

## THELMA ANNETTE AMBUEHL

Born: June 3, 1910 - Died: October 5, 2000

Liberty County Times

October 4, 2000



### ***Thelma Ambuehl***

Thelma Annette Ambuehl, 90, of Galata passed away Saturday at the Marias Care Center in Shelby due to natural causes. A memorial service will be held at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 5, 2000 at the Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Graveside burial of ashes will be held in Gonvick, Minnesota at a later date.

Thelma was born June 3, 1910 in Gonvick, Minnesota to Thomas and Annette (Bergsven) Herberg. She was raised and educated there and was a member of the first graduating class of Gonvick High School. On August 3, 1935, she married John David Ambuehl in McIntosh, Minnesota. They lived in Gonvick where John worked as a blacksmith and she

was a dedicated wife and homemaker. They began farming in 1945 until retiring in 1960. They were known to spend much time fishing together, often with her having the bigger catch. Her husband died in 1975. She moved to a ranch north of Galata in 1982 where she lived until moving to the Marias Care Center two years ago. She was a member of the Galata Lutheran Church, VFW Auxiliary and Galata WELCA. She was well known for her handmade stuffed toys which she would sell or give away. She also loved to knit and play cards.

Thelma was affectionately known to her grandchildren as "Gramma T".

She is survived by two daughters, Annette Henry of Galata and Joy Dee

Ford of Paragold, Arkansas; three sons, Thomas Ambuehl of Chester, Marvin Ambuehl of Great Falls and Freddie Ambuehl of North Pole, Alaska as well as 15 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, three brothers and two sisters.

## LESLIE (BUD) ASHMORE

Born: March 6, 1925 - Died: January 8, 2000

Liberty County Times

January 19, 2000

### *Leslie Ashmore*

Leslie "Bud" Ashmore, age 74, of Helena, Montana, passed away at St. Peter's Hospital on January 8, 2000 with his wife and all five of his children at his side.

Bud was born to Irvin and Hannah (Rikkus) Ashmore on March 6, 1925 near Ulen, Minnesota. He grew up and attended schools there, graduating from Ulen High School in 1943, then joined the United States Navy.

He received an honorable discharge and on July 1, 1944 he married the love of his life, his high school sweetheart Vera L. Bickel. Together they shared 56 wonderful years of married life.

Bud and Vera farmed together in Minnesota until 1961, when they moved to Rudyard, Montana. There they owned and operated an A&W drive-in. In 1967 they moved their business to Havre, Montana and renamed it the Beaver Creek Drive-in. They sold their business in 1974 and Bud took a job with the Burlington Northern Railroad. He retired in September 1987. Because of his love for the mountains, he and

Vera moved to the Helena area in 1991.

Bud's favorite times were the ones he spent with his family. He was happiest when he had one project going and another one planned. He loved the Montana outdoors and as long as his health allowed, he was an avid hunter and fisherman. In his final years he enjoyed quiet time with his wife, yard work, feeding his bluebirds, and watching the Atlanta Braves.

Bud's parents, three brothers Clinton, Leo, and Waldo, and a granddaughter preceded him in death.

In addition to his wife Vera, Bud is survived by his five children and their spouses: Judy and Bob Enke of Helena, Cary and Lindsey Ashmore of Stevensville, Cheryl and Ervin Hamblock of Havre, Kathy and Rich Fabiano of Helena, and Vicki and Jeff Han of Inverness; eleven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren and another one due any day; two brothers and their wives; Cortland and Avis Ashmore, and Jerry and Bev Ashmore of Minnesota; and his sister Erma Hendrickson of Indiana.

In accordance with Bud's wishes, a private service was held on January 11, 2000 at the Hagler-Anderson Mortuary with Pastor Steve Moody officiating. Cremation has taken place. The family suggests memorials to the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, P.O. Box 8249, Missoula, Montana, or the Havre Rifle and Pistol Club, c/o Erv Hamblock, 1139 Wilson Ave., Havre, Montana 59501. Family condolences may be sent c/o Judy Enke, 524 Highland, Helena, Montana.

Hagler-Anderson Mortuary of Helena was in charge of arrangements.

## ROBERT JOSEPH BRAUER

Born: July 29, 1914 - Died: April 8, 2000

Liberty County Times

April 12, 2000



### **Robert Brauer**

Robert Joseph Brauer was born on July 29, 1914 at Kansas City, Kansas. He was the only son of two children born to Rudolph and Marjorie (Clark) Brauer. Bob grew up and received his education at Oakpark, Illinois. Following his high school years, he attended Grinnell College at Grinnell, Iowa where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering.

In the early 1940s Bob accepted a position for Union Oil Company in Seattle, Washington. He worked in the purchasing department at Union Oil for 20+ years. In 1964 he went into business on his own, serving as a manufacturer's representative for Besco Building Specialties in the Bellevue and Issaquah communities. His business manufactured signs and identifying devices. In 1981 he sold the business and retired.

Bob's wife is Lois Schafer formerly of Whitlash, Montana. They were married at Bellevue, Washington on December 27, 1956. Although they lived in rural Redmond, Washington during most of their married life, they continued to have close ties to the Whitlash Community. Following their retirement in 1981, they enjoyed traveling (several memorable trips were to Australia, England, and the Panama Canal).

Bob's health failed the past few years. On Friday evening April 7,

2000 he became ill at home and was taken to the Overlake Medical Center in Bellevue. He died there early Saturday morning April 8th. He was 85 years old.

His hobbies over the years included stamp-collecting, fishing, and gardening. He enjoyed raising German Shepherd dogs. During his quiet hours at home he liked to read. He and Lois also enjoyed cards, especially Bridge. A tribute to his life included the fact that he was a hard working man who was a dedicated husband and friend.

He is survived by his wife Lois Brauer of Sammamish, Washington; a sister-in-law Marge Engstrom and her husband Norman of Whidbey Island, Washington; one niece Carrie Engstrom of Sammamish; and two nephews Mark Engstrom of Whitlash, and John Leonard of Seattle. Bob was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Marjorie Leonard.

Funeral services will be 2:00 pm Friday April 14, 2000 at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Pastor Peter Erickson will officiate. Graveside services will be approximately 3:30 pm at the Whitlash Cemetery. Iris White will serve as organist, and Wayne Wardell will sing "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" and "Peace in the Valley." Whitlash area friends will provide a reception for the family after the burial services.

## ALMIRA CHARLOTTE (HUNT) BREVICK

Born: May 17, 1904 - Died: January 2, 2000



### **Almira Brevick**

Almira Charlotte Hunt Shettel Brevick was born near Vilas, South Dakota on May 17, 1904. She was one of four children born to Martha Alma Beddow and Wallace Alton Bruce Hunt. The Hunt's farmed in South Dakota, then moved to a homestead near the Canadian border north of Joplin, Montana. Almira attended the North Star Country School. She finished her formal education in Joplin. In the few years that followed she helped her parents with the farming operations.

On November 9, 1933 Almira married Jacob Levi Shettel in Shelby. They lived on a farm east of Chester where Mira worked as a farmwife and mother of two daughters. Her husband died on August 17, 1969. She remained on the farm until 1970 then moved into Chester.

Mira's second marriage was to Sever I. Brevick on December 19, 1970. Mr. Brevick was a Shriner, so Mira became interested in the Shriner's organization. She was a loyal supporter of the Shriner's Children's Hospital; for 25 years she sold Shriner's Circus tickets to local businesses and then chaperoned the bus full of kids to the circus. In 1975 she was elected to membership in the Daughter of the Nile, Shappira Temple No. 9 of Helena. In 1984 she was initiated into the Social Order of the Beauceant, Shelby Assembly #95. Almira and Brevick parted in 1987.

### **Liberty County Times**

**January 5, 2000**

Mira maintained her own home in Chester until December of 1998 when her health began to fail. At that time she moved to the home of her granddaughter and husband Charlotte and Ed Kelly. Following a recent illness she was admitted to the Liberty County Hospital in Chester where she died on the early morning of Sunday January 2, 2000. Almira was 95 years old.

She had been very active in the Chester community. She helped in the writing of the Liberty County *Heritage* book and worked hard in the early organization of the Liberty

County Museum. For the past 50 years Almira has written news articles for the local paper the *Liberty County Times*. In recent years she had a column in the *Times* called "Here and There." In addition, she was a life-long member of the Farmer's Union, holding several offices and was a loyal attender of meetings and conventions. Almira was a baptized member of the United Methodist Church, a past church council member, and a dedicated worker at the annual church rummage sales and other events.

Almira was proud to be an American, especially an American from Montana! She loved our democracy and the privilege to vote. In fact, she had voted in every election (including school elections) for the past 71 years. She studied the candidates and watched the debates so that she could be well-informed when it came time to cast her vote.

Mira had many hobbies. She enjoyed cooking and will be remembered for her homemade noodles, 'Gramma' cookies, and Christmas pudding. She enjoyed reading, especially 'True Story' and the daily news. She was a good pen pal and a loyal letter writer. She collected commemorative liquor bottles and did Artex painting. She also liked to sew. Her favorite television shows were "Northern Exposure," and "The Price Is Right."

In her younger years, Mira loved to play cards, go dancing, and ride horses. Of interest was the fact that she took pilot lessons in her early 20's but unfortunately, the Wall Street Crash and Depression in 1929 prohibited her from finishing her training in aviation.

Almira loved to travel. She and Levi made several trips to Chicago, Iowa, Minnesota, California, Mexico, and Washington. In 1968 they drove the Al-Can Highway to Anchorage, Alaska. In the 1990s Almira took trips to Las Vegas, Alaska, Iowa, and Colorado.

On a personal note, Almira kept a calendar of daily events since 1933 including visitors to her home, temperature and weather conditions, new births, and other interesting details. She was considered the family historian. She enjoyed telling stories to people about things that happened to their family and friends in the early days. And she was a firm believer in the saying: "If you can't say anything nice, then don't say anything at all."

Mira was always proud of her family and those special accomplishments they achieved.

She is survived by two daughters and their spouses, Alma and Joe Seidel of Havre, Montana, and Lela and Lee Didier of Chester; step-daughter Kathryn Sage of Kansas; eight grandchildren including Steven, Shelma, LeAnn, Sharla, Thaddeus, Jed, Scott, and Charlotte; 13 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, by two sisters Winnie Taylor and Marion Zickman, by one brother Ray Hunt, and by a great-granddaughter Shannon Thrans.

Funeral services will be 2:00 pm Thursday January 6, 1999 at the Chester United Methodist Church.

(over)

**ALMIRA CHARLOTTE (HUNT)  
SHETTEL BREVICK**

**Born:** May 17, 1904 at Vilas, South Dakota  
**Died:** January 2, 2000 at Chester, Montana  
**Age:** 95 years... 7 months... 16 days...

**PSALM 121**

*I will lift up mine eyes to the hills,  
from whence cometh my help.*

*My help cometh from the Lord,  
which made heaven and earth.*

*He will not suffer thy foot to be  
moved; He that keepeth thee will not  
slumber.*

*Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall  
neither slumber nor sleep.*

*The Lord is thy keeper; the Lord is  
thy shade upon thy right hand.*

*The sun shall not smite thee by  
day, nor the moon by night.*

*The Lord shall preserve thy going  
out and thy coming in from this time  
forth, and even evermore.*

Services will be conducted by Pastor Kama Hamilton-Morton. Organist is Karen Stack and the congregation will sing "Just As I Am." Friends from the Riverview Hutterite Colony will offer several musical tributes. Ushers are Glen Eveland, and Jack Seidlitz. Pallbearers are Allen Kolstad, Lloyd Wolery, Wayne Wolery, Joe Minnehan, Arlo Skari, Neil Shepherd, Rudy Cicon, and John Cicon. Honorary bearers include Wilbur Eveland, Tom Wood Sr., Marvin Krook, Bud Poppler, and all of her other special friends. Burial will follow at the Chester Cemetery. It was Almira's wish that memorials be given to the Shriner's Childrens Hospital, the Deaconess Childrens Home in Helena, or the National Jewish Hospital in Denver. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

**Services:** 2:00 p.m. Thursday, January 6th, United Methodist Church in Chester

**Officiant:** Reverend Kama Morton...

**Organist:** Karen Stack...

**Vocal Tribute:** Friends from Riverview Hutterite Colony...

**Ushers:** Jack Seidlitz and Glen Eveland...

**Pallbearers:** Lloyd Wolery, Wayne Wolery, Allen Kolstad, Joe Minnehan, Arlo Skari, Neil Shepherd, John Cicon and Rudy Cicon...

**Honorary Bearers:** Wilbur Eveland, Tom Wood Sr., Marvin Krook, Bud Poppler, and all of Mira's special friends...

**Interment:** Chester Cemetery...

... Luncheon to follow at the Church ...

**Arrangements:** Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester...

**Memorials:** (specified by Almira): Shriner's Childrens Hospital, Deaconess Children Home in Helena, or National Jewish Hospital in Denver...

**Mira's Family:** Two daughters and spouses, Alma & Joe and Lela & Lee; eight grandchildren, Steven, Shelma, LeAnn, Sharla, Thaddeus, Jed, Scott and Charlotte; 13 great-grandchildren; and many nieces & nephews...

## SEVER INGVALD BREVIK

Born: July 2, 1915 - Died: May 17, 2000

Liberty County Times

May 24, 2000



### **Sever Brevick**

Sever Ingvald Brevick, age 84, died of heart failure on Wednesday morning May 17, 2000 at Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls, Montana.

Funeral services will be 7:00 pm Friday evening May 26 at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Burial will follow at the Chester Cemetery.

Sever was born July 2, 1915 at Nelson, Wisconsin to Louis and Johanna (Qualley) Brevick. He grew up on the family farm in Wisconsin. In addition to farming, he worked as an electrician.

Sever and his family came to Montana in the early 1950s. They lived at Galata where Sever operated a service station for a few years. In addition, he worked as a laborer on the Tiber Dam spillway project.

In 1955 Sever began working on the section crew for Great Northern Railroad. He worked on the railways between Shelby and Havre, so he made his home in Chester beginning in the mid-1960s. Sever continued to work for Great Northern (who merged with Burlington Northern in 1970) for 26 years. During his last

two years with the railroad he worked as a track inspector, then he retired in 1981.

Sever built a home on Chester's northside in 1980. During his retirement years, he helped with the farming operations on the Shettel place east of Chester.

On Monday May 15 Sever collapsed in a local store. He was taken to the Chester hospital, then transferred to Great Falls where he died a few days later.

He had been active in the Great Falls Shriners and the Galata Masons. He attended many statewide meetings and was proud to achieve the level of 32nd Degree Mason.

His hobbies included fishing, hunting, and gardening. In fact, he shot a deer during this past hunting season at age 84! Being of Norwegian heritage, Sever loved Norwegian food, and reportedly was quite skilled at cooking lutefisk!

Sever is survived by three children Kathryn Sage of Easton, Kansas, Dwaine Chinander of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Lucille Zuidema and husband Bill of Cascade, eight grandchildren including Dwight, Christine, Kevin and Wellington Sage, and Jeannie, John, Marianne and Linda Zuidema; one sister Cora Dieckman of Hayward, Wisconsin; and several nephews and nieces.

Sever was preceded in death by his parents, several siblings, an infant son, and an infant great-granddaughter.

## FRANCES MARY BROWN

Born: May 17, 1901 - Died: April 15, 2000

Liberty County Times

April 19, 2000



### Frances Brown

Frances Mary Brown was born May 17, 1901 at Detroit, Michigan. She was the youngest of three children born to Frank and Harriet (Wickum) Curtis. At age four she moved to St. Paul, Minnesota with her parents, who were later divorced. In 1913 Frances came to Montana with her mother and step-father Pat Violett, who operated an elevator at Lothair. Frances completed her formal education at Lothair, then moved to Seattle, Washington where she worked at the Frederick & Nelson Department Store.

She married Fred Brown in Seattle on November 16, 1920. They made their home on the Brown farm south of Tiber, Montana where they raised a family of three. They also had a home in Chester during their children's school years; they moved into town permanently in 1948. They retired from farming in 1970. Following her husband's death in 1976, Frances continued to live in Chester where she maintained her own home from that time on.

The Browns enjoyed traveling to Mesa, Arizona during the winter months. Following Fred's death Frances continued these annual

trips to Arizona. She had been to Arizona for 47 consecutive years until 1998, when her health began to fail. She had been in and out of the hospital several times this past winter. Frances died at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester on the early morning of Saturday April 15, 2000. She was 98 years old. Frances was a 70-year member of the United Methodist Church, serving in the Ladies Aid and singing in the church choir. She was also a longtime member of the RNA (Royal Neighbors of America), where she played the piano at many of their special functions.

Frances enjoyed traveling; she made memorable trips to Hawaii, Mexico, Canada, and New York City. The trip to New York was done in her later years to fulfill a dream — to visit the Statue of Liberty and attend a Broadway play.

She had many hobbies. She enjoyed music, reading, sewing, crocheting, and playing cards, especially Pinochle. She collected dolls, raised flowers, and enjoyed baking. Her homemade lemon chicken and apple pies were delicious. Her three most favorite things in this world were family, flowers, and fresh strawberries.

Frances was a proud and independent lady throughout her life. A kind and caring person, she was always proper in her personal appearance, her actions, and her deeds. Although her physical body finally wore out, she was fortunate to maintain a sharp mind and a good sense of humor to the very end.

Survivors include one daughter Carol Jeppesen of Hamilton; two sons F. Max Brown and wife Susan of Chester, and Stephen Brown of Chester; 11 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; 8 great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. Frances was preceded in death by her parents and husband, by two sisters Charlotte Kyle and an infant sister Grace, by two grandchildren Curtis David Brown and Mary Jeppesen Seidlitz, and by one great-granddaughter Janelle Solle, and by a daughter-in-law Dorothy Brown.

Funeral service will be 2:00 pm today (Wednesday) April 19, 2000 at the Chester United Methodist Church. Rev. Kama Hamilton-Morton will officiate. Scripture readings will be by Frances' two granddaughters Diana and Barbara. Personal thoughts will be shared by grandsons Dick and Stephen. Ushers are grandsons Rob and Jim Brown and Bert Solle. Frances' nine grandsons including Fred, Richard, Stuart, Stephen, Thomas, Robert, Jim, Karl, and Bruce will serve as her pallbearers. A special piano tribute "Autumn Leaves" will be performed by Phil Aaberg. Vocal tributes by Dede Brown will be "The Lord's Prayer" and "The Wind Beneath My Wings." The congregation will sing "The Old Rugged Cross." Burial will be at the Chester Cemetery. A luncheon will follow at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to the United Methodist Church, the Hi-Line Health Foundation, or donor's choice.

## LEROY EDWIN CADY

Born: October 5, 1938 - Died: May 9, 2000

Liberty County Times

August 23, 2000



### **LeRoy Cady**

LeRoy Edwin Cady was born at Havre, Montana on October 5, 1938. He was the only child of Wallace and Verla (Sauer) Cady. He was just an infant when his father died in a mine accident. He was raised by his mother in the Joplin community until age four, then they moved to the Seattle area. LeRoy received his formal education at Snohomish, Washington.

He enlisted in the US Marine Corps in 1961 and was trained at Camp Matthews in San Diego,

California. After four years in the military, he was honorably discharged. LeRoy returned to the Seattle area where he worked as an operating engineer in construction for 30 years. He retired in 1994.

LeRoy took a part-time job at the Skyway Park Bowl where he worked in the cardroom. He became a shift manager at the Skyway when it opened its casino 2-1/2 years ago. LeRoy loved to play poker, in fact, he played in many tournaments over the years and won on numerous occasions. In addition, he was an avid horse-racing fan and he enjoyed fishing.

LeRoy was diagnosed with lung cancer in November of 1998. He died at the Highline Hospital in Burien, Washington on May 9, 2000. He was 61 years old.

At a non-denominational memorial service at the Skyway Park Bowl on May 18th, a close friend summed up his life by saying: "LeRoy had an unfettered optimism about the innate goodness of humanity. He opened his big heart, and sometimes his wallet, to help his many friends and other acquaintances. He loved to visit with people; he would strike up a conversation with someone and end up adding them to his circle of friends."

LeRoy is survived by his mother Verla Cady of Renton, Washington; a son Ronald Cady of San Francisco, California; a daughter Sandra Cady of Omaha, Nebraska; and several uncles, aunts, and cousins.

LeRoy's ashes were buried on his father's grave at the Chester Cemetery on August 18, 2000. His mother and several local family members attended the committal services.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.



JOHN CAMPROS

Born: 1940 - Died: April 26, 2000

Liberty County Times

May 3, 2000

***John Campros***

Wednesday April 26, 2000, John Campros of Sheridan, Wyoming, passed away at his home in Sheridan of cancer. He was 60 years old.

John was preceded in death by his brothers Thomas, Jr., and George; and a son Zachery.

He is survived by his wife Wynette of Sheridan; daughters Kathy Hold of Denver, Colorado, and Jackie Kemper of Great Falls; son John, Jr. of Sheridan; brother Andrew Campros of Chester; and sister Kay of Big Springs, Texas.

Burial was in Sheridan, Wyoming on Saturday April 29, 2000.

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## PATRICIA CLARE (CASEY) CHILD

Born: August 31, 1935 - Died: August 11, 2000

Bozeman Paper

August, 2000

### Patricia 'Pat' Child

HELENA —Mass of the Christian Burial for Patricia "Pat" Child, of Helena formerly of Sidney, Mont., will be held at 10 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2000, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Sidney with Father Ned Shinnick as presider. Wake services will be held at 6 p.m., Monday, Aug. 14, at St. Matthew's Catholic Church in Sidney. Interment will be on Friday afternoon, August 18, in Forrestvale Cemetery in Helena, Mont. under the direction of Fulkerson Funeral Home of Sidney.

Patricia Clare Casey Child was born in Havre, Mont. on Aug. 31, 1935, the 1st of 12 children to parents Francis and Loretta Casey. The family moved to East Helena where Pat was raised and graduated from Cathedral High School in 1953 and Carroll College in 1957.

Patricia taught English for seven years in Custer, Kremlin, and Townsend, Mont. In 1963, she married Harry W. Child II, and they made their home in Sidney, where they were blessed with three beautiful children. In 1998 they moved to Great Falls and just completed a move to Helena, to start a much anticipated retirement together.

Pat's first love was her family and her faith. Her interests included sewing, crafts, gardening, gourmet cooking, and entertaining people. Nothing made her happier than a house full of family and friends and a table full of

her fantastic food. She loved beautiful things and her creativity was expressed in colorful flowers and her gardens. No one enjoyed shopping more than Pat and no one could find a better bargain.

Pat was a member of Chapter BA P.E.O., Beta Sigma Phi, had served as a board member on the State Mental Health Board, and had spent countless hours volunteering for numerous organizations. She will be remembered for her loving heart, her ability to help others, and her constant desire to improve everyone's life.

Pat is survived by her husband, Harry; daughters, Lynette (Larry) Herman of Sidney; Libby (Marty) Shaide of Fairview; son, Lance (Noelle) Child of Big Sky; grandchildren, Josh and Meghan Herman, Jonathan and Mitchell Shaide, and Harry W. Child, III; sisters, Sister Lynn Casey, Sister Jean Casey, Jerry Maddio, Colleen Stroup, Mary Brown, Kathy Zoanni, and brothers, Dennis, Michael, Jim, and Tom Casey. Pat was preceded in death by her parents, Francis and Loretta Casey, and a sister, baby Mary.

Pat began her journey home on August 11, 2000, following complications from a stroke. We have lost one of God's most beautiful children who gave her entire life to the needs of others and now can rest amongst her cherished angels.



MRS. CHILD

## BARBARA JEAN (OPHUS) CHVILICEK

Born: December 20, 1936 - Died: April 17, 2000

Liberty County Times

April 19 - 26, 2000



### **Barbara Chvilicek**

Barbara Jean (Ophus) Chvilicek, a former educator and bookkeeper, died of cancer April 17, 2000 at her home in Chester. She was 63.

Memorial services were held Saturday at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, with burial of ashes in the Big Sandy Cemetery.

Barbara was born December 20, 1936 in Havre. She attended numerous elementary schools before graduation as Salutatorian from Big Sandy High School in 1955, where she also played clarinet in the marching band.

After receiving a degree in business education from Northern Montana College in Havre in 1959, she taught high school business courses at Hingham, where she met Robert Chvilicek. They married August 11, 1962 in Havre and taught school in Big Sandy for nine years. They lived in Bozeman for two years before moving to Chester in 1972.

Barbara was a bookkeeper at Chester Motors for 18 years, retiring in 1990 when her husband retired as Superintendent of the Chester school system. They continued to live in Chester and had a second home in Nevada.

She was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, WELCA, and the Chester Lionettes, working on the Community Calendar Committee, and assisting with many Red Cross blood drives. She also donated several gallons of blood during her lifetime.

While Barb's three daughters were attending the Chester schools, she enjoyed following their activities. For nine summers she traveled around Northcentral Montana to watch them compete for the Chester Lions Swim Team.

She enjoyed arts and crafts and made many gifts for family and friends. Barbara also enjoyed cooking, baking, sewing, reading, bowling, gardening and feeding birds. She also collected spoons and enjoyed word puzzles and watching television.

Barbara was diagnosed with cancer in November of 1998. She received many treatments, but her condition rapidly deteriorated in the past few months.

Barb was a beautiful lady, not only in her immaculate personal appearance, but also her pleasant and humorous personality. A dedicated mother and friend, she will be missed by many.

Survivors include her husband Robert Chvilicek of Chester and Tonopah, Nevada; her daughters Amy Beth Hanson and husband Mark of East Helena, Rachel Ghekiere and husband Jim of Chester, and Rita Chvilicek of Pahrump, Nevada; three grandchildren Kaitlin and Parker Hanson, and Jennifer Ghekiere; her mother Virginia Ophus of Chester; sisters Joann Schadewitz and Jere Schaub, both of Kalispell; and numerous nieces and nephews. Barbara was preceded in death by her father Jerry Ophus, and an infant son Brian.

In lieu of flowers Barbara requested memorials be given to the New Chester Pool Fund (c/o Heritage Foundation, Box 518, Chester, MT 59522) or that flowers be sent to someone you love.

## RICHARD MELVIN CRITES

Born: August 12, 1937 - Died: July 30, 2000

The Sentinel -Havre

August 16, 2000

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### RICHARD CRITES

MOSES LAKE, Wash. — Richard Melvin Crites, 62, died at his home in Moses Lake, Wash. Sunday, July 30, 2000 of natural causes.

Crites was born Aug. 12, 1937 in Gildford to Fred Vern Crites and Achsah Ida Huestis-Crites. They farmed at Gildford. Crites took over the farm when his mother died.

In 1979, Crites married Dorine May Grove-Crites and the couple moved to Moses Lake where they owned and operated Maples Motel.

Crites was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Don Crites, Vern Crites, Warren Crites and Fred Crites Jr.; sisters, Dorothy Kidd, Cleona Poore and Gracie Marie Crites.

Survivors include his wife, Dorine Crites of Moses Lake; children, Vicki Hall, Marla Welch, Debra Dickinson, Weston Dickinson; brothers and sisters, Harold Crites of Vancouver, Wash., Doreen Rudder of Yelm, Wash., Lois Olson of Havre, June Youso of Havre, LaRena Stewart of Havre, Jeanne Johnson of Havre; five grandchildren, and one great-grand-  
*child*

## LESLIE WAYNE DECKER

Born: May 18, 1913 - Died: January 19, 2000

Liberty County Times

January 26, 2000

### **Leslie Decker**

Leslie Wayne Decker was born at Bozeman, Montana on May 18, 1913. He was one of 9 children born to John Decker and Lula Edna Short. Wayne grew up and received his formal education at Bozeman, then began working on 'dude' ranches in the area. In the years that followed he worked as an outfitter's guide in Yellowstone Park, and at sawmills in the lumber industry.

During World War II he enlisted in the US Navy, entering into active duty on December 24, 1941. Wayne served in the Asiatic/Pacific and the Philippine Liberation campaigns on two battleships, including the *USS Dunlap*, and the *USS Twining*. He attained the rank of Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class before receiving his honorable discharge on October 14, 1945.

After his discharge from the Navy, Wayne returned to Montana. He met and married Margaret McLean in 1949 at Anaconda. They made their home at Melrose, where they raised a family of 6 children.

Wayne worked as an underground miner at the Anaconda mines. He also did some mining contract work; he made mine wedges at his private sawmill at his home.

Wayne retired in 1975 and continued to live at Melrose. He was diagnosed with several medical problems, including lung cancer. In March of 1999 he moved to the Veteran's Care Center in Miles City.

He remained there until October of 1999, when he transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester to be near his son Scott. Wayne died at the Chester rest home on the evening of Wednesday January 19, 2000. He was 86 years old.

Wayne was a quiet unassuming man who enjoyed a simple life. He was a cowboy at heart; he loved horses, rodeos, Western books, and Western movies. A proud man, he was happy to have raised 6 children on a miner's wage. He enjoyed watching his kids grow up to become productive citizens. Wayne and his wife divorced in their later years.

His survivors include his children and their spouses: Jonnie and Charles Jennings of Anchorage, Alaska, Joe and Rosie Decker of Colusa, California, Gary and Cheryl Decker of Glen, Montana, Dennis and Jaci Decker of Melrose, Toni and Leon Helmer of Colstrip, Montana, and Scott and Sherry Decker of Chester; 14 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren; one sister Lula

Davis of Bozeman; and numerous nephews and nieces. Wayne was preceded in death by his parents and 7 siblings.

It was Wayne's wish to be cremated. No services are planned at this time. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

## EMIL K. ELIASON

Born: January 18, 1908 - Died: March 17, 2000

Liberty County Times

March 22, 2000

### **Emil Eliason**

Emil K. Eliason, age 92, Havre resident and former funeral director with Holland & Bonine Funeral Home, died Friday March 17, 2000 at a local care center of natural causes. Funeral services will be Saturday March 25, 2000 at the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church with Pastor Kathy Young officiating. Burial

will follow at the Highland Cemetery. Memorials in Emil's honor may be made to the Shriner's Children's Hospital, PO Box 2472, Spokane, WA 99210-2471, or to one's choice. Services and arrangements are under the direction of Holland & Bonine Funeral Home.

Emil was born January 18, 1908 in Ozark County, Missouri, to Elias and Marie Caroline Elisabeth (Nyquist) Eliason. As a young child he came to Montana with his parents to the Opheim-Glasgow area.

He attended country school in Opheim and graduated from Glasgow High School. After high school he taught at a country school and worked for John Dahl's Bakery in Glasgow.

He married Beulah Paul on August 15, 1931 in Nashua, Montana. The couple moved to Havre so Emil could attend Northern Montana College to further his teaching certification. While attending Northern Montana College, he worked for Mr. James Holland at the Holland & Bonine Funeral Home, living in the apartment upstairs.

Emil became interested in the funeral business and with encouragement from Mr. Holland, decided to obtain his Mortician's License. He enrolled at the University of Minnesota in their Mortuary Science program in 1935. After graduation he returned to Havre and began working as a mortician. Upon the death of Mr. George Bonine, Emil also served as Hill County Coroner from 1947 until 1988 when he resigned his position.

Emil was very active in many organizations throughout the Havre community, and the state of Montana. He was the Sunday School Superintendent and past Trustee of Van Orsdel Methodist Church.

He served as Past President, Director, and Secretary of the Havre Junior Chamber of Commerce. He received the Distinguished Service Award for the Jaycee's and was later named the Havre Jaycee's Boss of the Year.

He was active in many facets of the Masonic Fraternity including Grand Master of the State of Montana in 1968. A member of the Eastern Star, he also held several

offices in the I.O.O.F and the Rebekahs.

His other memberships include the AARP, retired teachers, Elks, Eagles, Sons of Norway, Kiwanis, Red Cross, and Boy Scouts.

He was Chairman of the Havre Band Festival for 6 years. A member of the Black Hills Recreation Leaders Lab, and the Van Orsdel United Methodist Church.

The Havre community was a significant segment of his life. He was always a friend to those in need and offered a helping hand in any situation.

Emil was preceded in death by his parents, wife Beulah in 1987, brother Harold Eliason, and a sister Judith Bowles.

Surviving family include his three children: sons Orland and wife Charmaine of Redwood City, California, Leon Eliason and wife Sandee of south Havre, Montana, daughter Bettyruth and husband Chuck Burdette of Wilsall, Montana; 8 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, 3 great-great-grandchildren; one brother Henry Eliason of Pendleton, Oregon; sister Lillian Von Eschen of Fort Peck, Montana and Mesa, Arizona; and several nieces and nephews.

## MARY M. (BABE) EVANS

Born: September 20, 1914 - Died: April 20, 2000

Liberty County Times

May 3, 2000



### **Mary Evans**

Mary M. "Babe" Evans, age 85 of Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester, went home to be with her loving family and her Father in Heaven on April 20, 2000.

Mary was born September 20, 1914 in Sheridan County Montana to Esther G. and Winfield Scott Evans. She joined her sisters and brothers Viola, Mabel, Maude, Winfield, Jane and John. She was a much loved member of her large family.

She made her home with her family in Culbertson, Montana for many years until her parents passed away. After her parents passed away she

made her home with her sister and brother-in-law Maude and Lloyd Bakke in Gildford and then later in Rudyard, until their passing in 1988.

Mary enjoyed helping in the kitchen, embroidering, playing cards with her nieces and nephews, playing Bingo with her friends, church services and singing hymns, listening to music, and looking at photographs. She was quite a hand at embroidery and loved her time with her family.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brothers and sisters and several nieces and nephews. Survivors include numerous great-nieces and nephews, her dear friend Millie Pester of Rudyard, Montana, and her good friends and caregivers at Liberty County Nursing Home who made these last years enjoyable for her and gave her such good care. Mary will at last be home with her loving family in Heaven.

Arrangements are being handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. A private graveside memorial service will be held at the family plot in Culbertson at a date to be decided by the family.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Liberty County Nursing Home on Saturday May 6, 2000 at 1:30 pm. Rev. Nolan Spent will officiate. Iris White will serve as pianist and Kama Morton will sing several favorite hymns.

## MATHILDA G. (TILLIE) EVANS

Born: August 3, 1912 - Died: January 8, 2000

Liberty County Times

January 19, 2000

### ***Mathilda Evans***

Mathilda G. "Tillie" Evans, age 87, died on January 8, 2000 at a retirement home in Havre, Montana. Vigil Service was Thursday January 13 at 7:00 pm at the Holland & Bonine Chapel. Funeral services were Friday January 14 at 2:00 pm at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham, Montana. Burial followed at the Ruyard Cemetery. Memorials in Tillie's honor may be made to

the Liberty County Nursing Home or donor's choice.

Tillie Evans was born August 3, 1912 in Wanda, Minnesota to Mathias M. and Anna (Turbes) Jenniges. She attended school in Wanda.

In 1933 she married Clinton N. Evans in Wanda, Minnesota. They started their family in Wanda, then moved to Montana in 1937 and lived in Ruyard for 61 years.

Tillie worked at K-Lanes for 16 years, then later opened the Snack Shack with her daughter Gloria. She loved baking, and her pies were the 'talk of the Hi-Line.' She was a seamstress, took in mending, washing, and ironing.

Tillie liked reading, putting puzzles together, sewing, and making quilts. She liked going on trips and spending time with her family.

In November of 1998 she moved to Havre where she lived with her daughter Julie Holt. In June of 1999 she moved into the Eagles Manor and lived there until her death.

Tillie is survived by her sons: Mathias (Tiger) of Havre, William (Bill) of Havre, Clint of Auburn, Washington, and Eugene of Shelby,

Montana; daughters: Mary Ann Riley of Salem, Oregon, Glorianne Mangold of Great Falls, Montana, Cyrilla Burrows of Chester, Montana, Valorie Peterson of East Lansing, Michigan, Teresa Bartholomew of Billings, Montana, Anita (Nicky) Evans of Dubuque, Iowa, Arlis Keller of Billings, and Julie Holt of Havre; 42 grandchildren, and 47 great-grandchildren; sisters Anna Evans of Redwood Falls, Minnesota, and Trudy Struckman of St. Paul, Minnesota; brothers Cyril Jenniges of Wanda, Roman Jenniges of Redwood Falls, Minnesota; and many nieces and nephews.

Tillie was preceded in death by her parents, husband Clint, sister Marcella, and brothers Gilbert, Beak, Lux, and Tux; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral Mass was held at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham, with Father Joseph Diekhans officiating. Organist Iris White accompanied the congregation which sang "Amazing Grace" and "Sending Forth," and vocalist Terry Stevenson who performed "How Great Thou Art," and "On Eagle's Wings." Gift Presenters were Clint and Tiger Evans, Eulogist was Joan Evans, and Altar Servers were Justin and Jordan Keller. Pallbearers included Bob Evans, Mike Evans, Mick Seidlitz, Travis Burrows, James Keller, Rob Peterson, Tim Bartholomew, and Josh Holt.

Arrangements and services under the direction of Holland & Bonine Funeral Home.



## DORIS MAE FITZPATRICK

Born: July 27, 1926 - Died: November 7, 2000

Liberty County Times

November 15, 2000



### **Doris Fitzpatrick**

Doris Mae Fitzpatrick was born at Bismarck, North Dakota on July 27, 1926. She was one of three children born to George and Rose (Pesek) Mercier. Doris grew up in North Dakota and received her education there, graduating from Watford City High School in 1944. That Fall she continued her schooling at the University of Montana in Missoula, where her studies included art education.

After two years of college, Doris moved to Hot Springs, Montana where she worked in her family's restaurant, the "Park N' Eat" Cafe. She lived in Hot Springs until 1962, then moved to Ronan. In 1985 she moved to Helena. In addition to being a single parent and homemaker to two children, Doris worked diligently as a cook in various Montana restaurants for 30+ years.

She married Fred Fitzpatrick, a Big Bend rancher, in 1972. After 20 years of marriage, he preceded her in death.

Doris came to Chester in 1990 to be near her daughter and family. She lived at the Sweetgrass Lodge Retirement Home. She remained in Chester until 1997, when she moved to Great Falls with her daughter,

Doris had diabetes with complications for many years. She developed kidney problems 13 years ago and has been on dialysis since that time. She received her treatments on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, so she was well-known by the staff and patients at Benefis West Dialysis Unit. This past year was tough on Doris, as her healing ability diminished. She was being cared for at home by her daughter, grandchildren, and hospice nurses. Doris passed away Tuesday afternoon Nov. 7, 2000. She was 74 years old.

Doris was a longtime member of the VFW Auxiliary. Her hobbies included painting and crafts, fishing, gardening, reading, and playing the piano. Just for the fun of it she collected spoons, music boxes, religious articles, and Chinese figurines.

She is survived by her daughter Denise Fenger Vucannon and husband Charles of Great Falls; her son Forest VanDorn and wife Alice of Kingston, Idaho; seven loving grandchildren: Tami Votendahl of Missoula, Mikel VanDorn of Missoula, Denis VanDorn of Battle Mountain, Nevada, Carrie VanDorn of Glasgow, Jerry Thompson of Great Falls, Heather Thompson of Great Falls, and Corey Thompson Fenger of Great Falls; three precious great-grandchildren: Tyrel Votendahl, Ryan Nicholas Thompson, and Kady Lynn VanDorn; and several nieces and nephews. Doris was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and two sisters Betty Vance and Georgietta Ehlers.

Memorial services were held at 2:00 pm Saturday Nov. 11, 2000 at the Chapel of Chimes Funeral Home in Great Falls. The service was conducted by Rlynn Rockman, who shared selected readings by Doris

and the family. A vocal tribute, "Ave Maria," was performed. A coffee hour followed.

Cremation and arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Burial of ashes will be at the Lonepine Murray Cemetery near Lonepine, MT at a later date.

## GUSTAV (GUS) FRANK

Born: October 13, 1905 - Died: April 7, 2000

Great Falls Tribune

April 20, 2000

### Gustav Frank

KALISPELL — Gustav "Gus" Frank, 94, who farmed in the Mountain Brook area for many years, died of natural causes Monday at a Kalispell hospital.

His funeral is 10 a.m. Saturday at Johnson Mortuary Chapel, with burial in Fairview Cemetery. A reception will follow at the family home. Memorials are suggested to the Mountain Brook Memorial Scholarship Fund, 2400 Foothill Road, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Frank was born Oct. 13, 1905, in Rodalben, Germany, and came to the United States with two of his brothers in 1923. They moved to North Dakota and later to Chester, where he met Helen Marie Peters. They married June 20, 1946, in Shelby. They moved to the Mountain Brook area in 1950, and he farmed there until his son took over the daily operations in 1988. He sold eggs and cream to local distributors, harvested grain in the fall and cut and sold trees and boughs to private contractors.

Survivors include his wife of Kalispell; sons, Gordon "Joe" Frank of Lakeside and Thomas Frank and Jerry Frank of Kalispell; daughters, Clara Tennant and Linda Frank of Kalispell, Doris O'Brien of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Nora Flynn of Townsend; and 10 grandchildren.

## LAWRENCE CLIFFORD FREDERICKSON

Born: September 9, 1919 - Died: August 17, 2000



### Lawrence Frederickson

Lawrence Clifford Frederickson was born at Moscow, Idaho on September 9, 1919. He was the only son of two children born to Henry and Inez (Kinyon) Frederickson. Lawrence grew up on the family homestead northwest of Chester and received his formal education at a country school near the farm. In the years that followed he worked for local farmers and ranchers.

Soon after the outbreak of World War II, Lawrence enlisted in the US Marine Corps. He served in the Pacific campaign and his term of enlistment was 1941-1945. While in the military, he met his wife-to-be, Betty J. McNichols, and they were married in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on January 20, 1945. Several months later he was honorably discharged, so Lawrence and his new bride came home to Montana. They began farming on the family homestead. They lived and worked in the Chester community the rest of their married life. After their two sons were grown, the Fredericksons moved to Chester. Lawrence farmed until his retirement in 1990, but continued to stay active in the farming operations until this past spring. In May he suffered a hip fracture, so he entered the Liberty County Nursing Home for rehabilita-

### Liberty County Times

August 23, 2000

tion. His recovery from the fracture went well, but he developed other health problems. Lawrence died at the nursing home on the early morning of Thursday August 17, 2000. He was 80 years old.

Lawrence was a longtime member of the Trinity Lutheran Church north of Lothair and had served on the church council. When they moved to Chester in 1979 they transferred their membership to Our Savior's Lutheran Church. In addition Lawrence served on the Eagle Creek School Board for many years.

Lawrence was very proud of his military service. A true patriot, he appreciated his good life and liberties. He was an active member of the Galata American Legion and the Chester VFW Post.

Lawrence had many hobbies over the years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and gardening. He also did some "string" art and stained glass work. He was an avid fan of pro baseball and he enjoyed high school basketball and volleyball. He kept an immaculate yard and always displayed a beautiful Christmas light presentation every year. In his quiet time at home he enjoyed reading, especially Westerns and testimonials, and he also liked jigsaw puzzles. His greatest love was farming and family.

Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Betty of Chester; two sons and their spouses: Chris and Carolyn of Tyler, Texas, and Dan and Lora of Chester; four grandchildren: Shawn, Cheri, Clint, and Colt; one sister Vianna Osborne of Shelby; and numerous nephews and nieces. Lawrence preceded in death by his parents and a granddaughter Courtney.

Funeral services were 11:00 am Saturday August 19, 2000 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Rev. Peter Erickson officiated. Iris White served as organist and the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art," "My Country 'Tis of Thee," and "Battle Hymn of the

Republic." Special vocal music by Loren Hawks was "In the Garden." Ushers were Adrian Hawks and Warren Wickum. Pallbearers included Lawrence's four grandchildren and friends Claude Hawks and Clay Stratton. Honorary bearers were Leonard Matteson, Lyle Glee, Walt Stratton, Alfred Morrison, Cliff Blair, and Alfred Tollefson. A luncheon followed at the church.

Graveside services were 2:00 pm Saturday at the Valleyview Cemetery in Shelby. Military rites were by friends in the Galata American Legion. The flag was folded and presented by Lyle Glee and Leonard Matteson.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## ALPHA ELEANOR (GRAVNING) FUHS

Born: November 14, 1899 - Died: January 16, 2000

Liberty County Times

July 12, 2000

### **Alpha Fuhs**

Alpha Eleanor (Gravning) Fuhs was born at Turtle Lake, Wisconsin on November 14, 1899. She was the youngest of seven children born to Andrew and Martha Gravning. Alpha grew up on the family farm at the north edge of Turtle Lake, and she spoke often of those happy years on the farm.

On July 9, 1918 she married Hugo Victor Fuhs at Turtle Lake. They lived in and around the Turtle Lake for the next 30 years. Hugo worked in the automotive industry. Alpha worked various jobs in addition to raising a large family. The couple had nine children, two of whom died in infancy.

In 1847 Alpha and Hugo moved to Havre, Montana with their three youngest children. They came to Chester in 1955 and ran the old Grand Cafe until their retirement in 1966. They made their home in Chester from that time on. Following Hugo's death in 1982, Alpha moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge in

Chester where she lived until 1990. At that time she moved to Clarkston, Washington to be near a son. Alpha died on January 16, 2000 at the age of 100 years.

Her family will remember her skills as a cook and seamstress. In later years she spent many happy hours reading. The greatest joy in Alpha's life was her family; she was always proud and joyful in the accomplishments of her children and grandchildren.

Her survivors include two sons, Marvin Fuhs of Anchorage, Alaska and Norman Fuhs of Clarkston, Washington; four daughters Hazel Ross of Great Falls, Betty Early of Schererville, Indiana, Loretta McKay of Eagle River, Alaska, and Darlene Kelly of LaVerne, California; 26 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and several great-great-grandchildren.

Alpha was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by her siblings, a daughter Dorothy Welch, and a grandson David Fuhs.

Alpha was cremated in Washington. Graveside services with burial of ashes will be 1:00 pm Friday July 14, 2000 at the Chester Cemetery. Rev. David Aaseng will officiate. Vocalist Anne Melton, will perform "The Old Rugged Cross," and "In the Garden." A coffee hour will follow at the Sweetgrass Lodge. Local arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

## KATHERINE (KATIE) GEBHARDT

Born: May 7, 1910 - Died: November 20, 2000

Liberty County Times

December 6, 2000



### **Katherine Gebhardt**

Katherine (Katie) Gebhardt, age 90, died Monday November 20, 2000 in a care facility in Chester, Montana of natural causes. Graveside services were at the Highland Cemetery in Havre, Montana at 2:00 p.m. Friday, November 24, with Pastor Daniel W. Morgan officiating.

Memorials may be made to the American Legion Association. Services and arrangements were under the direction of the Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.

Katie was born May 7, 1910 to John and Theresa (Mayer) Braunstadt at Streeter, North Dakota. She moved with her family from North Dakota to Saskatchewan, Canada, from Saskatchewan to Portland, Oregon, to Harlem, Montana.

On March 13, 1929 Katie married Carl Gebhardt at Harlem. They raised

four sons: Dean, twins Wallace and Walter, and Richard on a farm north of Turner. The couple later moved to Chinook in 1944 where they remained until 1956 when they moved to Havre.

Carl died in 1973 and Katie maintained her own household until recently.

She always enjoyed her garden and yard, houseplants, crocheting, and cross-stitching quilts.

Katie was preceded in death by her husband Carl and two sons: Dean and Walter Gebhardt, four sisters and two brothers.

She is survived by sons Richard Gebhardt of Chester and Wallace Gebhardt of Logansport, Indiana; sisters Edna Siemans of Harlem, Montana, Irene Carpenter of Vancouver, Washington, Ruth Lusk of Lubbock, Texas, Hilda Kenyon of Laurel, Montana, Esther Yurick of Billings, and Alvena Smith of Billings; one brother John Braunstadter of Billings; eight grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren.

ARTHUR A. GILLET JR.

Born: July 9, 1922 - Died: July 11, 2000

Great Falls Tribune

July 15, 2000

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**Arthur A. Gillet Jr.**

KALISPELL — Former Kalispell resident and Navy veteran Arthur A. Gillet Jr., 78, died of natural causes Tuesday at a Spokane hospital.

His funeral is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Johnson Mortuary Chapel, with burial in Glacier Memorial Gardens.



He was born July 9, 1922, in Gilford, and served in the Navy from 1944-46.

He married Betty Jo Swanberg June 18, 1947, in Kalispell, where they lived for 20 years.

He worked for Burlington Northern as a signal maintainer, moving to several locations until settling in Blackfoot in 1961. In 1979 they moved to Newport, Wash., where he retired from the railroad.

He was an avid bowler and a member of the Eagles Lodge and Brotherhood of the Railroad Signalmen.

Survivors include his wife of Maupin, Ore.; a daughter, Jody Harwood of Maupin; two sons, Guy Gillet of Layton, Utah, and Ken Gillet of Hermiston, Ore.; two sisters, Dorothy Geremia and Margaret Enevold of Kalispell; two brothers, Robert Gillet of Great Falls and Harold Gillet of Missoula; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

## ELDON JOHN GRAFF

Born: January 27, 1915 - Died: September 8, 2000



**Eldon Graff**

Eldon John Graff was born at Kellogg, Minnesota, Wabasha County on January 27, 1915. He was one of ten children born to George and Hattie (Lange) Graff. Eldon grew up in Minnesota and received his formal education at School District #93 in Wytopa Township. At age 14 he quit school to work for area farmers. In 1937 Eldon came to Montana to work on a north Joplin farm for his uncle Francis VanDessel.

On November 25, 1939 he married his sweetheart Margaret Elizabeth Marking at the Immaculate Conception Church in Kellogg. They came back to Montana to continue farming. In 1940 they acquired their own place north of Chester and eventually built a new farm home there in 1955. They raised a family of 11 children and farmed until their retirement in 1990. The Graffs lived on the farm until 1996 when they purchased a home in Chester.

In his later years Eldon was treated for several different cancers. Still, his health remained relatively good until this past year, when he experienced numerous hospitalizations. On August 27 he entered the Liberty County Hospital in Chester where he remained until his death on Friday afternoon September 8, 2000. He was 85 years old.

### Liberty County Times

September 13, 2000

Eldon was baptized and confirmed a Catholic and remained loyal to the faith throughout his life. He was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus in Chester. For many years he played Santa Claus at the church Christmas party. In addition he was an active participant in the Cursillo movement.

Eldon was a long-time member of the Farmer's Union and he served on the Board of the Federal Land Bank for 12 years. He also volunteered as a 4-H and Boy Scout leader, and served as a Hunter Safety Instructor for 25 years.

His hobbies over the years included big game hunting, camping, boating, bowling, and playing cards especially Pinochle and '500.' Eldon also enjoyed vegetable gardening and occasional cooking (reportedly he made a great prime rib). He loved his life as a Montana farmer and all of the challenges that came with it. He was described as a "Fix-it" man; he repaired everything from toasters to trucks, and he was always diligent in winning the war against weeds and rocks.

The Graffs took many memorable trips and cruises during their 61 years of married life together. Their favorite trips were those visits with family and friends. Eldon loved his children, whom he affectionately referred to as his "eight and one-quarter dozen kids." He adored his grandkids, too. He enjoyed playing with little kids and demonstrating to them how he could magically "crack his nose."

Eldon acquired numerous nicknames during his life. His personal favorites were "Slug," "Old Dad," "Grand Dad," and "Father Time."

Survivors include his wife Margaret of Chester; three sons: Gerry Graff of Duvall, Washington, Don Graff of Belgrade, and Tom Graff of Chester; eight daughters

Joanne Standiford of Chester, Marilyn Collins of Bozeman, Jean May of Sunset House, Alberta, Patti Shepherd of Arlington, Texas, Mary Gibbons of Big Sandy, Betty Mace of Kalispell, Teresa Wehr of Billings, and Janice Fauque of Cut Bank; 30 grandchildren (and 2 pending); 17 great-grandchildren; three brothers: Art and Joe Graff of Kellogg, Minnesota, and George Graff of Yuma, Arizona; two sisters: Rita Reisdorf of St. Charles, Minnesota, and Lorraine Anderson of Dodge City, Kansas; and several nephews and nieces.

Eldon was preceded in death by his parents, an infant son Richie, one brother Walter Graff, and three sisters Margaret Cole, Mary Bronk, and infant Frances Graff.

Vigil Prayers were 7:00 pm

Sunday Sept. 10 at St. Mary's Catholic Church. The prayers were led by Father Joe Diekhans and several family members shared readings and special memories. Meghan Smith sang "Edelweiss."

The Funeral Mass was 11:00 am Monday at St. Mary's Church. The Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Diekhans. Iris White was organist; Richie Hamel was pianist; St. Mary's Choir performed many family favorites, and Meghan Smith sang "Ave Maria" as requested by Eldon. In addition, a special tape recording by Phil Aaberg entitled "Falling Waters" was played. Greeters were Mark Lakey and Brian May. Scripture readings were by Tiana Graff and Rod Shepherd. Eldon's grandchildren presented communion gifts, and served as pallbearers. The communion bread was made from harvested wheat from the Graff farm and the eucharistic ministers were Pam Graff, Marje Dahinden, and Mark Lakey. The eulogist was P.J. Johnson, and the honor guard was provided by the Knights of Columbus. Ken Osterman was altar server.

Burial was at the Chester Cemetery. A graveside hymn was

"Amazing Grace." A luncheon followed at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials were requested to St. Mary's Handicapped Lift Fund. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral

## JAN DeMARTIN HANSON

Birth: September 24, 1936 - Died: February 15, 2000

Liberty County Times

March 1, 2000



### Jan Hanson

Services were held at 2:00 pm Saturday February 19, 2000 at New Mexico Military Institute Chapel for Jan Hanson, age 63, of Roswell, New Mexico, who passed away February 15 at her home. Chaplain Vern Edmonson conducted the service. Interment will follow at a later time at Santa Fe National Cemetery.

Jan was born September 24, 1936 in Havre, Montana to Howard and Lillian Sanvik DeMartin. She was raised on a farm near Rudyard, Montana and attended Rudyard schools, graduating from high school in 1954.

Her father preceded her in death as well as a brother Jerry DeMartin. Her mother Lillian DeMartin, lives in Rudyard.

She attended Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. During her studies to be an RN, she trained principally at Butte Memorial Hospital in Butte, Montana.

Jan met Chuck Hanson at Bozeman and they were married June 29, 1958 after Chuck's graduation.

Jan received her degree in August and they remained in Butte until Chuck went on active duty in November 1958. Their first station was Ft. Benning, Georgia. Following that assignment they moved to

Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. It was there that their son Kirk was born in 1960.

Jan was pregnant when Chuck was assigned to Vietnam, so she and Kirk moved back to Rudyard to be with her family awaiting the new baby. Tracey was born Aug. 17, 1961 in Havre, in the same hospital where her parents were born.

Hanson was the consummate Army wife, running the household and raising the children while Chuck was on 3 unaccompanied tours. She did all this while still continuing to work as an RN at the various posts where they were stationed. She worked at Eastern New Mexico Medical Center from 1980-1988.

Jan was an avid bowler and golfer until her health precluded further participation. Her real love was the game Mahjong, which she played at every opportunity. She was always recruiting new players, although her Monday game with Cissy, Betty, Sherry, and Bunky was her favorite.

Hanson is survived by her husband Chuck of the home; her son Lt. Col. Kirk Hanson and his wife Kathy, and their children Kelly and Chip of Hawaii; a daughter Tracey Zogg and her fiancé Tom Schlosser of Phoenix, Arizona, and Tracey's children Samantha and Stephanie Zogg.

Jan is also survived by 2 brothers Joe DeMartin and his wife Betty of Rudyard; and Rick DeMartin and his wife Barbara of Toston, Montana; a sister-in-law Roberta Green and her husband Robert of Kelseyville, California.

Jan loved to cross-stitch and was always working on a project for her family, especially the grandchildren. God is lucky to have her there with Him.

Honorary pallbearers were Joe DeMartin, Bob Green, Tom Schlosser, Lefty Stecklein, Howard Perry, Phil Brewer, Jess Echols, Hutch Cavin, Bill Bixler, Charlie Savedra, Dr. Charles Fenz and Brett Leach.

Arrangements under the direction of LaGrond Funeral Chapel.

### *To Those I Love and Those Who Love Me*

*When I am gone, release me, let me go*

*I have so many things to see and do.*

*You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears,*

*Be happy that we had so many years.*

*I gave you my love, you can only guess*

*How much you gave me in happiness.*

*I thank you for the love you each have shown,*

*But now it's time I traveled alone.*

*So grieve a while for if grieve you must*

*Then let your grief be comforted by trust.*

*It's only for a while that we must part*

*So bless the memories within your heart.*

*I won't be far away, for life goes on,*

*So if you need me, call and I will come.*

*Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near.*

*And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear*

*All of my love around you soft and clear.*

*And then, when you must come this way alone*

*I'll greet you with a smile, and say, "Welcome home."*



## RUTH E. HANSON

Born: July 22, 1916 - Died: October 16, 2000

Liberty County Times

October 25, 2000

### **Ruth Hanson**

Ruth E. Hanson, 84 years of age, former resident of Gildford, Montana and a resident of Lynnwood, Washington for the past ten years, died on Monday, October 16, 2000 at the ~~Crista Senior Community~~ in Lynnwood of natural causes. Funeral service was held Monday, October 23, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. at the Gildford Baptist Church with Pastor Ed Fallo officiating. Burial followed at the Gildford Cemetery. Memorials in Ruth's honor may be made to

the Gildford Baptist Church.

Services and arrangements under the direction of the Holland and Bonine Funeral Home in Havre, Montana.

Ruth was born July 22, 1916 at Tacoma, Washington to Horace H. and Maud O. (Bittleston) Bailey. She attended school in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and graduated high school in Coeur d'Alene in 1934. On July 12, 1936 Ruth married Orville C. Hanson in Maude Bailey's (her mother) home in Coeur d'Alene. The couple moved to Gildford and remained there until his retirement from the Post Office in 1969. Ruth was a Hi-Line lady innkeeper for the Gildford Hotel from 1949-1969, and a Postal Clerk in the 1950s as well as being a homemaker. They were 'snowbirds' to Arizona until about 1989. The couple moved to Lynnwood, Washington in 1989-1990 and have remained there through the present time.

Ruth's hobbies included sending cards for peoples' special occasions and needs, singing, playing piano and organ for many years in the Gildford Baptist Church, and for weddings, and funerals, walking, and foot reflexology. She was an active member of the Gildford Baptist Church.

Ruth is survived by her husband, Orville Hanson of Lynnwood; daughters, Shane Arlene Jacobs, and Bonnie Hanson both of

Lynnwood; sisters Margaret Weese of Coeur d'Alene, and Rachel Hanson of Mesa, Arizona; one brother David Bailey of Santa Ana, California; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents Horace and Maud Bailey, one son Dwight Orville Hanson (deceased at birth), brothers Cy Bailey and Elbert Bailey, and one sister Nadine Lawson.

## VERNA LUCILLE (SAUER) HEYDON

Born: October 28, 1918 - Died: October 6, 2000

Liberty County Times

October 11, 2000



### Verna Heydon

Verna Lucille (Sauer) Heydon was born at Joplin, Montana on October 28, 1918. She was one of ten children born to Verne and Hollis (Robinson) Sauer. Verna received her early education at the Meldrum Country School and finished her schooling in Joplin.

She married Clyde H. Heydon on September 14, 1935 in Havre, Montana. Verna often reminisced about being a young bride who began raising a family soon after her marriage and the fond memories she had of growing up with her children.

Clyde worked for area farmers before they acquired their own place northwest of Joplin in the early 1940s. They bought a home in Joplin in 1947 and lived there throughout their married life. Clyde died in 1985. Verna remained in Joplin until 1994 when she moved to Great Falls.

She was fortunate to have excellent health until two months ago, when she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. She was being cared for at home in Great Falls by her family and hospice nurses. Verna died at her residence on Friday afternoon October 6, 2000. She was 81 years old.

Verna was baptized as a Jehovah Witness in 1972. She witnessed throughout the Golden Triangle community and she appreciated the many friendships she made during her travels. She was also a Jafra dealer for 25 years, so she developed a good base of customers and friends.

Verna's hobbies included sewing, crocheting, and flower gardening. She loved to cook and bake; her family remembers her delicious homemade relishes and angelfood cakes. During her personal time she enjoyed shopping. She loved beautiful clothes and jewelry; she was always immaculate in her dress and grooming.

She is survived by one daughter Peggy Stanberry of Joplin; three sons: Earl Heydon of Milpitas, California, Richard Heydon of Fort Benton, and Dean Heydon of Joplin; nine grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; four sisters: Verla Cady of Renton, Washington, Vivian Henderson of Boise, Idaho, Velma Adams of Spokane, Washington, and Varvarra Adams of Lakeside, Oregon; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Verna was preceded in death by her parents and husband, one sister Vera, and three brothers Verne, Victor, and Valois.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 10, 2000 at the Joplin Community Hall. The funeral discourse was shared by Roberto Munguia, minister. Vocal music by Connie Listoe and Peter Richert included "Keep Your Eyes on the Prize," and "All Things Made New." Ushers were Stanley Johnson and Gene Keith. Pallbearers included Chet Knab, Paul Johnson, Peter Richert, Mike Richert, Mark Holzheimer and Kevin Pierson. Honorary bearers were "all of

Verna's friends." Burial at the Joplin Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. A coffee hour followed at the Joplin Hall. Memorials will be given to the Peace Hospice of Montana, Box 7008, Great Falls, MT 59403.

## FREDERICH VALENTINE HODGES

Born: January 25, 1926 - Died: March 25, 2000

Liberty County Times

March 29, 2000

### ***Frederich Hodges***

Frederich Valentine Hodges, age 74 of Lovell, Wyoming, died Saturday March 25, 2000 at North Big Horn Hospital in Lovell, of congenital heart failure.

Fred was born in Chester, Montana on January 25, 1926, the only child of Sarah E. Young and Harry Lee Hodges. He grew up on the family homestead of his father and uncle, a wheat farm in Joplin, Montana. His father died when he was about 12. He and his mother continued to live and work on the farm with his uncle and two cousins, Wes and Lee Hodges, until he was 30 years old.

During his time on the farm, he married Susan R. Sanford in Havre, Montana. They had two daughters, Patricia Ann, and Kathy Marie. Fred moved with his family to Whitefish, Montana, where he opened Sally's Restaurant. He and Susan were divorced shortly thereafter in 1955. It was during the two years at the restaurant that he met his second wife, Virginia Wendt. They were married in Whitefish. She later died of cancer.

On September 1, 1989 Fred married Rosalie Robertson Layne in Whitefish. They lived in Whitefish for the next six years. They then decided to move to Lovell, where they have been ever since.

Fred loved to go. He was addicted to Dairy Queen ice cream and MacDonald's. Aside from family, his other great loves were fishing, prospecting, running around the hills looking for rocks, and talking about dinosaurs and aliens.

Two years ago it was necessary for Fred's leg to be amputated. That was when he became the life of his new home, New Horizon's Care Center. He loved it there. His latest passion was the new aviary.

Fred was preceded in death by his parents and second wife, and one step-grandson.

He is survived by his wife Rosalie of Lovell; his daughters Patricia Ann and husband Kenneth Knutson of Whitefish, and Kathy Marie and husband Howard Scott of Columbia Falls, Montana; grandchildren Wendy and Kelly Dutton, Brenda Delang, Kelly Knutson, and Keith Knutson; 7 great-grandchildren; and a cousin Leland Hodges. He is also survived by 8 step-children, Mildred and Bob Bate, Jack and Rozi Layne, Earl and Mary Layne, and John and Debbie Layne, all of Brookings, Oregon; Alton and Pat Layne of Port Orange, Florida; Wiley and Carol Layne, Lois Layne, Melvin and Marwyn Layne all of Lovell, all their families; and the many special people in his life.

Funeral services will be held Saturday April 1, 2000 at 1:00 pm in the Lovell LDS Stake House, West Chapel, with burial to follow in the Lovell Cemetery. Haskell Funeral Home of Lovell in charge of arrangements.

## JENNIE LEORA HODGES

Born: July 25, 1908 - Died: January 15, 2000

Liberty County Times

January 26, 2000



### **Leora Hodges**

Jennie Leora Hodges, age 91, passed away early Saturday morning January 15, 2000 at the Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork, Montana.

Graveside services were 2:00 pm Wednesday January 19 at the Joplin Cemetery. Prayers were conducted by Rev. David Aaseng. Pallbearers were Leland Hodges, Dan Hodges, Dale Hodges, Terry Hodges, Scott Hodges, and Andrew Atcheson. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Undesignated memorials will be given to the QRU in Bigfork.

Leora's father was O. D. Hill, who was born and raised at Joplin, Missouri. At age 22 he moved to Iowa to find work. While there, he met Mary Phelps at a dance. They were married and moved to Rugby, North Dakota.

Leora was born in Rugby on July 25, 1908. She was the second of nine children born to the Hill's. At age 3 she came to Montana with her parents, who homesteaded in the Goldstone community north of Joplin. Leora received her education at the Goldstone Country School, then helped raise her younger siblings due to her mother's poor health. In addition, she babysat for neighbors and helped with the farm chores. Leora met her husband-to-be Frank Hodges, in the Goldstone community.

In the early 1920's many Montana homesteaders traveled to Bremerton, Washington to supplement their incomes. In 1923-24 Frank was working in the shipyards and Leora was working in the laundry business. They were married in Seattle on March 20, 1924. They eventually moved back to Montana, where they lived and worked on the Hodges' farm near Joplin during the rest of their married life. Leora loved her role as a farmwife and mother of two sons. She raised chickens and a big garden every year and played an active role in the farming operations. In 1975 the Hodges retired and moved to Bigfork.

Leora's husband died on June 12, 1993. Leora remained at home in Bigfork until October of 1999 when her health failed and she transferred to the Lakeview Care Center.

Leora enjoyed her independence, but remained very loyal to her family and friends. She loved writing and receiving letters and visiting with old

friends. Her hobbies included sewing, crocheting, and making quilts for her grandchildren. She was an exceptional homemaker and cook; her family will remember her delicious homemade breads. A special tribute was the fact that she always considered the feelings and needs

of others before her own. She and Frank were pleased when their only surviving son Leland moved to Bigfork in 1980 to be near them during their retirement years.

Leora's family included her son Leland and his wife Lorraine of Bigfork; one sister Anne Ward and husband Julius of Mesa, Arizona; one brother Walter Hill and wife Dorothy of Fortuna, California; two sisters-in-law Mildred Hill of Pullman, Washington, and Genevieve Hill of Centralia, Washington; 6 grandchildren including: Starla Atcheson, Dan Hodges, Dale Hodges, Terry Hodges, Chris Hodges and Desiree Alkire; 14 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a son Wesley, one sister Verda, and 5 brothers Wesley, Arthur, Ray, Lloyd, and Bobby.

REBECCA M. HOFER

Born: September 5, 1975 - Died: January 5, 2000

Liberty County Times

January 12, 2000

### ***Rebecca Hofer***

Rebecca M. Hofer, age 24, of the Eagle Creek Hutterite Colony at Galata, passed away Wednesday at the Marias Medical Center due to cystic fibrosis.

Funeral services were Noon Friday at the Eagle Creek Colony with burial in the Colony Cemetery. Whitted Funeral Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Rebecca was born September 5, 1975 at Rim Rock colony near Sunburst, Montana to Michael and Martha (Entz) Hofer. When Rebecca was 7 years old, the family moved to the Eagle Creek Colony, where she has lived ever since.

Rebecca was an excellent seamstress, and loved reading, and being with her friends.

Survivors include her parents, sisters Rosa and Justine Hofer, grandfather Jacob Hofer, all of Eagle Creek Colony; special nieces Rebecca and Miriam Hofer; and numerous aunts and uncles.

## ELMER JAMES JENSEN

Born: October 5, 1923 - Died: September 29, 2000

Liberty County Times

October 11, 2000



**Elmer Jensen**

Elmer James Jensen was born on the family homestead south of Joplin, Montana on October 5, 1923. He was one of six children born to Jens Jensen and Katherine "Katie" Zeltinger, who homesteaded in Montana in 1909. Elmer received his formal education at Inverness then began working on the family farm south of town. He eventually took over the farming operations. He lived and worked south of Inverness his entire life.

In 1996 Elmer leased out his farm and moved to the Personal Care Wing at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. He was recently admitted to the Liberty County Hospital, where he was treated for diabetes and heart problems. He died at the hospital on Friday evening September 29, 2000. He was 76 years old.

Jensen had been active at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness. He was baptized and confirmed there, was a member of the Knights of Columbus, and had helped with various remodeling projects over the years.

Elmer loved his life as a Montana farmer and enjoyed the simple things in life. He loved to attend rodeos and fairs. He was fond of Country-Western music. During his quiet time at home he enjoyed watching television, and he was an avid fan of professional wrestling. He also enjoyed fishing.

Elmer never married. He kept close ties with his siblings; he always spent the holiday season with them whenever he could. He also enjoyed a special relationship with many of his nephews and nieces.

Jensen is survived by one sister Irene McCann of Osburn, Idaho; and numerous nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers Art and Ernest Jensen, and two sisters Helen Adams and Pearl Schweitzer.

Vigil Prayers were 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness. The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Diekhans at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday at the church. Iris White was organist and Marcus

Jochim was vocalist. Songs were "Amazing Grace," "The Old Rugged Cross," and other selected hymns. Jan Phillips shared readings, Dennis Mangold was Altar Server, and Vern Moog served as Eucharistic Minister. Pallbearers included Barlow Haaland, Duane Fraser, Dalton Dahike, Jack Adams, Roger Evans, Jim Fraser and Don Adams. Honorary bearers were all of Elmer's nephews and nieces. A luncheon followed at the church.

Graveside services were 2:00 p.m. Wednesday at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## RUSSELL FOIX JOHANNSEN

Born: October 30, 1917 - Died: April 29, 2000

Liberty County Times

May 3, 2000

### ***Russell Johannsen***

Russell Foix Johannsen, age 82 of Sunburst, passed away Saturday April 29 at the Marias Medical Center in Shelby due to natural causes. Funeral services were held at 2:00 pm Tuesday May 2, 2000 at the Sunburst Methodist Church. Burial with military honors followed at the Sunburst Cemetery. Visitation was Monday May 1, 2000 from 1:00 -8:00 pm at the Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Memorials suggested to the Sunburst Methodist Church, or Engel and Spark Park. Arrangements by Whitted Funeral Chapel, Shelby.

Russell was born October 30, 1917 to Cleve and Lillie (Foix) Johannsen on the family homestead near Dunkirk, Montana. He attended Evergreen School in rural Toole County up to the Second Grade before the family moved to the Sunburst area. After graduating from Sunburst High School in 1937, he attended Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis for electrical engineering for one year.

He was inducted into the US Army in April 1941 and was stationed in the Aleutian Islands in Alaska, the European Theatre of Operations, and United States, and was honorably discharged in 1944.

He married Rita Bernadette Byrne on April 23, 1955 in Sunburst where they lived and farmed. she died in 1979. He married Joyce Sciacqua Murray on February 6, 1982 in Tyler, Texas. Russell retired in Sunburst from farming in 1986.

He was a member of Masonic Lodge #143, VFW Post #8942, American Legion Post #73, Royal Arch, Friendship Club, and served on the Northern Telephone Board of Directors for over 25 years. He also served on the North Toole County Cemetery Board, and was a member of the Sunburst Ambulance, and the Sunburst Library Board for many years.

Russell enjoyed going to auctions, assisting with military funerals, Memorial Day military services in Toole County, and Remembrance Day in Lethbridge. He also loved playing cards, collecting rocks, visiting with friends, gardening, remodeling of his home, dancing, working on anything mechanical, and spending time with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife Joyce of Sunburst; daughters Nona Byrne of Sunburst, and Barbara Johannsen of Monrovia, California; son Cleve and wife Jonette Johannsen of Sunburst; brother Jay and wife Beverly Johannsen of rural Toole County; sister Margie and husband Jim Leary of Sunburst; stepchildren Glee Murray of Washington, DC, and Gregg Murray of Apoka, Florida; grandchildren Kimberly Byrne, Kallie Johannsen, Darcey Johannsen, and John Johannsen, all of Sunburst.

Russell was preceded in death by a sister Virginia Engel.

## ROSE MARIE JOSEPH

Born: August 29, 1910 - Died: November 25, 2000

Liberty County Times

January 10, 2001

Rose Marie Joseph of Forest Grove, Oregon, died November 25, 2000, of natural causes. She was 90.

She was born August 29, 1910, in Joplin, Montana, to Kathrine (Rehal) and Solomon Shamey, immigrants from Lebanon. She was raised on a wheat farm in Chester, Montana, attended high school there, then completed two years of business college.

She married Louis M. Joseph December 29, 1936, in Chester, Montana. On their wedding night they boarded a train for Portland, Oregon. They lived there until 1940 when they moved to Stevenson, Washington to help Julius Rehal run Stevenson Public Market. Mr. Rehal turned the market over to them in 1952.

In 1956 they purchased Martha's Five and Dime store and in 1972 they built the shopping center in Stevenson.

Mrs. Joseph was a member of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church and was active in the Altar Society. She loved playing cards and was a member of a bridge club. She

also loved gardening, cooking and was a true homemaker.

Preceding her in death was her husband, Louis who died December 16, 1981.

Survivors include her daughters, Sharon R. Giansante of Forest Grove, Oregon, Patricia A. Newell of Ft. Lewis, Washington, and Michele Kay Seimetz of Phoenix, Arizona; son James Joseph of Stevenson; sister, Lorraine Vie of Pasco, Washington; 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

A service was held November 29 with burial at Wind River Cemetery. Gardner Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Donations may be made to the Rose Joseph Dedicated Fund, c/o Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, P.O. Box 901, Stevenson, WA 98648.



## LADA JAMES KAFKA

Born: August 23, 1922 - Died: September 13, 2000

Liberty County Times

September 20, 2000



### **Lada Kafka**

Lada James Kafka, age 78, died Wednesday morning September 13, 2000 at Northern Montana Hospital in Havre following a long battle with cancer.

Private Memorial Services are being planned by the family at the Eleskay Ranch. Cremation and arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" in Great Falls or the Northern Montana Hospital Foundation in Havre.

Lada was born on the family homestead near Fort Assiniboine southeast of Havre on August 23, 1922. He was one of three children born to George and Josefa (Rypalova) Kafka, immigrants from Czechoslovakia. His early schooling was at a country school near the farm. He graduated from Havre High School in 1939, continuing his education at Northern Montana College.

Lada took over the family farm following the death of his father. He married Sylvia Sara Schafer on June 7, 1944 in Chester, Montana. They made their home on the farm the rest of their married life and raised a family of four. They lived in Havre briefly during the 1950s when Lada worked with the ASCS, but returned to the farm, deciding it was the first, last, and best place to be. He was active in the farm and ranch operations from 1941 to 1998.

Lada served as a Hill County Senator in the 1965 Montana State Legislature. During that session he was Vice-Chairman of the Journal Committee. He also served on the Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor Committee, and the Fish and Game Committee. His assignments for the 1967 Legislature included Chairman of the Public Lands, and Journal Committees, member of Agriculture, Commerce, and Labor Committees, and member of the Taxation Committee. An active Democrat, Lada enjoyed those years in the State Senate.

The Kafkas loved to travel. They made frequent trips to the Czech Republic to visit relatives during those years from 1975-1993. In addition, he sponsored American visits of four relative families from Czechoslovakia in the 1980s. Lada and Sylvia wintered in Sun City, Arizona where he could be close to his brother George. The Kafkas celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary this past summer.

Lada is survived by his wife Sylvia of south Havre; one son Kim Kafka, also of south Havre; three daughters: Ladene Kafka Mangold of Big Sandy, Dejtra Kraske of south Havre, and Dorcie Dvarishkis of Missoula; 11 grandchildren; one great-grandson; one sister May Orga of Big Sandy; numerous nephews, nieces; and relatives in the Czech Republic.

Lada was preceded in death by his parents and his brother George in January 2000.

## BARRY ALLAN KINYON

Born: May 8, 1947 - Died: March 8, 2000

Liberty County Times

March 22, 2000

### ***Barry Kinyon***

Barry Allan Kinyon, age 52, of Kalispell, formerly of Galata passed away Wednesday March 8 at the Kalispell Regional Hospital due to pancreatic cancer.

Funeral services were held at 1:30 pm Sunday March 12, 2000 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby, followed by burial with military honors in the Mountain View Cemetery. Family suggests memorials to the Galata American Legion Post #69 or the Cancer Research Fund. Whitted Funeral Chapel in charge of arrangements.

Barry was born May 8, 1947 at Shelby to Dale and Evelyn (Hawkins) Kinyon. He grew up on the family farm near Galata where he attended Greenhill country school and later graduated from Shelby High School in 1964. He attended two years at the Billings Business College and served in the US Navy during the Vietnam era from 1967 to 1970.

Barry married Cheryl Nielsen April 25, 1970. They began their lives farming and raising a family. He spent a lifetime farming near Galata, until his recent retirement to Kalispell.

Kinyon was a member of the Lutheran church and the American Legion. His hobbies were boating, woodworking, collecting pocket watches and shooting gophers.

Barry is survived by his wife Cheryl Kinyon of Kalispell; sons Jeff Kinyon and fiancée Clarissa Kappel of Boulder City, Nevada, Jason Kinyon of Kalispell, and Jeremy Kinyon of Fort Benton and his fiancée Nancy Lenhardt of Shelby; sister and brother-in-law Shirley and Dave Leck of Galata; stepmother Evelyn Wolf Kinyon of Shelby; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Barry was preceded in death by his parents.

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## ROSE MARIE (SEDIVY) KOCAR

Born: March 24, 1905 - Died: April 26, 2000

Liberty County Times

May 3, 2000



### Rose Kocar

Rose Marie (Sedivy) Kocar, age 95, died Wednesday morning April 26, 2000 of heart failure at the Providence Alaska Medical Center. She was spending the winter with her daughter and son-in-law in Anchorage, Alaska at the time of her illness.

Rose was born March 24, 1905 at Grafton, North Dakota, Walsh County. She was the youngest of three children born to Thomas and Mary (Vakoch) Sedivy. In 1913 the Sedivys came by train to Hingham, where her father started the "Chicago Store" to serve the homesteaders and settlers in the new community on the plains of Montana.

Rose completed her education at Hingham; she was proud to be one of four students in the very first graduating class of Hingham High School in 1924. During her school years and after graduation, she helped her father, who was ill with diabetes, run the store. It was a general merchandise store which carried groceries, meat, dry goods, drugs, clothing, hardware, dishes, shoes, and a Root Beer fountain. Rose did the ordering, kept the books, displayed the merchandise, cut the meat, visited with the customers, and completed any other details that made the "Chicago Store" a successful and well-known business on the Hi-Line.

Rose married Emil Kocar at Hingham on October 10, 1933. They honeymooned at the Chicago World's Fair. The Kocars made their home in the original residence attached to the store and began raising two daughters. Unfortunately, Emil died from acute appendicitis in 1940. Rose continued to operate the store, while raising her children and supporting her mother and an uncle for several years. She never remarried, but worked hard to provide for her family and to see that her daughters both received college educations.

Rose operated, expanded and modernized the store in Hingham until 1957, then sold it. Soon after, she planned and built a home for herself. She has been a resident of Hingham for 87 years! After retiring, Rose enjoyed travel, spending several winters in Florida with her sister and nephew. She eventually traveled to all 50 states as well as Canada, the Bahamas, and Europe, including Czechoslovakia—the birth place of her mother and grandparents. She spent the last 10 winters with her daughter and family in Anchorage, and enjoyed trips during the last year to Michigan, Florida, Washington, and Idaho.

Rose had many hobbies. She liked to crochet and made many afghans over the years. She collected bells and thimbles and also enjoyed her souvenir plates and lead crystal. She liked to work in her yard and garden when she was able. During her quiet hours at home she enjoyed writing and corresponding with friends. Rose liked television, especially current events and news programs. She loved to bake; she will be remembered for her delicious cookies, rolls, and Kolaches (a special Bohemian bread). She remained interested in business affairs, in fact she kept accurate records of her own financial matters and completed her own income tax forms until three years ago.

A charter and lifelong member of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church, Rose served as church organist for 25+ years. Essentially a self-taught musician, she had only 6 piano lessons. In addition, she was a member of the church Altar Society, and had served as President of the group. Rose always found great comfort in her faith and lived her life to reflect her strong beliefs.

Rose was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by her sister Mary Sorenson, her brother Vincent Sedivy, a special niece Mae Nickens, and a special nephew Edwin Sorenson.

She is survived by two daughters: Dr. Marcella Kocar of Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, and Mary Ann Brockway and husband Ron of Anchorage,

Alaska; three grandchildren and spouses Tom and Kelley Brockway of Anchorage, Risa and Bobby Amparan of Anchorage, and Janine and George Raybe of Elk Grove, California; 7 great-grandchildren; her sister-in-law Mildred Sedivy of Hingham; nephews James and Joyce Sedivy of Swan Lake, and Vince Sedivy of Eureka; grand-niece Bonny Nickens of Spokane; and grand-nephew Lowell and Vicki Nickens of Portland, Oregon.

Rose's family will remember her as especially kind-hearted and thoughtful. Her vocabulary included only kind and loving words. She possessed a desire and ability to empathize with and understand others. She was always independent, never wanting to be an imposition on anyone. She loved music, especially church and Classical varieties, and she used her talent as an excellent pianist for her own enjoyment as well as a means to express her faith. She kept up on current events, enjoyed politics, loved to read the local newspapers, and was addicted to CNN. She loved to shop for bargains and to examine all of the newest merchandise. She took pride in her appearance and looked forward to new clothes and

jewelry. She was a wonderful role model of a successful business-woman (before it was fashionable), a loving mother who also served as a loving father, a counselor, confidant, advisor, and listener. She always encouraged her family to experience new horizons and to maintain a positive attitude.

Vigil Prayers were led by Father Joseph Diekhans at 7:00 pm Monday May 1, 2000 at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. Iris White played many of Rose's favorite organ hymns and the congregation sang "Queen of the Holy Rosary," "To Jesus' Heart all Burning," and "Mother Dear, Oh Pray for Me."

The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joe at the church on Tuesday morning May 2 at 11:00 am. The Mass opened with a special vocal tribute by granddaughter Janine Raybe entitled "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman." Mrs. White was organist and Marcus Jochim was vocalist. Favorite songs performed during the Mass included "On This Day, Oh Beautiful Mother," "Pans Angelicus," "Oh Lord I am not Worthy," "Ave Maria," and "Holy God, we Praise Thy Name." Altar servers were Dan and Terry Hybner, and ushers were Jim Pester, and Virgil Jurenka. Scripture readings were by grandchildren Risa Amparan and Tom Brockway. The communion gifts were presented by great-grandchildren Alyssa Amparan and Benjamin Brockway. Eucharistic ministers were Mary Lois Hybner, and Maryle Lynn Pester. The eulogy was given by Rose's two daughters and a granddaughter Janine Raybe. Pallbearers were Tom Brockway, Robert Amparan, George Raybe, Lowell Nickens, Jerry Hybner, and Ed Schweitzer. Honorary bearers were Ron Brockway, Ron Groseclose, Matt Lipp, Noel Preeshl, Chris Richter, and all of her many friends were kind and helpful to her during her 87 years in Hingham. Interment was at the Hingham Cemetery with arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. A luncheon followed at the church.

Memorials can be given to the First Responders in Hingham, Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham, the Montana "Gift of Life" Foundation, P.O. Box 1821, Gt. Falls, MT 59403, or donor's choice.

## WALTER LAAS

Born: January 27, 1917 - Died: August 22, 2000



### Walter Laas

Walter Laas was born on the family homestead northwest of Chester, Montana on January 27, 1917. He was the eldest of six children born to Nickolas "Nick" Laas and Lisa "Lizzie" Kerbes, both immigrants from Estonia. Walt grew up on the farm and received his early education at the Trommer Country School. He finished his schooling in Chester, graduating from CHS in 1935, then went on to Northern Montana College in Havre, where he received a two-years teaching certificate. Walt was offered a teaching job, but his father needed him back on the farm, so he obliged. Young and energetic, he began his life as an entrepreneur.

During the Depression years, Walt bought animal hides from local ranchers, then marketed the hides to Beckman's in Great Falls. While in Great Falls he would purchase a load of used tires for sale to local farmers. With his profits he managed to buy some acreage near the home place in 1942. The Laas family purchased a beer parlor in Chester, which Walt managed and operated for 12 years. During that time he bought his first Caterpillar and went into the construction business. His days were spent building reservoirs and moving dirt, and his afternoons and evenings were spent tending to business at Laas' Bar.

### Liberty County Times

August 30, 2000

Walt was a lifelong Democrat and politics had always been an important part of his life. He first ran for public office in 1939. While campaigning door-to-door he met his wife-to-be, Lila E. Ward. They were married in Great Falls on June 17, 1939. They made their home in Chester from that time on. Walt was first elected as a Montana State Representative in 1949. Although his eight terms were not consecutive, he served numerous times throughout the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. During one of his terms, he served as Speaker Pro Tem. Walt was proud of his role in state government. A loyal public servant, he always stressed the importance of service in his commitments. A point of interest was the fact that Walt was a member of the welcoming committee for President Truman on his visit to Montana in 1950.

In addition to politics, Walt owned and operated Laas Construction. He worked as a contractor and builder of roads throughout the state. Some of his bigger jobs included the road work at Swan Lake, Yaak River, and Thompson Falls. Locally, he built the reservoir for the Chester sewer lagoon and did the pipeline work for the water system to Chester from Lake Elwell. In the early 1970s he began working in the Browning community. He bought a 700 acre ranch there in 1978; on this ranch he operated a gravel pit and ready-mix plant. Walt loved his work in Browning and he developed many friendships in the Blackfeet community. When the Browning Bank suffered some financial difficulties, he was one of the investors who attempted to get the bank back on its feet. Walt looked forward to his early morning breakfast club in Browning, where he ate and socialized with local residents, including his good friend Bob Sriver. Walt remained active in his construction business until two years ago, when his health began to fail. He had been in and out of the hospital numerous times this past year. Walt died at the Liberty County

Hospital in Chester on the morning of Tuesday, August 22, 2000. He was 83 years old.

Walt was always community minded. A charter member of the Chester Lions Club and a past chairman of the Chester School Board, Walt also served as the Chester City Mayor in 1975. Other memberships included the Shelby Elks and the Moose and Eagle Lodges. As a legislator he was involved in many new bills, but most notable was Walt's introduction of the \$5 speeding ticket in response to the Federal government's demand for energy conservation.

Walt was baptized as an adult at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. In 1971 he was uplifted after attending a religious cursillo.

As a hobby since childhood, Walt collected stamps and coins. He enjoyed playing cards, especially Pinochle. He was an avid fan of the NFL and his favorite team was the Denver Broncos. He enjoyed watching CNN and "The Price is Right" on television.

Being the oldest child in the Laas family, Walt was always protective of his siblings, even after they became adults. He always appreciated those times they came to him for advice.

Walt and Lila were married 61 years. They had their first grandchild in the year of their 50th wedding anniversary, so they've really enjoyed their grandchildren in their 'golden years.' Although Walt continued to be a dedicated worker to age 80, he did enjoy some family time at their lake home located between Elmo and Big Arm in the Flathead valley. The Laas' also enjoyed several trips to Las Vegas and Hawaii.

Walt always had a good sense of humor and an infectious laugh. He loved life and enjoyed the most simple things in life. He always had a loyal dog that traveled up and down Highway 2 with him; two of his favorites were "Sham" and "Cuddle-bunny." Although life was good to him, he jokingly gave himself the nickname that stuck—Poor Ole Walt!

(over)

The one thing that was truly remarkable about Walt was his natural ability to look at a construction job and to estimate the total yards of earth that had to be moved or hauled in to complete the job. Engineers with pencils, paper, and

calculators were always amazed at Walt's special gift of estimating these jobs.

Walt is survived by his wife Lila of Chester; one son Jim Laas of Gig Harbor, Washington; two daughters and spouses Darlene and Ron Burnett of Billings, and Trudy and Alan Skari of Chester; two grandchildren Kirk and Olivia Skari of Chester; three sisters Mabel Schultz of Hamilton, Edna Leffler of Manson, Washington, and Billie Hamel of Shelby; and numerous nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a daughter Gale Ione Laas, and two brothers Charles and Gus Laas.

Memorial services were 11:00 a.m. Saturday, August 26 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with Rev. Peter Erickson officiating. Gail Cicon was pianist and the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art." Vocalist Kama Morton performed "Hymn of Promise." Family friend Sylvia Jensen served as eulogist. Ushers were Rob Laas and Steve Hamel. Memorial bearers were listed as all of Walt's old friends - past and present.

Following graveside prayers and burial of ashes at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

Undesignated memorials will be given to the Liberty County Hospice and the Shodair Children's Hospital of Helena.

## RICHARD ANTHONY LAIRD

Born: October 16, 1925 - Died: March 13, 2000

Liberty County Times

March 22, 2000



### **Richard Laird**

Richard Anthony Laird was born at Chester, Montana on October 16, 1925. His parents were John Robertson Laird and Marie Irene Daly, and he was one of six children. Richard grew up on the family ranch 17 miles north of Joplin. He received his formal education at the Alma Country School, then began working on the farm.

At age 20 Richard enlisted into the US Army. He served in the military during the final years of World War II, but was fortunate to fulfill his obligation stateside. At the time of his honorable discharge in 1947, he had attained the rank of Corporal.

He returned to Montana to the family farm where he worked with his brothers Jim and Bob. He lived and worked on the Laird Ranch from that time on. In 1981 Richard was treated for a perforated ulcer, so he retired and moved to Great Falls. About two years ago he was diagnosed with cancer. In 1999 he moved to the Toole County Nursing Home in Shelby, then transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester on this past February 20, 2000. He died at the Chester hospital on the early morning of Monday March 13th. He was 74 years old.

Richard was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus in Chester. After moving to Great Falls, he enjoyed serving as Lector at St. Ann's Cathedral. A devout Christian, he was loyal to his daily prayers and devotions.

Before his eyesight failed five years ago, Richard was an avid reader. His family will remember his philosophical views and good sense of humor. Some of his personality traits are reflected in a short book entitled "The Barnyard Hawk" which he wrote and published many years ago.

Richard enjoyed traveling. He looked forward to his frequent trips to Las Vegas where he liked to play Keno. In his younger days he enjoyed those many off-road motorcycle excursions throughout Montana.

Although he was generally a quiet and reserved man, he developed many lasting friendships over the years. Richard never married. His only survivors are his brother James Laird of Chester; his sister Rita Melonas of Vancouver, Washington; and numerous nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers (John, Donald and Robert).

Funeral Mass was celebrated at 2:00 pm Thursday March 16 by Father Joseph Diekhans at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Iris White provided organ music. Vocalists Anne Melton and Marcus Jochim performed "Hosea," "Valley of Green," "Gift of Finest Wheat," and "Ave Maria." A taped bagpipe rendition of "Amazing Grace" ended the service. Eulogist was John Laird, and Reader was Scott Laird. Altar Servers were Kayla and Kurt Matkin. Tom Graff served as Eucharistic Minister. Pallbearers were five nephews: John W. Laird, John F. Laird, Jim Laird, Mike Laird, and Scott Laird. Interment was at the Chester Cemetery with military rites. A luncheon was provided by the Altar Society at the home of Jim and Pat Laird. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

LOUISE E. LANE

Born: August 7, 1915 - Died: October 19, 2000

Liberty County Times

October 25, 2000

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***Louise Lane***

Louise E. Lane was born August 7, 1915 in Chester, Montana to Martha Louise and George Watson Ross.

She passed away at Community Hospital in Missoula, Montana on Oct. 19, 2000 at the age of 85.

Louise is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law: Carol and David Brown of Corvallis, Montana, and Connie and Joe Ri of Corvallis; four sisters: Helen Kidder of Missoula, Marjorie Martin of Regent, North Dakota, Gweneth Moen of Kalispell, and Georgie Wickburg of Missoula; ten grandchildren; six great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial service was Monday, October 23, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. at Dowling Funeral Home in Hamilton, Montana.

She was a former resident of the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester.

Chester relatives are a sister-in-law Myra Sitch, and a niece Gienda Nealy.



## JULIA CATHERINE LARSEN

Born: May 22, 1917 - Died: August 19, 2000



### **Julia Larsen**

Julia Catherine (Kasel) Larsen was born at Barron County, Wisconsin on May 22, 1917. She was one of ten children born to Mathias and Maria (Thurmes) Kasel. Julia was raised on the family farm in Wisconsin and received her formal education there.

She worked for a telephone company in St. Paul, Minnesota for several years. In the late 1940s she came to Montana to work in the national park system. Her first year here she was employed at Yellowstone. Her second year she worked at a hotel in Glacier Park. On a weekend off from work, Julia and some friends were hitch-hiking and sightseeing through Glacier when they were offered a ride by a Montana man. This man was a Galata area farmer by the name of Quinten Larsen. He and Julia developed a special relationship from that first meeting, and they were eventually married in Shelby on September 28, 1950. During the past 49+ years together, they lived and farmed at Galata and raised a family of six children.

The Larsens were well-known in the Hi-Line community between Shelby and Chester. A sociable couple, they attended many weddings, funerals, and other events. Julia's health had begun to fail this past year, but she still enjoyed getting out into the community. In fact, she and Quinten went out for a nice

### **Liberty County Times**

**August 23, 2000**

dinner together on this past Friday evening. On Saturday morning August 19, 2000 she became ill at home. She was admitted to the Marias Medical Center in Shelby where she died later that morning. She was 83 years old.

Julia was raised in a good Christian home; after her marriage to Quinten she established her own Christian home here. She was active in the Galata Lutheran Church and WELCA.

She loved her life as a farm wife and homemaker. Julia was a good cook; her family will remember her delicious scalloped potatoes and her homemade lefse. In her quiet time she enjoyed embroidery, crocheting, and word-search games. During family time she loved to play Canasta and Tri-ominoes. As a hobby she collected spoons and made sequined calendars. Julia was a loyal and considerate friend, always sending cards (sometimes without any particular reason) to those people most dear to her. The past 15 years have been special because she loved to attend the many events of her grandchildren.

Julia and Quinten have been inseparable, except those rare occasions when Quinten went on scouting camp-outs. It was during those times that she kiddingly referred to herself as a 'Boy Scout widow.' The Larsens would have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary next month.

In addition to her husband, Julia is survived by five daughters: Catherine Eklund of Shelby, Betty Dickison of Paris, Illinois; Rita Hegland and husband Doug of Whitefish, Ann Vraa and husband Duane of Shelby, and Tammie Dibblee and husband Jeff of Havre; one son Joe Larsen and wife Barb of Galata; 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three sisters: Gertrude Lesch, Josephine Samec, and Tracy Kiemen all of St. Paul, Minnesota; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in

death by her parents and six siblings.

Funeral services will be 10:00 am Wednesday August 23 at the Galata Lutheran Church with Rev. Chuck Woodworth officiating. Piano prelude music will be by granddaughter Valerie Hegland. The organist will be Laila Lindberg, and the congregation will sing "How Great Thou Art." Vocalist/guitarist Carole Hanson will perform "In the Garden," and "Weave." Pallbearers and Honorary bearers will be all of Julia's grandchildren. Ushers will be Luke and Erin Steinbacher. Following burial at the Galata Cemetery, a luncheon will be held at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Undesignated memorials will be given to a trust fund at the Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp.

## JESSIE LEE LASICH

Born: October 4, 1907 - Died: January 8, 2000

Liberty County Times

January 26, 2000

### *Jessie Lasich*

Jessie Lee Lasich was born October 4, 1907 at New Rockford, North Dakota. She was the eldest of four children born to Lee and Leone Violett. They lived in Dakota for a few years and later moved to Montana while Jessie Lee was still a small child.

Jessie attended the local schools at Lothair until high school, then attended the Galata and Chester High Schools. After graduation Jessie attended the State Normal College (known as Western Montana College today) in Dillon, and began her teaching career. She taught school at Tiber, Low, and Gardiner, Montana schools before marrying Matt Lasich.

Matt and Jessie lived on the Lasich ranch situated a few miles from Dillon on the Beaverhead River, where they raised cattle for many years. Jessie loved ranch life and raised a lovely garden and flowers. She also was an avid reader and enjoyed relaxing with a good book from the Dillon library.

Jessie belonged to the Home Demonstration Club for many years, and enjoyed the lessons presented at those meetings.

Matt and Jessie enjoyed many social activities and belonged to the "Old Fashioned Dancing Club" for a number of years.

They lived on the ranch for many years until they retired and purchased a home in Dillon. They lived happily there until Matt passed away in 1989. Jessie continued to live in her own home until the time of her death on Thursday morning January 8, 2000. She was 93 years old.

Jessie and Matt had no children of their own, so they were exceptionally devoted to all of their nieces and nephews...they are indeed 'favorite aunt and uncle.'

Memorial services were held at 2:00 pm Saturday at the Brundage Funeral Home in Dillon, Montana, and included devotions from John 14:1-7. Jessie asked that memorials be given to the Barrett Hospital Foundation, the local library, or to the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester.

Her survivors include one sister, Nellie Dornbos of Sheridan, Montana, a brother Archie Violett of Chester, and numerous nieces and nephews. Jessie was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and a brother Willis H. Violett of Shelby, Montana.

**IRENE B. WILLIAMS LATHROP**

**Born: April 24, 1908 - Died: June 28, 2000**

**The Sentinel -Havre**

**July 5, 2000**

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**IRENE LATHROP**

Irene B. (Williams) Lathrop, 92, of Havre, died at a Havre care center Wednesday, June 28, 2000 of natural causes.

Lathrop was born April 24, 1908 in Havre. She attended schools in Chester and graduated from high school there.

She married Alfred B. Lathrop Oct. 30, 1942 in Chinook. They lived in Havre and she worked as a practical nurse at Sacred Heart Hospital until retiring.

Lathrop was preceded in death by a son, Robert Wieweck.

Survivors include her husband, Alfred of Havre; daughter, Evelyn Blake of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; son, Richard Wieweck of Havre; numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

## RUDOLPH (RUDY) LEHMAN

Born: September 13, 1919 - Died: August 7, 2000

### Liberty County Times

August 16, 2000



**Rudolph Lehman**

Rudolph "Rudy" Lehman was born on the family ranch near Highwood, Montana on September 13, 1919. He was one of eight children born to Frank and Wilhemina (Wrage) Lehman. Rudy grew up on the ranch and received his formal education at the Big Sag School near the Highwood Mountains.

In the 1930s he worked for the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) at Missoula and Neihart, where he built roads and bridges. He also worked as a hunting guide and packer near Augusta for several years.

On July 14, 1943 Rudy married Margaret P. Collins at Great Falls. He attended the North Dakota School of Science in Wahpeton where he studied diesel mechanics and bookkeeping. The Lehmans returned to Great Falls where Rudy worked at the Ford tractor dealership and Tietjen Motors. In 1954 they moved to Chester where Rudy and his partner, Burnham Murray, opened and operated Tiber Tractor, which specialized in the sales and service of Ford tractor products. He sold his interest in the business to his partner in 1961.

The Lehmans continued to live in Chester, where Rudy farmed south of town in the Goosebill community. In addition he worked part-time for the Chester Implement Company. He and Margaret moved to the ranch on a permanent basis in 1986, but continued to maintain their home in Chester.

Rudy loved to work at the ranch. In fact, he was doing his own haying just a month ago. He developed some respiratory difficulties which resulted in a 3-week hospitalization at Benefis East in Great Falls. Rudy died at the hospital on this past Monday afternoon August 7, 2000. He was 80 years old.

During their years in Chester, the Lehmans were active in the United Methodist Church. Of interest was the fact that Rudy, Margaret, and their three children were all baptized together in 1959. Rudy also served as an assistant Boy Scout Master and had been a Chester City Council Representative. In addition he was a dedicated member of the Liberty County Conservation District, serving on the Board from 1969-2000. At the time of his death Rudy was an Associate Supervisor and the longest serving member on the Board.

After moving to Highwood, the Lehmans became active at the Community Bible Church in Fort Benton. Rudy was also a member of the Great Falls Eagles Lodge, and was a life-long member of the NRA (National Rifle Association).

Rudy's hobbies included hunting, fishing, camping, and traveling. In his quiet time at home he enjoyed jigsaw puzzles, and reading. He had a passion for politics and kept up on world news affairs. Although not a trained musician, he enjoyed playing the harmonica and violin. Rudy was an avid baseball fan; he loved it all—pro ball, college ball, the Great Falls Dodgers, and little league.

A hard working, humble man, Rudy will be remembered by his family as a wonderful father, dedicated husband, and loyal friend.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years Margaret, of Highwood; two daughters and spouses Carolyn and Dwight Kirsch of Port Angeles, Washington, and Donna and Arnold Kanewischer of Shelby; one son and spouse Mel and Amalia Lehman of Gainesville, Florida; seven grandchildren including Matt, Brad, Jill, Amy, Jeff, Amalie, and Marc; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Rudy was preceded in death by his parents, by three brothers Frank, Henry, and Bill, and by four sisters Catherine, Christine, Alma, and an infant sister.

Funeral services were 11:00 am Friday August 11, 2000 at the Community Bible Church in Fort Benton with Brent Ewing officiating. Vocal music by Kristofer Burton was "How Great Thou Art," accompanied by pianist Karla Ayres. Juanita Dietz served as organist and the congregation sang "Solid Rock," "Softly and Tenderly," "Standing on the Promises," and "When we all get to Heaven." Ushers were Paul Wellman and Don Linabary. Pallbearers were Mel Lehman, Marc Lehman, Dwight Kirsch, Matt Kirsch, Brad Kirsch, and Jeff Kanewischer. Old friends listed as Honorary Bearers included Arnold Kanewischer, Ed McCafferty, Soggy Bateman, Miles Swan, Herb Pasha, Carl Grossman, Brett Winderl, John Duncan, and Dean Martinez. A luncheon followed at the church.

Graveside services were 2:00 pm Friday at the Highland Cemetery in Great Falls. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to Impact Ministries c/o Community Bible Church, Fort Benton.

## GORDON CLIFFORD (PORKY) LERUM

Born: October 4, 1938 - Died: September 3, 2000



### **Gordon C. Lerum**

Gordon Clifford "Porky" Lerum was born at Sunburst, Montana on October 4, 1938. He was the eldest of seven children born to Clifford and Doris (Ruud) Lerum. Porky grew up and received his education in North Central Montana; the Lerums lived in the communities of Ethridge, Galata, Augusta, Valier, and Chester during Porky's early life.

At Age 17 he enlisted into the US Air Force. Most of his military training was in Texas, where he specialized in jet engine mechanics and received his GED. After five years in the Air Force, he was honorably discharged in 1961 and returned to Montana.

Porky began working for Greer Construction in Chester then took a job at Tiber Tractor as a mechanic and school bus driver. In the late 1960s he was employed as a mechanic at Keith Chevrolet. In the early 1970s he began working for Marias Equipment Company, a job he held for the next 20 years. His work at Marias Equipment included equipment assembly and painting, general mechanics, and truck driving. Porky quit working when the company sold and closed the Chester facility.

Liberty County Times

September 6, 2000

Porky married Shirley Mae Booth in Chester in 1968. After Shirley's death in 1992, Porky sold his home and moved to the Prairie Home Apartments. Porky and his brown pickup were seen daily around Chester, be it at the Post Office, a restaurant, or a local tavern.

On this past Friday afternoon he became ill while visiting friends downtown. A headstrong, independent man, he refused medical attention and went home to care for himself. Porky continued to be sick on Saturday and still declined medical help. Sadly, but true, he was found dead in bed at his residence on Sunday morning September 3, 2000. He was 61 years old.

Porky was a member of the Chester American Legion. In earlier years here he was an active participant in military funeral details, parades, Memorial Day services, and other veteran events. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and playing cards, especially Pinochle, Pan, and Whist. He also liked to play the Poker and Keno machines. As a hobby, Porky collected decorative bottles and mugs. In his quiet time at home he enjoyed watching Western movies and game shows...his favorites were "The Price Is Right," and "Wheel of Fortune." Porky enjoyed the simple things in life, like his old brown pickup, which he always kept 'shiny-clean.'

During his military years he received the nickname "Pork Chops," which was eventually shortened to "Porky." He responded to either name, and always reacted with that mischievous smile whenever he was greeted. Generally a quiet, private person, he loved to be around people. He appreciated friends who took time for him, sharing a story, a joke, or just including

him in the conversation. During his truck-driving days, his CB handle was "Mr. Moon," a name he often called himself in more recent years. Porky is survived by two brothers: Monte Lerum of Galata, and Westley Lerum of White City, Oregon; three sisters Vivian House of Apache

Junction, Arizona, Diane Marion of Quincy, Michigan, and Betty Heimbigner of Chester; and numerous nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and a brother Bruce Lerum.

Funeral services will be 2:00 pm Wednesday September 6, 2000 at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester with Rev. Charles Woodworth officiating. Special music by vocalist/guitarist Pete Woods will include "Amazing Grace," and "The Pilgrim." Pallbearers are Jay Nash, John Troy, Elroy Skarderud, Neil Harstad, Jerry Fraser, and Martyn Harstad. Honorary bearers are Emil Styke, Bob Aitken, Don Kuntz, Jim Carter, Jerry Larson, Dean Wolfe, Mike Dyr Dahl, Albert Hanson, and Porky's other friends. Interment with military rites will follow at the Chester Cemetery. A reception for family and friends will be held at the Grand Bar.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## JERRY MARK LINDBERG

Born: June 9, 1950 - Died: January 26, 2000

Liberty County Times

February 2, 2000

### *Jerry Lindberg*

Jerry Mark Lindberg, age 49, long time Ledger area farmer, passed away at his home on Wednesday, January 26, 2000. He had been in ill health for the past few years.

Jerry was born June 9, 1950 at Conrad to Mark and Laila (Iverson) Lindberg.

He graduated from Shelby High School in 1968, then attended Eastern College at Billings for a year, and one year at the Indiana College of Mortuary Science at Indianapolis.

Jerry married Linda Ford on December 30, 1970 at Indianapolis. The couple moved back to Ledger in 1974 to operate the family farm, where he has lived ever since.

Jerry was a member of the Golden West Lutheran Church, Marias Valley Golf and Country Club, Shelby JCs, Toole County Planning Board, and the Shelby Business and Sportsman's Club.

Jerry loved the outdoors, reading, golfing, dogs, and wild life in general.

Survivors include his wife Linda of Ledger; mother Laila Lindberg Matteson and her husband Bud Matteson; sister Dinah and husband Doug Helgeson, Ruth and husband Gene Flesch, and Heidi and husband Mike Alford, all of Shelby; four nephews and five nieces.

Jerry was preceded in death by his father Mark Lindberg on July 5, 1994.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 am Monday January 31, 2000 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby. Private family burial was in the Golden West Cemetery near Conrad. Memorials suggested to the Yellowstone Boys & Girls Ranch, Sagebrush Food Pantry of Shelby, Pondera County Food Pantry, or the Cascade County Humane Society.

Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby was in charge of arrangements

## LILLY IRENE (LIL) MADER

Born: March 1, 1923 - Died: July 5, 2000

Liberty County Times

July 12, 2000



### Lilly Mader

Lilly Irene "Lil" Mader was born at Stanley, North Dakota on March 1, 1923. She was one of five children born to Lester and Pearl (Songer) Chambers. Lil grew up at Stanley and Ross, North Dakota, where she received her formal education.

Lil married Bernard "Bernie" Mader at Sidney, Montana on August 30, 1941. They farmed in North Dakota prior to moving to Great Falls, Montana in 1945. Eight years later they came to Chester, where Bernie worked as an electrician. Lil stayed busy as homemaker and mother of two; in addition, she worked as a part-time bartender at the "Tip Top" and Vet's Club in Chester. In later years she was employed as a waitress at "Spud's Time Out" Cafe.

After 49 years of married life together, Bernie died in 1990. Lil lived in their Chester home from that time on. Her general health remained good, although she developed congestive heart failure. She was recently admitted to the Chester hospital with abdominal problems, then transferred to Great Falls for special care on July 2nd. Lil died at Benefis East Medical Center on Wednesday evening July 5, 2000. She was 77 years old.

Lil was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester and the Royal Neighbor's of America. She loved to crochet and she donated many of her handmade afghans to local raffles and charities. More importantly, she knitted special afghans for her grandchildren; these blankets will now be lifelong treasures. Her grandkids were the love of her life.

Her other hobbies were many. She collected coins and swan figurines. In her quiet time at home she enjoyed reading, and crossword puzzles. At Christmas time she made beaded ornaments. Lil loved to travel with her family and she enjoyed playing "Scrabble" at family gatherings. Bernie always raised a big vegetable garden; Lil loved to can the produce and share the 'fruits of her labor' with family and friends. An exceptional cook in her earlier years, her family will remember her delicious cinnamon rolls, ham & cheese buns, and four-layer bars. Lil enjoyed many simple things in life, like drinking coffee, or having lunch with family and friends most dear to her.

Lil is survived by a son and daughter-in-law Gary and Ernestine Mader of Lothair; a daughter Lori Tollefson of Rudyard; grandchildren Shannon and Ken Jackson, Skye Mader, Cory and Dana Tollefson, and Anna Hewitt; two great-grandchildren Carly Tollefson Hewitt, and Colton Tollefson; one brother Pete Chambers of Portland, Oregon; one sister Gladys Lee of Hawaii; special friends Debbie and Floyd Webb, and Iris White; and many nieces and nephews.

Lil was preceded in death by her husband and parents, an infant daughter, and two sisters Edith and Ardell.

Catholic funeral rites were conducted by Father Joseph Diekhans at 6:00 pm Monday evening July 10, at Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Scripture readings were by Marje Dahinden and Pat Ludwig. The eulogy was shared by Steve Webb. Iris White served as organist, and the congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross," and "How Great Thou Art." Memorial bearers were listed as Debbie and Floyd Webb, Iris White, Arlene Hagen, Pat and Ed Swank, Barbara Schaefer, and her other good friends. St. Mary's Altar Society hosted a luncheon at "Spud's Time Out" following the services. Final disposition per Lil's wishes was cremation.

## IDA "DOLLY" McCORMICK

Born: October 7, 1926 - Died: January 7, 2000

Liberty County Times

January 12, 2000



### **Ida McCormick**

Ida "Dolly" McCormick, age 73 of Joplin, passed away due to heart failure at her home on Friday Jan. 7, 2000.

Funeral services were 11:00 am Tuesday Jan. 12 at Bethel Lutheran Church at Joplin, with burial at 3:00 pm in the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester was in charge of arrangements.

Dolly was born October 7, 1926 on the family homestead south of Gildford, to Peder and Anna (Pederson) Mork. She attended schools in the area and graduated from Gildford High School in 1945.

Dolly married William McCormick on December 9, 1946 at Havre. He passed away in January of 1981.

The couple made their home in

Joplin where Dolly was a faithful housewife for many years. She also was a cook at the public school from 1965 until her retirement in 1989. She was very proud of her Norwegian heritage and kept in close contact with her relatives. She had once traveled to Norway for a visit.

Being an excellent cook she enjoyed fixing lefse, baking cookies, and other wonderful meals for her family.

Dolly was a member of Bethel Lutheran Church where she was very active in quilting. She had been active with the Community Fund Drive for many years.

Dolly loved all the comings and goings of her kids while they were growing up. The McCormick home was always buzzing with the kids' friends and their activities. Along with enjoying reading, gardening, and doing crossword puzzles, Dolly dearly loved playing board games with her grandchildren. Her family was her pride and joy.

Survivors include: one daughter Jan, and husband Dave Mlinar of San Diego, California; two sons Russ and wife Bonnie McCormick of Stevensville, Montana, and Bill and wife Vickie McCormick of Billings, Montana; one sister Bertha Anderson of Libby, Montana; nephew Bill Halverson; ten grandchildren including: Shannon and husband Jim Vaughn of Havre, Montana, Marc McCormick of Dillon, Montana, Michelle Olson of Havre, Lucas McCormick of Stevensville, Kari Tempel of Joplin, Montana, Jessica Mlinar of San Diego, Matthew Tempel of Joplin, Shawn McCormick of Billings, Amanda Mlinar of San Diego, and Johanna McCormick of Billings.

Dolly was preceded in death by her husband, and by children Mavis Olson, and Denise and husband Jerry Tempel, three brothers, and three sisters.



## DONALD GEORGE MEYER

Born: July 18, 1911 - Died: March 11, 2000

Liberty County Times

March 22, 2000



### **Donald Meyer**

Donald George Meyer was born at St. Joseph, Minnesota on July 18, 1911. He came to Montana as an infant with his parents Michael and Rose (Pfammenstein) Meyer, who homesteaded near Inverness. Don was the only son of eight children. He grew up on the family farm and received his education at Inverness, graduating from Inverness High School in 1930. He began working with his father in the farming and machinery business. They owned and operated the International Harvester dealership and the Conoco Service Station and bulk fuel business in Inverness, a partnership they called Mike Meyer & Son.

Donald married Florence Inez Soderholm in Hingham, Montana on June 19, 1933. They made their home in Inverness.

In 1945 Don was inducted into the US Army Air Corps. He served stateside during his military detail. After receiving an honorable discharge in 1946 he returned to Inverness.

In addition to farming and mechanics, Don began to sell insurance, so he stayed very busy. He and Inez raised two children at Inverness. Don turned over the Conoco business to his son in 1955 and sold his interests in the International Harvester business to Marias Equipment in Chester in 1959. He continued to farm and live in Inverness until 1981. They moved to Havre and opened the

North Central Insurance Agency, where he specialized in crop and hail insurance. Don eventually sold his insurance business, but wanted to stay active, so he worked parttime for the Koefod Agency in Havre from that time on.

Don's health remained relatively good over the years. Recently he developed some abdominal problems which required surgery. He entered Northern Montana Hospital in Havre on March 2nd. He died there on Saturday morning March 11, 2000. He was 88 years old.

Donald was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus at Inverness. He was a life member of the Havre Elks Lodge and he was active in the Havre Eagles Club. Years ago he had served as a board member for the Sacred Heart Hospital.

In his earlier years Don enjoyed riding horses and was a member of the Inverness Saddle Club. During his high school years he played basketball on the Inverness Cardinal's State Championship team. His hobbies included fishing, bird hunting, bowling, and cards. He enjoyed Country-Western music and square dancing. He was an excellent mechanic and maintained a good work ethic throughout his life. Donald was a "people person," which attributed to his business success. He loved to visit with people and always had a telephone at his ear. His family affectionately nicknamed him "Minute Man," because of his frequent remark, "I'll be with you in just a minute."

Don had a good sense of humor and a unique laugh. He loved to whistle; two of his favorite whistling tunes were "Let Me Call You Sweetheart," and "Take Me Out to the Ballgame."

Probably his greatest quality was his love of family and fellow man; he was a good and generous Samaritan.

Don's survivors include his wife of 66 years Inez of Havre; son Darryl Meyer and wife Gail of Great Falls; daughter Fay Wolfe and husband Roger of Chester; three sisters

LaVern McFadden of Great Falls, Claudette Alex of Inverness, and Eileen Han of Inverness; seven grandchildren, Becky Smith, Michael Meyer, Jason Meyer, Nanci Stocker, Donald Wolfe, Russell Wolfe, and Justin Wolfe; 10 great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. Donald was preceded in death by his parents and four sisters (Ione, Alda, Adelaide, and Inez).

A Memorial Mass was celebrated at 11:00 am Friday March 17, 2000 by Father Joseph Diekhans at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness. Special music by Iris White, Marcus Jochim and the Alex girls included "In the Garden," "How Great Thou Art," and "On Eagle's Wings." Ushers were Don Wolfe, Jason Meyer, and Russell Wolfe. Altar Servers were Kaleb Phillips and Brandon Anderson. Scripture readings were by Justin Wolfe, and the Eulogy was by Michael Meyer. The Communion Gifts were presented by Nanci Stocker and Becky Smith. Eucharistic Ministers were Leota Hansen, Doral Anderson, and Dana Phillips. Memorial bearers were listed as "All of Don's many good friends." A luncheon followed in the church basement.

Graveside services with prayers by Father Joe were at 2:30 pm Friday at Highland Cemetery in Havre. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Assisted Living Apartment Project or the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester.

IRENE ANNA(BUHMANN) MORD

Born: May 10, 1932 - Died: December 29, 2000

The Sentinel - Havre.MT

January 10, 2001

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**ILENE MORD**

ZURICH — Ilene Anna (Buhmann) Mord, 68, died Friday, Dec. 29, 2000 at a Havre hospital due to cancer.

Mord was born May 10, 1932 in Glasgow to Lawrence and Ruth (Sprague) Buhmann. She lived there until 1937 when the family relocated to Zurich upon completion of the Fort Peck Dam. She received her elementary education in Zurich and graduated from Chinook High School in 1951.

Mord went to beauty college in Great Falls and then moved to Havre and worked as a beautician. She subsequently met Elmer Mord and they were married in Havre on Oct. 6, 1956.

The Mords lived in Zurich until 1973 when they moved to Butte and he went to work for the Berkeley Pit. They moved to Valier later and then back to Zurich.

Mord enjoyed spending time with her family and friends and took great pleasure in her flowers and her yard. She especially enjoyed her grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, Elmer Mord of Zurich; her daughter, LuAnn Brabson of Chinook; sons, Ken Mord of Havre, Richard Mord of White Sulphur Springs, Mike Mord of Chinook, Cory Mord of Gonvick, Minn., Todd Mord of Chinook; her parents, Lawrence and Ruth Buhmann of Chinook; brothers, Robert Buhmann of Zurich, Gene Buhmann of Cascade; sister, Nancy Norberg of Ogden, Utah; 10 grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews.

## DOLORES YVONNE (DEE) MORROW

Born: October 13, 1925 - Died: October 15, 2000

Liberty County Times

October 18, 2000

### ***Dolores Morrow***

Dolores Yvonne "Dee" Morrow, age 75, a longtime resident of Fort Benton died of natural causes at Benefis East Hospital in Great Falls, Montana on Sunday, October 15, 2000.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, October 18 (today) at 2:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Fort Benton. Benton Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. Memorials are suggested to the Missouri River Medical Center or the Memorial Ambulance Fund in Fort Benton.

Dolores was born October 13, 1925 in Boise, Idaho. She attended school in the Portland area, and after graduation was employed in an insurance office for several years.

On September 11, 1948 she married Kenneth Morrow, and soon moved to Fort Benton, where they ranched south of town until retirement. In 1963 Dolores began working at the Chouteau County Court House, and worked there until retirement in 1990.

Dolores enjoyed snow skiing at Mount Hood when growing up, was a Sunday School teacher at the Episcopal church, loved traveling, music, cards, playing pool, and spending the past ten winters with

her husband in Arizona. She also looked forward to returning to the Oregon coast, where her family would meet for a day at the beach.

Dolores is survived by her husband Kenneth of Fort Benton; three daughters: Ilene Gummer of Chester, Bonnie Cook of Fort Benton, Janice Pedersen of Bainbridge Island, Washington; a son Mike Morrow of Great Falls; a sister LaVonne Seiler of Beaverton, Oregon; ten grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

## EDWARD JOHN NORENBERG

Born: December 26, 1927 - Died: April 12, 2000

Liberty County Times

April 19, 2000



### **Ed Norenberg**

Edward John Norenberg was born at Havre, Montana on December 26, 1927. He was one of eight children born to Edward and Alma (Voss) Norenberg. Ed grew up at Hingham and graduated from Hingham High School in 1946. He farmed with his folks northwest of Hingham.

Ed married Kathryn "Kay" VanWechel at Rudyard, Montana on November 21, 1954. They farmed in the Hingham community and eventually took over the Jake VanWechel farm 12 miles north of Rudyard, where they built a new home in 1977. They retired and leased out their farming operations in 1987, and continued to live on the farm.

Ed was diagnosed with cancer this past January. He received numerous treatments and hospitalizations since that time. He died at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester on the evening of Wednesday April 12, 2000. He was 72 years old.

Ed was confirmed at the Lutheran parish in Hingham and was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. A longtime member of the Hi-Line Antique Car Club, he was proud of his 1955 Cadillac. In addition, Ed was a 50-year member of the Havre Eagles Club.

His hobbies were many. He collected coins and enjoyed vegetable gardening. Ed was fond of Country music, and he liked to dance. In his quiet time at home he enjoyed reading Westerns, watching old Western movies, or watching game shows on television. He also enjoyed playing cards, especially Cribbage with Kay. Ed liked to cook — a few of his specialties included oyster stew and beef-and-rice. Ed loved to visit with friends. To pass the time away, he enjoyed playing the poker machines. In his younger years he enjoyed big game hunting. In more recent years he looked forward to ice fishing. Ed loved his family; he was a dedicated father and grandfather.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years Kay Norenberg of Rudyard; two daughters Tonya Merryman and husband Kim of Belt, and Cathy Norenberg of Great Falls; five grandchildren including Pat, Jim, and Andy Merryman, Michael Spitzer, and Jacquie Keen and husband Mike; two sisters Marlene Hanson, and June Richter both of Havre; his mother-in-law Gert VanWechel of Rudyard; and numerous nephews and nieces. Ed was preceded in death by his parents, a brother Ray Norenberg, and four sisters: Verda Alex, Vera Rambo, Dorothy Jones, and Louise Blake.

Memorial services were conducted at 2:00 pm Monday April 17, 2000 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard by Rev. Nolan Spent. Sharon Spicher played the organ and the congregation sang "What a Friend we Have in Jesus." Terry Stevenson sang "How Great Thou Art" and "In the Garden." Ushers were Lane Rigg and Ron Kinder.

Memorial bearers were Dick Ditmar, Ben Spinler, Dave Jones, Elton Byxbe, Dalton Dahlke, Lee Ludwig, Fred Rigg, Greg Spinler, Daryl Spicher, Ross Allsup, and all of Ed's other friends. A luncheon followed at the church.

Arrangements and cremation by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" in Great Falls, and the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester.

JOHN LANE PAUL OLK

Born: 1924 - Died: September 1, 2000

Liberty County Times

September 27, 2000

**John Olk**

Memorial service for John Lane Paul Olk age 76, was held Wednesday September 6 at Redeemer Lutheran Church. Private inurnment will be held at Tahoma National Veterans Cemetery in Tacoma. The Neptune Society of Washington is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Olk, who was born in Lisbon, North Dakota, died Friday September 1, 2000.

He served in the Navy during World War II in the Pacific Theaters.

John and his family moved to Montana in 1957, when he managed Lynch Tire in Rudyard. They moved to the Spokane area in 1968 and then to Otis Orchards 27 years ago.

He worked as a salesman in the wholesale and retail tire business and retired in 1988.

Mr. Olk was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors include his wife of 50 years Mattie; a son Scott Olk of Spokane; three daughters: Vicki Harris of Spokane, Shelley Wanamaker of Kent, Washington, and Debby Petersen of Niagara, Wisconsin; a sister Louise Flemmer of Caselton, North Dakota; and nine grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pulmonary Unit at Sacred Heart Medical Center, Spokane, Washington.

## RICHARD ALLEN RAY

Born: April 25, 1930 - Died: April 17, 2000



### Allen Ray

Richard Allen Ray was born in Great Falls, Montana on April 25, 1930. He lived at the St. Thomas Orphanage until age 5, when he was adopted by True and Louise Ray. The

Rays had homesteaded south of Tiber, Montana near Lake Elwell, so Allen grew up on the farm. He attended country school in those early years, then graduated from Chester High School in 1948.

Allen's folks were divorced when he was a young boy, so he was raised by his mother. He helped with the farming operations during his adolescent years. While still in high school (at age 14) he became responsible for all of the farming chores. After graduation, he continued his education at MSU-Bozeman, but was forced to drop out after two quarters because of the demands on the farm.

In addition to the home place, Allen and his mother acquired two more farms (the Strode farm and the Skierka place south of Rudyard). After 10 years of moving machinery and hard work, they sold these two farms.

Allen had a few other seasonal jobs in those early years. He helped set up machinery for the John Deere dealership in Chester one spring, and he also helped in the tunneling project when Tiber Dam was constructed.

### Liberty County Times

April 26, 2000

Allen and his mother began wintering in Phoenix, Arizona in 1954. Allen eventually bought a winter home at Squaw Peak, Arizona, where he enjoyed playing tennis and golf. In 1978 Allen met and married Nancy Livezey Ashley in Phoenix. They were married on Thanksgiving Day.

Allen eventually adopted Nancy's daughter Mindi. Together they had a son, Chris. They continued to winter in Phoenix until their son began his high school years in Chester.

Allen was diagnosed with a brain tumor in September of 1999. Although he received extensive care, his condition rapidly deteriorated. He died at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester on the early morning of Monday April 17, 2000. He was 69 years old, just a week away from his 70th birthday.

Allen was baptized Catholic and served as altar boy at St. Mary's Church in Chester. He continued his membership at St. Mary's and was active in the Knights of Columbus.

During his school years he played the piano and clarinet, enjoyed basketball, and loved horses and dogs. As an adult he enjoyed hunting, snowmobiling, horseshoes, and bowling. He liked to watch pro golf on television, and he enjoyed following the stock market. Allen had been a member of various organizations over the years, most recently the

cal archery club.

Allen enjoyed his role as husband and father. Family activities involving scouting, camping, sports, music, skiing, riding waverunners, and yearly trips to Whitefish were always a treat. The Rays took several memorable family trips to Mexico, Hawaii, and the Caribbean to name a few. Allen's family will always remember his 'frying pan' as he enjoyed fried chicken and cooking breakfast. They will also remember his special recipe for goose fajitas.

Allen is survived by his wife Nancy of Chester, son Christopher Allen

Ray, who is presently a student at MSU-Bozeman, daughter Mindi Anderson and husband Tim of North Richland Hills, Texas; one grandson Chase Jordan Anderson; a step-granddaughter Tiffany Anderson; his brother Douglas "Gene" Ray of Corning, New York; and his mother-in-law Winnie Livezey of Phoenix.

Allen was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services were conducted at 10:00 am Friday April 21, 2000 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Father Joseph Diekhans officiated. Scripture readings were by Brenda Streit and Karen Mattson. Marilyn Oraw served as pianist and Kama Hamilton-Morton sang "Hymn of Promise," "Be Still My Soul," and "Precious Lord, Take My Hand." Ken Osterman was altar server, and Leonard Streit was the Eulogist. Pallbearers were Terry Thielman,

Dave Mattson, Cliff Hanson, Dave Allen, Bill Bilquist, and Leonard Streit. Honorary bearers were Fred Lotz and Bob Jolicoeur. Ushers were Casey Saxton, Fritz Rooley, and Jamie Saxton. Interment was in the Chester Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the church.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation or donor's choice.

AGNES (AGGIE) REINOWSKI

Born: 1933 - Died: November 7, 2000

Great Falls Tribune

November 11, 2000



**Agnes (Aggie) Reinowski,**

died peacefully at her home on Nov. 7th. She was 67. Her Memorial Service will be held on Monday, Nov. 13 at 1:00 in the afternoon. At St. Judes Church, 624 4th St., Havre. She was born in Havre, MT to Ed and Bertha (Fisher) Gomke. She married James T. Reinowski in 1952, he died in 1995. They lived in North Carolina for a few years while Jim served in the Marines. They moved back to Kremlin where she and her sister owned a cafe. Later, she and Jim began farming, which she enjoyed doing until her death.

Her favorite pastimes included baking, playing organ, shopping, doing puzzles, going dancing, and visiting with friends and family. She also enjoyed mowing her lawn with her John Deere Lawn Tractor and being around her dog, Harley.

Survivors include: Daughter, Peggy Heustis, Havre; Sons, Larry Reinowski and Ron Reinowski, both of Kremlin. Three Grandchildren, Dustin Huestis and Tamara Huestis of Havre; and Darren Huestis of Denver, Colorado. Three Sisters: Lorraine Trulson and Shirley Thole of Havre, and Patty Marleau of Lake Havasau, Arizona. Five Brothers: Stan Gomke and Clarence (Blackie) Gomke of Great Falls, Montana, Fred Gomke of Anchorage, Alaska, Robert Gomke of Kremlin and Mike Gomke of Havre.

She was preceded in death by her Husband, parents, 3 brothers, and a son.

Memorials are suggested to the Gift of Life Foundation, 510 1st Ave. N. Great Falls, MT 59401 or Bear Paw Hospice, P.O. Box 1231, Havre, MT 59501

*Services and arrangements are under the direction of the Holland and Bonino Funeral Home.*

## RAYMOND JEROME RICHTER

Born: October 15, 1931 - Died: October 25, 2000

Liberty County Times

November 1, 2000



### **Raymond Richter**

Raymond Jerome Richter was born on October 15, 1931 in Havre, Montana. He was one of 15 children born to Margaret Schwan and George Richter. Ray grew up in the Inverness community and received his formal education there. In the few years that followed, he worked for area farmers, including his brother Frank.

Raymond was inducted into the US Army in 1952 during the Korean Conflict. He served in Company "B" of the 811th Engineering Aviation Battalion. At the time of his honorable discharge, he transferred to the Army Reserve Corps.

Ray returned to Montana and took a mechanic job at the Hannah-Holmes dealership in Shelby. A short time later he moved to Missoula to work as a mechanic with his brother Eddie. Ray returned to Hingham in 1955 and married Viola Johnson. Together they had a son, but their marriage ended in divorce. Ray remained in Hingham for five years where he worked for Lipp Motors.

In 1960 he took a job for A-C Supply in Havre. After three years there, he decided to go into business on his own. Ray operated Richter Farm Service in Hingham for the past 35 years. He retired in 1998 and continued to make Hingham his home.

About a year ago Raymond was diagnosed with lung cancer. His condition deteriorated and he entered the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester this past September. He recently transferred to the Liberty County Hospital, where he died on Wednesday morning October 25, 2000. He was 69 years old.

Ray's hobbies included hunting, playing cards, (especially poker) and socializing with his Hingham area friends. During his quiet time at home, he enjoyed watching television (his favorite show was "The Price Is Right"). Ray took pride in his mechanic skills, always meticulous and thorough in his work.

His survivors include his son Michael Richter of Spokane, Washington; three brothers: John Richter of Havre, Chris Richter of Hingham, and Frank Richter of Joplin; two sisters Francie Fraser of Joplin, and Virginia Adams of Inverness; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents, by four brothers George, Joseph, Jake, and Edwin; three sisters Lena, Mary, and Agnes; and by two infant siblings.

Ray's Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 am Monday October 30, 2000 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness by Father Joseph Diekhans. Iris White served as organist and Marcus Jochim sang "On Eagle's Wings" and "Amazing Grace." A special taped selection entitled "Footprints in the Sand" was also played. Greeters were Dick Richter, Shelly VanWechel, and Rick Richter. Scripture readings were by Denise Strissel, and Laine Lybeck. The eulogist was Sam Richter. The communion gifts were presented by Chris and Pearl Richter, and the Eucharistic Minister was Bev Moog. Nephews serving as pallbearers and honorary bearers included Doug Effinger, Craig Fraser, Todd Adams, Pat and George Mader, Tim VanWechel, Jimmy Williams, and Bruce, Greg, Dennis, Brad, Bob, George, Lee and Clyde Richter. Interment followed at the Inverness

Cemetery where military rites were performed by the Havre VFW Color Guard. The flag was presented to the family by nephew Mike Adams. A luncheon was held at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" or donor's choice.



## MARGARET LORRAINE SANVIK

Born: October 16, 1909 - Died: January 29, 2000

Liberty County Times

February 2, 2000



### **Margaret Sanvik**

Margaret Lorraine Sanvik was born at Pilot Knob, Missouri on October 16, 1909. She was one of six children born to Michael and Ann (Howard) Obosky. When Margaret was very young, her parents came to Montana where they farmed in the Hogeland community. Margaret received her formal education at country schools near Hogeland.

She married Selmer Sanvik on November 26, 1927 at Harlem, Montana. Selmer operated a garage at Hogeland until 1929, when they moved to Rudyard. Selmer joined his father in business at the Sanvik Store in Rudyard and Margaret worked as homemaker and mother. They lived and worked in Rudyard the rest of their married life, retiring in 1973. They spent the next 9 summers at their home in the Bigfork/Lakeside community.

After 66 years of marriage, Selmer passed away at age 86 on October 2, 1994. Margaret remained at home

in Rudyard until her health failed this past December 1999. She entered the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester where she died on the early morning of Saturday January 29, 2000. She was 90 years old.

Margaret's memberships were many. She was active at Our Savior's Lutheran Church and WELCA. In earlier years she was involved in the Rudyard Garden Club, the Home Demonstration Club, and the Birthday Club. In later years she became active at the Rudyard Senior Citizen's Center where she enjoyed the social events and playing cards with her friends.

"Mergie," as she was affectionately called, enjoyed her home and many of the simple things in life. She loved flowers and plants, and she had a marvelous 'green thumb.' Before her sight failed, she enjoyed crocheting, knitting, and reading. She loved to play cards especially Whist, and she liked to watch television. Just for the fun of it, she collected spoons. A very compassionate lady, Margaret was respected by her friends and deeply loved by her family.

Survivors include her daughter Betty Strissel of Rudyard; two grandchildren Lowell Strissel and wife Denise of Hingham, and Karla VanTreese and husband Steve of Monte Vista, Colorado; five great-grandchildren including Dionne, Davilyn, Natalie, Kole and Kelci; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Margaret was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by five siblings: Charles, Michael, and Steve Obosky, and Mary and Emma Goodheart, and her son-in-law Bill Strissel.

Funeral services were 2:00 pm Tuesday February 1, 2000 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. Rev. David Aaseng officiated. Vocalist Terry Stevenson performed "In the Garden" and "The Lord's Prayer." Stanleigh Barbie was organist and the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art." Ushers were Fred Rigg and Chuck Cross. Pallbearers were Lowell Strissel, Steve VanTreese, Ron Kinder, Rick DeMartin, Joe DeMartin and Barry DeMartin. Memorial bearers included "all of her many friends." Following burial at the Rudyard Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to Our Savior's Lutheran Church and the Rudyard Senior Citizen's Center.

## LAWRENCE SCHAEFER

Born: April 20, 1912 - Died: October 2, 2000

Liberty County Times

October 11, 2000



### **Lawrence Schaefer**

Lawrence Schaefer was born at Nicollett, Minnesota on April 20, 1912. He was one of ten children born to Leo and Amelia (Bushard) Schaefer.

Lawrence came to Montana in 1940 to manage the Gamble Store in Browning. He met Amelia C. Peters and they were married in Columbia Falls on June 15, 1942. They moved to Chester and raised a family of six. They owned and operated the Gamble Store in Chester for 50 years.

Lawrence was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester where he attended daily Mass for many years. Also active in the Knights of Columbus, he was a 3rd and 4th Degree Knight and served as a former Grand Knight.

Other Chester memberships included the Rotary Club (charter member), the Lions Club, the Commercial Club, and he had served as a volunteer fireman. Lawrence's hobbies included hunting, fishing, and playing cards.

Lawrence's health had failed the past few years. He was being cared for by his wife at home. He died peacefully in his sleep on the early morning of Monday, October 2, 2000. Lawrence was 88 years old.

Schaefer is survived by his wife Amelia of Chester; five children: Dr. Merlin Schaefer of Punta Gorda, Florida, Karen Buck of Denver, Colorado, Frances Kammerzell of Chester, Paul Schaefer of Dallas,

Texas, and Dr. Marcus Schaefer of Charleston, South Carolina; nine grandchildren including Matt, Sarah, Brad, Lucas, Anna, Jennifer, Pamela, Allison and Zachary; three brothers Henry Schaefer of New Ulm, Minnesota, Father Roman Schaefer of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and James Schaefer of New Ulm, Minnesota; three sisters Esther Koss of Hopkins, Minnesota, Aurelia Boeltger of New Ulm, Minnesota, and Sister Sharon Schaefer PHJC of Donaldson, Indiana; numerous nephews and nieces.

Lawrence was preceded in death by his parents, two sons Donald and Gerald, two brothers Herbert and Leo Schaefer, and one sister Amelia Luepke.

Rosary Prayers were led by Father Joseph Diekhans at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5th at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Chester, Montana. The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joe at 11:00 a.m. Friday. Assisting with the Mass was Lawrence's brother Father Roman. Special music provided by St. Mary's Choir included "Hosea," "Ave Maria," and other family favorites. Iris White was organist. Ushers were Don Raunig and Bill Kimball. Readers were Lawrence's sons. The communion gifts were presented by

Sarah Buck and Brad Kammerzell. Eucharistic Ministers were Lucas Kammerzell and Marjie Dahinden. Altar Server was Ken Osterman. The Eulogist was nephew Wilbur Schaefer. Pallbearers included Narciss Gagnon, Joe Seidlitz, Bill Cole, Allen Kolstad, Robert Damall and Irvin Hutchison. Honorary bearers were the Knights of Columbus. Burial was in the Chester Cemetery followed by a luncheon at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the 'Handicap Lift' Fund at St. Mary's Church.

## NINA CAROL SHEPHERD

Born: December 11, 1920 - Died: August 11, 2000



### ***Nina Shepherd***

Nina Carol Shepherd of Bellingham, Washington passed away on Friday August 11, 2000 at the home of Don and Marguerite Shepherd.

Nina was born at Calvin, North Dakota on December 11, 1920. She was the oldest child of Adam and Elsie Henderson. When she was young, she moved with her parents to Chester, Montana.

Nina helped her parents rear four younger brothers: Bill, John, Pete, and Dan. When she was about 16 years old, the family spent the winter with the Glen and Lottie Shepherd family. At that time, she met her husband Ralph Shepherd.

Nina and Ralph were married in Chinook, Montana on August 15, 1938. They reared five boys: Gary, Rodney, Donald, Douglas, and Dan.

Ralph preceded Nina in death on December 26, 1966.

While in Chester Nina was very active in the Chester Methodist Church. She loved music and made sure the family home was filled with the sound of music.

In 1969 Nina moved to Pullman, Washington. She worked on the campus of Washington State University and began college at the age of 49. In the 1970s, Nina moved to Maryland to work in the registrar's office of the University of Maryland. As was the case with many parents, she kept a long and prayerful vigil between 1965 and 1973 as her four

### **Liberty County Times**

**August 23, 2000**

oldest sons served in the United States military with seven combat tours in Vietnam.

Nina graduated from the University of Maryland in 1977, and was attending graduate school in 1979 when she decided to move to Bellingham, Washington to be closer to two of her sons and their families.

In Bellingham, Nina worked as a legal assistant and was active in the First Congregational Church. In 1985 she moved to Idaho to care for her mother. After her mother's death, Nina returned to Bellingham in 1996.

She loved to travel, change, and worked all her life on issues of peace and love. Included in her travels were trips to Europe with choirs, to Russia with the "Citizens for Soviet-American Dialogue," and to Japan, and Scotland with family.

Nina was never heard to utter a negative comment about any person or any challenge. Yet, when she was asked why she was constantly involved in new and demanding issues, she responded: "I do not want to make the same mistakes in my next life." Those who loved her are left to wonder what were the mistakes that so concerned her?

She is survived by her five sons; five daughters-in-law, whom she loved and cherished—Donna, Pat, Sharon, Marguerite, and Tim; ten wonderful grandchildren who are all early in their exciting journeys through life: Jeffery, Rick, Todd, Ryan, Shauntel, Chad, Zachery, Andrew, Matthew, Ashlea, and Heather; and two great-grandchildren: Kendall and MacKenzie Shepherd. Nina is also survived by her brother-in-law and sister-in-law Neil and Alice Shepherd of Chester; her sister-in-law Arlene Shepherd of Kalispell, Montana; brother-in-law Bob Bracken of Oregon; her brother and sister-in-law Pete and Gwen Henderson of Malta, Montana; her brother and sister-in-law John and Helen

Henderson of Arizona; two sisters-in-law both Helen Henderson of Cut Bank, and her aunt Lena Crummy of Cut Bank, Montana; along with many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

Nina would ask all who took time to read this for one simple act in her memory—Pause in your busy day and give someone close to you a hug and tell them how much you love them. She lived everyday by the simple words which she placed on her husband's grave in 1966: "For all that has been, thanks, for that shall be, yes!"

A memorial service will be held at the Congregational Church in Bellingham, Washington on Saturday September 23, 2000.

## LAURENE WRETHA (SALLY) SKINNER

Born: January 3, 1899 - Died: December 21, 2000

Liberty County Times

January 3, 2001



### "Sally" Skinner

Laurene Wretha ("Sally") Skinner died early Thursday morning (December 21st, 2000) at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester. She was just two weeks shy of her 102nd birthday.

Sally was born on January 3rd, 1899 at Laurens, Iowa, Pocahontas County. One of 12 children, her parents were Thomas and Tama (Brockett) Jerome. When Sally was three years old, her family moved to North Dakota and homesteaded south of Minot. She received her formal education at the Center and Reed Country Schools near the farm.

Sally married Ray Egbert Skinner in Minot on July 4th, 1916. Ray entered the military the following year to serve during WWI. Sally moved to Minneapolis to work at the Bemis Bag Factory. When Ray became stationed at Des Moines, Iowa, Sally went there to be with him and she found employment at a coat-&-dress factory. Following Ray's discharge, they moved back to Minot where Sally began working as a telephone operator.

In 1922 they packed up their belongings and moved to Portland, Oregon. Sally continued to work for the telephone company there. Ray's health eventually failed and he died in 1952. Sally sold their Portland home in 1957 and began living with some good friends. She retired from the telephone business in 1962, but continued to stay active by working odd jobs throughout the Portland community.

In 1975 Sally suffered a heart attack. Her physician recommended that she move to a drier climate, so she came to Great Falls that same year to be near some relatives. She lived at the Parkview Apartments in Great Falls for the next nine years.

Erma Bledsoe, a special friend whom Sally referred to as her "foster-granddaughter", was living in Chester, so Sally moved here in 1984 to be near the Bledsoe family. She made her home at the Sweetgrass Lodge until 1992, then transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home, where she lived until her recent hospitalization.

Sally's simple philosophy (as quoted by her) was: "Life is what we make of it". She loved life and she loved people and she always looked at the "brighter side" of things. She enjoyed music, flower gardening, and house plants. In her early years in Portland she liked to go deep-sea fishing and crab-netting, and she belonged to the bowling leagues for many years. In her quiet hours at home, Sally enjoyed latch-hooking, knitting, and crocheting (she was so proud in 1985 when a donated afghan netted several hundred dollars for the Sweetgrass Lodge). Sally also enjoyed cooking, baking, and playing cards (especially solitaire). Before her eyesight failed in 1990, Sally and friends from the Lodge were seen around town in her 1958 Ford automobile.

Although she never had any children of her own, she helped raise several kids in the Portland community. Sally loved children and had that special personality that attracted kids to her; she was affectionately adopted by many kids as "Auntie" and "Grandma"...

Sally's survivors include one sister, Nola Frolich of Coon Rapids, Iowa; numerous nieces and nephews; and many friends. She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by three brothers (Clifford, Clinton,

and an infant brother) and seven sisters (Lela, Merle, Marie, Edith, Doily, Lernerma, and Cleo).

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 27th at the Liberty County Nursing Home (Activities Room) in Chester with Reverend Kama Morton officiating. Iris White served as pianist and Kama sang "Beyond the Sunset" and "Rock of Ages" (songs pre-selected by Sally). Nursing home staff members served as pallbearers.

Undesignated memorials will be given to the Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home.

Committal services will be 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 3rd, in Portland, Oregon. Entombment will follow at the Portland Memorial Mausoleum. Funeral arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## OLAF SMEDSRUD

Born: October 15, 1925 - Died: April 26, 2000

Liberty County Times

May 3, 2000

### *Olaf Smedsrud*

Olaf Smedsrud, age 74 of Conrad, long time East Ledger area farmer and rancher, passed away Wednesday April 26, 2000 at the Marias Medical Center after a 2-1/2 year bout with cancer.

Funeral services were 2:00 pm Saturday at the St. Olaf Lutheran Church in Ledger with burial in the church cemetery. Visitation was Friday April 28 from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Whitted Funeral Chapel. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials to St. Olaf Lutheran Church, or Gloria de Cristo Lutheran Church in Yuma, Arizona where Olaf and Madonna were associate members.

Olaf was born October 15, 1925 at Conrad to Ole and Marget (Hegna) Smedsrud. He attended Pondera Grade School at east Ledger and high school in Conrad where he was a well-known football player. He grew up and took over the family farm and ranch that his father Ole had homesteaded. At age 21 he contracted Polio, but still continued to farm. In 1955 he married Edna Trevillion and had four children. They later divorced.

In 1979 he married Madonna Gifford of Chester. In 1988 they bought a home in Conrad and in recent years spent their winters in Yuma, Arizona.

For 17 years he served on the Toole County Conservation Board where he received a merit award. He also served on the Pondera School Board. Olaf was an active member in the St. Olaf Lutheran Church at east Ledger, and a member of the Elks and Moose Lodges. He was an accomplished archer and loved the outdoors.

Survivors include his wife Madonna Smedsrud of Conrad; daughter Lisa Hanson; and sons Gordon, Duane, and Roger Smedsrud, all of Shelby. Brother Arnet Smedsrud of Great Falls, and 10 grandchildren. Step-daughter Kathy Pruneda of Las Lunas, New Mexico; step-sons Jay Gifford of San Diego, California, Blaine Gifford of Peoria, Arizona, and Derrick Gifford of Tinian, N. Maryann Island.

## EUNICE K. STAUDACHER

Born: February 4, 1903 - Died: April 2, 2000

Liberty County Times

April 12, 2000

### ***Eunice Staudacher***

Eunice K. Staudacher, age 97, went to be with Jesus on April 2, 2000 from Billings, Montana. Memorial services were at Epworth Methodist Church, Kalispell on Saturday, April 8, 2000 at 11:00 a.m. conducted by Rev. Glenn Woodson. Special music was provided by Dawn Hashley and David Stube. Graveside service was conducted by Rink Davis on Sunday, April 9 at 2:00 p.m. at the Chester Cemetery, Chester, Montana.

Eunice was born in Rockhold, Kentucky on February 4, 1903. In 1927 she came from Spokane, Washington to Chester, Montana to teach. In 1928 she married a local wheat farmer, Leonard Staudacher.

Eunice tackled being a mom and homemaker with the same zeal as her teaching position. If she wasn't passing out homemade bread, homemade soap, or fresh garden vegetables, she was visiting the nursing home or the shut-ins.

Her life was centered around her church family. To make a difference,

she assumed the responsibilities of Sunday School Superintendent and President of the United Methodist Women as well as local Business and Professional Women and the Garden Club. She was adamant that her flowers needed to beautify the church altar every Sunday.

With a son and two daughters, the house was filled with kids. Even though her home was small, Eunice always had room in her heart and home for cousins Mary and Ray after their mother had passed away.

When the family moved to Kalispell in 1945 her zest for life continued to grow. By 1950 her children were grown, allowing her to spend 40 winters as a 'snowbird' in Arizona, playing shuffleboard, horseshoes, and dancing.

We thank God that He had her here for 97 years, even though her last years were almost unmanageable.

Mother, you imparted that indomitable spirit that God gave you in those remaining: Lila Kruckenberg and family of Kalispell, Elaine Davis and family of Billings; 7

grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; 7 great-great-grandchildren.

Now you have new dancing shoes with your husband Leonard, son Leonard, Jr., two sisters, a brother, and your mom and dad in an eternal setting.

## ROBERT JACOB SUTTON

Born: July 17, 1915 - Died: March 23, 2000

Liberty County Times

March 29, 2000

### **Robert Sutton**

Robert Jacob Sutton, age 84, former Whitlash area rancher died Thursday March 23, 2000 at the Kalispell Regional Medical Center in Kalispell.

Memorial services were 11:30 am Monday March 27 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell. Undesignated memorials will be given to the Whitlash Presbyterian Church or the Darrell Fenner Loon Lake 4-H Camp. Arrangements and cremation by the Johnson Mortuary, Kalispell.

Robert was born at the family ranch near Whitlash, Montana on July 17, 1915. He was the only son of four children born to Frank and Elizabeth Bond Sutton. He grew up and received his education at Whitlash.

Robert married Marjorie Wickum on November 26, 1941. To this union there were five children: Kathleen, Frank, Jim, Pauline, and Wally. The family moved from Whitlash to Kalispell in 1961. Marjorie passed away from cancer on July 4, 1961.

Robert's second marriage was to Evelyn Forseth Buffington on December 22, 1964. Together they had three children: Alice, Mike and Edith. Evelyn also blessed the family with three stepchildren: Marie, Doug, and Lee Ann. In addition, Robert was significant in the life of Roger Stair, who was like a son to him and whose birthday they shared. Robert and Evelyn have lived on their farm north of Kalispell during their 35 years of married life together. They raised horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, and a lot of kids!

Robert's memberships were

many. He was a 40-year leader of 4-H Clubs in Whitlash, and Kalispell, and was a lifetime member of the Montana Stockgrower's Association. He was a founding member and past national president of the Targhee Sheep Association, a charter member of the Northwest Montana Pork Producer's Council, and a member of the Flathead Wool Grower's Association. In addition, he was a longtime member of the LaSalle Grange and the Montana State Grange. Many years ago Robert was chosen as Toole County's "Conservation Farmer of the Year" for his innovative farming methods. An example of his originality was the fact that he was the first person in Montana to have a totally automatic and totally confined hog barn.

Robert was always a driving force in any project he got involved in, whether it was building a new church at Whitlash or building/governing the Darrell Fenner 4-H Youth Camp at Ferndale. He not only built projects, but he also built the lives and personalities of his children and grandchildren.

His survivors include his wife Evelyn of Kalispell; 11 children: Kathleen Carlson, Frank Sutton, Jim Sutton, Pauline Cleveland, Wally Sutton; Alice Malmanger, Mike Sutton, Edith Elder, Marie Monroe, Doug Buffington, and Lee Ann Buffington; 27 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and many nephews, nieces, and other relatives. Robert was preceded in death not only by his parents and first wife; but also by three sisters Isabelle Sutton, Francis Marquardt, and Bawnie Robinson; and a grandson Jacob Clay Sutton.

Submitted by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester, as a courtesy to the family.

## FRANCES LEONE TEMPEL

Born: February 3, 1922 - Died: October 20, 2000



### Frances Leone Tempel

Frances Leone (Freeland) Tempel, age 78, died peacefully in her sleep at her Lakeside residence on the early morning of Friday, October 20, 2000.

Leone was born at Hatton, North Dakota on February 3, 1922. She was the youngest of three children born to Leon and Stena (Hawkinson) Freeland. Her family moved to Joplin when she was an infant. Leone grew up and received her education at Joplin; she graduated from Joplin High School in 1940. In the few years that followed, she worked at the Buttrey store in Havre, and the grocery store in Joplin.

Leone married John F. Tempel on February 14, 1946 at Shelby, Montana. They made their home on the Tempel farm north of Joplin for 30+ years. She worked as a farmwife, homemaker, and mother to seven children. When the Tempels retired from farming in 1978 they moved to their lake home on Flathead Lake. They lived there until 1996, then moved to Lakeside where they purchased a home with a small orchard. In addition, they traveled to Apache Junction, Arizona during the winter months every year since 1986. Leone enjoyed the social life with the other retirees in the trailer park there.

Leone attended church at Immanuel, Bethel, and Eidsvold Lutheran parishes. She maintained her membership at Immanuel Church north of Joplin, where she

### Liberty County Times

October 25, 2000

served as Sunday School and Bible School teacher for many years. She was also a lifelong member of the Chester VFW Auxiliary.

Her hobbies were many. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, and baking and she loved to play cards, especially Rummy and Pan. During her quiet time at home she liked to read romance novels, and watch television. Just for the fun of it, she collected rocks and coins. She also enjoyed camping and traveling in their motorhome.

Leone's children will always remember her as a wonderful mother. She was always active in their lives, never missing school functions and special events. She served as a Cub Scout Den Mother when her sons were young. She crocheted afghans for all of her children and grandchildren. She loved family gatherings, especially those good times at the lake.

Leone loved to have company. Anyone at anytime was always welcome at her home! She was always prepared with hot dogs in the freezer and a large batch of cookie dough to bake her special sugar and chocolate-chip cookies. Her grandkids always got preferential treatment because she practiced her role as 'Gramma' — "Spoil the grandkids and then send them home!"

A highlight of her life came in 1996 when her children surprised her and John with a 50th wedding anniversary celebration in Las Vegas. Fun and good memories were had by all.

Leone is survived by her husband of 54 years John of Lakeside; her children and spouses: Linda and Dennis Moore of Butte, Butch and Lonnie Tempel of Joplin, Dolores and John Cicon of Chester, Rod and Joanna Tempel of Libby, Joan and Scott Thompson of Anchorage, Alaska, Tim Tempel of Joplin, and Scott Tempel of Missoula; 16 grandchildren: Jill, Doug, Erin, Jennie, Jada, Jalena, Jeb, Jeff, Lisa, Peter, Jessamyn, Ryan, Kelly, Eric,

Kaycie and Shannon; four great-grandchildren: Tande, Thatcher, Kayona, and Tylynn; numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Charles Freeland, and her sister Thelma Anderson.

Funeral services were 2:00 p.m. Monday, October 23, at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Services were conducted by Rev. Tim Singleton. Pianist was Tammy Duncan and the congregation sang "In the Garden," and "How Great Thou Art." A vocal tribute "Borning Cry" was performed by Rudy and Heidi Cicon, accompanied by Gail Cicon. Grandsons Douglas Moore, Jeb Tempel, Jeff Cicon, and Peter Jacobson served as ushers. Leone's sons and sons-in-law were pallbearers. Interment was at the Joplin Cemetery. A reception followed at Kjos Hall.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Memorials will be given to the Lakeside Quick Response Unit, the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, the Joplin Memorial Park, or donor's choice.



## ALFRED THEODORE TOLLEFSON

Born: December 5, 1912 - Died: September 21, 2000

Liberty County Times

September 27, 2000



### **Alfred Tollefson**

Alfred Theodore Tollefson passed away on September 21, 2000 at his home in Havre, Montana of natural causes. Funeral services were Tuesday September 26, 2000 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church with Rev. Tim Hauge officiating. Burial followed at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Memorials in Alfred's honor may be made to the Goldstone Lutheran Church or a memorial of one's choice. Services and arrangements were under the direction of the Holland and Bonine Funeral Home, Havre.

Alfred was born December 5, 1912 north of Rudyard on the family homestead to Hans and Margaret (Norb6) Tollefson. He attended country school in Rudyard.

Alfred served in the US Army Air Corps during World War II. His longest assignment was as an airplane mechanic stationed in Hawaii.

On November 4, 1946 he married Hulda Geiger in San Antonio, Texas. They returned to Montana to take over the family farm when his parents retired. He was baptized, confirmed and was a life-long active member of the Goldstone Lutheran Church. He served for many years as Treasurer and in other numerous capacities.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, and one nephew.

Alfred is survived by his wife Hulda of Havre; and by his children: daughter Carolyn Frederickson, Tyler, TX, son Alfred, Jr. of Helena, and son Calvin of Havre; five grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; by two sisters Signe Johnson of Great Falls, and Inga Miller of Billings; one brother Harold of Santa Barbara, California; numerous nieces and nephews.

**ALTA ANN TUCKER**

**Born: March 5, 1929 - Died: March 28, 2000**

**Liberty County Times**

**April 3, 2002**

**In Loving Memory of  
Alta Ann Tucker**

Entered this life March 5, 1929 at Lothair, Montana; Entered  
Eternal Life on March 28, 2000 in Menifee, California.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, April 4, 2000 at 3:30 pm,  
Grand tradition, Fallbrook, California. Officiating was Chaplain  
Leroy Guild, interment in Montana.

Born to Glen and Mabel Standiford. Attended school in Lothair  
and Chester. She graduated from Chester High School in 1947.  
She graduated from the modern Beauty Shop in Missoula in 1948.  
She married Ori Tucker in 1950. A few years later they moved to  
Santa Ana, California and started the Ori Tucker Pony Rides,  
which they operated until she passed away.

Alta is survived by her husband and two sons: Gary and wife  
Robin, and Don and wife Leah and their two children Danny and  
Shannon. Also sisters: Donna Nelson and Murial Steever of Shelby,  
and Marion Wanken of Chester; and several nieces and nephews.

## REYNOLD MARTIN TURNER

Born: September 5, 1922 - Died: April 21, 2000

Liberty County Times

May 3, 2000

### *Reynold Turner*

Reynold Martin Turner, age 77 of Shelby, passed away Friday April 21, 2000 at his home due to heart failure.

Funeral services were 10:00 am Friday April 28, 2000 at the Sunburst Methodist Church, followed by burial with military honors in the Mountain View Cemetery at Shelby. Memorials to the Shelby Senior Center, Whitted Funeral Chapel, Shelby, in charge of arrangements.

Reynold was born September 5, 1922 at Kippen, Montana to Martin and Louise (Olin) Turner. He graduated from Shelby High School in 1940 and then served with the Army during World War II as Radio Telegraph Operator in the Philippines.

He married Marian Gottfried on March 20, 1948 at Conrad. She died October 22, 1988.

Reynold farmed the family farm his entire life and was proud of the fact that one year he raised 70 bushel wheat.

He was a member of the Sunburst Methodist Church, Elk's Lodge, Moose Lodge, and the Galata American Legion Post #88.

He and his wife had been very active square dancers over the years. Music was a big part of his life and he enjoyed playing the saxophone, especially at the Shelby Senior Center. Reynold liked sports and attended most of the local football and basketball games. In his earlier years he had been an avid hunter and fisherman.

Survivors include his sons David and Rial Turner both of Oilmont, and Paul Turner of Shelby; 10 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Reynold was preceded in death by his wife and one brother.

## MARIEANN CATHERINE VAVRUSKA

Born: June 4, 1918 - Died: March 24, 2000

Liberty County Times

March 29, 2000



### **Marieann Vavruska**

Marieann Catherine Wendland Vavruska was born at Rudyard, Montana on June 4, 1918. She was one of five children born to Margaretha Hartman and Andrew Wendland. She grew up on the family farm north of Rudyard and received her formal education there. In the years that followed, Marieann worked on the Wendland farm with her family and eventually purchased some interest in a place southeast of Hingham.

She married Jacob Vavruska at Hingham on October 4, 1949. They lived and farmed at Hingham during their married life together. Marieann enjoyed her life as a homemaker and mother of nine children, five of whom preceded her in death. She continued to live in Hingham following her divorce from Jacob. Her health began to fail 2-1/2 years ago, so she moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. Marieann died at the Chester rest home on Friday evening March 24, 2000. She was 81 years old.

Marieann was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith. She was a member of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church and the Altar Society in Hingham.

Her hobbies were many. She was an avid gardener with a "green thumb." Her home was full of plants and she enjoyed fresh flowers. She was especially fond of her yellow rose bush in her yard. She did a lot of quilting and sewing over the years, and she enjoyed bird-watching. In her quiet hours at home she liked to read, work jigsaw puzzles, or solve crossword puzzles. She also enjoyed playing cards, especially Pinochle and Solitaire. Marieann was an exceptional cook; she will be remembered for her wonderful breads and her famous 'poppyseed' buns.

Although there were times of sadness and disappointment in her life, Marieann always tried to maintain a good sense of humor. One of her frequent quotations was "You can call me anything, just don't call me late for dinner!" She was a loyal friend and dedicated mother who will be greatly missed by her family.

Survivors include three daughters and spouses: Fern and Bert Ergenbright of Hingham, Hazel and John May of Rudyard, and Gail Sharp of Bozeman; one son and spouse Irvin and Nicky Vavruska of East Helena; 7 grandchildren; Andrew, Nathan, Dallas, Aubri, Tarryn, Jorin, Kinsey; one great-grandson Brendan; two sisters Dorothy Ferda, and Janet Lehman, both of Highwood; and numerous

nephews and nieces. Marieann was preceded in death by her parents, by two brothers Harlan and Phillip Wendland, and by five children Agnes, Bernard, Clarence, Doris and Edith.

Vigil Prayers were recited by Mike Wendland and the Vigil Homily was shared by Pastor Nolan Spenst on Monday evening March 27, 2000 at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church. Mary Hybner provided accompaniment to the congregation who sang "How Great Thou Art," and "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."

The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Diekhans at the church at 2:00 pm Tuesday March 28. Readings were by Dan Hybner and Pastor Spenst. Altar Servers were Levi and Conrad Wendland. The communion gifts were presented by Greg, Tracey, Heather, and Darius Wendland. The Eucharistic Minister was Mary Lois Hybner. Special music by Sharon Spicher and Terry Stevenson included "Morning Has Broken," "Amazing Grace," "Ave Maria," "The Lord's Prayer," "Heart of Jesus, Hear" and "Alleluia, Alleluia." Pallbearers were John, Gregory, Leonard, and Phillip Wendland, and Timothy and Philip Ferda. Honorary bearers were Jerry Hybner, Virgil Jurenka, and Mike Burkhartsmeier.

Burial was at the Hingham Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. A luncheon followed at the church.

Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation or the Liberty County Nursing Home.

## CHRISTINA SCHNIEBLE WALKER

Born: August 15, 1906 - Died: April 23, 2000

Liberty County Times

April 26, 2000

### ***Christina Walker***

Christina Schnieble Walker, age 93, Havre resident, died Easter Sunday April 23, 2000 at a Havre hospital of natural causes. Viewing will begin 10:00 am Thursday morning April 20th at the Holland & Bonine Funeral Home. Funeral services will be 2:00 pm Friday April 28, at First Lutheran Church with Pastor Walt Kirkegaard officiating. Burial will follow at Highland Cemetery. Memorials in Christina's honor may be made to the Northern Montana Center Chapel, 24 W 13th St, PO Box 1231, Havre, MT 59501, or a memorial of one's choice. Services and arrangements are under the direction of Holland & Bonine Funeral Home.

Christina was born August 15, 1906 in Grand Forks, North Dakota to John and Margaret (Dutt) Schnieble. When she was four years old she moved with her family north of Rudyard, Montana where she lived and went to eight years of school.

October 10, 1924 Christina and Irvin Walker were married in Havre. They lived and farmed north of Hingham where they raised seven children.

Christina's husband died in 1960. She then went to work as a housekeeper for a few years before moving to Havre in 1968. She enjoyed long hours of crafts which she would give to her family and friends. She had a beautiful garden and grew gladiolas. She was also active in the Senior Citizens Center, and belonged to the Rebeccas and the VFW Auxiliary. She attended the Lutheran church and was a member of the Goldstone Ladies Aid.

In 1991 she was stricken with a stroke and entered the Northern Montana Long Term Care Center, and resided there for nine years. She played the organ for the Goldstone church and also enjoyed playing the organ for the family at her home while they all sang along.

Christina was preceded in death by her parents, husband Irvin, and a number of brothers and sisters, a grandson, and a great-grandson.

She is survived by three sons: Elmer Walker of Harlém, MT; Edward and JoAnn Walker of Missoula, MT; Clyde and MaryAnn Walker of Great Falls, MT; four daughters Margaret and Frank Huestis of Havre; Mildred "Skip" English of Havre; Dorothy and Gary Butcher of Bozeman; Vyonne Mosher of Stevensville; 24 grandchildren, and 40 great-grandchildren.

## CHRIS FREDERICK WARNES

Born: December 25, 1925 - Died: January 3, 2000

Liberty County Times

May 10, 2000



### **Chris Warnes**

Chris Frederick Warnes, age 74, died in Portland, Oregon on January 3, 2000.

Graveside services with burial of his ashes will be 11:00 am Wednesday May 17 at the Erickson Cemetery south of Chester. A luncheon for family and friends will follow at the Fellowship Hall at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Local arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

Chris was born December 25, 1925 in the Chester community. He was one of 10 children born to Einar and Nora (Erickson) Warnes. He grew up and received his early education at Chester.

Chris earned a BA Magna Cum Laude from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN and his Master's degree from Portland State University in Portland, OR. He taught secondary education in Montana and Oregon. He served as head of the Business Education Dept. at John Marshall High School in Portland, OR until his retirement. He lived in the Portland community for many years.

During his early teaching years at Roseburg, OR he was one of 11 teachers in the US to be awarded a Smith-Mundt Grant, which resulted

in a teaching assignment in Istanbul, Turkey.

Chris was preceded in death by his parents, by 5 brothers Edward, Richard, Erwin, Robert, and Franklin Dee Warnes, and by one sister Ella Wigen.

Survivors include his daughter Katherine Wolinsky of St. Albans, Vermont; son Lloyd Warnes of Portland, Oregon; three grandchildren; his ex-wife Ilmae Lund of Tigard, Oregon; two sisters Ellen Violet, and Esther Meldrum, both of Chester; and many nephews and nieces.

## ALFREDA E. WEIDENAAR

Born: March 18, 1919 - Died: November 24, 2000

Liberty County Times

December 6, 2000

### **Alfreda Weidenaar**

A memorial service was held for Alfreda E. Weidenaar at 7:00 p.m. at the Evergreen Memorial Gardens Chapel, Vancouver, Washington. Mrs. Weidenaar, after suffering from colon cancer, went to be with the Lord on November 24, 2000 in her own home. She had been cared for by her children and Hospice during the last days of this life; she now gloriously passed on to be with her Lord, whom she diligently served and loved.

Mrs. Weidenaar was born March 18, 1919 in Hill County, Montana to Alfred and Louise Suckow. She received her RN from Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana in 1940.

On August 22, 1942 she married William E. Weidenaar in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he was stationed in the Army during World War II. When William returned from the war, they spent 14 years farming and raising four children near Rudyard, Montana. The family then moved to Pullman, Washington, where Alfreda re-entered the nursing profession, and in 1975 the family moved to Vancouver, Washington to be near children and grandchildren, and she again continued to work as a nurse at Vancouver Memorial Hospital until her retirement.

Always a wise mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and gracious hostess, she then began her fulltime career as a mentor, counse-

lor, and friend. Always a very busy person, she had endless hobbies, including oil and watercolor painting as well as pencil sketches, quilting, gardening, and stamp collecting. She was an active member of Southwest Artists Society, and Trinity Bible Church of Portland, Oregon.

Alfreda is survived by her loving husband Bill, and her children: Carolyn Chausse and her husband David of Fairbanks, Alaska; Dr. Richard Weidenaar and his wife Pat of Vancouver, Washington; Peggy Iverson and her husband Art of Houston, Texas; and daughter Ruth Weidenaar of Portland, Oregon. She is also survived by her sister Mary

Lois Packard of Mesa, Arizona, and sister Caroline Hall of Rudyard, Montana. She is also survived by nine grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

She was an inspiration to her family and friends, who not only adored and loved her deeply but learned to covet her prayers as she daily held them up before her Lord God. As the Book of Proverbs described—Alfreda was a wise wife, mother, and friend.

Memorial contributions may be made to Southwest Hospice, PO Box 1600, Vancouver, WA 98660, and the Trinity Bible Church of Portland, Building Fund, PO Box 16732, Portland, OR 97292-0732.

## CLARENCE EMIL WENDLAND

Birth: November 17, 1909 - Died: March 1, 2000

Liberty County Times

March 8, 2000



### **Clarence Wendland**

Clarence Emil Wendland was born at Bergen, North Dakota on November 17, 1909. He was one of three children born to Herman and Tracy (Wallner) Wendland. His parents homesteaded one mile west of Rudyard, Montana, so he grew up and received his formal education at Rudyard. Clarence graduated from Rudyard High School in 1928. In the few years that followed, he worked as a farmhand for Fred Elling, Sr. and he was employed at the John Deere Implement store in Rudyard.

Clarence married Frances Marie Heck on September 18, 1933 at Havre. They farmed the Wendland homestead until their retirement in 1979, when they moved into Rudyard. In addition to farming, Clarence worked as a private painter for 40+ years throughout the Hi-Line area.

Frances' health began to fail, so she moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester in September of 1999. Clarence joined her at the rest home this past October. He died peacefully in his sleep on the early morning of Wednesday March 1, 2000. He was 90 years old.

Clarence was baptized and confirmed as a Missouri Synod Lutheran. He was a lifelong member of the old St. John's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. An active church

member, he served on the council and held many offices in the church. In fact, he was one of the last living members of the St. John's congregation.

Other memberships included the Rudyard Gun Club and the Farmer's Union. Clarence's hobbies over the years included hunting, fishing, trap-shooting, bowling, and square dancing. He loved to play cards, especially Pinochle and Whist. During his quiet time at home he enjoyed reading Westerns. When his children were young, Clarence loved family picnics and camping.

Clarence enjoyed his life as a Montana farmer. He was one of the "good old guys" around Rudyard who will be remembered for his simple attire, his bib overalls. A dedicated family man, Clarence was content and happy during those 66 years of married life with Frances.

In addition to his wife, Clarence is survived by 3 sons: C. Dale Wendland of Rudyard, Bill Wendland and wife Sylvia of Dickinson, North Dakota, and Rex Wendland and wife Sandra of Mission Viejo, California; one daughter Sue Moss and husband Rick of Conrad; 8 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild; and numerous nephews and nieces. Clarence was preceded in death by his parents, an infant daughter Teresa, a daughter-in-law Kathy, a brother Leonard, and a sister Estelle Elling.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 am Saturday March 4, 2000 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. Rev. Alfred Ebel of Havre officiated. Clarence's son-in-law Rick Moss was the eulogist. Special vocal music by Terry Stevenson included "The Old Rugged Cross," and "Beyond the Sunset," accompanied by organist Iris White. Ushers were John and Mike Wendland. Pallbearers were Fred Elling, Fred Rigg, Glen Elling, Neal Rigg, Lane Rigg, and Dave Strissel. Burial followed in the Inverness Cemetery. A luncheon for family and friends was held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

Arrangements by Rockman  
Funeral Chapel, Chester.



ANDREW P. WILLIAMS

Born: May 7, 1918 - Died: January 14, 2000

Liberty County Times

February 16, 2000

# Obituary

## *Andrew Williams*

Andrew P. Williams, age 81 of Hallsville, Missouri, formerly of Monticello, Missouri, died Friday January 14, 2000 at University of Missouri Hospital, Columbia.

Born May 7, 1918, in Monticello, he was a son of Andrew Powell and Irene Jenkins Williams.

He worked for Orville Solum of Rudyard, and Marcel Solum of south Inverness for about 10 years during the '70s, and bowled for several leagues on the Hi-Line during those years.

Andrew was a member of the Monticello AF&AM Lodge #58.

Survivors include: a son Dale Williams of Jonesboro, Arkansas; one sister Merry C. Hinton of Monticello; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Williams was preceded in death by his parents, a brother Charles Williams, and two sisters Martha Hinton, and Linnie Ham.

Graveside services were held Monday January 24, at 10:00 am at the Monticello Cemetery in Monticello. Arrangements by Arnold's Funeral Homes, Canton-Lewistown.

## MARVIN LEVI (RED) WILSON

Born: December 13, 1929 - Died: September 9, 2000

Liberty County Times

September 13, 2000



### **Marvin 'Red' Wilson**

Marvin Levi "Red" Wilson was born at Hlad, Montana on December 13, 1929. He was the eldest of eight children born to Roy and Dorothy (Johnson) Wilson. Red grew up and received his early schooling at Harlem. He finished his formal education at Havre.

Red's first job at age eight was caring for a herd of cattle on the weekends. His duties included harnessing a team of horses, loading the wagon with hay, and then feeding the cows twice each day. The money he earned was used to buy coal to heat the family home. At age 13, Red went to work full-time to help support his younger siblings. He worked for several area ranchers before taking a job at the Vita

Rich Dairy in Havre.

Red married Evelyn Hoiseth on October 7, 1951 at Havre. The Wilsons purchased a ranch out on the Cow Island Trail. In 1967 they moved to a farm near Gildford and have lived there since.

Red was recently diagnosed with bone cancer. He died at Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls on Saturday morning September 9, 2000. He was 70 years old.

Red was a Past President of the Havre Eagles and was a member of the Masons and Shriners. He enjoyed working, gardening, camping, and picnicking. He loved to play cards especially Pinochle and Cribbage; and he also liked to play practical jokes. His greatest love was family; he enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren.

Although Red wasn't raised in the Christian faith, he became a faithful member of the Kremlin Lutheran Church and grew to be confident in Jesus' saving grace.

Survivors include his wife Evelyn of Gildford; two sons, Marvin Wilson of Chester, and Brett Wilson of Conrad; two daughters Paula Miller of Gildford, and Karen Youso of Prineville, Oregon; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two brothers Kenneth Wilson and Ernest "Tiny" Wilson both of Havre; four sisters Betty Ost of Spokane, Washington, Rose Brown of Vancouver, Washington, Lilly Howard of Sweet Home, Oregon, and Eva Callahan of Santa

Ana, California; numerous nephews and nieces.

Red was preceded in death by his parents and a brother Alvin "Bud" Wilson.

Family graveside prayers were held at 3:00 pm Monday September 11, 2000 at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. Prayers were recited by Rev. Larry Horinek.

Memorial services were conducted at 10:00 am Tuesday September 12th at the Kremlin Lutheran Church by Rev. Tim Hauge. Undesignated memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" in Great Falls.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

## CLARA GRETA ZABEL WOOD

Born: August 31, 1903 - Died: December 9, 2000

Liberty County Times

December 13, 2000



### Clara Wood

Clara Greta (Zabel) Wood was born at Balfour, North Dakota on August 31, 1903. She was one of 12 children born to German immigrants Augusta Louise Martin and Gustav Ferdinand Zabel. Clara received her early schooling in North Dakota. The Zabel family came to Montana in 1917 and purchased a farm near Gildford. Clara finished her formal education at the Zenia School, which was located between Kremlin and Gildford.

On September 30, 1922 she married John Henry Wood at Havre, Montana. They worked on the Zabel

farm until they acquired their own place. Clara and John lived on their Gildford area farm until 1940, when they bought a home in town. Clara worked as a homemaker and mother of two children.

Her husband John died in 1985. Clara continued to live in their Gildford home until 1990 then moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester to be close to her daughter and family. In 1998 her health began to fail so she sold her home and transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. Clara died at the Chester rest home the early morning of Saturday December 9, 2000. She was 97 years old.

Clara had been a member of the old St. John's Lutheran Church in Rudyard in her early years. She eventually transferred her membership to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Havre. She was also a 60-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Before her husband's health failed they enjoyed spending winters in San Diego, California. A widow for the past 15 years, Clara remained independent and continued to take care of her own affairs. Although her physical body wore out, her mind remained sharp to the end.

Clara's hobbies included embroidery, crocheting, cooking, and canning. She made many fancy dollies over the years and one of her favorite

prepared meals was chicken-and-dumplings. In her quiet time she enjoyed playing cards, especially "Kings in the Corner."

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law Betty and Jim Marshall of Chester; one sister Helen Moody of Seattle, Washington; 11 grandchildren including Wayne Wood, Leland Wood, Delbert Wood, Tony Marshall, Butch Marshall, Ken Marshall, Scot Marshall, Lynn Lonbeck, Kathy Wood, Janet Baird, and Jodine Sheppard; 26 great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Clara was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, her son Henry, three brothers: Fred, Edward, and Gust Zabel, and seven sisters: Alice Beatty, Meta Braihan, Alma Gerber, Lulu Kidd, Caroline Zimmerman, Edna Mangels, and Violet Shorey.

Funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday (today) Dec. 13, 2000 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Havre. The services will be conducted by Rev. Alfred Ebel. The organist will be Betty Flechsign and special vocal music by Jeanne Kolis will be "In the Garden." The congregation will sing selected Christmas hymns. Ushers will be Willis Myers and Lowell Miller. Pallbearers will be Lyle Williams, Dan Williams, Leon Williams, Clarence

Wood, Bud VandeSandt, and Keith VandeSandt.

Burial and graveside services will be at the Highland Cemetery in Havre. A luncheon will follow at the church. Arrangments by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch or donor's choice.