota; 5 great-nephews/nieces (inc. Rebecca Steven, Sarah Waddel, Lana Rupperecht, Samantha Steven, and Charles Beach); and numerous grand-nephews/nieces.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Wednesday (April 13th) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. The services will be conducted by Cheryl Muncy, S.A.M. A coffee hour will follow. Burial will be in the Chester Cemetery, where Maude will be interred near her brother.

FLORENCE D. ELWEIN

Born: August 10, 1930 – Died: December 11, 2011

Liberty County Times

December 21, 2011



Florence D. Elwein

Florence D. Ellwein, 81, of Great Falls, a homemaker, died on Sunday, December 11, 2011 of natural causes at her home.

A Funeral Liturgy will be held at Holy Spirit Catholic Church on Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. with a reception to follow at the church. Burial will be held in Fort Harrison V.A. Cemetery at a later date. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Florence was born August 10th, 1930 in Baker, N.D. At the age of five, her family moved to the Yakima valley in Washington, where she lived until her marriage on November 27, 1947 to the most handsome sailor/boxer in the whole country, Hubert Ellwein. They opened a restaurant in Prosser and operated a chicken and raspberry farm for a short while.

In 60 years of marriage Mom moved with her handsome man six times, each time making a "home" for her family. Her first move was to a farm northeast of Conrad where she learned to drive tractor, bale hay, milk cows, deliver piglets and any other jobs required on a small farm. She was the bookkeeper for the Pioneer School. While

on the farm, Florence taught herself to re-upholster furniture. She did such a professional job on her own furniture that people asked her to reupholster theirs. Thus began the Ellwein Upholstering business for 35 years.

Tiber dam south of Chester was her next move. Keeping busy with upholstering jobs, Florence also was active with her daughter's school activities chaperoning many different events. She became a member of St. Mary's alter society and served as the president for several years.

In 1969, Dad's job took them to Great Falls where Florence finally got to live in town. After two short years of enjoying city life Mom was whisked off to the Beartooth Game Range at Holter Lake. Here she continued upholstering and specialized her business in boat tarp and window repair. Mom learned to put up with the "wildlife" of the game range, such as black bears standing on their hind legs peering through the sliding glass door as she made pies. Mom became the champion fisherman on the lake. She was always the one to catch the first fish and generally caught the most. The only thing Mom could not master while living on the game range for eighteen years was eating the wild meat.

When Dad retired Mom found herself living on Holter Lake. It was here that many of her carpentry skills and math figuring abilities became apparent when they completely remodeled and built on to their home. Mom's green thumb really stood out at lakeside, boaters came in close to see all the many different flowers in bloom. During the winter

months Mom kept busy sewing quilts for all the grandkids, embroidering towels, dish cloths, knitting and crocheting. Her hands always kept busy.

After 10 years on Holter Lake, Mom and Dad moved back into Great Falls due to Dad's failing health. Mom once again put her carpentry skills and math abilities to work remodeling their home. She continued raising her beautiful flowers and perfecting her pies, homemade breads and cinnamon rolls, sour cream twists, homemade noodles and German dishes.

In August of 2010, Mom made her final move into a one level condominium because of ill health. Here she kept busy doing word puzzle books, managing her finances and investments (watching the Dow and Nasdaq) enjoying her great-grandchildren and visitors.

Survivors include her three daughters, Diane "Ellie" Hamilton of Great Falls, Ann (Barry) VanDessel of Joplin, Janice (Larry) Elings of Dupuyer; her brother Daniel Axtman of Redding, CA; six grandchildren, Travis Elings, Heather Nimick, Kelly McAvoy, Cody Elings, Ryan VanDessel and B.J. Hamilton; ten great-grandchildren, Derek, Brayden, Ashlin, Peyton, Elly, Will, Taylor, Raya, Jess and Brenden.

Florence was preceded in death by her husband, Hubert Ellwein in 2007; a sister, Catherine Harrington; a brother, Linus Axtman; son-in-law, Bill Hamilton and two nephews.

Donations in Mom's memory are suggested to Holy Spirit Catholic Church building fund 201 44th St. S., Great Falls, MT 59405 or the Veteran's Liberty House, P.O. Box 81, Fort Harrison, Montana 59636.

HOWARD WORTH EVELAND

Born: February 22, 1909– Died: December 29, 2011

Liberty County Times

January 4, 2012



Howard Eveland

Howard Worth Eveland was born February 22, 1909 at Waverly, Iowa, Bremer County. He was one of ten children born to Jesse Jacob Eveland and Lottie Belle Ingersoll. Howard received his formal education through grade 8 at the Woodrow Wilson School at Centuria, Wisconsin, then began working at the sawmills in northern Wisconsin to help supplement the family income. In his late-teens Howard returned to Iowa to file homesteads, but gave upon farming after two separate tornadoes destroyed his

cropland. He then headed west to North Dakota and Montana, where he broke sod with steam-engine tractors during the depression years.

While working in Liberty County (Montana), Howard became friends with the Furlong family. He and Bing Furlong travelled to Idaho, where they planted trees for the Civilian Conservation Corps. As part of the CCC's training program, they attended a machinist school in Helena. When they returned to the Chester community, they worked at the Furlong Blacksmith Shop. In 1941 Howard went to Washington to hone his mechanic skills at the Spokane Machine School.

Howard married Lilly Furlong on February 17, 1942 in Helena, Mt. At that time World War II was in full-swing, so he was inducted into the U. S. Army Air Force in 1943. Howard spent the next two years in England as part of the 801st/492nd Bomb Group. He was an armorer in charge of seventeen B-17's, twelve B-24's, three English Lancaster Bombers, and seven Large Gliders in support of "Operation Carpetbagger". This was a combined US Office of Strategic Services (OSS) and British Special Service Operations Command. This secret operation supplied underground agents, resistance fighters, and rescued downed airmen in Germany, France, and Belgium. He attained the rank of Staff Sergeant and was honorably discharged due to demobilization in 1945.

The Evelands settled in Montana where Howard owned and operated the Chester Alignment & Machine Shop. He also started Eveland Sand & Gravel, which is still a family-operated business in the Chester community. Howard also served as the Liberty County Justice of the Peace for 18 years during the 1960's and 1970's. The Evelands raised a family of four before their marriage eventually ended in divorce.

Howard officially retired in 1981, but enjoyed helping his son (Neal) whenever he could. During his retirement years, he loved to travel to family reunions and continued to communicate with old friends and relatives on a regular basis. He was fortunate to maintain relatively good health and to live independently these past 30 years. He was still driving his own car around Chester at age 100! Just recently he developed some congestive heart problems and was admitted to the Chester nursing facility for extended care. Howard died peacefully at the Liberty Medical Center on the early morning of Thursday (December 29, 2011). He was 102 years old.

Howard served as fire chief for the Chester Fire Department and was a volunteer on the Liberty County Ambulance crew for many years. He also taught EMT and hunter's safety classes for several years. Howard was proud of his military accomplishments, so he stayed active in the 8th Air Force

Historical Society & the Carpetbaggers organization. In addition he had served on the local draft board and was member of the Chester VFW Post.

He enjoyed fishing and hunting over the years. He was an avid reader and a "master tinkerer". Howard played and loved many card games; in recent years he grew particularly fond of "Hand-&Foot" and "Golf". When it came to taking a risk in a game, he would always say, "God hates a coward", then he would take the risk!

Survivors are 1 son, Neal Eveland (Pat) of Chester; 3 daughters, Aline Christenot (Gale) of Great Falls, Ardes Connel (Chuck) of Peoria, AZ., and Ardell Kruthoff of Great Falls; 8 grandchildren (inc. Corene Andrews, Sabra Yon, Keith Eveland, Kevin Eveland, Kris Eveland, Kathryn Kruthoff, Karalyn Nelson, & Robert Kruthoff); 12 great-grandchildren; 1 brother, Wilbur Eveland of Chester; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Howard was preceded in death by his parents, wife (Lilly) in 1991, 3 brothers (Dick, Martin, & Chet Eveland), 3 sisters (Bessie Hoverman, Myrtle Owens, & Alice Pettapiece), 2 infant siblings, and a son-in-law (Philip Kruthoff).

A memorial service will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday (Jan. 7, 2012) at the Chester Alliance Church. Pastor Stephen Nelson will officiate. Special music will be provided by granddaughter, Kris Eveland. The obituary will be read by granddaughter,

Kathryn Kruithoff. Honorary bearers were all of Howard's old friends, past and present, who served with him on the fire department and ambulance crew. At the conclusion of the service, military taps were played and his veteran's flag was presented to the family. A reception will follow in the church basement. Howard's ashes will be buried at a later date in the family plot at the Chester Cemetery. Cremation and arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorial donations are suggested to Liberty County Fire and Ambulance Services.

JOSEPHINE A. (AFDAHL) FITZPATRICK
Born: September 13, 1931 – Died: February 21, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
February 22, 2011

Josephine A. Fitzpatrick

Josephine A. (Afdahl) Fitzpatrick, 79, of Great Falls, died of natural causes Monday, Feb. 21, at a local hospital.

Her memorial service is at 2:30 p.m. on



Fitzpatrick

Wednesday at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, with burial of ashes in Our Savior's Lutheran Memorial Garden. Cremation has taken place under direction of Schnider Funeral Home.

She is survived by her husband, Bill Fitzpatrick of Great Falls; daughters Amy (Ed) Bush of Navarre, Fla., Karen (Russ) Shaw of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Sara (Keith) Luoma of Stockett; grandchildren, Nicholas Luoma and Sophie Jo Louma, both of Stockett, and Julia Bush, Will Bush and Tyler Bush, all of Navarre; and her loyal pet and companion, "Gus."

Josephine was born Sept. 13, 1931, at Claresholm, Alberta, Canada. She was raised on the family farm in Inverness, Mont., by her father and grandparents.

She attended elementary and junior high school in Inverness, then graduated from Havre High School in 1949.

She started working for Great Northern Railroad when she was 19. She took time off to start a family and later retired from Burlington Northern railroad in 1993, after 35 years of service.

Josephine married Bill Fitzpatrick on May 8, 1954, in Great Falls, Mont.

She was a member of the Eastern Star and served as Worthy Matron in the 1970s. She was a longtime member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. One of her favorite service groups at OSLC was working with the "Love Day Ladies" to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Josephine also belonged to the Great Falls Quilt Guild. She made hundreds of "adopt a bear" quilts that are given to sick children in the hospital.

Josephine was an exceptionally gifted seamstress and was instrumental in designing and sewing the 1981-1982 Bisonette Drill Team uniforms.

Preceding her in death were her father, John; and her mother, Alberta, who died when Josephine was 2 years old.

Memorials may be made to the Humane Society of Cascade County, P.O. Box 1774, Great Falls, MT 59403.

Condolences may be posted online at www.schniderfuneral-home.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

JESSIE ELLEN (SHERRARD) FOWLER
Born: December 17, 1929 – Died: November 22, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
November 24, 2011

Jessie E. Fowler

CONRAD — Jessie Ellen (Sherrard) Fowler, 81, of Conrad, a longtime Ledger-area farmwife, died of pancreatic cancer Tuesday, Nov. 22, at a Conrad hospital.



Visitation is 1 to 8 p.m. Friday at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby, with burial at a later date at Hillside Cemetery in Conrad.

Jessie was born Dec. 17, 1929, to John and Maude Sherrard in Shelby, at the home of a midwife by the name of Dr. Williams. At the time, she had two brothers, the older one, John Jr., and then Tom. In five years, James was born, and then Richard Jerry. Jessie was the only girl in that family of five, and they liked to say she was spoiled. She knew better. It was survival — and she was great at it.

She went to school the first few years at a one-room school a short distance north from her father's farm. Beatrice School was open until Jessie went into the fourth grade. Her mother and father

rented a house in Galata, and Gladys Scholtz Adamson was her teacher there. Johnnie and Tom already were going to high school in Galata by the time Jessie started school there. She graduated from the eighth grade in Galata, and they drove out to the farm on weekends to work and visit, then went back to Galata on Sundays. After the eighth grade, she stayed with her Grandma Barnes in Shelby, and went to high school there.

Ted Fowler and Jessie Sherrard met while attending Shelby High School. After Jessie graduated from high school, she and Ted were married Sept. 12, 1947. They lived with her brother Tom for a time, while Ted helped Tom build his house. Ted and Jessie then worked for Tom and Gen McCracken. Their first year working for them was the year of the flood in 1948. Ted's mother's place had lots of damage from the high water levels. Ted's mother bought a house in Shelby, and Ted and his brother Allen cleaned up the place. Allen then married and Ted took over the place near the Marias River. Carl Fowler lived in a little house on the homestead with Ted and Jessie for a time.

When Tiber Dam went in, they moved the buildings and everything up on the hill. Judy, the oldest, was born when they lived down on the Marias. In the 1950s, they lost two babies, a boy and a girl. David was born, and they moved up on the hill where Kathy and Jeanne were born. The children went to school at Union School, about 8 or 9 miles from the house. Later, the children rode the school bus into Shelby, where they all graduated high school. Ted and Jessie had a very loving family. The children and grandchildren worked along with Ted on the farm and Jessie in the house. The kids all married and Ted and Jessie were blessed with eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Jessie belonged to the Pondera-Toole Home Demonstration Club, and was secretary there for a time. Ted and Jessie both belonged to an archery club at Pondera School, south of the Tiber Reservoir. Jessie enjoyed her job working for Home Health, and then independently in Conrad for 16-17 years. She loved her work and the people she worked for. Jessie worked independently until November 2010, when she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Jessie was very sad the day

she gave up her job.

For about seven years, Ted and Jessie belonged to a great group of friends who went dancing in Great Falls, Sun River, Fairfield, Conrad and Chester; these were some of Jessie's favorite memories. Ted and Jessie enjoyed a great life together, and their kids have been so special to the both of them. They helped them so much, and Ted and Jessie loved them unconditionally.

When Dr. Harrar was treating her cancer, Jessie took an experimental drug. She hoped these drugs will help other people. Those experimental drugs helped Jessie survive for two years with pancreatic cancer, after doctors gave her six months to live when she was diagnosed.

Jessie is survived by her husband, Ted Fowler of Conrad; their four children, Judy Smith of Browning, Dave (Shawnee) Fowler of Terry, Kathy (Scott) Yerian of Eureka, and Jeanne (Mark) Wigen of Devon; one brother, Jerry (Linda) Sherrard of Missoula; as well as eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

ETHEL KATHERINE (HOLTZ) FRANK
Born: December 24, 1915 – Died: May 30, 2011
Liberty County Times
June 8, 2011

Ethel Frank

Ethel Katherine (Holtz) Frank was born in Fontana, Kansas on Christmas Eve' day – December 24, 1915. She was the eldest of three children born to Pete and Myrtle (Reece) Holtz. She claimed her nationality was "Pennsylvania Dutch".

Ethel grew up and received her education in Kansas. Following her graduation from Fontana High School in 1934, she went to work for Dick and Gladys Miller at Paola, Kansas. During her seven years of employment for the Millers, Ethel did everything from household chores to cooking to managing the family budget. The Miller's nephew, Weldon Frank, came to their Kansas farm each summer to help harvest the corn crop. Weldon first met Ethel in 1934, but didn't ask her on a date until 1939. Two years later they became husband and wife; the Franks were married in Paola on January 25, 1941.

The couple moved to Montana, where Weldon had purchased a small farm located 17 miles north of Chester. They lived and worked on this farm for 30 years, then retired and moved into Chester. Following Weldon's death in 1972, Ethel remained active in the community. She served

as secretary for the Chester Farmer's Union for 25 years; she held offices at the United Methodist Church and was active in the United Methodist Women's group; she was a member of a local Home Demonstration Club; and she volunteered as a greeter at the Liberty County Museum for several years. Ethel lived independently in her Chester home until 1990, then transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. After 21 years of loving care at the local nursing facility, Ethel died on the evening of Memorial Day (May 30, 2011). She was 95 years old.

During her school days in Kansas, Ethel took piano lessons for five years. She later gave piano lessons for 3 summers and also taught Sunday school for several years in Kansas. She loved to read, especially biographies, historicals, and novels by Laura Ingalls, and often read up to 50 books/year. Her favorite poem was "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere", which she could still recite at age 90!

Ethel and Weldon loved western music and square-dancing. They also enjoyed travelling and made many memorable trips throughout the United States and Mexico during the years 1954-1970.

After her faithful husband died, Ethel was the first person to offer memorial monies to the Chester Lion's Park.

Ethel loved to cook. To perfect her baking skills, she attended the "Aunt Jemima" class and other cooking seminars during her younger years in Kansas. Some of her baking "specialties" included homemade cakes and pies, buns and breads, and fried chicken.

She also enjoyed fancywork, like embroidery, crocheting, and sewing. Her favorite was hairpin lace, but she liked doing them all. During her farming years, she loved to work in her vegetable and flower gardens, and she enjoyed raising chickens. Bird-watching was another fun pastime, and her favorite bird was the cardinal.

Ethel also enjoyed games – like cribbage, Scrabble, dominoes, "Kings-in-the-Corners", and word puzzles. Just for the fun of it, she collected assorted magnets. After moving to the nursing home, Ethel began collecting magnets that represented each U. S. state; most of these magnets were provided by friends and nursing home staff. In addition, she enjoyed painting-by-numbers. Many of these paintings were framed to adorn her room or offered as gifts to friends.

Ethel was one of the favorite residents at the local nursing home. Throughout the years her body deteriorated, but her mind and personality remained sharp and vibrant. She kept up on all of the happenings at the facility and published her monthly column, "Nursing Home News", in the local newspaper. She was affectionately known in the community as "Little Miss Tiger". Ethel loved to visit and share stories. When a visitor was ready to say farewell, Ethel always offered a cute joke, proverb, riddle, or other happy 'diddie' to make their day!

At Ethel's 90th Birthday Party in 2006, Dr. Buker asked her how she managed to stay so young-at-heart, healthy, and beautiful for 90 years. Without hesitancy she quickly replied: #1 = "My unconditional trust in God"; #2 = "The wonderful medical care you've given me all these years"; and #3 = "Avon!". This simple story exemplifies her life of faith, love, and happiness.

The Franks had no children. Ethel was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and brother (George). She is survived by her sister, Hazel Prothe of Cleveland, Missouri; by 3 nieces/nephews on her

side of the family, Mary Ann Green of Cleveland, MO, Vera Jean Drotleff of Vacavilla, CA, and Gary Prothe of Kansas; by 3 nieces/ nephews on Weldon's side of the family, Dianne Gratzer of Renton, WA, Don Gunderson of Buena Park, CA, and Sue Fritz of Chester, MT.; and many good friends.

Funeral services were conducted at 1:00 p.m. Friday (June 3rd) at the Chester United Methodist Church by Pastor Grover Briggs. Personal remembrances & the obituary were shared by Dr. Richard Buker. The congregation sang Ethel's favorite song, "In the Garden", accompanied by pianist, Sharon Spicher. Vocalists, Jeff Mattson & Daniel Violett, performed "Come to Jesus" & "The Old Rugged Cross". A taped musical selection, "Knowing What I Know About Heaven" (by Sarah Darling), was played. Pallbearers were Bob Matt-

son, Dave Mattson, Donald Schaefer, Don Raunig, Duane Aitken, & Steve Oraw. Ethel's honorary bearers were Gary Brekke, Dave Herron, Jerry Martin, Agnes Cole, Karen Mattson, Carol Mattson, & Jennifer Rideout.

Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a coffee hour was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the United Methodist Church or the Liberty Medical Center.

ETHEL KATHERINE (HOLTZ) FRANK

BORN: December 24, 1915
at Fontana, Kansas

DIED: May 30, 2011
at Chester, Montana

AGE: 95 years .. 5 months .. 6 days



Affectionately known
as "Little Miss Tiger"

FUNERAL SERVICES: 1:00 p.m. Friday (June 3rd, 2011) at the United Methodist Church in Chester, Montana

OFFICIANT: Pastor Grover Briggs

OBITUARY READING: Dr. Richard Buker, Jr.

PIANIST: Sharon Spicher

VOCAL DUET: Jeff Mattson & Daniel Violett...
"Come to Jesus" and "The Old Rugged Cross"

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: "In the Garden"

SELECTED PRELUDE TAPE: "Knowing What I Know About Heaven" (by Sarah Darling)

PALLBEARERS: Bob Mattson, Dave Mattson, Duane Aitken, Donald Schaefer, Steve Oraw, and Don Raunig

HONORARY BEARERS: Gary Brekke, Dave Herron, Jerry Martin, Agnes Cole, Karen Mattson, Carol Mattson, and Jennifer Rideout

INTERMENT: Chester Cemetery (next to her beloved, Weldon)

... *Coffee hour to follow at the church* ...

MEMORIALS: United Methodist Church or Liberty Medical Ce

YOU ARE MY LEANING POST...

You are my leaning post, dear Lord;

My shelter and my rock.

You open up the door for me

Each time You hear me knock.

All I need to do is ask—

And You provide the way.

You hear me when I call to You;

The times I kneel to pray.

Thank you, Lord, for Your great love,

Your comfort and Your care.

It's such a joy for me to know

I may seek and find You there.

... Jean Conder Soule

DAWSON DAVID FRASER

Born: August 20, 2003 – Died: September 3, 2011

Liberty County Times

September 14, 2011



Dawson Fraser

Dawson David Fraser, age 8, died from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident on Saturday evening (September 3rd, 2011) near Inverness, Mt.

Dawson was born August 20th, 2003 in Chester, Mt. He was the youngest of 3 children and the only son of Cory & Jada (Tempel) Fraser. He enjoyed his early childhood in the Joplin community. He was baptized on September 25th, 2005 at Bethel Church by Pastor Brian Pedersen, and his God-parents were Jeb Tempel & Kara Fisher. Dawson was presently a 2nd grader at CJI Elementary School in Chester, where he was already excelling in mathematics. He loved to read and was eager to learn, so school was always exciting to him!

Dawson was an active boy who found life to be a big, wonderful adventure. He would try most anything and was good at everything he did. One of his greatest loves was fishing, in fact, he just celebrated his 8th birthday on a fishing trip to Fresno where he caught a 7-pound Northern! He also enjoyed hunting and shooting his own BB gun

and bow-&-arrows. He loved to ride his bicycle around town and maneuver through local "obstacle courses" & "jumps". He looked forward to motorcycle excursions with his dad and they always wore safety helmets & goggles on these trips together. He also enjoyed camping, bonfires, tubing, digging for worms, building things & working with wood, bird watching & reading about birds, snow-skiing, collecting & painting rocks, playing Wii & other electronic games, and assembling K'nex & Legos. Dawson raised his first garden this year and was very proud of his Rainbow carrots and pea crop. Of interest is, "he didn't like to walk around broke", so he always had a few coins in his pocket. He also loved sports, especially wrestling & football. No matter what sport he was playing, he was a tough competitor and gave it his all. Two years ago in "Little Guy" wrestling he placed 1st at State in his weight class; last year he placed 3rd; and he was looking forward to another tournament this year. He also enjoyed playing baseball on the Little Sage team where he was known to "knock it out of the park"! His favorite college football team was the Montana State Bobcats.

Dawson loved people of all ages, but was especially fond of the older generation. Some of his best friends were his elderly neighbors: he was always willing to be a "helper" to them and enjoyed visiting with them. Dawson loved his family, too. He had three important male role models in his life – he looked forward to quality

time working with his Dad at the Galata station, helping his Grandpa Duane at the Inverness store, or going fishing with his Papa Butch. Dawson also enjoyed farm life; he never missed a chance to go to Uncle Kip's place or to the Standiford & Wanken farms.

During his short time on earth, Dawson experienced a lot of living. He was "all boy" in the way he lived & played. He was definitely made of "frogs & snails & puppy dog tails". Always highly energetic & enthusiastic, he took many bumps & bruises, but he was like a Timex watch: "he took a lickin', but kept on tickin'". Still, he was a gentle soul with a tender heart and had a special love for the ladies in his life: namely, his mom, his sisters, and his NuNu & Grandma. They will miss their "little man" dearly.

Dawson is survived by his parents, Cory & Jada Fraser of Joplin; 2 sisters, Kayona & Abby Fraser of Joplin; paternal grandparents, Duane & Darlene Fraser of Inverness; maternal grandparents, David "Butch" & Lonna Tempel of Joplin; 2 uncles, Jerry Fraser of Chester and Jeb Tempel of Joplin; 2 aunts, Jennie (Curtis) Payne of Townsend and Jalena (Bret) Preeshl of Gildford; 4 cousins, Trusten, Rebecca, Tande, & Thatcher; his God-mother, Kara Fisher of Joplin; numerous great-aunts-&-uncles and cousins; his pet dog, "Scooby"; and lots & lots of friends.

Funeral services were 1:00 p.m. Friday (Sept. 9th) at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Pastor Henry Hatch officiated. Scripture readings

were shared by Tande Smith and Cami (Coffman) Ballanger. The obituary was read by Jill Dahinden, the eulogy & personal remembrances were read by Kip Lybeck, and a special "Message from a God-Mother" was read by Kara Fisher. Pianist, Tammy Duncan, played "I Was There To Hear Your Morning Cry", which was sung by the congregation. About 60 students in a C.J.I. youth choir sang "Jesus Loves Me" (directed by Mary Ann Zorn with piano accompaniment by Emma Earl). A special musical tribute entitled "Dawson's Smile" was written & sung by family friend, Jeff Wehr, who accompanied himself on the piano. Ushers were Bruce Richter, Darby Ditmar, Joshee Lybeck, Bob Aklestad, & Martin Alley. Pallbearers were Jeb Tempel, Jerry Fraser, Thatcher Smith, Curtis & Trusten Payne, Gordon & Kole Standiford, and Jason & Mitch Wanken. Honorary bearers were Dawson's friends in the C.J.I. 2nd grade class and his good neighbor, Vern Pimley. Also in the service was a power-point presentation set to music.

Graveside services were at the Joplin Cemetery where Pastor Hatch offered committal prayers followed by a Balloon Ceremony. God-Mother, Kara, read a poem entitled "I'm Free" prior to the release of 75 bright-colored helium balloons. A memorial reception was held at the Joplin Community Hall. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Dawson's family is establishing a memorial fund.

Postscript: This difficult service was successful because of the "many helpful hands & hearts of the Hi-Line community". There were hundreds of chairs & tables that had to be hauled & moved; there were TV's, video cameras, & sound systems that had to be installed & wired; there were 60 kids in a youth choir who practiced & performed; there were hundreds of "Gone Fishing" pins that were handcrafted & presented to the congregants; there was an awesome pictorial board that was organized by loving friends as a service display and family keepsake; there were personalized songs, poems, homilies, & remembrances that were shared with great courage & tenderness; there were donations of food, ice, kitchen supplies & equipment, and money offered by

friends and other people who "simply cared" to make sure there was plenty to eat at the reception; there were friends who provided bottled water at the hot cemetery service; there were friends who provided beautiful floral tributes, sympathy cards, memorial gifts, and balloons for the cemetery rites; there were ushers, pallbearers, musicians, cooks, servers, & assorted volunteers who offered their special talents and energy; and there were many other "behind the scenes" people who also assisted. To all of you, on behalf of the Frasers, THANK YOU VERY MUCH! Please accept my apologies for running out of memorial folders. If anyone would like a folder as a keepsake, please call me and I'll get one to you... Rlynn, 759-5550.

DONALD FRASER, JR.

Born: March 9, 1922 – Died: June 22, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

June 24, 2011

Donald Fraser Jr.

CASCADE — Donald Fraser Jr., 89, died of natural causes Wednesday, June 22, at a Great Falls hospital.



Fraser

Funeral liturgy is 2 p.m. Saturday at Sacred Heart



Catholic Church in Cascade, followed by burial at Hillside Cemetery. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Don was born March 9, 1922, in Cleveland, Ohio, and was the fourth of the 16 children of Theresa and Donald Fraser Sr. of Joplin.

Don was raised and worked on his family's Joplin farm prior to joining the Army in 1942. He served his country as a member of the 878th Airborne, and was stationed throughout Europe during World War II.

Following his honorable discharge from the Army in 1946, Don returned to Joplin and married Clara Mae Comer on Feb. 22, 1950. The couple resided in Joplin, where Don established Fraser Trucking Company, and the family relocated to Cascade in 1964. In 1987, Murry Moore partnered with Don and Clara Mae to open Napa Auto Parts in Cascade, which they ran together until his death.

Don was a very loving husband, father and grandfather, and was noted for his wonderful sense of humor.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Clara Mae; sons Merle of Great Falls, and Don of Missoula; daughters Judy (Steve) Gianarelli of Craig, Alaska, Donna (George) Franko of Cascade, and Penny (Tom) Sielski of Clinton; brothers Rodney of Sun Prairie, Bill of Chester, Wayne of Inverness, and Daryll of Great Falls; and sisters Eleanor of Great Falls, Anne of Arizona, and Ruby of Ohio. He also is survived by his 12 grandchildren, Todd, Stephanie, Marie, Molly, Angela, Michaela, Kolton, Kolby, Wes, Dayton, Devyn and Thatcher; and his six great-grandchildren, Molly, Cheney, Quinn, Dante, Callie and Tristan.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Dennis; grandson Danny; and great-grandson Tommy.

Don was a lifelong supporter of the VFW and Elks Club, and was very proud of his military service. To honor this, his family suggests memorials be made in his name to the Wounded Warriors Project, 2899 Belfort Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32256, or online at www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

Condolences may be posted online at www.schniderfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

NOEL D. FURLONG
Born: February 14, 1927 – Died: February 14, 2011
Liberty County Times
January 5, 2012



Noel Furlong

Noel D. Furlong, 84, was called home Valentine's Day, February 14, 2011 to be with his beloved wife Louise after a sudden illness. He was born February 14, 1927 and He was born the eighth of ten children to Ina (Keith) and Edward Furlong in Chester, MT. Noel left for the Army the day after his May 24, 1945 high school graduation. He was the fifth and youngest brother to serve during World War II. Except for his military service in Nuremberg, Germany as a T-5 he was a lifelong Montana resident.

Education was highly valued; Noel felt the G.I. Bill was government getting it right. He graduated from the Uni-

versity of Montana in 1951, was married June 7 of that year to Louise Franz, a fellow UM graduate, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Kalispell. They taught in Alberton, MT for three years, before Noel was hired at Flathead County High School in 1954 where he taught American History, Journalism, Economics, and Drivers' training for the next 34 years. He also was the faculty ticket taker at the NW student door of the gym, the student gate at Rawson Field, and after his 1987 retirement as Department Chair he sold tickets in the gym lobby. As a member of the Montana Education Association, he served locally, regionally and was the state President from 1973-1974, and was a delegate to the NEA Constitutional Convention of 1972. In many cases, he educated three generations of families in the valley.

Noel also served on the Kalispell City Council and was a delegate to the Montana Constitutional Convention in 1972. Other organizations included the Elks and the Montana Retired Teachers Association. Noel continued his

service as an educator by providing 55 Alive classes. Upon retirement, Noel and Louise enjoyed traveling to visit their children and grandchildren.

Noel worked long and hard hours, all in the pursuit of providing for his loved ones. At the end of every day, family was most important to Noel. He was preceded in death by infant daughter Susan Marie, his wife Louise, his parents and his nine siblings. Noel is survived by his five children: Laurie Schmidt of Chadron, NE; Mark Furlong (Terri) of Columbia Falls; Brian Furlong (Sharon) of Auburn, CA; Judy Buckmaster (Neil) of Bellevue, WA; and Michael Furlong (Terri) of Wilmington, MA; 13 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

Services for Noel were held on Thursday February 17, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. at the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kalispell, Montana.

The family suggests memorials to Flathead High School, Noel Furlong Memorial Fund, 644 4th Ave. W., Kalispell, MT 59901 or Flathead Valley Veterans' Memorial, 241 Main Street, Kalispell, MT 59901.

JUDY LEE (WIGMORE) GEYER
Born: Age: 70 – Died: December 2, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
December 7, 2011

Judy L. Geyer

BIG SANDY — Judy Lee (Wigmore) Geyer, 70, a Big



Geyer

Sandy farm wife who worked as a social worker for the public health office in Havre during the 1990s and enjoyed bird-watching, fishing and flowers, died of complications of Alzheimer's disease Friday, Dec. 2, at a Big Sandy medical center.

A memorial service is 10 a.m. Friday at the Christ Lutheran Church in Big Sandy followed by a reception at the church. Cremation and arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Judy's ashes will be scattered on the farm this spring.

She is survived by sons James Anderson of Fort Benton and Larry Geyer of Big Sandy; daughter Debi Larsen of Geraldine; six grandchildren; and her brother, James "Lefty" Wigmore, of Great Falls.

Judy was preceded in death by her husband, Ernest Geyer, in 1999.

ELMER D. 'GIL' GILCHRIST
Born: Age: 83 – Died: May 21, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
May 24, 2011

Elmer D. 'Gil' Gilchrist

GLASGOW — Elmer D. "Gil" Gilchrist, 83, a retired brakeman/



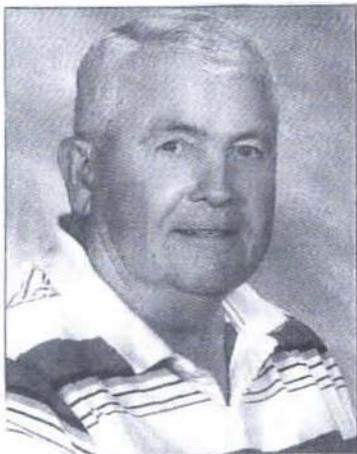
Gilchrist

conductor for Great Northern Railway who was active in community organizations and enjoyed golf and woodwork-

ing, died of natural causes Saturday, May 21, at a Glasgow hospital.

A vigil service is at 7 p.m. Friday at St. Raphael's Catholic Church in Glasgow. Funeral Mass is at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Raphael's, with burial in Highland Cemetery. Bell Mortuary of Glasgow is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Delores (Larson) Gilchrist of Glasgow; children, Craig Gilchrist of Glasgow, Nancy Marshall of Havre and Kevin Gilchrist of Keene, N.D.; a sister, Fae Ann Gilchrist of Mill Creek, Wash.; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Jim Gorder
James (Jim) Roger Gorder,

JAMES ROGER (JIM) GORDER
Born: May 7, 1943 – Died: May 11, 2011
Liberty County Times
May 25, 2011

68, passed away Wednesday May 11, 2011 at Missouri River Medical Center in Fort Benton from complications due to Multiple Sclerosis.

Jim was born on May 7, 1943 to Oswald and Florentine Gorder in Havre, MT and grew up in Rudyard, MT. He graduated from Rudyard High School in 1961 and attended Northern Montana College, earning a two-year drafting certificate and a BS in Secondary Education.

He began his teaching career in Circle, MT. After teaching high school in Circle for one year, he moved to Joplin where he taught high school for nine years. During this time he met his wife, Jane Cain, and they were married on July 22, 1972 in Laurel, MT.

Jim and Jane moved to Bozeman, MT for a brief time while Jim attended Montana State University. In 1976 he graduated from MSU with a teaching certification in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in School Administration.

He was the elementary principal in Terry, MT for two years before moving to Fort Benton where he was the elementary principal for fourteen

years. He retired from his administrative position in 1992, but continued to be active in the community by serving on the Fort Benton School Board from 1993-1996. Jim was also active in Kiwanis and was a member of Community Bible Church in Fort Benton.

Jim and Jane also owned The Paddlewheel art gallery and gift shop in downtown Fort Benton from 1991-1999.

Jim enjoyed many years of fishing, camping, bowling, walking, bike riding and sports of all kinds. He coached numerous high school basketball, track and football teams. He was diagnosed with MS in 1988, but continued to enjoy watching school sports and spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren. He said the best things he'd done in life were marrying Jane and having two wonderful girls.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Oswald and Florentine Gorder, his son, Rory Shane Gorder and his brother-in-law Donald Ledbetter.

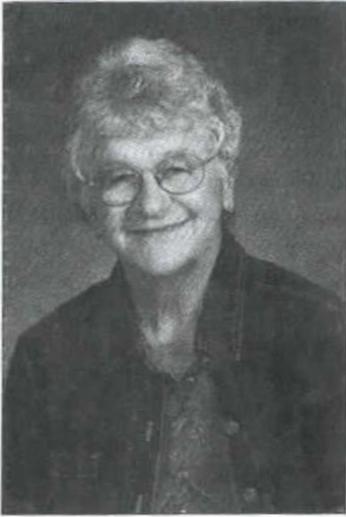
He is survived by his wife, Jane Gorder of Fort Benton, daughters, Tanya (James) Cotterell of Bozeman, MT and Trish (Patrick) Mahoney of

MARGARET ELIZABETH (MARKING) GRAFF

Born: June 9, 1920 – Died: November 14, 2011

Liberty County Times

November 23, 2011



Margaret Graff

Margaret Elizabeth Graff was born June 9, 1920 at Kellogg, Minnesota, Wabasha County. She was one of seven children born to John and Margaret (Arens) Marking. Margaret was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith and received her formal education at School District #81 in Wabasha County. When she was in her teens, she began working as a cook and food server in the Tea House at St. Teresa's College in Winona, Minnesota.

While attending a dance, Margaret met her husband-to-be, Eldon John Graff. Eldon returned to Montana where he farmed during the summers with his uncle near the Gold-Sone Community. Eldon and Margaret's love continued to grow as they corresponded by letters, the following November 25, 1939 they were married at the Immaculate Conception Church near Kellogg, MN. The following spring the couple ventured to Montana where Eldon had purchased a farmstead 17 miles northeast of Chester. This would become their home where they lived,

worked, and raised a family. In 1955 they built a large home on the farm to accommodate their growing family of 11 children. The Graff's continued to farm until 1987. They remained on the farm until 1996, then bought a home in Chester to enjoy their retirement years. They were married 61 years when Eldon died on September 8, 2000. Margaret was fortunate to live in her home until 2007, when she moved to the Wheat Country Estates (assisted-living facility). In April of 2010 she transferred to the Glacier Care Center in Cut Bank. Margaret returned to Chester in November of 2010 for extended care at the local nursing home. She always enjoyed her visits from all her friends and family and day trips to the farm. She remained healthy until June of 2011 when she suffered a stroke. She passed away peacefully on the evening of Monday (November 14, 2011) surrounded by family and friends. She was 91 years old.

Margaret was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, the Altar Society, and Bible study groups. She was also a regular member of the quilting women of Bethel Church in Joplin; this group made thousands of quilts for the needy and third world countries. In addition she was a past member of the Bear's Den Home Demonstration Club and the Joplin Birthday Club. In those early days on the farm Margaret served as a 4-H leader. After moving to Chester, she loved to exercise and socialize at Fitness Express. During her three years as a resident at Wheat Country Estates, she was active in the

planning and planting of the community garden there.

With the large age range between her eleven children, Margaret spent close to 45 years raising her family. Still, she found time to enjoy her hobbies. She loved gardening, cooking, and baking (she will be best remembered for her delicious homemade breads, cakes, and candies). She also loved to feed and watch birds. In her quiet time at home, Margaret enjoyed reading (mainly the daily newspaper, "Dear Abby", religious literature, and Mother Theresa writings) and writing letters to family and friends. In addition she loved to play checkers, board games, and cards with her children and grandchildren.

Margaret and Eldon enjoyed travelling, especially to visit their families. Over the years they made several memorable trips to Alaska, Hawaii, and Costa Rica.

Margaret had several special nicknames. Her Minnesota family called her "Marne". Her Montana family referred to her affectionately as "Mother Graff". They all loved her dearly and will remember her as a simple, unassuming lady who had a great wit and sense of humor, who was always giving and never expecting, and who was always thankful for the love of her family and a wonderful life!

Margaret was preceded in death not only by her husband & parents, but also by a still-born son (Richie), a son-in-law (Audie Collins in 2006), 3 brothers (Ted, Elmer, & Ervin Marking), and 2 sisters (Agnes Scheweiler and Catherine Lee).

She is survived by 8 daughters, Joanne Standiford (Gary) of Chester, Marilyn Collins of Bozeman, Jean May (Ephraim) of Cowley, Alberta, Patti Shepherd (Rod) of Arlington, Texas, Mary Gibbons (Tom) of Big Sandy, Betty Mace (Butch Lansing) of Kalispell, Teresa Wehr (David) of Billings, and Janice Fauque (Jeff) of Cut Bank; 3 sons, Gerry Graff (Cindy) of Bozeman, Don Graff (Shelly) of Belgrade, and Tom Graff (Pam) of Chester; 1 sister, Dorothy Weir of Medford, Wisconsin; 32 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; and many nieces and nephews.

Vigil Prayers were 5:00 p.m. Sunday (Nov. 20th) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Father Joseph Diekhans shared a Gospel lesson. Marcia Heydon read scripture and Mary Gibbons lead the Rosary. Congregational hymns included "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman", "Immaculate Mary", and "Lead Me Lord", accompanied by pianist, Christy Fossen. A piano tribute entitled "Our Day to Share" was performed by Mackenzie Fauque. Family & friends shared memories, then enjoyed a video presentation provided by Janette May.

Margaret's Funeral Mass was celebrated 11:00 a.m. Monday (Nov. 21st) at St. Mary's by Father Joe. Assisting was Father Michael Drury of Cut Bank. Christy Fossen played the piano and St. Mary's Choir sang selected hymns "Loving & Forgiving", "On Eagle's Wings", "Here I Am Lord", & "Surely the Presence". Meghan Smith offered a greeting to begin the Mass, then performed

"Ave Maria" as the entrance song. Ushers were Teresa Fenger (Godchild) & Keldon Graff; Altar servers were Hattie Fauque & Marcus Wehr; Scripture readers were Katelyn Graff & Mackenzie Fauque; the Responsorial Psalm was read by Madison Graff; the "Prayers of the Faithful" were read by Kathy Pratt; the communion gifts were presented by Margie Gibbons, Ken Gibbons, Colleen Masonovich, & Ben Wehr; Eucharistic Ministers were Marje Dahinden, Marcia Schermerhorn, & Eleanor Heydon; Pallbearers were Tim Collins, Craig May, Dan May, Elli Graff, Brandon Graff, Matt Wehr, & Jennifer Graff; Memorial bearers were all of Margaret's many friends & neighbors; and Margaret's life story was

shared by her three sons. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a reception was held at the church fellowship hall. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Memorials may be given to the Wheat Country Estates, St. Mary's Church, or donor's choice...



GEORGE E. GREEN

Born: September 1, 1924— Died: February 11, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

February 16, 2011

George E. Green

MALTA — George E. Green, 86, a retired farmer/businessman and community leader, died of natural causes Friday at the Billings Clinic.

Visitation is 7 p.m. Friday at Kirkwood Memorial Chapel in Malta. His funeral is 11 a.m. Saturday at Malta Lutheran Church, followed by cremation. Burial of ashes will take place at a later date in Malta Cemetery.



Green

George is survived by his wife, Violet M. Green; daughters Diana (Ron) Martinez of Reed Point, and Janet Kaufman of Missoula; son Stanley (Lynnette) Green of Malta; 13 grandchildren, Ronald (Lorie) Martinez Jr., Geneta (Tye) Faw, Crystal, Levi and Edward (Krista) Koss, Corey, Amy, Zachary, Megan and Josiah Kaufman, and Steven, Erin and Matthew Green; 13 great-grandchildren, Courtney and Colby Martinez, Edward "E.J." and Elizabeth Lowney Koss, Barbara and Aaron Erhart Koss; and Samuel and Brianda Kaufman; siblings, Mildred (Lynn) Boothe of Billings, Donald Green of Malta, Carl (Susanne) Green of Chester, Roger (Myrna) Green of Great Falls, and Robert (Bobbie) Green of Kelseyville, Calif.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Ethel; his brother, Dale; a sister, Margaret Kessler Bleken; and daughter Barbara Koss.

George was the oldest child of George and Ethel (Quackenbush) Green. He was born Sept. 1, 1924, at the family home in the Forks Community, where they lived until moving in 1936 to the South Wagner community.

George graduated from Malta High School in 1942. He went to Portland, Ore., the fall after graduation, where he worked as a certified welder in the shipyards, building Liberty ships and aircraft carriers. George wrote in his memoirs, "The high spot in my life was on Dec. 23, 1947, when I married Violet Newton." They celebrated 63 years together.

George was a very civic-minded man and enjoyed the opportunity to serve on a number of boards. George began as a clerk at the Four Corners School in South Wagner. He served on the School Board for 17 years, and the School Transportation Board for 15 years until the South Wagner School closed. He also served on the Malta School Board for three years, the Malta Irrigation District for 12 years, the Phillips County/Malta Hospital Board for one term and the Phillips County TV Board for three years. George often remarked that serving on the boards could be very enjoyable, but equally demanding.

George lived and farmed in the South Wagner community until 1971, when he changed his career and bought the Enco bulk fuel business in Malta. He continued to build this business with the purchase of a service station, which later became a convenience store and, with an added propane business, established Greens' Sales, Inc. Other businesses included Sport Stop, K&G Drilling and Mr. Tire. He retired in 1995.

George had no patience for idle time, and he always had a project he was working on. He had a lifelong love of working with wood. When he lived in South Wagner, he did winter remodels for Violet and their growing family. George built five homes and did many remodeling jobs through the years. He didn't use blueprints. He always said, "Just get me a quick drawing, and I'll get it done for you." In

George's 80th year, he completely restored a 1936 International Farm truck that was bought brand-new by his father-in-law, Howard Newton. As George grew older, the projects got smaller, but his passion for woodworking never diminished. In the last few years, he built more than 30 covered wagon lamps for his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and close friends.

George enjoyed being with his family, watching his grandkids and great-grandkids in sports events and school programs, and just being with them, sharing some of life's lessons.

George was much loved, and was considered by all to be the foundation of his family. He will be dearly missed.

Rest in peace...

Memorials in George's name may be made to the charity of your choice.

Condolences may be left online at www.kirkwoodfuneralhome.com and/or www.greatfallstribune.com.

ERNA MARIE (RAMBERG) GUERTZGEN
Born: September 8, 1943 – Died: August 4, 2011

Liberty County Times
August 10, 2011



Erna Guertzgen

Erna Marie (Ramberg) Guertzgen was born September 8th, 1943 in Havre, Montana. Her parents were Lena Albrecht and Harry "Pat" Ramberg, and she was one of 14 children in the family. Erna grew up and received her education in Chinook, where she graduated from high school in 1961. She remained in the Chinook community and began working in the hospitality business. In 1965 she took a

job as bartender at the "Aero Lounge" for her in-laws, Lucille and Wally Thomsen.

When the Thomsen's purchased "Pappy's Bar" in Chester in 1972, Erna moved here to help with their new venture. The Chester community became her "home" from that time on. Her only child, Alvin, was born and raised here. During her working years in Chester, Erna cooked at Spud's Café, clerked at Mike's IGA, and bartended in every saloon in town at one-time-or-another. She enjoyed being around people and could tell fun stories about all of the "interesting characters" she met over the years. Unfortunately, Erna developed serious medical problems in 2002 and was forced to retire due to disability.

In 2008 Erna moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge, where she enjoyed the comradery and BINGO night with her newfound friends at the retirement home. Even though her mobility was hampered with crutches or a wheelchair, Erna still made an effort to get out-and-about in the community to socialize with all of her other old buddies.

On this past Thursday (August 4th, 2011) Erna was attending the funeral of one of her best friends, Ruby Olson. As she entered the church, she became acutely ill and collapsed. Erna was taken by ambulance to the Chester Hospital, where she died a short while later. She was 67 years old.

Erna enjoyed many hobbies, including pool, darts, and cards (especially pinochle, pitch, and cribbage). One of her frivolities was buying lottery "scratch tickets". During her quiet time at home she loved to work crossword puzzles, read romance novels, and watch soap operas (her favorite soap was "One Life To Live").

Erna was a giving person. Some time ago she had signed up to be a potential organ donor. As a result, the SightLife organization retrieved her corneas. Her family is content in knowing that there may be a cornea recipient who will benefit from this wonderful gift of sight!

Erna will be remembered for her pleasant disposition, her good sense of humor, and

her distinguishable laugh. She was a loyal friend and will be missed by those who loved her...

Survivors include her son, Alvin Guertzgen of Chester; 2 brothers, Harry Ramberg of Chinook and David (Gail) Ramberg of Spearfish, SD; 9 sisters, Susan (Rod) Sergent of Billings, Mary Ellen (Brian) Baker of Harlem, Mildred Dawson of Chinook, Myrtle Franzen of Chinook, Carla (Jim) Hunt of Laurel, Eileen (Leander) Gachne of Puyallup, WA, Carolyn Rosenbaum of Coram, Linda Mackenstadt of Columbia Falls, and Anna Thorp of Fort Benton; and many nephews and nieces. She was preceded in death by her parents and 2 brothers (Warner and Frank Ramberg).

Funeral services were 11:00 a.m. Tuesday (Aug. 9th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor John Fauerbach officiated. A friend, Robin Moss, read the obituary. Piano music was provided by Jeanne Fauerbach. Vocalist, Sue Violett, performed "Amazing Grace" and "The Old Rugged Cross". Pallbearers were Dennis "Bim" Snyder, Jerry Myers, Dennis Hanson, and Larry Lappe. Following burial in the Chester Cemetery, a reception was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

**ERNA MARIE (RAMBERG)
GUERTZGEN**

BORN: September 8, 1943 in Havre, Mt.

DIED: August 4, 2011 in Chester, Mt.

AGE: 67 years ... 10 months ... 27 days



After the darkness...
The daylight shines
through.
After the showers...
The rainbow's in view.
After life's heartaches...
There comes from above;
The peace and the comfort...
Of God's healing love.

Author unknown

Let us join hearts together in this service as we pay tribute to our friend, Erna, and cherish those special moments we shared with her.

FUNERAL SERVICES: 11:00 a.m. Tuesday (August 9th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, Mt.

OFFICIANT: Pastor John Fauerbach

PIANIST: Jeanne Fauerbach

VOCALIST: Sue Violet... **Vocal Tributes:** "The C
Rugged Cross" & "Amazing Grace"

OBITUARY READING: Robin Moss

PALLBEARERS: Larry Lappe, Dennis Hanson,
Dennis "Bim" Snyder, and Jerry Myers

INTERMENT: Chester Cemetery (N.W. of Chester)

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW AT THE FELLOWSHIP HALL.

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel

ERNA'S FAMILY: Son, Alvin; 2 brothers, Harry & David; 9 sisters, Susan, Mary Ellen, Mildred, Myrtle, Carla, Eileen, Carolyn, Linda, & Anna; numerous nephews & nieces; and many good friends...

JAY HARDING SR.
Born: February 3, 1921 – Died: May 25, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
May 27, 2011

Jay Harding Sr.

ANACONDA — Lifelong Anaconda resident Jay Harding Sr., 90, died of natural causes Wednesday, May 25, at an Anaconda hospital.



Harding



Visitation is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at Longfellow Finnegan Funeral Home. Graveside services with military honors are 2 p.m. Saturday at Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery.

Jay died on Wednesday, May 25, 2011, surrounded by his loving family.

Jay was born Feb. 3, 1921, to Augustus and Amy (Eden) Harding in Salt Lake City, Utah. He attended schools in Anaconda until his graduation in 1938. In 1942, he enlisted into the U.S. Army, serving until 1945 in the India-Burma Campaign of World War II. Jay earned a Good Conduct Ribbon and a Bronze Star. Following his honorable discharge, he was employed at the Anaconda Smelter until his retirement in 1980.

Jay enjoyed fly-fishing, gardening, playing cards and rock hunting. He especially enjoyed family gatherings, where he could share his witty humor.

Jay is survived by daughters, Gloria (John) Kessel, Lila (Stan) Rollins and Donna Schafer, all of Anaconda, Brenda (Fred) Buck of Kalispell and Barbara Harris of Petoskey, Mich.; sons, Jay Harding Jr., and Raymond Harding of Anaconda and George (Marsha) Harding of Rudyard; brother, Art (Lisa) Harding of Great Falls; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Jay was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy; daughter, Linda Riding; sisters, Ethel Huot and Alice Meade; and brothers, Lloyd, Elmer, Vern, Tom and Don.

The family prefers memorials to the D.A.V., c/o Chuck Thorpe at 116 Howe, Anaconda, MT 59711; or the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Anaconda.

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

ELMA 'LAVERNE' HARRIS
Born: Age: 74 – Died: October 15, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
October 19, 2011

Elma 'LaVerne' Harris

BIG SANDY — Elma "LaVerne" Harris, 74, a retired bookkeeper and medical records



clerk, died of lung cancer and acute leukemia Saturday, Oct. 15, at her home in Big Sandy.

Harris

Her memorial service is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Fort Benton LDS Church. Benton Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include sons Thomas Rudy Arellano Jr. of Fort Benton, Rocky Fairold Arellano of Kremlin, Rodney H. Arellano and Gator William Troyer of Big Sandy, and Michael F. McColery of Phoenix; sisters Ardith LaRae Whited of Chubbuck, Idaho, and Patricia Yvonne Garrett of Abron Valley, Idaho; sisters-in-law Venna Harris of Aberdeen, Idaho, and Patricia Harris of Missoula; two grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

JAMES L. HERRICK
Born: Age-56 – Died: December 14, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
January 18, 2011

James L. Herrick

GALATA — James L. Herrick, 56, a farm laborer and Marine Corps veteran who enjoyed fishing, camping, gardening and hiking, died of cancer Friday at a Shelby care center.



Herrick



His memorial service is 10 a.m. Friday at Whitted Funeral Chapel.

Survivors include his wife Carolyn of Galata; sons, James and Marshall Herrick of Galata and Daniel Smith of Missouri; sisters, Marlene Myers and Leatha Head of Tennessee, and Mary Myers and Carmella Westen of Missouri; brothers, Wayne Young, Robert Young and John Myers of Tennessee, Glenn Myers and Joey Booker of Michigan and Keith Booker of Florida.

He was born in Hamburg, Mich. to Glenn & Naomi (Powell) Myers. He attended high school at Pickney, Mich. and in 1968 he joined the Marines.

He married Carolyn Breshears Nov. 12, 1994 at Wheatland, Mo. Over his lifetime he has lived in various parts of the country, but for the past few years he and his family have resided in Galata.

James was a 'jack of all trades,' but worked mostly as a farm laborer.

He was an outdoorsman and enjoyed fishing, camping, gardening and hiking.

ELIZABETH A. (WURZ) HOFER

Born: November 18, 1921 – Died: September 28, 2011

Liberty County Times

October 5, 2011

Elizabeth Hofer

Elizabeth A. (Wurz) Hofer was born on November 18, 1921 in Hutchinson County, South Dakota. She was one of eleven children born to Andrew Wurz and Suzanna Hofer. At age 9 she moved with her family to the Elm Spring Colony in Alberta, Canada where she received her formal education.

Elizabeth married David Peter Hofer on November 12, 1946 at the OK Colony near Raymond, Alberta. They began raising their family of six before moving to the Miller Colony near Choteau, Mt. in 1951.

The Hofers moved to the Sage Creek Colony (32 miles north of Chester) in 1961. Her husband, David, became the colony minister, a position he held for 46 years. Elizabeth enjoyed her life as a mother, a colony Kindergarten teacher, and a cook for the elderly. The Hofers were happily married 63 years when her husband died on February 26, 2010. Elizabeth remained close to her family at Sage Creek and enjoyed relatively good health. Early Wednesday morning (September 28, 2011) she got up to start the day. She collapsed without

warning at her residence and died. She was 89 years old.

Elizabeth loved flowers and had a "green thumb". In her quiet time she enjoyed knitting and reading. Most of all, she loved her family dearly...

She is survived by 3 daughters, Justina (John) Wurz, Susie (Jonathan) Kleinsasser, and Anna Hofer, all of Sage Creek Colony; 2 sons, Peter (Esther) Hofer and Ben (Barbara) Hofer, both of Sage Creek Colony; 12 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; 5 brothers, John Wurz of Eagle Creek Colony, Joe Wurz of Rimrock Colony, and Peter, Paul, & David Wurz of Hillside Colony; and many nieces & nephews.

In addition to her husband and parents, Elizabeth was preceded in death by 1 daughter (Elizabeth Hofer in 1985), 2 sisters (Susie & Rachel

Wurz), and 3 brothers (Mike, Andrew, & Jacob Wurz).

Her funeral was held at noon Friday (Sept. 30th) at the Sage Creek Colony Church. Burial followed in the Sage Creek Colony Cemetery. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

Elizabeth's family would like to extend their appreciation to the local doctors, nurses, and clinic staff for their many kindnesses over the past few years.

ELSIE MICHAEL (WIPF) HOFER
Born: July 5, 1984 – Died: October 23, 2011
Liberty County Times
November 2, 2011

Elsie Hofer

Elsie Michael Hofer, age 27, of the Eagle Creek Colony north of Galata, suffered a severe headache with sight deprivation at her home on Sunday evening (October 23, 2011). She was taken to the Liberty Medical Center in Chester, where she died soon after arrival to the hospital.

Elsie was born July 5, 1984 at the Riverview Colony south of Chester. She was the youngest

of two children born to Reuben and Barbara (Kleinsasser) Wipf. Elsie grew up at Riverview and received her formal education there.

She married the "love of her life", Michael Hofer, on July 10, 2008 at Eagle Creek Colony. The couple were blessed with two beautiful children, Ronnie (born January 24, 2010) and Samantha (born August 24, 2011).

Elsie loved to bake. She

will be remembered for her generous heart of gold!

She was preceded in death by her beloved brother (Ronnie Wipf in 2002), paternal grandmother (Anna Wipf), maternal grandfather (Sam Kleinsasser), and special aunt (Deborah Kleinsasser).

Elsie was very devoted to her family, extended family, and many friends, so she will be deeply missed by all of them. Survivors include her

loving husband, Mike Hofer of Eagle Creek; her sweet children (Ronnie and Samantha); her parents, Reuben and Barbara Wipf of Riverview; maternal grandmother, Anna Kleinsasser of Riverview; paternal grandfather, Reverend Paul Wipf of Riverview; parents-in-law, Michael and Matilda Hofer of Eagle Creek; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

"Blessed are they who

mourn, for they shall be comforted." (Matthew 5:4).

Elsie's funeral was held at 12 noon Thursday (October 27th) at the Eagle Creek Colony Church. Burial followed at the Eagle Creek Colony Cemetery. Arrangements were handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

RUTH LENORE (DEDIC) HOVEE

Born: December 14, 1917 – Died: November 18, 2011

Liberty County Times

November 30, 2011



Ruth Hovee

Ruth Lenore (Dedic) Hovee was born December 14, 1917 in the Black Coulee community south of Rudyard, Montana to Frank and Anna (Klemet-

son) Dedic. Two years later she was joined by her only sibling, her sister Evelyn. When Ruth was five years old, her family moved into Rudyard where they owned and operated the Dedic Café for 18 years. Ruth received her education in Rudyard where she and 12 classmates graduated from Rudyard High School in 1936. During her school years Ruth participated in sports, choir, and church activities, and also worked at the family café.

After graduating from high school, Ruth took a job at Sanvik's General Merchandise Store in Rudyard. In 1938 she moved to Minneapolis to continue her education in merchandising and window decorating. After returning to Montana, Ruth married Walter E. Hovee on March 25, 1940 in Havre. They lived and worked on a farm north of Inverness until 1950, then moved into town, where Ruth enjoyed her life as a homemaker and mother of two.

The Hovees farmed until their retirement in 1985. They moved to Great Falls in 1990 to be near family and friends. They were married 61 years when Walter died on September 25, 2001. Ruth remained

independent in her own home until 2005, when she moved to the Golden Eagle Plaza in Great Falls. She was fortunate to maintain a sharp mind and relatively good health throughout the years. Recently she developed complications from aortic stenosis, so she transferred to Peace Hospice two weeks ago. She died peacefully at this nursing facility on Friday evening (November 18, 2011) at the age of 93 years.

The Hovees were lifelong members of Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin, where Ruth enjoyed making quilts with her church friends for Lutheran World Relief. After moving to Great Falls, they attended Our Savior's Lutheran Church and were active in the Sons of Norway club.

In addition to being a farmwife, Ruth enjoyed gardening and working in her beautiful flowerbeds and yard.

She was preceded in death by her husband and parents. Survivors include her daughter, Laurel "Laurie" Migneault of Great Falls; her son, Clark Hovee (and Barb Calandro) of Sand Coulee; 1 grandson, Rhett Walter Migneault (and Cyra) of Great

Falls; 2 great-granddaughters, Summer Rea & Rayna Marie Migneault of Great Falls; her sister, Evelyn Bailey of Couer d'Alene, ID.; her niece, Joyce Schubert (and Alan) of Great Falls; and two special friends, Kay Krezlok and Donna Herdina (and Dave), all of Great Falls.

"When a loved one becomes a Memory – the memory becomes a Treasure"...

Cremation was requested by Ruth. A memorial service will be 1:00 p.m. Thursday (Dec. 1st) at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Pastor Brad Ulgenes of Havre will officiate. Vocalist, Marcus Jochim, will sing "On Eagle's Wings" & "Here I Am Lord", accompanied by pianist, Sharon Spicher. The congregation will

sing "How Great Thou Art". A selected CD by Josh Grogan, "Just A Breath Away", will be played. A coffee hour will follow the services in Kjos Hall. Ruth's ashes will be buried in the family plot at the Joplin Cemetery. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

ALICE STAR (DUNCAN) IVERSON
Born: Age: 86 – Died: February 24, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
February 26, 2011

Alice Star Iverson

CONRAD — Alice Star (Duncan) Iverson, 86, a farm homemaker, died of natural causes Thursday, Feb. 24, at a Conrad medical facility.



Iverson

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Pondera Medical Center is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include daughters Joan Wesley of Ledger, Gayle Schmidt of Enumclaw, Wash., and Kelly Turk of Benson, Ariz.; a son, Mickey Iverson of Ledger; a sister, Ora Bucher of Conrad; brothers Earl Duncan and Ken Duncan of Conrad, and Bud Duncan of Great Falls; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Iverson.

PEARL T. (ELIASSEN) IVERSON
Born: Age: 92 – Died: April 12, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
April 21, 2011

Pearl T. Iverson

JOPLIN — Pearl T. (Eliassen) Iverson, 92, a Joplin homemaker, died of natural causes Tuesday, April 12, at Peace Hospice in Great Falls.



Iverson At her request, no services are planned. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Survivors include her sons, James Iverson of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Virgil Iverson of Joplin; a daughter, Cheryll Weyermiller of Kingman, Ariz.; a sister, Inez Stromstad of Widefield, Colo.; three grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elner Iverson, on May 24, 1988; and by two grandchildren.

JOHN HENRY 'JAKE' JACOBSON
Born: October 24, 1929 – Died: August 14, 2011
Liberty County Times
August 17, 2011



Jake Jacobson

John Henry "Jake" Jacobson, 81, of Great Falls, a retired postal service employee and Air Force Senior Master Sgt., died of natural causes Sunday, August 14, 2011, at Peace Hospice.

His memorial service will be held at St. John's Lutheran

Church on Wednesday, August 17, 2011, at 2 p.m. Inurnment with military honors will take place in Highland Cemetery. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Jake was born October 24, 1929, to Bonnie Jewel (Markle) and Henry Frances Jacobson in Newtown, Mo., where he was raised and educated. He married Naomi Wilson on June 27, 1954 in Havre and together they had five children; four daughters and one son.

Jake spent 27 years in the Air Force. Before retiring in 1974 with the rank of Senior Master Sgt., he had served in both the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War.

After retiring from the service, Jake went to work for the United States Postal Service, where he was a postal carrier until retiring from that career in 1994.

Jake loved fishing and making and flying model airplanes and helicopters. After his health limited his physical abilities, reading became his passion.

Survivors include his wife, Naomi (Wilson) Jacobson of Great Falls; daughters Jerene (Rick) Moore of Great Falls, Jaonna (Clay) Morgan of Tualatin, OR, Bonnie (Duane)

Culver of Sand Coulee and Bobbi (Todd) Langel of Rudyard; a son, Jon Jacobson of Great Falls; a sister, Edna Mae Miller of Gentry, AR; a brother, James Dow (Billie) Jacobson of Leavenworth, KA; six grandchildren, Jamie Moore, Cory Moore, Donita Langel, Tucker Langel, Kali Culver, Dallas Culver and six great-grandchildren; five stepgrandchildren, Stephen Culver, Nathan Culver, Leah Morgan, Tracy Morgan and Sarah Gilbert, and eight step-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Dale Jacobson.

Memorials are suggested to Peace Hospice, 1101 26th St. S., Great Falls, MT 59405, or the Rudyard Museum, 4th Ave. NW, Rudyard, MT 59540.

Condolences may be left online at www.schniderfuneral-home.com.

BERNICE DONNA (BUHRING) JESTRAB
Born: February 20, 1918 – Died: January 9, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
January 14, 2011

Bernice Donna Jestrab

KALISPELL — Bernice Donna Jestrab, 92, a longtime Havre resident, died of natural causes Sunday in Kalispell.



Jestrab

Services will be held in Havre at a later date. Johnson-Gloschat Funeral Home and Crematory is handling arrangements.

Bernice was born Bernice Buhring on Feb. 20, 1918, in Chester, the daughter of homesteaders Andy and Mabel Buhring. They moved to Havre before she was 3 years old, and she graduated from Havre High School. She then worked for several years at Woolworth's.

She met and married Johnny Jestrab on Aug. 1, 1940, and established a home in Havre, where Johnny worked for Great Northern Railroad as a brakeman and conductor. There she raised five children and entertained numerous friends, neighbors and family in a home filled with lots of love, laughter and good food. After dinner, when the table was cleared and the dishes done, she and Johnny would organize games at the dinner table. Depending on the crowd, they would play "go fish," "seven-up" or "king's corner." As the kids and grandkids got older, they

brought out pinochle, cribbage and an assortment of board games. There was always a jigsaw puzzle in the kitchen corner. Bernice crocheted numerous afghans and quilts for her family.

She and Johnny were married for 57 years when he passed away on Dec. 19, 1997. Together they camped and fished in the Bear Paw Mountains, Glacier National Park and at all the reservoirs in northern Montana. They motor-homed throughout the states and Canada. For years, they were active members of the local Good Sam Club. They wintered for many years in Yuma, Ariz., and had many good friends there. In her spare time, Bernice volunteered several times a week at the Northern Montana Hospital, the Lutheran Home and St. Jude's Catholic Church.

Bernice is survived by her sister, Mary Rona Anderson of Lakeport, Calif.; daughters Sytvia Piatt of Bellevue, Wash., and Diane (Grant) Compton of Whitefish; sons Jack (Perdita) Jestrab of Auburn, Wash., and Dr. Robert (Carol) Jestrab of Havre; 10 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Bernice was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Johnny; daughter Karen Ann Wills; and sisters Mildred Winsor and Evelyn Wilham.

Condolences may be posted online at www.jgfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribnoe.com/obituaries.

AGNES KATHRINE (ZELTINGER) JOCHIM
Born: November 5, 1917 – Died: April 22, 2011
Liberty County Times
April 27, 2011



Agnes Jochim

Agnes Jochim, age 93, passed into the arms of the Lord on Good Friday (April 22, 2011) at the Liberty Medical Center in Chester. Present at her bedside was her faithful sister, friend, and caregiver (Hazel Jochim) and many of her loving children, grandchildren, and great-grand-children.

She was born Agnes Katharine Zeltinger on November 5, 1917 in Tolley, North

Dakota. Her parents were John and Anna (Dahinden) Zeltinger and she was the sixth of seven children. Agnes graduated from Tolley High School in 1935, then obtained her teaching certificate from Minot State Teacher's College in 1937. She taught her first year at St. Henry's school district and her second year at the Gates School in Roosevelt Township. During the cold winter months at Gates School, she was asked to board two little girls because it was too dangerous for them to walk to-and-from school each day. In 1939 Agnes decided to move to Montana to be near her older sister, Irene, who was teaching here.

That summer Agnes attended Northern Montana College in Havre to become Montana certified, then began teaching at the Meissner School (which still remains on the west side of Highway 223 at the top of the hill just north of the Marias River). Agnes was provided a cot for sleeping and coal for her stove at the teacherage. She felt fortunate to have water from a cistern and that she was not expected to cook for her students. Her four students were Margaret and Paul Meissner and Louis and Leo Schuhmacher, all of whom she remembered fondly over the years. She

also remembered the many invitations to dinners at the Goods, Shuhmachers, and Meissners, where wonderful meals were prepared and she was always treated royally! During that same time, Irene was teaching at the Hay Coulee School, which was located just four miles away. The sisters loved being close and spent most of their weekends together. They enjoyed attending dances in town, where Agnes met her husband-to-be, Martin M. Jochim Jr. They were married on August 10th, 1942 and lived on the Jochim farm four miles south of Inverness.

Agnes began teaching 4th, 5th, and 6th grades at the school in Inverness. When she resigned the following year, Agnes recommended her younger sister (Hazel) to be the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade teacher and her older sister (Irene) to be the junior high teacher. Their parents came out that winter to be with the three daughters, who were now located in the same area.

In addition to being a homemaker and mother of five, Agnes continued to be a devoted educator, teaching catechism as a CYO leader and serving as a substitute teacher at the Inverness School. She enjoyed farm life in Montana and often compared it to her birth-

place in Tolley, N.D. When the Jochims retired from farming in 1981, they spent several winters with family, in Washington, Utah, North Dakota, and Pennsylvania. They were married 58 years when Martin died on March 8, 2001. Agnes continued to live in their farm home and enjoyed the love of her family in the years that followed.

Agnes was a dedicated Christian and an active member of the Sacred Heart Parish and Altar Society. She loved to cook; some of her family's favorites were cinnamon rolls, banana cream pies, baked beans, and her potato and four-bean salads. She was also known for her crafting, especially butterfly-making. In her quiet time at home Agnes enjoyed reading (mainly biographies and historicals), keeping up on current events, and following the stock market. Other pastimes included gardening, dancing, and playing cards (Whist and Bridge). Her entire life was devoted to the counseling of her children, grandchildren, and even the great-grandchildren – she was the consummate educator with valued advice and wisdom for all!

Agnes was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by 2 brothers (Joseph &

Clarence Zeltinger), 3 sisters (Mary Bauer, Florence Resch, & Irene Pommier), a grandson (David Jochim), and a great-great-grandson (Connor Stevens).

She is survived by her 5 children, Larry Jochim of Somers, Thomas (Kay) Jochim of Spokane, WA., Deanna (Douglas) Beaudoin of Spokane, WA., Marcus (Beverly) Jochim of Inverness, and Marlene (Louis) Biondo of Wyoming, MN.; 1 sister, Hazel Jochim of Hingham; 14 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; and numerous nieces & nephews.

Vigil Prayers were provided by Father Joseph Diekhans at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday (April 26th) at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness. Readings were shared by Jean Edwards & Peggy Currie. Grandsons (Steele, Alek, & Riley Jochim) led the prayers of the Rosary.

The Funeral Mass will be celebrated by Father Joe at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday (April 27th) at Sacred Heart. Selected music, including "Be Not Afraid", "Be Still My Soul", and "Eat This Bread", will be performed by friends in the Sacred Heart choir. Christy Fossen will serve as pianist. Responsorial "Psalm 23" will be sung by the duet of Mariana Jo-

chim & Torrie Wolery. The meditation song, "Parable", will be sung by Marcus & Marlene. Selected readings will be shared by Lesley Jungers, Allison Jochim, & Jaclyn Beaudoin. The eulogist will be Joe Dahinden. Ushers will be Terry & Kent Zeltinger, Vic Velk, & Tom Dahinden. The gifts will be presented by Karla Langlois, Margaux Linde, and all of Agnes' great-grandchildren. Eucharistic ministers will be Tom & Kay Jochim and Richard Fisher. Altar servers will be Steele & Alek Jochim, Ryan & Noah Jochim,

and Cole & Bo Jungers. Pallbearers will be Corey, Todd, & Richard Jochim; Jonathan Beaudoin; Anthony, Louis Jr., & Martin Biondo; Bradley Bjork, and Steve Dahinden. Burial will be at the Inverness Cemetery, followed by a luncheon at the church basement. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester.

AGNES KATHRINE (ZELTINGER) JOCHIM

Born: November 5, 1917 at
Tolley, North Dakota

Died: April 22, 2011 at Chester,
Montana, Liberty County

Age: 93 years ... 5 months ... 17 days



IN SCHOOL-DAYS . . . by John Greenleaf Whittier



*Still sits the school-house by the road,
A ragged beggar sunning;
Around it still the sumachs grow,
And blackberry vines are running.*

VIGIL SERVICE: 7:00 p.m. Tuesday (April 26th) at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness, Montana

PRAYERS: Father Joseph Diekhans

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Jean Edwards & Peggy Currie

ROSARY PRAYERS: Steele, Alek, & Riley Jochim

*"Hail Mary, full of Grace, pray for us sinners
now and at the hour of our death."*

FUNERAL MASS: 11:00 a.m. Wednesday (April 27th) at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness, Montana

CELEBRANT: Father Joseph Diekhans

PIANIST: Christy Fossen

MASS MUSIC: "Be Not Afraid", "Be Still My Soul", and "Eat This Bread", performed by Friends in the Sacred Heart Choir

RESPONSORIAL: "Psalm 23" sung by Mariana Jochim & Torrie Wolery

MEDITATION: "Parable" sung by Marcus Jochim & Marlene Biondo

GREETERS: Terry & Kent Zeltinger, Vic Velk, & Tom Dahinden

ALTAR SERVERS: Steele & Alek Jochim, Ryan & Noah Jochim, and Cole & Bo Jungers

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Allison Jochim and Jaclyn Beaudoin

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Lesley Jungers

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMUNION GIFTS: Karla Langlois, Margaux Linde, and all of Agnes' great-grandchildren

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Tom & Kay Jochim and Richard Fisher

EULOGIST: Joe Dahinden

PALLBEARERS: Corey, Todd, & Richard Jochim; Jonathan Beaudoin; Anthony, Louis Jr., & Martin Biondo; Bradley Bjork; and Steve Dahinden

INTERMENT: Family plot at the Inverness Cemetery

... A reception will follow at the church basement.

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester, MT

MEMORIALS: Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester, Montana

AGNES' FAMILY: 5 children, Larry, Tom/Kay, Deanna/Douglas,

MYRTLE E. (HENRY) JOHANNSEN
Born: April 5, 1911 – Died: April 29, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
April 1, 2011

Shelby homemaker dies of natural causes at 100

SHELBY — Myrtle E. (Henry) Johannsen, a homemaker and teacher, died of natural causes Friday, April 29, at a Shelby care center. She was 100.



Johannsen

Visitation is 1 to 7 p.m. Monday at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Tuesday at Whitted Funeral Chapel. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Tuesday at Community United Methodist Church in Shelby, followed by burial in Valley View Cemetery and a reception at the Methodist fellowship hall.

Survivors include numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death

by her parents; her husband, Byrl Johannsen; sisters, Flo Blair and Dorothy Adams; and a brother, Harold Henry.

Myrtle was born April 5, 1911, at home on the Henry Ranch, to Frank and Mary Henry. She graduated from Shelby High School and furthered her education at Northern Montana College and Western at Dillon. She taught at the Fowler and Galata schools.

Myrtle and Byrl were married Sept. 25, 1934, in Shelby. They had been married more than 50 years when Byrl passed away in 1985.

Myrtle loved the outdoors and was an avid gardener. Her home was surrounded by flowers from the earliest of spring until fall. She especially loved her rose bushes. Myrtle supplied family and

friends with gifts of flowers to plant in their own yards. Vegetables and fruits from her garden ended up on many tables also. Myrtle loved Glacier Park and would visit many times every summer. She loved to have lunch at the cafes in East and West Glacier. She had a love of crocheting during the long winter months and had made 21 afghans, 40 tablecloths and four bedspreads. You could find her reading or working a crossword puzzle every day. She had a love of learning and of teaching what she had learned to others.

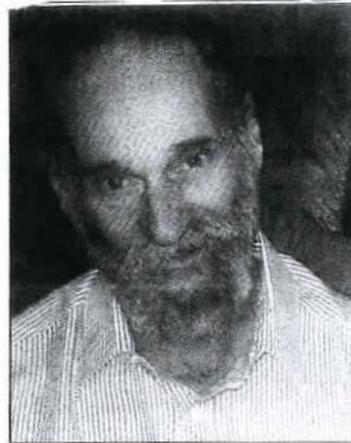
Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

DANIEL JOHN JOHNSTON, SR.
Born: Age: 61– Died: January 28, 2011
Liberty County Times
February 2, 2011

Daniel John Johnston Sr., 61, a ranch hand from Galata who enjoyed music, traveling and an avid motorcycle rider, passed away Friday on a ranch north of Galata due to heart failure.

Memorial services will be 2 pm Friday (Feb. 4th) at the Whitted Funeral Chapel.

Survivors include his mother, Emma Johnston of Shelby; sons, Daniel John Johnston Jr. of Campbell, CA and Joshua Johnston of Petaluma, CA; daughter, Hiedi Lynn Johnston of Campbell, CA; brother, Robert K.



Dan Johnston

Johnston of Shelby and one grandson, Wyatt Johnston.

He is preceded in death by his father, John F. Johnston, sister, Betty Johnston and brother, Neal Johnston.

THELMA A. (PETERSON) JONES
Born: January 8, 1917 – Died: March 10, 2011
Liberty County Times
March 16, 2011



Thelma Jones

Thelma A. (Peterson) Jones, 94, of Great Falls, died of natural causes on Thursday, March 10, 2011 at a local care facility.

Visitation will be held at Schnider Funeral Home on Thursday, March 17, 2011 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and one hour prior to her funeral service at Hillcrest Lawn Chapel on Friday, March 18, 2011 at 10:30 a.m. Burial will take place in Highland Cemetery. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Thelma was born on January 8, 1917, in Rudyard, Montana, to homesteaders Theodore and Annie (Norby) Peterson. She attended Rudyard schools, graduating in 1935. She attended college in Havre and received her teaching degree. She taught in rural schools in the Rudyard and

Cut Bank farming communities.

After moving to Great Falls, she worked at downtown Great Falls businesses

and the old Deaconess Hospital. She was hired at "East Base," helping long hours during the Berlin Air Lift. She worked for 26 years, retiring at the age of 55 with a long life still ahead.

Her passion was growing raspberries in her backyard. She loved tending her gardens and sharing her precious berries with neighbors and friends. Her other love was pinochle, and you'd find her at many area "parties" or hosting them in her home. She also loved spending time with

family, friends, and traveling.

Thelma met and married Stanley P. Jones on April 29, 1950. He passed away on June 6, 1975.

Survivors include a daughter, Donna Mae (Fritz) Seitz of Great Falls; a grandson, Stewart P. Padgett of Helena; a great-granddaughter Mackenzie Rae Padgett of Kalispell; a grandson, Shawn P. (Jessica) Padgett and a great-grandson, Pierce, all of Wichita, KS; and a niece, Dorothy Plybon of Barboursville, WV.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents; sisters Florence Peterson and Evelyn Van Wechel; and a brother, Adolph Peterson.

Memorials are suggested to Helping Hands at First English Lutheran Church, 112 8th St. N., Great Falls, MT 59401 or Peace Hospice, 1101 26th St. S., Great Falls, MT 59405.

Condolences may be left for the family at www.schnider-funeralhome.com.

NORMAN OLE KAPPERUD

Born: June 15, 1926 – Died: April 26, 2011

Liberty County Times
June 1, 2011



Norman Kapperud

Norman Ole Kapperud was born June 15, 1926 at Kremlin, MT. He was one of four children born to Lars and Anna (Anderson) Kapperud. Norman grew up on his father's homestead north of Gildford and received his early education at the Mariner country school. He finished his education in Gildford where he graduated high school in 1945.

Norman married Donna Ruth Qualey July 13, 1947 at the Hingham Lutheran Church. They farmed the family homestead north of Gildford and raised a family of four. In those

early years Norman worked winters as a carpenter on the "B-&-B gang" for Great Northern Railroad. Because he enjoyed fixing and building things, he supplemented his income by doing private carpenter projects throughout the Hi-Line for several years. In 1994 he sold the family farm to his son, but continued to assist with the farming operations until age 80. He loved to work and be helpful, but declining health eventually prohibited these activities. In June 2010 Norman moved to Northern Montana Care Center for ex-

tended care. He passed away at the Havre nursing facility on the early morning of Tuesday (April 26, 2011). He was 84 years old.

Norman was a charter member of the Goldstone Lutheran Church north of Rudyard and served on the church council for many years. He was active on many boards throughout his life, including Mariner School, Hingham Farmer's Elevator, N.F.O., Gildford Farmer's Union, and the Hill County Fair.

Norman's passion was teaching, training, and enjoying his children. In those early days they

all loved boating and skiing. At family gatherings, Norman was always ready for a competitive game of Scrabble or cribbage. He enjoyed tinkering in his shop and made many creative knick-knacks, paper weights, and other "works of art" from wood, metal, and rocks. He also loved to work in his yard on landscaping projects. During his quiet time at home, he enjoyed reading (mainly historicals) or doing word games.

Norman was a Norwegian who loved lutefisk, lefse, and other Scandinavian dishes. He also loved Montana and enjoyed travelling the "backroads of the state." When family and friends visited, Norman loved to serve as the "local tour guide", showing them the many sights and highlights of northern Montana.

Norman was preceded in death by his parents, his 3 siblings (brother, Leif Kapperud, and sisters, Helen Floren and Gudrun Smith), and a son-in-law (Kevin Hansen).

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Donna Kapperud of Gildford; his 4 children, Linda (Ken) Boggs of Great Falls,

LaNay (Cathy) Kapperud of Gildford, Marla Kapperud of Minneapolis, MN., and Lorrie Hansen of Forest Lake, MN.; 7 grandchildren (Bret, Tim, Drew, Britt, Jenna, Neil, & Zach); 6 great-grandchildren (Zach, Reylynn, Jessica, Jack, Titus, and Chloe); and many nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Saturday (April 30th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard by Pastor Arden K. Barden. Vocalist, Terry Stevenson, performed "Precious Lord Take My Hand" & "The Lord's Prayer", accompanied by Sharon Spicher. The congregation sang "Oh God Our Help In Ages Past" & "To God Be The Glory". The eulogist was Roger Lincoln. Ushers were Bud and Hap VandeSandt. Pallbearers were Drew Kapperud, Bret Boggs, Tim Boggs, Neil Lundgren, Ron Kapperud, Gary Kapperud, Bruce Kapperud, and Clark Smith. Honorary bearers included Ken Boggs, Roger Lincoln, David Aageson, Verges Aageson, and Swede Welsh. Following a reception at the church, burial was in the

Hingham Cemetery. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Memorials may be given to the Goldstone Lutheran Church, the Space for Grace Chapel at NMCC, or donor's choice..

FERN ELVA (HEYDON) KEITH
Born: August 26, 1924 – Died: January 14, 2011
Havre Daily News
January 18, 2011

Fern E. Keith

Fern E. Keith, age 86, Moorhead, Minn., died Thursday, Jan. 14, 2011, in Eventide Lutheran Home, Moorhead, Minn.

Fern Elva Heydon, the ninth of 10 children born to Elmer and Effie (Taplin) Heydon, was born Aug. 26, 1924, on the family farm near Joplin, Mont. She grew up and received her education in Joplin.

On Dec. 28, 1945, Fern married her childhood sweetheart, Alvin R. Keith, while he was home on leave from the U.S. Navy. The family lived in Chester, Mont., and in Havre, Mont., until 1969, when they moved to Grand Forks, N.D. After her husband, Alvin, died on July 19, 2003, Fern moved to Moorhead, where she had lived since.

Fern was an energetic homemaker and a devoted wife and mother. She was a very

positive person, had a quick mind, and an avid sense of humor. She was happiest when surrounded by family and was very proud of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her special interests were jigsaws puzzles, pinocle and country music.

Fern is survived by a son, Gene (Mary) Keith of McDermitt, Nev.; daughters, Jane Fern (Ricky) Smith of Moorhead, and Shariot (Darrel) Gebert, of O'Fallon, Ill.; 11 grandchildren, Kris, Andy, Tori, Malinda, Darren, Michael, Amanda, Adam, Scott, Dennis and Daniel; and 14 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alvin; her parents, and nine siblings.

Funeral services were 10:30 a.m. today at Korsmo Funeral Chapel in Moorhead, with visitation prior to the funeral. Express condolences at the online guestbook: www.korsmofuneralservice.com.

LEON EVERETT KEZAR

Born: May 19, 1924 – Died: March 5, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

March 8, 2011

Leon Everett Kezar

Leon Everett Kezar, 86, of Great Falls, died of natural causes



Kezar



Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Leon was born May 19, 1924, in Havre and raised in Kremlin. He was his high school's valedictorian. He married May Carry-



Kezar in 1944

March 5, at his home.

His funeral is 11 a.m. today at the Havre Cemetery followed by a luncheon at Eagles Lodge.

Edwards

water LittleOwl in 1959; they were married until her death on Sept. 22, 2009.

He was highly decorated for his naval service in both the South Pacific during

World War II and during the Korean War. He worked for Great Northern Railway, as an oil field worker and was a self-employed business owner.

Leon was a former light-heavy-weight Golden Gloves boxer and enjoyed hunting, reading and physical fitness. He loved the outdoors and the open country. He was a loyal and loving father, brother and friend to all.

Survivors include daughters Kristina Kezar-Bay of Tuba City, Ariz., Cindy Carrywater of Hays, Patti Jo Kezar-Gray of Great Falls and Gloria Duran of Havre; sons Tommy LittleOwl of Mandan, N.D., and Gerald LittleOwl of Dallas; sisters Betty Hutchison of Kalispell, Patti Walen of Great Falls, Joanna Mangels of Littleton, Colo., and Bebe Kezar of LaJolla, Calif.; 18 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary; parents Lee and Signa Kezar, brothers Dalys and Gerald; and sisters June Johnson and Mary Jean Davy.

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

JODY LYNN (PULST) KING
Birth: August 4, 1964 - Died: May 26, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
May 29, 2011

Jody King

Jody Lynn King, 46, of Great Falls, died of undetermined causes Thursday, May 26, at her home.



King

Cremation has taken place. Her memorial service is 10 a.m. Tuesday at Croxford

Funeral Home.

Survivors include her husband, Ronald D. King of Great Falls; daughters Kayla (Raymond) Cantrell of Abilene, Texas, and Kelsey (Josh) King of Great Falls; sons Kyle King and Kayce King, both of Great Falls; parents Robert and Trudy Pulst of Great Falls; sister Darcy (John) Paliga of Great Falls; and brothers, Donald (Charlene) Pulst of Chester, and Charlie Pulst, Kelley Pulst and Gary (Helen) Pulst, all of Great Falls. She also is survived by six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Caroline and John Burkstrand.

Jody was born Aug. 4, 1964, in Great Falls. She was raised and educated in Great Falls. She married Ronald King in 1990 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Jody was a very proud, quick and funny bartender. She started bartending and waitressing part time when she was 14 years old, and did it for most of her life, around 25 years.

She never had an "official" name. She helped everyone she knew in so many ways — and even people she didn't know.

She loved her family, friends, camping, cooking and dancing. She especially loved playing with her grandchildren.

Condolences may be posted online at www.croxfordfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

PETER J. 'SPEEDY' KLEINSASSER
Born: November 4, 1930- Died: January 7, 2011
Liberty County Times
January 12, 2011

Peter Kleinsasser

Peter J. Kleinsasser, affectionately known by his family & friends as "Speedy", died Friday evening (January 7, 2011) from complications of a bleeding ulcer at the Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls, Mt. He was 80 years old.

Speedy was born November 4, 1930 at Alexandria, South Dakota. He was one of eleven children born to Jacob S. Kleinsasser and Anna Hofer. In 1934 the family moved to Raymond, Alberta, where

Speedy received his formal education. In 1948 they transferred to the Miller Colony near Choteau, Mt. In 1961 they made their final move to the Sage Creek Colony 32 miles north of Chester, Mt. It was there that Speedy worked as the dairy boss for 14 years, then served as a helper in the chicken barns for 26 years. After he retired at age 70, Speedy continued to serve as a colony handyman and enjoyed working with his son at the Sage Creek cement plant (where they manufactured concrete slats). Speedy finally quit working two years ago when his health began to fail.

He married Sarah G. Waldner on May 30, 1964 at Sage Creek Colony. The couple raised 3 children and a host of grandchildren. Speedy enjoyed reading, especially the testaments. His grandchildren loved to study and learn their Bible verses with

their "Grandpa". Speedy was a very social man who was well-known in Chester and throughout Liberty County. He will be sorely missed by his loving family and many good friends.

Surviving is his wife of 46 years, Sarah Kleinsasser; 1 son, Leonard (Rebecca) Kleinsasser; 1 daughter, Linda (Joe) Waldner; 10 grandchildren (inc. Joanna, Daniel, Peter, Clara, Leonard, and Rick Kleinsasser, and Ronnie, Jolene, Rick, and Loraine Waldner), all of Sage Creek Colony; and numerous nephews and nieces. Speedy was preceded in death by his parents, a daughter (Linda Kleinsasser), a granddaughter (Judy Waldner), 6 sisters (Susie, Anna, Rachel, Mary, Sarah, and Rebecca), and 4 brothers (Jacob, John, Sam, and Sam).

His funeral was held at 12:30 p.m. Monday at the Sage Creek Colony Church. Reverend John Wurtz and Sam Hofer officiated. Burial followed in the Sage Creek Colony Cemetery. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

The Kleinsasser family would like to thank the medical staffs in Chester and Great Falls, especially Dr. Kozakiewicz and Dr. Kingsland, for the special care Speedy received. In addition, a thank you goes out to Lincare for the oxygen supplies and to Rockman Funeral Chapel for their caring services.

CARL C. KNUTSON
Born: September 26, 1936 – Died: June 30, 2011
Havre Daily News
July 6, 2011

Carl C. Knutson

Carl C. Knutson passed away on June 30, 2011.

Carl was born Sept. 26, 1936, in Havre, Mont., to Cliff and Margaret (Ervin) Knutson. He was raised in Kremlin, Mont., until 1949 when he and his parents moved to Kalispell. He graduated from high school there.

Carl married Mary Hanson, and they had three children, Carl Jr. of California, Julie Mulvey and Karen Sanders of Spokane, Wash.

Carl worked many different jobs. He farmed for his uncle near Gildford, drove for the Baltrusch Brothers and Vita-Rich Dairy, both of Havre, logged around Kalispell and spent several years trucking in Alaska on the ice road. He was very proud to be in AA for 29

years.

Carl is survived by his three children; eight grandchildren; two sisters, Chris Wipf and Donna (Ervin) Reed; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

There will be no services, at his request.

PHILIP FRANK KRUITHOFF

Born: October 23, 1942 – Died: September 4, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
September 8, 2011

Philip F. Kruithoff

Philip Frank Kruithoff, 68, of Great Falls, died of breast cancer Sunday, Sept. 4, at a local hospital.



Kruithoff

Graveside services are 2:30 p.m. Saturday at the Chester cemetery, followed by a time for fellowship and refreshments



at Our Savior's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.

Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Philip was born Oct. 23, 1942, to Philip Brendan and Violet (Dittus) Kruithoff of Middle Village, N.Y. He joined the Navy at age 19, did two tours of duty in Vietnam, and was honorably discharged with a medical disability retirement in 1977.

Philip was a 1988 graduate of Montana State University-Northern with a degree in construction engineering technology. He worked for Bremerton Naval Shipyard, Todd Shipyard and the Mon-

tana State Department of Transportation until his retirement in 2005. He served two terms as the secretary for the Montana Society of Civil Engineers.

Philip also was a member of the Electric City Corvette Club and enjoyed exploring the back roads of Montana with his wife and friends.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Ardell Eveland Kruithoff, of Great Falls; son Robert (Kim) Kruithoff; and daughters Kathryn Kruithoff and Karalyn (Jeff) Kruithoff-Nelson, all of Great Falls; brother Dennis Kruithoff and nieces and nephews Jason, Jennifer and James, all of Pennsylvania. Philip had seven grandchildren — Rodney, Ellen, Teagen, Tayven, Treyden, Tayleigh and Torrance, all of Great Falls, and one on the way; as well as numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Philip was preceded in death by his parents; his Uncle Frank Dittus; son Philip; and daughter Susan.

Condolences may be posted online at www.schniderfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

LILLIAN CATHERINE LAMBOTT
Born: May 23, 1932 – Died: December 6, 2011
Liberty County Times
December 14, 2011



Lillian Lambott

Lillian Catherine Lambott was born May 23rd, 1932 in Butte, Montana. She was one of five children born to Arthur and Lillian (Baumgartner) Lambott. Due to complications during Lillian's birth, her mother died three days following the delivery. Lillian's father raised her at home until she was 6 years old. Lillian transferred to the Boulder Training School where she lived until age 27. While there she learned cooking & housekeeping skills.

Lillian returned to Butte for 4 years, then moved to

Rudyard with her father in 1963. After her father's death in 1967, Lillian transferred to the Furlong boarding house in Chester. She took a job in the laundry department at the Liberty County Nursing Home, where she ironed bedding & linens for approximately five years. Lillian lived at the Sweetgrass Lodge from 1979-1987, then moved to the Chester nursing home as a permanent resident. She enjoyed her hobbies at the rest home, including cross-stitching, embroidery, Bingo, and jigsaw puzzles. Lillian loved her collection of stuffed animals and looked forward to her daily soap operas (especially, "The Young & the Restless"). She always enjoyed visits from family & friends, and appreciated her fellow residents during her 24 years at the nursing home. Some of the medical staff affectionately referred to her as "Silly Lilly". Lillian suffered from diabetes and recently developed severe anemia with

G.I. bleeding. She passed away peacefully on this past Tuesday morning (December 6th, 2011) at the age of 79.

Lillian was preceded in death by her parents, 2 brothers (Walter Lambott and Arthur Lambott Jr.), and 2 sisters (Mabel Bentcik and Cora Mertz). Her only survivors are several nieces & nephews and a few local cousins.

A memorial service was held at 3:00 p.m. Monday (Dec. 12th) in the Activities Center at the Liberty Medical Center. Friends, Hugh and Marilyn Brown, offered prayers, readings, & personal messages. The obituary was shared by Karla Kulpas. Marilyn also served as pianist. Vocalist, Carol Bangs, performed "How Great Thou Art" & "Jesus Loves Me". The service ended with a Christmas hymn. A coffee hour followed.

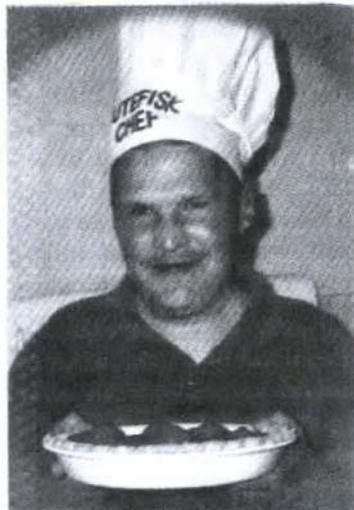
Lillian's ashes will be buried in the family plot at the Rudyard Cemetery later this spring. Cremation & arrangements were handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

MARTIN HAROLD LANE

Born: July 22, 1967 – Died: February 28, 2011

Liberty County Times

March 9, 2011



Martin Lane

Martin Harold Lane was born July 22, 1967 in Denver, Colorado. He was the youngest of four children born to Monika M. Stengl and Jimmy H. Lane. Martin grew up in Colorado Springs and received his formal education at Gorman High School. Following his school years, Martin began working for the Job Corps in Odgen, Utah, where he learned cooking skills and eventually earned his G.E.D.

Martin returned to Colorado and began working in the restaurant business. Following his mother's death in 2000, he decided to adventure to Montana. Martin moved to Loma in 2001 and bought a trailer home. He began commuting to Fort Benton, where he worked at the "Union Grille" in the Grand Union Hotel.

In 2005 Martin became

employed at Kolstad Farms south of Chester, where he worked as the farm cook. He enjoyed his role there and appreciated the peacefulness of rural Montana.

Martin's general health had not been good as of late; in addition to a genetic adrenal disease, he also suffered from respiratory problems. Because there were no scheduled activities on the farm this past weekend, Martin was there alone. On Sunday afternoon Martin left the cookhouse and became stuck in the snow some 350 feet away. Not dressed for winter weather, Martin attempted to walk back to his nearby residence. Presumably, he became cold and

short-of-breath, so he went into an unheated tool shed for temporary relief. Unfortunately, he was too weak to continue, so he apparently succumbed to hypothermia in the shed. Martin was found dead Monday afternoon (February 28, 2011) by his employer, Chris Kolstad.

Martin, only 43 years old, was a simple and quiet man who enjoyed listening to music, watching television, and reading. Some of his favorite novels were by Stephen King and Dean Koontz. He used to be a loyal visitor to the Liberty County Library, but recently discovered the internet and appreciated his new "Kindle" reader. And just for the fun of it, he en-

joyed collecting coins.

Martin never married. He was preceded in death by his mother and a sister (Barbara). His surviving family, who love him very much, include his brother, Mike Lane of Great Falls; his sister, Stephane Colbert of Colorado Springs, Co.; and his 3 nephews, Austin, Nicholas, and Christopher Colbert.

A memorial service was held at 1:00 p.m. Friday (March 4th) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Pastor John Fauerbach officiated. Chris Kolstad shared personal remembrances of Martin. A selected musical interlude was "Peace in the Valley" (sung by Elvis Presley). Following

the service, a coffee hour was held in the mortuary lounge. Martin's ashes will be scattered at special sites to be determined by his family. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

CHERI LYNN (HEIMBIGNER) LARSON
Born: December 24, 1963 – Died: December 12, 2011

Liberty County Times
December 21, 2011



Cheri Lynn Larson

Cheri Lynn Larson, age 47, a caring and loving mother and wife, died at her home in Laurel, Montana early Monday morning (December 12, 2011) She fought a 9 year battle with breast cancer and was receiving personal care from her loving husband, daughter and family at the time of her passing.

She was born Cheri Lynn Heimbigner on December 24, 1963 (on Christmas 'Eve day) in Chester, Montana. Her parents were Shirley Strom and Harry Heimbigner, Jr., she was one of four children in the family. Cheri was baptized and confirmed at Our Savior's Lutheran Church and received her formal education in Chester. In her youth she enjoyed competing on the Lions Swim team and excelled in the backstroke events. She played the flute in the high school band and she graduated from Chester High School in 1983. During her school years Cheri enjoyed working as a dietary aide at the Liberty County Nursing Home. She furthered her education at the New World College in Gadsden, Alabama where she earned a

2-year BA Associates Degree. Cheri returned to Montana to live at Whitefish, where she worked at the Big Mountain ski resort for about a year.

In 1990 Cheri enlisted into the United States Army and completed two tours, one tour in Germany. While in Germany, Cheri met her husband to be Specialist Rodney C. Larson. Cheri enjoyed her service and especially her parent's visit. Cheri and Rodney were married November 17, 1995 in Omaha, Nebraska. The couple was blessed with their only child, daughter Kayla Lynn, on June 9, 1997. To be a mother to Kayla, Cheri completed her required active service. She completed her United States Army service honorably as a Sergeant. The Larson's were stationed in Lexington, Kentucky where Cheri worked for the Ohio Casualty Insurance Group where during her 6 year employment she was a top performer.

In 2009 Cheri and Kayla moved back to Montana, Laurel to be next to her family. Rodney continued to be stationed in Kentucky as a First Sergeant, although geographically separated Cheri and Rodney continued to be strong as a family. Cheri worked in the kitchen at South Elementary School, so that she could be close to her daughter on a daily basis.

Cheri enjoyed many hobbies, including fishing, camping, traveling and "the mountains". In addition she was a cat-lover who enjoyed many feline friends throughout her life. Cheri appreciated qual-

ity time with her family; during all family gathering the family enjoyed card games and board games. Cheri was never afraid of hard work and kept an immaculate home. She will be remembered as a quiet, strong, unassuming and caring person who embodied compassion and empathy, always putting others before herself, even in her toughest of times. She will be dearly missed by her loved ones and all who knew her.

Survivors include her daughter, Kayla and husband, Rodney, both of Lexington, Kentucky; her parents, Harry and Shirley Heimbigner of Chester, Montana; and her three brothers, Stanley (Dawn) Heimbigner of Williston, North Dakota, Roger (Denise) Heimbigner of Laurel, Montana (and their children Bradley, Britney, Brandon and his daughter Gracie, Neil (Carla) Heimbigner of

Denver, Colorado (and their children Eli and Annika). Cheri was preceded in death by her infant sister Jolene, her maternal grandparents Edward and Ethel Strom, her paternal grandfather Harry Heimbigner Sr., her paternal grandmother Dora Christenot, who passed away recently on December 2, 2011.

Memorial service will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Chester, Montana. Cheri will be laid to rest at the Chester Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to the American Cancer Society.

PHYLLIS ARLENE (MOORE) LEA
Born: April 11, 1929 – Died: February 15, 2011
Liberty County Times
March 30, 2011

Phyllis Lea

Apr 11 1929 - Feb 15 2011

Phyllis Arlene Lea, 81, of Rapid City passed away on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at the Rapid City Regional Hospital Auxiliary Hospice House after an illness with heart disease.

Phyllis was born April 11, 1929 in Britton, SD to Joseph and Martha (Mengert) Moore. She graduated from Kidder High School. Phyllis married Orville E. Lea on June 12, 1947. They moved to Montana where Phyllis was employed by the postal service in Inverness and Havre for 15 years. They moved to Moorhead, MN in 1969. Phyllis worked for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Dakota. She was a member of Christ the King Lutheran Church where she was involved in various volunteer activities including the Library Committee. Phyllis was a 63 year member of the Order of Eastern Star. She served as Past Worthy Matron of the Moorhead Chapter of Eastern Star. Her chapter remembers her with great fondness and star

love for her boundless energy, helping hands and loving heart.

In 1997 they relocated to Rapid City where she was a member of South Canyon Lutheran Church and served as a greeter. Her membership of the South Canyon Lutheran Church Piecemakers Quilting Group brought her much enjoyment. Phyllis is remembered for her love of quilting, her skills as a baker and most importantly her home was always open for respite and love for family and friends.

She is survived by her husband Orville Lea of Rapid City, her daughter Connie Jo Berdass and husband Jeffrey of Brooksville, FL, her sister Jean Jagerson of Crystal, MN, her grandson Matthew David Harmoning of St. Paul, MN and two great granddaughters Gabby and Zeldia Harmoning. Phyllis enjoyed and found much pleasure in her relationships with her many nieces

by her son David Orville Lea at the age of two in 1957; three sisters, Lois Moore, Bernice Lundmark and Joan Wheeler and her brother Robert Moore.

Memorial services will be at 11am on Saturday, February 19, 2011 at South Canyon Lutheran Church, 700 44th Street, in Rapid City with Pastor Bruce Thalacker officiating.

A memorial has been established.

Family and friends may sign Phyllis's online guest book at www.kirkfuneralhome.com.

RONALD L. LOFTUS

Born: August 21, 1939 – Died: November 7, 2011

Havre Daily News

November 15, 2011

Ronald L. Loftus

Ronald L. Loftus, 72, of Missoula, passed away of natural causes and went to drive on the big highway in the sky, Nov. 7, 2011. He was born Aug. 21, 1939, to Howard F. and Mabel R. Loftus.

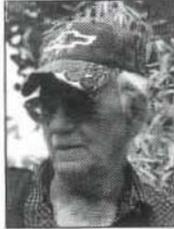
He attended first through fifth grade at Gildford, Mont., and fifth through 12th grade at Havre, Mont., where he graduated in 1957. He spent six years in the Air and Army National Guard.

In 1955, he began working as a house mover in the family business of Loftus & Son. In 1963, he moved to Missoula, where he continued to move houses for two more years, which included the initial move of the Greenough Mansion.

In 1963, he changed his career to driving logging truck, which he continued until 1968. It was then that he began driving truck commercially over the road until Sept. 1, 2001, when he retired.

After he retired, he would spend many hours tinkering in his small wood shop, where he made many items out of wood for family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Mabel Loftus; (wife), A. Louise Loftus; his brother, Sherman Loftus,



Ronald L. Loftus



and great-granddaughter, Khloe Peterson Formay.

Survivors include his wife, Hollie Werner Loftus of Missoula; daughters, Windy (Craig) Peterson of Missoula, Dena Voshell of Seattle, Wash., Ronda (Stephen) Helit of Missoula; brothers, Kermit (Loretta) Loftus of Havre, Shane (Lisa) Loftus of Bridger, Mont.; and sister-in-law, Vi Loftus of Havre; eight grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; two step-great-grandchildren, along with several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held Nov. 12 at 1 p.m. at the community hall, 4713 Graham, with a potluck to follow.

Memorials may be sent to 4608 Graham, Missoula, MT 59808, or to the charity of your choice.

MATILDA 'TILLIE' MATTHYS
Born: Age: 98 – Died: September 24, 2011
Liberty County Times
September 28, 2011

Funeral Notice

Matilda "Tillie" Matthys, age 98, of Brady, died of heart failure Saturday evening (Sept. 24th) at the Pondera Medical Center in Conrad. Tillie has 4 surviving children, including Marjorie Petersen of Rudyard; and many grandchildren & great-grandchildren who live in the Hi-Line.

Rosary Prayers will be 7:00 p.m. Thursday (Sept. 29th) at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Conrad. Funeral Mass will be 11:00 a.m. Friday (Sept. 30th) at the church.

Following burial at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Conrad, a luncheon will be held at St. Michael's. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester, where visitation for local friends & family will be Wednesday & Thursday. Memorials may be given in Tillie's memory to donor's choice.

JOSEPHINE MARIE McDERMOTT
Born: May 15, 1914 – Died: June 19, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
June 21, 2011

CUT BANK — Josephine Marie McDermott, 97, long-time Cut Bank resident and elementary teacher, died of natural causes Sunday, June 19, at Northern Rockies Medical Center in Cut Bank.



McDermott
in 1962

Visitation is 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday at the Whitted Funeral Chapel, followed by a rosary/vigil service 7 p.m.

Wednesday at St. Margaret Catholic Church in Cut Bank. The funeral mass is 11:30 a.m. Thursday, also at St. Margaret Catholic Church, followed by a reception in the fellowship hall. Whitted Funeral Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Josephine McDermott died peacefully surrounded by loving family and friends on June 19. Fr. Michael Drury and the Most Reverend George Leo Thomas will be presiding at the funeral mass, 11:30 a.m. Thursday. Josephine's ashes will be inurned at a private ceremony at the Crown Hill Cemetery at a later date.

Josephine was born May 15, 1914 to Joseph and Mary (Hauzner) McDermott in Chinook. She grew up in the Zurich area. She graduated from Harlem High School and attended Northern Montana

College and The College of Great Falls, earning her teaching degree. She began her 44-year career in 1936, instructing in several Blaine County country schools. After her father's death in 1939, she moved back to Harlem in order to support her mother and help raise her young sister, Donna. Josephine taught first grade at Lincoln Grade School in Harlem. In 1963, Josephine and her mother moved to Cut Bank. She spent the rest of her professional career teaching kindergarten at Southside Elementary School, until her retirement in 1980. She enjoyed her retirement years, serving others, including volunteering at the Cut Bank Food Pantry and being actively involved in the St. Margaret Catholic Parish.

She was a long-time member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Rho Chapter. She enjoyed several hobbies, to include learning sign language, swimming, rock collecting, crocheting, doing word jumbles, and caring for her beloved cat, Silky.

She loved people and enjoyed visits with friends. She made everyone feel special, including her former students, whom she often fondly reflected with special memories and stories. She cherished the community of Cut Bank, and in recent years received several awards, including being honored as Grand Master of the Lewis and Clark Parade and 2011 Cut Bank Citizen of the Year.

Even though Josephine never married or had children of her own, she will be greatly missed by her surviving family including her sister and brother-in-law, Donna and Robert Greytak of Gildford; her sister-in-law, Margaret McDermott of Dallas; her nieces, Susan and Mary Elizabeth McDermott of Dallas, Texas; Jean (Gary) Dale of Missoula; Barbara (Bill) Carroll of Helena; Nancy (Ken) Wells of Clarksville, Tenn., Anita (Jim) Dunnigan of Libby, and Laurie (Mike) Fox of Wolf Point; her nephews, Joe (Tami) Greytak and Gary (Diana) Greytak of Havre and Tim Greytak of Gildford; and 13 great-nieces and nephews.

Josephine was preceded in death by her parents; her brother, John McDermott; and her sister, Sybil Hauzner.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Cut Bank Food Pantry, St. Margaret's Catholic Church in Cut Bank, or a charity of your choice.

When interviewed by the local Cut Bank paper, Josephine described her life as an incredible ride from the very beginning. It's been full of wonderful surprises, tremendous blessings and has been made complete by a loving family, good friends, and a career she loved so very much.

Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

ROBERT FRANCIS MCDONNELL
Born: June 30, 1932 – Died: March 29, 2011
Liberty County Times
April 6, 2011



Robert McDonnell

Robert Francis McDonnell, 78 of Helena, passed away on Tuesday, March 29, 2011 in Helena. Robert was born to John and Astrid (Krippen) McDonnell on June 30, 1932 in Cameron, MT.

He attended and graduated from Ennis High School. He then went on to earn his Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture Education from Montana State University at Bozeman. He then attended the University of Tennessee – Knoxville, where he earned his Master's degree in Special Education.

Robert married Louise Susan Wanken on October 1, 1958 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester, MT.

He sold insurance for eight and a half years for Paul Revere Insurance & Mass. Protective Association. In 1966, he went to work for the State of Montana - SRS, Disability Determination Dept. as the Unit Supervisor until he retired in 1993.

Robert loved camping and fishing, traveling by motor home, going on cruises, square

dancing, and watching sports. He was also an avid MSU Bobcat fan.

He was a member of the Elks Club for 55 years, joining in 1956 in Livingston, MT. He was also a member of Jaycees. Robert and Louise never had children of their own, but loved and cherished their canine friends, Raisen a poodle and Pierre, a bichon both deceased. Andre also a bichon survives him.

Robert is survived by his wife, Louise S. McDonnell of Helena; brother-in-law, Frank (Marion) Wanken; sisters-in-law, Helen M: Wanken and Sylvia McDonnell; nephews, Troy (Lou) Wanken, Jason (Steffani) Wanken, and Todd (Denise) Wanken, and Richard McDonnell; nieces, Rae Lynn (Jan) Bloemendaal, Kathy McDonnell, Lisa McDonnell and Brenda McDonnell; great-nephews, TJ, Brad, Tyler, Mitch and Jeffery Wanken, Gerrit and Bryce Bloemendaal; and great-nieces, Robyn and Tristin Wanken.

He is preceded in death by his parents, John and Astrid McDonnell; brother, John McDonnell; brother-in-law, Ashton Welch; and great-nephew, Bret Wanken.

A memorial service will be 1:00 p.m. Saturday, April 2 at Anderson Stevenson Wilke Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to MSU Bobcat Athletics, P.O. Box 3380 Bozeman, MT 59717, the Lewis & Clark Humane Society, P.O. Box 4455, Helena, MT 59604 or to the charity of the donor's choice. Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting: www.aswfuneralhome.com.

OTTO JOHN MOOG
Born: Age: 87 – Died: July 15, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
August 3, 2011

Otto J. Moog

Otto John Moog, 87, a World War II Army veteran and retired ranch foreman who enjoyed model airplanes, mechanics, reading and traveling,



Moog

died of natural causes Friday, July 15, at his home in Great Falls.

Funeral Mass is 2 p.m. Aug. 12 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, preceded by a rosary. Burial of ashes will take place in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Survivors include a son, Mike Moog of Great Falls; stepsons, Dan Maciel of Jamestown, Calif., and Larry Oie of San José, Calif.; a stepdaughter, Barbara Browning of Copperopolis, Calif.; a sister, Margaret Bailey of Nevada; brothers, Bob Moog and Vern Moog of Inverness and Len Moog of Denver; and numerous grandchildren.

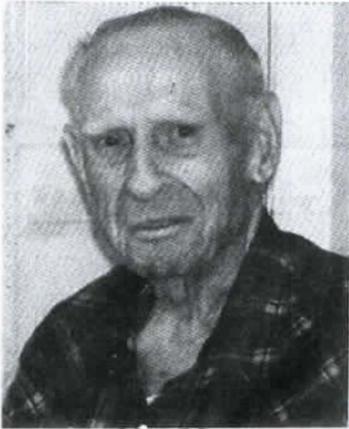
He was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Margaret (Ennis) Maciel Moog, on April 21, 2011.

MAX SIMON MOORE

Born: July 22, 1914 – Died: August 9, 2011

Liberty County Times

August 24, 2011



Max Moore

Max Simon Moore was

born July 22, 1914 at home on a farm near Surprise, Nebraska. He was one of eleven children born to Simon and Winifred (Clark) Moore. Max and his siblings were raised on a farm near Gresham, Nebraska. He spent his early years at the Hackberry country school and finished his formal education at Gresham High School. He received his religious education at the Gresham Methodist Church and Bible school. During his formative years Max loved to play baseball

with his brothers and friends, in fact, the "Moore Brothers Farm" baseball team was well-known in the local summer leagues. During the winter months Max loved to ice-skate on various ponds throughout Polk County.

Max met and married a Montana girl, Pearl Orlanda Eggen, on December 19, 1939 at the Lutheran Parish in Havre. During their early married years they lived near Max's family in Nebraska, Idaho, and California. They finally settled in Montana, where they farmed at Joplin and raised their family of three. In 1961 they purchased a second farm at Eastend, Saskatchewan. The Moores retired from farming in 1977.

Max and Pearl continued to live in Joplin and enjoyed their winter months in Florida and Oregon, where they loved to play golf. In 2002 they moved to the Horizon

Lodge in Conrad. Two years later Pearl was diagnosed with cancer, so she transferred to the Chester nursing home and Max moved to the Wheat Country Estates. The Moores had enjoyed 64 years of married life when Pearl died on February 9, 2004.

Max remained at the assisted-living facility in Chester until this past December, when he transferred to the nursing home for extended care. He passed away at the Chester rest home on the early morning of Tuesday (August 9, 2011). He was 97 years old.

Max was a lifetime member of the Joplin Masonic Lodge and was proud to be a 3rd Degree Master Mason. He was also a 53-year member of the Havre Elks and a 36-year member of the Havre Eagles. He enjoyed the years that he served on the Joplin School board and was very active in the formation and board of the Mount Royal TV District.

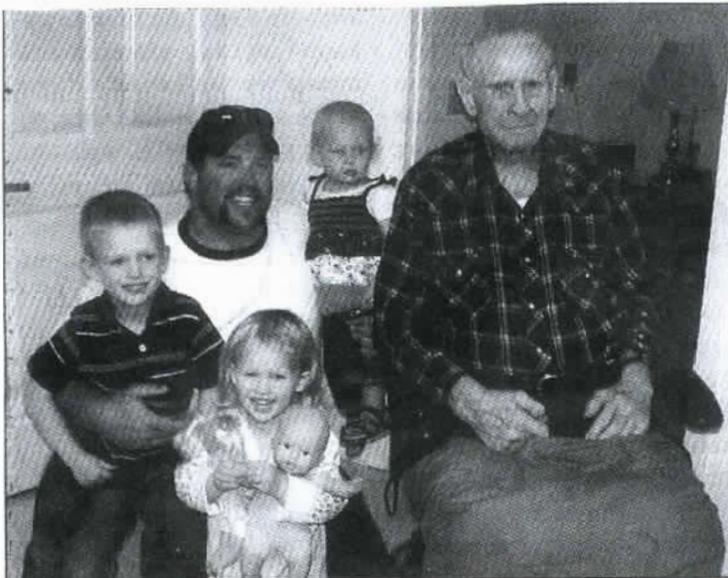
In addition to travelling and golfing, Max enjoyed gardening and reading. He was especially fond of "Reader's Digest" and cowboy stories and music.

He was preceded in death not only by his wife and parents, but also by 4 brothers (Keith, Mark, Kenny, and Clark) and 4 sisters (Bernice, Lois, Merle, and Connie).

Max is survived by his 3 children, Donald (Yvonne) Moore of Juniata, Nebraska, Kay (Sheridan) Becker

of Billings, and Douglas (Bonnie) Moore of Joplin; 8 grandchildren, Dawn, Patti, Tina, Tonya, Christine, Michael, Mindie, and Matthew; 6 great-grandchildren, 2 brothers, Tom Moore of Desert Hot Springs, CA and Lloyd Moore of Escondido, CA; and many nephews and nieces.

Max was cremated per his request. A family graveside service was held at the Joplin Cemetery on Saturday (Aug. 13th). Max's family shared personal readings and remembrances, and the service concluded with a ceremonial "balloon release". Max's ashes were interred next to his loving wife, Pearl. Local arrangements were handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel



Max Moore with grandson Michael Moore and great grandchildren Ricky, Alaura and Allison Moore. Alaura gave great grandpa her dolls to hold in the photo that ran last week.

DONALD ALEXANDER MUIR
Born: June 11, 1939 – Died: April 8, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
April 11, 2011

Donald Alexander Muir



Muir

Donald Alexander Muir, 71, of Great Falls, died Friday April 8, from cardiac arrest following a traffic accident.

Funeral services are 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1401 9th St. N.W. Visitation is one hour prior to the service at the church. A reception will follow the service with burial at 2 p.m. in Augusta Cemetery in Augusta. Arrangements are under the direction of Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory.

Donald died April 8, 2011, on his final road trip on earth. He was born June 11, 1939, in Great Falls, Mont., to Weltha Mae (Boggs) and Alexander Muir. He was the oldest of six children and was raised in Augusta, Mont. While attending Augusta High School, he met Netelia "Tillie" Viola Browning. They were married on Feb. 14, 1959, in Augusta. Shortly after their wedding, the couple moved to Pierre, S.D., where Don was hired as a supply clerk for Peter Kewitt & Sons on the Oahe Dam. While in Pierre, the couple had three daughters. After the dam project was completed, the family moved to several locations in Montana. They settled in Great Falls where Don made

many friends selling farm equipment and cars.

Don was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He loved his family, his friends, traveling, cooking, gardening, fishing, cars, tractors, boats, airplanes, trains, reading, researching genealogy of his family and was always searching for knowledge.

He is survived by his siblings, Jean Muir of Great Falls, Stella (Frank) Plachetka of Choteau, Gordon (Freida) Muir of Geraldine, Margaret Lockovitch of Shorewood, Minn., and Kathleen (James) Stone of Red Springs, N.C.; his children, Brenda Letang of Gildford, J. LaDaun Muir of Great Falls and DeLain "Cabbi" Kerney of Kalispell; his grandchildren, Heather (Kevin) Dearing of Suwanee, Ga., Joseph (Kelsey) Kerney, Brooke (Cole) Kline and Forest Letang, all of Havre, Jenni (Judd) Meng of Lompac, Calif., Bryan Muir of Boise, Idaho, Britney Muir of Great Falls and Raylene Kerney of Kalispell; his great-grandchildren, Austin Dearing, Daejah Muir and Keylee and Carinna Kline.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Netelia "Tillie" Muir, in May 2005.

Memorials in his name are suggested to Peace Hospice of Great Falls.

Condolences may be posted online at www.croxfordfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

GENEVENE ANN (KINDER) NELSON

Born: Age: 82 – Died: May 29, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

June 29, 2011

Genevene A. Nelson

HAVRE — Genevene Ann (Kinder) Nelson, 82, of Rud-



Nelson

yard and Havre, who enjoyed travel and was the former office manager for Eddy's Bakery in Havre and a sales representative

for Brown and Bigelow Advertising, died of cancer Sunday, May 29, at Billings Health and Rehabilitation.

Cremation has taken place and her ashes will be buried in a private service at Rudyard Cemetery.

Survivors include several nieces and nephews across the United States.

Genevene was preceded in death by her parents, Otto A. and Anna Kinder; brother Dale Kinder; sister Norma Nielsen; half-brothers Murvel Kinder and Otho Kinder; and half-sister Sybel Feldt.

GEORGIA CLAIRE (SISK) NELSON
Born: January 24, 1939 – Died: May 14, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
May 17, 2011

SHELBY — Georgia Claire (Sisk) Nelson, 72, a retired homemaker and business owner from Shelby, died of natural causes Saturday, May 14, at a Shelby medical center.



Nelson

Visitation is 1 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Whitted Funeral Chapel. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, with burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband of 50 years, Jim Nelson of Shelby; daughter, Nancy (George) Reedy of Shelby; sons, Harvey (Beth) Nelson of Sandy, Utah, Frank Nelson of Havre and Wade (Kayleen) Nelson of Shelby; stepdaughter, Lanette (Mark) Sorlie of Billings; sister, Sue Fritz of Chester; stepfather, Jim Brunn of Conrad; eight grandchildren, Jessica Nell, Drew Reedy, Cassandra Turner, Ali Reedy, Nicole Nelson, Emma Nelson, Hannah Nelson and

Ashton Nelson; one great-grandchild, Kynslee Nell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Ben and Fern Sisk.



Nelson
in 1957

Georgia was born Jan. 24, 1939, in Havre, to Ben and Fern (Frank) Sisk, and was raised on a farm south of Galata. She graduated

from Shelby High School in 1957 and later from the Montana State University Nursing Program.

She married James Leonard Nelson on Aug. 6, 1960, in Shelby.

She and her husband owned and operated their family grocery store in Shelby for 28 years.

Georgia was a member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church and enjoyed gardening, quilting, cooking, genealogy, reading, ceramics, scrapbooking, playing piano and golf.

Condolences may be posted online at www.whittedfuneralchapel.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

MINA W. (WHITE) NELSON

Born: April 13, 1921 – Died: February 16, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

February 24, 2011

Mina W. Nelson

SHELBY — Mina W. (White) Nelson, 89, a resident of Marias Care Center, died of natural causes Wednesday, Feb. 16, in Shelby.



Nelson

Cremation has taken place under the direction of Whitted Funeral

Chapel, and a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Mina is survived by her husband of 54 years, James A. Nelson of Shelby; and three children, Louis H. Nelson of Towner, N.D., Tony A. Nelson of Sheridan, Wyo., and Ann M. Nelson of Great Falls.

Mina was born April 13, 1921, at the farm home of her parents, J.H. and Laura (Scalub) White at Devon. She was educated in Montana schools and matriculated into Montana State College as a freshman. At the end of her freshman year, she transferred to San Jose State College in California, from which she graduated in

1948 with a degree in sociology. She was employed by the Montana State Department of Welfare in Great Falls, and later Cut Bank as she rose to become supervisor of the Glacier County Department of Welfare.

Mina and James A. Nelson were married Aug. 25, 1956, and spent their entire married life in Shelby.

Mina was active in many organizations, in addition to teaching piano for 40 years. Included in her list of organizations are WELCA, the Lutheran organization for women; Shelby Garden Club; Toole County Democratic Women's Club; Women's Business and Professional Club and State Music Educators Association, where she served two terms as state secretary.

The family requests that memorials be addressed to the Mina Nelson Spa Fund at the Marias Care Center for purchase of a commercial tub bath; or to Marias Museum of History and Art in Shelby.

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

JANET RACHEL (MARSHALL) NESSAN
Born: December 6, 1925 – Died: October 11, 2011



Liberty County Times
October 19, 2011

Janet R. (Marshall) Nessian, 85, of Great Falls, a business woman, died of natural causes Tuesday, October 11, at the Bee Hive Homes.

Graveside services are 11:30 a.m. Saturday at the Highland Cemetery, followed by a reception for friends and family at the Great Falls Senior Center. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Janet was born December 6, 1925, to William H. and Sadie (Taplin) Marshall on the family farm in the Sweetgrass Hills north of Chester.

Janet married Lloyd E. Berg in Chester, where their oldest daughter, Lana was born. During this time of their marriage, they lived in several towns on the Hi-Line and in Van Hook, N.D. They owned and operated auto sales and service stations for which Janet was the book keeper. In 1952, the family moved to Winnet, where they had the Ford dealership and garage. Debbie was born during their time in Winnet. Janet and Lloyd later divorced.

She married Richard Nessian, and resided in Great Falls, where they owned the Nugget Bar. Dick passed away in 1978.

Janet joined the support group Mended Hearts after her second heart attack. She served as the treasurer for 14 years, spearheading many white elephant sales, Christmas parties, picnics, health fairs and heart walks. She also enjoyed crocheting and was an avid garage saler.

She was preceded in death by her two husbands, Lloyd and Dick; Siblings Dorothy Stores, Maude Bassett and Ethel Belstad; brothers Darrel, James and Wm. Robert, Jr.

Survivors include daughters Lana (George) Stewart of Lewistown, and Deborah (Victor) Hansen of Great Falls; six grandchildren, Barbara (Steve) Diekman of Livingston, Jana (Evan) Hirsch of Santa Monica, Calif., Barry of Lewistown, Laurie (Gene) Watson and Cheri Hansen, both of Great Falls, and Jamelle (Gary) Kreutner of Scott Air Force Base, Ill.; 11 great-grandchildren, Zachary and Caleb Diekman, Marlowe Hirsch, Alex Stewart, Nik and Haley Hansen, Zachary and Ashley Kreutner, Nichole Kevin and Steve Watson; Sister Mabel (Swede) Jacobson of Chester, and Edith (Jack) Cherry of Houston, and a sister-in-law Betty Marshall of Chester.

Graveside Services were officiated by Pastor Fred Collins. The internment was at the Highland Cemetery, Great Falls, MT.

Honorary Bearers: were Zachary and Caleb Diekman, Nicklas and Haley Hansen, Alex Stewart, Nicole, Kevin and Steve Watson, Zachary and Ashley Kreutner, Marlowe Hirsch.

A Special thanks to Mike Kingsley, Christy and Kathy and the staff of Bee Hive Homes, where Mom lived since 2008. also to Dr. Scott Burk and his nurse, Kitty.

Donations may be made in Janet's name to the Great Falls Senior Center, 1004 Central Ave., or to the local chapter of Mended Hearts No. 133j 500 15th Ave S. Great Falls.

LEONA BURNADETTE (LUDWIG) NISBET

Born: January 19, 1917 – Died: March 9, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

March 10, 2011

Leona B. Nisbet

Leona Burnadette (Ludwig) Nisbet, 94, of Great Falls, died of



Nisbet

natural causes Wednesday, March 9, in Great Falls.

Funeral

Liturgy is 1 p.m. Friday at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, with burial of ashes

in Highland Cemetery. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

After 94 years of making the world a brighter place, Leona Burnadette Nisbet passed away of natural causes March 9, 2011, at Azalea Place in Great Falls, surrounded by family and friends.

She was born Leona Ludwig on Jan. 19, 1917, in Chester, Mont. She graduated from Great Falls High in 1934, and married Kenneth A. Nisbet in 1936.

Leona and Kenny owned and operated the Shasta Motel and then the Feigus Motel. After her husband's death in 1967, she continued to operate the motel until her retirement. She then began working at Spencer's and continued there for more than 19 years. She was a longtime member of the Montana Motel Association.

After family, Leona loved craft work the most. Her talents became highly prized baby, wedding and Christmas gifts for those who knew her. She was an active member of the Embroiderer's Guild of America and was well-known throughout the community for her handiwork. Hundreds of babies have had firsthand experience with Leona's charity

and talent; she spent years knitting preemie hats for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit here in Great Falls.

Leona also was a great storyteller. Even in the last days of her life, she was able to vividly tell the stories of her family without missing a detail or a chance at humor. The people who met her loved that amazing sense of humor, and found out why her family so loved her storytelling.

She was preceded in death by her husband; parents Alexandria Lazure and Paul Ludwig; her brother, Ray Ludwig; a sister, June Waters; a son, Dan Sims; granddaughter Shannon Elaine Swartz; and two infant grandchildren.

Leona is survived by her two daughters, Patricia Swartz of Great Falls, and Nancy (Dan) Lathim of Pasco, Wash.; as well as her two sons, Richard (Carol) Nisbet of Clancy, and William "Butch" Nisbet of Great Falls; daughter-in-law Marge Nisbet of Hayden Lake, Idaho; 13 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

The family requests that memorials be given to Peace Hospice, 1101 26th St. S., Great Falls, MT 59405; or Multiple Sclerosis Association of America (MSAA), 600 Central Ave. Suite No. 10, Great Falls, MT 59401.

While we will all miss her every day, there is comfort in knowing that Grandma is up in heaven with needle and thread, making "welcome home" gifts for everyone who will join her there.

Condolences may be posted online at www.schniderfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

KATHRYN 'KAY' BESSIE (VAN WECHEL) NOREMBERG

Born: November 6, 1933 – Died: October 12, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

October 14, 2011

Kathryn Norenberg

Kathryn "Kay" Bessie Van Wechel Norenberg, 78, of Great Falls, died of natural causes after a long illness



Norenberg

Wednesday, Oct. 12, at a local hospital. Her funeral is 3:30 p.m. Saturday at Croxford Funeral Home.

Kay was born Nov. 6, 1933, in Havre, to Jacob Andrew and Gertrude (Narestad) Van Wechel. She attended and graduated from Rudyard High School. She then went on to attend college at the University of Montana and Montana State University-Northern, where she earned her bachelor's degree. She taught school in Joplin and Troy. She also was a farmwife north of Rudyard. She married Edward John Norenberg on Nov. 21, 1954, in Rudyard. They had two daughters,

Tonya and Cathy. They moved to Great Falls in 2003.

Kay was a member and lobbyist for WIFE (Women Involved in Farm Economics), and also was a member of the Rudyard School Board. She enjoyed snowmobiling, bridge, trap shoots, darts, golf, bowling, Keno and the card game hand and foot.

She is survived by her daughters, Tonya (Kim) Merryman of Highwood, and Cathy (Clint Doney) Norenberg of Great Falls; brother Jim (Mary) Van Wechel of Spokane; grandchildren William of Reno, Nev., James of Ponderosa Beach, Calif., Andrew Merryman of Missoula, Michael Spitzer of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Jacquie (Mike) Keen of Cheyenne, Wyo.; and great-grandchildren Marilyn and Conner Keen of Cheyenne, and Patrick Spitzer of Salt Lake City.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; brother Mel Van Wechel; and sister Phyllis Anderson.

LEONARD JOHN NUXOLL

Born: April 16, 1934 – Died: January 22, 2011

Liberty County Times

February 2, 2011



John Nuxoll

Leonard John Nuxoll was born April 16, 1934 in Cottonwood, Idaho. His parents were Mary Magdalena "Lena" Gehring and Leonard John Nuxoll, and he was one of eight children in the family. John grew up and received his formal education in Idaho; he graduated from St. Gertrude Academy in 1952. Soonafter, he came to Montana to work on the Clarence and Marion Romain ranch south of Chester. While here, he met Audrey A. Zanda, a local girl who also worked on the Romain farm. John and Audrey were married in Chester on September 20, 1954.

The Nuxolls moved to Clarkston, Washington in 1959 to operate a restaurant called "The Come-In Café". They returned to Chester two years later to take over the Zanda farm. They lived

on the farm until 1969, then moved into Chester to accommodate the activities of their three daughters.

During their retirement years, John and Audrey enjoyed travelling to Yuma, Arizona in their motorhome. They were members of the Good Sam RV Club and enjoyed the camaraderie of their fellow RVers at the Rivers Edge Clubhouse in Yuma.

The Nuxolls were married 52 years when Audrey passed away on September 3, 2006. John continued to live in their Chester home. He enjoyed driving around town and making short road trips throughout the Golden Triangle area. On this past Saturday evening (January 22, 2011) he drove out to his farmstead south of Chester. Unfortunately, he got too close to the shoulder on a country road and got sucked in the ditch. He attempted to walk for help through a heavily snow-covered field without proper attire and was eventually overcome by exposure to the cold weather. John was found dead in the CRP field the following morning. He was 76 years old.

John was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith and remained a loyal member of St. Mary's Church in

Chester. In recent years he liked to attend Saturday evening Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Inverness.

In addition to travelling, John enjoyed fishing, four-wheeling, and wood-carving. In his quiet time at home he loved to follow the stock market, dabble in investments, and work at his computer.

He was preceded in death not only by his wife and parents, but also by 4 brothers (Bill, Bob, and Cleo Ahlers and Greg Nuxoll), and 1 sister (Ellen Wassmuth).

John is survived by his 3 daughters and spouses, Wanda & Craig Rude of Cut Bank, Wendy & Ed Wiltzen of Fairview, and Sherry & Scott Decker of Chester; 7 grandchildren, Kate Rude Gordon, Kari Rude, Kjerstie Wiltzen (and husband, Mark Foslien), Kelsey Wiltzen, Kendall Wiltzen, Chris Decker (and wife, Sara), and Cory Decker; 2 great-granddaughters, Stella Audrey Gordon and Mia Decker; 1 brother, Herb Ahlers of Cottonwood, ID.; 1 sister, Doreen Middleton of Coeur d'Alene, ID.; a special friend, Karen Gehring of Cottonwood, ID.; and many nephews and nieces.

A Memorial Mass was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Friday (Jan. 28th) at St. Mary's

Catholic Church in Chester by Father Joseph Diekhans. Scripture readings were shared by Pat Seidlitz and the obituary was read by Ed Wiltzen. St. Mary's choir and community friends provided mass music, including "You Are Near", "Valleys of Green", "Bread of Life", "On Eagle's Wings", & "Lead Me Lord". Marie Woods served as pianist. Altar Server was Tom Osterman; Greeters were Craig Rude & Scott Decker; Eucharistic Ministers were Mike Walstad & Mary Jo Harmon; and John's grandchildren presented the communion gifts. Following burial of ashes in the Chester Cemetery, a reception was held at the church. Cremation & arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Undesignated memorials will be given to St. Mary's Church.

RUBY M. (SHANKS) OLSON
Born: December 17, 1926 – Died: July 28, 2011
Liberty County Times
August 3, 2011



Ruby M. Olson

Ruby M. Olson, age 84, passed away on Thursday, July 28, 2011, at the Valley View Nursing Home in Glasgow, Montana.

Ruby was born on December 17, 1926 in Scobey, Montana, the daughter of Frank and Myrtle (Steen) Shanks. She was raised and attended schools in Bainville. She married Neal Olson and lived in northeast Montana most of her life. In 1982 she

moved to Chester, Montana and she and her son operated the Wheat Country Bakery for several years. Later she worked as the lead cook at the Sweetgrass Lodge for 12 years and eventually was a resident at the Sweetgrass Lodge. She lived in Chester for 29 years before moving to Glasgow in January.

Ruby loved to fish, hunting, playing pool and softball, playing Keno and being with friends in Chester.

She was preceded in death by her parents Frank & Myrtle Shanks, her siblings; brothers George Shanks, Virgil Shanks, Everett Shanks, Lenard Shanks, Arthur Shanks, Frank Shanks, Glen Shanks, Norman Shanks, Marvin Shanks, and a sister Helen Shanks.

Survivors include her sons Roger (Candi) Olson of Chester, Edward Olson of Choteau, Montana, and Randy (Sharon) Olson of Pied-

mont, South Dakota, daughters Karen (Ted) Newton of Glasgow and Debbie (Russ) Smith of Altoona, Pennsylvania, a sister Maxine Edlund of Gillette, Wyoming, thirteen grandchildren; Roxanne, Scott, Bill, Ross, Shawn, Karl, Noel, Bradley, Chris, Jory, Jill, Rachel, and Becky, and 16 great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, August 2, 2011 at 2:00 P.M. at the Bell Chapel

in Glasgow with interment at the Highland Cemetery. There will be a memorial service on Thursday, August 4, 2011 at 11:00 A.M. at the Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester.

Memorials are suggested to the Liberty County Senior Center in Chester, Montana.

ODIS 'DOW' OVERCAST

Born: August 24, 1924 – Died: November 21, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

November 25, 2011

Odis 'Dow' Overcast

CHINOOK — Odis "Dow" Overcast, 87, died of natural causes Monday, Nov. 21, at Sweet Memorial Nursing Home in Chinook, where he had lived for the past year and a half.



Overcast

A memorial service is 11 a.m. Saturday at the Chinook Alliance Church. Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook is in charge of arrangements.

Odis Dow Overcast was born Aug. 24, 1924, on the family farm in Montier, Mo., to Abbie Dow Overcast and Waunita Karleen (Waggoner) Overcast. When he was six months old, his family moved to the Milk River Valley east of Chinook, Mont., where young Dow grew up. He spent his entire life there engaged in farming, ranching and the aerial spraying business.

Although his first name was Odis, he was always just known as Dow Jr. As a youngster, Dow attended the North Fork School and Chinook High School, graduating in 1942.

Dow married Margaret Loewen, the love of his life, on March 21, 1943. They celebrated 68 years of marriage last spring, barely a week before Margaret passed from this life.

Dow and Margaret were

blessed with four children, whom they raised on their farm in Paradise Valley, along with the sugar beets, cattle and grain. Both Dow and Margaret thought that the kids were the most significant crop they had to nurture, and both spent their entire lives as devoted parents.

One of Dow's passions was flying. His dream was to be a fighter pilot in World War II, but it wasn't to be. Being the only son on a farm requiring huge amounts of manual labor and with a shrunken workforce because of the war, his lot in life was an agricultural deferment from military service. He always hated that; he wanted to go to war, too.

He learned to fly in the 1950s, and started in the aerial spraying business in the 1960s. He absolutely loved to spray the crops. It was the closest he could come to being a fighter pilot. He was still actively spraying until he was 78 years old, which was quite a record, considering that he had several accidental "crash" landings, including one in which the plane was a total loss. Dow walked away from that one with just a little bump on his head.

After turning over the farming operation to a couple of their sons, Dow and Margaret began spending their winters near Yuma, Ariz., in their later years, and enjoyed that period of their life immensely. Dow was very reluctant to leave his life's work behind, always wonder-

ing if the boys were doing things right, but finally came to enjoy the time off. In all, they went "south" for 17 years in a row, but he always helped on the farm whenever he was needed.

Dow was a devoted husband and father to their four kids, and was constantly teasing his grandkids. He was a quiet man of faith, and after losing his precious wife last spring, counted the days when they could be together again.

Although he will be greatly missed, he's now at home with the Lord where he so longed to be, again walking hand-in-hand with his bride.

In addition to his wife, Margaret, he was preceded in death by his parents, Dow and Karleen; and several brothers-in-law.

He is survived by three sisters, Maureen Taylor of Chinook, Pat Schmeier of Holly Lake Ranch, Texas, and Trina Thielman of Chester; a son, Ken (Dawn) of Chinook; a daughter, Kathryn Reid (R.J.) of Bozeman; and twin sons, Frank (Marcia) of Chinook and John (Memory) of Cut Bank; as well as numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations in Dow's honor may be made to the Chinook Alliance Church kitchen fund; or the donor's choice.

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

PATSY JEANNE OWENS

Born: March 24, 1951 – Died: July 1, 2011

Liberty County Times

June 22, 2011



Patsy Owens

Patsy Jeanne Owens was born March 24, 1951 in Havre, Montana. She was the second of three children born to Clive and Lillian (Clink) Owens. Patsy grew up on the family farm 23 miles north of Inverness. She attended the Minnesota Country School and finished her formal education in Inverness, where she graduated from the 8th grade. In the years that followed, Patsy assisted with various domestic duties on the family farm.

After her father died in 1992, Patsy and her mother moved to a trailer home located on the farm of her brother, Kyle. Patsy became the chief cook and homemaker, and cared for her mother until she died in 2005. Patsy continued to live on the farm until November of 2010, when she dislocated her elbow. During her 5-month recuperation, Patsy lived with her sister, Sherrie, in Chinook. Soon after, she was diagnosed with bone cancer and was admitted to the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre. Patsy went to be with her Lord on

early Friday morning (July 1, 2011). Although she was only 60 years old, her family is content that she has no more pain and is enjoying her reunion with her parents.

Patsy was baptized and confirmed at Goldstone Lutheran Church. She remained active in the church and WELCA throughout her life. She was both a member and a leader of the "Chirping Meadowlarks" 4-H Club and was active in

a local home demonstration club.

Patsy enjoyed many hobbies, especially handy work like crocheting, sewing, netting, quilting, and embroidery. In fact, she was recently making a quilt with 'embroidered birds from every state' on it. She also enjoyed stamping cards and maintained a large collection of stamping products. Other personal collections included ceramic kettles, postage stamps, and her mother's salt-&-pepper shakers. In addition Patsy enjoyed puzzles, cards, plants, and gardening. She loved cats, too, but was allergic to them. Her best friend was her pet dog, "Israel".

About three years ago Patsy took a memorable train trip to Washington, then returned to Montana via automobile with a friend. She thoroughly enjoyed the sights, scenery, entertainment, and camaraderie of this adventure. Several years prior Patsy made a fun family trip with her mother,

sister, and niece to visit relatives in Spokane - a time made for special memories!

Friends will remember Patsy as a "social butterfly". At times she could be very outspoken and direct. Typically, she enjoyed sharing her good "sense of humor" and sweet personality with those she loved.

Survivors are her sister, Sherrie Harrold of Chinook; her brother, Kyle Owens of north Inverness; 3 nieces, Ione (Tom) Gruss, Janice (Tini) Roth, and Kylene Owens; 1 nephew, John Owens; 5 great-nieces, Kimberly (Lonnie) Lattin, Angela (Andrew) Gruss, Whitney Gruss, Jessica (Scott) Gallus, and Jamie Roth; 2 great-nephews, Ben Gruss and Travis Roth; 2 great-great-nieces, Sasha and Alexus Gallus; and 1 great-great-nephew, Wyatt Lattin. Patsy was preceded in death by her parents.

Her funeral will be 10:30 a.m. Thursday (July 14th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church

in Rudyard. Pastors Arden Barden and Clay Massar will officiate. Special piano and vocal music will be shared by Patsy's great-niece, Jessica Roth. A personal poem will be written and read by a second great-niece, Whitney Gruss. Ushers are Merlin Wolery and Tom Bangs. Pallbearers are John Owens, Tom and Ben Gruss, Tim & Travis Roth, Scott Gallus, and Lonnie Lattin. A luncheon will be provided by WELCA in the church basement. Graveside services will follow at 1:00

p.m. at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

IRMA (PETERS) PANKRATZ
Born: Age: 83 – Died: December 19, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
December 23, 2011

Irma Pankratz

GLASGOW — Irma (Peters) Pankratz, 83, died of natural causes Monday, Dec. 19, at a Glasgow nursing home.



Pankratz

Services are 2 p.m. Monday at Evangelical Church in Glasgow, with hural in Highland

Cemetery. Bell Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include her husband, Nick Pankratz of Glasgow; children Bonnie Reddig and Lorene Hintz of Wolf Point, Wesley Pankratz and Cheryl Faul, both of Glasgow, and Charles Pankratz of Great Falls; sisters, Marjorie McKoy of Monroe, Wash., Marion Kesterke of Tracha, Alberta, Carolyn Anderson of Chester, Norma Cromwell of Portland, Ore., and Ella Stenka of Loveland, Colo.; brothers Leverne Peters of Lewistown, Ed Peters of Loveland, and Robert Peters of British Columbia.

She was preceded in death by a son, Bruce, in 1955.

RAYMOND HENRY 'SKIP' PATRICK
Born: June 18, 1921 – Died: January 7, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
January 12, 2011

Raymond H. 'Skip' Patrick

HAVRE — Raymond Henry "Skip" Patrick, 89, a lifelong farmer and rancher who was active in Republican politics, died of natural causes Friday at the Care and Comfort Home in Havre.



Patrick

His funeral is 1 p.m. Saturday at the First Lutheran Church in Havre, with burial in Highland Cemetery. Holland & Bonine Funeral Home are in charge of the arrangements.

Skip died peacefully on the morning of Jan. 7, 2011.

He was born June 18, 1921, on the Swift Place, just south of Goldstone, Mont., the ninth of 16 children born to Charles Richard and Sadie Ina (Gale) Patrick. He attended rural school in the Goldstone area, graduating from Rudyard High School in 1939.

He spent his entire life farming and ranching on the prairies of the Montana Hi-Line. He loved God, his family, the land and every season of birth as he spent hours delivering calves, lambs or litters of piglets. Birth and life were precious to him in all forms.

He married Helen Louise Filicetti on Nov. 17, 1945, in Havre, Mont. Of this union, four children were born. He was a wonderful father and was actively involved in each of their lives. Gardening was a passion. He could grow anything. His leisure time was spent playing pinochle, visiting and telling stories of the "good old days." In his youth, he spent many hours playing baseball with his brothers. He loved the game.

Raymond was a member of the First Lutheran Church in Havre. He actively participated in all areas of the church service, from teaching Sunday school to driving the bus to ushering on Sundays and serving on the church board.

As a member of the Havre Lions Club, he was honored with a life membership on June 17, 2004. He was so proud of his more than 40 years of perfect attendance.

He was a lifelong Republican, serving as Hill County commissioner from 1968-1980. He was appointed by then-Gov. Tom Judge to serve on the Montana State Water Rights Board because of his years of experience and knowledge working in soil and water conservation. He ran unsuccessfully for a seat on the Public Service Commission in 1982.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife; brothers Charles, Ralph, Russell, Lloyd, Clarence, Cecil, Clifford, Wayne and Richard; a sister, Gladys Smith; and a granddaughter, Natalie Patrick.

He is survived by sisters Ruth Meredith of Havre, and Phyllis Gagnon of Chester; brothers Bernard (Joan) of Havre, and Bullhead City, Ariz., and Donald (Ann) of Grafton, Iowa; daughters Jeanne (Willie) Stecher of Billings, Lynda Patrick-Hayes of Havre, and Laurie (Randy) Koutnik of Helena; a son, Thomas (Carolyn) of Havre; grandchildren JoLynn (Jeff) Munro of Spokane, Wash., Colleen (Bill) Black of Billings, Tiffany (Joe) King of Smithtown, N.Y., Tara (Michael) Hamby of Mission Viejo, Calif., Joshua (Jody) Hayes of Scottsdale, Ariz., Kristin (Bob) Hammler of Billings, Karli (Rodney) Sturgill of Billings, Kevin (Michael) Koutnik of Helena, and Brett Patrick of Havre; 18 great-grandchildren, one great-great-granddaughter; and generations of beloved nieces and nephews.

Memorials in his name may be sent to the Care and Comfort Home, 1204 Cleveland Ave., Havre, MT 59501; or Montana State University-Northern Development Foundation, P.O. Box 1691, Havre, MT, where a memorial endowment is being established in his name for students in agriculture.

Condolences may be posted online at hollandbonine@q.com and/or tribune.com/obituaries.

RAYMOND LESTER PECK

Born: June 23, 1926 – Died: May 27, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

June 1, 2011

Raymond L. Peck

HELENA — Raymond Lester Peck, 84, a Montana educator, counselor and long-time Democratic legislator and activist, died of a stroke Friday, May 27, at a Helena hospital.



Peck

Visitation is 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at Anderson Stevenson Wilke Funeral Home in Helena. The family will receive friends Sunday at the funeral home at 6 p.m., with a vigil service there at 7 p.m. Funeral Mass is noon Monday at the Cathedral of St. Helena, followed by a reception at Jorgenson's.



Peck in 1940s



Burial with military honors is 1 p.m. Tuesday in Big Sandy Cemetery, followed by a celebration of his life at 2 p.m. in the Big Sandy High School gym.

Ray died surrounded by his family and friends.

Ray was born June 23, 1926, in Whitefish, one of 14 children born to Pearl McBride and Asa Peck. After high school, he served as a tail gunner in the Army Air Force during World War II.

Ray began his career as an elementary teacher in Gildford, before becoming a teacher and coach in Harlem on the Fort Belknap Reserva-

tion. He coached Harlem to a state championship in Six Man football in 1951. He stayed in touch with the members of that team all his life, and more than 60 years later, they still called him "Coach."

He later worked as a teacher/coach/superintendent in Hingham and Big Sandy; a part-time counselor in the office of the dean of the College of Professional Schools Office at Montana State University; associate professor of education and psychology at Northern Montana College; and assistant superintendent, director of special education and of federal programs at Havre Public Schools.

Ray married Ilse Sonnek in 1947 in West Germany, and they had six children, Pete, Carla, Pep, Gregory, Raymond and Cynthia Rae Peck. Ray and Ilse later divorced after 27 years of marriage.

In 1975, Ray married Betty (Collins) Peck, and gained another family in Betty's children, Holly, Carley, Darla and Kelly.

Betty inspired Ray's second career as a legislator, and he was devoted to her until her death in 2002.

Ray represented Havre from 1983 to 2001 in the Montana House of Representatives, where he was known as a knowledgeable and ferocious advocate for K-12 public education. He was elected House minority leader in 1995, and was the recipient of numerous local, state and national awards.

After Betty's death, Ray became friends with Annabelle Richards;

Mary Kaercher, Anna Kaercher, Jacie Darlington, Justin Darlington, Shelbi Darlington and Jesse Darlington; great-grandchildren Dyllan, Landyn and Riley Dotson; Burke Jewell, Austin Jarvis, Annie and Will Menden, Elle and Jack Kaleczyc, Maya Smith and Auden Moe, Anya Murphy, Emme and Job Washburn, Carrie and Ryan Fredricksen, and Kaylie and Shane Tomaskie.

Other survivors include Kent (Linda) Richards; Brent Richards and Shannel and Jillian Pocha; Lisa Rusk and Griffin and Rachel; Tuffy and Boo, who miss Grandpa's treats already; Democrats and veterans.

He was preceded in death by son Gregory Charles Peck; Raymond Anthony Peck and Cynthia Rae Peck; son-in-law Daryl Johnson; five sisters and five brothers, with two siblings in 2011.

Ray lived his life with courage, conviction and deeply held beliefs that education and social and economic justice would level the playing field and create opportunity for all.

Memorials in Ray's name are suggested to: The Montana Democratic Party, Box 802, Helena, MT, 59624; Vet2Vet Program, P.O. Box 1500, Fort Harrison, MT 59636; Lewis and Clark Humane Society, P.O. Box 4455, Helena, MT 59604; or Poor Clares of Montana, 3020 8th Ave. S., Great Falls, MT 59405.

Condolences may be posted online at www.aswfuneral-home.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

VERN RICHARD PIMLEY

Born: November 12, 1922 – Died: November 8, 2011

Liberty County Times

November 23, 2011



Vern Pimley

Vern Richard Pimley was born November 12, 1922 in Chester, Mt. He was one of eleven children to Percy and Estella (Skonord) Pimley. Vern grew up on the family farm 26 miles north of Joplin and received his formal education at the Burke country school until the 8th grade. At age 13 he left home to work as a farm laborer. In his late-teens, Vern drove a fuel truck for Gus Robo and he later worked winters on the oil wells.

During the outbreak of World War II, Vern left Montana for the first time when he and 5 friends travelled to Seattle in 1941 seeking work at Boeing. While assembling the B-17 and B-29 bombers, he met fellow riveter and his eventual wife-to-be, Loreene Agnes Arensdorf. They were married in Seattle on March 25, 1944. The young couple remained in Washington until the war ended, then returned to Montana and purchased the Nels Nelson farm 18 miles north of Joplin and began their long career in farming and started their family, eventually raising 3 children. The Pimleys wintered in Joplin for many years while their children at-

tended school, and moved to Joplin permanently in about 1997.

Vern loved his life as a Montana farmer and found joy in its simplicity and satisfaction in the long days in the field. He continued to be active in the farming operations with his son, Russ, until only a few weeks before his death. Vern enjoyed staying busy and was a self-taught "jack-of-all-trades". He was a talented carpenter, woodworker, welder, builder and electrician, and helped his son Lowell wire his new house in Colorado.

Vern's health declined in recent years with complications of C.O.P.D. He was admitted to the Liberty Medical Center about two weeks ago for extended care. Vern passed away at the hospital early Tuesday morning (November 8, 2011), just four days before his 89th birthday.

During those early years on the farm, the Pimleys were active members of Immanuel Lutheran Church. Vern served as a church deacon and received his adult baptism & confirmation at Immanuel. In addition he was a charter member & president of the East Butte TV District, and was instrumental in getting television service to the local area. He was also a past member of the Havre Elks Lodge.

The Pimleys loved to dance and socialize with lifelong friends. They made several memorable trips over the years: a "Fall Foliage Tour" to the eastern United States and a trip to Hawaii, to name a few. Vern & Loreene enjoyed 67 years of marriage together; in all that time, the longest stretch of time apart was 10 days in 1983 when Loreene went to Billings to help daughter Jeanne with her newborn son.

Vern loved being part of the Joplin community. In those early years he helped with the Boy

Scout program. More recently, he volunteered on various projects at the Joplin Community Park. He loved wood-working and building iron ornaments. He also enjoyed playing pinochle and watching "old westerns" on television. During the past few years, Vern developed a special kinship with a young neighbor lad, Dawson Fraser. Dawson's untimely death this past September simply "tore a hole in Vern's heart."

Vern was preceded in death by his parents and 9 siblings (Anson, Orville, Jesse, Percy Jr., Francis, Viola, Joyce, & two infant brothers).

Survivors are his wife, Loreene Pimley of Joplin; 2 sons, Russ (Rhonda) Pimley of Chester and Lowell (Debbie) Pimley of Littleton, Colorado; 1 daughter, Jeanne (Mark) Szymanski of Aiken, South Carolina; 10 grandchildren, Tammi, Tiffani, Adam, Renata, Sierra, Ashley, Brian, Brittany, Matthew, & Jason; 1 brother, Donnie (Priscilla) Pimley of Chester; and numerous nephews & nieces.

Funeral services for Vern Pimley were conducted at 2:00 p.m. Monday (Nov. 14th) by Pastor Dale Wolery at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Scriptures, poems, & personal remembrances were shared by Vern's grandchildren, who also served as his pallbearers. Additional thoughts & poetry were presented by friend, Kip Lybeck. Ushers were: Butch Tempel & Dan Wolery. Christy Fossen served as pianist and the congregation sang "He's

Got The Whole World In His Hands". Vocalist, Sarah Wolery, performed "What A Friend We Have In Jesus". One of Vern's favorite taped selections, "The Unicorn Song", was played at the end of the service. Following the committal services and a "wheat ceremony" at the family plot at the Joplin Cemetery, a coffee hour was held at Kjos Hall. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Undesignated memorials will be used for special improvements to the gateway (entrance) at the Joplin Cemetery.

VERN RICHARD PIMLEY

Born: November 12, 1922 at Chester, Montana

Died: November 8, 2011 at Chester, Montana

Age: 88 years ... 11 months ... 27 days



Close the Gate...

*For this one farmer the worries are over, lie down
and rest your head,
Your time has been and struggles enough, put the
tractor in the shed.*

*Years were not easy, many downright hard, but your
faith in God transcended.*

*Put away your tools and sleep in peace. The fences
have all been mended.*

*You raised a fine family, worked the land well and always followed the Son,
Hang up your shovel inside of the barn; your work here on earth is done.*

*A faith few possess led your journey through life, often a jagged and stony way.
The sun is setting, the cattle are all bedded, and here now is the end of your day.*

*Your love of God's soil has passed on to your kin; the stories flow like fine wine.
Wash off your work boots in the puddle left by blessed rain — one final time.*

*You always believed that the good Lord would provide and He always had
somehow.*

Take off your gloves and put them down, no more sweat and worry for you now.

*Your labor is done, your home now is heaven; no more must you wait,
Your legacy lives on, your love of the land, and we will close the gate.*

Arrangements: Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester

Funeral Services: 2:00 p.m. Monday (Nov. 14th) at the Beth Lutheran Church in Joplin, Montana

Officiant: Pastor Dale Wolery

Musicians: Pianist, Christy Fossen
Vocalist, Sarah Wolery

Scriptures, Poems, & Personal Remembrances:
Readings by Vern's Grandchildren

Special Thoughts: Kip Lybeck

Ushers: Cory Fraser, Butch Tempel, & Dan Wolery

Pallbearers: *Vern's Grandchildren:* Tammi, Tiffani, Adam, Renata, Sierra, Matthew, Jason, Ashley, Brian, and Brittany

Interment: Pimley plot at the Joplin Cemetery

Coffee Hour: At Kjos Hall following the burial rites...

Memorials: Undesignated memorials will be used for special improvements to the gateway entrance at the Joplin Cemetery...

Vern's Family: Wife, Loreene; 2 sons, Russ (Rhonda) and Lowell (Debbie); 1 daughter, Jeanne (Mark); 10 grandchildren; and 1 brother, Donnie (Priscilla)

DONNA MAE (SPONHEIM) POLANCHEK
Born: December 19, 1935— Died: February 2, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
February 6, 2011

Donna Mae Polanchek

Former Fort Benton resident and 40-year veteran school teacher Donna Mae (Sponheim) Polanchek, 75, died of cancer Wednesday at a local care facility.



Polanchek

Her funeral is 2 p.m. Monday at Trinity Lutheran Church with visitation one hour prior to the service. Burial will take place in Highland Cemetery, followed by a reception at the church. Schnider Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Donna was born Dec. 19, 1935, in Havre, Mont., to Peter and Genevieve Sponheim. She was raised and educated in Joplin and was very proud to be from the "Hi-Line," where many of her lifelong friends also grew up.

She received her teaching degrees from Concordia College and Western Montana College and also studied at the University of Wyoming. From the time she was a young girl, Donna knew she wanted to work with children and become a school teacher. She taught hundreds of children over the years, receiving letters from many of them later in life, thanking her for being an inspiring teacher and for making a positive impact on their lives. In her 40-year career, she taught at various schools throughout Montana, including Choteau, Harlowton, Chester, Geraldine and Fort Benton.

She married Francis R. "Jack" Polanchek; they later divorced, but remained lifelong friends, with neither ever remarrying.

The Lord has called home a loving mother, grandmother and teacher. Donna passed away after a brave, painful battle with cancer. Given only a couple weeks to live a few years ago, she defied death and refused to give in to the disease, reflecting a portrayal of how she lived most of her life.

Donna should be remembered most of all for her love of her family and her strong Christian faith, which always sustained her. Her grandchildren filled her heart with such great joy and happiness. She loved being a mother and grandmother, with deep devotion to supporting each child's endeavors, and offering the consistent reminder for each to always be their "own person no matter what." She made friends easily and touched the lives of many people over the years, always enjoying the company of many loving friends and colleagues. She loved to visit and was often the person who could bring a room full of people to life with lively discussion.

She loved animals and spoiled the many cats who shared her home over the years. She enjoyed arts, crafts and decorating — both in her home and her school room. She had a special flair for making her school room bright and cheerful with seasonal and holiday decor for the children to enjoy, and she had a gift for bringing comfort to her surroundings, always making the family home a place of warmth, comfort and love.

Donna loved to sing, dance, laugh, shop and play an occasional lively tune on the piano. Her wonderful lefse was known by many and shared with numerous friends and family during the holidays, and her "world-famous" potato salad will be sorely missed, but her daughters will continue to try their best at duplicating it.

She was a devout Christian of great faith, who always tried to live her life in a way that would be pleasing to God, always filling her life with prayer and acknowledging her many blessings on any given day, even to the very end in the midst of pain.

She is survived by her son, David (Sara) Polanchek of Missoula; three daughters, Mary (Merk) Willmarth of Great Falls, Carl (Randy) Gabehart of Littleton, Colo., and Jennifer (Eric) Polanchek-Rhoads of Boise, Idaho; six grandsons, Dillon and Dakota Gabehart, Clayton and Carter Polanchek, Taylor Willmarth and Jack Polanchek; nephew Dan Sponheim; and nieces Danelle (Sponheim) Bell and Jo Sponheim.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents, her beloved brother, Donald "Spoon" Sponheim, with whom she shared a close bond, and her former husband.

Memorials are suggested to the Dedman Foundation, PO Box 1282, Fort Benton, MT 59442, or Meals on Wheels, 1620 12th Ave. N., Great Falls, MT 59401.

One more angel is now home, forever with the Lord. We will miss you mom and grandma ... until we meet again.

Condolences may be posted online at www.schniderfuneral-home.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

MARLENE (SEVERUD) SACKETT
Born: March 7, 1935 – Died: June 7, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
June 12, 2011

Marlene Sackett

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Marlene Sackett, 76, died of cardiac arrest Tuesday, June 7, at a Scottsdale, Ariz., care facility.



Sackett

A celebration of her life is 7 p.m. July 2 at the home of Amy and Scott Kilpatrick in Scottsdale. Green Acres Mortuary of Scottsdale handled arrangements.

Marlene was born in Havre on March 7, 1935, to Florence and Miram Severud of Hingham, where she graduated from high school in 1953. She attended the University of Montana in Missoula. Marlene resided in Billings until moving to Albuquerque, N.M., in 1969, where she worked for Mutual Benefit Insurance Company. She then moved to Phoenix in 1983, where she worked for Phoenix Flower Shops before retiring.

She is survived by her son, Thomas Woodrow of Honolulu; daughter Leslie Woodrow of Scottsdale; brother Lowell (Marion) Severud of Spokane; sister Kay (Jim) Wortman of Scottsdale; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the wonderful caregivers from Agave Manor and Hospice of the Valley for their constant and loving care of our loved one for the past three years.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E. Flower Street, Phoenix, AZ 85014.

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

KATHLEEN HELEN 'KAY' (McKERNAN) SCHWEITZER

Born: September 24, 1927 – Died: August 21, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

August 23, 2011

Kathleen H. Schweitzer

HELENA — Kathleen Helen "Kay" (McKernan) Schweitzer, 83, the mother of Montana Gov. Brian



Schweitzer

Schweitzer, died Sunday, Aug. 21, at a Great Falls hospital, after an acci-

dental fall.

A rosary is at 6 p.m. Aug. 31 at Retz Funeral Home in Helena. Funeral Mass is at 10 a.m. Sept. 1 at the Cathedral of St. Helena in Helena, with burial at 4 p.m. next to her husband at Highland Cemetery in Havre.

Ms. Schweitzer was born Sept. 24, 1927, on a farm near Box Elder, Mont., the fourth of five children to Michael and Hannah McKernan. Michael and Hannah moved to America from Ireland in the early 1900s. In addition to Kay, their children were Michael McKernan, deceased; Mary Brady, deceased; Nora Nelson and Patricia Warhank.

In 1946, Kay married Adam Schweitzer in a double wedding with her sister Patricia, who married Adam's good friend Raymond Warhank. Patty and Kay met the young men at a post-World War II dance on the Hi-Line.

After their marriage, Kay and Adam managed the Schweitzer family farm near Gildford, Mont., before mov-

ing to Geyser, Mont., in 1954. Kay played an active part in managing the family farm, especially since the 1970s, when the family built the internationally renowned Schweitzer Simmentals. Schweitzer Simmentals produced the first Simmental calf in the United States in 1968 and held the first production Simmental Sale. Schweitzer Simmentals produced award-winning Polled Fullbloods. The Schweitzer Simmental cattle won numerous awards, including: grand champion with a bull named Montana in Argentina, and grand champions in Europe, Australia and Mexico. Her final show was in Fort Worth, Texas, where she won the title of World Championship Bull. Kay was the driving force behind Schweitzer Simmentals; everyone knew that Kay was the one who marketed, groomed and trained the cattle.

Kay also became passionate over world and political events. She organized a group of women to protest the low price of wheat in Great Falls, Mont. Later, many of these same women became the founding members of Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE). She organized a protest to the boycotting of eating meat movement, also held in Great Falls. During the early 1970s, she wrote countless letters to Montana's legislators regarding her political beliefs. She even tried acting when she played Eleanor Roosevelt for a play

about First Ladies produced by the Flathead Women's Democratic organization. She became active with the Hibernian Women's organization in Helena, Mont. Kay was a devout Catholic. She was the coordinator for mass at Waterford Retirement facility for the past several years. In her later years, she enjoyed world travel to countries such as Canada, Ireland, Scotland, Australia, Mexico, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland and Saudi Arabia. Kay was proud that all six of her children attended college and pursued successful careers as doctors, real-estate agents, farmer, rancher, consultants and governor.

Kay is survived by her sisters Nora Nelson of Havre and Pat Warhank of Rudyard; her children Darwin (Sharon) of Oregon; Warren (Ingela) of California, Mike (Jolyn) of Billings, Mont., Brian (Nancy) of Helena, Walter (Cindy) of Helena and Mary of Ohio; 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Adam; two siblings; and one grandchild.

Donations may be made to her grandson's Beau's Catholic order, the Society of our Lady of Most Holy Trinity (SOLT), P.O. Box 149, Robstown, TX 78380.

Condolences may be left online at www.RetzFuneralHome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

JOHN H. SHERRARD

Born: February 16, 1923 – Died: July 23, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
July 26, 2011

John H. Sherrard

CONRAD — John H. Sherrard, 88, an Army veteran and retired farmer, died of cancer Saturday, July 23, at a Conrad hospital.



Sherrard

Cremation has taken place under the direction of Ponder Funeral



Home. His memorial service is 11 a.m. Wednesday at Pondera Valley Lutheran Church, followed by a luncheon at the church and then burial with military honors in Hillside Cemetery.

John was born Feb. 16, 1923, to John and Maude Sherrard in Shelby. He loved to tell the story that he was born in jail. His grandfather was sheriff and his mother gave birth to him while visiting her family at the jailhouse.

John was raised on the homestead farm south of Galata. He graduated from Galata High School in 1942 and served in the U.S. Army from December 1944 to October 1946. John was stationed in the Philippines and Japan.

In January 1944, John married Iva Mondy of Galata and they raised their four children on the family farm.

In 1984, they retired and moved to Great Falls, where they resided until moving to the Horizon Lodge in Conrad in 2006. They wintered for 35 years in Yuma, Ariz.

John enjoyed golfing, archery, bowling, hunting, fishing, woodworking and modelT's.

Survivors include his wife of 67 years, Iva; children, Bob (Tammy) of Beaver Dam, Ariz., Leslie (Suzie) Sherrard of Great Falls, Sandi (Willy) Schaefer of Lolo and Shelly (Terry) Tichenor of Surprise, Ariz.; nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; a brother, Jerry (Linda) Sherrard of Missoula; and a sister, Jessie (Ted) Fowler of Conrad.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and two brothers, Tom Sherrard and Jim Sherrard.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Gift of Life Foundation; or a charity of the donor's choice.

Condolences may be posted at www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

ROBERT A. SISK JR.

Born: September 7, 1935 – Died: March 19, 2011

Liberty County Times

March 23, 2011



Robert A Sisk Jr, 75, a retired farmer and rancher from Galata, passed away Saturday, March 19, 2011, at the Marias Medical Center in Shelby of complications of lung cancer. A visitation is planned for Tuesday, March 22, from 4-6:00 pm at the Whitted Funeral Chapel. A rosary service will follow at 7:15 pm and vigil service at 7:30 pm at St William Catholic Church. The Funeral Mass will be Wednesday, March 23, at 11:00 am at St Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Burial with military honors will take place in the Mountain View Cemetery in Shelby. The family suggests memorials be directed to the Shelby Flag

Fund, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Marias Medical Center Auxiliary, or the St William Church Bell Fund.

Bob was born on September 7, 1935 in Conrad to Robert A and Catherine (Lawless) Sisk, Sr. He attended Shelby schools graduating with the Class of '53 and then furthered his education at Gonzaga College graduating in 1957 with a degree in Economics. After graduation, he enlisted in the Montana National Guard doing his basic training at Ft Leonardwood.

He and Geneva Rohr were married on October 15, 1960 at St Thomas Catholic Church in Sunburst. They spent their married life on the family farm – the farm

and ranch and their kids were his life. Bob loved to ride horses and, later in his life, he enjoyed the game of golf. For the past 13 years, he and Geneva enjoyed traveling to Chandler, Arizona in the winter.

Bob was very community minded and among the organizations he served were the NFO (National Farmers Organization), the Knights of Columbus and the Galata and Shelby school boards. He was a charter organizer for the Galata Water District, an active 4H leader, and a Eucharistic Minister for St Mary's Catholic Church.

Bob is survived by his wife, Geneva of Galata; his children and grandchildren,

Joseph (Lore) Sisk of Galata and children Amie and Derek Sisk, Helen (Buster) Brown of Whitlash and children BJ and Jack Brown, Patty (John) Goodmundson of Dutton and children Kayla and Keon Goodmundson, Robyn (Jay) Hoggatt of Belgrade and daughter Kaytlynn Hoggatt, and special family member, Faron (Sherri) Robison of Shelby and children Chris, Ashley (Jon) Glassing and daughter Jessi, Jake and Alexis. He is also survived by his sister, JoAnne Polsak of Bozeman; cousins, Sue Fritz of Chester and Georgia (Jim) Nelson of Shelby, as well as nieces and nephews. Bob was preceded in death by his parents and son, Benet, in 1982.

In Loving Remembrance

Robert Alanzo Sisk, Jr

September 7, 1935 - March 19, 2011

75 years 6 months 12 days

~Rosary and Vigil Services~

7:15 pm Rosary Service - 7:30 pm Vigil Service

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

St. William Catholic Church, Shelby, Montana

~Funeral Mass~

11:00 am, Wednesday, March 23, 2011

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Chester, Montana

~Celebrant~

Fr. Joe Diekhans

~Music~

St. Mary's Catholic Church Choir

~Pall Bearers ~

Annie Sisk BJ Brown Derek Sisk Jack Brown
Kayla Goodmundson Kaytlyn Wigggett Keen Goodmundson

~Ushers~

Jim Fritz Joe Fritz

~Interment with Military Honors~

Mountain View Cemetery, Shelby, Montana

Irish Blessing

May the road rise up to meet you;

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

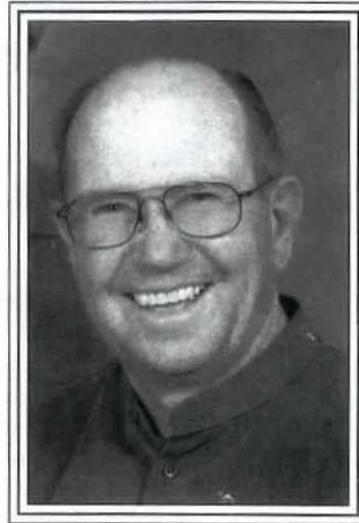
And the rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

A

Life
Remembered



Robert A Sisk, Jr

September 7, 1935 ~ March 19, 2011

COLLEEN MARIE (WARHANK) SNELL
Born: February 17, 1956 – Died: April 8, 2011
Liberty County Times
April 20, 2011



Colleen (Warhank) Snell

Colleen Marie (Warhank) Snell was born February 17, 1956 in Havre, Montana. She was the fourth of six children born to Raymond and Patricia (McKernan) Warhank. Colleen grew up and received her formal education in Rudyard. Following her graduation from Rudyard High School in 1974, Colleen attended college at Western in Dillon and Eastern in Billings, where she majored in physical education. Some of her college girlfriends affectionately nicknamed her "Phyllis Phy-Ed".

Colleen's life as a working girl started with an insurance company in Great Falls. In the late 1970's she moved to Billings to work for Hennessey's department store. Colleen later transferred to Helena for additional experience in the insurance business. While there she took a job with her sister (Janice) at Northern Geophysical, whose seismic crew worked and travelled throughout the western United States. While on the seismic trail, Colleen met Tommy Dean Snell, and they were married on January 26, 1985. They settled in Lit-

tieton, Colorado and became the proud parents to their only daughter, Sara, on May 31, 1987. Colleen enjoyed some of the "best years of her life" in Colorado, where she maintained an exceptional job at Trans America Title Insurance Co. Unfortunately, Colleen was diagnosed with adult diabetes in 1996, which required major medical treatment. In 1997 the Snell's divorced. Colleen and Sara then returned to Rudyard to be close to family. While living on the Hi-Line, Colleen worked various jobs, including Harvest States at Rudyard and Fraser's Conoco at Inverness.

Colleen moved back to Helena in 2005 to start a new chapter in her life. She took a job as a "fixed asset technician" for Heritage Propane. Although her diabetes continued to be an obstacle, Colleen strived to be positive in her life and work. She loved her job at Heritage and appreciated the support and friendship of her fellow workers; she considered them all to be her extended family.

On this past Friday evening (April 8, 2011) Colleen apparently suffered a hypoglycemic episode at her home in Helena. She died at the young age of 55 years old.

Colleen was baptized and confirmed at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. After returning to Rudyard in the 1990's, she continued to be an active member of the Hingham parish, serving as a greeter, Eucharistic minister, and mem-

ber of the Altar Society.

During her high school years Colleen was a loyal Rudyard Panther and participated in many extracurricular activities. She served as president of the Pep Club, played the saxophone in the school marching band, participated in Bob Makela's science trip to the coast, played on one of the Hi-Line's first girl's high school basketball teams, and was a member of CYO. Colleen had a glorious singing voice; a highlight of her school years was a tour to Europe with the Montana Youth Choir and a special musical performance for the Pope!

Colleen loved the outdoors and always looked forward to spring so she could get out and enjoy the sun! She had the proverbial "green thumb", loved to work in her yard, and always maintained a beautiful garden. She also enjoyed camping and jet-skiing. During her quiet time at home, she loved to bake (especially, fudge). She enjoyed her personal collections of pottery, Longaberger baskets, and American Sweetheart depression glass.

Colleen looked forward to the fall football and basketball seasons. A loyal member of the "Griz Nation", she was a personal booster of the Michael Warhank and Marc Mariani fan clubs. Colleen was also an avid fan of John Elway and the Denver Broncos (and a rabid "Raider-hater"). She continued to love music and enjoyed attending live concerts; one of her favorites was Michael Jackson's

"Thriller" event at Mile High Stadium in Denver.

Colleen's family will always remember her adventurous spirit and her eagerness to experience new things in life. For instance, she loved jet-skis and motorcycles, and had planned to have her own Harley Davidson some day. She often spoke of her "favorite place in the whole world" - Whitefish, Montana - where she loved spending quality time with her family and friends.

Colleen overcame many adversities, raised a wonderful daughter on her own, remained true to herself and her beliefs, and loved her fellow man - a legacy we could all hope to achieve. Blessed be her memory.

She is survived by her daughter, Sara Snell of Helena; her mother, Patricia Warhank of Rudyard; 2 sisters, Nancy Wolery (Paul) of Inverness and Janice Warhank of Great Falls; 3 brothers, Gary Warhank (Cathy) of Portland, OR., Dave Warhank (Ann) of Rudyard, and Chad Warhank (Amber) of Livingston; and numerous nieces and nephews. Colleen was preceded in death by her father (Raymond Warhank in 1998) and Sara's father (Tommy Snell in 2009).

A Memorial Mass was celebrated at 1:00 p.m. Saturday (April 16th) at Our Lady of Ransom Church in Hingham by Father Joseph Diekhans. Mass music was provided by the Sacred Heart Choir and Hi-Line friends, accompanied by pianist (Christy Fossen)

and flutist (Abigail Nyhof). Selected songs were "Ave Maria", "Lord of the Dance", "Color My World", "On Eagle's Wings", and "O Loving God", to name a few. Mass participants were Dan Hybner (Altar Server); Craig Patrick & Bob Toner (Greeters); Mike Wendland (Scripture Reader); Lynn Hybner, Richard Fisher, & Cathie Raunig (Eucharistic Ministers); Terry Hybner (Eulogist); and Gary Warhank (Personal Thoughts). The communion gifts were presented by Colleen's nephews and nieces, inc. Torrie Wolery and Michael, Murry, Hanna, and Emma Warhank. Pallbearers were Tim Gatzemeier, Bryan Watson, Jan Phillips, Leonard Wendland, Tom Armbruster, Dean Mack, Tim Curtin, and all of Colleen's

extended family at Heritage Propane, who processed to the cemetery in antique "woody" cars as a special tribute. Following committal rites and burial of ashes in the Ruyard Cemetery, a reception followed at the Ruyard Catholic Youth Center. Funeral arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

DARWIN SNUFFER
Born: June 3, 1918 – Died: January 17, 2011
Liberty County Times
January 19, 2011



Darwin Snuffer, 92, a long time farmer from Galata, passed away Monday, January 17, 2011, at the Liberty County Nursing Home due to natural causes. Memorial services will be 12 noon Friday, January 21, at the Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby with burial to follow in the Mountain View

Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife of 69 years Doris (Childers) Snuffer of Chester; daughter, Carolyn (Bob) Christenson of Rudyard; son, Don (Gail Ohs) Snuffer of Whitefish; sister, Ona Mae Schwan of Chester; 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Elsie Budgett; and a brother, LeRoy Snuffer,

He was born June 3, 1918 at Chester to Benjamin and Alida (Arick) Snuffer where he grew up and attended high school. He married Doris Childers on October 8, 1941 at Galata.

The couple lived and farmed north of Galata

until 2002 when they moved to Great Falls. They moved to Chester in 2010.

Darwin was a self taught mechanic and enjoyed working in his shop where he built his own welder years ago. He was an avid pilot and kept his own plane at the farm. He loved to dance, travel, play golf, visit

with friends and fish, especially taking his grand kids ice fishing.

He was a member of the Galata Lutheran Church, Moose, Elks, Eagles and the Marias Valley Golf Club where had hit a hole in one.

Memorials may be sent to the Hi Line Health Foundation in Chester or donors choice.

NELLIEKIM SORENSON

Born: February 25, 1980 – Died: August 25, 2011

Havre Daily News

August 31, 2011

NellieKim Sorenson

NellieKim Sorenson was born Feb. 25, 1980. After a terrible accident in which she suffered burns over 75 percent of her body, her parents, Barbara Jones and Arnold Sorenson, and her brother, Carl Sorenson, released her from a world of pain and placed her in the arms of God. She left us on Aug. 25, 2011. She went gently.

NellieKim left behind her parents, Arnie and Cindy Sorenson of Montana and Barbara and Michael Jones of Washington. She left behind her siblings, Carl Sorenson of Montana, Chris Frelich of Montana, Michael Frelich of Florida, Mike Jones Jr. of Washington, John Jones of Washington, Brenda Anderson of Washington and George Jones of Washington. Also left behind were multiple aunts, uncles, co sins, nephews, nieces and friends.

Preceding her in death were her grandparents, Arnold and Janet Sorenson and George and Lillie Whitaker. Also preceding her in death were her aunts Sonya and Sandra and her sister, Rhonda.

NellieKim graduated from KG High School in 1998. She also graduated from Northern



**NellieKim
Sorenson**

Montana University with an associate degree in auto body. She loved to go to car shows and racing events. She was an artist, but her greatest joy was her dogs. Her heroes were her father and her grandfather, Red. Her best friends were her brother, Carl, and her mother, and her stepmom, Cindy, made the best apple pie ever. NellieKim's final gift was to donate her eyes, kidneys and liver.

A celebration of NellieKim's life will be held at the Immanuel Baptist Church at 10 a.m. Sept. 2, 2011, followed by a graveside service at the Havre cemetery. A luncheon will be held at the Immanuel Baptist Church. Please come and help us to celebrate NellieKim's life.

Memorials may be made to any dog shelter or to any home for displaced women and children.

JEAN LAVERN (COLBY) SPICHER
Born: September 28, 1919 – Died: February 21, 2011
Liberty County Times
March 2, 2011



Jean Spicher

Jean Lavern (Colby) Spicher was born September 28, 1919 at Scobey, Montana. She was one of two daughters born to Edwin and Estella (Hughes) Colby. Jean received her early education in Scobey. When she was 10 years old her family moved to Fort Benton, so Jean finished her secondary education there, graduating from F.B.H.S. in 1937. Following high school she began working as an operator at the local telephone company. She befriended the Handford family, who invited her to travel with them as their "nanny" on a 6-month adventure throughout the United States. Jean often reminisced about this trip and considered it the experience of a lifetime.

After Jean returned to Montana, she continued her education at Western Montana College in Dillon, where she earned a two-year teaching certificate. She moved to Hingham and began teaching in the elementary school. While there she met a local farmer, George L. Spicher, and they were

married on July 15, 1945 in Spokane, WA. George and his brother, Richard, were partners in their farming operations, Hi-Line Fertilizer, and Chester Motors, so Jean worked diligently as a farm wife and business bookkeeper. She also enjoyed her role as homemaker and mother of two daughters.

George and Jean moved to Chester in 1963 to operate Chester Motors following the sudden death of their business associate, Walter Rust. They ran the Ford dealership in Chester until 1973, then sold it to Don Raunig. After spending a few years in north Spokane, the Spicher's retired to Lakeside where they enjoyed their home on Flathead Lake. They were married 40 years

when George died of cancer in 1985. Jean continued to live at Lakeside until 1996, when she sold her property and purchased a townhouse in Kalispell. She enjoyed good health and remained active in the community. Three years ago Jean suffered a broken hip; she transferred to the Brendan House Skilled Nursing Facility for rehabilitation and continued to reside there. Following a recent short illness, Jean died peacefully at Brendan House with her family at her side on Monday morning (February 21, 2011). She was 91 years old.

Jean had been active in the Lakeside Community Club, Republican Women, United Way, Lakeside Methodist Church, and P.E.O. She was

also a member of the Buffalo Hill Golf Club, a Kalispell book club called "The Lunch Bunch", and various Bridge Clubs.

The Spichers enjoyed travelling to Ford conventions and other destinations throughout the years. Several memorable trips were to Alaska, Panama Canal, Thailand, Hong Kong, and Europe, to name a few.

In her younger years Jean enjoyed gardening and sewing. In later years she enjoyed golfing, playing Bridge, and collecting spoons. Throughout her life she was an avid reader and an accomplished artist (her specialty was painting family portraits). Jean was an organized lady who maintained a positive attitude in life. Her home was always immaculate and she took great pride in her personal care. Last, but not least, Jean appreciated the love of her family and friends.

She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by her sister (Irene Bennett) and 2 grandchildren (Matthew Badger and Amalie Lehman).

Survivors include her 2 daughters, Cheryl (Doug) Allen of Cut Bank and Marsha (Mel) Lehman of Kalispell; 4 grandchildren, Scott Allen, Park Allen, Allison Badger, and Marcus Lehman; 5 great-grandchildren; a special friend, Peggy Sweat (who has been her caregiver for the past six years); many cousins, inc. Mary Jane Nelsen (who was raised as her sister); and nu-

merous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Friday (Feb. 25th) at the Epworth United Methodist Church [329 - 2nd Ave. E., Kalispell] by Pastor Steve Hermes. The pianist was Eric Dye and the vocalist, Jeff Houston, sang "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and "The Lord's Prayer". Jean's friend, Mary Pat Murphy, lead the congregation in singing "Amazing Grace". The eulogy was shared by Doug Allen. A video production was presented to the song "Jean" (by Rod McKuen). Pallbearers were Mel Lehman, Allison Badger, Park Allen, Kim Spicher, Doug Spicher, and Russ Cravens. Following burial at the C. E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell, a luncheon was held at the

church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Viewing was held at the Rockman Chapel on Wednesday afternoon and at Epworth Church on Thursday evening. Memorials may be given to the United Way of Kalispell, Brendan House in Kalispell, or Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester.

TRAVIS R. STEHMAN

Born: October 7, 1980 – Died: August 15, 2011

Havre Daily News

August 18, 2011

Travis R. Stehman

Travis R. Stehman, 30, died Monday, Aug. 15, 2011, in Gildford, Mont. His cause of death is under coroner investigation.

A viewing for Travis will be held Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Holland & Bonine Funeral Home, with his graveside service 2 p.m. Friday at Highland Cemetery.

Pastor Eddie Fallo will officiate the service. A fellowship will be held at the Gildford Baptist Church immediately after the services at the graveside.

Travis R. Stehman came into

this world on Oct. 7, 1980, along with his beloved twin brother, Trevor. Together, along with friends, they had many riotous adventures. He was a tenacious athlete and excelled in running. He led the KG Kougars to three consecutive state championships in cross country and a track and field championship, setting many records along the way. He received a full scholarship to the University of Oregon for cross country and

track and field. The competitiveness he brought out among teammates is legendary.

After college, he continued to pursue other athletic and outdoor activities including alpine skiing, snowboarding, hunting, fishing,

golf, waterskiing and wakeboarding, all of which he mastered. He was blessed with an extraordinary physical ability, and he fully enjoyed and used this gift.

He was a meticulous and talented craftsman and took great pride in and enjoyed farming. Friends and family marvelled at his work ethic and loyalty.

After the loss of his twin brother Trevor in 1999, Travis struggled to find his way. Although things were not easy for Travis at times, we are comforted knowing he went to be with his Heavenly Father and found peace. He left us as a beloved son, brother, uncle, grandson, nephew, cousin and friend. He will be missed.

He was preceded in death by his twin brother, Trevor, in 1999; and his aunt, Phyllis Kessler in 2008.

Travis is survived by his father, Philip (Gina) Stehman of Kremlin, Mont.; his mother, Janice Stehman of Bozeman, Mont.; sister, Chelsie (Aaron) Stewart of Bremerton, Wash.; nephew, Asher, and niece, Veda Stewart of Bremerton, Wash.; and paternal grandparents, Robert Stehman of Gildford, Mont., and Virginia Kallberg of Bellevue, Wash.; aunts, Illana (Mark) Huffman of Bellevue, Wash., Meriahna Stehman of Gildford, Mont.; maternal grandparents, George and Teddy Kingma of Bozeman, Mont.; aunts and uncles, Tom (Judy) Kingma and Fred (Marti) Kessler of San Louis Obispo, Calif.; Ken (Sandy) Kingma of Bozeman, Mont., and Tammy (Jerry) Marcotte of Bozeman, Mont.; and many cousins and friends.



Travis R. Stehman

CHARLES MORRIS STEWART

Born: December 19, 1927 – Died: June 6, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

June 7, 2011

Charles M. Stewart

FORT BENTON — Charles Morris Stewart, 84, of Fort Benton, died after a lengthy battle with cancer Monday, June 6, at his home on the Stewart Ranch.



Stewart

His memorial service is 11 a.m. Friday at the Fort Benton

Ag Museum with burial at the Riverside Cemetery in Fort Benton. Benton Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Charles was born Dec. 19, 1927 in Great Falls, Montana to Morris and Try Stewart. He attended Russell Grade School and then graduated from Fort Benton High School in 1946. He married Caroline Postill on July 10, 1949 in Fort Benton. He graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business from the University of Montana in Missoula in 1951. After graduation, he returned to the family farm and ranch, which was his passion his entire life. He loved the Lord and began each day with prayer and his daily devotion. He loved to fly and owned his own plane for a number of years.

Charles served on the Fort Benton School Board for 14 years. He was actively involved in C-N Mission/Montana Wilderness School of the Bible, as a founding member, and served on the Board of KXEL. He also served on the board of Community Bible Church for many years.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Caroline; daughters, Resa (Wayne) Yamamoto of Sequim, Wash. and Lila (Garth) Good of Chester; son Glen (Kathy) Stewart of Fort Benton; grandchildren Mari, Hannah, and Isaac Yamamoto, Tyler, Erin, and Dylan Good, and Susanne and Lauren Stewart; sister, Patricia Smith of Atlantic Beach, Florida; brother John Stewart of Fort Benton; and sister-in-law Mary Stewart of San Francisco, California.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Ed Stewart, and one grandson.

Memorials in Charles's honor may be made to the Community Bible Church Building Fund or a charity of the donor's choice.

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

GEORGE STREIT
Born: Age- 101 – Died: December 26, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
December 27, 2011

Fort Benton native, 101, dies in Great Falls

FORT BENTON — Fort Benton native George Streit, who farmed in Fort Benton until retiring and moving to Cambridge Court in Great Falls, died of natural causes Saturday, Dec. 26, at Peace Hospice. He was 101.



Streit

Funeral Mass is 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Fort Benton with burial in Riverside Cemetery. Benton Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife of 64 years, Isabel (Nagen-gast) Streit of Great Falls; sons, Leonard Streit of Chester, Joseph Streit and Thomas Streit of Fort Benton and Steven Streit of Big Sandy; daughters, Terry Streit of Butte and Mary Kassmier of Fort Benton; 14 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

MARGARET 'JOIE' MAE (LUSTGRAAF) SWEENEY

Born: September 8, 1918 – Died: December 8, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

December 10, 2011

Margaret Sweeney

Margaret "Joie" Mae (Lustgraaf) Sweeney, 93, of Great Falls, died of natural causes Thursday, Dec. 8, at a local care facility.



Sweeney

No services are planned at this time. Cremation has taken place under the direction of O'Connor Funeral

Home.

Margaret was born Sept. 8, 1918, in Rudyard and was raised in Great Falls. In 1945, she was united in marriage to Bernard Sweeney in Great Falls. They remained together until his death in 2005.

Margaret is survived by her daughters, Carolyn (William) Poppino of Vancouver, Wash. and Bunny (Steve) Handl of Great Falls; son Casey (Sherri) Sweeney of Black Eagle; brother Edward Lustgraaf of Madison, Wis.; and grandchildren Dr. Renea Jablonski, Christopher Handl and Benjamin Handl.

She was preceded in death by her husband Bernard Sweeney.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to the Ursuline Centre in Great Falls.

Condolences may be posted online at www.oconnorfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

DIXIE LEE (McDERMOTT) SWENSON
Born: January 14, 1935 – Died: August 8, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
August 23, 2011

Dixie Lee Swenson

Dixie Lee (McDermott) Swenson, 76, of Great Falls, died of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease Monday, Aug. 8, at Peace Hospice.



Swenson

Visitation is 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Monday at Hillcrest Lawn Memorial Chapel, with burial at Gold Butte Cemetery in Shelby.

Dixie was born in Shelby, on Jan. 14, 1935. She was raised in the Sweet Grass Hills and graduated in 1955 from Sunburst High School. She went on to attend the Columbus Hospital School of Nursing. Dixie worked at the county nursing home for 28 years, until a work injury forced her into early retirement.



Swenson,
1956

She was married to a loving Glenn A. Swenson in 1956.

A woman of many hobbies, Dixie found a world of joy in cooking, baking, knitting and crocheting, dancing, playing cards, and spending time with her numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She will be remembered as a fan of Grizzly football, the Minnesota Vikings, and for being a relentless NASCAR Jamie McMurray enthusiast. Dixie also pulled enjoyment from being a 35-year member of the Eagles Auxiliary No. 14.

Survivors include daughters Mary and Cynthia Swenson, and Evett (Paul) Lawhon, all of Great Falls, and Arla (Tim) Oswald of Green River, Wyo.; son Neil Swenson of Helena; sister Beverly Nash of Cut Bank; brothers Rodney McDermott of Belfair, Wash., Henry McDermott of Shelby, and Ken McDermott of Fairfield; 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Those who preceded Dixie in death include her husband of 24 years, Glenn A. Swenson; parents Pete and Ruth McDermott; brothers William, Patrick and Peter G. McDermott; sisters Elnora Lammerding, Betty Zell, Rosemary McDermott and Helen Dolezal; and grandson Jason Swenson.

Condolences may be posted online at www.croxfordfuneralhome.com and/or www.gftribune.com/obituaries.

ANNA E. (CARR) TACKE
Born: December 4, 1923 – Died: May 24, 2011
Great Falls Tribune
June 2, 2011

Anna E. Tacke

Anna E. (Carr) Tacke, 87, of 1317 4th Ave. S., died of natural causes Tuesday, May 24, in Bozeman.

Cremation took place under the direction of Dokken-Nelson Funeral Home of Bozeman. A celebration of her life is 11 a.m. Saturday at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, with burial of ashes in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Anna was born Dec. 4, 1923, in Black Coulee, Mont. She attended nursing school from 1942-45 at Sacred Heart Hospital in Havre, receiving a bachelor's degree in nursing. She was a nurse at Kennedy Deaconess Hospital in Havre, and at a hospital in Cut Bank.

She lived in Rudyard prior to her marriage to Edgar O. Tacke on Nov. 22, 1947, in Hingham, Mont. They moved to Fort Benton and then to Great Falls.

Edgar and Anna were members of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, where for more than 60 years she was

active in many areas of both the church and school. She loved the church and being a part of helping out. She volunteered and baked countless goodies for the many events.

Anna was a loving mother and housewife. She dedicated her love and energy to her family, friends and her flowers. Her sense of humor and laugh were always present.

She will be missed greatly by her family and friends, but we rejoice in knowing that she is at home with her beloved Lord.

She is survived by daughters Diane (Don) Willems and Sandra (Randy) Bryant; sons Don Tacke, Victor Tacke and David Tacke; 20 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Matthew and Katherine Carr; brothers Gordon Carr, Harold Carr and James Carr; sisters Patricia Dostal and Margret May; and a grandchild, Kevin Willems.

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

TERRY LEE THIELMAN

Born: June 4, 1945– Died: August 4, 2011

Liberty County Times

August 10, 2011



Terry Thielman

Terry Lee Thielman was born June 4th, 1945 in Havre, Montana. He was one of nine children born to Harold and Mina (Ames) Thielman. Terry was raised in Chester and received most of his education here. He transferred to the Shelby school system because they offered special classes in mechanics. Terry finished his junior and senior years at Shelby High School and graduated in 1964.

In the years that followed, Terry worked on a family farm in Chinook. In the winter months he drove truck for the Chinook Farmer's Union Oil Company. Beginning in the fall of 1965, he served in the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve Corps for a seven-year stint. During his enlistment, Terry worked as a turret mechanic and earned awards as a sharpshooter rifleman and expert pistol man. He attained the rank of Specialist-5 at the time of his honorable discharge in 1972.

While living in Chinook, Terry met his wife-to-be, Trina (Overcast) Brinkman, and they were married on May 14th, 1971. Before long, they moved to the Thielman family farm northwest of Chester, where they raised a family of three. In addition to his own farm work, Terry helped on the Wanken, Stevens, and Cole farms at various times. He also worked in machinery setup, delivery, and mechanics for the Thielman Implement Company in Chester. There were also a few years when he worked on oil rigs throughout north central Montana.

Terry became a contract rural mail carrier in 1988 and provided "rain or shine" delivery to Liberty County farmers for 22 years. In addition he served as sexton and maintenance man for the Liberty County Cemetery District from 2004-2011. Terry would still be providing these two important community services if not for his precarious health issues. In 2005 he was diagnosed with a rare blood disease called "C-protein deficiency". From that time on he developed many cardiovascular and abdominal complications, and the past two years have been a real struggle. Terry's pain and discomfort finally left him early Thursday morning (August 4th, 2011) when he passed away at the Liberty Medical Center in Chester. He was 66 years young.

Terry was baptized in the Lutheran faith as an infant. About 15 years ago Terry and Trina joined Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, where they enjoyed their membership. The Thielmans looked forward to camping adventures and floating the Marias River. During their 40 years of marriage, they made several memorable trips (Minot, ND "HostFest"; Branson, Mo; Texas; and the Oregon coast, to name a few). They also enjoyed their "Sunday drives" in the local area and their summer outings to the Flathead Valley.

Terry had many hobbies to keep him busy. He enjoyed train sets, model airplanes, metal detectors, guns and shooting, and his coin collections. During his quiet time at home he liked to watch "old westerns" on television. He also enjoyed "puttering" in his shop. He was a gentle giant who would help anyone in need. He loved family, farming, and life. He will be truly missed by those who loved him, but mostly by his "best buddy", Trina...

Terry was preceded in death by his parents, a brother (Dale), two infant brothers (Charles and Dean), and a sister (Georgia).

He is survived by his loving wife, Trina Thielman of Chester; 3 children and spouses, Patrick (Shannon) Brinkman of Great Falls, Charles (Brandy) Thielman of Chester, and

Tanya (Tom) Dahinden of Billings; 7 grandchildren, Bryce and Erin Brinkman, Brady and Isabella Thielman, and Tyler, Cody, and Blake Dahinden; 1 brother, Gale (Ann) Thielman

of Great Falls; 3 sisters, Eloise (Charles) Morehead of Tenino, WA., Joanne Willman of Chinook, and Linda (Jim) Kathman of Great Falls; and many nephews and nieces.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Monday (Aug. 8th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor John Fauerbach. The congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross", accompanied by Holly Frederickson. Vocalist, Ruth Ann Norick, performed "On Eagle's Wings" and "You Have Come Down To The Lakeshore". Two of Terry's nieces, Karen Blunt and Tara Thielman, served as greeters and readers. Another niece, Karla Neibauer, shared the eulogy. Pallbearers were nephews Dean, Dennis, and Doug Mondy; Kent Lybeck; Greg Thielman; and Dale Kathman. "All of Terry's friends" were listed as honorary bearers. Burial with military "taps" and flag presentation by Ray Standiford followed at the Chester Cemetery. A luncheon was served at the church. Memorials may be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester, Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, or donor's choice. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

TERRY LEE THIELMAN

BORN: June 4, 1945 at Havre, Mt.
DIED: August 4, 2011 at Chester, Mt.
AGE: 66 years ... 2 months ... 0 days



“FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND”

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky. In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints; other times there was one set of footprints. This bothered me because I noticed that during the low periods of my life - when I was suffering from anguish, sorrow, or defeat - I could see only one set of footprints. So I said to the Lord, “You promised me Lord, that if I followed you, you would walk with me always. But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life, there have been only one set of footprints in the sand. Why, when I needed you most, you have not been there for me?” The Lord replied, “The times when you have seen only one set of footprints, are the times when I carried you”!

Mary Stevenson

FUNERAL SERVICES: 11:00 a.m. Monday (Aug. 8th)
at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church in Chester, Montana

OFFICIANT: Pastor John Fauerbach

PIANIST: Holly Frederickson...
Congregational Hymn: *“The Old Rugged Cross”*

VOCALIST: Ruth Ann Norick... **Vocal Tributes:** *“You Have Come Down To The Lakeshore”* & *“On Eagle’s Wings”*

GREETERS & SCRIPTURE READERS:
Nieces, Tara Thielman & Karen Blunt

EULOGIST: Niece, Karla Neibauer

PALLBEARERS: Nephews, Dean, Dennis, & Doug Mond
Kent Lybeck; Greg Thielman; and Dale Kathm

HONORARY BEARERS: “All of Terry’s friends” ...

INTERMENT: Chester Cemetery

MILITARY FLAG PRESENTATION: Ray Standifo

... Luncheon to follow at the church fellowship hall .

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester

LEONA M. (KOLAR) THIELMANN

Born: Age: 90 – Died: April 9, 2011

Great Falls Tribune

April 11, 2011

Leona M. Thielmann

LEWISTOWN — Leona M. (Kolar) Thielmann, 90, of Lewistown, who enjoyed camping, rock hounding, cutting and polishing stones to make jewelry and agate churches, died of natural causes Saturday, April 9, at Valle Vista Manor in Lewistown.

Visitation is 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Creel Funeral Home in Lewistown. Her funeral is 1 p.m. Friday at the funeral home, with burial in Lewistown City Cemetery. A luncheon will follow at the Eagles.

Survivors include a brother, Viktor Kolar.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Alfred Thielmann in 2005.

LORRAINE (GOMKE) TRULSON

Born: October 21, 1936 – Died: February 17, 2011

Havre Daily News

February 21, 2011



Lorraine
Trulson

Lorraine Trulson

74, died Thursday, Feb. 17, 2011, at Northern Montana Hospital of natural causes.

Cremation has taken place, and her memorial service was 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 21, 2011, at St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church, with Father Dale Yurkovie officiating. Her burial will be held later in the spring. The family invites you to join them for a time of fellowship immediately after the service at the Eagle's Club. Memorial contributions in Lorraine's honor may be made to the Dialysis Unit c/o Northern Montana Hospital, P.O. Box 1231, Havre, MT 59501. Services and arrangements have been entrusted to Holland & Bonine Funeral Home.

Lorraine was born Oct. 21, 1936, in Havre, MT., to Edward and Bertha (Fisher) Gomke. She was raised and educated in Kremlin and graduated from Kremlin High School. She married John O. Trulson on Oct. 21, 1954, in Hingham, MT. Together they made their home in Kremlin and raised three daughters Lindy, Cindy and Teresa. She worked for the railroad in the building and bridges division for a few years, cooked during harvest at the Kenny Axvig farm and worked at Andy's Supper Club.

Lorraine was a hard worker who enjoyed helping people and being around others. This led to her career in the tavern business. She worked for various taverns, was the owner of the Water Hole and managed the Fresno Tavern for many years. She and her husband John moved to Havre in 1985, and in 1987 they purchased the Tip It Bar. Lorraine operated the Tip It Bar until 2011 when her health prevented her from doing so, and she turned the operation over to her children.

Lorraine enjoyed working in her yard, raising beautiful flowers and watching horseshoe players from her deck. She loved watching pool and loved to take her dog Max to the gopher fields and watch him run. Her passion in life was for her grandchildren and great grandchildren – life's reward after raising her girls.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, John, in 1992; her sister, Aggie Reinowski; and brothers, Stan Gomke, Nonnan Gomke, Jimmy Gomke and Rueben Gomke.

Lorraine is survived by her children, Lindy Scofield of Billings, Mont., Cindy (Brad) Lee of Havre, Mont., Teresa (John) Roberts of Havre, Mont.; grandchildren, Allen (Jen) Lee of Woodbridge, Va., Robert (Lori McMullan) Scofield of Portland, Ore., Jason Echelard of Havre, Mont., and David (Carmen) Lee of Stevensville, Mont.; great-grandchildren, John Cole and Bryce McMullan of Portland, Ore., Dylan Hinds of Lolo, Mont., and David, Brian and Rebecca Lee of Woodbridge, VA. She is also survived by her sisters, Patty (Jerry) Marleau of Lake Havasu, Ariz., and Shirley (Darrell) Hensley of Havre, Mont.; her brothers, Clarence 'Blackie' (Anna Mac) Gomke of Great Falls, Mont., Fritz 'Fred' Gomke of Kremlin, Mont., Robert (Sharon) Gomke of Kremlin, Mont., Mike (Linda) Gomke of Havre, Mont.; a special friend and sister-in-law Beverly Converse of Havre, Mont.; several nieces and nephews; and her dog Max.

VIRGINIA M. (STUART) LUCKE VERKUEHLEN

Born: November 24, 1916 – Died: July 5, 2011

Havre Daily News

July 7, 2011

Virginia M. Stuart Lucke Verkuehlen

Hill
County pioneer Virginia
M. Stuart
Lucke
Verkuehlen,
94, of Havre,
died Tuesday,
July 5, 2011,
at Northern
Montana
Hospital in
Havre.

She was
born Nov. 24, 1916, in Havre to
C. Leonard Stuart and Harriet
A. (Behrends) Stuart. Virginia
was employed by the people of
Hill County as the treasurer
and later the assessor.

She also worked at one time
for the H. Earl Clack Co. of



**Virginia M.
Stuart Lucke
Verkuehlen**

Havre, Northern Montana
College and the F.A. Buttrey
Co. of Havre.

Virginia was a member of
Van Orsdel United Methodist
Church. She was a devoted
bridge player and a staunch
Democrat all of her life.

She is preceded in death by
her sister, Marjorie Brownlee of
Gildford, Mont.; her brothers,
William Stuart of Harlem,
Leonard Stuart of Danville, Ky.,
and Robert Stuart.

She is survived by her
daughter, Lou Ann Aaberg of
Oakland, Calif; her son, Robert
Lucke of Havre, Mont.; three
grandchildren; three great-
grandchildren; and her beloved
little dog, Fala.

A graveside committal will
be conducted 10 a.m. Monday,
July 11, 2011, at Highland
Cemetery with Pastor Cleve
McSwain officiating.

Arrangement are being han-
dled by Holland & Bonine
Funeral Home of Havre

ROBERT (BOB) J. VUKASIN

Born: May 31, 1939 – Died: September 8, 2011

Havre Daily News
September 12, 2011

Robert (Bob) J. Vukasin

Robert Joseph Vukasin, 72, a Montana National Guard Veteran, former bowling alley proprietor and retired I.B.E.W. electrical contractor, died after an extended battle with cancer. Bob passed away on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2011, in the comfort of his home in Havre. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Holland & Bonine Funeral Home. At his request, a private family service will be held at a later date. Memorials in Bob's honor may be made to the American Cancer Society Montana Chapter, 550 North 31 St., #103 Billings MT 59107.

Bob was born on May 31, 1939, in Great Falls, and was the third child of four children born to Mark and Hannah Vukasin.

He attended school in Great Falls. After school, Bob started working at the ACM Company and Odegards before starting his electrical career as an apprentice with Goggans and Pennies in 1961. Bob enlisted in the Montana Air National Guard in 1963 and was honorably discharged as a sergeant in 1969. He worked for Goggans and Pennies as a journeyman electrician in Great Falls until 1973, then in Havre until 1977.

After receiving his master electrician's license in 1977, Bob started his own electrical business, Future Electric Inc. The



Robert J.
Vukasin



business was operated by Bob and his wife, Ruth, until retirement in 2003.

As avid bowlers, Bob and Ruth bought the bowling center, K-Lanes/Spare Time Lounge in Rudyard Mont., which they operated for 22 years. During that time, they met and bowled with many wonderful people.

Bob met Ruth Culbertson, his wife of 49 years, in 1960. They were married in Great Falls April 14, 1962. Together they were blessed with

four children whom Bob loved dearly. The family lived in Great Falls until they moved to Havre in 1973.

Bob's family came first in his life. He cherished all the time he spent with his family, especially holidays, birthdays, vacations and special events.

Bob had a variety of interests and hobbies. When he was younger, he loved to pan for gold and go hunting with his sons and brother. He also enjoyed trolling for trout and water sports of all kinds at Holter Lake and Fresno Lake west of Havre. Among other interests, Bob liked playing pool, darts and cards with friends and family. For recognition of his love of bowling, in 2008 Bob received a plaque

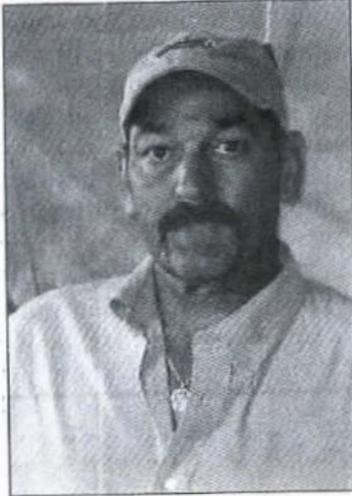
from the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) commemorating 25 years of consecutive participation in the USBC National Bowling Tournament.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Mark and Hannah; a son, Mark; and a sister, Shirley Burkhard.

Bob is survived by his wife of 49 years, Ruth; two sons, Robert (Rob) Vukasin II, (Paula Gamble), Rex (Melanie) Vukasin; a daughter, Cindy Vukasin; three grandchildren, Mark Vukasin, Christopher Vukasin and Colin Vukasin, all of Havre; a brother, Albert Vukasin of Great Falls; a sister, Dorothy (Al) Kingston of Great Falls; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Condolences to the family may be posted online at: hollandbonine@q.com

PETER CHRISTOPHER WENDLAND
Born: November 7, 1956 – Died: July 17, 2011
Liberty County Times
July 27, 2011



Peter Wendland

Peter Christopher Wendland was born November 7th, 1956 to Harlan and Eleanor Diemert Wendland in Havre, MT and passed away July 17th at his home in Casper, WY.

He graduated Rudyard H.S. in Rudyard, MT. He attended Billings Vo-Tech and graduated with a Drafting degree.

Peter worked at Oft-edahl Road Construction as a heavy equipment mechanic then at Carlson Machine Shop as a mechanic.

He was a very kind and caring individual and was well liked by his neighbors and friends. He loved the outdoors, fishing, camping and working in his garden and also woodworking.

Peter was preceded in death by his parents,

brothers, Leon, Lawrence and a sister Katherine.

He is survived by his special friend Diane Hubbard, son Jordan, brothers and sisters, Mary Bunek, Caroline Barker (Kermit), John (Claire), Theresa Ketron (Jim), Michael (Sue), Nicholas (Lisa), Jerome (Sally), Martha Kantorowicz (Frank), Gregory (Tracy), Francis (Lori), Barbara Wright, Sylvester, Elizabeth Davis (Chris) and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were held 1:00 pm Wednesday, July 20th at Newcomer Funeral Home 710 E. 2nd Casper, WY, 82601 with Father Robert Fox officiating. Memorial contributions may be made in Peters name directly to the American Cancer Society 333 S. Beech St. Casper, WY. 82601 or

Central Wyoming Hospice 319 S. Wilson St. Casper, WY. 82601.

ROY DUANE WICKUM

Born: March 19, 1924 – Died: September 10, 2011

Liberty County Times

September 14, 2011



Roy Wickum

Roy Duane Wickum was born March 19th, 1924 at Havre, Montana. He was the second of four children born to Richard and Buelah Ma-

rie (Standiford) Wickum. He grew up on the family homestead one mile south of Haystack Butte. Roy received his early schooling at the Wickum country school west of the farm, then went to Chester for his secondary education. Soon after, he began his life as a fulltime farmer. In those early years Roy farmed & ranched with his brother, Richard. They eventually expanded their farming operations with the acquisition of the Forseth & Hutchison farms.

Roy married Maxine A. Fowler on December 31st, 1949 at Shelby, Montana. They raised a family of six on their farm near the Sweetgrass Hills. Roy's health remained good throughout the years, so he continued to farm into his 80's. In January of 2011 he broke his hip; he entered the Marias Care Center in Shelby for extended care. Two

weeks ago Roy transferred to the Liberty Medical Center in Chester, where he died peacefully on the early morning of Saturday (September 10th, 2011). He was 87 years old.

Roy was baptized & confirmed at the Trinity Lutheran Church north of Lothair. He remained a lifetime member of Trinity and served on the church council for many years. Roy also held membership at the Moose Lodge in Conrad, a place where he & Maxine enjoyed dancing and socializing with friends.

The Wickums enjoyed 61 years of married life together. In 1983 they bought their first motorhome. They enjoyed their annual trek to the Norsk Hostfest in Minot, North Dakota and made many other journeys throughout the United States & Canada. They loved good music & entertainment, and never passed up an opportunity to polka, waltz, or square-dance. In addition to RV'ing, Roy & Maxine enjoyed several memorable trips with family & friends (a Delta Queen cruise and a Hawaiian vacation, to name a few).

Roy's personal hobbies were many. In his early married years he enjoyed hunting, playing pinochle, and watching hockey & boxing events on television. He also enjoyed raising a vegetable garden and cooking (he would find an interesting recipe and give it a try!). During the holidays he would help make lefse & rosettes. In later years he enjoyed fishing and collecting coins. In his quiet time at home he loved to read (especially, farm magazines like the "Prairie Star"), watch the RFD channel on television,

and maintain his daily journal (where he documented local weather, special happenings, and family events). Roy loved his family; it was obvious to them that his main "purpose in life" these past few years was the simple enjoyment of his great-grandkids.

Roy also loved his life as a Montana farmer. He enjoyed touring manufacturing plants

and attending ag conferences & equipment shows to learn new technologies. He also appreciated the history of farming, so threshing bees and old equipment exhibits were always fun. Roy was a self-taught mechanic who could fix anything, and he was an excellent teacher to his children. During the past few years he enjoyed bird-watching on the farm. His birdseed bill was plenty, but not nearly the amount he spent on cat food to feed all of his feline friends in the barn!

Roy was a quiet & reserved man who showed his love by example. He will be missed by his family, including his wife, Maxine of Chester; 4 sons, Wayne of Glendive, Warren (Marcia) of Chester, Cliff (Helen) of Chester, and Dale of Rochester, MN.; 2 daughters, Ann & Bev, both of Chester; 8 grandchildren, Jenny, Kresta, Lance, Robert, Ryan, Roy, Carey, & Lisa; 15 great-grandchildren; 1 sister, Nellie Diemert of Chester; and numerous nephews & nieces. Roy was preceded in death by his parents, 1 brother (Richard), 1 sister (Marjorie), 1 grandson (Travis), and 1 great-grandson (Xaeiver).

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday (Sept. 13th) at Our Savior's

Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor John Fauerbach. The vocal trio of Wayne Wardell, Loren Hawks, & Jeff Mattson performed "How Great Thou Art" & "Amazing Grace". Holly Frederickson accompanied the congregation, who sang "The Old Rugged Cross". The obituary & remembrances were shared by Robert Wickum. Scripture readings were by Kresta Bachteler and Iva Kolstad. Ushers were Ed Diemert and Murray Taylor. Pallbearers were

4 grandsons (Lance, Ryan, Roy, & Robert Wickum) and 2 nephews (Dennis Diemert & Rick Wickum). Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials in Roy's honor may be given to donor's choice...

ROY DUANE WICKUM

BORN: March 19, 1924 at Havre, Montana

DIED: Sept. 10, 2011 at Chester, Montana

AGE: 87 years ... 5 months ... 22 days



When loved ones walk
 into the sunset—
And wave a last "goodbye",
And sorrow's shadows
 deepen,
And each smile becomes a
 sigh;
What a comfort and a solace
That for them life's trials
 are done;
Eternal Joy awaits them —
Just beyond the setting sun.

PSALM 121 . . .

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,

From whence cometh my help.

My help cometh from the Lord,

Which made Heaven and Earth.

*He will not suffer thy foot to be
moved;*

*He that keepeth thee will not slum-
ber.*

*Behold, He that keepeth Israel
Shall neither slumber nor sleep.*

The Lord is thy keeper;

*The Lord is thy shade upon thy right
hand.*

*The sun shall not smite thee by day,
Nor the moon by night.*

*The Lord shall preserve thee from all
evil;*

He shall preserve thy soul.

*The Lord shall preserve thy going out
and thy coming in,*

*From this time forth, and even for
evermore.*

FUNERAL SERVICES: 11:00 a.m. Tuesday (Sept. 13, 2011)
at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, Mt.

OFFICIANT: Pastor John Fauerbach

SCRIPTURE READERS: Kresta Bachteler & Iva Kolstad

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCES: Robert Wickum

PIANIST: Holly Frederickson

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN: "The Old Rugged Cross"

VOCAL TRIO: Wayne Wardell, Loren Hawks, & Jeff Mattson

VOCAL TRIBUTES: "Amazing Grace" & "How Great Thou Art"

USHERS: Ed Diemert & Murray Taylor

PALLBEARERS: Lance, Robert, Ryan, & Roy Wickum;
Dennis Diemert; and Rick Wickum

INTERMENT: Chester Cemetery

...Reception to follow at the Fellowship Hall...

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester

MEMORIALS: Memorials may be given to donor's choice...

GARLAND WAYNE WILLMAN
Born: May 15, 1930– Died: January 30, 2011
Havre Daily News
February 3, 2011

Garland Wayne Willman

Garland Wayne Willman, 80; passed away Jan. 30, 2011, at Northern Montana Hospital, of pulmonary fibrosis.

Funeral services will be Saturday, Feb. 5, 2011, at 11 a.m., in American Lutheran Church, with burial following in Kuper Memorial Cemetery.

Memorials may be sent to the American Lutheran Church or Gift of Life Housing in Great Falls.

Arrangements are by Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook.

Wayne was born on May 15, 1930, to Garland and Alshild (Erickson) Willman in Havre. He was the oldest of two children, Wayne and his sister Alice. When he was 5, the family moved to Helena. Wayne would travel to Chinook for the summer during vacation time. He always loved the farm. When he was a sophomore, they moved back to the family farm south of Chinook. He graduated from Chinook High School with the Class of 1949.



Garland Wayne Willman

In 1949, he married Dixie Maddox and to this union Tanis, Steve, Grant and Maurice Kevin were born. In 1965, Wayne married Joanne (Thielman) Lybeck and Todd and Karla were born to this union with Karen, Kent, and Kevin Lee Lybeck included in the family. Wayne, Joanne and family lived on the family farm south of Chinook and raised kids, cattle and grain. Wayne and Joanne semi-retired and moved to Chinook in 1988.

Wayne served on the Chinook School Board, T.V. Board, Farmers Union Oil Board and the Blaine County Weed Control Board.

He is survived by his wife, Joanne, of Chinook; daughters, Tanis (Charles) Henry of Seattle, Karla (Jamie) Neibauer of Chinook, Karen (Ken) Blunt of Malta; sons, Steve (Jerri) Willman of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Grant (Jan) Willman of Bellevue, Wash.; Kent (Arleen) Lybeck of Chinook, Kevin (Karla) Willman of Pendleton, Ore., Kevin Lee (Susan) Lybeck of Hartford, Conn., and Todd Willman of Chinook; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, who were the joy of his life; and brother-in-law, Jack Cassidy and family in California. Wayne was preceded in death by his father, Garland Willman, in 1961; his mother, Alshild Lee in 1988; a daughter, Nanette, in 1954, and his sister, Alice Cassidy.

BETTY JO (LaVALLEY) WOLERY

Born: November 18, 1927 – Died: August 28, 2011

Liberty County Times

September 7, 2011



Betty Jo Wolery

Betty Jo (LaValley) Wolery was born November 18, 1927 in Great Falls, Montana. She was one of seven children born to Arthur and Bernadean (Hyle) LaValley. Betty grew up in Joplin and received her education there, graduating from Joplin High School in 1945.

She married Wayne W. Wolery on October 1, 1945. They made their home on the Wolery farm 30 miles north of Joplin, where they raised a family of four. In addition to working diligently as a farmwife and homemaker, Betty helped with the family meat-cutting business in the 1960's and drove school bus on the north Joplin route and served as a Joplin school aide for a handicapped student in the 1970's. She also baked wedding cakes as a sideline throughout the years.

Just a few days before her 68th birthday, Betty suffered a debilitating stroke. Since 1995 she has received physi-

cal therapy and personal care from her loving husband. In 1998 the Wolerys moved to the Ray Lincoln farm south of Inverness so they could be closer to family and medical facilities. In January of 2011 they transferred to the Wheat Country Estates in Chester. Betty died peacefully at the assisted-living facility while napping in her recliner chair on the early morning of Sunday (August 28, 2011). She was 83 years old.

Betty was baptized, confirmed, and married at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. During their years on the farm she was involved in all of the activities at Immanuel Lutheran Church and served as church treasurer for many years. She also held memberships in the Minneota Friendly Club and the Rudyard Gun Club.

Betty enjoyed many hobbies. She loved doing handiwork (like knitting, crocheting, and quilting) and maintained a ceramic studio and kiln in her basement for many years. Other interests included flowers, gardening, cooking, baking, canning, and candy-making. She loved her personal collection of spoons and Depression glassware. Betty was always proud of her home and yard. Her skills as an immaculate house-keeper were well-known.

Betty's physical abilities were limited following her stroke, so she became an avid reader (she was especially fond of novels and historical).

She also enjoyed jigsaw puzzles and cribbage.

The Wolerys were loyal companions throughout their 66 years of married life. They made many memorable trips and cruises with family and friends. They enjoyed coyote-hunting and trap-shooting together. They loved to attend social events (i.e., weddings, funerals, and anniversaries); although it wasn't easy, they continued to stay active at these public functions during the past 16 years. They also cherished their quiet time together, for instance, they en-

joyed spontaneous road trips around the countryside on lazy afternoons.

The Wolerys were liked and respected throughout the Hi-Line, so the community offers their heartfelt sympathy to Wayne and family for the loss of his loving spouse and best friend, Betty...

In addition to her husband, Betty is survived by 2 daughters, Diane (Roger) Johnson of Groton, So. Dakota [and their children, Shane, Darcy, & Matt] and Helen (Scott) Turner of Portland, OR. [and their children, Abby & Aiden]; 2 sons, Ken (Nyda) Wolery of Billings [and their children, Randy, Gina, & Rachel] and Paul (Nancy) Wolery of Inverness [and their children, Cally, Rayne, & Torrie]. Including Betty's 11 grandchildren, there are 16 great-grandchildren; 2 sisters, Elaine (Ray) Lukes of Spokane, WA. and LaVon (Terry) Cave of

Hermiston, OR; 2 brothers, Art (Karen) LaValley of Spokane, WA. and Terry (Madeline) LaValley of Anaconda; and numerous nieces & nephews.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents, 1 sister (Fern Wood), and 1 brother (Earl Gray LaValley).

A "Celebration of Life" Service was held at 11:00 a.m. Friday (Sept. 2nd) at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Pastors Dale Wolery and Henry Hatch officiated. Granddaughter, Darcy, read a special letter entitled "What A Band-Aid Won't Fix". Granddaughter, Torrie, read a memory letter sent by her brother, Rayne, who couldn't be here. The obituary was read by brother, Terry, and personal remembrances were shared by her 4 children. Pianist, Tammy Duncan, accompanied the congregation, who sang "Borning Cry", "In the Garden", & "How Great Thou Art"; these hymns were led by Sara Wolery. Special musical tributes included a medley by the trio of Nancy, Cally, & Torrie Wolery, and a solo ("Jesus Still Loves Me") was performed by Imani Wolery. Ushers were Tim Tempel and Steve Dahinden. Honorary bearers were "all of Betty's loving grandchildren". A memorial luncheon followed in Kjos Hall. Cremation & arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials may be given to Bethel Church, Immanuel Church, Wheat Country Estates, or Great Falls "Gift of Life".

**BETTY JO
(LaVALLEY)
WOLERY**

BORN: November 18, 1927
in Great Falls, Mt.

DIED: August 28, 2011
in Chester, Montana

AGE: 83 years
... 9 months
... 10 days



GOD'S GARDEN . . .

*God looked around His garden - And He found an empty place;
He then looked down upon His earth - And saw your tired face.
He put His arms around you - And lifted you to rest;
God's garden must be beautiful - He always takes the best.
He saw the road was getting rough - And the hills were hard to climb;
So He closed your weary eyelids - And whispered "Peace be Thine".
It broke our hearts to lose you - But you didn't go alone;
For part of us went with you - The day God called you home.*

BETTY'S FAMILY: Husband, Wayne; 2 daughters, Diane/Roger and Helen/Scott; 2 sons, Ken/Nyda and Paul/Nancy; 11 grandchildren, Shane, Darcy, Matt, Abby, Aiden, Randy, Gina, Rachel, Cally, Rayne, and Torrie; 16 great-grandchildren; 2 sisters, Elaine/Ray and LaVon/Terry; 2 brothers, Art/Karen and Terry/Madeline; and many nieces & nephews...

"CELEBRATION OF LIFE" SERVICE: 11:00 a.m. Friday
(Sept. 2, 2011) at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin, Montana

OFFICIATING: Pastor Dale Wolery and Pastor Henry Hatch

SPECIAL READING: Granddaughter, Darcy ... A letter written
in 1995 to Grandma from Abby entitled "What A Band-Aid Won't Fix"

OBITUARY READING: Brother, Terry

PERSONAL REMEMBRANCES: Children, Diane & Ken

PIANIST: Tammy Duncan

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS: "Borning Cry", "How Great Tho
Art", and "In the Garden" (Hymns will be led by Sara Wolery)

SPECIAL MUSICAL TRIBUTES:

Vocal trio of Nancy, Cally, and Torrie Wolery ... *Selected Medley*
Vocal solo by Imani Wolery ... "Jesus Still Loves Me"

USHERS: Steve Dahinden and Tim Tempel

HONORARY BEARERS: "All of Betty's Loving Grandchildren"

...A Memorial Luncheon will follow in Kjos Hall..

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester, Mt.

MEMORIALS: Bethel Church in Joplin, Immanuel Church north of
Joplin, Wheat Country Estates in Chester, or "Gift of Life" in Great Falls

ROBERT WILLIAM WOODS

Born: August 3, 1928 – Died: December 12, 2011

Liberty County Times

December 21, 2011



Robert Woods

Robert William "Bob" Woods was born August 3, 1928 in Vegreville, Alberta, Canada. He was one of 2 children born to Robert H. Woods and Esther L. Strissel. At that time they lived on the family farm at Warwick, Alberta. Bob began his schooling in Lavoy, Alberta in 1934. In the spring of 1937 his family moved back to the family homestead northeast of Inverness, Mt. He completed his schooling at Inverness, graduating in the spring of 1946. After turning 18 years old, Bob enlisted in the U. S. Army. Upon completion of basic training, he was assigned to the Judge Advocate's office in Tokyo, Japan. After a two year tour he returned home to Inverness and started farming.

The first weekend he was home from the Army, he attended a dance in the Inverness gym, where he met a young gal by the name of

Virginia Ann Raunig from Chester. He had occasionally corresponded with her while he was in Japan. They seem to hit it off quite well and were married on September 19th, 1953 at St. Ann's Cathedral in Great Falls. She was what he considered a "city gal", but was pleasantly surprised

when she fully adapted to farm life. In those early years Bob worked for the Great Northern Railroad during the winter months, returning to Inverness to farm during the summer months. In 1958 they built a new home ½ mile north of Inverness where they raised their three children. When his parents retired in 1960, they took over the family farm. During the next several decades they bought and rented additional land which they farmed until their retirement in December of 1995. Bob was an avid farmer and excellent businessman who took pride in the perfection of his work.

Bob was an active member of the United Methodist Church and served on numerous boards in the community during his farming career. He was a charter member of the Inverness Commercial Club and held all of the offices over the years.

He served on the Inverness Water & Sewer Users board from the day it was formed until his retirement several years ago. He also served a term on each of the Farmers Home Administration and ASCS committees for Hill County. He was on the Ruddyard Ambulance board for 13 years and a member of the Sweetgrass Lodge board for 9 years, serving three years as chairman.

Bob had fond memories of enjoying several cruises throughout the Caribbean and the Mexican Riviera. The Woods' enjoyed vacationing in Hawaii numerous times and visited all four corners of the U.S. They established a family tradition, which lasted 56 consecutive years, of vacationing at Apgar in Glacier National Park during the first week of July. This has been a great place for extended

One key interest Bob enjoyed was flying, but was unable to attain his pilot's license due to medical issues. Bob's positive attitude and determination allowed him to fight cancer and other health issues for 20 years. He felt fortunate to live a good life and remain at home during these past few years of poor health. In May of 2011 he was hospitalized with severe pneumonia, after which he moved to the Wheat Country Estates in Chester for assisted living. On November 28th Bob developed heart complications, so he transferred to the Liberty Medical Center for extended care. He died peacefully at the Chester nursing facility on the early morning of Monday (December 12, 2011). He was 83 years old.

During his childhood in Canada, Bob loved playing baseball. During his school days at Inverness, he enjoyed basketball, track, and football. Bob remained an avid sports enthusiast and loved to support the activities of his children and grandchildren. He enjoyed collecting coins and started personal collections for each of his grandchildren. He was very prideful of his yard, trees, and farm. Bob appreciated his life as a Montana farmer and just loved to "watch things grow". He will be deeply missed by his family and friends...

Bob's survivors include his wife of 58 years, Virginia Woods of Inverness; 2 sons, Greg (Elizabeth) Woods of Inverness/Chester and Scott (Kathy) Woods of Chelmsford, MA; 1 daughter, Linda (Matt) Guzik of Hamilton; 4 granddaughters, Lauren, Jocelyn, & Madeline of Chester and Emily of Chelmsford, MA; 2 grandsons, Robert Matthew and An-

drew, both of Chester; and numerous nephews & nieces. Bob was preceded in death by his parents and his sister (Aileen Han).

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 a.m. Saturday (Dec. 17th) at the Chester United Methodist Church by Pastor Grover Briggs. The obituary & scriptures were read by Father Joe Diekhans. A poetic reading was done by Kay Wojtala. Vocalist, Marcus Jochim, performed "Climb Every Mountain" and "The Lord's Prayer". The congregation sang "Joy To The World", accompanied by pianist, Christy Fossen. Ushers were Don Han and Kerry Patrick. Pallbearers were Don Raunig, Joe Raunig, Dick Burrows, Bill Woods, Terry Stevenson, & Bryan Watson. A luncheon followed in the fellowship hall. Graveside services were held at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. The Havre VFW Military Detail provided firing squad, taps, & flag presentation. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation or donor's choice...

ROBERT WILLIAM "BOB" WOODS

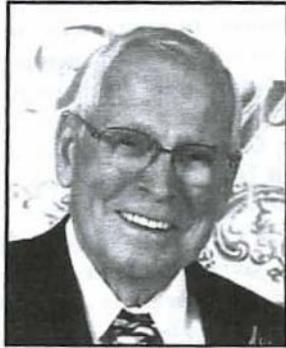
BORN: August 3, 1928 at Vegreville, Alberta

DIED: December 12, 2011 at Chester, Montana

AGE: 83 years ... 4 months ... 9 days

I'M FREE...

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day -
To laugh, to love, to work or to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that place at the close of day.
If my passing has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;
Ah yes, these things, I too, will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full. I savored much -
Good friends, good times, a loved one's
touch.
Perhaps my life seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me -
God wanted me now, He set me free!
Author Unknown



"A JOURNEY
IS BEST
MEASURED
IN FRIENDS,
NOT MILES"
by Tim Cahill

BOB'S LOVING FAMILY: Wife, Virginia; sons, Greg/Elizabeth and Scott/Kathy; daughter, Linda/Mitt; granddaughters, Lauren, Jocelyn, Madeline, & Emily; grandsons, Robert Matthew & Andrew; and many nephews & nieces...

FUNERAL SERVICE: 11:00 a.m. Saturday (Dec. 17th) at the
United Methodist Church in Chester, Montana

OFFICIANT: Pastor Grover Briggs

OBITUARY & SCRIPTURES: Father Joseph Diekhans

POETIC READING: Kay Wojtala ... "I'm Free"

PIANIST: Christy Fossen
Congregational Hymn: "Joy To The World"

VOCALIST: Marcus Jochim
Vocal Tributes: "Climb Every Mountain" and "The Lord's Prayer"

USHERS: Don Han and Kerry Patrick

PALLBEARERS: Don Raunig, Joe Raunig, Dick Burrows,
Bill Woods, Terry Stevenson, and Bryan Watson

... Luncheon to follow in the church fellowship hall ...

GRAVESIDE SERVICES: 2:30 p.m. Saturday (Dec. 17th)
at the Highland Cemetery in Havre, Montana
Committal Prayers: Pastor Briggs...
Military Rites: Havre V.F.W. Burial Squadron...

ARRANGEMENTS: Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester

MEMORIALS: Hi-Line Health Foundation or donor's choice...