

## TOM H. ADAMS

Born: February 4, 1929 - Died: July 11, 1997

Liberty County Times

July 16, 1997

### **Tom Adams**

Tom H. Adams, 68, of Livingston passed away Friday morning, July 11, 1997 at his home following a short illness. Funeral services and a celebration of Tom's life were at 1:30 pm Tuesday, July 15 in the Chapel of Franzen-Davis Funeral Home with his nephew, Pastor Larry Horinek of Hingham, Montana officiating. Burial was in Mountain View Cemetery.

He was born February 4, 1929 in Rudyard, Montana, the 9th of 13 children of Oscar and Emma Adams. Tom spent his early life and received his education in Rudyard and was baptized into the Lutheran faith when he was in his early 30's. On June 3, 1949 he married Mary Anne Klemetson in Chester, Montana. At the time of his death, they had been married 48 years.

Tom worked most of his life as a farmer and rancher and developed an extensive knowledge in both areas. He believed in a "do-it-yourself" philosophy and took great pride in his workmanship, which was reflected in his carpentry, veterinary and mechan-

ics work. Together with Mary Anne, they farmed and ranched south of Rudyard, in Harlowton after 1963 and in the Emigrant, Montana area after 1967. He had also worked in a Livingston sawmill and trailer manufacturing plant for a time. He was active until becoming ill in April of this year.

Friends and relatives will remember Tom's generous heart and teasing nature, with a way of making you laugh at yourself. His passion for horses was a major part of his life and he loved to relate stories about his favorite horses. Along with his brothers and sisters he could tell stories for hours about the "old days." His family will especially remember him as a loving husband, father, and grandfather.

He is survived and will be missed by his wife, Mary Anne Adams of Livingston; three sons, David T. and Wayne K. Adams both of Lewistown, MT and Steve F. Adams of Livingston, MT; three daughters, Donna Tandy of Roberts, MT, Cheryl L. Williams of Bozeman, MT, and Kathy Adams Dunbar of Great Falls, MT; his honor-

ary daughter Neva Hampson of Billings, MT; two brothers, Charles Adams of Inverness, MT and Zane Adams of Rudyard, MT; four sisters, Nellie Lakey of Kalispell, MT, Elsie Taylor of Chinook, MT, Gladys Johnston of Choteau, MT, and Joyce Knauss of Bremerton, WA; eight grandchildren, Cassie, Jason, Susan, Jennifer, Jessica, Jill, Scott and Autumn; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a brother, Victor Adams, and five sisters, Stella Joyce, Ione Joyce, Nora Adams, Marie Dunbar and Helen Sterner.

If so desired, memorials in Tom's memory may be directed to Gift of Life Family Housing, 510-1st Ave. N, Great Falls, MT 59401.

## LOUISE MARGERET ANDERSON

Born: October 21, 1919 - Died: November 24, 1997

Liberty County Times  
December 3, 1997



### ***Louise Anderson***

Louise Margeret Anderson, Age 78, formerly of 112 20th Street South in Great Falls, died from cancer at the Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls on Monday afternoon (November 24, 1997).

Louise was born at Ambrose, North Dakota on October 21, 1919. She was the eldest of 12 children born to Elnora Olson and Oscar Anderson. Louise received her formal education in North Dakota before coming to Montana with her family in 1937. They settled in the Joplin community where Louise helped at home with the large family.

At age 20 she went to California in search of employment. During World War II she worked in an airplane factory as part of the war effort. Louise eventually took a job as a phone operator for Bell Telephone Company. She transferred to the clerical division of the phone company and continued to work for Bell in the Los Angeles area until her retirement in 1983.

Louise moved to Great falls in 1984 and has lived there since. Because of declining health due to cancer, she has been cared for at her brother's home in Great falls the past few months.

Louise's hobbies were many. She enjoyed sewing and crocheting; she made afghans for all of her siblings over the years. She loved to sing. In her quiet time at home Louise played solitaire, worked jigsaw puzzles, and did a lot of reading (she was especially fond of novels). She enjoyed traveling, but was really a "homebody" at heart. She was a good cook; her family will always remember her wonderful cookies.

Louise never married. Over the years she kept in close contact with her brothers and sisters and nephews and nieces, always maintaining the role as "mother figure" in the family.

She is survived by six sisters, Grace Prokop of Dallas, Oregon, Bernice Lyle of Great Falls, Doris Waldron of Santa Maria, California, Lois Rodgers of Brookings, Oregon, Donna Bandow of Issaquah, Washington, and Lola Woods of Rogue River, Oregon; three brothers Sanford Anderson of Joplin, Donald Anderson of Great Falls, and Lowell Anderson of Steilacoom, Washington; a favorite aunt Hazel Anderson of Joplin; and numerous nieces and nephews. Louise was preceded in death by her parents, by two sisters (Marlys Anderson and Olive Johnson) and by a favorite aunt (Mae Anderson).

Graveside services were 10:30 am Saturday (November 29) at the Joplin Cemetery. Prayers were recited by Reverend Randall Lau of Great Falls. Pallbearers were Sandy, Ronald,

Greg, Brad and David Anderson and Wayne Johnson.

Memorial services were 3:00 pm Saturday at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Great Falls. Services were conducted by Pastor Lau. Organist was Carol Fitzpatrick and the congregation sang "Beautiful Savior." Vocalist Kathy McKerrow performed "The Lord's Prayer" and "Rock of Ages." Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

## MARION HAYMAKER BEHUNIN

Born: October 10, 1924 - Died: October 31, 1997

Liberty County Times

November 5, 1997

### **Marion Haymaker Behunin**

Marion A. Haymaker Behunin, age 73, former resident of Vernal, Utah, died at Stewart's Care and Rehabilitation Center in Roosevelt October 31, 1997. She was born in Rudyard, Montana on October 10, 1924, the oldest of 12 children born to Emery Ellsworth and Edna May Bradbury Haymaker. Marion married Newel Behunin May 9, 1953 in Vernal. The marriage was solemnized in the Salt Lake LDS Temple on October 14, 1964.

Marion graduated from Rudyard High School and attended Montana State University. She moved to Vernal in the early 1950s. She worked at J.C. Penney for 16 years, at the

Vernal Express for 8 years, at First Security Bank in Vernal, Salt Lake City, and Roosevelt for 10 years. Her latest employment was at Stewart's Cedar Crest Care Center in Roosevelt. She enjoyed genealogy, photography, gardening and flowers, but her real passion was dancing. She was active in many civic, business, charitable and LDS church organizations.

Marion is survived by one son Keith Behunin, three grandchildren: Josh, Jeremy and Terra, all of Craig, Colorado; four step-children, as well as step-grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 5, 1997 at 11:00 am in the Ashley Stake Center. Interment was in the Vernal Memorial park under the direction of the Hullinger-Jolley Funeral Home.

Betty Annette (Gutcher) BITZ  
Born: March 27, 1921-- Died: August 26, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
September 3, 1997

### **Betty Bitz**

Betty Annette Bitz, age 76, died Tuesday August 26, 1997 at Brendon House in Kalispell, Montana after a long fight with cancer. She was born March 27, 1921 in Wayton, Arkansas, to Roy and Marie Lang Gutcher. She was a veteran of U.S. Navy in WWII.

She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Dale and Glen Gutcher. She is survived by one son, Ron Wooley and wife, Faye of Wenchester, Virginia; one granddaughter Susan, a student at Virginia University; two brothers, Bud Gutcher and wife Gail of Kaneohe, Hawaii, and Ken Gutcher and wife Peg of Joplin, Montana; one sister-in-law, Dons Gutcher of College Station, TX. The family suggests memorials to Brendon House, 1280 Burns Way, Kalispell, MT 59903; and the Gift of Life, Great Falls, MT 59401.

No public service is planned at this time. Cremation and arrangements are by the Johnson Mortuary and Crematory, Kalispell.

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## FRANCES MARIE BORYS

Born: January 19, 1907 --Died: June 27, 1997

Liberty County Times  
July 2, 1997



### Frances Borys

Frances Marie Borys was born in Galicia, Poland on January 19, 1907. Her parents were Albert Weginowski and Mary Dalimata, and she was one of 12 children. When Frances was four years old, her family immigrated to America and settled in Chicago, Illinois. She graduated from the Eighth Grade, then continued her education at a Chicago commercial college where she learned shorthand and typing.

When she was 14 years old, Frances took her first job at the Hump Hairpin Company. She also worked at the Kabo Corset Company in Chicago before leaving the area at age 19.

In 1926 she came to Montana to work for a cousin, John Dalimata, who farmed in the Chester community. While here she met an area farmer, Carl Borys. Frances and Carl were married in Chicago on December 29, 1927. They made their home on the Borys ranch 20 miles south of Chester. In 1946 they bought a small house in town so that their two daughters could attend school here.

In 1952, the Borys' purchased a home in Great Falls where they lived during the winter months. When they retired from farming in 1971, they moved to Great Falls. A few years later they moved to Cascade.

After Carl suffered a stroke in 1979, they came back to Chester, where they lived from that time on. Frances was Carl's constant companion and "nurse." In their 58th year of marriage in 1986, Carl passed away. Frances remained in their Chester home until age 89, when she fell and fractured a few ribs. This past winter she lived with her daughter in Havre. When additional health problems developed this spring, Frances moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. She died peacefully at the Chester hospital on the early morning of Friday (June 27, 1997). She was 90 years old.

Frances was baptized in Makowiska, Poland. She was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and Altar Society in Chester. Frances was a strong Christian woman with a servant's heart; her daily prayers and her faith in the Lord were an inspiration to her family and friends.

Frances loved family gatherings. She enjoyed cooking and baking for her guests. She made delicious rye bread, dinner rolls, cookies, pies, and Apple Kuchen cake. One of her most popular dishes was a Polish entree called "pirouge." Frances also enjoyed canning vegetables from her garden and she made wonderful jams and jellies.

Other hobbies included reading, writing poems, playing Pinochle, raising houseplants, and flower gardening. She collected and concocted recipes, some of which were entered into contests and published.

Frances cherished her friends. She enjoyed visiting and reminiscing over old times and humorous happenings. She was a faithful correspondent when it came to letters, cards, and acknowledgements. Frances kept scrapbooks and photo albums of community events, newspaper clippings, etc.

Of interest was the fact that she kept up on current events and political issues. Even in recent years she wrote letters to newspaper editors

and congressmen, expressing appreciation and encouragement for jobs well-done and/or suggesting ideas on how to make this a better world for all of us to live in.

Despite Frances' arthritic condition and pain, she always maintained a positive attitude about life. She always had a happy, cheerful smile for everyone, be it the neighborhood children or friends at the grocery store. She will be remembered as a very loving lady...

Survivors include her two daughters: June Ternstrom (and husband Louis) of Kalispell; and Diane Darlington of Havre; six grandchildren and their spouses: Vicki Karki, Shari (and Don) Young, Steven (and Judy) Ternstrom, Mike (and Kathy) Nahrgang, John (and Jackie) Nahrgang, and Lisa (and Shawn) Bickford; five great-grandchildren: Christopher Karki, Riley Nahrgang, Justin Bickford, Meaghen Kraft, and Kylee Kraft; and many nieces and nephews. Frances was preceded in death by her husband and parents, by six brothers (Leo, John, Michael, Victor, and two infants), and by five sisters (Dolores Prohaska, Sophie Trefil, Lillian Krupa, and two infants).

Vigil services were 7:00 p.m. Sunday (June 29) at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Chester. Readings were shared by Marje Dahinden and Pat Ludwig. Marcella Hull led the congregation, who sang "Without Clouds."

The funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Marmion at 2:00 p.m. Monday at the church. Iris White was organist and Marcus Jochims sang "Prayer of St. Francis," "On Eagle's Wings," and other traditional hymns. Ushers were Vern Dahinden and Tom Osterman. Scripture readings were by Margaret Meissner and altar servers were Ken Gagnon and Ken Osterman. Eulogist was Rlynn Rockman and Eucharistic minister was Irene Terwolbeck. The Fraser nephews, including Bill, Duane, Rodney, James, Don and Charles served as pallbearers. Interment was at the Chester Cemetery and a luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Service Foundation or donor's choice.

**DOROTHY BUCKLEY**  
**born: Dec. 10, 1902 -- died: May 14, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**May 21, 1997**

***Dorothy Buckley***

Dorothy Buckley, 94, a long-time Sweetgrass resident, died of natural causes Wednesday, May 14 at the Toole County Nursing Home where she had resided for the past four years.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Monday, May 19 at the St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Sunburst with Father Joe Moran and the Traditional Blackfeet Singers of-

ficiating. A wake service and visitation was held at 7 p.m. May 18, also at the church. She was buried beside her husband, Pat, at the Sweetgrass Cemetery.

The family suggests memorials be given to the Toole County Nursing Home.

Buckley was born December 10, 1902 in Chicago, Illinois to John and Dora Holmes Amen. She lived there for a time when she was young, then went out into the world to live a long and sometimes colorful life.

One of the interesting things she did was working in Hollywood, California as a movie actress, where she doubled for Mary Pickford in the movie "Poor Little Rich Girl", which was an academy-award winning picture. She also worked for the China Mail Order Steamship Lines and made several trips across the ocean from San Francisco to Hong Kong, China. She also worked as a nurse in various hospitals and cared for many of the sick and injured throughout the Sweetgrass area.

In 1926, she came to Sweetgrass to visit a friend. Here she met and married Pat Buckley. The couple had been married just short of 50 years at the time of his death in 1976. They raised four children-Pat Jr., Bonnie, Mike and Jerry, as well as an "honorary" son, Clarence "Little Joe" Bird Rattler of Browning.

Buckley was a multi-talented person who did oil paintings, crocheted, knitted, sang and played the piano and who loved to read and travel. She traveled extensively throughout Montana, the United States and Europe, including an area in France that her French grandfather was from and Ireland, where her husband's father came from.

She was proud of her French heritage and that she was one-quarter Cherokee Indian, as well as the fact that she was a third cousin to the notorious outlaw, Jesse James.

She enjoyed playing on a women's basketball team at Sweetgrass, traveling, art, music and traditional Indian ceremonies and was an honorary

member of the Blackfeet Nation. Her Indian name, given to her by the Bird Rattler family, was Mink Woman.

Survivors include her sons, Pat and Michael Buckley both of Sweetgrass and Jerry Buckley of Shelby; daughter, Dr. Bonnie Maldonado of Silver City, New Mexico; eight grandchildren, nine great grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Buckley touched many people during her lifetime in many different, beautiful ways that only she could have done. She will be missed by her family and her many friends. The Sweetgrass community was saddened at her death.



**MINOLA BEATRICE (HUTCHINSON) BUKER**  
born: July 20, 1900 -- died: May. 24, 1997

**Liberty County Times**  
**June 4 - 1997**



**Minola B. Buker**

Minola Beatrice (Hutchinson) Buker was born at Auburn, Maine on July 20th, 1900. She was one of three daughters born to Elmer and Inez (Dresser) Hutchinson. Minola grew up at Hebron, Maine where she graduated from the Hebron Academy. She taught school for a year at the Glover Country School at Hebron, then decided to pursue nursing as a vocation. She received her education and training at Central Main General Hospital in Lewiston (Maine) where she earned her R.N. degree.

On September 21st, 1923 Minola married Richard Steele Buker, Sr. at Hebron. They lived in Boston (Massachusetts) where she worked as a nurse at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital. Her husband finished Harvard Medical School in 1925, then came a year of service in the Medical Corps at Walter Reed Army Hospital. In 1927 the Bukers began their missionary work with lepers in Burma (Myanmar); they served with the American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society until 1939. They then returned to Eastport (Maine) to care for Minola's parents. While there, Dr. Buker, Sr. established a family medical practice for four years.

Following Dr. Buker's second military service career, they went to Thailand in 1948 as representatives of the American Mission to Lepers. Minola continued her nursing skills by

caring for leprosy victims there. The Bukers returned to the United States in 1964.

They came to Chester (Montana) for a year so that Dr. Buker could assist his eldest son (Dr. Richard Buker, Jr.) at the Liberty County Clinic and Hospital. They moved to Boca Raton (Florida) and continued to work in the medical field until their retirement in 1987.

The Bukers came back to Chester and purchased a home. The doctor and Minola were both nearing their 90's when their health began to fail, so the two of them moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in 1991. Minola's husband died at the rest home on February 20th, 1993 at the age of 93 years. She continued to live at the nursing home, where she died this past Saturday morning (May 24th, 1997) at the age of 96 years.

Minola was baptized and raised an American Baptist. She was a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants and in her early years had been active in the "Daughters of the American Revolution." Her hobbies included playing the organ, board games, painting ceramics, bowling, and collecting antique glass toppers and thimbles.

Minola was a very bright, energetic, and active lady most of her life. Her main interests revolved around her love of family, her fellow man, her nursing, and her strong abiding faith.

She is survived by three sons, Richard S. Buker, Jr., M.D. (and wife Jean) of Chester, Robert H. Buker, M.D. (and wife, Ethel) of Marco Island, Florida, and Gerald D. Buker, M.D. (and wife Tiann) of Whitefish. She also leaves eight grandchildren: Elizabeth Hoffman, Candace Chang, Robert Buker Jr., Traci Holsteen, Nina Aitken, Cynthia Allison, Karen Bellm, and Dr. Eva Buker; 16 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. Minola was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by her two sisters (Julia Hutchinson and Beulah Morse).

Funeral services were 7:30 p.m. Wednesday (May 28th) at the Chester United Methodist Church with Reverend Lyndon Kacick officiating. Pianists were Gail Cicon and Karen Stack. Pastor Tom Dunham sang "The Holy City" and "The King is Coming". The congregation sang "Wonderful Words of Life", "Where He Leads Me", and "Amazing Grace". Ladies from the Riverview Colony sang "Sweet By and By", "Way Up in Heaven", and "Rock of Ages". Ushers were Dr. Jerry Martin and Gary Jensen. Granddaughter, Dr. Eva Buker, shared a scripture reading. A luncheon followed at the church. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Service Foundation in Chester. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

A second service will be conducted at 3:00 p.m. Saturday (June 7th) at the Dillingham Funeral Home in Auburn, Maine. This service will be officiated by Reverend Raymond B. Buker, Jr. Scripture readings will be shared by granddaughter, Elizabeth Hoffman. Interment will follow at the Turner Village Cemetery in Turner, Maine.



## **Ethel B. Carr**

Ethel Barbara (Ludwig) Carr was born on the family farm near Rudyard, Montana on March 18, 1923. She was the fourth of 11 children born to Joseph "J.A." Ludwig and Theresa "Tracy" Velcheck. Ethel grew up in the Rudyard community and received her education there. Following her graduation from Rudyard High School in 1940, she attended a three-year nursing program at Sacred Heart Hospital in Havre and was awarded her R.N. certification.

On November 27, 1943 Ethel married James M. Carr in Hingham. They made their home in the Rudyard community and began raising their family of six.

In 1959 Ethel began working for Drs. Buker and Halvorson as their nurse at the Rudyard Clinic. When the Clinic closed in 1963, she continued working as a nurse for the next four years at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester. From 1967 to 1974 Ethel once again served as office nurse for Dr. Buker at the Chester Clinic.

The Carr's moved to Havre in 1974. Ethel worked for a short time at Sacred Heart Hospital, then transferred to the OB Department at Northern Montana Hospital. In

1976 she accepted a nursing position at the Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd. Even after her retirement, Ethel worked parttime at the nursing home. In fact, she worked at the new facility (Northern Montana Extended Care) until two months ago, when her health began to fail. She was being treated for

leukemia and heart disease and her condition deteriorated rapidly this past month. Ethel passed away at Northern Montana Hospital on the morning of Thursday, October 16, 1997. She was 74 years old.

During her years in Rudyard, Ethel was active in the Garden Club, the Birthday Club, PTA, and the bowling leagues. She had received her religious upbringing at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham and had been active in the Altar Society there. After moving to Havre, she transferred her church membership to St. Jude's.

Ethel's hobbies included flower and vegetable gardening, crocheting, and handcrafts. She loved to cook and bake; she will be remembered for her "world famous" buns, and the grandkids will never forget Gramma Carr's delicious chocolate-chip cookies! At family gatherings, which she always looked forward to, Ethel enjoyed playing cards (especially Pinochle). During her private time at home she liked to play Solitaire, solve word-search puzzles, and play handheld electronic games.

Ethel had been a care-giver her entire life. She loved the nursing profession. She was a competent nurse who enjoyed the personal satisfaction associated with nursing (like giving a frightened child a shot without having it hurt too much OR offering tender loving care to a geriatric patient who was suffering).

Her family was very important to Ethel. She maintained close bonds with her siblings, even those who lived a great distance. She loved her children and grandchildren, and instilled the value of loving and caring relationships.

Ethel's husband died in 1986. She was also preceded in death by her parents, two granddaughters, and two brothers (Joseph, Jr. and Roger Ludwig). She is survived by three daughters, Virginia "Ginger" Maddox of Chinook, Joan Jensen of Conrad, and Mary Lou Klobofski of Havre; three sons, Jim Carr of Havre, Pat Carr of Kennewick, Washington, and Mike Carr of Havre; five sisters Virginia "Virgie" Toner of Gildford, Evelyn Little of Helena, Irene McMaster of Spokane, Washington, Ruth Simon

of Seattle, Washington, and Lorraine Shirley of Big Spring, Texas; three brothers, Lee and Tom Ludwig of Chester, and Ted Ludwig of Los Angeles, California; 16 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Vigil prayer service was 7:00 pm Sunday, October 19 at St. Jude's Catholic Church in Havre. Father Patrick Zabrocki provided prayers and gospel readings, Cathy Anderson read scriptures, and Jenni Wicks shared the eulogy. Bill Lisenby played the organ. Jerry Toner, Dave Wicks and Regina Gabriel sang "One Day At A Time" and "The Wind Beneath My Wings." Family friend Ken Overcast (vocalist/guitarist) performed "Grandma's Mansion." Daughter Ginger led the congregation in the Rosary.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Pat at St. Jude's at 1:00 pm Monday, October 20, 1997. Organist Regina Gabriel was accompanied by Jerry and Dave who sang "The Lord's Prayer" and "Ave Maria." The congregation sang

"Amazing Grace," "On Eagle's Wings," and "How Great Thou Art." Greeters were David Klobofski and Kelly Carr; communion gifts were presented by Tara Jensen and Jeff Carr; and Eucharistic ministers were Ginger Maddox, Pat Ludwig and Margaret May.

Following a luncheon at St. Jude's Hall, graveside services with burial of ashes were conducted at Highland Cemetery in Havre. A balloon ceremony and the Vince Gill hit "Go Rest High On the Mountain" concluded the event.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

ETHEL BARBARA (LUDWIG) CARR  
Born: March 18, 1923 - Died: October 16, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
October 22, 1997



**DR. FRED ARTHUR CHRISTENOT**  
**born: Oct. 17, 1921 -- died: Jan. 27, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Feb. 5, 1997**



**Dr. Fred Christenot**

Fred Arthur Christenot was born at Weede, Montana on October 17th, 1921. He was one of ten children born to Ella Fern Abel and George Christenot. After living in various communities, the Christenots moved to Cut Bank where Fred graduated from high school in 1940.

In 1941 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served as a Chief Petty Officer on the U.S. Aylwin in the West Pacific during World War II. Following his honorable discharge in 1945, Fred returned to Montana. He remained in the Naval Reserve Corps until 1951.

Fred married Dyvonne Irgens on October 13th, 1945. The product of this marriage was four children. Fred attended the University of Montana in Missoula and earned his Biology degree, then continued his education at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri where he graduated from dental school in 1954.

His first dental practice was in Salmon, Idaho from 1954-1959. The Christenot's came to Chester, Montana in 1959. Fred operated a dental office here until 1964, when he transferred to Livingston. Following his divorce in 1975, Fred moved to Billings.

On February 27th, 1977 he married Andrea Wilke. They moved to Malta where Fred continued to practice dentistry until 1989, when he retired due to ill-health. Fred and Andrea lived in Havre since that time.

Over the years, Fred received medical treatments at Chester, under the care of his long-time friend, Dr. Richard Buker, Jr. On January 20th he was admitted to the Liberty County Hospital in Chester with complications of cancer and heart problems. He died there on the evening of Monday (Jan. 27th, 1997) at the age of 75 years.

Fred had been a member of various clubs, including the Shelby and Livingston Elks, the Joplin and Livingston Masons, the Malta Rotary, and the Montana Dental Association. In addition, he was a member of the American Lutheran Church in Livingston.

Fred enjoyed reading, music, and singing. He was an excellent cook and enjoyed flower gardening. He was an avid golfer, hunter and fisherman. Fred loved nature and the "great outdoors"; he was a steward of the land and wildlife. And he was proud to be a native Montanan....

He is survived by his wife, Andrea of Havre; one son, Cliff Christenot (and wife, Lynn) of Libby; three daughters, Mrs. Mike (Sue) Violet of Chester, Jeri Newman of Billings, and Mrs. Joel (Carol) Wolverton of Milo, Missouri; eight grandchildren, including Shannon, Aaron, Stacy, Daniel, Jeff, Chris, Anthony, and Keenan; one great-granddaughter, Kami; three brothers, Kenneth and Darrell of Cut Bank and Rodney of Salmon, Idaho; one sister, Mildred Lubitz of Ronan; and numerous nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, by three brothers (Albert, Chris and Harley), and by two sisters (Helen and Martha).

Memorial services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1st, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Reverend Tom Dunham officiated.

Karen Stack served as organist and the congregation sang "Amazing Grace" and "How Great Thou Art". Fred's daughter, Sue, sang "What A Day That Will Be" and son, Cliff, sang "The Lord's Prayer". Pastor Tom sang "On Eagle's Wings". Special memories and readings were shared by wife Andrea, brother Kenneth Christenot, and brother-in-law Randy Wilke. Grandsons, Stacy and Daniel, shared scripture readings. Friends listed as memorial bearers included Richard Buker, Jr., Pete Henderson, Bud Cunningham, Roman Losleben, Jr., Wayne Crismore, and Glen Sorenson. Military 'taps' concluded the service with presentation of the flag by Andrea's brother, Lannie Wilke. A luncheon followed at the church fellowship hall. Cremation and arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

## TIMOTHY MICHAEL COLE

Born: September 16, 1954 - Died: December 26, 1997

Liberty County Times

January 7, 1998



### Tim Cole

Timothy Michael Cole was born on September 16, 1954 at Havre, Montana. He was the third of four children born to William "Bill" Cole and Agnes (Psotka) Cole. Tim grew up on the family farm northwest of Chester and received his education there. He graduated from Chester High School in 1972.

On June 3, 1972 Tim married LuAnna Nelson at Butte, MT. They lived in Missoula where Tim attended Vo-Tech school. He learned the skills of heavy equipment operation. When Tim finished his schooling, he was offered a job at Soda Springs, Idaho. He went to work for Washington Construction and Conda Mining; he initially operated a big payload and eventually became a mine supervisor. Tim and LuAnna raised two daughters during their 20 years together, but the marriage ended in divorce.

Tim remained in Soda Springs and began working for Earl Hamp Construction. On September 29, 1992 he married Rhonda Bredeholt at Elko, Nevada. The Coles have lived at their horse ranch in rural Soda Springs since their marriage. On this past Friday December 26, 1997 Tim was shot in the chest with a rifle by his wife

at their home. He was taken by ambulance to the Caribou Memorial Hospital and pronounced dead. He was 43 years old.

Tim was a baptized and confirmed member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester, where he had served as an altar boy in his youth. During his school years in Chester he was active in 4-H, chorus, band, drama, football and wrestling. Of interest was the fact that Tim was the very first State Wrestling Champion from Chester High School.

In his life at Soda Springs Tim had been active in the St. Mary's Catholic Church there and was a member of the Catholic Workmen. He had helped with the school wrestling programs and the 4-H organization. Tim took EMT training and served on the volunteer ambulance department. He was a member of the national Quarter Horse Association. He had a lifelong love for horses, so it's no wonder that he excelled in nurturing and training them. Tim was proud of his little horse ranch, which he called "T Diamond Bar" Ranch.

Tim had been a hard worker his entire life. He had excellent mechanical skills and could fix or weld most anything. In his free time, when he wasn't working with his horses, he enjoyed hunting, fishing and camping. He collected belt buckles and animal hides. Tim was a good cook and he enjoyed country western music. In his quiet time he liked to read Westerns and historicals.

Tim is survived by two daughters Rebecca Corgatelli (and husband Brett) of Pocatello, Idaho, and Theresa Cole of Dry Prong, Louisiana; three grandsons Colter, Logan and Tyler; his parents Bill and Agnes Cole of Chester; one brother William "Pete" Cole (and wife Krys) of Chester; two sisters Mary Fritz (and husband John) of Chester, and Colleen Boucher (and husband James) of Aurora, Colorado; and several nieces and nephews. Tim was preceded in death by his grandparents and a niece (Amy Fritz).

Funeral services were held at 11:00 am Friday, January 2, 1998 at St. Mary's Church in Soda Springs.

Vigil Prayers were recited at 7:00 pm Sunday, January 4, 1998 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. The prayers were led by Natalie Ghekierre. Tim's niece Jennifer Fritz Millard read two poems "Remember Me" and "If I Should Die." A taped musical selection by Vince Gill "Go Rest High on That Mountain" ended the service.

Tim's Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Marmion at St. Mary's on Monday, January 5, 1998 at 11:00 am. Karen Stack accompanied St. Mary's Choir, who sang "A Closer Walk With Thee," "Amazing Grace," "Prayer to the Blessed Mother," and "Only A Shadow." Ushers were Charles Hull and Bob Fritz. Servers were Ken Gagnon and Ken Osterman. Reader was Marcel Huot and Eulogist was Ed Diemert. Communion Gifts were presented by Ed Cole, Jennifer Millard and Angie Fritz. Bonnie Johnson served as Eucharistic Minister. Pallbearers included Brett Corgatelli, Ed Cole, Ed Diemert, Kent Matkin, Don Hull, Stuart Brown and John Laird. The CHS "Class of 1972" were honorary bearers. Following interment in the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

**BRUCE HAYES CORNELL**  
**born: May 27, 1916 -- died: Mar. 28, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 2, 1997**

### ***Bruce H. Cornell***

Bruce Hayes Cornell was born at Portland, Oregon on May 27th, 1916. He was one of two sons born to Oscar and Gladys (Hayes) Cornell. Bruce grew up in Portland and received his education at Washington High School. He attended college in Oregon and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting.

Bruce made his home in the Portland community and worked in a CPA partnership in Hillsboro during his working life. After he resolved his partnership and semi-retired, Bruce continued to do tax work for senior citizens in the north Portland area on a volunteer basis. When his health began to fail, he moved to Shelby, Montana to be near a daughter, Mrs. Stan McCarter.

Bruce has lived at the Toole County Nursing Home in Shelby for the past four months. He died there on the evening of Good Friday (March 28th, 1997). He was 80 years old.

In his earlier years Bruce served as a volunteer fireman in Hillsboro. His hobbies included sailing, reading, and crossword puzzles.

He is survived by four children, Helen Smith of Cleveland, Ohio, Sharon McCarter of Shelby, Montana, Larry Cornell of Milwaukie, Oregon, and Dan Cornell of John Day, Oregon; one brother, Dale Cornell of Milwaukie, Oregon; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Arrangements and cremation were handled by Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby. A private family memorial service will be held in Portland.

## AGNES MARGARET CRAMER

Born: January 8, 1913 - Died: December 18, 1997

Liberty County Times

December 24, 1997



### Agnes Cramer

Agnes Margaret Cramer was born at Chester, Montana on January 8, 1913. She was one of nine children

born to Alec and Wilma (Thompson) Reid. The Reids had a small homestead northeast of Chester. Agnes attended several schools during her youth because her family moved numerous times, but she finished her formal education at Joplin High School when she graduated in 1932. Following a year of training at Kinman Business College in Spokane, Agnes took a job as a stenographer there.

She married a Chester area farmer, Vernon L. Cramer, on October 5, 1935 in Spokane. The following year they purchased their own farm north of Tiber, where they lived and worked until their retirement in 1982.

In addition to working as a farm wife and mother of two, Agnes established her own career in Chester.

She initially worked for Shebal Rehal at the Liberty County Title and Abstract for about six years, then took a job as clerk at the Liberty County Treasurer's Office. Agnes worked for Treasurers Bakke and Ross before accepting the position as Liberty County Treasurer in 1968. She retired from the job in 1974.

The Cramers remained in their farm home until 1991, when they moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester. Because of failing health, Agnes transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in February of 1992. Vern's loyalty and love remained constant for Agnes as he made multiple visits each day to the rest home to provide personal care to her. Vern preceded her in death on March 14, 1994.

Agnes remained in the nursing home. In addition to the ailments of aging, she was recently diagnosed with colon cancer. Agnes died on the early morning of Thursday (December 18, 1997) at the Chester hospital. She was 84 years old.

Agnes was a longtime member of the Chester United Methodist Church. While on the farm she enjoyed working outdoors in her yard and garden. She loved to play cards (especially Pinochle) and she was an avid reader. The Cramers loved Montana and never traveled far from it, but Agnes always enjoyed their trips to Las Vegas because she enjoyed playing those "one-armed bandits!" She loved her family and was happy during those 58 years of married life with Vern.

Survivors include a daughter and her husband Delores and Russell Violet of Tucson, Arizona; a son and his wife Edwin and Bev Cramer of Chester; two brothers Stanley and Glenn Reid of Petersburg, Alaska, 8 grandchildren (including Kathy, Pamela, Tracey, Merri, Cari, Todd, Cristi, and Mark); 17 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. Agnes was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by two sisters (Helen and Alice) and four brothers (Bob, John, Gordon, and

Alec).

Funeral services were 11:00 am Monday (Dec. 22) at the Chester United Methodist Church. Rev. Kama Morton officiated and grandson Todd Cramer shared the eulogy. Jan Christofferson served as organist and the congregation sang "In the Garden" and "Abide With Me." Kama Morton sang "The Wind Beneath My Wings." Ushers were Tom Gummer and Terry Thielman. Pallbearers included grandsons Todd and Mark Cramer, and great-nephews Pat and Paul Dailey, Brock Gummer, and John Thom. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

**ARNOLD P. DEES**  
**born: Nov. 24, 1920 -- died: Mar. 28, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 2, 1997**

## ***Arnold P. Dees***

Arnold P. Dees, 76, a farmer and resident of rural Kremlin, Montana died on March 28, 1997 near his residence of natural causes. Funeral services were held Tuesday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m. at the Kremlin Church with Rev. Tim Hauge officiating. Burial followed the service at the Highland Cemetery in Havre with military graveside honors. Memorials in Mr. Dees' honor may be made to the Kremlin Lutheran Church.

Arnold was born on November 24, 1920 at rural Kremlin, Montana, the son of Andrew M. and Dorothy (Lee) Dees. He attended grade school at the Sage Creek Rural School south of Kremlin. He graduated from Kremlin High School in 1939. After graduation he farmed with his father south of Kremlin. Arnold was a U.S. Army Air Corps Veteran of WWII and served in Italy and Africa. His dates of service were from September 22, 1942 until November 17, 1945. After his discharge from the military he returned to Kremlin. On July 21, 1946 at Shelby, Montana he married the former M. Joyce Stuart. The couple lived in the Kremlin area and farmed south of Kremlin. During the winter months Arnold worked part time with his brother Morris at the Dees Auto Body Repair Shop in Havre for a short period of time. He enjoyed painting and drawing. Arnold was a member of the American Legion, and the Elks Club, and the Kremlin Lutheran Church. He was very talented and he could turn his hand at any craft.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and two uncles.

He is survived by two sons, Charles Dees and wife (Mary Lou) of Kremlin, and Douglas Dees and wife (Rebecca) of Tempe, Arizona; two sisters, Ella

Hammond of Malta, Montana and Dorothy Sanda of Minnetonka, Minnesota; five brothers, Alvin Dees of Tacoma, Washington, Morris Dees of Havre, Montana, Richard Dees of Billings, Montana, Donald Dees of Kremlin, and Norman Dees of Havre; five grandchildren, Cortnee Dees, Chad Dees, Scott Dees, Andrew Dees and Deedra Dees.

Holland and Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



**KARLA A. GRIFFIN DUNCAN**  
born: FEB. 4, 1967 -- died: May. 24, 1997

**Liberty County Times**  
**June 4 - 1997**

found unresponsive at her home. Karla was rushed to St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Lafayette where resuscitative efforts were to no avail. She was just 30 years old.

During her high school years Karla was active in speech and drama, band, girls basketball, and 4-H. She was an honor student and Girls State delegate. Karla was baptized, confirmed, and married at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester.

During her college career Karla was actively involved in campus and community life. In Philadelphia she was a member of "W.O.A.R." and she was active in the "Women of Diversity" at both Bryn Mawr and Purdue. Karla completed several assistantships at Purdue, including research assistance and teaching undergraduates. This past fall she did advanced supervising in her field of study: "Marriage and Family Therapy". Karla has completed over 2000 hours in her internship and always looked forward to serving as a guest lecturer. She served on a special advisory board for the Greater Lafayette Catholic Schools and was active in the Greater Lafayette Sexual Assault Prevention Coalition. Karla was a member of the American Association of Family Therapists and was developing a private practice with her partner and friend, Katherine Bolyard.

Karla's hobbies at home included reading, flower gardening, and collecting pens. She loved people and those special times with family and friends. She appreciated family holidays and gatherings, and she was always eager to preserve those important family traditions. Although she was energetic and enthusiastic in her career, she cherished her role as mother and wife. She was a very loving, caring, and patient mom.

Karla loved Montana and she always looked forward to her visits here. Now she has made her final journey back "home" again... Karla is survived by her husband, Tim, and her two children, Robert Raymond and Lillian Lena, all of West Lafayette, Indiana; her parents, Robert and

Donna Griffin, and her brother, Kyle Griffin, all of Chester; her parents-in-law, John and Dorothy Duncan of Joplin; her maternal grandparents, Raymond and Lillian Fritz of Chester; numerous aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces, and cousins, and her pet dogs, "Frankie" and "Shadow".

Vigil prayers were held at 7:00 p.m. Thursday (May 29th) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Prayers were led by Pat Seidlitz and readings were by Jennifer Fritz. Vigil music was provided by John Seidlitz, Loren Hawks, and Jack Seidlitz.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Friday (May 30th) at St. Mary's by Father Joseph Marmion. Iris White served as organist. Special music by the Seidlitz's and Loren Hawks included "Abba Father", "Be Not Afraid", "On Eagles Wings", and "Without Clouds". Ushers were Joe Fritz, Ray Morkrid, and Tim Kolstad. Pallbearers were Jim Fritz, Kelcey Diemert, Phil Wardell, Kevin Cicon, Brian Hamel, and Craig Broadhurst. Memorial bearers were the C.H.S. Class of 1985 and the Bryan Mawr College Class of 1989. Readers were Felicity O'Herron and Holly Pepprock. Eucharistic minister was Norma Fritz, servers were Ken Gagnon and Tyler Streit, eulogist was Dr. Annie McCarter, and special readings were by Sara O'Herron, Margaret O'Herron, and Veronica Sosa.

Interment followed at the Chester Cemetery. Graveside prayers were by Father Joe. Six lady Hutterites from Eagle Creek Colony sang "Where the Soul of Man Never Dies" and "Way up in Heaven". An old Irish blessing was read and the family released 30 red balloons in memory of Karla. A luncheon followed at the church.

Memorials will be given to the Karla A. Griffin Duncan Scholarship Fund for Bryn Mawr College (c/o First State Bank of Shelby) or Donor's Choice. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

A memorial service will be held at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday (June 7th) at the St. Thomas Aquinas Center, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. Father Pat Click will officiate.



**Karla A. Griffin Duncan**

Karla A. Griffin Duncan was born at Chester, Montana on February 4th, 1967. She was the youngest of two children born to Robert and Donna (Fritz) Griffin. Karla grew up in the Chester community and received her education here, graduating from C.H.S. in 1985. She continued her schooling at Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

On June 20th, 1986 Karla married Timothy T. Duncan in Chester. They made their home in the Philadelphia area. Karla graduated from Bryn Mawr in 1989 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Experimental Psychology, then continued her studies in pursuit of her Masters degree.

In 1991 the Griffin Duncans moved to Lafayette, Indiana. Karla earned her Master of Arts Degree in "Human Growth and Development" in 1992. She has been active at Purdue University since that time and was expecting to earn her Doctorate in Marriage and Family Therapy this coming December.

Karla has had chronic health problems during much of her life. On this past Friday (May 23rd) she had a wonderful day; she was recognized for her excellence at work and later that evening they celebrated their daughter's first birthday. It was a happy time for the family; Karla was thankful for the day and looking forward to the next. On Saturday morning (May 24th, 1997) she was

**MERLE DUNCAN**  
**born: Oct. 7, 1905 -- died: Apr. 28, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**May 7 - 1997**

## **Merle Duncan**

Merle Duncan, age 91, of Kalispell passed away with cancer Monday, April 28, 1997, at the Brendan House. She was born October 7, 1905, in Enid, Oklahoma the daughter of Louis Elmer and Alice Lu Craibill Duncan and came to Montana with her parents in March 1913. She attended country grade school in the Montana, North Joplin community and went to High School in Joplin, Montana and Cut Bank, Montana. After high school she attended Western Montana Normal School in Dillon, Montana, then began a teaching career.

Between teaching assignments, she continued her education. In the early 1930's she was elected County Superintendent of Schools in Liberty County, Montana. She served in that capacity until the early 1940's when she resigned and took a teaching position in the Richmond, California school system. In 1954, she came to Kalispell where she continued teaching until she retired. After retiring Merle continued to live in Kalispell in the summer and went to Mesa, Arizona, for the winter months. She was a member of the United Methodist Church of Kalispell and attended the Veld Rose Methodist Church in Mesa. She enjoyed painting, traveling, raising flowers and playing cards.

She is survived by her brother, Bob, of Lakeside, MT, a nephew Bill Dalby and daughter Jenny and a number of cousins. Funeral services were held Friday, May 2, 1997, at 2:00 at the Johnson Mortuary Chapel with Reverend Marvin Northcutt of the Epworth Methodist Church and Reverend J. Torrance Harvey officiating. Burial will follow at the C. E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery. Arrangements are by the Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

**EVA M. (RISHOFF) EDMISTER**  
**born: Jun. 9, 1912 -- died: Apr. 26, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 30, 1997**



### ***Eva Edmister***

Eva M. Edmister, age 84, passed away on Saturday (April 26th, 1997) at the Northeast Baptist Hospital in San Antonio, Texas.

Funeral services for family and friends in San Antonio were held at 7:00 p.m. Monday at the Alamo Funeral Home. Montana services will be 2:00 p.m. Thursday (May 1st) at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby. Burial will be at Mountainview Cemetery in Shelby. Visitation will be Wednesday at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester and Thursday at St. Luke's Church (beginning at 10 a.m.)

Eva was born on June 9th, 1912 at Gary, Minnesota to Anton Edward Rishoff and Martha Holm Rishoff. She attended elementary school in Gary and moved to Montana in her early teens.

Eva married Roy H. Edmister on January 11th, 1932. She worked as

the postmaster in Galata (MT) for over 40 years, retiring in 1983 due to poor health. While living in Galata, Eva was a member of the Galata Lutheran Church, a volunteer for the American Cancer Society, and active in many civic activities. She was "Grandma" to a lot of kids who grew up in the Galata community; Eva always thought of everyone else and never expected much for herself.

Upon her retirement, she moved to the Townhouse Apartments in Shelby, where many of her friends lived. She also spent some time at the Toole County Nursing Home.

In September, 1994 Eva moved to San Antonio to live with her son and daughter-in-law, Terry and Ruby Edmister. Her health remained good until July of 1996, when she developed pneumonia. She recovered, but never quite bounced back to her previous state.

On February 13th, 1997 she was admitted to the hospital after suffering a slight stroke. After five days of care, she was transferred to the Normandy Terrace Therapy & Rehab Center, where she received physical therapy. She was readmitted to the hospital on April 24th; her body just wouldn't respond to the medication and she passed away two days later.

Eva was preceded in death by her parents and husband (Roy), a son (Harvey), and two sisters (Margaret Janewski of Redmond, Wash. and Dorothy Thennis of Chester).

Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law, Terry and Ruby Edmister of San Antonio; grandson and wife, Richard and Sue Kessner of Lake Oswego, Oregon; grandson, David Edmister of San Antonio; four great-grandchildren, Amy, Charlie, Danny and Molly Kessner of Lake

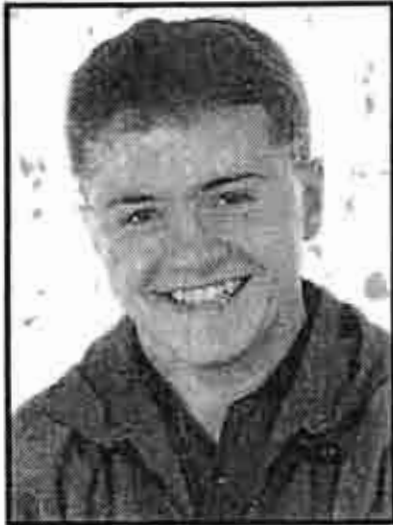
Oswego; brothers and sisters-in-law, Cyrus and Ovedia Rishoff of Bigfork and Marvin and Irene Rishoff of Kalispell; sisters, Hazel Standiford of Chester and Lillian Berglund of Shelby; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Services in Shelby will be conducted by Reverend Joe Haugestuen. Laila Lindberg will serve as organist and the congregation will sing "Beautiful Savior". Vocalist, Rock Svennungsen, will perform "How Great Thou Art" and "The Lord's Prayer". Pallbearers will be Ray Standiford, Tracy Dumas, Gary Standiford, Jim Rishoff, Leland Standiford and Grant Flage. Honorary bearers are Lowell Berglund, Allan Standiford, Jack Rishoff, Larry Berglund and Howard Rummel. Ray Standiford will be eulogist. A coffee hour will be provided by the WELCA of St. Lukes and Galata.

## DAVID DONALD ERICKSON

Born: December 8, 1974 - Died: December 20, 1997

Liberty County Times  
December 31, 1997



### **David Erickson**

David Donald Erickson was born in Chester, Montana on December 8, 1974. He was the second of three sons born to Stuart and Linda (Norlander) Erickson. David grew up in the Chester community and received his education here. He graduated from Chester High School in 1993.

David was raised by a farming family, so at an early age he learned the value of good, honest work. He became an entrepreneur at 15 when he started his own pig business. His operation was small at first, then grew into a nice little business. Dave worked hard at this throughout his high school career.

During the summer months and following his graduation, he worked for local farmers, including Scott Decker, Joe Seidlitz, and Roger Wolfe. He also had worked on the ground crew for Ag Air during the spraying season. For the past few years he has been employed as a mechanic at Benchmark Equipment in Chester.

On June 3, 1995 David married Chandra Hadford at the "Hitchin' Post" in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. They made their home in the Chester community and began raising a family.

On this past Saturday evening (December 20, 1997) David attended a Christmas party in Conrad. He was headed home to Chester at about 9:30 pm. alone in the car. Dave apparently lost control of the vehicle on the Ledger Road in northeast Pondera County. He died at the scene from injuries sustained in the accident. He was just 23 years old.

David's hobbies included hunting, fishing, boating and water-skiing. He enjoyed music, especially rock & roll, and country & western, and he liked to attend live concerts. Friends were very important to Dave and he never missed an opportunity to socialize and be with them. Last, but certainly not least, he loved his family.

Survivors include his wife Chandra, and two children Lincoln and McCall of Joplin; his parents Stuart and Linda Erickson of Chester; two brothers Jason (and wife Koni) and Nick, both of Chester; maternal grandmother Betty Pierson of Kalispell; one niece Haley Erickson; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. David is also survived by his loyal "one-eyed dog," a yellow lab named "Jetson."

Funeral services were 11:00 am Wednesday (Dec. 24) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with Rev. Tom Dunham officiating. Karen Stack served as organist. Selected musical tapes by the family included Vince Gill's "Go Rest High On That Mountain," Eddie Rabbitt's "An American Boy," and Keith Whitley's "Brotherly Love." Ushers were Bret Johnson and Robert Puist. Pallbearers were Jason and Nick Erickson, Scott Decker, Ryan Wickum, Ralph Moss and Ted Pursley. Honorary bearers included "all of Dave's friends, classmates, and co-workers." Interment was at the Erickson Cemetery south of Chester. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

**JOSEPH JOHN FARNIK**  
**born: Apr. 19, 1917 -- died: Feb. 18, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Feb. 26, 1997**



**Joseph J. Farnik**

Joseph John Farnik was born north of Hingham, Montana on April 19th, 1917. He was one of four children born to Frank and Elizabeth (Horinek) Farnik. Joe grew up on the family homestead near Hingham and received his formal education there. He graduated from Hingham High School in 1936. The following year he began working for the C.C.C.'S (Civilian Conservation Corps). Although Joe never served in the military, he contributed to the war effort by working in the Seattle shipyards during World War II.

On November 23rd, 1945 he married Dorothy Dion at Havre. They spent their married years together in the Hingham community, where Joe farmed and ranched his entire life. He officially retired in 1982, but continued to help his son, Michael, with the farming operations.

Joe was diagnosed with cancer in 1996. In this past December he entered the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. He died peacefully there on the early morning of Tuesday (February 18th, 1997). He was 79 years old.

"Blackfoot Joe", as he was affectionately called by his friends, was an avid fisherman. Some of his fondest memories were made during those many fishing trips to his cabin at Duck Lake over the years. Joe also enjoyed local sporting events, especially when his three sons were active in the Hingham School system. Joe loved his role in life as a Montana farmer. He could spend hours behind the wheel of a "John Deere 105 Combine" during harvest season. In the springtime he enjoyed driving around the farmstead to maintain gopher control with his trusty .22 caliber rifle. Last but not least, he loved to play cards (especially cribbage and poker), mainly for the social benefits of being with his "buddies" in the Hingham community.

Joe is survived by three sons, Doug (and Jo-Nell) Farnik of Joshua Tree, California, Jerry (and Marilyn) Farnik of Prague, Czech Republic, and Michael Farnik of Hingham; and their mother, Dorothy Farnik of Great Falls; seven grandchildren (including Jennifer, Melody, Jim, Bill, Jared, Autumn and Havalind); one great-grandson (Bryce); one brother, Otto Farnik of Havre; two sisters, Martha ("Marty") Perry of Columbia Falls and Mary Olson of Billings; and numerous nephews and nieces. Joe was preceded in death by his parents and a son (Eddy Farnik).

The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Marmion at 10:00 a.m. Saturday (Feb. 22nd) at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. Rachel Blake served as organist and Marcus Jochim sang "On Eagle's Wings", "Be Not Afraid", "We Remember", "Fill My Cup Lord",

and "Where We'll Never Grow Old". Terry and Dan Hybner served the altar and shared scripture readings. Joe's son, Doug, gave the eulogy. Usher was Mike Lipp and pallbearers were Allen Chinadle, Erwin Carlson, Ed Carlson, Ed Lipp, John May, Herb White and Virgil Jurenka. Interment followed in the Hingham Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. A luncheon was provided by the Altar Society at the church. Memorials will be given to the American Cancer Society.



**OTTO B. FARNIK**  
**born: Aug. 7, 1919 -- died: Mar. 24, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 2, 1997**

***Otto B. Farnik***

Otto B. Farnik, 77, a resident of Havre, Montana, a retired construction contractor died on March 24, 1997 at Northern Montana Hospital in Havre of natural causes. The funeral mass was held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 31, 1997 at St. Jude Catholic Church in Havre, Montana with Father Robert Grosch officiating. Burial with military honors was at the Highland Cemetery. Memorials in Mr. Farnik's honor may be made to the American Heart Association or to the Havre V.F.W. Association. Otto was born on August 7, 1919 at Hingham, Montana, the son of Frank and Elizabeth (Horinek) Farnik. He attended school in Hingham, and his junior year of school he joined the C.C.C.'s for one year. He then returned to complete his senior year of high school and graduated in 1938.

Otto was a U.S. Army Veteran of WWII and served from February of 1941 until September of 1945. After his discharge he worked in Los Angeles, CA at the Delmar Club as a cook and later as a carpenter. In 1948 he moved to Hingham where he worked as a carpenter in the Hi-line area. In January 1959 at Honolulu, Hawaii he married the former Verna Johnson. After their marriage the couple have resided in Havre. He was a well known construction contractor in Havre and the Hi-line for many years. Otto retired in 1994. He was a member of the V.F.W. Post #497, D.A.V. #14, and St. Jude Catholic Church, all of Havre. Otto was a big game hunting guide for many years in the Bob Marshall Wilderness and an ardent fisherman.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, and one step-grandson.

He is survived by his wife, Verna Farnik of Havre; two step-children, Charles Hauge of Duck Lake, Montana, and Donna Jensen of Manhattan, Montana; two sisters, Marty Perry of Columbia Falls, Montana and Mary Olson of Billings, Montana; three grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and numerous nephews and nieces.

Holland and Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## BELLE DOROTHY (ROLPH) FOSTER

Born: August 8, 1907 - Died: November 15, 1997

Liberty County Times  
November 19, 1997



### **Belle Foster**

Belle Dorothy (Rolph) Foster was born at Union, Wisconsin on August 8, 1907. She was the only child of Isola Chapin and George Rolph. The family came to Montana in 1912 and settled in the north Joplin community. Belle's early education was at the Bielgalke Country School. She was a member of Joplin High School's very first graduation class, the "Class of 1925."

She continued her education at the Dillon teacher's college. It wasn't too long before she met her husband-to-be, Edwin C. Foster. They were married on June 17, 1925 at Shelby, Montana. They made their home in Salem, Oregon where Edwin worked in the lumber mills. In 1930 they returned to a homestead north of Joplin where they worked, lived and raised their family of four.

Edwin died in 1956. Belle had always been interested in nursing, so she began working as an aid at the Chester hospital. Because she loved the work, she began taking correspondence courses in nursing. She eventually earned her L.P.N. license. When the Liberty County Nursing Home was built in 1958, Belle was appointed as the first "matron." She moved from the farm to Chester in 1961 so she could be closer to her work. In 1981 at the age of 74 years, Belle retired from nursing after 25 years of dedicated service.

Other than arthritis, Belle's health remained good over the years. On this past August 31st she fell and suffered pelvic and rib fractures. She was on the road to recovery when she suffered a stroke on October 31st. Her condition deteriorated and she passed away at the Liberty County Nursing Home on the morning of Saturday, November 15, 1997. She was 90 years old.

Belle has been a life-long member of the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin and had been active in the ALCW (which is now called WELCA). Other memberships included the local Business and Professional Women's Club, the Royal Neighbor's of America (RNA), and she was a charter member of the Hospital Auxiliary.

In her younger years Belle enjoyed handiwork like crocheting and embroidery. She loved the "great outdoors" and those many hunting/camping trips with Edwin in their early married years. Belle was a good cook; one of her infamous recipes is affectionately called "Grandma's Beans." She also enjoyed reading.

Belle has always had a love of horses. Of interest was the fact that she took her last horse ride when she was 84 years old!

Belle's dedication to nursing cannot be taken lightly. She was a true Florence Nightingale and could easily have been called "The Lady With the Lamp" as she walked the halls of the nursing home with a compassionate spirit. When she served as "matron" she placed a note at the Nurse's Station that read: "If anyone is sick, please call me at anytime, day or night." Even after her retirement, Belle continued to volunteer however she could, in hopes of making someone's life a little more comfortable and a little more happy.

Until her recent illness, Belle drove downtown daily and had lunch at the Senior Center. She was extremely proud to have been selected as "Area III's 1997 Liberty County Senior Citizen of the Year."

Belle's main love in life was her family. She was always interested in their well-being, good health, and happiness. She was a dedicated mother, grandmother, and friend...

She is survived by two sons: Buck Foster and wife Marlene of Marion, Montana, and Rolph Foster and wife Lois of Joplin. Two daughters Dorothy Burnham and husband Lewis of Joplin, and Karen Scafese and husband Sonny of Sunburst; 11 grandchildren, Sheri, Lori, Jeff, Jack, Jana, Julie, Susan, Pam, Mark, Larry, Linda; 31 great-grandchildren; several cousins. In addition to her husband and parents, Belle was preceded in death by three grandchildren Jim, Teri and Steven, and two great-grandsons.

Funeral services were 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Rev. Darrell Cousins officiated. Granddaughter Susan Peterson was organist and Della Wolery was pianist. Judy Lake sang "Amazing Grace" and "Boning Cry."

The congregation sang "In the Garden." Ushers were Larry and Leonard Olson. Pallbearers were grandsons and great-grandsons, including Larry Scafese, Jack Foster, Jeff Foster, Cody Westphal, Bret Westphal, Timothy Peterson, and Chris Peterson. Honorary bearers were listed as "all of Belle's many friends." Interment was in the Joplin Cemetery. Ninety balloons (one for each year of Belle's life) were released by family and friends. A luncheon followed at Kjos Hall. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. A memorial fund is being established for a Hospice Room at the LCNH in Belle's memory.

JIM A. FOSTER  
Born: March 11, 1958 --Died: June 27, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
July 9, 1997

### ***Jim A. Foster***

Jim A. Foster, 39, died Friday, June 27, 1997.

He was born in Havre on March 11, 1958. He graduated from Bigfork High School in 1977.

On May 4, 1984 he married Cynthia Jo Stuart and together they had four children: Stacy Mitchell (20), Cassie (12), Jesse (10) and Clint (10).

He enjoyed hunting, fishing and the great outdoors. He was president of Glacier Log Homes in Whitefish.

He is survived by his wife and children; his parents Buck and Marlene Foster of Whitefish; sisters Sheri Westphal of Kila, and Lori Wells of Kalispell; and grandmother Belle Foster of Chester.

He was preceded in death by his sister Teri Foster, and nephew Jake Wells.

Funeral services were at Gospel Light Baptist Church in Kalispell. Burial was at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

**CLINTON LLOYD FRASER**  
**born: Jan. 24, 1927 -- died: Apr. 21, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 30, 1997**



**Clinton Fraser**

Clinton Lloyd Fraser, age 70, of Inverness died Monday evening (April 21st, 1997) of cancer at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester.

Clinton was born January 24th, 1927 on the family ranch south of Frazer, Montana. He was one of 16 children born to Theresa B. Borys and Donald Fraser, Sr. Clint received his formal education at a country school south of Chester and at the Joplin High School.

In the late 1940's he lived in Great Falls and worked at the smelter. In 1950 Clinton was inducted into the U.S. Army. He attained the rank of Sergeant while serving during the Korean Conflict. He was awarded the Korean Service Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Army of Occupation Medal (Japan). In 1952 he was transferred to the Army Reserves, where he remained active until his honorable discharge in 1956.

Clinton came home to Montana and began farming with his family at Inverness. In addition he worked with his brothers at Fraser's Conoco until November of 1995, when his health failed. He moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home and has lived there since.

Clint was a member of the V.F.W. Post in Chester. He enjoyed fishing and hunting with his brothers and friends. His fishing trips to Canada and a special reunion trip to Ontario were his most memorable.

In his earlier years, Clint enjoyed snowmobiling, bowling and dancing. He also liked to play cards, especially pinochle and solitaire. Although he never married, he loved children and he was loyal to his family and friends.

He is survived by eight brothers, Donald of Cascade, Rodney, James and Duane of Inverness, Bill of Chester, Charles of Joplin, and Scott and Darrell of Great Falls; five sisters, Bertha Standley and Eleanor Fransen of Cascade, Ruby Barrett of Lakewood, California, Ann Carlson of Sun City, Arizona, and Darlene Wood of Las Vegas, Nevada; one aunt, Frances Borys of Chester; and numerous nephews and nieces, great-nephews and nieces, and cousins. Clint was preceded in death by his parents, a sister (Shirley Rae), and a brother (Brodie).

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Thursday (April 24th) at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin with Pastors Darroll Cousino and Nolan Spent officiating. Stanleigh Barbie served as organist and the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art". Vocal-

ist, Marcus Jochim, performed "Amazing Grace" and "In the Garden". Nephews, Jerry and Craig Fraser, were ushers. Clint's brothers were his pallbearers and "all of his friends" were listed as memorial bearers. Graveside services followed at the Joplin Cemetery. Military taps and presentation of the flag was made by Don Buffington. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

**FRANCES FRIBERG**

**Born: November 14, 1910 - Died October 20, 1997**

**Liberty County Times**

**October 29, 1997**

***Frances Friberg***

Frances Friberg passed away at the Autumn Care Center October 20, 1997. She was born November 14, 1910 in Inverness, Montana where she has lived all of her life. In 1932 she married Victor Friberg.

Survivors include her children, Carmen Winkler and her husband Eric of Billings; and Allan Friberg of Inverness; grandchildren Greg Friberg and his wife Kathy, and daughters Whitney and Kirsten of Vancouver, Washington; Debbie Lineweaver and husband Ron, and sons Curt and Kevin of Joplin, Montana; John Friberg of Inverness; Erica Campbell and husband Mike, and daughter Leah of Billings; and Renee Campbell and her husband Nick of Billings.

Frances enjoyed gardening and raising many beautiful flowers and loved living on the farm. Her family was very important to her. She was a member of the Sons of Norway.

Frances was loved very much and will be missed by her family.

Funeral services were held on Friday, October 24 at Michelotti, Sawyers & Nordquist, Alderson Chapel, with entombment in Sunset Memorial Gardens Mausoleum.



## GENEVIEVE HULL GAGNON

Born: April 23, 1922 - Died: November 28, 1997

Liberty County Times  
December 3, 1997



### Genevieve Gagnon

Chester and Great Falls resident, Genevieve Hull Gagnon, age 75, passed away at Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane on Friday November 28, 1997 of natural causes.

Genevieve was born April 23, 1922 in Moore, MT to Mary Friel and Anselm Hull. In 1926 the Hull family moved back from the Lewistown area to Chester and she was raised on the family homestead north of Chester - the third daughter in a family of three sons and six daughters. As a young girl she attended elementary school at the Grammar (Snuffer) Country School. In 1935 she moved to Great Falls to attend high school at St. Thomas Boarding School. Upon graduating from St. Thomas in 1939 she moved back to Chester. Her first job was working in Chester at the Abstract Office. Thereafter she began working at the Liberty County Courthouse as a County Assistant until she married.

In 1947 Genevieve married childhood and family friend Ernest Gagnon. Genevieve and Ernest established a family farm south of Chester and started their family with a son Ken born in 1948, followed by two daughters Patrice and Yvonne, a son James, and a daughter Rita. In 1954 Genevieve and Ernest bought a home in Great Falls in order for their children

to attend parochial schools and continued their family farm south of Chester at great personal sacrifice. Genevieve spent countless hours and made innumerable trips driving back and forth between the farm in Chester and the home in Great Falls - many times with all five kids in the car. Each trip required the saying of the rosary by all to ensure a safe journey. Following completion of their children's secondary education in Great Falls, Genevieve re-made her permanent home on the family farm near Chester.

Genevieve was a very special person. Her interests were first and foremost her family and friends and her devotion to her Lord. As a wife she provided 50 special years of companionship, love, and friendship. Genevieve and Ernest had a bond that shared a love for God, a love for their family, and a love for each other. She recently celebrated her 50th Golden Wedding anniversary with Ernest in Chester on October 12, 1997 surrounded by family and friends from near and far away.

As a mother she devoted her life to providing a rich family life filled with love and a strong religious foundation. Her love was unconditional. To her children she was their closest friend, most intimate confidant, most fervent supporter and weakest critic. There was nothing that her children couldn't tell her. One of her biggest prides was her nine grandchildren and she believed it was impossible to love or spoil them too much.

It was also not uncommon for her to take in extra family. She took in her niece Loretta Tibor for four years in order for Loretta to attend Catholic high school in Great Falls. She became a second mother to Lyle Gagnon for whom the door was always open. And, she opened her home to numerous relatives when they were sick and always provided love, meals, support, and prayers.

As a friend she visited countless people in the nursing home, hospital, the Senior Citizen's lodge or their homes. She was gone visiting so much that some people who didn't know her thought she must have a job in town. Genevieve had a special gift of giving her heart to others and she will be greatly missed by the large number of people she touched.

Genevieve was an active member of both St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester and St. Gerard's Church in Great Falls serving as Eucharistic Minister, a member of the Altar Society, and active in prayer groups. She also enjoyed being involved in Garden Club, and Republican Women. Genevieve loved traveling and visiting with an extensive family of relatives and friends. One of her dreams was to visit Ireland - the homeland of her mother. To her joy, she was able to do this twice, once with her sister Sr. Marleen, and once again with Ernest and her daughter Rita and family.

For the past month Genevieve was able to spend some special time with her two sisters, Sr. Marleen and Susie in Spokane. They provided each other with support and were able to have some serious visiting sessions. She also got to see a lot of the Sister of Providence that she knew from her days at St. Thomas. She received many cards and phone calls wishing her good health and a speedy recovery that she greatly appreciated.

It is comforting to know that Genevieve has been greeted by family that preceded her and is now walking with the angels.

Surviving are her husband Ernest; daughters Patrice Gagnon, and Yvonne Gagnon of Great Falls, Rita Long of Cheyenne, Wyoming; sons Ken Gagnon of Chester, and James Gagnon of Fort Benton; 9 grandchildren; 3 sisters Susie Nickol of Ledger, Nora Hemmer of Lothair, and Sr. Marleen Hull of Spokane, Washington; and one brother James Hull of Chester; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Genevieve was preceded in death by her parents, two sisters (Patricia Schaller and Catherine, Sister Mary Louise) and two brothers (Michael and Raphael Hull).

Vigil services were 7:00pm Monday (Dec. 1) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Vigil prayers were led by Natalie Ghekiera. A poem entitled "I'm Free" was shared by Janice Mattson.

Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 am Tuesday at St. Mary's by Father Joseph Marmion. Special music was provided by St. Mary's Contemporary Choir with accompaniment by Richie Hamel. Nephews served as ushers and pallbearers. Readers were Marcella Hull and Margaret Meissner. Servers were Ryan and Cory Gagnon. Eucharistic Minister was Sharon Harmon. Eulogist was Lyle Gagnon.

Following interment at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangement by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## **GENEVIEVE (HULL) GAGNON**

**Born:** April 23, 1922 at Moore, Montana

**Died:** November 28, 1997 at Spokane, Washington

**Age:** 75 years, 7 months, 5 days...

*God saw you were getting tired,  
When a cure was not to be.  
So He put His arm around you,  
And whispered "Come with Me".  
So He took you to His garden,  
And laid you there to rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful,  
For He only takes the best.*

**Genevieve's Family:** Husband, Ernest; daughters, Patrice, Yvonne and Rita; sons, Ken and James; nine grandchildren; sisters, Susie, Nora and Sr. Marleen; brother, James; and numerous nieces and nephews...

**Vigil Prayers:** 7:00 p.m. Monday, December 1st, St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester ...Prayers led by Natalie Ghekiera

**Funeral Mass:** 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 2nd, St. Mary's Church in Chester

**Celebrant:** Father Joseph Marmion...

**Musicians:** Accompanists, Richie Hamel and Karen Stack... Vocalists, Glen Wolfe, Meghan Smith, and St. Mary's Contemporary Choir

**Mass Participants:** Greeters, Eric Gagnon and Louis Hull... Readers, Marcella Hull and Margaret Meissner... Altar Servers, Ryan and Cory Gagnon. Communion Gifts by Genevieve's grandchildren... Eucharist Minister, Sharon Harmon... Eulogist, Lyle Gagnon

**Pallbearers:** Nephews, Raymond Hemmer, Vernon Nickol, Lyle Gagnon, Don Hull, Tom Nickol, and Charles Hull

**Interment:** Chester Cemetery...

... Luncheon to follow at St. Mary's ...

**Arrangements:** Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester

FLORENTINE MARIE (SCHREIER) GORDER  
Born: February 2, 1908 —Died: July 19, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
July 23, 1997



### **Florentine Gorder**

Florentine Marie Gorder was born at Fort Smith, Arkansas on February 2, 1908. She was the only daughter of two children born to William and Anna (Zimmerman) Schreier. In 1916 her family homesteaded six miles south of Rudyard, Montana. Florentine received her early education at the Black Coulee Country School. She graduated from Rudyard High School in 1928. In the few years that followed, she received nursing training at the Sacred Heart School in Havre.

Florentine married Oswald L. Gorder on June 8, 1935 at Havre. They made their home in Rudyard and farmed in the community throughout their married life. Oswald died in 1968. Florentine remained in Rudyard until 1989, when she moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester. After her health began to fail in 1994, she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. She died there on the afternoon of Saturday (July 19, 1997). She was 89 years old.

Florentine was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard and had been active in the Esther Circle of WELCA. She had been a member of the Rudyard PTA and served as an election clerk for the Rudyard school district for many years.

Her hobbies included sewing, reading, cooking and traveling. In her quiet times at home she enjoyed solving word puzzles. During social times she liked to play cards, especially Pinochle.

Florentine is survived by one daughter Pauline Ledbetter (and husband Don) of Oakland, California; two sons, Bill Gorder (and wife Lois) of Rudyard, and Jim Gorder (and wife Jane) of Fort Benton; nine grandchildren (including Jeanne, Jay, Steven, Bryan, Tanya, Trish, Karen, Kathy and Donald); 15 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by her brother (Roland Schreier) and a grandson (Rory Shane Gorder).

Funeral services were held at 10:30 am Tuesday (July 22) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard with Reverend Bart Coleman officiating. Vocalist Joe Horel sang "Rock of Ages." Sharon Spicher served as organist and the congregation sang "Beautiful Savior." Ushers were Glen Elling and David Rugtvedt. Pallbearers were Jay, Steven and Bryan Gorder and Lane, Wade and Neal Rigg. Interment was in the Rudyard Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to Our Savior's Lutheran Church, the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Montana, or donor's choice.

**RUTH M.(KUBLE) GREENO**  
**born: Jan. 9, 1907 -- died: Feb. 21, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Feb. 26, 1997**

### ***Ruth M. Greeno***

Ruth Greeno, formerly of Rudyard and the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester, died Friday (Feb. 21st, 1997) in Spokane, Washington. She was 90 years old.

Ruth M. (Kuble) was born in Barnum, Minnesota January 9, 1907 to John and Agatha Kuble, the youngest of six children.

In April of 1910 they came by train to Rudyard, Montana to homestead ten miles north east of town. Ruth attended country school until the sixth grade, then Rudyard schools through her junior year of high school. That summer she and her father visited her brother Jack in Amherst, South Dakota. She made the decision to stay and aid Jack in his store and graduated valedictorian of her senior class at Amherst High. She attended college for one year in Aberdeen, South Dakota.

On April 14, 1928 she married Walter Greeno in Britton, South Dakota. She lived in Aberdeen until 1932 when they returned to Montana to farm the Kuble homestead. The couple had two sons, Dale of Bigfork, Montana, and Dean of Spokane, Washington. A third child, daughter Marie, was born in 1940, but survived only two days.

Walter preceded Ruth in death on April 10, 1976. Ruth resided in Rudyard until 1988 when she sold her home and moved into the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester. After a brief stay at the Liberty County Nursing Home in 1995, she moved to Colonial Court in Spokane and resided there until her death.

In addition to her sons, she is survived by five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Ruth was a member of the Cremation Society of Washington.

Memorial services will be 11:00 a.m. Friday (Feb. 28th) at the Evangelical United Brethren/Calvary Church in Rudyard with Pastor Nolan Spenst officiating. Burial of ashes will be in the Rudyard Cemetery.

**BERTHA ALLEN (FRICKLETON) GRISSOM**  
**Born: April 12, 1912 —Died: June 20, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**June 25, 1997**

***Bertha Grissom***

Bertha Allen (Frickleton) Grissom was born at Panama, Illinois on April 12, 1912. She was one of 14 children born to John Logan Frickleton and Mary Elizabeth Hall. She was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and she received her formal education at Panama.

On January 7, 1934 Bertha married Walter Scott Grissom at St. Charles, Missouri. They made their home in St. Louis, Missouri where Bertha worked at the Union Electric Company.

In 1944 they moved to San Rafael, California where Walter served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. While there Bertha worked in the laundry business. Walter died in California on July 25, 1968.

Following Bertha's retirement in 1972, she moved to Butte, Montana to live near a daughter. In 1981 she moved to Mullan, Idaho. Bertha came to Chester, Montana in 1992 so that her granddaughter (Sue Kral) could care for her. She lived in the Sweetgrass Lodge until her health began to fail, then she moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. Bertha lived there until 1996, when she decided to go back to Idaho. She has resided at the Silverood Good Samaritan Center at Silverton since that time. She died there on the early morning of Friday (June 20, 1997) at the age of 85 years.

Bertha had been a member of the French Club of San Rafael. She was also active in the V.F.W. Auxiliary in California and Chester. Her hobbies included dancing, singing, swimming, sewing, reading, crossword puzzles, and playing "Bingo."

Bertha's survivors are two sons, Robert Grissom of Seattle, WA and John Grissom of Kirkland, WA; one daughter, Carolyn Lenhard of Wallace, ID; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; two brothers, Sam and James Frickleton; three sisters, Isabelle Homer, Mary Friedel and June Greip; and numerous nephews and nieces. Bertha was preceded in death by her husband, parents, brother (John) and sisters (Elizabeth, Jane, Dorothy, Ingrid, Alice, Irene and Alice).

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Monday (June 23rd) at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Mullan, Idaho with Pastor David Haught officiating. Burial followed at the Osburn Cemetery in Osburn, Idaho. Arrangements by Shoshone Funeral Home in Wallace, Idaho with

pre-arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.



**EDNA MARIE (JELDEN) GUNDERSON**  
**born: Jun. 22, 1923 -- died: Jan. 5, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Jan. 8, 1997**



**Edna Gunderson**

Edna Marie (Jelden) Gunderson was born at Sleepy Eye, Minnesota on June 22nd, 1923. Her parents were Luella Storm and Luke Jelden, and she was one of four daughters to the Jelden's. The family moved to Brockton, Montana when Edna was an infant. She received her formal education at Brockton, graduating from high school there in 1941.

Edna fell in love with a young high school teacher, William L. "Bill" Gunderson, and they were married in Glasgow on March 12th, 1942. In the years that followed, the Gunderson's lived in various Montana communities where Bill taught school or served as high school superintendent. Those

communities included Forsyth, Havre, Missoula, Inverness, Oilmont, Hingham and Park City. When Bill retired in 1976, they moved to Chester, where they made their home from that time on.

After Bill's death in 1993, Edna remained in Chester. She suffered several strokes in 1996 which lead to hospitalization and nursing home care. Edna died peacefully at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester on Sunday morning (January 5th, 1997). She was 73 years old.

Edna was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. She was an avid sports fan and never missed a ballgame when her children were active in school. She loved the L.A. Rams, the L.A. Dodgers, and the L.A. Lakers. She also enjoyed embroidery and craftwork (especially working with copper). Edna liked to read; her favorite publication was the "Reader's Digest". She was an excellent homemaker and cook (her specialties were breads and cookies), and she enjoyed canning. Edna was a meticulous housekeeper; she was always cleaning and dusting! She enjoyed playing cards (especially Bridge and pinochle) and she liked to listen to Country-Western music.

Edna and Bill loved the flatlands of Montana and the good people in the Hi-Line community, so that's what prompted them to retire in the Chester area. They enjoyed daily walks around town together. After Bill died, Edna continued walking even after her health began to fail. Edna and Bill had been constant companions and best friends all those years, and they were happy to have celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary the year before Bill died.

Edna is survived by a daughter, Janice Vogelsang of Riverton, Wyoming; three sons and spouses, including Terry Gunderson of Chester, Bob and Karen Gunderson of Polson, and Lennie and Ceci Gunderson of Allen, Texas; eight grandchildren (including Chad, Corey, Butch, Kristin, Rob, Sara, Adelia and William); and one great-grandson (Karstin). Edna was preceded in death by her husband, parents, three sisters (Geraldine "Bootsie" Shanks, Joyce Shanks, and an infant sister), and a son-in-law (Ross Vogelsang).

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. today (Wednesday, Jan. 8th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with Reverend Tom Dunham officiating. Special music will be provided by vocalist, Wayne Wardell. The accompanist will be Karen Stack.

Palbearers are Jim, Jack, Tim and Vic Shanks; Earl Keith; and Bill Kimball. Usher will be Bob Nordstrom. Interment will be in the Chester Cemetery and a luncheon will follow at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to the American Diabetes Association.

## CHARLES DUDLEY (DUD) HAN

Born: October 19, 1916 - Died: December 3, 1997

Liberty County Times

December 10, 1997



### Charles D. Han

Charles Dudley "Dud" Han was born October 19, 1916 in Deedsville, Indiana at the home of his grandparents, John and Eliza Ellen Han. Dud was the eldest of five children born to Fanna Reba Luckenbill and Lemuel Brundel "L. B." Han. The Han family came to Montana when Dud was just a baby. They homesteaded south of Inverness where Dud received his education at the Hay Coulee country school in the years that followed, he farmed with his dad and brothers.

On September 13, 1941 he married Esther Aileen Woods at Great Falls. They made their home in the Inverness community, where they raised their family of four. They lived and worked on the farm from that time on.

Dud never officially retired. He worked until this past August, when he developed some health problems. After numerous treatments and hospitalizations, Dud and Aileen both moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. On November 28th he transferred to the Chester hospital where he died on the early morning of Wednesday (December 3, 1997). He was 81 years old.

Dud was a long time member of the United Methodist Church in Inverness. Years ago he had been active in the Joplin Masonic Lodge. In his younger days he enjoyed fishing, playing cards, square-dancing, and attending rodeos. In more recent years he liked to attend auction sales or work in his vegetable garden and strawberry patch. In his quiet hours at home Dud enjoyed reading (he was especially fond of Western histories and farm publications).

Dud has always loved his life as a farmer. He enjoyed working with horses and cattle, in fact, he loved all animals. He liked to "tinker" around the shop; although not an inventor, he always discovered ingenious solutions or fabrications in mending or building something. Many of his neighbors came to him for advice on repair projects.

Dud loved his family. He was a quiet, gentle man and a good listener. He earned the love and respect of his family and friends by his silent actions and deeds.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Aileen of Chester; two daughters Shirley Dick of Billings, and Dorothea "Dotty" Dick (and husband Chuck) of Hardin; one son Don Han (and wife Jay Dee) of Rudyard; two sisters Reba Boucher (and husband Ken) of Rudyard and Dorothea Haaland of Inverness; two brothers Kenneth Han (and wife Eileen) of Inverness and Richard Han of Las Vegas, Nevada; seven grandchildren Gail Fleming, Bruce Dick, Sheri Dick, Lori Flory, Darlene Dick, Jourdan Han and Bridjour Han; 10 great-grandchildren (including Jeremy, Joshua, Sean, Michael, Brittany, Ryan, Sierra, Dominic, Pamela and Patrick Jr.); numerous nieces and nephews; and a host of friends. Dud was preceded in death by his parents and his oldest son "Chuck," (a casualty of the Vietnam conflict).

Funeral services were 11:00 am

Saturday (Dec. 6) at the Chester United Methodist Church with Rev. Kama Morton officiating. Iris White served as organist and the congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross" and "God Be With You." A vocal trio of Marcus Jochim, Doral Anderson, and Leota Hansen performed "In the Garden" and "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." Ushers were Greg Woods and Lane Boucher. Pallbearers included Bruce Dick, Allen Han, Jeff Han, Byron Boucher, Barlow Haaland and Kim Haaland. Honorary bearers were listed as "all of Dud's many friends." A luncheon followed at the church.

Graveside services were 2:30 pm Saturday at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home or to donor's choice.

## DALE LEE HANSARD

Born October 2, 1953 - Died October 11, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
October 15, 1997

### **Dale Lee Hansard**

Dale Lee Hansard was born in Havre, Montana on October 2, 1953. He was the son of Gene Hansard and Freda Rathbun, and he was one of six children in the family. Dale grew up in the Rudyard community and received his education there through grade 10. At age 19 he enrolled at the Billings Vo-Tech where he studied the refrigeration business. A year later he enlisted in the U.S. Army, where he completed his G.E.D. and was stationed in Germany for a year. Following his military service, Dale lived in Kansas and worked as a general laborer.

He returned to Montana and Wyoming where he worked for several years in the oil fields. He started as a driller, then began working on service rigs.

In 1986 Dale moved to Coram, Montana where he worked as a bartender at the Packer's Roost for four years. He has worked various jobs since then. Most recently, he had been working for a company that was raising houses and repouring foundations following flood damage in Grand Forks, North Dakota. Dale came back to Rudyard this summer to help with the farming operations. He also worked part-time at an elevator in Hingham.

Dale died at his mother's home in Rudyard on the early morning of Saturday October 11, 1997. He was 44 years old.

Dale's hobbies were fishing and hunting. He enjoyed carpentry jobs and in his quiet time he did horsehair braiding. He loved to socialize; he met a lot of people while enjoying the pastime of playing darts and pool.

He is survived by his mother, Freda Hansard of Rudyard; his father Gene Hansard of Great falls; three brothers Rick Hansard of Kalispell; Jim Meyers of Helena; and Danny Hansard of Rudyard; one sister Linda Foster of

Elko, Nevada; two nephews Pat and Chris Foster; and two nieces Kari Foster and Cheri Hudson. Dale was preceded in death by a sister, Tammy.

At this time no services are planned. Arrangements and cremation are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

Cause of death was self-inflicted gunshot wound.

**FREDERICK LAWRENCE HERMAN**  
**born: Dec. 16, 1937 -- died: Mar. 8, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Mar. 12, 1997**



**Frederick L. Herman**

Frederick Lawrence Herman was born at the old Sacred Heart Hospital in Havre, Montana on December 16th, 1937. He was one of four children born to Chris and Frances (Tippie) Herman. Fred grew up on the family farm north of Rudyard and he received his formal education there.

On September 23rd, 1956 Fred married Lavonne Warner at Inverness. In 1957 Fred and Lavonne moved to a ranch in the Bear Paws south of Havre, where they lived and raised their family of five children.

Fred worked various jobs to supplement his ranching income. In 1969 he began working for drilling rigs that moved into Hill County to explore for natural gas. In 1978 he started working as a cattle brand inspector under the direction of Jack Siebrasse. Fred also served as manager of the Hill County Scale Association, beginning in 1980 when area ranchers built the new facility east of Havre. He was forced to retire from his duties as brand inspector and scale manager in the fall of 1996, when his health began to fail. About that same time, Fred and Lavonne moved to a ranch home on Clear Creek Road about 10 miles south of Havre. It was here that

Fred convalesced and received treatment for his cancer. For the past several months he was given love and personal care by his family, friends, and hospice nurses. Fred died peacefully at his home on Saturday evening (March 8, 1997) at the age of 59 years...

Fred loved his life as a Montana rancher. Herefords were his cattle of choice and he enjoyed raising Percheron work horses. Although early spring was always a busy time for Fred, he always looked forward to

the excitement of newborn calves and the challenge ahead.

Fred is survived by his wife, Lavonne of Havre; two sons and spouses, Chris and Kathy of Belt and Wayne and Terri Herman of Fort Shaw; three daughters and spouses, Yvette and Rick Shanklin of San Diego, CA, Audrey and Scott Guptill of Havre, and Jeanette Hawley of Shelby; nine grandchildren (including Pam Shanklin, Denise and Jeff Guptill; Shawn, Joseph, Brian and Heather Herman; and Levi and Lisa Hawley; one great-grandson (Rian Shanklin); one sister, Maryle Lynn Pester (and husband, Jim) of Rudyard; one brother, Floyd Herman (and wife, Sherri) of Rudyard; and numerous nephews and nieces. Fred was preceded in death by his Father (on Jan. 14, 1956), by his mother (on Dec. 30, 1996), by a sister (Laurel Camper on June 30, 1996), and by a granddaughter.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. today (Wednesday, March 12, 1997) at the Community Alliance Church (925 8th St.) in Havre. Reverend Nolan Spent of Rudyard will officiate. Iris White will serve as organist and the congregation will sing "The Old Rugged Cross". Vocalist, Terry

Stevenson, will perform "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" and "Goodnight and Goodmorning". Roger Lincoln will serve as usher. Pallbearers will be Lance, Russell and Joe Verploegen, Bill Bruer, Joe Lincoln, and Fred and Edward Olson. Honorary bearers are listed as "Fred's friends and neighbors". A luncheon will be held at the church following the services.

Graveside services will be 2:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Grace Church Cemetery (located 18 miles north of Rudyard). Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## RICHARD "DICK" HORINEK

Born: June 9, 1933 —Died July 14, 1997

Liberty County Times

July 23, 1997



### **Richard Horinek**

Richard "Dick" Horinek was born at Havre, Montana on June 9, 1933. He was one of four children born to William and Mary (Malone) Horinek. Dick grew up on the family farm north of Hingham. He received his formal education in Hingham, graduating from high school in 1951.

He married Ruth E. Klemetson on June 9, 1956 at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. They raised a family of four sons. They lived and farmed in the Hingham community during their 41 years of married life.

Although Dick's health began to fail about five years ago, he still remained active in the farming operations. He was recently admitted to Bonelis East (Deaconess Hospital) in Great Falls, where he died of natural causes on the evening of Monday July 14, 1997. He was 64 years old.

Throughout the years Dick collected old cars, antique tractors, and obsolete farm machinery because he appreciated their value, uniqueness, and history. He loved to tinker in his shop; he was always willing to help his neighbors, especially if they

needed something built or repaired. Dick could examine an expensive piece of equipment, then construct a facsimile that would do the job at a considerable savings. In addition, he enjoyed attending threshing bees and other farming activities. A favorite pastime was simply driving his pick-up throughout the area and admiring the beautiful crops and vegetation.

Other hobbies included hunting, camping, and traveling. In his quiet hours at home Dick enjoyed reading farm and automotive magazines. He looked forward to his morning coffee hour at Hingham Motors where he could visit with his friends and catch up on all the happenings in the community.

Dick was a simple man who was happy with his role in life. He loved his family, farming, and friends and he never got too far away from any of them.

Survivors include his wife Ruth of Hingham; four sons and their wives: Larry and Alou of Hingham, Mike and Carol of Tucson, Arizona, Dan and Sheri of Hingham, and Mark and Teri of Hingham; seven grandchildren (including Lewis, Dusty, Brianne, Chris, Jarrett, Rich and Rob); one brother Robert of Hingham; and many nieces and nephews. Dick was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters, Margaret Powelson and Lenora Gregoire.

Funeral was celebrated by Father Charles Mears at 10:00 am Friday (July 18) at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. Sharon Spicher served as organist and Nick Alex sang "How Great Thou Art," "On Eagle's Wings," and "Friends." Jim Pester was usher and Maryle Lynn Pester read scriptures and assisted with communion. Dan Hybner was altar server. Pallbearers included Gary Gregoire, Allen Chinadle, Gary Horinek, Allen Twedt, Jim Muller and Bill Spicher. Honorary bearers were listed as "all of Dick's many friends." The eulogy was given by Giles Gregoire. Following interment in the Hingham Cemetery, a luncheon was provided at the church by the Altar Society. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Hingham Quick Response Unit, the Rudyard Historical Society, or donor's choice.



**BERNIECE MARIAN JACOBSON**  
Born: January 9, 1920 --Died: June 18, 1997  
*Liberty County Times*  
June 25, 1997

***Berniece Jacobson***

Word was received of the passing of Berniece Marian Jacobson (Garner), on June 18, 1997. She was visiting her nieces in Washington, on her return from graduation in Chester, MT, and suffered a heart attack.

She was born on January 9, 1920 in Helena, MT. She moved to Chester with her mother and step-father, Florence and Emil Zoeller. Later she married Orville Jacobson and they farmed in the Sweetgrass Hills, near the Bear Den, until the early 1960's. They divorced in 1962 and Berniece moved to Havre with the younger children. Several years later with more kids out of the nest, she moved to Boulder, MT and worked as an attendant at the State School. In 1975 she said "I don't like these cold winters" and so she moved to Riverside, CA. She worked for Riverside County Social Services until she retired in 1985. Retirement brought trips to Las Vegas, visits with her daughter, sons, other relatives, friends, work on her beautiful alghans, craft shows and sales, and the Liberty County Picnic in Phoenix, AZ last year. In the last few years she made several trips back to Chester renewing old friendships and "seeing people she hadn't seen in years."

She is survived by a brother Bill Garner of Bozeman, MT; a daughter Lois Shinn of Helendale, CA; sons Bruce Jacobson of Colstrip, MT, Jack Jacobson of Chester, MT, and Joe Jacobson of Gillette, WY; plus many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Cremation has taken place and as per her request, no service is planned at this time. Any memorials should be made to Chester Public Schools technology account.

**CECILIA MAE JEPPESEN**  
**born: Mar. 7, 1931 -- died: Jan. 8, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Feb. 5, 1997**



**Cecilia M.**  
**(White) Jeppesen**

*(The following obituary is being reprinted with a photo this week...)*

CHARLO—Cecilia Mae Jeppesen, 65, passed away Wednesday Jan. 8, 1997, in Missoula of natural causes.

She was born March 7, 1931 in Havre to Herb A. and Alta Stevens White. She grew up and attended

school in Inverness and Rudyard where she graduated in 1949.

On Dec. 13, 1966 she married Harris Jeppesen. They lived by the Sweet Grass Hills before moving to Charlo in 1969, where they operated a dairy farm until they retired in 1989.

Her highlights of life were her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents Herb A. and Alta, a son David, a sister Audrey and two brothers.

She is survived by her husband Harris Jeppesen of Charlo, children, Sandy Groves of Seattle, Murray Taylor of Oilmont, Allen Mangold of Chester, Kathy Woodruff of Plains, Sharleen King of Seattle, Debbie Skurlock of Cut Bank, Mike Jeppesen of Ronan Tammy Dupont of Charlo, Rick Jeppesen of Polson, Gene Jeppesen of Bozeman, Jay Jeppesen of Charlo, Jan Allen of Bismarck, ND, and Tom Laud of Coeur d'Alene, ID; brothers, Herb D. of Hingham, Jim of Havre, Jerry and Carl of Great Falls, and Ed of Billings; sisters, Donna Minnick of Havre, Rose Gehl of Great Falls, Liona Peshe of Louisiana and Mary of California; step-mother Iris White of Inverness; 38 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m. Monday, Jan. 13, 1997 in Ronan with Bishop Rick Woodruff officiating. Interment was at the Ronan Cemetery.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Easter Seals, c/o Pam Patch, Box B, Ronan, MT 59864.

Arrangements were made under the direction of Shriders Mortuary in Ronan.

**JACOB "JACK" JOCHIM**  
**born: Nov. 29, 1912 -- died: April 18, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**June 11 - 1997**

### ***Jacob Jochim***

Graveside services were held April 22, 1997, in Vancouver, Washington, for Jacob "Jack" Jochim who died April 18 at age 84. Jacob was born in Odessa, Russia, on November 29, 1912.

Jacob graduated from Inverness High School. During the summer months of his high school years, he worked for friends and neighbors. Later, Jacob graduated from Kinman Business University in Spokane.

During World War II he served in the Navy on the USS Logan, which was stationed in the South Pacific. He worked for the Bonneville Power Administration, retiring in 1978.

Surviving are his wife, Dorothy; daughters Nancy, Carol and Linda of Vancouver, Washington; and Elaine of Battle Ground, Washington; brothers Martin and Anton of Inverness, Montana; sisters Elizabeth of The Dalles, Oregon, and Barbara of Havre, Montana; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**JOHN R. JOHNSON**  
**Born: September 4, 1935 - Died: March 21, 1997**  
**Great Falls Tribune**  
**1997**

**John R. Johnson**

FORT BENTON — John R. Johnson, 61, died Friday of a heart attack.

Funeral services are 11 a.m. Wednesday at Benton Funeral Home, with burial in Joplin Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Fort Benton Memorial Ambulance Fund.

He was born Sept. 4, 1935, in Joplin, where he attended schools.

On Oct. 30, 1955, he married Leona Wilmes. They lived in Fort Benton, where he worked as a mechanic for Massey Ferguson and Power Ford. Johnson also worked as a caretaker for the Chouteau County Fairgrounds, and was known as a "jack-of-all-trades."

Surviving are his wife; a daugh-

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ter, Jackie Johnson of Tacoma, Wash.; sons Marlon and Lloyd of Tacoma, Wash; brothers, Berger "Bud" Johnson of Joplin and Arnold Johnson of Canada; sisters Arlene Anders of Joplin and Bertina Jerky of Colorado; and four grandchildren.

## OLIVE CAROLINE "DOLLY" JOHNSON

Born: November 16, 1924 - Died: October 7, 1997

Liberty County Times  
October 15, 1997



### Olive "Dolly" Johnson

Olive Caroline "Dolly" Johnson was born on November 16, 1924 at Ambrose, North Dakota. She was one of 12 children born to Elnora Olson and Oscar Anderson. Olive received her early education in North Dakota, then came to Joplin with her family at age 11. She graduated from Joplin High School in 1943.

Olive moved to California and worked as a waitress for several years. In 1949 she returned to Joplin where she took a job at the telephone office. On October 22, 1950 she married Berger Johnson. They made their home on the Johnson farm north of town, where they raised their family of six.

Olive's health had deteriorated the past nine years. Following a recent admission to the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, she transferred to her daughter's home in Great Falls. While there she received personal care from her family and hospice nurses. On Tuesday morning October 7, 1997 she died from complications of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. She was 72 years old.

Olive was a member of Bethel Church and had been active in the Martha Circle of WELCA. She enjoyed reading, especially the Bible and daily devotions. Other home activities included crocheting and baking (she will be remembered for her delicious breads and buns!). In addition to the "Wheel of Fortune" and selected "soap operas," Olive enjoyed television sports. Her favorite teams were the Los Angeles Lakers and the Los Angeles Dodgers. She was a competitive card player, especially fond of Pinochle and Hearts. And last, but not least, Olive loved her family; her grandkids always had a special place in her heart...

Survivors include her husband of 47 years, Berger of Joplin; two sons Duane (and wife Anne) of Helena, and Wayne (and wife Sandy) of Joplin; three daughters, Char Johnson of Worland, Wyoming; Lenora Chadwick (and husband Richard) of Worland, Wyoming; and Terrie Shure (and husband Steve) of Great Falls; 11 grandchildren (including Angie, Niki, Kevin, Brian, Mary, Mitchell, Justin, Keith, Krista, Michael and Miranda); seven sisters, Louise Anderson of Great Falls; Grace Prokop of Dallas, Oregon; Bernice Lyle of Great Falls, Doris Waldron of Santa Maria, California; Lois Rodgers of Brookings, Oregon; Donna Bandow of Issaquah, Washington; and Lola Woods of Rogue River, Oregon; three brothers, Sanford Anderson of Joplin, Donald Anderson of Great Falls, and Lowell Anderson of Steilacoom, Washington; and numerous nieces and nephews. Olive was preceded in death by her parents, a sister (Martys) and a daughter (Diane).

Funeral services were 10:00 am Saturday, October 11 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin with Pastor Darrell Cousino officiating. Organist Susan Peterson and pianist Betty Ann Wolery provided service music. The congregation sang "Amazing Grace." Marcus Jochim performed "How Great Thou Art." A taped selection by Jerome Lincoln was "The Wind Beneath My Wings." A short video presentation set to music provided special memories of Olive's life. Ushers were Harley Rudolph and Jack Nelson. Pallbearers included Lloyd Wolery, Chuck Lineweaver, Dean Lyle, Dalton Dahlke, Charlie Adams and Ellsworth Graff. Honorary bearers were listed as Olive's grandkids and her friends and neighbors. Interment was in the Joplin Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. A luncheon followed at Kjos Hall.





**GORDON W. JORGENSEN**  
**born: Dec. 8, 1913 -- died: Mar. 21, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Mar. 26, 1997**

***Gordon W. Jorgenson***

Gordon W. Jorgenson, 83 years of age, a retired farmer and a resident of Gildford, Montana, died March 21, 1997 at the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre of natural causes.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, 1997 at the Gildford Baptist Church in Gildford with Rev. Edward Fallo officiating. Burial was at the Highland Cemetery in Havre with "military" graveside honors. Memorials in Mr. Jorgenson's honor may be made to the Gildford Baptist Church or to the Hospice program in Havre.

Gordon was born December 8, 1913 at Artichoke, Minnesota the son of Anthon and Hannah (Gaard) Jorgenson. He attended school at Artichoke. Gordon moved to Gildford in 1935 and began farming. He was a WWII Veteran and Served with the U. S. Army Air Corps from 1942-1945 and was stationed in England and Germany. While in the military he was a mechanic on aircraft. February 5, 1949 at Ortonville, Minnesota he married the former Dorothy Nelson. The couple moved to Gildford where they continued farming. Gordon was a member of the Gildford Baptist Church. His hobbies were hunting, fishing, cross country skiing, visiting, traveling and he enjoyed mechanics and cars. He was best known for his custom made gun stocks.

He was preceded in death by four brothers and one sister.

He is survived by his wife Dorothy Jorgenson of Gildford; three daughters: Elaine and her husband (Dick) Wise of Kalispell, Montana, Nancy and her husband (Steve) Nelson of Polson, Montana, and Robin and her husband (Terry) Saylor of Portland, Oregon; and one son Dan and his wife (Kay) Jorgenson of Gildford; three sisters, Esther Mullins of Ortonville, Minnesota, Gladys Goesel of Davis, Illinois, and Nina Birkland of Seattle, Washington; two brothers: Harven Jorgenson of Seattle, and Clifford Jorgenson of Sedona, Arizona; ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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



Tom Kucera, born with a rare and fatal genetic disorder, touched many lives with his cheerful, positive nature. Tom died at age 11.

By Candace Ronalds  
News-Tribune staff writer  
Duluth, Minnesota

He was just a little boy. But his charm could melt the sternest heart, his courage and joy in living was an inspiration to those he met. Despite a rare and fatal genetic disorder that caused numerous birth defects and left Tom Kucera the size of a three-

# A short, joyful life ends

year, he compensated with patience, a happy disposition and by doing tasks differently.

Tom defied the odds, surviving medical hurdle after hurdle, living longer than anyone expected.

But Tom died in St. Mary's Medical Center just days after being diagnosed with leukemia, a result of his failing bone marrow. He was 11.

"We knew he would die," his father Tim Kucera said. "But it didn't make it any easier. At least it was a peaceful death."

Tom was the first child with *Fanconi anemia* that doctors had seen in Northeastern Minnesota. The condition, caused by a recessive gene carried by both parents, couldn't have been predicted.

Tom and his parents, Jeanne and Tim Kucera of Duluth, Minnesota, were the subjects of an award-winning story in the *News-Tribune* in March 1995 that chronicled their sacrifices and joys. The couple also has a younger daughter Maggie, who doesn't have the disorder.

"There are some people you really connect with who you learn love," his doctor Robert Niedringhaus said in 1995. "Tom is the ultimate. He gets

## Boy with rare genetic disorder dies at age 11

under your skin... He's probably the happiest child I have ever seen. When I think about him, I think that's what hope is all about."

Tom was born with shortened forearms, no thumbs, a small head, a closed ear, liver problems, a marginally functioning kidney and other health problems. He needed daily shots and weekly blood transfusions to give his body the blood cells it could no longer produce itself.

Despite his disabilities and health problems, Tom attended Homecroft Elementary School, where he was a popular student. He was poster boy for Memorial Blood Centers of Minnesota and a spokesperson for Arrowhead Regional Blood Center. This year, he represented the March of Dimes.

Tom also visited schools to educate students about *Fanconi anemia*. It wouldn't be long before the students

were enamored with his high-pitched giggle, sparkling eyes and love of a joke.

"Tom just didn't exist in a bubble," his father said. "It was the love and interaction with other people that he really thrived on. So it just wasn't that he gave unconditional love. Other people gave it back."

Tom's condition weakened since the story ran. His transfusions became more frequent. He tired more easily. Still, he didn't complain, delighting in others, quick to give a hug.

But his condition worsened over the summer, and he became even weaker. He couldn't walk, becoming immobile.

"He had a rough couple months; we couldn't pinpoint exactly what it was," his father said.

When the diagnosis of leukemia came, his parents knew the end was near. And Tom understood.

"He had so many limitations that were obvious, like his stature," Tim Kucera said. "Everything was limited but his love, Tom's ability to love."

A memorial Mass will be held in Chester at St. Mary's Catholic Church on Thursday, Oct. 9 at 11:00 am.

THOMAS "TOM" D. KUCERA  
Born: May 29, 1986 - Died: September 28, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
October 1 - 8, 1997

(over)

## Tom Kucera

Thomas "Tom" D. Kucera, age 11, of Duluth, Minnesota died Sunday, September 28, 1997 at St. Mary's Medical Center of leukemia, after a courageous lifetime struggle with Fanconi Anemia Syndrome.

Tom is survived by his parents Tim and Jeanne and his little sister Maggie. He is also survived by his grandparents Tom and Pat Ludwig of Chester, Montana; Dan and Margaret Kucera of Havre, Montana; aunts and uncles Mike and Pat Kucera, Mark and Karen Kucera, Ed and Eva Tucholski, David and Cathy Kucera, Margaret Kucera, Dan Kucera, Russ and Jackie VanDyke, David and Jennie Wicks, Brian and Jerri May, many cousins and his special friend Carrie Michela.

Tom was born in Missoula, Montana, attended school in Mt. Vernon, Washington, and at Homecroft Elementary School in Duluth. He was a spokesperson for the Arrowhead Regional Blood Center and the March of Dimes.

Tom was an avid collector of Sesame Street, Muppets and Pee Wee Herman "stuff." His real joy in life was giving unconditional love.

The visitation will be Wednesday, October 1 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Crawford Funeral Service Chapel in Duluth. Burial will be Thursday, October 2 at 1:00 pm at St. John's Catholic Church (4230 St. John's Ave., Duluth, MN) with Father Jerry Weiss officiating.

Memorials are preferred in lieu of flowers.

Arrangements by Crawford Funeral Service.

*Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*

—Matthew 19:14

## In loving memory of THOMAS DANIEL KUCERA

**Entered Into Life:** May 29, 1986 at  
Missoula, Montana

**Entered Into Rest:** September 28, 1997 at  
Duluth, Minnesota

**Memorial Mass:** 11:00 a.m. Thursday, October 9th, at  
St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester, Montana

**Celebrant:** Father Joseph Marmion

**Mass Participants:** Greeters, Brian May & Dave Toner... Altar Servers, Kayla & Kurt Matkin... Reader, Chris Klobofski... Communion Gifts, Mark Kucera & Jackie VanDyke... Eucharist Minister, Dan Hybner... Special Readings, Sue Ray, Jenni Wicks & Jeri May... Organist, Karen Stack... Vocalists, Jerry Toner, Dave Wicks, Scott Dees, and St. Mary's contemporary choir

**Luncheon** to follow in the Parish Center

**Tom's Family:** Parents, Tim & Jeanne Kucera; Sister, Maggie Kucera; Paternal grandparents, Dan & Margaret Kucera; Maternal grandparents, Tom & Pat Ludwig; and numerous aunts, uncles & cousins...

**JENNE C. KULLER**  
**born: Aug. 31, 1893 -- died: Mar. 17, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**May 7 - 1997**

## **Jenne C. Kuller**

Jenne C. Kuller was born on August 31, 1893, on a farm in Livingston County, Missouri. She was a graduate of the University of Missouri and received a Masters Degree in Religious Education from Columbia University in New York City. After graduation, she worked with immigrants in the disadvantaged areas of New York, then moved to Kansas City, Missouri where she served as Youth Director in several large churches.

In 1930, she married John Kuller, a Methodist Minister from Montana. Together they served several small Montana town churches, he was considered to be a "modern day" Methodist Circuit Rider. They moved to the Pacific Northwest where John served several more small churches and Jenne continued a career in social work and education. Retiring to South Everett, Jenne continued her involvement in the church and became active in politics. She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star and the American Association of University Person for over 50 years.

Jenne passed away in Everett on March 17, 1997

She is survived by two children, John Kuller of Everett, Mary Kathryn Chase of Santa Clara, CA; six grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, April 5, 1997, at the First United Methodist Church of Everett with a reception to follow.

Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Everett or the University of Puget Sound, Tacoma.

Private interment was held in the Janesville Cemetery, Hamilton, KS.

Arrangements entrusted to Purdy & Walters with Cassidy.

**ROBERT EDMUND LAIRD**  
**born: Feb. 9, 1923 -- died: Apr. 2, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 9, 1997**



**Robert E. Laird**

Robert Edmund Laird was born on the family farm north of Joplin, Montana on February 9th, 1923. His parents were John Robertson Laird and Marie Irene Daly, and he was one of six children. Bob received his formal education at the Alma Country School, then began working on the family ranch.

In 1944 at age 21 Robert enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served during World War II. During the invasion of Iwo Jima, Bob sustained severe battle injuries and was awarded the "Purple Heart". He was honorably discharged in 1945 and came back to Montana.

He continued ranching north of Joplin until 1955, when he retired. He received medical treatment at Fort Harrison Veterans Hospital in the years that followed. Bob made his home on the Laird ranch until April of 1996, when he moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester.

This past week Bob was on a road trip when he became ill near Conrad. He was admitted to the Conrad hospital and then transferred to the V.A. Medical Center at Fort Harrison. He died there on the early morning of

Wednesday (April 2nd, 1997) of cardiopulmonary disease. He was 74 years old.

As an infant Bob was baptized at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. He received his religious confirmation when he was hospitalized in Oakland during his military career. Bob was a member of the V.F.W. Post in Chester.

In his younger years Bob enjoyed hunting, fishing and gardening. In later years he loved to travel; he made many road trips throughout the Western United States. Bob enjoyed reading before his eyesight failed. He had an excellent memory when it came to the pioneers, special events, and dates in the history of Liberty County. Bob will be remembered as a kind, quiet, and unassuming man...

Robert never married. His survivors include two brothers, James Laird of Chester and Richard Laird of Great Falls; one sister, Rita Melonas of Vancouver, WA; and numerous nephews & nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers (John and Donald Laird).

Funeral Mass was held at 2:30 p.m. Monday (April 7th) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester with Father Joseph Marmion serving as Celebrant. Members of St. Mary's Choir sang "Valleys of Green", "Hosea", "Gift of Finest Wheat", and "Amazing Grace", accompanied by Iris White, organist. John and Scott Laird shared scripture readings and John Laird was eulogist. Altar servers were Mitch Laird and Todd Alisch, and Eucharistic minister was Margaret Graff. Pallbearers were Mike, John, Jim, and Scott Laird, Sam Melonas, and Ted Tempel. Interment was at the Chester Cemetery where military rites were performed. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.



**LYDIA ADELE LANGEL**  
**born: Mar. 12, 1901 -- died: Jan. 3, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Jan. 8, 1997**



**Lydia A. Langel**

Lydia Adele Langel was born at Stewart, Minnesota on March 12th, 1901. She was one of eight children born to Gustav and Emilie (Wendland) Krueger. Of interest was the fact that Lydia and her brother George were the second set of twins born to the Krueger's.

"Lyd" received her early education at Valley City, North Dakota. In 1910 she came with her family to Rudyard (Montana) in an immigrant car. They homesteaded near Rudyard and Lydia finished her formal education there. She attended Montana State Normal College at Dillon and earned a lifetime teaching certificate. In the 1920's and 1930's Lydia taught at numerous northern Montana schools, including Happy Hollow, Rathbun, Center, and Valley, all near Rudyard, and at Shambo School in the Bear Paws, and the schools in Zurich and Kremlin.

On June 5th, 1933 she married Henry Joseph Langel in Havre. They made their home in the Rudyard community from that time on. Lydia taught in the Rudyard School system from 1935-1950. She served as the school clerk from 1952-1955. After she and Henry retired, they worked as caretakers at the Rudyard Cemetery for a number of years. Her husband died in 1977. She has remained at home in Rudyard since.

Lydia's health remained excellent until 1991, when she suffered her first stroke. Her condition has slowly deteriorated, so her friend (Jan DeLaney) has been caring for her since. Lydia died peacefully at her Rudyard home on the early evening of Friday (January 3rd, 1997). She was 95 years old.

Lydia had been a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Rudyard until its closing, then attended St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Havre. She was one of the original members of the Hi-Line Senior Center in Rudyard. She was very helpful in the early planning of the local historical society; she helped buy the land and depot so that the Rudyard Museum could be established. Because of her interest in this project, memorials will be given to the Rudyard Historical Society...

Lydia and Henry had no children, but she always lovingly said that "her children were all of her students". Lyd was a no-nonsense teacher; she believed in discipline and expected much from her students, but also was patient with students who had learning disabilities.

Lydia came to Rudyard during its infancy and was part of the community's 86 years of growth. She attended the first day of the first school in Rudyard in the fall of 1910. She was on the very first girls' basketball team. She completed every course available in the Rudyard School system, so would have been Rudyard's first high school graduate had there been that opportunity at the time.

In her earlier years Lydia enjoyed fishing, playing cards, and traveling around the Hi-Line countryside. Henry was a mechanic, so Lydia would go to farmsteads with him; she got to know everyone and where they lived. She enjoyed talking about local history; up until the past few months her recall of people and events in Rudyard's history was unsurpassed...

Lydia loved to entertain family and friends. She appreciated being included in family functions. Although her eyesight and physical health failed in recent years, she still maintained excellent mental capabilities and a good sense of humor...

Lydia is survived by nephews and nieces. She is also survived by her friend and companion of 17 years, Jan DeLaney, and her dog, Jorj II. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and siblings (George and Waldemar Krueger, Laura and Hertha Brandt, and three infant brothers).

Funeral services were 1:30 p.m. Monday (January 6th) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Reverend Christopher Brandt of Havre and Reverend Bart Coleman of Rudyard officiated. Jan DeLaney was eulogist. Caroline Hall was pianist and the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art", "The Old Rugged Cross", and "Nearer My God To Thee". Ushers were Fred Rigg and Alvin Krejci. Pallbearers were Fredrick Elling, Gerry Langel, Eugene Brandt, Ross Bartz, Don Hansen and Clyde Brandt. Memorial bearers were listed as "all of Lydia's former students and her many nephews and nieces".

Graveside services were 3:00 p.m. at the Rudyard Cemetery. A coffee hour followed at the Senior Center in Rudyard. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## TIM LANGEL

Born: June 3, 1966 - Died: December 24, 1997

Liberty County Times  
December 31, 1997



**Tim Langel**

Tim Langel, age 31, died of injuries sustained in a pick-up rollover accident on the early morning of Wednesday (Dec. 24, 1997). The accident occurred on a rural road approximately 12 miles north of Rudyard. Tim was the driver and lone occupant of the vehicle.

Tim Langel was born on June 3, 1966 at Denver, Colorado. He was the youngest of five children born to Alberta and Richard Langel. When he was two years old, the Langels moved to the family farm north of Rudyard. Tim received his education at Rudyard, graduating from Blue Sky High School in 1984. He continued his schooling in Phoenix, Arizona at DeVry Institute of Technology where he received an electronics degree in 1986.

Tim moved to Billings, Montana. He worked as an automotive technician at Sears and the Bert Amlund Auto Dealership. In addition, he worked parttime as a "bouncer" at the Eagle's Nest, where he met his wife-to-be, Tammy L. Ackaret. Tim and Tammy were married on June 19, 1993 at Red Lodge, Montana.

Shortly after their marriage, the Langels moved to Rudyard. Tim worked for area farmers and then landed a job for the Burlington-Northern Railroad, where he worked as head welder. When his parents recently retired, Tim and Tammy moved to the family farm in the Goldstone community 20 miles north of Rudyard. Tim was traveling home to the farm at the time of the accident.

Tim was baptized as a Catholic and was a confirmed member of Our Lady of Ransom Church in Hingham. During his school years in Rudyard, he was active in the community musical theater. He enjoyed playing co-ed and men's softball in Billings and had been active in the bowling and dart leagues since returning to Rudyard. Other hobbies included fishing, hunting, camping, water sports, and crossword puzzles. Tim enjoyed computers and he had a large collection of baseball caps. He loved to socialize with people, and it was said of him that "he never met a stranger." Tim enjoyed Karaoke events, as both a spectator and a singing participant! He loved farming and cattle ranching, but his greatest love of all was for his family.

Tim is survived by his wife, Tammy of Rudyard; two children including a daughter Makenzie, and a newborn child in April; his parents Richard and Alberta Langel of Billings; one brother Albert Langel of Tacoma, Washington; three sisters Mrs. Tim (Jodene) Leeds of Havre, Mrs. Dan (Shellie) Miller of LaCygne, Kansas, and Mrs. Jay (Ellen) Riesinger of Billings; paternal grandmother, Helen Langel of Chester; maternal grandfather Albert Dierkens of Kansas City, Missouri; his parents-in-law Greg Ackert of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Melissa Petersen of Lewistown; and numerous nephews, uncles, aunts and cousins. Tim is also survived by his two German shepherd dogs, "Toby," and "Whitney."

A family prayer service was led by Loy Chvilicek at 4:00 pm Sunday December 28, 1997 at the Goldstone Church north of Rudyard.

Tim's funeral service was conducted at 11:00 am Monday at the Blue Sky High School gymnasium in Rudyard by Rev. Bart Coleman. Pianist Iris White played prelude music. Special music included the following taped selections: "The Battle Hymn of Love," by Kathy Mattea and Tim O'Brien; "The Dance," by Garth Brooks; "Tears in Heaven," by Eric Clapton; and "Amazing Grace," by LeAnne Rimes. Ushers were Dennis Langel and Willard Fiadager. Pallbearers were Al Langel, Dan Miller, Shawn Berry, Blake Lowthian, Steven Chvilicek, Darryl Hassa, Shannon Gjerde and Scott Schissler.

Honorary bearers were listed as the "Class of '84" and Tim's many, many friends everywhere. Scripture readings were by Terry Hybner and Cal Frank. Eulogist was Steve Chvilicek.

Interment was at the Rudyard Cemetery. Tim's favorite Karaoke song "Dock of the Bay" by Otis Reading was played, after which 31 white helium balloons were released by family and friends. A luncheon followed at the Catholic Youth Center. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Memorials will be placed in a fund at the Rudyard Norwest Bank for the future educational needs of Tim's children.

**VIVIAN LEGAULT**  
**born: Oct. 27, 1918 -- died: Mar. 19, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 2, 1997**

### ***Vivian Legault***

Memorial funeral services were held Monday, March 24 at the Pinehurst Community Baptist Church for Vivian Mae Legault, 78, of Osburn, Idaho. Rev. Rodney Miller officiated. Vivian died Wednesday, March 19 at Silver Valley Medical Center.

She was born October 27, 1918, in Inverness, Montana, the daughter of Ervin and Irene (Hyle) Zoerb. She attended schools in that area and graduated with the Inverness High School Class of 1936. She came to Silver Valley in 1936 from Montana and wed Harvey Legault on September 16, 1938, in Coer d'Alene.

Vivian was the postmaster at the Duthie, Idaho post office. She then contracted to work the Murray postal route for 20 years as a mail carrier. She retired in 1979.

Memberships included the Eastern Star. Vivian enjoyed gardening, cooking and canning and fishing.

Survivors include her husband of 60 years, Harvey, at the family home in Osburn; two sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Gloria of Osburn and Ronald and Jake of Thompson Falls, Montana; a daughter and son-in-law, Bonnie and Greg Willette of Coer d'Alene; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; a sister, Lois Smith of Springfield, Oregon, and numerous nephews and nieces. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Donna Leetch, her parents, and two sisters, Ruth Adams and Ruby Jemison.

The family suggest memorials be made to the Silver Valley Medical Center in Silverton for the excellent care she received there. Arrangements were under the direction of Shoshone Funeral Service.

**GERALDINE CHIOE (JENSEN) LIBONATI**  
**born: Oct. 7, 1918 -- died: Apr. 1, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 23, 1997**

***Geraldine Jensen***

Geraldine Chloe ("Jeri") Jensen was born at Joplin, Montana on October 7th, 1918. She was the only daughter of four children born to Melvin and Sophia "Evelyn" Jensen.

Jeri married Natale Robert Libonati on June 15th, 1937 in Illinois. They moved to California where she started "Jeri Productions," a company that made children's records.

Jeri lived in the Big Bear, California community for almost 25 years. While there she worked in the admitting office at the Big Bear Community Hospital for many years.

After a large earthquake shook the Big Bear area in 1992, Jeri decided to move back to Montana to the Flathead area. She was recently admitted to the Kalispell Regional Hospital, where she died on Tuesday (April 1st, 1997). She was 78 years old.

Since moving to Kalispell, Jeri joined the Bethlehem Lutheran Church and loved her work with the

Welcome Wagon. She was a very artistic and creative lady. Jeri was the backbone of her family and was extremely proud of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and a brother (Don). Jeri's survivors include three sons, Michael Libonati of Conoga Park, California, Jess Libonati of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Ronald Libonati of Lake Arrowhead, California; one daughter, Melody Libonati of Glendale, California; two brothers, Robert and Gordon Jensen, both of Big Bear, California; ten grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren (soon to be eight).

Memorial services were held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday (April 5th) at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell with Reverend Sigurd Lefsrud officiating. Arrangements and cremation by Buffalo Hill Funeral Home.

It was Jeri's wish to be buried in Joplin, so her ashes will be interred with her grandparents, Peter and Christina (Olson) Peterson. Graveside services will be 1:00 p.m. Saturday (April 26th) at the Joplin Cemetery with Reverend Darrell Cousino officiating. Local arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

LEWIS MATTHEW LINEWEAVER  
Born: March 19, 1906 --Died: July 24, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
July 30, 1997

### ***Lewie Lineweaver***

Lewis Matthew "Lewie" Lineweaver, age 91, died at his home Thursday July 24, 1997 of natural causes.

Funeral services were 10:30 a.m. Monday July 28, 1997 at Van Orsdel Methodist church, with burial in Calvary Cemetery. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Lineweaver was born March 19, 1906 in Grinnell, Iowa. He moved to Montana as a child and attended Minneota Elementary School and graduated from Havre High School.

Lewie farmed on the family homestead, remaining active with his son, grandson, and great-grandsons in farming his whole life.

On October 1, 1928 he married Bernice Farley at Havre. She died in 1960.

Mr. Lineweaver moved to Havre in 1953 and established Northern Tire Company.

In 1962 he married Evelyn Krairk Yates at Hingham. She died in 1993.

Lewie enjoyed hunting, fishing and bowling, and his family. He was a longtime member of Kiwanis and Elks, and served on the Inverness School Board for many years.

Lewie had many friends and especially enjoyed having coffee and visiting at the 4-B's in Havre. His sense of humor and smile and graciousness will be missed greatly.

Mr. Lineweaver is survived by his son and daughter-in-law Charles and Dorothy Lineweaver of Inverness; grandchildren Sue Berg, Berniece Phelps and Ron Lineweaver; and six great-grandchildren; step-sons Den-

nis Yates and John Yates; step-daughters Carol Newly and Kathy Yates; 14 step-grandchildren, and 13 step-great-grandchildren.



**SHAUN MICHAEL MACDEVITT**  
**born: Sep. 10, 1980 -- died: Feb. 1, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Feb. 19, 1997**



**Shaun M. MacDevitt**

MARQUETTE, MI—Shaun Michael MacDevitt, 16, of 123 E. Arch Street and 423 E. Hewitt Street, beloved brother, son and friend, went to his eternal home on Saturday, February 1, 1997, in an automobile accident on U.S. 41 in Harvey with three of his friends.

Shaun was born September 10, 1980 in Chester, MT and moved to Marquette when he was three years old. He attended Parkview, Father Marquette Elementary and Middle Schools and Graveraet Middle School. At the time of his death, Shaun was a sophomore at Marquette Senior High School. He had played in Superiorland Soccer from the age of six. He sang, played, toured and prayed with new Kids on the Rock for the past four years. Shaun touched all who knew him with his smile. He was a member of the Gospel Tabernacle Church.

He is survived by his brothers, Matthew MacDevitt, 14, Patrick MacDevitt, 8, Cassie Bergren, 12, and Brian MacDevitt-Dunn, 8 months; parents, Maggie MacDevitt and John (Mac) MacDevitt; step-parents,

Patrick St. Germain and Kathy Frankenburg Dunn; grandparents Gayla and William Leonard, of Coronado, CA and Catherine and James MacDevitt, of Great Neck, NY; uncles Mac (Dara) MacDevitt, Essex, NY, Mike (Tally) Leonard, Coronado, CA, Bill (Monna) Leonard, Del Mar, CA. He also leaves dear cousins and friends. Shaun was preceded in death by his uncle, Jimmy MacDevitt.

Visitation/Celebration of Shaun's life was at Swanson-Lundquist Funeral Home on Friday, February 7, 1997. The funeral service was at Gospel Tabernacle Church on Saturday, February 8, 1997 at 4 p.m. Opening prayers, welcome and the closing prayer were given by Pastor Ron Drake. Scripture readings were by Suzy Boe, Jan and Katie Sorenson, Shane Flynn, Maria Schrank and Misty Gates. Memories of Shaun were shared by Hahn Boe, Kurt and Shelley Janofski, teacher Smitty, Barb

Schouten and Rod Scofield. Songs included "Friends", "Here I Am, Lord", and "One Name Under Heaven" by New Kids on the Rock, "Sandcastles" by Janet Swanson, and "Desperado" by Matt MacDevitt, Mac MacDevitt, Lucas Lavoy, Michala Hanson and Marie Greenberg. Matthew MacDevitt read "Goals", a paper written by Shaun for his English Class, and Shawn Hahn read "Kentucky Rose". John (Mac) MacDevitt shared "A Father's Heart".

Paulbearers were Andy Betts, Josh Beaver, Andrea Decorte, Maria Fernandes, Caryl Yoder, Cass Bergren, Keith Janofski and Laurel Bond.

Contributions may be made to New Kids on the Rock, c/o Barb and Tim Schouten, P. O. Box 831, Marquette, MI 49855-0831.

Letters and cards may be sent to MacMacDevitt, 423 E. Hewitt Avenue Marquette, MI 49855.

**AMELIA (SCHWEITZER) MANGOLD**  
**born: Feb. 4, 1910 -- died: May 18, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**May 28, 1997**



**Amelia Mangold**

Amelia (Schweitzer) Mangold was born in Odessa, Russia on February 4th, 1910. She was one of nine children born to Franciska Schwan and Michael Schweitzer. When she was six months old, her family came to the United States. They lived in North Dakota for a year, then came to Montana in 1912 and homesteaded in the Goldstone community north of Inverness. Amelia received her education at a country school near the farm. Because of her mother's illness, Amelia helped raise her younger siblings.

On November 26th, 1935 she married Joseph Adam Mangold at Goldstone. They lived and farmed south of Inverness, where they raised five daughters. The Mangold's retired in 1968, but continued to live on the farm. They spent many winters in Arizona before purchasing a home in Mesa in 1970. Joe died in Mesa on November 15th, 1979. Amelia continued to live in Montana and Arizona in the years that followed. In 1992 she bought a small summer home in Hingham. She had just returned from Arizona two weeks ago and was excited about planting her garden. Amelia's health had been relatively good, in fact, she was quite spry at 87 years of age. On this past Sunday morning (May 18th, 1997) she died peacefully in her sleep at home in Hingham.

Amelia had a strong faith and was always active in her church. She was a loyal Altar Society member and attended Sacred Heart in Inverness, Our Lady of Ransom in Hingham, and All Saints Church in Mesa.

Amelia had served on several hospital auxiliaries. She enjoyed donating her time and talents to special causes, whether it be baking cookies for the Homebound, giving haircuts and permanents, or just making nursing home visits. Just two weeks ago she went out-and-about in Hingham and obtained over 100 signatures in support of recruiting an additional physician at the Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home in Chester.

Amelia was a member of T.O.P.S. in Inverness and was active in the swimming groups in Hingham/Mesa. She helped organize the Neighborhood Watch Program at Dreamland Villa in Mesa. In her earlier years at Inverness, she was an active 4-H leader.

Although Amelia never had the opportunity for a college education, she appreciated her skills and always encouraged her family to "keep on learning". One of her favorite sayings was "You can't learn any younger!" She loved to read, especially the daily paper, and she kept up on current events and important issues. And she always voted! Amelia was always ready to go somewhere to experience something new. Whether it be a school play, a public concert, an art class, or a calligraphy course, she always found something positive and exciting about it. Of interest was the fact that Amelia learned to swim at age 61, began painting in her late 50's, and started riding a bike at age 65, so she proved that we really can "keep on learning"...

As indicated, she was a very creative and artistic lady. She was an excellent seamstress; she made all of her daughters' wedding dresses. In addition, she made the wedding cakes and provided many of the special decorations. She was an exceptional cook who collected and shared recipes with her family and

friends. Her paintings (water-colors and oils) were really quite good. And she had a proverbial "green thumb" when it came to her flower and vegetable gardening. But the most important thing in her life was her family. Amelia loved to play cards and dice with them. She tried not to miss important dates and events in their lives. She was instrumental in organizing the Mangold Summer Christmas and Schweitzer reunions, which started 25+ years ago and are still going strong today! Amelia was a special lady whose memory won't be soon forgotten...

She is survived by her five daughters and spouses, Delores and Tom Peck of Columbia Falls, Joyce and Daryl Spicher of Hingham, Marilyn Meier of Spokane, Washington, Janice Hoppes of Conrad, and Evelyn and John Fischer of Joliet; two sisters, Barbara Mangold of Inverness and Fran Bull of Phoenix, Arizona; two

brothers, Adam Schweitzer of Whitefish and Frank Schweitzer of Reno, Nevada; 15 grandchildren (including Michelle Peck, Starla Solberg, Patty Daugharty, Yvonne Peck, Thom Peck, Dan Spicher, Robert Spicher, Mark Dunn, Debbie Pinnow, Kristen Meier, Marni Hoppes, Ryan Hoppes, Jessica Fischer, Luke Fischer and Sarah Fischer); 14 great-grandchildren (including Jamie, Tyler, Scot, Conor, Kaitlyn, Taylor, Kylie, Michael, Andrea, Jordan Delainey, Heather, Nathan and Chase); and numerous nieces and nephews. Amelia was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by a sister (Tracy Heck), three brothers (Anton, Michael and Leo Schweitzer), and a grandson (Daryl Joseph Spicher).

Vigil prayer services were 8:00 p.m. Thursday (May 22nd) at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness. Prayers were led by Amelia's niece, Leona Lakman. Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Marmion at 11:00 a.m. Friday at Sacred Heart. Iris White was organist and Marcus Jochim sang "The Old Rugged Cross",

(over)

"In the Garden", "On Eagle's Wings", "How Great Thou Art", and "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman". Ed Schweitzer served as usher. All of Amelia's grandchildren were pallbearers. Honorary bearers were listed as her many friends and loved ones. Brothers, Adam and Frank, shared the eulogy, and together with their sister, Barbara, they presented the communion gifts. Una Moog was Eucharistic minister and altar servers were Tony and Nicholas Moog. At the graveside services at the Inverness Cemetery, a grandson-in-law (Monte Solberg) shared a poem that he had written about Amelia, then 87 balloons were released in her memory. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" or the HI-Line Health Service Foundation.

HAROLD GILBERT MATKIN  
Born: June 1, 1922 --Died: June 24, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
July 9, 1997

## **Harold Matkin**

MISSOULA—Harold Gilbert Matkin passed away Tuesday June 24, 1997 at the Edgewood Vista at the age of 75.

Harold was born on June 1, 1922 the fourth of six children born to Loudon Ernest Matkin and Lora

Lureness Clemens Matkin near Carter. He was educated at Lothair and Chester and continued his education with correspondence courses and at junior college in Miles City.

On May 4, 1947 he married Ruth Moore Broad in Kalispell; they recently celebrated their 50th anniversary in Missoula.

He was a life member of the Butte Elks Lodge. He was baptized in 1947 in the First Christian Church in Kalispell and had continued his affiliation in various locations since.

As a young man he was a farm worker in the Conrad-Brady area. He also worked for Glacier Dairy in Kalispell and Meadow Gold Dairies in Whitefish, Billings and Miles City. He also worked at the George L. Tracy brokerage in Billings, Butte and Missoula, retiring in June 1984. He traveled Montana, Wyoming, and North and South Dakota for more than 30 years.

In addition to his professional activities, he worked on many volunteer projects which included the Florence community park and Cane Ridge West, a church retreat in Lincoln.

He is survived by his widow Ruth; sons Ronald and Richard; daughter Kathleen; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his brother, Randall in Michigan, and his sister, Barbara Fortson of California and their families.

Memorial services were held on Saturday June 28, 1997 at the First Christian Church, Missoula, with a reception following. Private interment was at Carlton Cemetery in Florence, Montana.

Contributions may be made to a memorial fund for the sanctuary refurbishing project at the First Christian Church or to the Alzheimer's fund.

**LOREN RUSSELL MATKIN**  
**born: Jul. 8, 1924 -- died: Mar. 13, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Mar. 26, 1997**

***Loren Matkin***

Loren Russell Matkin of 1815 Whitman, Butte, Montana passed away March 13, 1997.

He was born July 8, 1924 in Fort Benton to Loudon Ernest and Lora Lureness (Clemens) Matkin. He was raised and educated in Chester, until his enlistment in the Navy Seabees during World War II.

Following his discharge, he moved to Kalispell, Montana where he met and married Charlotte A. McEvoy. They were married Dec. 25, 1947.

Until his retirement Loren worked for the State of Montana as a highway engineer and later as the project engineer on most bridges within a 100 mile radius of Butte.

In his younger years he was an avid fly fisherman and in his later years enjoyed his beloved grandchildren and spent his time in prayer and Bible study. He was a member of Floral Park Baptist Church, serving as an usher and greeter.

Loren is survived by his wife Charlotte, his son and daughter-in-law Gary and Gloria Matkin of Toole, Utah, daughter and son-in-law Laurie and Steve Cook of Whitehall, Montana and Roberta Lord of Butte.

Surviving grandchildren include: Gary M. Matkin, Robert R. Matkin, Angela Matkin, Jeremy Matkin, John T. Matkin, Courtney Cook, Kodi Cook, Ashley Cook, Elysha Hobish and Kirby Lord.

Also surviving are brothers and sisters-in-law: Harold and Ruth Matkin of Missoula, Randall and Nancy Matkin of Detroit, MI, sister Barbara Fortson of Vallejo, CA and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers John and Robert.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. in the Floral Park Baptist Church and interment in Sunset Memorial Park.



## HELENA (KROCKER) MCCANN

Born: April 12, 1915 - Died: December 1, 1997

Liberty County Times  
December 10, 1997



### Helena McCann

Helena (Krocker) McCann was born on the family homestead 13 miles south of Inverness, Montana on April 12, 1915. Her parents were Jacob and Katrina (Quiring) Krocker, and she was one of seven children in the family. In 1919 the Krockers moved to Leeds, North Dakota where Helena grew up and received her education.

At age 16 Helena came back to the Inverness community to work for her brother Pete Siemens. While there she met her husband-to-be, Clarence "Shorty" McCann, and they were married in Havre on October 27, 1932. They made their home on the McCann family farm north of Joplin. Helena was happy in her new role as farm wife and mother.

Shorty died in 1969. Helena remained on the farm until 1991, when she moved to her home in Joplin. Because of failing health, she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home at Chester in 1996. She died peacefully at the rest home on the morning of Monday (Dec. 1, 1997). She was 82 years old.

Helena was a 50-year member of the Inverness United Methodist Church and she taught Sunday School there for many years. She had been very active in the WIFE organization, and other community affairs. One of her favorite projects was the annual Hi-Line Book Drive; she would help

collect and deliver a truckload of books to the veterans at Fort Harrison and to the prisoners at Deer Lodge.

Helena was well-known in her younger days for her lovely wedding cake designs and in her later years for the many crafts she completed. Helena was a very caring and generous lady, so she enjoyed sharing her craft gifts and talents with her friends and relatives.

She had many collections including spoons, salt-&-pepper shakers, stamps, plates, rocks, pencil sharpeners, and photos. She enjoyed photography. In her quiet time at home she wrote poetry and also made jewelry items. Of interest was the fact that she took guitar lessons at age 60! Helena also enjoyed gardening; she raised beautiful flowers, vegetables, and raspberries. She liked to cook; her specialties were her breads and a Dutch dish called "verenica."

Helena loved her community and her life in Montana. Most of all, she loved her family and was very proud of all of them.

Survivors include her three children Katherine "Kay" Petrovich of Anaconda, Ariene "Peggy" Heydon (and husband Earl "Buzzy") of Milpitas, California, and Dr. Steve "Butch" McCann (and wife, Marie) of Helena; her sister, Martha Wright of Chester; 14 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; several brothers- and sisters-in-law; and numerous nieces and nephews. Helena was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by a son (Clarence Eugene McCann in 1942), by three brothers (Jake, Pete and Dietrich), by two sisters (Marie and Tina), and by a son-in-law (Al Petrovich).

Funeral services were 11:00 am Friday (Dec. 5th) at the Joplin Community Hall. Rev. Kama Morton officiated. Iris White served as organist and the congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross," "Harvest Time," and "How Great Thou Art." Helena's son Steve shared the eulogy and other readings were done by family members. Pallbearers were grandsons: Pat McCann and Al, Mike and Dan Petrovich. Memorial bearers included Lonnie Cady, Craig Fraser, Kent Rudolph and Kyle Rudolph. Interment was in the Joplin Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the Inverness Methodist Church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

**WILLIAM (BILL) MCCARTER**  
**Born: October 15, 1912 - Died: November 15, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**November 26, 1997**

***William 'Bill' McCarter***

William J. McCarter, 85, lifelong Devon area farmer and contractor, passed away Saturday at the Toole County Nursing Home. Saturday, November 15, 1997 due to natural causes.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 pm Tuesday, November 18 at the Galata Lutheran Church. Burial with military honors was in the Galata Cemetery. Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby was in charge of arrangements.

Bill was born October 15, 1912 at Galata to Charles and Minnie (Wold) McCarter. He attended schools in Galata and Shelby. He served in the Army during World War II under the command of Gen. Mark Clark in North Africa and Italy.

Along with farming, Bill was a construction contractor. He worked on such projects as Malmstrom AFB and several other bases around the United States.

He was an avid collector of everything and was well-known for being a well-informed local historian.

He was a member of the Galata American Legion Post #69 and a life member of the Sunburst VFW post #8952.

Bill enjoyed reading, traveling and working with Caterpillar equipment.

Survivors include a sister Jennie Dyrdahl of Shelby; a brother John McCarter of Shelby; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, and a step-father.

**PHILLIP MCKINNEY**  
**Born: April 23, 1929 - Died: December 1, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**December 10, 1997**

### ***Phillip McKinney***

Phillip McKinney, 68, of Libby, died Monday (Dec. 1) at Kallispell Regional Hospital. He was born at Industry, Pennsylvania on April 23, 1929, the son of Reuben McKinney and Georgia Jackson McKinney; he was raised and educated in the state of Ohio. He resided at Chester, Montana where he met Lynda Ward; they were married October 19, 1953 at Great Falls.

He and his family came to Libby in 1962 where he had been a longtime employee of the St. Regis Paper Company and subsequently, Champion International until his retirement in 1991 following 29 years of service. He had been a member of Kootenai Chapel Assembly of God Church in Troy. He was preceded in death by a son Phillip, and a daughter Lydia Jean, a grandson Phillip, his parents, a brother and a sister.

Survivors include his wife of 44 years Lynda; his children, Debbie and her children Amy, Anna, Will; Gaylynn; Geraldine and her son Dale; Ebbie and her children, Jim, Lynda and Charli; Robin and her son Paul; Zoanne and her sons, David and Cody; Sam and his children, Kolter and Kayla; one brother, Harry; two sisters, Dottie and Ebbie; and six great-grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation and viewing were from 1:00-8:00 pm Thursday at the Nelson and Vial Funeral Home and from 10:00 to noon Friday at the McKinney residence. Services were Friday at 2:00 pm at the Kootenai Chapel Assembly of God Church in Troy with Pastor Bonnie Emmet officiating; interment services followed at Troy City Cemetery.

**GEORGE JOHN MEISSNER**  
**born: May 25, 1912 -- died: Feb. 4, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Feb. 12, 1997**



**George Meissner**

George John Meissner, Jr. was born at Fort Benton, Montana on May 25th, 1912. He was the eldest of seven children born to Margaret Eckert and George Meissner, Sr. He grew up on the family farm south of Chester and attended the Meissner School near there. Following his formal education, George began working for area ranchers, including L.D. Pugsley, Henry Kolstad, Morris Stewart, John and Charlie Brinkman, and V.M. Smith. He eventually came back to the family farm and became a lifelong working partner at Meissner Ranches.

In 1952 the Meissner family purchased the Prescott Ranch near the Sweetgrass Hills in northern Liberty County. George and his brother (Frank) moved to this ranch to work and to manage it. They lived there from that time on.

On November 6th, 1976 George married Gladys (Sindt) Jeppesen at Las Vegas, Nevada. He became a loving father to the three Jeppesen children and helped raise Gladys' youngest son, Wallace. They lived and worked on the north Chester ranch in the years that followed. George retired in 1992 at the age of 80 years old.

George's health remained fairly good over the years. On this past Monday evening he became ill at home with complaints of chest pains. He was taken by ambulance to the Liberty County Hospital, where he died on the early morning of Tuesday (Feb. 4th, 1997). He was 84 years old.

George loved his role as a Montana rancher. He enjoyed working with cattle, buffalo, and horses. Even after his retirement, he loved to get into his pick-up with Wally and drive around the spread, checking the condition of livestock and wildlife.

George's hobbies included reading (especially historical publications), vegetable gardening, and attending rodeos. His favorite television show was "Wheel of Fortune". He loved to go on trips with his family; George was especially fond of cruises and he was always excited about their trips to Nevada because he loved to play the slot-machines! In addition, George looked forward to traveling to Great Falls to see Pam and her family and to Havre to visit Ken and Deb.

Although he was a very quiet and private soft-spoken man, George loved people. He appreciated his life and family. He was a kind and considerate companion to Gladys, and they were happy to have celebrated their 20th Wedding Anniversary this past November.

In addition to his wife, George is survived by three children, including Pam Seidlitz (and husband John) of Great Falls, Kenny Jeppesen (and wife, Deb) of Havre, and Wally Meissner of Chester; two grandchildren, Jeremy and Jeff Seidlitz; two brothers, Lawrence Meissner of Chester and Paul Meissner (and wife, Arlene) of Chester; one sister, Margaret Meissner of Chester; two nephews, Shawn and Blaine Meissner; one niece, Joey Meissner; and one great-nephew, Shea Meissner. George was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers (Ernest in 1993, Joe in 1995, and Frank in 1996).

Vigil services were 7:30 p.m. Friday (Feb. 7th) at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Family friend, Patricia Seidlitz, conducted the prayer services. Special music was provided by John and Jack Seidlitz.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Marmion at 2:00 p.m. Saturday at the Church. Readers were Jeremy and Jeff Seidlitz. Altar servers were Tom and Ken Osterman. The communion gifts were presented by Dennis and Dana Ralph, and Eucharistic Minister was Pam Graff. Eulogists were Robert Griffin and Rlynn Rockman. Ushers were Ross Williams, John Wickum, and Jack Smith. Pallbearers included Allen Brown, Robert Pugsley Jr., Phil Wardell, Ed Cole, Dan Wolery, and B.J. Oswood. Iris White served as organist and the choir was John Seidlitz, Jack and Pat Seidlitz, Mary Ann Zom, Loren Hawks, and Tawna Parisot. Oscar Erickson sang "Home on the Range" and Tawna Meldrum Parisot sang "The Wind Beneath My Wings".

Interment was at the Chester Cemetery with graveside prayers and a special balloon ceremony. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" in Great Falls.

**ALDA MARIE MEYER**  
**born: Apr. 7, 1916 -- died: Apr. 27, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**May 7 - 1997**



### **Alda M. Meyer**

Alda Marie Meyer was born at Inverness, Montana on April 7th, 1916. She had a twin-sister (Adelaide) who died on February 2nd, 1917. Alda and Adelaide were two of eight children born to Michael and Rose (Pfannestein) Meyer. Alda grew up on the family farm near Inverness. She was unable to attend school because of a chronic illness.

Following the death of her parents, Alda lived intermittently with her siblings. In the late 1950's she moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester, where she has resided since. Her health had been relatively good until recently, when she transferred to the Liberty County Hospital. Alda died there on the late afternoon of Sunday (April 27th, 1997). She was 81 years old.

Alda was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness, where she had received her baptism and confirmation. She had a good life during her 40 years at the rest home, and she made friends easily with the staff and residents there. Alda enjoyed the craftwork and hobbies at the nursing home, like ceramics and painting, latch-

hooking rugs, building puzzles, and playing Bingo. But most of all, she loved to visit. She was a great one for remembering birth dates and ages! She loved her family dearly, and always looked forward to birthday parties and holiday festivities with them.

Alda is survived by one brother, Donald Meyer of Havre; three sisters LaVern McFadden of Great Falls, Claudette Alex of Inverness, and Eileen Han of Inverness; and many nephews, nieces, and friends. In addition to her parents and her twin-sister (Adelaide), Alda was preceded in death by two other sisters (Inez Meyer and Ione Kraft).

Vigil Prayers were recited at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday (April 29th) at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness. The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Marmion at 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday at the church. Iris White was organist and a vocal ensemble (Leota Hansen, Karnell Phillips, Dana Phillip and Doral Anderson) sang "Whispering Hope," "Hymn of Promise," "Heart of Jesus," "Dona Nobis Pacem," and "Holy God We Praise Thy Name." Ushers were Jody Hansen and Haven Linder. Pallbearers included Darryl Meyer, Duane McFadden, Roger Wolfe, Allen Han, Darwin Anderson, and Don Hansen. Eulogist was Barb Han and Reader was Jan Phillips. Altar servers were Kaleb Phillips and Brandon Anderson, and Eucharistic Minister was Donna Luraas. A luncheon followed in the church basement. Graveside services were 2:00 p.m. Wednesday at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Nursing Home.



## Kay (Crook) MLINAR

Born October 25, 1935-- Died September 9, 1997

Liberty County Times  
September 17, 1997



### Kay Mlinar

Kay Mlinar was born at Whitelish, Montana on October 25, 1935. She was one of four children born to Saphronia Smart and Stanley Crook. Kay grew up and received her education in Whitelish, graduating from high school in 1953. She worked at a bowling alley in Whitelish before moving to Havre, where she was employed by an accountant. Kay met a Joplin area farmer, Edward C. Mlinar, and they were married in Joplin on September 24, 1960.

They moved to the Mlinar farm where Kay worked as a farm wife and homemaker. For the past ten years they spent their winter months in Arizona. When they retired from farming in 1990, they purchased a home at Surprise, Arizona. They have continued to spend their summer months at their farm north of Joplin.

Kay has suffered from rheumatoid arthritis since 1969, she had numerous operations and treatments since that time. About three years ago she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her immune system had deteriorated over the years and she didn't respond to recent treatments. Following a week stay in the Liberty County Hospital at Chester, Kay died on the late evening of Tuesday (September 9, 1997). She was 61 years old.

Kay loved music. During her school years, she played the coronet in the High School Bugle Corps. She also played the piano, organ, and omnichord. Kay was an excellent vocalist and was a longtime member of the Bethel Church Choir in Joplin. Her church family was important to Kay and she had been an active member of the Rachel Circle of WELCA.

Prior to the onset of her arthritis, Kay enjoyed participating in various sporting activities, including bowling, golfing, swimming and dancing. In recent years she had become an avid spectator fan of her grandsons' baseball games. She also enjoyed the NBA; she was a loyal fan of the Phoenix Suns and the Chicago Bulls.

In her early years she enjoyed sewing. During her quiet time at home she liked to read. She collected bells and she loved chocolates. Kay always looked forward to the hot sun in Arizona, but she was always eager to come back to her home in Montana, too. Kay respected herself and took pride in her daily life; she was immaculate in her personal appearance and her homes were always clean and well-kept. She loved to go shopping, especially when it was birthday or Christmas time. Her family had always been the focal point of her life. She loved playing games with her grandchildren, and she looked forward to any opportunity to spend quality time with them.

Kay is survived by her husband Edward of Joplin; two sons, Ron Sager of Libby and Dave Mlinar (and wife Jan) of Vancouver, Washington; one daughter Lori Ramberg (and husband Ray) of Joplin; five grandchildren including Jessica, Amanda, Zachary, Kord and Cody; a sister-in-law Virginia Crook of Corvallis, Oregon; a brother-and-sister-in-law, Les and Etta Mlinar of Joplin; a brother-in-law Ralph Tyler of Hartford, South Dakota; and numerous nieces and nephews. Kay was preceded in death by her par-

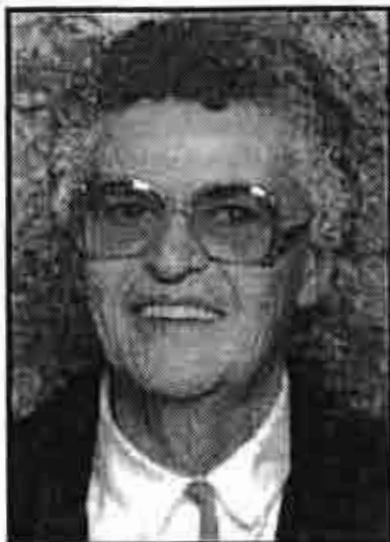
ents, one sister (Shirley Crook) and two brothers (Stanley and Robert Crook).

Funeral services were held at 11:00 am Saturday September 13 at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Pastor Darrell Cousino officiated. Special music and vocalists were "Lead by the Master's Hand" by Judy Lake, "Be Still With My Soul" by Marcus Jochim, and "The Wind Beneath My Wings" by Jerome Lincoln. Organist Susan Peterson and pianist Shawn Jones played prelude duets of favorite hymns.

The congregation sang "Borning Cry." Processional and recessional music included tape-recordings of Kay singing some of her favorite hymns. As a special tribute, Kay's three oldest grandchildren shared personal memories of their "Grandma."

Ushers were Harley Rudolph, Dean Lyle and Don Rocks. Pallbearers included Frank Richter, Ellsworth Graff, Norbert VanDessel, Jerry Thorson, Sandy Anderson and Larry Olson. Honorary bearers were Earl Keith, Neil Shepherd, Jack Henderson, Eldon Graff, Con May, and all of Kay's other friends, most especially her five grandchildren. Following interment in the Joplin Cemetery, a luncheon was held at Kjos Hall. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

**ALICE MAE (FURLONG) MORRISON**  
**Born: May 24, 1928 - Died: December 24, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**December 31, 1997**



**Alice Morrison**

Alice Mae (Furlong) Morrison, age 69, died at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester on the early morning of Wednesday (December 24th, 1997) following a long battle with cancer.

Alice was born at Chester on May 24th, 1928. Her parents were Ina Marie Keith and Edward Russell Furlong and she was one of ten children. Alice grew up in Chester. During her school years she played trombone in the band. In the summer months Alice worked on the H.B. Prescott Ranch near the Sweetgrass Hills. She graduated from Chester High School in 1946.

Alice moved to Denver to find steady work. While there she corresponded with a male friend, Arthur G. Morrison, whom she had met while working at the Prescott Ranch. Alice and Artie were married on December 5th, 1948 in Havre. They made their home in Chester and raised a family of two. In addition to serving as wife and homemaker, Alice worked at the local A.S.C.S. Office. She managed the Chester office during most of her 32 years of dedicated government service. She retired in 1989.

Artie died on May 11th, 1990. Alice remained in their Chester home from that time on. Her health remained good until a few years ago, when she was diagnosed with cancer. When her condition deteriorated in recent months, Alice was happy to be at home where she was cared for by her daughter and sister.

Alice was a longtime member of the Chester United Methodist Church. She was also active in the V.F.W. Auxiliary and had served as a Cub Scout den mother.

Alice and Artie loved children. Their house and hearts were always open to neighborhood and country children who needed a place to stay. Alice loved company; her coffee pot was always on and never empty! In her quiet time at home, Alice enjoyed reading; she especially enjoyed westerns and her favorite author was Louis Lamour. Alice also enjoyed watching movies, especially the old classics and westerns. She liked to travel. Her greatest passion in life was her grandchildren.

Survivors include her son, Benjamin Morrison (and wife, Carolyn) of Hampton, Virginia; her daughter, Natalie Ghekiere (and husband, Stephen) of Chester; four grandsons, including Luke, Adam, Bryan and Michael; her sister, Ina-Belle "Kitty" Foreman of La Habra, California; her brother, Noel Furlong of Kalispell; numerous nephews and nieces; and a special friend, Evelyn Hawks. In addition to her husband and parents, Alice was preceded in death by a sister (Lilly Eveland) and six brothers (Russell, Edmond, Phillip, Miles, Warren and David Furlong).

Memorials are suggested to the "Gift of Life" in Great Falls.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, December 27th, at the Chester United Methodist Church with Reverend Kama Morton officiating. Alice's brother, Noel, shared the eulogy. Ushers were Aline and Gale Christenot. Pallbearers included B.J. Oswood, Warren Wickum, Brett Oswood, Cliff Wickum, Dale Hawks and Bryan Oswood. Honorary bearers were Ken Morrison, Randy, Mauzy, Greg Maki, Bob Thompson, Clarence Morrison, and Jim, Jerry, and Dennis Ghekiere. Pianist was Karen Stack and Kama Morton sang "Near the Heart of Jesus" and "Near the Cross". Members of St. Mary's Choir sang "The Wind Beneath My Wings" and "Get Me To The Promised Land". The congregation sang "Joy to the World".

Interment was in the Chester Cemetery. A tape by Celine Dion, "Because You Loved Me", was played before the grandchildren released ten colorful balloons. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

**SIGNE NASS**  
**born: May 11, 1911 -- died: May 4, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**May 7 - 1997**



### **Signe Nass**

Signe Nass, age 85, died Sunday afternoon (May 4th, 1997) at the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre from Alzheimer's Disease.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Wednesday (May 7th) at the Christ Lutheran Church in Libby. Burial will follow in the City of Libby Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

She was born Signe Emmy Ingeborg Johansson on May 11th, 1911 at Are, Sweden. She was one of six children born to Bertha Olsen and Klas Johansson. Signe received her early education in Sweden. At age 13 she came to the United States with her family, they lived at Conrad (MT) for a short time before moving to Libby (MT). Signe finished her education at Libby, graduating from high school there in 1929.

She attended the Morse Beauty School in Spokane, then returned to Libby to operate her own beauty shop for several years. she met a Norwegian emigrant, John Dedrik Nass, and they were married June 10th, 1939 at Sandpoint, Idaho. They made their home in Libby where John worked for the "J. Neils Lumber Company". Signe worked as homemaker and mother to their only daughter, Glenice.

John died in 1966. Signe remained in Libby until the early 1980's, when she moved to Kalispell. When her health failed in 1986, she moved to the Lutheran Home in Havre and remained there until her death.

Signe was a longtime member of the First Lutheran Church in Libby which eventually became the Christ Lutheran Church. She was active in the church circles and Bible study groups. she had also been a member of the Junior Women's Club and the Libby Ski Club. In the 1960's Signe did volunteer work for the Red Cross by serving in the "Gray Lady" organization.

During her early married years, she enjoyed bird-hunting and fishing with John. They also enjoyed playing cards, especially "Bridge". Signe's other hobbies included sewing, handicrafts, and gardening.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Glenice and Fred Clark of Puyallup, WA; two grandchildren, Erik and Sonja Clark of Puyallup; two sisters, Aina Staudacher of Chester and Lillian Mackey of Libby; and many nephews and nieces. Signe was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by one brother (Karl) and two sisters (Karl and Karen).

**CORRINE KOLSTAD NEILL**  
**born: Jun. 12, 1958 -- died: May 14, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**May 28, 1997**



**Corrine Kolstad Neill**

Corrine Kolstad Neill was born in Great Falls, Montana on June 12th, 1958. She became the second daughter and youngest of five children born to Allen and Iva (Matteson) Kolstad. Corrine was baptized at St. Olaf's Lutheran Church east of Ledger and was confirmed at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester.

She grew up on the family farm in southern Liberty County. Her early education was at the Sherrard Country School in the east Ledger community. Corrine loved animals, especially in her childhood, and she became active in 4-H; she raised countless lambs and pigs over the years. She loved the farm and there wasn't a single piece of equipment that she couldn't operate. Corrine completed her elementary and high school education in Chester, graduating in 1976. During her high school years she was student body president, a delegate to Montana Girl's State, co-editor of the school annual, and she served as a page in the Montana State Senate in Helena. It was during these years that she developed an interest in photography.

After attending two years at MSU in Bozeman, Corrine transferred to the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, California. She received her degree in visual arts in 1981. After graduation, she joined a fellow C.H.S. classmate, Kari

Kammerzell, in Phoenix (Arizona). She accepted a job with "A-V Graphics" and also did some free-lance photography. In 1985 she started her own business called "Corrine Photography & Audio-Visual". It was never necessary for Corrine to advertise because she earned an impeccable reputation through word-of-mouth from clients who recognized the quality of her work, and the fact that she was totally dedicated to her profession. Some of her most faithful clients were Hunt-Wesson, I.T.T., U.S. West, and her primary client, Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix. These jobs took Corrine all over the world including Spain, Italy, the Greek Islands, and Viet-Nam, to name a few. Many of her projects involved dignitaries, celebrities, and sports heroes, but she also photographed events of the common man.

Corrine met Wayne Neill at aerobics class in 1983 and they were married in Scottsdale on May 11th, 1985. This year on Mother's Day was their 12th anniversary. They were blessed with

two sons: Robert Hunter, age 7, and Jeffrey Taylor, age 3. Another special member of the family was their game dog, "Milton Bradley", who has been in their annual Christmas photos for the past 12 years.

Corrine was in Atlanta, Georgia on business during the week of May 12th. She was standing on the sidewalk waiting to cross an intersection when an out-of-control pickup crossed over the curb and struck her. She was dead upon arrival at an Atlanta hospital. The date was Wednesday (May 14th, 1997) and Corrine was just 38 years old.

Corrine's interests were first and foremost, her family. She was successful at whatever she did, but her biggest success was being the best mom that two kids could ever have and being the best wife that a husband could ever hope for! It would be impossible to find a mother who loved her children more than Corrine did, she was so proud of them and her dedication as a loving mom shines through both of them. She enthusiastically

joined Wayne and the boys' interest in sports and became an avid fan of the Phoenix Suns. But her favorite ballplayers were her kids; she was involved in little league baseball, basketball, and soccer. Corrine loved to put on special parties for the boys' birthdays, and every celebration was creative. She gave Robert and Jeffrey the best start in life that they could possibly have. Her spark and love will be with them forever...

Corrine was an active supporter of her church as well as making sure that her children attended Sunday School on a regular basis. Community was also important to her. She was acting president this year for the "Friends of the Volunteer Center" of Maricopa County and always assisted with their community fund-raiser, "The Great Human Race". She also remained involved in her family community. Back in 1983 she spent numerous hours working on the slide-show for the Chester All-Class Reunion.

The Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix is presently building an art gallery. Since Corrine's untimely death, the airport commission voted to name

this gallery after Corrine in her memory.

Local memorials will be given to the "Robert & Jeffrey Neill Trust Fund" or to the "Corrine Kolstad Neill Scholarship Fund" being established at Chester High School.

Corrine is survived by her husband, Wayne, and two sons, Robert and Jeffrey, all of Scottsdale, Arizona; her parents, Allen and Iva Kolstad of Chester; her sister, Cheryl Gagnon (and husband, Jim) of Hong Kong; two brothers, Cedric Kolstad (and wife, Tomi) of Birmingham, Alabama and Chris Kolstad (and wife, Vicki) of Chester; her paternal grandmother, Mabel Kolstad of Chester; her mother-in-law, Mary Neill of Phoenix; and several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and many, many friends. Corrine was preceded in death by a brother, Cary David Kolstad.

(over)



Corrine left this world knowing that her family loved her very much. ON Mother's Day this year, Robert gave her the following poem:

Mother's Day is almost here!  
Oh mom, I love you,  
The best mom in the world!  
Hi mom, I love you,  
Everyone wants a mom,  
Really mom, I love you!

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday (May 20th) at the St. Barnabas on the Desert Episcopal Church in Paradise Valley, Arizona with Reverend John Hall officiating. Interment was at Paradise Memorial Gardens in Scottsdale.

Memorial services were held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday (May 24th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with Reverend Tom Dunham officiating. Organist was Karen Stack and a solo by Mary Ann Zorn was "On Eagle's Wings". Corrine's friends/classmates, including Patti Jo Danreuther, Penny Velk, Kim Stensland and Joan Broadhurst, performed "Friends With You", "Wings of a Dove", and "I Was There to Hear Your Morning Cry". Ushers were Kent Matkin, Kurt Kammerzell and Rod Oraw. Honorary bearers were the "C.H.S. Class of 1976" and a few of her college classmates. Special readings were shared by Brenda Streit and Jan Albright. A luncheon followed at the church fellowship hall. Local arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

## CORRINE (KOLSTAD) NEILL

Born: June 12, 1958 at Great Falls, Montana  
Died: May 14th, 1997 at Atlanta, Georgia  
Age: 38 years...11 months...2 days...



### The Twenty-Third Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
He leadeth me beside the still waters,  
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the  
paths of righteousness  
for His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of  
the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me; Thy rod and  
thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the  
presence of mine enemies: thou anointest  
my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life: and I shall  
dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

**Corrine's Family:** Husband, Wayne; sons, Robert and Jeffrey; parents, Allen and Iva; sister, Cheryl; brothers, Cedric and Chris; grandmother, Mabel; mother-in-law, Mary; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

**Funeral Services:** 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, May 20th, at St. Barnabas on the Desert Episcopal Church in Paradise Valley, Arizona

**Officiant:** Reverend John Hall...

**Interment:** Paradise Memorial Gardens in Scottsdale, Arizona



**Memorial Services:** 11:00 a.m. Saturday, May 24th, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, Montana

**Officiant:** Reverend Thomas Dunham...

**Readers:** Brenda Streit... Letter from Cheryl  
Jan Albright... Memories from Class of 1976

**Musicians:** Organist, Karen Stack... Vocalist, Mary Ann Zorn... Pianist, Kim Stensland... Vocal Trio: Patti Jo Danreuther, Penny Velk and Joan Broadhurst...

**Ushers:** Kent Matkin, Rod Oraw and Kurt Kammerzell

**Honorary Bearers:** Chester High School "Class of 1976"...

...A luncheon will follow in the Fellowship Hall...

Undesignated memorials will be given to "The Robert and Jeffrey Neill Trust" OR to "The Corrine Kolstad Neill Scholarship Fund" at C.H.S.



MARIETTA PACE O'CONNOR  
Born: October 19, 1920 - Died: December 26, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
January 7, 1998

**Marietta Pace  
O'Connor**

*"The kiss of the sun for pardon, the  
song of the birds for mirth...  
One is nearer God's heart in a  
garden than anywhere else on  
earth."*

—Gurney

Marietta is surely just tending a garden of roses in God's heavenly garden just as she tended the roses in her little garden on earth. She loved flowers and the birds that came to eat and sing there.

Born October 19, 1920 in Chester, Montana to Peter M and Elizabeth Zettle Kuhry, the third of five children, Marietta received her education in Chester graduating high school in 1938. She then enrolled in Montana State College (MSU) where she met James Lee Pace. They married in 1942 and to this union two sons were

born—Kenneth Lee, who died at birth, and James Daniel.

Marietta worked as a bookkeeper at several businesses in Bozeman and was last employed at the Student Union Business Office. She retired from that position after her marriage to Dennis O'Connor.

Mary Miletta (Marietta) Pace O'Connor left us early on the morning of December 26 at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital after a courageous year-long battle with lung cancer.

She joins the departed members of her family...an infant son, her first husband, her parents and a sister, Marjorie Freemole. She leaves to mourn her passing a son Lt. Col. J. Daniel Pace of Great Falls; husband Dennis O'Connor; brothers W.A. Kuhry of Havre, Montana; F. J. Kuhry of San Diego, California; and sister Helen Aaberg of Bozeman; stepdaughter Denise Overturf of Cody, Wyoming; stepson Michael O'Connor of Winnett, Montana; grandchildren Michon, James and Jessica Pace; Bret and Bart Overturf; Debbie Jensen; Daniel and Michael O'Connor; brother-in-law George Freemole of Great Falls; and a number of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorials may be made to the Food Bank or the charity of your choice.

## JOHN PAUL OLSON

Born: October 24, 1905 --Died: June 21, 1997

Liberty County Times  
June 25, 1997



### John Olson

John Paul Olson, age 91 died early Saturday morning (June 21, 1997) of cancer at the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre, Montana.

John was born on a farm near Newry/Westby, Wisconsin on October 24, 1905. He was the only son of two children born to Eric "Martin" Olsen and Bertha Marie Golberg. His parents came to Montana and homesteaded north of Havre. Later his mother homesteaded south of Inverness where John and sister Ann attended school. Following his formal education, which included some agricultural courses at MSU in Bozeman, John farmed, ranched and broke horses in the Hi-Line community.

On October 13, 1931 he married Mayetta Eggen at Great Falls, Montana. They made their home on the farm south of Inverness where they began raising their family of three. They also lived in Inverness for a year and John served on the school board there. In 1941 they moved to Havre.

John traveled as a Farmer Fieldman for the State of Montana; he worked on a program to help farmers increase food production for World War II. He was elected chairman of the Triple A farm program and he served as manager of the Federal Crop Insurance program for a number of years.

John retired in 1968 when his son took over the farming operations. Since that time, the Olsons spent many years "airstreaming." John

served as past president of the state Wally Byam Club and hosted its convention in Havre.

John was confirmed at the Coon Prairie Church in Westby, Wisconsin. He was an active member of the Messiah Lutheran Church in Havre. In addition he was chairman of the Board of Trustees at First Lutheran Church during the building of its education wing.

John was a 50-year member and Past Master of Joplin Masonic Lodge #114, a 50-year Scottish Rite member, a York Rite member, and an Algerian Shrine member. He was also a member of the Sons of Norway.

The Olsons have continued to live in Havre. In addition to his wife Mayetta, John is survived by two daughters, Marilyn Green (and husband David) of Lake Park, Minnesota and Gail Searl (and husband Frank) of Havre; ten grandchildren, including Donna Olson of Billings, Sharon Siebrasse (Nick) of Havre, John W. Olson of River Ridge, Louisiana, Joan Reilly (John) of Sheridan, Wyoming, Janet Dryden of Havre, Maria Green Cowles (Adam) of Bethesda, Maryland, Rebecca Green of Grand Forks, North Dakota, Susan Denniston (Peter) of Kirkland, Washington, Jill Cheever (Greg) of Redmond, Washington, and Laura Landstad (Todd) of Redwood, Washington; 12 great-grandchildren; and a nephew Larry Anderson (Carolyn) of Chester. John was preceded in death by his parents; his son (Wayne Olson), his sister (Anna Anderson), and his niece (Joanne Smith).

Funeral services were 2:00 p.m. Tuesday (June 24th) at Messiah Lutheran Church in Havre. Services

were conducted by Reverend William A. Olsen. Ruth Carlson served as organist and the congregation sang "Children of the Heavenly Father," and "My God, How Wonderful Thou Art." Vocalist, Brian Barrows performed "Behold, A Host Arrayed in White" and "Beautiful Savior." Ushers were Allan Roush and Glenn Hellman. Pallbearers included Douglas Moore, Donald Moore, Scott Patrick, Stuart Smith, Nick Siebrasse and John Reilly. Honorary bearers were listed as John's ten grandchildren and Morris Smith, Max Moore and David Green. Special reflections were shared by John's daughter, Marilyn.

Following interment at Highland Cemetery, a coffee hour was held at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

**ALFRED E. "ACE" OSWOOD**  
**born: Jan. 30, 1923 -- died: June 2, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**June 4 - 1997**

***Alfred E. 'Ace' Oswood***

Alfred E. "Ace" Oswood, 74, 1201 5th St. S., an Air Force Veteran and retired truck driver, died last Monday at a local hospital of complications from cancer.

At his request, no services will be held. O'Connor Funeral Home handled cremation and arrangements.

Born Jan 30, 1923, in Chester, Oswood graduated from high school there in 1941 and served with the Air Force during World War II.

In 1963 he married Virginia "Gin" Randall in Idaho.

He worked as a cab driver and cement truck driver in Great Falls for many years. He later worked for the Anaconda Co. refinery until it closed, then went back to truck and cab driving.

He enjoyed reading, watching sports on television, and playing golf and pool.

Survivors include his wife of Great Falls; a stepdaughter, Darylann "Ann" Ritter of Ronan; two brothers, Howard Oswood of Wenatchee, WA, and Lloyd Oswood of Chester; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild; and a nephew, Mark, in Anchorage, Alaska.

## LLOYD HERBERT OSWOOD

Born: September 14, 1915 —Died: July 25, 1997

Liberty County Times

August 6, 1997



### Lloyd Oswood

Lloyd Herbert Oswood was born near Galata, Montana on September 14, 1915. He was one of three sons born to Ida M. Johnson and Louis H. Oswood, who were Montana homesteaders in 1912. Lloyd grew up on a ranch near East Butte in the Sweetgrass Hills and received his formal education at country schools.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1940 and served during World War II. A Private First-class, he was a member of the 4th Infantry of Company E. Following his honorable discharge in 1945, Lloyd returned to Montana. Other than this military stint, Lloyd lived and ranched in the Sweetgrass Hills his entire life.

A few years ago his health began to fail, so he moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. Lloyd died at the Chester hospital on Friday afternoon (July 25, 1997). He was 81 years old.

Those who knew "Lloydie" appreciated him for who he was: a rugged individualist, a free-spirit, and a rare personality. He lived and breathed the role of an old-time Montana cowboy, and he had a vernacular of his own. He loved horses, cattle, wild animals, and nature, and he appreci-

ated the fresh air and alpine scent of the Sweetgrass Hills, so it's understandable why he found contentment there. On the other hand, unpredictable weather conditions (including sub-zero temperatures, heavy snowfall winters or dry years with potential fire hazards) made his ranch work very demanding. Lloyd often stated, "You can't be a pantywaist and ranch in these Hills."

Feature articles in a 1984 *Montana* magazine and a 1988 *Great Falls Tribune* were published about Lloyd's life in the Hills. He was described as a lean and sinewy man who looked burned and aged from the sun and the wind. He was living in the family homestead shack without many modern conveniences. Lloyd was quoted as saying, "I ain't got no fanciness and people don't need all that fanciness."

Although Lloyd preferred his almost hermit style of living, he was still a very social person. He enjoyed the visitors who came by his ranch; he always made time to share a coffee or brew and a story or two. In addition, he enjoyed his infrequent trips to town, be it for business or "R&R." Lloyd loved music, especially that country-style with a lot of fiddles and banjos. He enjoyed public dances and always kept himself busy with the ladies on the dance floor! He was an exceptional whistler and he frequently whistled the tunes in rhythm with the band.

Lloyd's favorite country-western singer was Reba McEntyre. He had many horses during his life, but his favorite and most faithful one was called "Sandy." Lloyd loved cookies, candybars, and ice cream.

In his quiet time, Lloyd loved to read. He enjoyed Zane Grey paperbacks and other western stories. It was reported that he read the novel "Lonesome Dove," in one day. He loved Montana and local historicals, and he read Liberty County's *Our Heritage* from cover-to-cover on numerous occasions. His

mind and memory were sharp and full of knowledge about the people and events in this community.

Probably one of the highlights of Lloyd's life came at age 74 when he was an active participant in the Great Montana Cattle Drive of 1989. Anticipation, excitement, nostalgia, new friends, and memories made the event so special to him.

Lloyd was preceded in death by his parents and a brother (Alfred "Ace" Oswood). He is survived by one brother Howard Oswood (and wife Betty) of Wenatchee, Washington; one nephew Mark Oswood (and wife Judy) of Fairbanks, Alaska; two great-nephews, Christopher and Nicholas Oswood of Fairbanks, Alaska; a sister-in-law, Virginia Oswood of Great Falls; several cousins; and a host of friends.

Funeral services were conducted by Reverend Tom Dunham at 2:00 pm Wednesday July 30 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Juanita Wardell was organist and the congregation sang "Just As I Am." Vocalist/guitarist Bryan Oswood performed "The River" and vocalist/pianist B.J. Oswood performed "It Is No Secret." Ushers were Steve Scalse and Doug Demarest. Pallbearers were Mark Wickum, B.J. Oswood, Warren Wickum, Ken Jeppesen, Wally Meissner, Lee Scott, Lyn Markuson, Don Puist, Denny Cockrell and Duane Fraser. Honorary bearers included Claude Demarest, Roy Wickum, Harold Jensen, Richard Wickum, Jim McKecknie, Grant Jeppesen, Tim Campbell, Hales Scalse, Elmer Hadford, Dr. Richard Buker, Don Marble, and all of Lloyd's other friends. Burial services were at the Chester Cemetery. The funeral procession was escorted to the cemetery by Tim Campbell on horseback, ac-

companied by a symbolic "riderless" horse. Friends at graveside were asked to whistle *Taps* in tribute to Lloyd. The military flag was presented to the family by Don Buffington. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

VELMA MAY (MITCHELL) PESCHEL  
Born: 1914 - Died: March 31, 1997

Liberty County Times

April 2, 1997

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***Services to be  
Saturday for  
Velma Peschel***

Velma May (Mitchell) Peschel, age  
- 83, died Monday, March 31 at St.  
Luke's Nursing Home in Ronan.

Funeral services will be at 1:30  
p.m. Saturday, April 5 at the United  
Methodist Church in Ronan. Viewing  
will be at the church from 11 a.m. until  
service time. Cremation will follow  
the service. Arrangements by  
Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

\*Memorials will be given to St. Luke's  
Nursing Home or Ronan Senior  
Citizen's Center.

Velma is the mother of Mrs. Chuck  
(Pat) Mikulecky of Rudyard.



ALICE VICTORIA (EVELAND) PETTAPIECE  
Born: February 14, 1916 - Died: December 10, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
December 17, 1997



### ***Alice Pettapiece***

Alice Victoria (Eveland) Pettapiece, age 81, died at her son's home in Graham, Washington on the morning of Wednesday (December 10, 1997). She had been treated for cancer during the past four years.

Funeral services will be 11:00 am Friday (December 19) at the Chester United Methodist Church with Rev. Kama Morton officiating. Graveside services will be 2:30 pm Friday at the Riverside Cemetery in Fort Benton. Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester is in charge of arrangements.

Alice was born on February 14, 1916 at Centuria, Wisconsin. Her parents were Jesse Jacob Eveland and Lottie Belle Ingersoll, and she was one of ten children. Alice attended the Woodrow Country School near Centuria. Following her formal education, she worked as a waitress. At age 17 she came to Montana to be near some siblings who were living in the Chester community. While here, she met and married Robert Moffet Pettapiece on November 4, 1939 at Fort Benton, Montana.

The Pettapièces farmed and ranched south of Chester for several years. After they sold the ranch, Robert worked as a trucker and Alice stayed busy at their Chester home as housewife and mother of five.

Robert died in 1977. Alice eventually moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge, where she lived for 14 years. When her health began to fail in 1994, she moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home. In November of 1996 Alice transferred to Graham, Washington to live with a son, Doug. While there she received personal care from her family and Hospice nurses.

Alice enjoyed the simple things in life, like friends and family reunions. She loved to attend air show; she found it

exhilarating when the powerful jets took off! In her quiet times Alice enjoyed crocheting, crossword puzzles, playing cards, and reading (she was especially fond of reading her Bible and daily devotions).

She is survived by one daughter Victoria "Vicki" Wickman (and husband Gordy) of Three Forks; three sons Robert Pettapiece (and wife Gloria) of Tacoma, Washington, Kenneth Pettapiece of Chester, and Douglas Pettapiece (and wife Wendy) of Graham, Washington; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren; one sister Bessie Hooverman of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin; four brothers Howard, Wilbur, Martin and Chet Eveland, all of Chester, and numerous nieces and nephews. Alice was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by a son (Michael), three sisters (including Myrtle Owen and twins Opal and Orpha), one brother (Dick Eveland), and a grandson (Chad Pettapiece).

CURTIS DUANE PLUMB  
Born: April 26, 1947 - Died: December 29, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
January 21, 1998

# Obituary

## *Curt Plumb*

A prayer service was held at First United Methodist Church in Perry, Iowa at 7:00 pm Friday for Curtis Duane Plumb, 50 who died in Rippey, Iowa on Monday, December 29, 1997.

Officiating were the Revs. James Pemble and Walter Sieck.

The Rev. Doug Tharpe of the Macedonia United Methodist Church officiated at a graveside service at Macedonia Cemetery in Macedonia at 3:00 pm Saturday.

Hastings Funeral Home in Perry was in charge of arrangements.

Son of Richard Vernon and Lois Marjorie Ackerman Plumb, he was born in Rd Oak on April 26, 1947. Curt, as he was fondly known, grew up in the Hastings, Coburg, and Emerson areas where his family farmed. He moved with his family to Perry in 1963. He was a member of

the Perry High School Class of 1965.

On August 4, 1966 Curt entered the United States Army and served in Korea. He was honorably discharged in 1968.

He returned to the Perry area and worked for Oscar Mayer and later for the Wiese Corporation for 14 years. In 1991 when Wiese expanded its business to Montana, Curt moved here to manage the plant. He returned to Iowa in November 1997.

Curt was a member of his American Legion post.

Preceding in death were his grandparents, and his father on November 18, 1995.

Survivors include his mother Lois Plumb of Perry; and two sisters, Marcia Martin of Salem, Oregon, and Valerie Martin of Dawson, Iowa.

**GLADYS RAMBERG**  
**born: Jan. 4, 1921 -- died: Apr. 22, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**May 21, 1997**

***Gladys Ramberg***

Gladys Ramberg, age 76, of LaGrande, died April 22 at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Todd and Tina Ramberg.

Mrs. Ramberg was born on January 4, 1921 at Minot, North Dakota, the daughter of Elsworth and Beatrice (Hicks) Tofte. She and her father then moved to Montana where she graduated from Rudyard High School in 1939. She attended various churches including Evangelical Lutheran and German Lutheran. In the past few months she attended Grande Ronde Community Church when her health made it possible.

On July 29, 1939 she was married to Clifford Ramberg. They moved from Rudyard to Washington and then to Oregon. Mr. Ramberg preceded her in death on February 10, 1994.

Survivors include her daughters, Carole J. Lingel of Hubbard, Oregon; Doris LaRae of LaGrande, Oregon; sons, Gary L. Ramberg, Hermiston, Oregon and Todd V. Ramberg, LaGrande; 11 granddchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; five brothers, five sisters; many brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law in Washington, Montana, Wisconsin and Minnesota and other relatives.

She loved to sew, cook and work in the flower and vegetable garden. She loved music of all kinds, picnics with

the family but most of all she loved her family.

She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. She will be greatly missed by all that knew her.

**JOSHUS BRENT RAMBO**  
**born: Feb. 19, 1977 -- died: Feb. 24, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Feb. 26, 1997**



**Joshua Rambo**

Joshua Brent Rambo, 20, died February 24 as a result of a car accident.

Funeral services will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 27 at the KG High School Gymnasium in

Gildford. Burial will follow at the Highland Cemetery in Havre.

Josh was born February 19, 1977 in Havre. He attended KG Schools and Blue Sky High School where he graduated in 1995. Later that year, he attended MSU-Northern.

Josh worked at Toner's Tire-Rama in Rudyard since his freshman year in high school and for the past year worked full-time. Josh always enjoyed the camaraderie of his co-workers.

As a nine-year member of the Kremlin 4-H Hawks, Josh won numerous awards for his lamb, steer, hog and photography projects. He was also a confirmed member of the Kremlin Lutheran Church. He enjoyed hunting, autobody work, art and spending time with his many friends throughout the Hi-Line.

Josh will be remembered most for his quick wit, easy-going personality and smile and his ability to lighten up

» room. He was a caring, warm and compassionate person, who was always there for a friend.

He is survived by his parents, Anita and Randy Solberg of Box Elder and Steve Rambo of Havre; sister and brother-in-law, Amie and Scott Thompson of Helena; grandparents, Charles and Marlene Melby of Kremlin, Art and Millie Rambo of Gildford, and Ordean and Irma Solberg of Box Elder; great-grandparents, Art and Pat Berg of Kremlin, Gertrude Ellingson of Breckenridge, Minnesota and Ruth Brodhead of Fairview and his many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

A scholarship in Josh's memory will be established to KG and Blue Sky High Schools for further studies in agriculture, industrial arts or fine arts.

Holland and Bonine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

## Josh Rambo killed in car crash

By Valorie Zach  
*Liberty County Times*

A one-vehicle accident Monday, February 24 claimed the life of Josh Rambo, 20, of Gildford. The accident occurred 11.8 miles south of Gildford on Highway 448.

According to information supplied by the Montana Highway Patrol, the 1988 Dodge truck was headed southbound and went off the right side of the road, overcorrected,

crossed over the roadway, went off the left side of the road, struck an approach and went airborne.

The pickup rolled three times and came to rest on the passenger's side. Rambo was found partially ejected.

The time of the incident is unknown, stated Highway Patrolman, Jeff Martin, who investigated the accident.

Officer Martin stated that all of the tests weren't back yet, to determine whether or not alcohol was a contributing factor.

**JOHN D. (JACK) RAY**  
**Born: October 8, 1926 - Died: December 27, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**January 7, 1998**

***John D.***  
***"Jack" Ray***

John D. "Jack" Ray, age 71, of 237 Seventeenth Avenue NW died Saturday, December 27, 1997 at his home of cancer.

Vigil service was December 29, 1997 at O'Connor Memorial Chapel. Memorial Mass was at 11:00 am on Tuesday December 30, 1997 at St. Luke the Evangelist church with burial of ashes in Mount Olivet Cemetery. The O'Connor Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Memorials are suggested to Peace Hospice of Montana, 125 Northwest Bypass, Great Falls, MT 59404.

Ray was born October 8, 1926 in Cheyenne, Wyoming and graduated from high school in Lusk, Wyoming. He later served in the U.S. Air Force.

In 1945 he married Donna Kaan at Lusk; they later divorced.

Ray worked as a maintenance engineer at the Cascade County Courthouse, retiring in 1989.

In 1974 he married Luella Covely at Great Falls.

Ray was a member of the Elks and Moose Lodges, Knights of Columbus and was a volunteer at St. Luke's Church. He enjoyed golf, dancing, cards, gardening, bowling, hunting and fishing.

Surviving are his wife; a daughter Dana Ball of Great Falls; step-daughters Darci Covely of Havre, Jill Corey and Lynn Covely of Port Orchard, Washington, and Janet Corneliusen of Great Falls; a son Jack J. Ray of Great Falls; a step-son Kurt Covely of Elko, Nevada; and four grandchildren, seven step-grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



## GLADYCE BURNICE ROMAIN

Born: MARCH 4, 1916- Died: November 12, 1997

Liberty County Times  
November 19, 1997



### **Gladyce Romain**

Gladyce Burnice Romain was born at Joplin, Montana on March 4, 1916. She was the eldest of eight children born to Julia Lintvet and Benhard "Ben" Brandvold. She grew up and received her education in Joplin, where she graduated from Joplin High School in 1934 as class Salutatorian.

Gladyce went to Washington in search of employment. She was living and working in Spokane when her mother suddenly became ill and passed away in 1935. Gladyce returned to Joplin to help her father with her younger siblings.

In 1938 she married Robert James Wright. They made their home in the Chester community and began raising their two children, Speed and Beverly. In 1946 Gladyce accepted a position as clerk at the county treasurer's office. She was eventually appointed and elected as Liberty County Treasurer (an office she held from 1953-1959). The following year she began working for the O'Brien Insurance Agency in Chester and also served as the Deputy-Clerk-of-Court in Liberty County until 1963.

Gladyce moved back to Spokane and continued working in the insurance business. About that same time she began dating an old friend, Bernard "Bud" Romain, and they were married in Coeur d'Alene on December 5, 1965. They made their home on the Romain farm south of Chester for several years. When Bud

retired in 1971, they purchased a home at Grangeville, Idaho. They have lived in Grangeville since, but continued to spend time in the Great Falls, Billings, and Chester communities.

Gladyce's health had been relatively good until the past six months. After developing serious complications from emphysema, she moved to her son's home in Great Falls where she received personal care from family and Hospice nurses. Because of continued weakness and debilitation, Gladyce was moved to the Missouri River Manor on November 4th. She died at the Great Falls rest home on the early morning of Wednesday, November 12, 1997. She was 81 years old.

Gladyce was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith at Joplin. During her years in Chester she attended Our Savior's Lutheran Church. In addition, she was a 50-year member of the Royal Neighbors of America (RNA), and was a charter member of the VFW Auxiliary.

Gladyce enjoyed knitting, sewing, crocheting, and ceramics. She collected depression glass and old china. She was an exceptional cook and enjoyed canning and baking. She loved to travel, especially when the trips included time with family and friends. During her quiet hours at home she liked to read a good novel, or simply enjoy the beauty of her rose garden.

Of interest was the fact that in 1950 Gladyce was on the organizing and greeting committee that welcomed President Truman to the dedication of the Tiber Dam project in Liberty County.

Gladyce was a very special, caring lady. She loved her entire family and always kept close contact with all of them. She maintained a positive outlook on life and never uttered an unkind word to anyone. A very proud, unassuming woman, Gladyce worked hard to keep her relationships, her home, her personal appearance and

her life in immaculate shape. Truly a role model, she earned the love and respect of her family. She had many nicknames, all with endearment, including "Mom, Grannie, Sis, Auntie, and Nanty." Her family will cherish the many memories for years to come...

Survivors include her husband, Bernard "Bud" Romain of Grangeville; son Robert "Speed" Wright and wife Melanie of Great Falls; daughter Beverly Nealy and husband Monty of Billings; five grandchildren including Rodney, Brady and Bruce Nealy, and Aric and Jami Wright; four great-grandsons; three sisters Betty Krejci of Chester, Helen Henderson of Sun City, Arizona, and Doris Austin of Forest, Mississippi; one brother Kenneth Brandvold of Great Falls; five nieces and seven nephews. Gladyce was preceded in death by her parents and three brothers (Donald, Leonard, and Benny Brandvold).

Funeral services were 11:00 a.m. Saturday, November 15 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with Rev. Tom Dunham officiating. Special readings were shared by granddaughter Jami Wright and nephew Rlynn Rockman. The congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross" with accompaniment by Karen Stack. Tom Dunham sang "In the Garden." Ty Rockman served as usher. Pallbearers were Brad Nealy, Rod Nealy, Don Hoene, Dennis Romain, Jack Henderson, and Earl Keith. Honorary bearers were Bruce Nealy, Aric Wright, and Jami Wright. Our Savior's WELCA provided a luncheon following the services.

Graveside services were 3:30 p.m. Saturday at the Manchester Cemetery northwest of Great Falls. Pastor Dunham recited committal prayers and the family released balloons to the verse "I'm Free." A reception for Great Falls friends was held at the Elks Club there.

Memorials will be given to the American Diabetes Association (Montana Affiliate: 1601-2nd Ave. N, Great Falls, MT 59401).

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

BARBARA JEANNE ROMINGER

Born -- August 6, 1926 - Died September 27, 1997

Liberty County Times

October 1, 1997

**Barbara Rominger**

Barbara Jeanne Rominger, age 71, longtime Havre resident, died from complications following lung cancer surgery in a Great Falls hospital on Saturday, September 27, 1997. Graveside services were held at Highland Cemetery in Havre on Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 pm with Rev. Terry Dunn officiating. Memorials are suggested to the Gift of Life.

Barbara was born on August 6, 1926 the daughter of Clarence and Annie (Taplin) Williams in Chester, Montana. She moved to Havre with her family when she was a small child, attended schools in Havre and graduated from Havre High School. She married Gordon Rominger in Fort Benton on November 25, 1946 on Barbara's parents' 25th wedding anniversary. Barbara and Gordon farmed in the Chester/Fort Benton area. She was active in the Eastern Star in Chester and in Fort Benton. She was an avid bowler and was known as a seamstress and for her craft work.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Gordon, a daughter Charlene Rominger and a brother Earl Williams.

She is survived by two daughters, Marcia Mueller of Lincoln, Nebraska; and Melody Sawyer of Helena, Montana; a son Alan Rominger of Belgrade, Montana; two sisters, Thelma Crawford of Havre, Montana, and Charlotte Rominger of Havre; a brother Chuck Williams of Havre and three grandchildren.

A gathering to follow the graveside service will be announced.

**DORIS J. RUSSELL**  
**born: Nov. 11, 1932 -- died: Jan. 28, 1997**  
**Billings Gazette**  
**Jan 1997**

**DORIS J. RUSSELL**

Doris J. Russell, 64, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 28, at Bozeman Deaconess Hospital. She was born in Bozeman on Nov. 11, 1932, to James and Julia (Dorrell) Gordon. Her father was in the construction business, and her family moved all over the Northwest as she was growing up.

She was married to Evan Jones in Chester in March 1956. The couple lived in California until 1974 when they returned to the Gallatin Valley. Evan preceded Doris in death in 1975.

She remarried to Oliver C. Russell on Oct. 26, 1982. She loved to play bingo and also enjoyed knitting and crocheting. She was a member of the Manhattan Senior Citizens Club.

The loves of her life were her son, Jim and daughter-in-law, Linda, and their three beautiful children. Doris was a beloved wife,

mother, grandmother and sister. She was the family communicator with a great big heart.

She is survived by her husband, Oliver Russell of Bozeman; son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Linda Jones of Manhattan; three grandchildren, Sarah, Dillon and Kayla; brothers, Alfred M. Gordon of Cathedral City, Calif., Daniel J. Gordon of Fountain Valley, Calif., Thomas F. Gordon of Philadelphia; sisters and husbands, Connie and Speed Smith, and Judy and John Clark, both of Manhattan; aunts, Pat Cameron of Lincoln, and Mabel Welch of Greenwich, Conn.; and numerous stepchildren, step-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her first husband, Evan.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at Dokken-Nel-

son Sunset Chapel. Interment will follow at Meadow View Cemetery in Manhattan.

Kenneth SANDE  
Born. JUNE 13, 1911— Died: September 5, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
September 10, 1997

## **Kenneth Sande**

Kenneth Sande, 86 years of age, a retired electronics technician and a resident of Shelby, Montana and formerly of Gildford, Montana, died on Friday, September 5, 1997 at the Toole County Hospital in Shelby of natural causes. Funeral services were held at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, September 9, 1997 at the Holland & Bonine Chapel in Havre, with Rev. Eddie Fallo officiating. Burial followed the service at the Gildford Cemetery. Memorials in Mr. Sande's honor may be made to a person's choice.

Kenneth was born on June 13, 1911 at North Gildford, Montana, the son of Joseph and Dina (Halverson) Sande. He attended school at the Lilac Country School north of Gildford. He and his brother farmed north of Gildford. Mr. Sande was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Army and served with the Communications Division. After his discharge, Kenneth worked for Twedt Lumber Yard and Hardware Store in Gildford. In the early 1950's he moved to Shelby and has lived there since. His hobbies were photography and he excelled as a ham radio operator and in electronics of any kind.

He was preceded in death by four brothers and two sisters.

He is survived by one sister Lois Kraft of Bigfork, Montana; and one brother George Sande of Lodi, California; also numerous nieces and nephews.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**CHARLES ARNOLD SCHAFER**  
**born: Aug. 3, 1917 -- died: May 14, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**May 21, 1997**



### ***Charles Schafer***

Charles Schafer, 79, of Billings, died at his home Wednesday, May 14. He was born August 3, 1917 in Chester, the son of Jacob and Matilda (Martell) Schafer. After graduating from high school in Chester, he attended Northern Montana College in Havre until his induction into the army in 1941. While in the army, Charles served four years in the Pacific Theater of War. Charles was honorably discharged in September, 1945. On February 9, 1946, he was united in marriage to Jennie B. Gallo in Elizabeth, New Jersey. After their marriage they moved to Billings where they have resided since.

Charles was the business manager for Valley Motor Supply, Co. He was a member of Holy Rosary Church, the Elks and the American Legion.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, William and a sister, Inez Burgess.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Jennie (Jean), a son; Charles A. Schafer, Jr. and his wife Susan of Helena, a daughter, Nancy J. Levenberger and her husband Boyd of Golden, Colorado and his sister, Sylvia Kafka and her husband Lada of Havre. He is also survived by four grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held Saturday, May 17 at Dahl Funeral Chapel. Cremation has taken place. Memorials may be made to Big Sky Hospice, 3021 6th Ave. N., Billings, Montana 59101.



**JOSEPH WALTER SCHMIDT**  
**born: Jul. 22, 1913 -- died: Mar. 9, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Mar. 19, 1997**



**Joseph  
Walter Schmidt**

Joseph Walter Schmidt was born at Wabasha, Minnesota on July 22nd, 1913. He was one of six children born to Margaret Zeimetz and Joseph F. Schmidt. Walt received his education in Wabasha and graduated from St. Felix Catholic High School in 1931. He remained in the Wabasha community where he worked as a mechanic for Bruner's Garage and as an area farmhand.

In 1942 Walt was inducted into the U.S. Army. He attained the rank of Technician-5 and served in the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign during World War II. Following his honorable discharge in 1946, he returned to Minnesota.

Walt worked various jobs in Minnesota before coming to Montana in 1954. He began working at an implement shop in Hardin (MT). He later moved to Stanford (MT) where he worked on the Jim Galt farm. When

he retired in 1977, Walt came to the Chester community to visit some old friends, Margaret and Eldon Graff. He liked the area and decided to stay.

During those first few years in Chester, Walt worked on the Red Morris ranch in the Sweetgrass Hills and on the Dale Nelson farm south of town. He lived at the M-X Apartments and worked part time for Lawrence Schaefer at the Gambles Store, where he repaired small engines. In 1991 Walt's health began to fail, so he moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home and has lived there since.

Walt died at the Liberty County Hospital on Sunday morning (March 9th, 1997). He was 83 years old.

Walt was a very quiet, private person, although he did enjoy people. He liked to read, especially newspapers and westerns by Louis L'Amour. A simple man with few demands, he did enjoy Hamm's beer and Copenhagen chew. In his younger days, Walt's nickname was "Beanie".

Walt never married. He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Robert (Rita) Tibor of Altura, Minnesota and Mrs. Ralph (Margaret) Palas of Safford, Arizona; and numerous nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, by a brother (George Schmidt), and by two sisters (Marie Lee and Lucille Schurhammer).

Funeral Mass was celebrated at noon Tuesday (March 18th) by Father Joseph Marnion at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Iris White provided special music. Scripture readings were by Irene Terwolbeck and Eucharistic minister was Margaret Graff. Interment followed at the Chester Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

**MARY ANN (SCHMIDT) SCHWEITZER**  
**born: Jul. 21, 1914 -- died: Mar. 31, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 16, 1997**



Schweitzer

***Mary Ann (Schmidt) Schweitzer***

Long-time Bozeman resident Mary Ann Schweitzer, 82, died suddenly at her home on Monday March 31, 1997.

Mary was born July 21, 1914, in Rugby, ND, to Gertrude and Joseph Schmidt. Mary attended schools in North Dakota, until family concerns ended her education. She met her husband, Michael Schweitzer, at a country dance, and they were married shortly thereafter on Nov. 5, 1934. The young couple set out for Goldstone, where they homesteaded. In 1943, they moved to Danvers, a small town between Lewistown and Great Falls. They ranched in the area until 1950, when they moved their growing family to Denton. In 1956, they bought a ranch in the foothills of the Bridgers, and Bozeman has been her home ever since.

Mary was a member of Resurrection Parish and was actively involved with the church and the former Rosary School since her arrival in Bozeman. She was an award-winning baker. She won many ribbons over the years at the Montana Winter Fair and was a Cupboard of Champion winner several times. She enjoyed many crafts, including knitting and croch-

ing, and was always learning new skills. Her many handcrafted gifts are treasured by their owners.

Mary was an extraordinarily cheerful, optimistic and giving woman, who exemplified the old-fashioned values of hard work, love and many friends, and was treasured and honored by her children, their spouses, and her many grandchildren. We will all greatly miss her gentle ways, her giving heart, her bright smile and the many ways she showed her love for us.

She is survived by one daughter, Dorothy Kern; eight sons: Leonard, LeRoy, Richard, Larry, Kenneth, Robert, Dennis and Fred; sisters, Margaret McDonald and Teresa Schweitzer; brothers Augustine Hamon and Pius Schmidt; 23 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Michael; brother Nick Schmidt; and sisters, Annie Schmidt and Pauline Wolf.

A Vigil Service was held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Resurrection Parish. Funeral Mass was at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 3 at Resurrection Parish, 1725 S. 11th Ave.

Memorials in her name may be made to Resurrection Parish and to the Gallatin Hospice program.

**PEARL SCHWEITZER**  
**born: Jan. 21, 1920 -- died: Feb. 27, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 2, 1997**

### ***Pearl Schweitzer***

Pearl F. Schweitzer, 77, passed away February 27, 1997 in Mesa, Arizona from complications following heart surgery.

She was a resident of Inverness, Montana, born January 21, 1920, the daughter of Jens and Katie Jensen. She attended schools in that area and graduated from Inverness High School. She also lived in the Havre, Montana area where she married Wendelin Schweitzer. Pearl has lived in Mesa for the last 12 years and enjoyed many activities at 'Trailer Village' in Mesa.

A Vigil Service was held Wednesday, March 5 in the Rose Chapel, Hennessey-Smith Funeral Home of Spokane, Washington. Funeral Mass was celebrated Thursday, March 6 at St. Charles Catholic Church in Spokane. The Reverend Steven L. Dublinski was celebrant. Interment followed at Holy Cross Cemetery.

She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, James and Juanita Schweitzer of Spokane; daughter and son-in-law, Gloria and Don Winkenweder of Spokane; seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren; brothers, Elmer and Arthur Jensen of Inverness, Montana; sister, Irene McCann, Osburn, Idaho; numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Wendelin, in 1991.

AGNES CATHERINE (ROBERTS) SCOTT  
Born: --September 13, 1906 - Died: October 5, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
October 8, 1997

## **Agnes Scott**

Agnes Catherine (Roberts) Scott, age 91, died of natural causes on Sunday morning October 5, 1997 at the Toole County Nursing Home in Shelby.

Arrangements and cremation is by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Services and burial of ashes will be at White River, South Dakota.

Agnes was born at White River, South Dakota on September 13, 1906. She was one of seven children born to Angelina Larve and James Roberts. Agnes grew up on a reservation and attended the St. Francis Catholic School near Rosebud, South Dakota.

In 1930 she married Eugene Thompson. The product of the marriage was a son, Robert. The Thompsons ranched with the Roberts family at White River.

Following Eugene's death, Agnes and her son moved to Alliance, Nebraska. While there she met a baker, Lloyd V. Scott, and they were married in 1938. They moved to Seattle during World War II; Agnes worked as an electrician in the shipyards as part of the war effort.

In the years that followed, the Scotts lived in various cities including Salt

Lake, Denver, Boise, and Walla Walla where Agnes worked primarily as a hospital housekeeper. They retired in 1974 and moved to Phoenix. Several years later they moved to Roswell, New Mexico to be near Agnes' sister, Grace.

When their health began to fail in 1988, the Scotts came to Chester, Montana to live near their son and family. They resided at the Sweetgrass Lodge before transferring to the Liberty County Nursing Home. Lloyd died on June 16, 1990. Agnes remained in Chester until 1993, when she moved to the Shelby nursing home.

Her hobbies included crocheting and embroidery work.

Agnes is survived by a son and daughter-in-law Robert and Catherine Thompson of Browning; four grandchildren Ramona Thompson of Shelby, Glenn Thompson of Cut Bank, Mariam Williams of Minot, North Dakota, and Christina Miller of Shelby; five great-grandchildren and one niece, Teresa Vojtec of Washington. She was preceded in death not only by her first husband and her parents, but also by all of her siblings (John, Irvin, Edward, Rena, Elizabeth and Grace).

**HAZEL ARLENE (SHEPHERD) SECRIST**  
**born: Nov. 12, 1907 -- died: Apr. 2, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 9, 1997**

### ***Hazel Secrist***

Hazel Arlene (Shepherd) Secrist, age 89, died Wednesday morning (April 2nd) at the Toole County Nursing Home in Shelby. She had been a resident there for the past few years and suffered from the ailments of aging.

Hazel was born November 12th, 1907 at Finley, North Dakota. She was one of three daughters born to Jessie "Pauline" Starr and Otto H. Shepherd. She came with her family to Montana where she grew up in the Chester community. Following her graduation from Chester High School in 1925, Hazel married Floyd Umphrey. They lived and worked on the Hi Smith ranch near the Sweetgrass Hills. The Umphrey's had two sons.

Floyd was killed in an automobile accident in 1937. Hazel married Earl G. Secrist on July 3rd, 1939. They continued ranching in the Sweetgrass Hills until 1950, when they sold the ranch and moved to Renton, Washington. Earl worked as a farrier at the Seattle Horse Track until their retirement. Earl died in 1983. Hazel remained at their home in Renton until 1993, when her health began to fail. She came to Shelby (MT) to be near her son.

Hazel enjoyed flower gardening and her role as a homemaker.

Her survivors include two sons, Harley Umphrey (and wife, Pat) of Shelby and Gene Umphrey of Hallandale, Florida; two step-children, Ken Secrist of Gilbert, AZ and Myla Keller of Lincoln City, OR; one sister, Thelma Beck of Coeur d'Alene, ID; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and two nieces. Hazel was preceded in death by her husbands, parents, and sister (Florence).

Arrangements and cremation by Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby. No public services are planned. Hazel's ashes will be buried in Seattle.

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## ELLE WESLEY SEIDLITZ

Born: August 11, 1903 - Died: April 25, 1997

Liberty County Times

April 30, 1997



### **E. W. Seidlitz**

Elle Wesley ("E.W.") Seidlitz was born at Inglewood, California on August 11th, 1903. He was one of three children of John and Mathilda (Jabs) Seidlitz. After Mathilda died in 1908, the Seidlitz's moved to Canada. Two years later they came to Montana to homestead near Chester. Elle received his formal education at a country school near the farm.

On August 25th, 1926 he married a local schoolteacher, Helen C. White, at Hingham. From that time on, they made their home southeast of Chester where they farmed and raised their family of nine.

After 61 years of married life together, Helen died on October 13th, 1987. Elle had retired a few years prior to this, but he remained active on the farm into his late 80's. He moved into Chester in 1991 and took care of himself until this past December. At that time his health failed, so he moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home. Elle died at the rest home on the early morning of Friday (April 25th, 1997). He was 93 years old...

Elle had been an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the "Knights of Columbus". He was a long time supporter of the Farmer's Union and had made many trips to conventions and meetings associated with the organization. Elle enjoyed politics and had been a lifelong, hard-core Democrat!

In his younger days, he enjoyed playing the violin; in fact, he played at various Hi-Line area dances in those early years. Unfortunately, the loss of several fingertips limited his future playing skills.

In his quiet time at home, Elle enjoyed television (he was especially fond of the "Lawrence Welk Show"). Probably his greatest enjoyment in life other than his family was "good old-fashioned hard work". Elle loved his farm and he loved Montana, and he never strayed too far or too often from either one of them.

He is survived by three sons and their wives, Joe and Carolyn Seidlitz, Jack and Pat Seidlitz, and Ray and

Sharon Seidlitz, all of Chester; four daughters and their husbands, Betty Jeanne and Kenneth Wolfe of Chester, Virginia and Donald Dyrud of Ledger, Adella and Ted Wagner of LaMirada, California, and Pat and Norman Bruce of Columbus; daughter-in-law Darleene Seidlitz of Phoenix, Arizona; 40 grandchildren; 62 great-grandchildren; and many nephews and niece. Elle was preceded in death not only by his wife and parents, but also by a son (Dick), a daughter (Michelle), a grandson (Gary), three great-grandchildren (Bridget, Richard and Jeremy) and two siblings (Harvey and Helen).

Vigil Prayers were led by grandson, Mark Seidlitz, at 7:30 p.m. Monday (April 28th) at St. Mary's Church. The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Marmion at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday at the church. Richie Hamel served as pianist and a choir consisting of Elle's grandchildren performed hymns of praise. Mass participants included lector, Kelly Seidlitz; Eucharistic minister, Mark Seidlitz; altar servers, Jeff and Doug Wolfe; eulogist, Aden Seidlitz; ushers, Duane Dyrud and Rick Seidlitz; presenters of communion gift, Becky Mesaros and Koni Erickson. Grandsons serving as pallbearers included Mick, Rory, Eugene, Randy and Roger Seidlitz and Don Pulst. All of Elle's other grandchildren were listed as honorary bearers.

Interment was in the Chester Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## NORMAN LEWIS SHANKS

Born: February 21, 1931 - Died: November 30, 1997

Liberty County Times

December 10, 1997



### **Norman Shanks**

Norman Lewis Shanks, age 66, died at his Chester residence on the early morning of Sunday, November 30, 1997. He died from complications of chronic lung disease.

Norm was born at Bainville, Montana on February 21, 1931. His parents were Frank Paul Shanks and Myrtle Francis Steen. He was the youngest of 12 children. Norman grew up and received his formal education at Bainville.

In 1949 he married Betty Eschenbacher. In addition to working on a section crew for Great Northern Railroad, Norm farmed with his in-laws at Bainville. He and Betty had two sons before their marriage ended in divorce.

Norm moved to Glasgow and began working as an independent painting contractor. In 1957 he married Sherry Chaney. The product of this marriage was five children. Norm and his family remained in Glasgow for 25 years, where he worked in the painting business. They moved to Kalispell in 1982. His second marriage ended in divorce shortly thereafter.

Norm was involved in an accident in 1984, which resulted in some disabling back problems. He retired in 1985 and moved to Chester to be near his sister Ruby. They have lived together in Chester since that time and have become best friends and loyal companions.

Norm was a charter member of the Columbia Falls Eagles Club and also held memberships in the Elk and Moose Lodges. His favorite outdoor activities included hunting, fishing and camping. He enjoyed playing cards (especially a good game of Pinochle) and darts. Norm had a good sense of humor; he liked to laugh and be with family and friends.

Survivors include five sons: Donald Shanks Hustad of Culbertson, David Shanks Hustad of Nashua, Danny Shanks of Kalispell, Dean Shanks of Kalispell, and Robert Shanks of Kalispell; two daughters: Dana Lee Martin of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Lisa Kay Vincent of Corvallis, Oregon; nine grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; two sisters, Ruby Olson of Chester, and Maxine Edlund of Gillette, Wyoming; 16 nephews; and 12 nieces. Norm was preceded in death by his parents, by one sister (Helen), and by 8 brothers (Virgil, George, Everett, Marvin, Glen, Carl, Leonard and Frank).

Funeral services were held at the Rockman Funeral Chapel at 2:00 pm Wednesday (Dec. 3rd) with Rev. Tom Dunham officiating. Special music by vocalist Judy Lake, was "The Old Rugged Cross" and "Nearer My God to Thee." Organist was Iris White. All of Norm's nephews served as pallbearers. Following the service, a luncheon was provided by Chester area friends at the lounge of the Grand Bar.

Graveside services were held at the Highland Cemetery in Glasgow at 1:00 pm Thursday (Dec. 4th). Family members provided special readings and prayers. A selected tape-recording by Vince Gill "Go Rest High on That Mountain" was played. A luncheon followed at the home of Norm's niece Karen Newton in Glasgow.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

**OLIVE KATHRYN (KAY) SHEPHERD**  
**Born: October 18, 1913 - Died: November 6, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**November 26, 1997**

***Olive K. Shepherd***

Anchorage resident Olive Kathryn "Kay" Shepherd, 84, died November 6, 1997 at home attended by her grandson, Ivan Cook and her daughter Marilyn Rabb, following a long struggle with congestive heart failure.

A visitation was held from 6 to 8 pm at the Witzleben's Bragaw Chapel. A funeral was conducted at 4:30 pm Tuesday, November 11, 1997 with the Rev. Gene Shumar officiating. Interment will be next spring at the Angelus Memorial Park.

Mrs. Shepherd was born October 18, 1913 in Spokane, Washington, the daughter of Jim and Achsa M. Bingham. She grew up on the family ranch near Chester, Montana.

Her family recalled: "Kay moved to Alaska in 1948 and became a successful businesswoman, owning and operating several beauty shops. She and Agnes Burns succeeded in starting the first licensed beauty shop in Alaska.

"She lived on St. Lawrence Island for three years and while there studied Eskimo art. She later drew on this experience as one of the founding owners of the Bering Sea

Originals.

"Kay moved to Whittier, Alaska in the late 1960s. There she owned and operated the Aquarius Beauty Salon and also operated the weather reporting station for the U.S. Weather Service. Kay started the city museum and also the first television station in Whittier. She also served on the statewide RATNET council. An avid writer and painter, she had several successful showings of her paintings in Anchorage during this time.

"She became a devoted Christian in her later years. Due to failing health she moved to Anchorage in May of 1996."

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sons, Ronald R. Roberts, and Larry A. Roberts; and her brother Nelson Bingham.

Kay is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Lyle and Ione Roberts; daughter and son-in-law, Marilyn and Don Rabb; grandchildren, Mary Roberts, Larry Roberts Jr., Joe Roberts, Vicki Van Zant, Darrel Wigdahl, John Wigdahl, Danny Wigdahl, Roni Cook, Kimberly Cook, Laura Cook and Ivan Cook; several great-grandchildren; sister-in-law Beva Bingham; and nieces Carol Belcher, Margie Tenney and Judy Wentling.

Arrangements were handled by Witzleben Family Funeral Homes and Crematory.

**AVA SHEPHERD SIDERIUS**  
**Born: June 29, 1907 - Died: December 8, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**December 17, 1997**

## ***Ava Shepherd- Siderius***

Ava Shepherd Siderius, 90, passed away Monday, December 8, 1997 at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She was born June 29, 1907 in Ferdinand, Idaho to John and Anna Noel. She had seven brothers and three sisters. She attended schools in Idaho, graduating from Teachers College in Pocatello, Idaho. After college, she taught for several years in Idaho.

In 1932 she married Vernon Schad. They had two daughters, Mary Ann and Dixie. He passed away in 1944.

In 1946 she and her daughters moved to Kalispell to make their home. In 1946 she also met and married Glen Shepherd. He had five grown children who with their families became like her own children.

She filled her life with family, cooking, gardening and crafts.

She was an active member of First Baptist Church for many years. She was a member of many church groups as teacher, leader and organizer. Her husband passed away in 1981 at Immanuel Lutheran Home.

She continued to live at their home until 1991, when she moved to Buffalo Hills Terrace. While there she met and married George Siderius in 1992. He has one son. In December 1996, she moved to Immanuel Lutheran Home where she lived close to George.

She was preceded in death by her two husbands, Vernon Schad and Glen Shepherd; one sister; seven brothers; one stepdaughter; and three stepsons.

She is survived by her husband George Siderius at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell; her two daughters Mary Ann Zauner and husband John of Kalispell, and Dixie Lee Tye and husband Cliff of Duluth, Minnesota; two stepsons Neil Shepherd and wife Alice, and Dick Siderius and wife Joan; also daughters-in-law Nina Shepherd, Pearle Shepherd, and Arlene Shepherd; sisters Velma Ost, and Pearl Aldrich; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were Friday at 3:00 pm at Johnson Mortuary Chapel with the Rev. Max Kasier of First Baptist Church officiating. Burial was at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

The family suggests memorials may be made to: First Baptist Church, 301 W Wyoming, Kalispell, MT 59901; Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline, Kalispell, MT 59901, or Home Options Hospice, 1280 Burns Way, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements by the Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

FLOYD L. SIEFKE  
Born: February 7, 1923 --Died July 15, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
July 30, 1997

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### ***Floyd Siefke***

Libby native, Floyd L. Siefke, age 74, died at the Libby Care Center on Tuesday, July 15, 1997.

He was born on February 7, 1923 at Libby, to Paul O. and Artnicy Hawn Siefke. Floyd grew up in Libby and attended Libby schools.

Floyd married Mary Isabel Cummings on June 17, 1942 at Libby.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1944, serving until honorably discharged in 1946.

Floyd returned to Libby and worked for J. Neils Lumber Company and St. Regis until retiring in 1984.

Siefke enjoyed hunting, fishing, traveling and woodcarving. He loved and enjoyed his family and grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by three children, Sam, Ronnie and Marlene; five brothers and three sisters.

Survivors include his wife Mary (Isy), Libby; son Fred Siefke, Nilichik, Alaska; three daughters, Darlene Brese (and her husband Jack) of Augusta, Mary Dickenson (and her husband Bob) of Florence, Oregon, and Linda Backen (and her husband Steven) of Lothair, Montana; 20 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Services were conducted at 2:00 pm on Friday July 18, 1997 at Nelson and Vial Funeral home.

Alfred D. SILBERMAN  
Born March 31, 1910—Died September 4, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
September 10, 1997

## **Alfred Silberman**

Longtime area farmer Alfred D. Silberman, 87 died Thursday, September 4, 1997 at the Toole County Hospital in Shelby, Montana due to natural causes.

Prayer services were Sunday, September 7 at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby with funeral mass at 11:00 am Monday, September 8 at St. William Catholic Church in Shelby. Burial followed in Mountain View Cemetery. Whitted Funeral Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Silberman was born March 31, 1910 at Buffalo Lake, Minnesota to William and Anna (Drier) Silberman. In 1912 his parents homesteaded in the Chester area where he attended schools and then farmed until his retirement in 1975, at which time he moved to Shelby. He and Elizabeth Flesch were married in Shelby, Montana on November 25, 1933.

Silberman was very active in the Moose Lodge, the knights of Columbus and the PTA. He enjoyed reading, gardening, yard work, and camping and fishing with his grandchildren. He was a member of the St. William Catholic Church in Shelby.

— He is survived by his wife Elizabeth, one son Herb Silberman, and two daughters, Betty Lou Norenberg and Jalene King, all of Shelby; a sister Martha Crane of Conrad; seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one sister and four brothers.



## EVA LOUISE (MORK) SPICHER

Born: March 22, 1920 - Died: February 2, 1997

Liberty County Times

February 12, 1997



### **Eva L. Spicher**

Eva Louise (Mork) Spicher was born on March 22nd, 1920 at Gildford, Montana. She was one of eight children born to Peder and Anna (Pedersen) Mork. Eva grew up at Gildford and received her education there, graduating from Gildford High School in 1938.

On July 22nd, 1939 she married Marlin E. "Chet" Spicher at Chinook. They farmed near Hingham and Joplin, then retired to Kalispell in 1981. Chet died in 1995. Eva remained at their Kalispell home since that time.

She was taken by ambulance to the Kalispell Regional Hospital. She died following a cardiac arrest on Sunday afternoon (February 2nd, 1997). She was 76 years old.

During her high school years, Eva was proud to have played basketball for the Gildford Broncs. In her early married years she was active in the Royal Neighbors of America. She was happy in her role as farm wife, homemaker, and mother of eight children.

Eva also enjoyed garage and rummage sales. And last but not least, she loved little kids, especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by four daughters and spouses, Ardith and Bob Lingle of Kalispell, Sharon and Roger Borlaug of Gildford, Twyla and Craig Anderson of Rudyard, and Darlene Spicher of Kalispell; four sons and spouses, Marlin "Sonny" and Karen Spicher of Joplin, Wayne and Rochelle Spicher of Inverness, Ronald and Patty Spicher of Hingham, and Douglas and Kathy Spicher of Petaluma, California; 18 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two sisters, Bertha Anderson of Libby and Ida McCormick of Joplin; and numerous nephews and nieces. Eva was preceded in death by her parents and husband, by two sisters (Agnes and Borghild), and by three brothers (Arthur, Bjarne, and Ever).

Funeral services were 1:00 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7th, at the Hingham Lutheran Church with Reverend Tim Hauge officiating. Stanleigh Barbie served as organist and the congregation sang "In the Garden". Vocal tributes included "Amazing Grace" by granddaughter, Krysti Borlaug, and "Bringing in the Sheaves" by Terry Stevenson. Eva's grandsons were pallbearers and her granddaughters served as ushers/acolytes. Interment was in the Hingham Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Eva had many hobbies. She collected plates, cups and saucers, and rocks. She enjoyed quilting; she made quilts for all of her family members over the years. She liked to cook and one of her specialties was "lefse". Eva loved bird watching and was especially fond of hummingbirds. In her quiet hours she enjoyed word puzzles and television (her favorite shows were "Wheel of Fortune", "Jeopardy", "Dr. Quinn", and "Oprah").

**RALPH DAVID SPICHER**  
born: May 28, 1928 -- died: June 15, 1997  
**Liberty County Times**  
June 18 - 1997



**David Spicher**

Because of the Lord's mercy and blessing, Ralph David Spicher, age 69, left his crippled body on Father's Day, June 15, 1997. He was in the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, Montana because of pneumonia.

He was born to Chester and Nora Spicher on May 28, 1928 on the farm near Hingham, Montana. He began his religious instruction and schooling through the Eighth Grade there. On January 18, 1947 he married Arlette Johnson in Havre, Montana and brought his new bride home to the farming life. Two children blessed their union.

While returning home from working on the farm on October 10, 1949, the car jackknifed, pinning him when the car rolled. His brother found him eight hours later and rushed him to the Havre Sacred Heart Hospital, where he was given three hours to live. His spinal cord had been severed.

He, with his wife by his side, spent the next five years at the Rochester, Minnesota hospital and a rehab clinic in California. After experimental surgery, he regained limited movement of his arms, but the remainder of his life he was confined to a wheelchair as a quadriplegic. They returned to Hingham to raise their family.

Here he was the accountant for the family Texaco gas station, sold crop insurance for the Farmers Union, was school clerk, deacon, a church council member and taught Sunday School for eight years in the Hingham Lutheran Church.

During the summer of 1963 the family home caught fire while he was home alone. He wheeled himself down a ramp and safely out of danger. The family then moved to Havre, Montana. He became a charter member of the Messiah Lutheran Church, serving the Lord as deacon, council member and Sunday School teacher. He was divorced in 1967.

Reading about newly invented car hand controls, he obtained his driver's license. He earned his GED and attended Northern Montana College. He was three credits short of his accounting degree when another serious bout of pneumonia curtailed his graduation. With God's strength and his own will, he recovered, but illness was his almost constant companion. David worked for H & R Block preparing income taxes and began a photocopy business for the 3M Company.

He loved the freedom of travel and made numerous trips with his faithful dog, "Pupper Dog" alone or with his sisters or daughter, covering 36 states.

With the help and support of Roger, a parapalegic Viet Nam vet, he extensively campaigned to the US government and initiated handicapped parking and accessibility to all public buildings.

In 1982, he retired to the Odd Fellows Plaza in Sand Point, Idaho. There he married Helen and gladly became a father to her two boys. They moved to Joplin, Montana. This marriage was later annulled, with Dave returning to the Plaza in Sand Point.

Because of another attack of pneumonia and deteriorating health, in 1995 he again moved; this time to the Madison Manor in Ennis, Montana to be nearer to his daughter.

In August 1996 he wished to be back on the Hi-Line and his sister aided his move. He resided at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester, Montana.

His major contribution to this life and to everyone who knew him was his strong Christian faith and example, emotional strength, upbeat attitude, unending patience, kindness, tenderness, quick wit, sense of humor, and perseverance.

His remains have been donated to the Utah Medical School for research according to David's wishes. He was the longest living quadriplegic known in the USA.

His ashes will be interred at a later date between his parents graves in the Hingham Cemetery.

He is survived by one son, Jeffrey Ross Spicher (Pavada) and wife Cheryl and their children Nirguna, Perry, Victor and Mercy, of Moundsville, West Virginia; one daughter Vicki Lynn Danhof and husband Charles, of Amsterdam, Montana; her son, Kevin Michael Carlberg and his wife Jeryl; his great-grandson, Anthony Michael Macht; three sisters: Mildred Farrell of Spokane, WA; Stella Greb of College Place, WA; and Nora Terwolbeck of Havre, MT; numerous nieces and nephews and countless friends.

He has been preceded into Heaven by his parents and two brothers (Martin E. Spicher and infant boy, Stanley).

We will sorely miss his earthly presence, yet rejoice at his liberation into Heaven. God has given His blessed servant peace.

Memorials can be made in David's name to the Lord's work of the donor's choice.

**BURDETTE L. (BERNIE) STERNER**  
**born: Jan. 3, 1930 -- died: Jan. 4, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Jan. 8, 1997**

***Bernie Sterner***

Burdette L. (Bernie) Sterner, 67 years of age, a resident of Gildford, Montana, died Saturday, January 4, 1997 near Fresno, Montana of an apparent heart attack. Cremation has taken place and a memorial service was held Tuesday, January 7, 1997 at the First Presbyterian Church in Havre, Montana with Pastor Kenneth Green officiating.

Bernie was born January 3, 1930 at Littlestown, Pennsylvania, the son of Elder J. and Irene (Bachelder) Sterner. He attended school in Hanover and graduated from Hanover High School, Hanover, Pennsylvania. Mr. Sterner served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean Conflict and was also stationed in Japan. In 1952 at Great Falls, Montana, he married the former Helen Adams. After their marriage the couple lived in Pennsylvania, Chester, Montana and later Cascade, Montana. The couple later separated. Bernie lived in Havre in 1970 and in the fall of 1978 he moved to Gildford. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. He also loved his garden and canning his garden produce. His favorite hobby of all was raising animals.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his companion of 26 years Freda Langford; one brother, Richard Sterner; one sister, Pat (Sterner) Wilson. He is survived by his children, Dale, Blake and Bret Sterner, all of Havre, Blaine Sterner of Gildford; daughters, Yvette LaValley, Kathy Olson and Becky Buerkle, all of Havre; grandchildren, Casey, Evan, Tel, Mandy, Reece, Breanna and Shannon; and great-grandchildren, Britany, Hall and Devyn.

Memorials in Mr. Sterner's honor may be made to The Gift of Life, or to a person's choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## ALTON RICHARD STERRY

Born: Oct. 28, 1913 – Died: Mar. 24, 1997

Liberty County Times

April 2, 1997



**Alton R. Sterry**

Alton Richard Sterry, beloved husband, father and grandfather, died Monday afternoon (March 24th, 1997) at St. Patrick's Hospital in Missoula of complications from a fall at his home in Polson. He was 83 years old.

Alton was born at Hingham, Montana on October 28th, 1913. He was one of five children born to Olaf and Margaret (Amdahl) Sterry. Alton grew up and received his education in Hingham, graduating from high school in 1931. He attended Northern Montana College in Havre and received a teaching certificate. In the few years that followed, Alton taught in rural Hill County schools, including the school at Hingham and the reservation school at Rocky Boy.

On July 8th, 1937 he married Nedra Hanson at Great Falls. They moved to Washington, D.C. in 1940 where Alton accepted a position at the government printing office. Of interest was the fact that he witnessed the printing of the "Declaration of War" at the time of World War II.

The Sterrys returned to Hingham, Montana in 1942 and took over the family farm. They retired in 1974 and moved to a lakefront home at Big Arm north of Polson. They spent their winter months in Mesa, Arizona.

During his years in Hingham, Alton was active in the Lutheran Church and community affairs. He enjoyed politics and had served on the Democratic central committee in Hill County. In Polson he was a member of the Sons of Norway organization.

Alton was an athlete who kept himself in good physical shape over the years. He loved to compete in sporting events, specifically, the "Senior Olympics" in Mesa. Even into his late 70's, Alton won many medals (including the 100-yard dash, the 800 and 1500 meter races, and the high jump and long jump events).

Other interests included playing pool, bridge and cribbage, and golf. He also enjoyed working in his yard at their lake home.

Alton is survived by his wife of 59 years, Nedra of Polson; three sons, Rick Sterry (and wife, Carole) of Eugene, Oregon, Craig Sterry (and wife, Leslie) of Eugene, Oregon, and Alan Sterry of Hingham; two daughters, Sandra Dixon (and husband, John) of Eugene, Oregon and Jill Kordonowy (and husband, Jerry) of Livingston; five grandchildren (including Sky, Quince, Max, Sophie and Halsey); one brother, Norman Sterry of Seattle, Washington; one sister, Bernice Hughes of Havre; and numerous nephews and nieces. Alton was preceded in death by his parents, a brother (Delos), and a sister (Marjorie).

Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m. Thursday (March 27th) at the Hingham Lutheran Church with Reverend Tim Hauge officiating. Vocal music included "Danny Boy" and "Fields of Grain" by Terry Stevenson. The congregation sang "Beautiful Savior" and "Borning Cry". Organist was Sharon Spicher. Ushers were Walter Myers and Bill Spicher. Alton's three sons and three grandsons served as pallbearers. Honorary bearers included Jerry Kordonowy, John Dixon, Phil Lipp, Dick Spicher, Virgil Jurenka, Swede Carlson, Ben Spinler and Allen Chinadle. Interment was at the Hingham Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. A luncheon for family and friends followed at the church.

Memorial services were held at 2:00 p.m. Monday (March 31st) at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Polson with Reverend Paul Rowold officiating. Organist was Eleanor Ekland.

**MADGE E. (SAILOR) STEVENSON**  
**born: Sep. 27, 1893 -- died: Apr. 15, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 23, 1997**

***Madge Stevenson***

Madge E. Stevenson, 103, longtime Havre/Highline area resident, died of natural causes on Tuesday, April 15, 1997 in a local hospital.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon, April 17 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Havre with Father Kenneth Green officiating. Burial was in Highland Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the Havre-Hill County Library, or to the Shriner's Hospital. Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Madge was born on Sept. 27, 1893 in the village of Elmore in Minnesota, the daughter of Clinton and Stella (Woolery) Sailor. She moved to Montana with her family when she was nine months old. Madge grew up on the family ranch north of Gildford attending country schools, and later

Havre High School.

Madge married Thomas E. Hamilton on April 23, 1914 on the family ranch North of Gildford. He passed away in 1922. She later married Benn M. Stevenson on July 31, 1925 in Havre. Benn died in 1955.

Madge moved to Havre in 1922 and worked for many years in the Hill County Assessor's Office. She was a charter member and very active at St. Mark's Episcopal Church where she was baptized and confirmed in 1908. Madge was a life member of the Order of Eastern Star and a member of the Daughters of the Nile. She was an avid bridge player, and especially enjoyed knitting, cooking and crocheting.

She is survived by two sons, Floyd C. Hamilton of Walnut Creek, CA and Terry Stevenson and his wife Mary Ann of Hingham, MT; a daughter, Laurel Knapp and her husband Richard of Havre; a sister, Mildred Styber of Havre; nine grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Madge was preceded in death by both husbands, two sisters, Ina Sailor and Marian Anderson, and two brothers, Howard and Floyd Sailor.

**BARBARA J. (OSWOOD) STICHA**  
**born: Dec. 1, 1936 -- died: Mar. 2, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Mar. 19, 1997**

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***Barbara***  
***(Oswood) Sticha***

Barbara J. (Oswood) Sticha, 60, died of leukemia on Sunday, March 2 in Salem, Oregon.

She was born in Great Falls, Montana on December 1, 1936 and was raised 25 miles north of Chester in the Sweetgrass Hills. She worked for Northwest Airlines in Minneapolis and the state Adult and Family Services for the past nine years. She was a member of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers, Mount Angel American Legion Auxiliary and Mount Angel Oktoberfest. She enjoyed dancing polkas and traveling.

Survivors include her husband, Bob; son, James of Salem; daughters, Debi London of Bothell, Washington, and Linda Sticha of Beaverton, Oregon; brother, B.J. Oswood of Chester, Montana; sister, Bernice Skidmore of Marquette, Michigan; and two grandchildren.

Vigil was at Howell-Edwards-Doerksen Chapel of the Gardens. Mass was Wednesday, March 5 at St. Joseph Catholic Church where she was a member. Interment was at Calvary Cemetery, Mount Angel. Contributions may be made to the church building fund.



## NELLIE JO STRISSEL

Born: March 23, 1960 -- Died: August 9, 1997

Liberty County Times

August 20, 1997



### **Nellie Jo Strissel**

Nellie Jo (Dockter) Strissel was born at Havre, Montana on March 23,

1960. She was one of six children born to Jacob and Helen (Malsam) Dockter. Nellie grew up in the Gildford community and received her elementary education there. She graduated from KG High School in 1978 then attended the Great Falls VoTech where she learned legal secretarial skills.

On September 1, 1979 she married William B. Strissel in Havre. In those early married years Nellie worked at the Havre Federal Savings and Loan. She quit working when they started having their children, a family of three sons.

The Strissels have made their home in Rudyard. In 1988 Nellie was offered the secretary job at Blue Sky High School and she had been employed in that capacity ever since.

On this past Saturday evening (August 9, 1997) Nellie was driving to Havre. On the stretch of highway between Hingham and Gildford, she apparently lost control of her vehicle and it rolled. Nellie died at the scene of the accident. She was just 37 years old.

Nellie was full of energy and enjoyed life. Not only did she work in the Rudyard School system, she was an active member of the Blue Sky Booster Club and she helped judge and coach the "Speech and Drama" programs. She enjoyed bowling in the Rudyard leagues and had served as past president of the local WBA. In addition she worked as secretary of the Rudyard Gun Club.

She was active in the NHRA (National Hot Rod Association). She loved the excitement of drag races and often served as an eager worker in a pit crew.

During her time at home Nellie enjoyed cake-decorating, playing the piano, knitting, crocheting, and needlepoint. She liked to build puzzles and play cards, especially Pinochle. She collected bells as a hobby and

loved to spend time on her computer (her Internet code name was "Doc 500"). Nellie loved animals; at present she had several cockatiels and her faithful pet dog, "Oscar."

Nellie's survivors include her husband Bill of Rudyard; three sons: Jacob, Matthew, and Joshua, all of Rudyard; one sister Sharon Dockter of Seattle, Washington; one brother Terry Dockter of Havre; her mother-in-law Delores Anderson of Havre; one sister-in-law Lana Smeenk of Rapid City, South Dakota; one brother-in-law David Strissel of Rudyard; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, three siblings (Gary, Russell and Rita); her father-in-law (Allan Strissel), and a brother-in-law (Rick Strissel).

Vigil prayers were recited by Father Charles Mears at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday (August 13) at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham.

Funeral services were 2:00 pm Thursday at the Blue Sky High School Gymnasium in Rudyard. Father Mears officiated. Sharon Spicher played the piano. Gayle Chvilicek and Tim Hauge (guitarist) sang "Will the Circle Be Unbroken." Flutist, Mary Alexander, played a rendition of "Amazing Grace" while Gayle sang along. Special taped selections were "Every Breath I Take" and "Knocking on Heaven's Door." Ushers were Glen Elling and Lowell Strissel. Pallbearers were Esther LaTray, Danny Hansard, Amy Ellington, Lynn Anderson, Cindy Johnson, Sally Wendland, Jerry Wendland, Marsha Wendland, Leonard Wendland, Tracy Wendland, and Greg Wendland. Altar assistant was Dan Hybner, and scripture reader was Greg Kinder. Honorary bearers were listed as "all of Nellie's friends."

Jim Smith shared the eulogy. Burial was in the Rudyard Cemetery. A reception followed at the school lunchroom. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

A memorial fund is being established for a scholarship or special project at Blue Sky School.

**ANDREW ROBERT STROH**  
**Born: December 6, 1988 --Died: July 8, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**July 30, 1997**

### ***Andrew Stroh***

Andrew Robert Stroh, age 8, born December 6, 1988 in Mesa, Arizona, died July 8, 1997 from complications of cancer.

Services were held at 1:00 pm Friday July 11 at New Life Evangelical Free Church, Northglenn, Colorado. Graveside services were at 10:00 am Tuesday July 16 at Sunset Hills Cemetery in Bozeman.

Andy lived in Tempe, Arizona until he moved with his family to Bullhead, Arizona and lived there until 1992 when he and his family moved to Northglenn, Colorado. He attended Leroy Drive Elementary School. He enjoyed baseball, bike riding, watching TV, and being with his sister. He also enjoyed playing with his friends. His favorite song was "Little Old Lady From Pasadena."

Andy is survived by his parents Mike and Pam, his sister Maggie; grandparents Ken and Tina Flansaas of Bullhead City, Arizona; and Erma Spinler of Rudyard; and aunts and uncles including Ray and Sherry Stroh of Billings, Margaret Rambo of Las Vegas, Nevada, Barbara Domire of Rudyard, Steve and Teresa Schlauch of Helena, Glen and Sandy Sager of Bozeman, Jeff and Lynn Flansaas of Bozeman; and numerous cousins.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather Ray Stroh Sr.; grandmother Bea Flansaas; and uncle Joe Domire.

**JAMES L. STUART**  
Born: December 27, 1920 --Died: June 17, 1997  
*Liberty County Times*  
June 25, 1997

***James Stuart***

James L. Stuart, 76 years of age, a retired farmer and resident of Gildford, Montana, died on Tuesday June 17, 1997 at a Havre hospital of natural causes.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday June 20, 1997 at the Holland & Bonine Chapel in Havre. Burial was at the Highland Cemetery. Memorials in Mr. Stuart's honor may be made to the Shriner's Hospital in Spokane, WA.

James was born on December 27, 1920 at Centralia, WA, the son of Lloyd K and Julia Stuart. He was raised and educated in Gildford and graduated from Gildford High School in 1939. In 1942 he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps and was a World War II veteran. While in the service he was an airplane prop specialist. He was honorably discharged in 1946. On April 10, 1947 at Great Falls, MT he married Irene (Shorty) Tihista. The couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1997. James was a lifetime member of the American Legion, Masonic Lodge, and served on various boards. His enjoyment was the outdoors. In 1987 he was injured in a car accident and has been in marginal health since.

He was preceded in death by his father, one son, and three sisters (Jean Fume, Joyce Dees and Doris Rathbun).

He is survived by his wife Irene (Shorty) Stuart of Gildford; his mother Julia Stuart of Havre; son Jim and daughter-in-law Leigh Stuart of Gildford; daughter Jan and son-in-law Howe Crocket of Vancouver, WA; daughter Lynn and son-in-law Rick Melby of Kremlin, MT; grandchildren

Jake and Joey Stuart of Gildford; Tim Meldrum of Missoula, MT; Tawna Parisot of Helena, MT; Tiffany and Ashley Melby of Kremlin, MT; one great-grandchild Reilly Parisot of Helena, MT.

Holland and Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**RALPH SYLTE**  
**born: Jul. 13, 1926 -- died: Apr. 13, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 23, 1997**

### ***Ralph Sylte***

Ralph Sylte 70 years of age, a farmer and resident of Hingham, MT died on April 13, 1997 at a Great Falls hospital of natural causes.

Funeral services were held at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17, 1997 at the Hingham Lutheran Church in Hingham, MT with Rev. Tim Hauge officiating. Burial was at the Hingham Cemetery. Memorials in Mr. Sylte's honor may be made to the Depot Museum, Box 44, Rudyard, MT 59540.

Ralph was born on July 13, 1926 at Great Falls, MT. The son of Gutav and Anna (Mikesh) Sylte. He attended school in Hingham and graduated from Hingham High School in 1943. He farmed in the Hingham area. Ralph was a 44 year member of the Elks Club and a 20 year member of the

Eagles Club both of Havre. He was an avid bird hunter and also enjoyed fishing. He enjoyed traveling extensively with his personal vehicle and enjoying monumental sites. He was also a member of the Hingham Lutheran Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

He is survived by cousins Harold Twedt, Allen Twedt, Rosalie Pester, Chuck Mikulecky, Marlene Bengochea, Alice Ann Brennan, Carol DeMers, Will Lustgraaf, Dan Geer, also numerous other cousin and relatives.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

## JAMES E. THELEN

Born: February 3, 1931 - Died: November 23, 1997

Billings Gazette

November 26, 1997

### James E. Thelen

James E. Thelen, 66, of Billings, was born in Milwaukee, Wis., to Peter and Ernestine Thelen Feb. 3, 1931, the youngest of seven children. He was raised in Montana.

James passed away Nov. 23, 1997, at Billings Deaconess Hospital from complications of a brief illness.

He attended Catholic schools in Billings, and was in the first graduating class of Billings Central Catholic High school in 1949. He attended and played football at



MR. THELEN

Portland University. He later transferred to Eastern Montana College in Billings, receiving a degree in education in 1954.

He met the love of his life, Jo Thomas in 1953. They began their journey in life together by uniting in marriage Aug. 14, 1953, at Holy Rosary Church in Billings. Together, they raised 11 children.

Jim began his coaching and teaching career in Chester, in 1955. He moved his family in order to teach at his Alma Mater, Billings Central. He coached football, basketball and track for three years. In 1960, he began his lifelong professional career at Epcon Sign Company.

He was a member of St. Patrick's Co-Cathedral, Knights of Columbus, BACET, Billings Central Roundtable, Billings Central School Board, and was on the board of the Ernie Fox Foundation. He was chairman of the Mayfair in 1983. Jim was a strong supporter of the Catholic school systems for over 40 years. He made many sacrifices in order to send his loving children through the Catholic school system.

Jim was also a member of the Yellowstone Country Club, the Petroleum Club, and was a charter member of Briarwood.

Survivors include his wife, Jo; 11 children, Timothy J., Thomas E., Thorese (Campbell) and husband, Sam, Tamara, Todd and wife, Poullette, Tony and wife, Jill of Great Falls, Tracey (Blome) and husband, James, Tana (Helmer) and husband, Warren, Terence and wife, Karen, Trisha (Ryan) and husband, Christopher, Tara (Roberts) and husband, John; 38 grandchildren, Mac, Chad and wife, Julie, Michael, Kyle, Maggie and Terese Thelen, Tucker and Taryn Symmes, Carly, Bain, Sally, Thomas and Samantha Campbell, Andrea (Campbell) and Jason Shores, James Thelen, Braxton, Trenton and Tremna Thelen, Andrew, Anthony, Gabrielle and Alexander Thelen, Travis, Todd, Tasha, Talia, Tayven, Tobin and Teague Blome, Cole, Cade and Corbyn Helmer, Tamer Thelen, Haydn, Hadley and Holden Ryan, baby Roberts; two brothers, Richard and wife, Marie of Connecticut, Lorin and wife, Lura; and four sisters, Marian Hanchett and husband, John, Joyce Glemon, Gloria Frickle, Leora Frickle and husband Roy, all of Billings; his sister-in-law, Janet (Dick) Bouchee; and brother-in-law, Keith (Shirley) Thomas; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Peter and Ernestine Thelen.

Jim had a passion for life. He was an avid sports fan. He defied the odds and excelled in basketball and football during his school years. He moved on to coach basketball, football and track, and later he was his children and grandchildren's biggest fan. He loved golfing with his buddies, horseracing, traveling, the Packers, Yankees, music and dancing.

He was many things to many people. A loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle and friend. He was a very loving, compassionate, generous man who was always there to listen, support and motivate all those whose lives he touched.

He was an incredibly strong man yet very gentle. Jim was a man of faith - he overcame many obstacles and hardships during his lifetime because he believed. He fought his battles with courage and dignity. Through it all, Jim's priceless sense of humor prevailed.

Above all, his beloved wife, Jo and family meant everything to him. Our parents are the ties that bond our family together. Family gatherings and holidays were his treasure. Christmas at the Thelen home was a very special time - we will always remember. Thank you for all of your love. Words cannot express how much we love you and how dearly you will be missed.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, Nov. 26, at St. Patrick's Co-Cathedral. Michelotti, Sawyers & Nordquist Alderson Chapel in charge of arrangements.

**MILDRED JOAN(DITMAR) TWEDT**  
**born: Apr. 28, 1929 -- Apr. 20, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**Apr. 23, 1997**



***Joan Twedt***

Joan Twedt, age 67, of 1805 11th St. S.W., died at her Great Falls residence on the early morning of Sunday (April 20th, 1997) from cancer.

At her request, only graveside services are planned. Committal Prayers will be 2:00 p.m. Friday (April 25th) at the Rudyard Cemetery with Reverend Bart Coleman officiating. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

She was born Mildred Joan Ditmar on April 28th, 1929 at Great Falls. Joan was the only daughter of three children born to Myrtle Alex and Arthur Ditmar. She grew up on the family farm north of Rudyard (MT) and received her early education at the Happy Hollow Country School. She graduated from Rudyard High School in 1947. Joan lived in Havre for two years and attended Northern Montana College for part of that time.

On September 14th, 1949 she married Harold Twedt at Great Falls. They made their home in Rudyard where they farmed. In addition to being a homemaker and mother of two, Joan worked as bookkeeper at the Farmer's Union Oil Station in Rudyard for about five years.

In 1986 the Twedt's purchased a home in Great Falls, but also maintained their home in Rudyard. After Joan was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1994, they remained in Great Falls so she could receive medical treatments. Joan was being cared for at home by her family and the local hospice group at the time of her death.

Joan was baptized and confirmed at the Rudyard Lutheran Church. Many years ago she had been active in the Rudyard Bowling Leagues. In her quiet hours at home she enjoyed sewing and crocheting, and she had created some beautiful afghans over the years. Joan loved to decorate her home and she always had an immaculate yard with fantastic flower gardens. Joan loved her family, especially her grandkids, and she cherished those times they played cards and marbles together. Joan was thankful for her 47 years of married life with Harold and their memorable trip to France in 1992.

She is survived by her husband, Harold Twedt of Great Falls; daughter Jolene Sykes (and husband Leonard) of Great Falls; son, Dave Twedt (and wife Isabelle) of Lille, France; mother, Myrtle Ditmar of Rudyard; four grandchildren (including Tyleigh, Shayla, Braylen, and Eric); two brothers, Art Ditmar (and wife Selena) of Harlem and Dick Ditmar (and wife, Darlene) of Rudyard; and numerous nephews and nieces. Joan is also survived by a brother-in-law, Allen Twedt. And she left many close friends. Joan was preceded in death by her father.



LEE ULMEN, SR.  
Born April 20, 1927 - Died: September 13, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
September 24, 1997

### **Lee Ulmen, Sr.**

Lee Ulmen, Sr., 70, passed away Sept. 13, 1997 of natural causes. Lee had battled cancer since 1984, but amazed all who knew him as he continued to live a vigorous life, until going home to be with his Lord while enjoying one of his favorite pastimes of fishing.

Lee was born on the family farm near Rudyard, Montana on April 20, 1927 to Benjamin and Martina (Ludwig) Ulmen. He attended Rudyard grade school and high school. He began farming while still a teenager. Farming remained a life-long love which he continued to enjoy during his retirement years. Seed time and harvest, Lee was always to be found in the fields. In his early adult years, Lee served in the Air Force during World War II. After completing his tour of duty, Lee continued to farm. In 1958 he moved to Bozeman and began working for Coast-to-Coast. There he met Linda Stoner whom he married on May 8, 1960 in Manhattan. Lee and Linda spent most of their married years running the service station, and then the Conoco Travel Shop in Manhattan. They sold the Travel Shop in 1985. During the following years, Lee struggled with various health concerns and difficulties. Through these chal-

lenges, he discovered strength and courage through his faith in Jesus Christ. He actively participated in the Manhattan Presbyterian Church. He demonstrated his faith as a much-beloved friend and good Samaritan to many in need of a helping hand.

Lee is survived by his wife Linda; three sons: Michael; Lee, Jr. and wife Kathy; Mark and wife Stacy; grandchildren: Jared, Derek, Jessica, David and Katie all of Manhattan; seven brothers and sisters: Alice Deck, Cliff Ulmen, Ellen Tschache, Victor Ulmen, Linus Ulmen, Danny Ulmen and Clara Cooke.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Sept. 20, 1997 at 2:00 pm at the Manhattan Presbyterian Church. Interment followed in the Meadow View Cemetery.

Memorials in his name may be made to the Manhattan Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 433, Manhattan, MT 59741; or to the American Cancer Society, c/o Brandy Hansen, P.O. Box 1509, Bozeman, MT 59771.

BETTY IRENE(WOLF) VAN DYKE  
Born: 1924 - Died: September 17, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
September 24, 1997

### ***Betty Van Dyke***

Betty Irene (Wolf) Van Dyke, age 73 died Wednesday, Sept. 17, 1997 at Shands Teaching Hospital in Gainesville, Florida of lung cancer.

Betty was the daughter of Hank and Irene Wolf. She was a native of Joplin, Montana; moved to Pocomoke, Maryland, and in 1986 she moved to Dunnellon, Florida. Betty was an avid golfer and was a member of the Rainbow Springs Country Club.

Private family services were conducted for her.

Surviving are her husband, Harold Van Dyke of Dunnellon, Florida; four daughters Janet Huffman, Crystal River, Florida, Barbara Holland, New Church, Virginia, Cathy Hudak, Hamden, Connecticut, Terry Samulski, Chapel Hill, North Carolina; one brother Robert Wolf of Crookston, Minnesota; two sisters Eileen Wolery of Turner, Montana and Leila Berg of Des Moines, Iowa; eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Dunnellon Funeral Home handled arrangements.

Cleo D. (Fields) Tuttle WAGNER  
Born: November 1, 1920-- Died: September 13, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
September 17, 1997

## ***Cleo Wagner***

Cleo D. (Fields) Tuttle Wagner, 76, of 807-54th St. So., Great Falls, died Saturday in a local hospital of natural causes. Memorial services were at 2:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church. O'Connor Funeral Home handled arrangements. Memorials are suggested to St. John Lutheran Church, 5300-9th Ave. So., Great Falls, MT 59405.

Born November 1, 1920 in Lisbon, Kentucky, she graduated from Ruyard High School. She worked as a waitress at the Horizon Club and as a Civil Service key punch operator in Utah and at Malmstrom Air Force Base.

In 1961 she married Marvin Wagner in Billings.

Wagner belonged to the Retired Federal Employee's Association, senior citizens, and Golden Slippers, String-a-Longs, and owned and managed the Wagner Apartments. She enjoyed all types of music, traveling, playing Pinochle, and her hot tub.

Surviving are daughters Myrna Juhlin of Whitefish and Alaina Connolly of Bloomington, Minnesota; sons James and Ronald Tuttle of Belgrade and V.L. Buck Tuttle of Billings; a sister Mabel Hagen of Great Falls; brothers Clarence Fields of Burlington, Illinois, Bert Fields of Portland, Oregon, Oscar Fields of Forks, Washington, and a step-brother Allen Schwartz of Kirkland, Washington; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

## RAYMOND WALL

Born: October 18, 1900 - Died: December 28, 1997

Liberty County Times

December 31, 1997

### *Raymond Wall*

Raymond Wall, age 97, a lifelong Hi-Line area farmer died of natural causes Sunday morning (December 28, 1997) at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester.

Raymond was born at Wall's Ferry, Arkansas on October 18, 1900. He was one of seven children born to Grantison Wall and Maude Carnes. At age six he moved with his family to Hartline, Washington where Raymond received his formal education.

In 1913 the Walls came to Montana and homesteaded northeast of Gildford. Raymond worked on the homestead and eventually took over the farming operations.

On February 25, 1935 he married Amy Palmer at Havre, Montana. They raised a family of four and remained on the original farmstead during their entire married life. Raymond continued to work as best he could until age 95, when his health began to fail. He moved to the nursing home in Chester in 1995 and lived there until his death.

In his younger days, Raymond loved to play baseball and he enjoyed swimming and skating with his children. He was fond of the old-time country music and he loved to play the guitar and sing. He kept himself in good shape with daily exercise and long walks. As a hobby he collected rocks and old pens. Raymond enjoyed

reading; he had a knack for memorizing poems, verses, and songs. He was a good farmer and he thoroughly loved working in his vegetable garden, even into his 90's! Raymond could best be described as a quiet, reserved man who loved his family...and he received that love in return.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Amy of Kremlin; two sons and their wives Stan and Claudia of Kremlin, and Leo and Karen of Kremlin; two daughters Mary Grant of Prineville, Oregon, and Ruth Karmy of Eugene, Oregon; 9 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. Raymond was preceded in death by his parents, by three brothers (Roy, Robert and Leo), and by three sisters (Virgie, Marie and Thelma).

Raymond was cremated per his wishes. Private family services will be held at a later date. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

**STERLING WARDELL**  
born: Jun. 30, 1915 -- died: May 5, 1997

**Liberty County Times**  
**May 14 - 1997**



### ***Sterling Wardell***

M. Sterling Wardell was born on June 30th, 1915 at King, Montana (located north of the Joplin/Inverness communities). His parents were Charles and Minnie (Seuser) Wardell, and he was one of three children. Sterling grew up on the family homestead, received his early education at Inverness, and graduated from Joplin High School in 1934. He continued his education at Northern Montana College in Havre and at U. of M. in Missoula.

In 1941 during World War II, Sterling was inducted into the U.S. Army. He served in the South Pacific and attained the rank of Technical Sergeant. He saw action on the front lines of New Guinea, where he worked as a telephone installer and switchboard repairman. Following his honorable discharge in 1945, Sterling returned to Montana.

He finished his education at the University of Montana, earning his Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry. In the few years that followed, Sterling worked for the U.S. Forest Service (Canyon Ferry District) in Helena, where he married Janell E. Roke on September 18th, 1948. They moved to Poplar where he was

employed by the Soil Conservation Service. In 1951 they came to Chester to farm and ranch with Janell's folks, and have lived here since.

In addition to farming, Sterling worked as an engineer; he helped design and supervise the construction of several dams, dikes, and road projects (including State Road #223). He also worked as a private surveyor, served two terms as Liberty County Commissioner, and he was a representative on the Governing Board of the North Central Council on Aging. He was chosen as the Montana and Area III's "Senior Citizen of the Year" in 1990. Over his lifetime, Sterling spent countless hours in committee meetings, planning programs and activities in support of the youth and the senior citizens in the state of Montana.

Sterling loved the Hi-Line community and was active in many organizations. He was the chief instructor for the local "hunter safety" program for 35 years. He was a State 4-H President of the Leaders Association and had served as president of the Chester PTA. He donated his surveying skills to help layout the Chester Sports Complex and the Chester City Park. He was a volunteer bus driver for the Senior Citizens and a past member of their "Chuck Wagon Band". Sterling was past secretary-treasurer of the Montana Gas, Oil, & Coal Association. In addition, he had served on the Liberty County Planning Board, the Tax Appeal Board, and the Search-And-Rescue Unit. He was a past member of the Masonic Lodge and was extremely active in the American Legion. And last but not least, Sterling was an active member of the Chester United Methodist Church; he had served on the church council and was the building committee chairman when the new church was constructed.

Sterling's hobbies were many. He loved fishing, hunting, camping, traveling and gardening. He appreciated the "great outdoors", so hiking, collecting rocks, and identifying wild

flowers were fun times for him. He was a member of the Hi-Line Sportsman Club. He enjoyed reading, especially "Montana Outdoors" and "National Geographic" publications. Sterling loved to play the harmonica and clarinet, and he loved to dance (especially polkas). His greatest loves were farming and ranching and family and friends! Sterling enjoyed being with people and always maintained a pleasant personality and good disposition.

Sterling's health had remained relatively good until the last few years. On this past Monday morning (May 5th, 1997) he was in Great Falls when he suddenly collapsed. He was taken to the Columbus Hospital where he was pronounced dead. He was 81 years old.

He is survived by his wife, Janell of Chester; three sons and their wives, Wayne and Juanita of Chester, Jack and Maurene of Renton, WA, and Phil and Ruth of Chester; two daughters and their husbands, Mary and Roger Wilson of Circle Pines, MN and Janine and Dan Wolery of Chester; 14 grandchildren; four great-

grandchildren; one brother, Fred Wardell of Richland, WA; one sister, Mary Stillwell of Grass Valley, California; and many nephews and nieces. Sterling was preceded in death by his parents and a son (Victor).

Funeral services were held at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, May 8th, at the Chester United Methodist Church with Reverend Lyndon Kacick officiating. Karen Stack was organist and the congregation sang "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us" and "It is Well with My Soul". Vocalist, Mary Ann Zorn, performed "Whispering Hope" and "Amazing Grace". Ushers were

Rudy Cicon and Marvin Krook. Pallbearers were Bob Dafoe, Loyd Wolery, Walt Wicks, Lyle Glee, Earl Keith and Dennis Kenfield. Honorary bearers were Wayne Dafoe, Olyn Wolery, Cliff Leighton, Jim Ball, Kenneth Bangs, Charlie Green, Allen Mattson, and all of Sterling's other friends. Interment was at the Chester Cemetery. Ceremonies included graveside prayers by Pastor Kacick, military taps, flag presentation by Neil Shepherd and Don Buffington, and the "release" of 81 balloons by family and friends. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.



When I leave you, don't weep for me.  
 Pass the wine around and remember how my  
 laughing pleased you.  
 Look at one another smiling, and don't forget about  
 touching.  
 Sing the songs that I loved best and dance one time  
 all together.  
 As for me, I'll be off walking somewhere on the  
 prairie;  
 And I'll fly to the top of that mountain I always  
 meant to climb.  
 When you're ready, I'll be there waiting for you.  
 Take your time...

### M. STERLING WARDELL

**Born:** June 30th, 1915 at King, Montana  
**Died:** May 5th, 1997 at Great Falls, Montana  
**Age:** 81 years...10 months...5 days...

**Services:** 3:00 p.m. Thursday, May 8th, at the Chester United Methodist Church

**Officiant:** Reverend Lyndon Kacick...

**Musicians:** Organist, Karen Stack...  
 Vocalist, Mary Ann Zorn...

**Ushers:** Marvin Krook and Rudy Cicon

**Pallbearers:** Walt Wicks, Earl Keith, Lyle Glee, Dennis Kenfield, Loyd Wolery and Bob Dafoe

**Honorary Bearers:** Olyn Wolery, Jim Ball, Wayne Dafoe, Cliff Leighton, Charlie Green, Kenneth Bangs, Allen Mattson, and all of Sterling's other many friends...

**Interment:** Chester Cemetery

**Flag Presentation:** Neil Shepherd and Don Buffington

**Balloon Ceremony:** Family and friends...

... Luncheon to follow at the church ...

**Arrangements:** Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester

**Sterling's Family:** Wife, Janell; daughters, Mary and Janine; sons, Wayne, Jack and Phil; sister, Mary; brother, Fred; 14 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; and many



## KATHLEEN ANNE(KATHY) WENDLAND

Born: October 19, 1949 - Died: November 27, 1997

Liberty County Times  
December 3, 1997



### **Kathleen Wendland**

Kathleen Anne (Kathy) Wendland was born in Baltimore, Maryland on October 19, 1949. She was one of four children born to Lois Fern Gleason and Gerald F. Burrell. The Burrells came to Montana when Kathy was an infant. She grew up and received her education at Kalispell, graduating from Kalispell High in 1968. She continued her schooling at the Flathead Community College in Kalispell and the Northern Montana College in Havre, where she earned her L.P.N. degree.

While living in Havre, Kathy met her husband-to-be C. Dale Wendland. They were married in Cut Bank on March 18, 1972. In their early married years, Dale's job with the railroad brought them to various Montana communities, including Cut Bank, Conrad, Great Falls, and Butte, where Kathy worked in the nursing field.

In 1979 they moved to Rudyard to help with the operations of the family farm. In addition to serving as a farm wife and mother of three, Kathy worked as a nurse at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. In 1992 she was diagnosed with cancer and she began receiving treatments. She continued working as an L.P.N. until 1994, when her strength began to deteriorate. She had numerous

hospitalizations with extensive care since that time. Kathy was recently hospitalized in Great Falls, but wanted to be home with her family during the Thanksgiving weekend. She died peacefully at home in Rudyard on Thursday morning (November 27, 1997). She was just 48 years old.

Kathy had been a member of the Rudyard Altar Society, had served as a 4-H and Brownie leader, and had served on the Rudyard volunteer ambulance crew. She enjoyed woodcrafts, sewing, cross-stitch, reading and traveling. She loved the outdoors, so swimming, horseback riding, and gardening were some of her favorite pastimes. As a hobby she collected angels and bells.

Kathy had always been an optimistic lady. She believed that anything is possible with a good positive attitude. She loved her family and was happy to have celebrated her 25th wedding anniversary this past March. Kathy appreciated her life and was thrilled with the birth of their grandson this year.

Kathy is survived by her husband, Dale of Rudyard; a daughter Jennifer Andrews (and husband Ron) of Rudyard; two sons Chris Wendland of Havre, and Jeff Wendland of Rudyard; two grandchildren, Nicholas and Matthew Andrews; her parents Jerry and Lois Burrell of Kalispell; two sisters Sharen Weaver of Columbia Falls, and Nancy Snooks of Coram; one brother Dan Burrell of Billings; her parents-in-law Clarence and Frances Wendland of Rudyard; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Vigil Prayers were 7:00 pm Sunday at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. Prayers were led

by Mike Wendland. Kathy's favorite song "The Rose" was played at the Vigil.

The Funeral Mass was 11:00 am Monday at the church and was celebrated by Father Joseph Marmion. Iris White was organist and Marcus Jochim sang "The Wind Beneath My Wings," "Amazing Grace," "I Am the Bread of Life," and "Be Still My Soul." Ushers were Lane Rigg and Glen Eiling. Pallbearers were Mac Wendland, Doug Bartz, Dave Strissel, Fred Eiling, Ken Weaver and Craig Snooks. Lifelong friend Cliff Haven of Kalispell served as eulogist. Servers were Terry and Dan Hybner; Eucharistic Minister was Mary Lois Hybner, and reader was Mike Wendland.

Interment was at the Rudyard Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. A luncheon followed at the Rudyard Catholic Youth Center. Memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" in Great Falls.

## MARTIN EDWARD WERNER

Born: January 22, 1908 - Died: November 15, 1997

Liberty County Times

November 19, 1997

### *Martin Edward Werner*

Monsignor Martin Edward Werner, 89 of Great Falls, died Saturday, November 15, 1997 at his home of natural causes. Vigil for the deceased was Wednesday, November 19th at

7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church; funeral Mass will be Thursday at 2:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, with burial in Mount Olivet Cemetery. The O'Connor Funeral home is handling arrangements.

Martin Edward Werner, son of Albert Werner and Anna Laura Lippold, was born on the 22nd of January 1908 in Kansas City, Missouri. His elementary schooling was in St. Theresa's at Lincoln, Nebraska, and rural schools of Humbolt and Falls City. He attended Sacred Heart Academy, Falls City, for high school, and his college studies were taken at St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kansas. Martin began his theology course in St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota, but after one year and having been adopted for the diocese by Bishop O'Hara, he transferred to St. Thomas Seminary, Denver, Colorado, spending the summers in Powderville County. Upon completing the course in theology, he was ordained in St. Ann's Cathedral, Great Falls, Montana on the 20th day of June 1935, by the Most Reverend Edwin V. O'Hara, Bishop of Great Falls.

Father Werner was first assigned as an Assistant Pastor to Our Lady of Ransom Parish at Hingham. He was moved to St. Ann's Cathedral 2-1/2 years later. In addition to his duties as Assistant Pastor were added those of Assistant Executive Secretary of the Heisey Youth Center. Later the duties of Administrator of the Parish of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Stockett with its attached missions, were also given to him.

He was assigned as civilian auxiliary chaplain to the 7th Ferrying Group, Gore Hill, and East Base in October of 1942. In August of 1943, after being officially inducted into the Armed Forces, and after attending Chaplain's School at Harvard, he began his service with units stationed in Texas and Oklahoma. His overseas tour of duty took him to Germany and France. Father Werner returned to the Diocese in January of 1946.

After 6 months as Administrator of Immaculate Conception Parish, Fort Benton, he became rector of St. Ann's Cathedral, and again had the responsibility of being Executive Secretary of the Heisey. In October 1950 he was again called into the Armed Forces where duty took him to Korea and Japan. Upon his return St. Agnes Parish, Red Lodge, became Father Werner's pastorate in July of 1953.

Father Werner remained in Red Lodge until August of 1959, at which time he was assigned to Our Lady of Lourdes in Great Falls. He remained there until his retirement. During his time at Lourdes he celebrated the Silver Jubilee of his priesthood and maintained his active status in the reserves, rising to the rank of Lt. Colonel. In addition to his work as Chief Administrator of a large and very active parish, he also served the Diocese in a number of auxiliary capacities as: Moderator of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, Chairman of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission and Moderator of the Diocesan Cursillo in Christianity Secretariat. His many contributions to the Catholic church in general and the Diocese of Great Falls in particular were given recognition when he was invested as a domestic prelate in January of 1973.

Monsignor Werner was granted "Semi-retirement Status" in August of 1975. In this state he served as temporary pastor of St. Leo's, Lewistown, and 18 months as pastor of St. Mary's in Malta. Returning to the Great Falls area he took residence

near Arrington, south of Belt. From his home there he functioned as Canonical pastor and sacrament minister for the parish of Sts. Cyril and Methodius with its attached missions of Sand Coulee, and Eden. When that parish was consolidated into Holy Trinity, Centerville, and placed in the hands of a pastoral administrator in July of 1985, Monsignor continued to help out, but not as a regular assignment. He remained active and maintained his enthusiastic interest in the affairs of the Diocese. He continued his generous assistance to his brother priests by frequently filling in when they were in need. He enjoyed hunting, snowmobiling, and the outdoors.

Survivors include two brothers, Wilbur Werner of Mesa, Arizona, and Vince Werner of Great Falls, nine nieces and three nephews.

Memorials are suggested to the Msgr. Werner Endowment Fund, c/o Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

## LYLE ARDEN WICHMANN

Born: November 11, 1949 - Died: December 13, 1997

Liberty County Times

December 17, 1997

### *Lyle Wichmann*

Lyle Arden Wichmann was born at Havre, Montana on November 11, 1949. He was the youngest of two children. His mother Viola Rae Geringer, was a rural school teacher and his father, Clarence "C.W." Wichmann was a Montana farmer. In addition to farming in the north Inverness country, the Wichmann's had a home in Rudyard where they operated a television sales and service business. Lyle received his education at Rudyard; he graduated from Rudyard High School in 1967. He continued his education in Havre at Northern Montana College, where he studied electronics.

Lyle returned to Rudyard. He helped with the family farming operations and continued to work in TV, radio and computer repairs. After his father died in 1976, they leased out the farm. Lyle stayed active in farming in the years to follow as he worked for Ken Heydon, and Doug Langel. He took care of his mother during her illness and subsequent death in 1994.

Lyle had not felt well the past month. When his condition became so weakened on December 12, a friend took him to the hospital in Chester. He suffered from complications of a massive G-I bleed. He died on Saturday evening (Dec. 13, 1997). He was 48 years old.

Lyle could best be described as a reserved, quiet, and gentle man. His main love in life was his computers. A good friend referred to Lyle as "the computer guru of the Hi-Line." He was literally a "genius" when it came to electronics; his computer skills in programming and identifying glitches were extraordinary! He loved the challenges and excitement that computers provided him.

Lyle had other interests, too. He collected H-O model trains, and pinball machines. He was fond of music and he loved to read (especially mysteries). He was active in the Hi-Line Antique Motor Club and had served as the official "timer" for the Model-T cross country races for many years. In addition he organized and provided the equipment for a computer golf league in Rudyard during the winter months in recent past years. Lyle loved animals and always had a few pet cats to keep him company.

Lyle never married. He is survived by his sister, May Wilson of Great Falls; two nieces Ramona Adams and Deanna Sheldon, both of Great Falls; two nephews, Tony Wilson of Great Falls and Roger Wilson of Billings; and several great-nieces/nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services will be 1:00 pm Thursday December 18, 1997 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard with Rev. Bart Coleman officiating. The congregation will sing several hymns, accompanied by organist Iris White. Ushers will be Merlin Wolery and Dennis Anderson. Pallbearers will be Tony and Roger Wilson, Bob Toner, Fred Elling, Jack Rhodes and Lane Rigg. Honorary bearers are Doug Langel, Mel and Ken Kops, Rick Ceynar, Gene Hansard, **Howard Conquergood** and Rick Rogge. A coffee hour will follow at the church.

Graveside services will be 3:30 pm Thursday at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Magen Lynn WICKUM  
born February 9, 1981 -- Died August 25, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
September 3, 1997



## Magen Wickum

Magen Lynn Wickum, age 16, passed away Monday afternoon (August 25, 1997) at her home in Chester. She was diagnosed with abdominal cancer in July of 1995. As her health deteriorated in recent months, Magen chose to remain at home under the care of her family and friends.

Magen was born in Chester on February 9, 1981. She was the only daughter and youngest of two children born to Steven and Tonia (Smith) Wickum. Magen received her elementary education in Chester; she

graduated from the 8th grade in 1995. She spent her freshman year at the Children's Hospital in Seattle, where she received medical treatments. She returned to Montana where she attended CHS during her sophomore year through January of 1997. Magen's activities during her school years were basketball and volleyball. At age 11 she joined the Chester Swim Team and was an active participant from that time on (even when her health was low). Magen loved water sports and activities, so it was very natural and exciting for her when she received her baptism at Lake Elwell on August 20, 1989.

Wickum of Chester, and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Funeral services were 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 28 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Reverend Charles Hanson officiated. Juanita Wardell served as organist and the congregation sang "Shall We Gather at the River." A choir from CHS sang "Flying Free," accompanied by flutist Kris Eveland. Vocalist/guitarist Bryan Oswood performed one of Magen's favorite songs "The Dance." Former school teacher Tony Tresch gave a personal eulogy of Magen and also shared selected remembrances from her classmates.

Ushers were Chuck Jodrey, Daniel Jodrey and Joel Wolery. Magen's swim team friends and family served as honorary bearers. The six oldest members of the swim team were pallbearers, including Morgan Wardell, Crockett Burrows, Fritz Rooley, Sean Weinert, Travis Crismore and Adam Ghekere. At the conclusion of the service, Juanita Wardell played one of Magen's favorite selections "Music of the Night" (from the "Phantom of the Opera").

Interment was at the Chester Cemetery. Following graveside prayers by Pastor Hanson, friends and family joined together for a bal-

loon ceremony. A reception was held at the church.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Swimming Pool Fund.

In addition to swimming, hiking, and camping, Magen enjoyed horseback riding. Several years ago she had a horse named "Goldie." She loved all animals and collected many pets, including cats and fish. Two of her favorite kittens were "Bojangles" and "Mercedes," who has been a loyal companion to her during these past months.

Magen collected music boxes, bottle caps and shot glasses. She loved Country Western music. In her quiet time at home she enjoyed reading, especially historicals and inspirational stories. Her favorite readings were from the "Chicken Soup for the Soul" series. Some of her other

FAVORITE things in life include. Favorite flower: Rose; Favorite song: "Fishing in the Dark"; Favorite food: Spaghetti; Favorite movie as a child: "Wizard of Oz"; Favorite movie as a teenager: "Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken"; Favorite football team: San Francisco 49'ers; Favorite soft drink: Coke; Favorite candy: Reese's peanutbutter cups; and last, but not least, her most "unfavorite" thing was "yellow and blue candies."

Magen's dreams and goals were to travel and collect a shot glass from each of the 50 states; to attend college; and to marry and have children.

She is survived by her parents, Steve and Tonia of Chester; her brother Jason of Chester; maternal grandparents Ernest and Lucy Smith of Bakersfield, CA; paternal grandparents Richard and Betty



## GEORGIA HELENE WILCOX

born: Mar. 26, 1920 -- died: June 13, 1997

Liberty County Times

June 18 - 1997



### Georgia H. Wilcox

Georgia Helene Wilcox was born at Missoula, Montana on March 26, 1920. She was the youngest of four daughters born to Helene Augusta Kennett and George Buffington Wilcox. She grew up in Missoula and received her education there, graduating from Missoula County High School in 1938.

After the outbreak of World War II, Georgia felt that she could contribute to the war effort by becoming a military nurse. She attended the University of Montana and received her nurses training at St. Pat's Hospital in Missoula. By the time she completed her R.N. degree, the war was winding down. Georgia went to Sitka, Alaska to be near a sister and to pursue her medical skills. She took a job as a nurse for a Christian School there.

After her mother died, Georgia returned to Missoula to care for her father. They enjoyed traveling together and they made many memorable trips throughout the United States. Following the death of her father, Georgia moved to Great Falls and worked as a dental nurse for several years. She spent numerous summer weekends camping and exploring in the Little Belt and Highwood Mountains.

Georgia came to Chester in 1964 to work as a nurse at the Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home. She worked there until 1966, when she resigned following the emotional death of a friend. She retired and made her home in Chester from that time on.

Georgia's health had deteriorated this past year, although she was still able to live alone and care for herself. Her only surviving sister Alberta, died on May 17th and Georgia became acutely ill the following week. She was admitted to the Chester hospital on May 20th, then transferred to the Nursing Home on June 26th. Georgia died at the Liberty County Nursing Home on the early morning of Friday (June 13, 1997). She was 77 years old.

Georgia was raised Presbyterian and maintained a strong traditional Christian faith. She never married and led a very personal, independent lifestyle. She enjoyed people, but respected privacy and was reserved in establishing close relationships. Georgia loved animals, especially cats and dogs, and it became her mission to nurture all the stray cats in Chester the past 20 years. Because of this, the local children affectionately referred to her as "the cat lady." Each day Georgia was visible around town, either walking or riding her bicycle, and she always had two or three loyal pets trailing behind her.

Georgia's quiet presence in the community was felt in other ways, too. She was frequently seen picking up litter, cleaning up broken glass, or pulling weeds/dandelions on a city boulevard. She did this because of her love for the community and it was her way of being useful. She was philanthropic in the fact that she gave anonymous gifts to non-profit groups and to the sick and needy.

In her private times at home, Georgia enjoyed listening to classical and Christian music. She was well-read and a lot of her readings were obtained from Christian bookstores. She also enjoyed gardening and she had a "sweettooth" for ice cream and pie!

Georgia seldom missed a school music concert. In recent months she had enjoyed the fellowship and lunch at the local Senior Citizen's Center.

Georgia was preceded in death by her parents and three sisters: Marion Tooley, Alberta Hubbard and Virginia Harris. Her only survivors are eight nieces and nephews and their children.

Funeral services were 1:00 p.m. Tuesday June 17th at the Chester Alliance Church. Reverend Mike McConnell and Reverend Edroy Curtis officiated. Pianist was Susan Peterson

and the congregation sang "In the Garden." Pastor Curtis shared two vocal numbers, "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow" and "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus." Pallbearers were Mike Novak, Duane Aitken, Rlynn Rockman, Dan Frederickson, Lance McDowell, and Lewis Burnham. Honorary bearers included Sonny Spicher, Tony Tresch, Phil Aaberg, John Maatta, and Dr. Richard Buker. Interment was in the Chester Cemetery and a coffee hour followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

**VIRGINIA ANNE WILLIAMS**  
**Born: December 27, 1916 —Died: June 16, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**June 25, 1997**

**Virginia Williams**

Virginia Anne Williams, 80 years of age, a longtime resident of Havre, Montana, died on June 16, 1997 at a Havre hospital of natural causes. A vigil service was held Wednesday June 18, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Jude Catholic Church in Havre. The funeral mass was at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 19, 1997 at St. Jude Catholic Church. Burial was at the Highland Cemetery.

Virginia Goggins was born on December 27, 1916 at Havre. The daughter of William and Anna (Hustad) Goggins, she lived her entire life within one block of the home she was born in, at the east end of town. In 1939 at Havre she married Arthur L. Williams.

Among Virginia's interests were: lover of Montana Bear Paw Mountains and Big Sky sunsets, gatherer of family and friends from far and wide at the family home on East Third Street, possessor of the best humor and infectious laughter in the west, walker of the hills in all seasons, all-time winner of the most frightening driver award, teacher, admirer, listener to children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, quilter of at least 40 hand-quilted and hand treadle machine-pieced quilts. She was a maker of chocolate cake, fried chicken, fried soup, cinnamon rolls, lover of birds, lilacs, Rocky Mountain hot dogs, and family picnics. Virginia, known as Ma, Grandma, Ginner, was an active member of several community groups, including Catholic Daughters, Havre-Hill County Friends of the Library, Hi-Line Quilt Guild, the St. Francis deSales Discussion Group through St. Jude's Catholic Church, and a group who recorded historical information and photos for NMC Archives. She also enjoyed swimming at the Havre Pool and volunteering at the Highland Park School 5th Grade. Havre, her family and friends will miss her.

Virginia was preceded in death by her husband in 1969, one sister Loretta Hays, three brothers, William, James, and Phillip Goggins.

Virginia was also a loving mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and aunt. Survivors include: a brother, Hubert and sister-in-law Virginia Goggins of Havre; Eight grandchildren and their spouses, 26 grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. Her children are: Julianne and Frank Boronat of Lacey, WA; David Williams of Bellingham, WA; Gerald and Margie Williams of Havre, MT; Eileen and Dan Badovinac of Helena, MT; Robert R. and Beth Williams, of Havre, MT; John R. Williams of Helena, MT; Phillip M. and Betty Williams of Havre, MT; Marybeth and Dave Garding of Helena, MT, and a "Polite Dog" Benji. Nieces and nephews include: Susan Pemberton of Portland, OR; Timothy Goggins of Havre, MT; Pat and Ute Goggins of Mill Valley, CA; and Ron Bach of Florida. Grandchildren include: Kelly and Max Cloyd of Washington; Mark Severud of California; Collen Van Wyck of Florida; Kristy and T.J. Armour of Washington; Joel Severud of Washington; Katie Severud of Washington; Jeff Williams of Washington; Zena and Doug Morton of Washington; Tod Williams of Missoula, MT; Nichole Williams of Washington; Nathan and Christi Williams of Helena, MT; Chad Williams of Bozeman, MT; Jerrod Williams of Cathlamet, WA; Angela and David Kantorowicz of Belgrade, MT; Amie and John Metz of Conrad, MT; Andrea Badinovac of Havre, MT; Matthew, Mike and Jill Williams of Havre, MT; Tracy and Jason Bartosik and Zacheray Williams of Helena, MT; Sean, Gina, Troy Williams of Havre, MT; Miranda and Jacob Garding of Helena, MT.

Memorials in Virginia's honor may be established at the Havre-Hill County Library, St. Jude's School and Church or to a person's choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



FERN ILENE (LAVALLEY) WOOD  
Born: February 23, 1926 --Died: July 4, 1997  
Liberty County Times  
July 9, 1997



### Fern Wood

Fern Ilene (LaValley) Wood was born at Havre, Montana on February 23, 1926. She was one of seven children born to Bernadean Hyle and Arthur LaValley. Fern grew up in the Joplin community. Following her graduation from Joplin High School in 1944, she continued her education at Northern Montana College in Havre.

On November 20, 1944 Fern married Thomas A. Wood at Missoula, Montana. They made their home at Joplin where Fern worked as a farm wife, homemaker, and mother of six children.

Fern was diagnosed with cancer about five years ago. Because of deteriorating health, she moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester in 1994. She died at the rest home on Friday morning (July 4, 1997) at the age of 71 years.

Fern had been a lifelong member of Bethel Church in Joplin. She was an active member of W.E.L.C.A., served on the church council, sang in the church choir, and worked as church treasurer for many years. She also served as Worthy Matron of the Joplin Eastern Star and was a longtime member of the Chester Garden Club.

After most of her children were grown, Fern became active in the "Friendship Force," a traveling group that promoted goodwill with foreign countries. During those years she traveled to many locations, including Egypt, Japan, India, Russia, Australia, Holland, Monte Carlo, and Canada. In addition, she visited almost every state in the Union. Fern documented her trips with pamphlets, notes, slides, and photographs, then shared this information with schools and community groups upon her return to Montana. During her travels she made many foreign friends, some of whom she wrote to and communicated with

for many years.

Fern's other hobbies included flower gardening, sewing, and photography. She enjoyed cooking and baking, and her family will always remember her delicious buns and pies. Fern also collected small antiques, like dishes and vases. She had been an active community lady who loved her family and friends.

She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Tommy Wood of Joplin; three daughters and spouses, Karen and Rudy Skonard of Kalispell, Nancy and Duane Alley of Joplin, and Faye and Dave Dewing of Austin, TX; three sons and spouses, Tom Jr. and Sherry Wood, Larry and Joey Wood, and Marty and Tina Wood, all of Joplin; her mother, Bernadean LaValley of Chester; three sisters, Betty Wolery of Joplin, Ealine Lukes of Spokane, WA, and LaVon Clemons of Hermiston, OR; two brothers, Arthur LaValley Jr. of Spokane, WA and Terry LaValley of Joplin; ten grandchildren (including Debbie, Daren, Darwin, Danette, Jarad, Deanne, Paige, Adam, Michael and Rachel); and numerous nieces and nephews. Fern was preceded in death by her father and a brother (Earl Gray LaValley).

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday (July 8th) at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin with Reverend Darrell Cousino officiating. Scripture readings were by daughter Nancy, and the eulogy was shared by grandson Darwin. Organist Iris White, accompanied Mary Ann Zorn who sang "Safe in the Arms of Jesus." The congregation sang "Beautiful Savior." A vocal trio of Butch Wurtz, Edward Waldner and Jacob Wurtz performed "Way Up in Heaven" and "The Master's Bouquet." The family requested a tape of "Lane's Theme," which was played at the processional. Ushers were David Alley, Bruce Richter and Rob Moog. Fern's grandchildren served as pallbearers. Honorary bearers were her friends in the Chester Garden Club. Interment was at the Joplin Cemetery. A luncheon followed at Kjos Hall. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Per Fern's request, undesignated memorials will be given to Bethel Church.

**ELSIE EVELYN YURMAN**  
**Born: June 28, 1914- Died: November 14, 1997**  
**Liberty County Times**  
**November 19, 1997**



**Elsie Yurman**

Elsie Evelyn Yurman was born at Great Falls, Montana on June 28, 1914. She was one of eleven children born to Johanna Kupka and Joseph Hanek. Elsie grew up in Great Falls and received her formal education there. She worked as an usherette at the old Liberty Theatre in Great Falls.

In the mid-1930s Elsie came to Chester to work with her friend Mary Buck, at the first hospital here; Mary was the nurse and Elsie was the housekeeper. She met a Chester area farmer, Carl H. Yurman, and they were married on March 3, 1941. Elsie has lived at Chester since that time.

In her early married years, Elsie worked as a mail-carrier on the Laird Route (of interest, she delivered everything from mail to cream cans to groceries to pets!). In the late 1950s the Yurmans built and operated the bowling alley (Y Lanes) in Chester. They also built the County Fair grocery store (which is now Mike's IGA). Elsie also worked with Hazel Ross as the first cooks at the Liberty County Senior Citizen Center in Chester.

Elsie and Carl had a daughter,

Susan. Elsie and Susan have been active in the farming operations since Carl's death in 1972. Elsie maintained and lived in her own home at the family farm. On this past Friday afternoon Nov. 14th she was found dead at her home. She apparently suffered a heart attack and collapsed in the living room. She was 83 years old.

Elsie has been active in community organizations. She was a 50-year member of the Royal Neighbor's of America (RNA), she was a charter member and past president of the Chester Lionettes, and she was a member of the Lydia Circle of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. She had served on the Liberty County Council on Aging. Her favorite organization was the Chester Garden Club. She was a life-member of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs and had served as a director of the North Central District. In addition, she had been chairman of the State Horticulture Committee for several years and had earned the title as Master Judge in floral design and exhibition. Elsie's big event each year was the Garden Club's Annual Holiday Show, which was held this past weekend in Chester. Elsie's garden club friends dedicated the 1997 Holiday Show to her memory...

Of local interest was the fact that Carl and Elsie loaned funds to the Town of Chester years ago for construction and installation of the water tower and city water system.

Elsie had many hobbies. She took painting classes and enjoyed ceramics. She collected salt-and-pepper shakers, and other figurines. In her youth she enjoyed walking, climbing, hiking. She loved picking agates and digging for sapphires. Elsie was an avid reader (especially mysteries), and she enjoyed quilting. She loved to bake and try new recipes. She was very hospitable; friends were always

welcome at her home and the "coffee was always on." Elsie has always loved animals; she had a special fondness for dogs. She enjoyed music and had been an avid Elvis Presley fan. Elsie was "close to the soil" (as evident in her beautiful flowers and vegetables).

She is survived by her daughter, Susan Yurman of Chester; a brother John Hanek of Seattle, Washington; and numerous nephews and nieces. Elsie was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, and nine siblings (Joe, Jim, Walter, Robert, Hannie, Lillie, Emma, Mary and Helen).

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Nov. 19th at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with Rev. Tom Dunham officiating. Wayne Wardell will sing "In the Garden" and "Whispering Hope." The congregation will sing "How Great Thou Art." Karen Stack will be the organist. Pallbearers will be Jim Stevens, Russ Tempel, Jack Jacobson, Mike Mattson, Tim Snyder, Dave Stevens and Leroy Green. Honorary bearers will be Rae Steven, Charles Green, Gene Peterson, Raymond Fritz, Allen Mattson and Bill Hochberger. Memorial bearers will be Elsie's friends in the Chester Garden Club. Interment will be in the Chester Cemetery. WELCA will provide a luncheon at the church for family and friends. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## PAUL GEORGE ZORN

Born: December 31, 1943 -- Died: August 10, 1997

Liberty County Times

August 20, 1997



### Paul G. Zorn

Paul George Zorn, age 53, suffered a cardiac arrest in Great Falls on Sunday afternoon (August 10, 1997). He was transported by ambulance to Benefis East Hospital (Deaconess), where resuscitative efforts were to no avail.

Paul was born in Chester, Montana on December 31, 1943. He was the youngest of three children born to Phyllis Wright and Clifford Zorn. Paul grew up in Chester and received his formal education there. In 1961 at age 17 Paul enlisted into the U.S. Navy. He served as a Seaman's Apprentice on the *U.S.S. Grattias*. Following his honorable discharge in 1964, he transferred to the Naval Reserves. Paul received his G.E.D. certificate before his official discharge in 1967.

Paul married Vicki Harden in 1966 and the product of this union was two daughters. They lived in the Great Falls community where Paul worked as an over-the-road truck driver; he hauled produce from California to Canada. The marriage ended in divorce.

Paul's second wife was Marsha Doan and they had two sons together. When this marriage ended, Marsha and the boys moved to Arkansas.

Paul continued to work in the trucking business. In 1979 he moved to the Billings area. His third marriage was to Linda Fellers. She died of cancer in 1987.

In 1988 Paul married Elsa Pearson. They made their home in Billings from that time on. For the past eight years Paul has owned and operated his own truck and worked throughout the state on various road and gravel jobs. Just recently he and Elsa divorced.

Paul was working at Valier and staying in Great Falls at the time of his death. Although a young man, he did have angioplasty surgery several years ago.

Paul was a member of the Teamsters Union. He enjoyed fishing, boating, horseshoes, and table pool. He was an avid NASCAR race fan. During his years in Great Falls Paul was a member of the Stock Car Racing Association and was a loyal fan at the local racetrack.

Paul was a witty guy with a keen sense of humor. He loved to tell stories and share laughs with his friends. He enjoyed visiting with anyone and was an easy man to like. In his younger days in Chester he was well-known by his nickname "P.G." and his friends in Billings called him "P.Z."

Paul had a tender love for animals. He was especially fond of cats and he always had several feline friends with him throughout his life. His life-long dream was to visit Australia.

Paul's survivors include his two sons: Bryon and Kris Zorn of Roger, Arkansas; two daughters: Jamie Rensmon of Billings and Carrie Stevenson of Great Falls; one grandson, Austin Rensmon of Billings; one sister, Cletus Jacobson of Billings; one brother Gary Zorn (address unknown); one aunt, Cletus Johnson of Chester; and three nephews: Wesley Zorn, Noel Jacobson and Lane Jacobson. Paul was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

A memorial service was held at 2:00 pm Saturday (August 16) at the Veterans Park in Billings (located at Poly Drive and 13th Street). Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association. The service was conducted by Reverend Jeff Oisgaard. Following military "Taps" the flag presentation was made by Ray Standiford.

Cremation and arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.