

HELEN ANN AABERG

Born: August 8, 1924 - Died: February 2, 2002

Liberty County Times

February 13, 2002



Helen Ann Aaberg

Helen Ann Aaberg, age 77, of Bozeman, died unexpectedly of heart failure while asleep at her home on February 2, 2002. Going strong to the end, she spent the day before her death doing some of her favorite things: playing Bridge, attending an antique auction, dinner, and a play with friends.

Helen, or "Laney" as she was known by some of her friends, was born August 8, 1924 to Peter Miller Kuhry and Elizabeth (Zettel) Kuhry in Chester, Montana. She attended Chester High School and Holy Names College in Spokane. Her college career was shortened by hard times and the War, and she returned to Chester where she worked for the federal government. She married Amos Aaberg in 1947 and after having two sons they separated. She began working in the Chester Post Office in the mid-19950s, became Postmistress in 1967, and retired in 1989. After retirement, she spent the winters in Bozeman for three years, moving there permanently in 1992.

An accomplished pianist, Helen was organist and choir director for many years at St. Mary's Parish. She was a co-founder of the Liberty County Arts Council in 1967 and the Liberty Village Arts

Arlynn Fishbaugh, of the Montana Arts Council said, "(Helen) was an amazing woman she deeply influenced the arts in this state. She not only left a hallmark on the state through her work, but through her son. We are all so lucky for her remarkable contributions."

Her past positions are a reflection of her many interests in life and include election to the Chester School Board, First Vice President of the Montana Democratic Women's Club, president of the Montana Genealogy Society, Treasurer of the State Postmaster's Association, Museum of the Rockies docent, and member of the Chester Garden Club and the Liberty county Shutterbugs.

She was an avid Bridge player, and continued that interest in Bozeman, attending many state tournaments and marathons. She was also active in many organizations and study groups within the Catholic church at both Holy Rosary in Bozeman and St. Mary's in Chester, and was also involved with some community action, study and service groups, including Meals on Wheels.

Upon retiring from the postal service, Helen was able to exercise her passion for peace, justice, ecology, and human rights, writing at least a letter a week to newspaper editors and politicians.

Until the end, she did what she loved. In the words of a close friend, "She was a vibrant, intelligent, and caring woman," and will be greatly missed by all her friends and family.

She is survived by her son Stephen of Billings, her son Philip and daughter-in-law Patricia Belknap Aaberg of Oakland, California; her brother Wil Kuhry and sister-in-law, Ann Lambert Kuhry of Havre; her grandsons Sean, Michael, Daniel, and Jake of Oakland; her brother-in-law George Freemole of Great Falls, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters Marjorie Freemole, and Marietta Pace O'Connor, and her brother Florian J. Kuhry.

Vigil services were held at 7:00 pm Thursday Feb. 7, 2002 at Holy Rosary Catholic church in Bozeman. A funeral mass was celebrated by Father Leo Proxell at Holy Rosary at 10:00 am Friday, February 8th.

A memorial mass was celebrated at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester by Father Joseph Diekhans at 11:00 am Monday February 11th. Special music was provided by ST. Mary's choir and other community friends. Son Phil Aaberg, accompanied the choir in one of Helen's favorites, "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring." A vocal duet by Marcus Jochim and Anne Seidlitz-Melton was "Pie Jesu." Karen Stack served as organist. Scripture readings were by Irene Terwolbeck. Greeters were Don and Harriet Marble. Altar server was Ken Gagnon. Eucharistic ministers were Margaret (Freemole) Halvorson, Helen (Freemole) Berger, and Marjie Dahinden. Eulogist was Don Marble.

Graveside services followed at the Chester Cemetery. Father Joe committed the ashes of Helen and her brother Florian (who died on December 29, 2001). Military "Taps" and Florian's veteran's flag was presented to the family. A luncheon followed at the church. Local arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

It was Helen's wish that in lieu of flowers, donations be given to charities for the poor. Donations may also be given to the Humane Society of Gallatin County. A generous family in Bozeman adopted her beloved Dachshund 'Tinka.'

DIRK WELLINGTON ADAMS

Born: September 24, 1971 - Died: July 2, 2002

Liberty County Times

July 10, 2002

Dirk Adams

Dirk Wellington Adams, age 30, was tragically taken from his family and friends on July 2, 2002. Dirk was born September 24, 1971 in Sikeston, Missouri, to Blakeney and Peggy (Hammond) Adams.

Upon graduation from Cahokia High School in St. Louis, MO, and honorably served his country for seven years. Upon discharge, he moved to Missoula, Montana and met Kathryn Colleen "KayCee" Spinler, who he married on May 13, 2002 in Helena, MT. On April 27, 2001 the light of his life, his daughter Jessica, was born.

Dirk successfully built his own long haul trucking company with the help and support of his wife. In his free time, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending time with his beautiful daughter.

He is survived by his wife KayCee; daughter Jessica; father Blake and his wife Jan; mother Peggy; grandmother Martha; sisters: Sabrina and Christina; brother Blake; step-mother Karen; step-sister Amanda; step-brother Scott; sister-in-law June; brothers-in-law Mark and Scott; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

A memorial service was conducted from Hagler-Anderson Chapel on Monday July 8, 2002

at 10:00 at in Helena, with rev. James A. Connor officiating. Lewis & Clark Veterans Council provided military graveside services at Montana State Veterans Cemetery at Ft. Harrison, Helena. A luncheon was held at St. Mary's Community Center following the graveside services.

KENNETH WILLIAM BANGS

Born: May 19, 1915 - Died: May 2, 2002

Liberty County Times

May 8, 2002



Ken Bangs

Kenneth William Bangs, 86, died at his home in Stevensville Thursday morning, May 2, after struggling with congestive heart failure for more than a year. Ken was born on the homestead of his parents, Will and Etta Bangs, 23 1/2 miles north of Inverness, Montana on May 19, 1915.

He received his early education at the Minnesota country school, graduating from Inverness High School in 1933. He attended college at Northern Montana College in Havre and the University of Montana in Missoula where he graduated with a degree in sociology and economics in

1941. On September 26, 1941 he married Norma Lorraine Prescott in Spokane, Washington. During World War II he worked as a welder in the shipyards of Bremerton, Washington after which he returned with his wife, Norma and baby daughter Dorothy to the farm in Montana. Ken taught one year of high school in Inverness then spent the rest of his working life farming and raising a family of seven children. In 1980 Ken and Norma left the farm and traveled extensively after which they retired to Stevensville in 1983.

Ken was a life-long and active member of the Democratic Party and the Montana Farmer's Union. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Hill County Electric Co-op. was an Inverness school trustee, and on the board of the Farmers Union Oil station in Rudyard. His interest in people developed during his years on the farm, continued during his life in Stevensville, where he often helped out friends, neighbors and the community with numerous projects. In his later years of retirement, he developed a liking for golf and was one of the mainstays at the Whitetail Golf Course in Stevensville. He was a lover of reading, tending his yard and garden, playing Bridge,

discussing current events and traveling. Norma and Ken enjoyed trips to Australia, China, Russia, and England. They also attended numerous elder hostels in the US.

He was preceded in death by his wife Norma (in 1994) and his older sister Dorothy McMurphy of Albuquerque. He is survived by his brother Howard Bangs of Seattle; his sister Genevieve Schwartz of Chicago; and his daughter, Dorothy Leonard of Sunnyside, Washington; sons, Collin Bangs and wife Patsy of Missoula, Richard Bangs and wife, Susan of Littleton, Colorado, Dennis Bangs of Missoula, Bill Bangs and wife Linda of Missoula, Tom Bangs and wife Carol of Inverness; daughter Linda Dolar and husband Jerry of Salem, Oregon; adopted son Julian P. Stevens of Virginia; along with nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Memorial services were held Tuesday, May 7 at the Whitesilt Funeral Home in Stevensville at 1:00 p.m., with Jeff Olsgaard officiating.

A reception followed at the 306 Pine in Stevensville. Memorials can be made to the Minneota Friendly Club Scholarship Fund, The Montana Farmer's Union Camp Fund, or to North Valley Public Library, 208 Main St., Stevensville, MT 59870.

ALLEN JOHN BARBIE

Born: April 22, 1946 - Died: February 22, 2002

Liberty County Times

February 27, 2002



Allen J. Barbie

Allen John Barbie was born at Havre, Montana on April 22nd, 1946.

He was one of seven children born to Alvin and Anabelle (Peltapiece) Barbie. Allen grew up on the family farm north of Inverness. He received his education at Inverness, graduating from Inverness High School in 1964.

Allen enrolled at Eastern Montana College in Billings where he played football his freshman year, then he transferred to Northern Montana College in Havre. He returned to Inverness in 1967 and began working for the Inverness School District as a bus driver. During that time he met an Inverness school teacher, Stanleigh Rea Nerdahl, who would later become his wife.

In 1968 Allen enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. During a break from active duty, he married Stanleigh in Minneapolis (Minnesota) on July 19th 1969. Allen continued his military obligation, serving a tour of duty in Vietnam in 1971. He attained the rank of Sergeant E-5 before receiving his honorable

discharge in 1972. He remained in the Marine Reserve Corps for two more years.

Allen & Stanleigh made their home at Inverness where Allen began working for John May

Construction. He also sold Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance for a short time, and then began working for Fraser's Conoco in 1976.

For the past 15 years Allen managed Fraser's branch station in Galata. He remained a dedicated worker until his declining health forced him to this past December (2001). Allen was diagnosed with cancer in September of 1998 and

underwent many surgeries and chemotherapy treatments. He initially did well, but his condition changed in recent months, so he was being cared for at home by family and hospice nurses. On this past Friday (February 22nd, 2002) Allen was admitted to the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, where he suffered a stroke. He died just two months shy of his 56th birthday.

Allen was baptized in the Methodist faith, but attended the Lutheran Church during his married years with Stanleigh. He was active in the Inverness Community; he served on the Inverness School board (before consolidation), the J-1 School board (after consolidation), the Inverness Volunteer Fire Department, and the Inverness Commercial Club. Allen was also a member of the Chester American Legion. He enjoyed the people in the Galata community and one of his favorite activities was providing treats to the Galata Elementary students at their annual Christmas program.

Allen's hobbies were many. He was known for his gardening skills; he raised a huge vegetable garden for many years and was happy to share his produce with his friends and neighbors. He enjoyed deer and gopher hunting, and was an avid fisherman. He loved to play cards, especially cribbage and Pinochle. Allen loved to follow the

local school sporting events, mainly boys basketball, and he was also an avid football fan. In his quiet time at home he enjoyed reading. Just for the fun of it he collected coins.

Allen's family will always remember his "good sense of humor". His survivors include his wife, Stanleigh of Inverness; two sons, Aaron Barbie of Rock Springs, Wyoming and Peter

Barbie (and wife, Kathleen) of Stanford; his mother Anabelle Barbie of Chester; three brothers Lyle Barbie of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Bill Barbie (and wife Cathy) of Carson City, Nevada, and Larry Barbie of Inverness; three sisters Barbara Jean Belgarde of Forsyth, Mary Ann Barbie Rice (and husband Steve) of Helena, and JoAnne Barbie-Redmond of Greely, Colorado; maternal aunt Beth Graham of Chester; and many nephews, nieces and cousins. Allen was preceded in death by his father (Alvin in 1992) and a nephew (Bryan Barbie).

Funeral services will be today (Wednesday, February 27, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. The funeral will be conducted by Pastors Tim Singleton and Charles Woodworth. Pianist will be Christy Fossen and the congregation will sing "How Great Thou Art". Vocalist, Terry Stevenson, will perform "On Eagle's Wings". Ushers are Jim Fraser and Dean Lerum. Pallbearers are Duane Fraser, Craig Fraser, Larry Smith, Dennis Diemert, Bob Datoe, and Paul Olson. Honorary bearers are "all of his many friends".

Burial with military rites by the Galata American Legion Post #69 will follow at the Inverness Cemetery. A luncheon provided by Hi-Line area friends will conclude the services at the church in Rudyard.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial to the "Gift of Life" in Great Falls, Bear Paw Hospice of Havre or donor's choice.

RICHARD WAGNER "RICH" BARNETT

Born: August 31, 1915 - Died: March 22, 2002

Liberty County Times

March 27, 2002



Richard Barnett

Richard Wagner "Rich" Barnett was born August 31, 1915 at the Barnett family home near Bloomfield, Iowa. He was the only child of Clifford and Nellie (Schafer) Barnett. His parents divorced when he was four, so he lived with his maternal grandparents on the Schafer farm near Lancaster, Missouri and attended the Sloop School near there. Rich eventually joined his mother in Chicago, where he finished his schooling. Although his formal education ended in the 7th grade, Rich was an avid reader and was self-taught in many subjects.

In 1934 Rich came to Montana with his uncle, Bill Schafer, to work on a ranch near the Sweetgrass Hills. He learned to dress tools on an oilrig and became interested in the oil business. Before long he built and operated the Whittlash Refinery.

At the outbreak of World War II Rich was inducted into the U.S. Army in 1941. He attained the rank of Tech-5 in Battery "B" 455th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion. He served overseas in the Asiatic-Pacific and the European-African-Middle Eastern campaign. More specifically, he fought in the "Battle of the Bulge." Rich was honorably discharged in 1945.

He returned to Montana where he worked in the trucking business and operated a welding/repair shop at Whittlash.

Rich married Winifred Allen on July 15, 1946 at Helena, Montana. They made their home in the Whittlash community. In the early 1950's Rich and his partner Nelson Bingham, formed the B&B Drilling Company. They initially did contract drilling, then began drilling their own wells on the Schafer lease. The partnership dissolved in 1960.

Rich and Wini moved to Helena where they bought and managed the Valley Vista Mobil Home Park. On part of their Helena property they built one of the first three KOA (Kampground of America) franchises in the system. In addition to their RV mobile home park, Rich ran a backhoe operation. They also raise a 2-acre vegetable garden and sold fresh produce at the Helena Farmer's Market.

The Barnetts spent their winter months in Mesa, Arizona, then returned to Helena in the summer. In the summer of 2002 they moved

permanently to Mesa, where they enjoyed the warm winter weather and their many friends.

Rich's health began to fail in the spring of 2001. He entered Neely Ray's Hospice House in Gilbert, Arizona. He died there this past Friday morning March 22, 2002. He was 86 years old.

Rich's hobbies included gardening, geology and hiking. He loved music and he played guitar, and the electronic digital organ. Over the years he was a friend and mentor to many.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Wini of Mesa; three sisters-in-law: Evelyn Aiken of Whittlash, Golda Morrison of Chester, and Donna Allen of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; several nieces and nephews; and special friends Bob and Jean Blalock of Quartzite, Arizona.

Rich was preceded in death by his parents, half sister Bernice Cross, and his mother-in-law Louisa Anderson.

Funeral services will be today Wednesday, March 27th at 1:00 pm at the Whittlash Community Church. Pastor John Maatta will officiate. Music will be provided by pianist Helen Stratton, and vocalist Delores Matteson. Vocal tributes will be "In the Garden" and "The Old Rugged Cross." Friends serving as pallbearers are Clayton Wilhelm, Robert Durlup, Dennis Iverson, Walter Stratton, Urban Kultgen, and Ron Wehr. Memorial bearers are all of Rich's old friends.

Burial will be at the Whittlash Cemetery with military rites by

Galata American Legion Post #69. The flag presentation will be by Leonard Mattson. A luncheon will follow at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Memorials will be given to the Neely Ray Hospice House, 13639 East Ray Road, Gilbert, Arizona, 85233 or donor's choice.

ERMA KATHERINE (FOSS) BAXTER

Born: June 4, 1911 - Died: February 26, 2002



Erma Baxter

Liberty County Times

March 6, 2002

Erma Katherine (Foss) Baxter was born at Milnor, North Dakota on June 4, 1911. She was the eldest child of three children born to Clifford and Laura (Gustafson) Foss. The Foss family came to Brockton, Montana when Erma was four years old. Her father farmed, worked the railroad, and delivered mail. Her mother operated a boarding house and restaurant.

Erma received her formal education at Brockton; in her junior year she quit school to help care for her two younger twin-siblings. In the few years that followed, she worked in the Mona community as a cook and housekeeper.

Erma married Everett A. Baxter on November 16, 1935 at Andes, Montana. They made their home on a ranch near Culbertson, where Erma worked as a homemaker and mother of five. This ranch was their home for 50 years. Following Everett's death in 1983, Erma moved to the Yellowstone Villa in Culbertson. She lived there until 1995, then came to Chester, (MT) to live with her daughter Judy. When her health began to fail in 2000, she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. She died at the Chester rest home on the early morning of Tuesday,

Feb. 26, 2002. Erma was 90 years old.

During her years in Culbertson, Erma was very active at the Trinity Lutheran Church and the A.L.C.W. She was also a member of the Roosevelt Memorial Hospital Guild.

The Baxter's enjoyed their lives as ranchers and stayed close to home. In the late 1980's Erma made a memorable trip to the "Grand Old Opry" with a group of Culbertson senior citizens.

In her younger years Erma enjoyed dancing and card parties; her favorite card game was whist. She always looked forward to watching Lawrence Welk and game shows on television. In her quiet time at home she made quilts for the church and family members. She also made yarn covered hangers. Erma was a good cook, and her family will remember her delicious caramel rolls and chocolate chip cookies! Survivors include 3 sons and spouses: Clarence and Georgia Baxter of Big Sandy, Randal and Karen Baxter of Culbertson, and Roger and Melinda Baxter of Chinook; two daughters and spouses: Judy and Paul Alisch of Chester, and Bonnie and Richard Vrooman of Proctor; 17 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; one brother, Clifford Foss Jr. and wife Marjorie of Holden, Missouri (formerly of Sidney); one sister, Corrine Amestoy and husband Paul of Sidney; and numerous nephews and nieces. Erma was preceded in death by her husband and parents.

Visitation was Wednesday afternoon Feb. 27th at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

Additional visitation was Friday afternoon March 1st at the Fulkerson Funeral Home in Sidney.

Funeral services were 10:00 am Saturday March 2, 2002 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Culbertson. Memorials will be given to the Trinity Church or donor's choice.

GEORGIA THELMA "JO" (GRANGER) BERG

Born: July 10, 1920 - Died: March 1, 2002

Liberty County Times

March 6, 2002

Georgia 'Jo' Berg

Georgia Thelma (Granger) Berg, better known to her family and friends as "Jo," died early Friday morning March 1, 2002 at Hunter's Glen Assisted Living Facility in Missoula, Montana. She was 81 years old.

Jo was born at Harlem, Montana on July 10, 1920. She was one of five children born to George and Minnie (McGuire) Granger. Jo grew up at Harlem and received her formal education there. In her early teens she met Jessel Jerome Berg and they were married in Helena on June 20, 1936.

They made their home in Harlem and began raising their family of five. The Berg's moved to Chester in 1949 and then to Conrad in 1962. In both communities Jess worked in the automobile business, specializing in Ford products. After their

retirement they moved to Great Falls where they managed the Cottonwood Condominiums. In 1991 the Bergs moved to Lewistown to be near their youngest daughter. Jess died in 1994. Jo remained in Lewistown until 1999, then relocated to Missoula to be close to additional

family. Her health began to fail by that time, so she moved to the assisted living facility there.

During their years in Chester, the Bergs were members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Jo was also a member of the Eastern Star Organization.

In addition to being a homemaker and mother, Jo enjoyed crocheting, sewing, and crafts. At the time of Jess' death they had been married 58 years.

Jo's survivors include two daughters: Willagene Brandt of Missoula, and Jessalin Dilling of North Bend, Washington; two sons James Bergh of Longview, Washington, and George Berg of Grosse Point Farms, Michigan; one sister Lanor Bordner of Missoula; 12 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband,

but also by a daughter Nancy Gifford, two sisters Loretta Hollicheck and Lorane Payne, and one brother William Granger. It was Jo's wishes that be cremated. Her ashes will be buried with her husband in the Berg family plot at the Chester Cemetery. No services are planned. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

CYRIL "CY" E. BOSWORTH

Born: 1923 - Died: November 2, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

November 6, 2002

Cyril E. Bosworth

HAVRE — Cyril "Cy" E. Bosworth, 79, a retired Bureau of Reclamation employee and Army veteran, died Saturday at a Havre care center of natural causes.



Bosworth

Cremation has taken place. Graveside services with military



honors are 10 a.m. Friday at Highland Cemetery. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Albertine E. Bosworth of Havre; a brother, Merrill Bosworth of Havre; a son, Dexter S. Bosworth of Havre; and one grandson.

WILLIAM "BILL" BRADY

Born: November 4, 1923 - Died: February 14, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

February 15, 2002

William 'Bill' Brady

William "Bill" Brady, 78, a salesman for International Harvester farm equipment, died Thursday at a local hospital of natural causes.

Visitation will be announced by Chapel of Chimes Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held at a

later date. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Chapel of Chimes Funeral Home.



Brady

Survivors include his "life partner," Burnetta Brady; daughters Colleen Stewart of Hopland,

Calif., Jeanette Adams of Roundup and Clara Bancroft of Great Falls; sons Michael Brady of Kent, Wash., Kevin Brady of Issaquah, Wash., John Brady of Spokane, Al Brady of Gillette, Wyo., and Marcus Brady of Aliso Viejo, Calif.; sisters Betty Barker of St. Charles, Mo., and Mary Jacoby of Kansas City, Mo.; a brother, Ray Brady of Stanford; 16 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A son, Kenny, died in 1966.

He was born Nov. 4, 1923, in Jefferson, Mo., and raised in Stanberry, Mo., where he grew up and graduated from high school. He married Burnetta Barber on Feb. 1, 1947, in Denton.

He sold and serviced International Harvester equipment for 45 years in the Golden Triangle area and KallsPELL. Bill wanted to say thanks, one last time, to all the great customers and friends in the best place in the world to live and work.

His interests included Cadillacs, country music and sports.

He was also preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Clara of Stanberry, Mo., and by two brothers, Gene and Kenneth of Missouri.

GEORGIANA MARY (SONNEK) BRAIN

Born: October 27, 1910 - Died: September 2, 2002

Liberty County Times

September 11, 2002



Georgiana Brain

Georgiana Mary (Sonnek) Brain was born October 27, 1910 at Cleveland, North Dakota. She was the youngest of five children born to Andrew and Hattie (Lutz) Sonnek. Georgiana received her early education at Cleveland, then finished her schooling at Bismarck where she attended Normal Teacher's College and earned her teaching certificate. She taught at a country school near Cleveland for two years, then came to Montana in 1931.

"Georgie" as she was affectionately nicknamed, was teaching at the Hay Coulee Country School south of Chester when she met a local farmer, Orval L. Brain. They were married May 21, 1932 at Hingham. They made their home on the Brain farm and raised a family of three daughters. They spent their entire married life on the farm except the years 1957-1961, when they wintered in Great Falls. In 1976 Georgie lost the love of her life, Orval, to sudden death. She remained strong and independent in the years that followed.

Georgie lived 70 years on the farm before moving to the Assisted Living Center in Chester in May of 2002. In August she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home for extended care. She was admitted to the Chester hospital on Labor Day Monday September 2, 2002, where she died peacefully at the age of 91 years.

Georgie was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Altar Society in Chester. She was also a past member of the Liberty County CowBelles.

Georgie loved flowers and gardening; a familiar family quote about her was "She could make the prairies bloom." She was a charter member of the Chester Garden Club and had also been active in the Rainbow Garden Club in Great Falls. In addition, she earned accreditation as a Master Floral Judge for the National Federation of Garden Clubs, and recently was awarded a certificate as "Judge Emeritus." On a related note, Georgie completed a Dale Carnegie Course in public speaking so she would be better prepared to present floral demonstrations and judge floral projects. She was artistic and innovative in floral design.

Georgie had other interests, too. She was an avid reader and loved to write poetry. She enjoyed playing cards, especially Pinochle. And just for the fun of it, she collected Madonna figurines and owls. She was an avid birdwatcher and attracted many to her yard. She was also an exceptional cook; her family will remember her delicious cinnamon rolls, cookies, pies, and fudge. Georgie's enthusiasm for her many interests influenced the lives of her family and friends. A loving mother, grandmother, and friend, she will be greatly missed.

Survivors include her three daughters and spouses: Marguerita and Merle Bivens of Irvine, California, JoAnn and Tom Osterman of Chester, and Carol and Dan Riley of Marion; 10 grandchildren: Leslie Ringo, Sandy Verdegem, Michael Bivens, Ken Osterman, Dede Ingman, Doug Osterman, Shelley Frost, Sean Riley, Dana Riley, and Damon Riley; 20 great-grandchildren; two great-great-granddaughters; one step-sister, Sister Anne Martina Genser of Crookston, Minnesota; and three nephews.

Georgie was preceded in death by her husband, parents, sister Marguerite Norby, three brothers: Armond, Kenneth, and Ronald Sonnek; step-sister Luella Schwab; two step-brothers Henry and Matt Genser; and great-grandson Kevin Osterman.

Vigil Prayers were 7:00 pm Friday September 6, 2002 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 am Saturday at the church by Father Joseph

Diekhans. Selected scripture readings were by Margaret Meissner. Richie Hamel served as pianist and Marcus Jochim sang "Ave Maria." And "Amazing Grace." The St. Mary's Choir performed "On Eagle's Wings," "Valleys of Green," "Prayer of St. Francis," and "You Are Mine."

Greeters were Don Puls and John Englund. Altar server was Ken Gagnon, and Eucharistic minister was Marjle Dahinden. Georgie's grandchildren served as pallbearers. Daughter Carol Riley shared personal remembrances.

Following burial at the Chester Cemetery a luncheon was held at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

ARLEN WILLIAM BROUGH

Birth: December 24, 1966 – Death: November 14, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

November 19, 2002

Arlen William Brough

HAVRE — Havre native Arlen W. Brough, 35, an employee of Taco Johns, died Thursday in Eureka, Calif.



Brough

His memorial service is 11 a.m. Friday at St. Jude Catholic Church in Havre, with burial in Highland Cemetery. Cremation has taken place; Holland & Bonine

Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth "Beth" Brough of Havre; a son, Jordon Brough of Havre; a stepson, Neil Cole of Dodson; his mother, RoseAnn Brough of Havre; sisters Brenda Brough of Helena and Lori Casey of Missoula; and brothers Mike Brough of Denver and Roger Brough of Las Vegas.

Also surviving are nieces and nephews Jillian Brough of Dallas, Lindsey Brough and Garrette Brough, both of Havre, Taylor Brough and Mackenzie Brough, both of Denver, and Keegan, Brennan and Kaelan Casey, all of Missoula.

He was preceded in death by his father, Richard William Brough in 1998, his maternal grandparents, Ben and Ruby Anderson, and his paternal grandparents, John and Lyda Brough.

Arlen was born Dec. 24, 1966, in Havre, to Richard "Dick" and RoseAnn (Anderson) Brough. He was raised and educated in Havre, graduating from Havre High School.

He worked various jobs in the Havre. He worked for Champion Auto Parts for 1½ years and was currently employed at Taco Johns in Havre. He married Chrissie Christopherson in 1991; they had one son, Jordon, and later divorced.

Arlen enjoyed fishing and playing pool. He often spent time in the Bear's Paw Mountains with his family and friends. He was a Minnesota Vikings fan since the age of 3 and liked to watch wrestling and car racing. Rusty Wallace was his favorite race car driver. He also liked to attend the local demolition derbies in Havre at the fair and on festival days.

Memorials in Arlen's honor may be made to his son, Jordon Brough, c/o Bear Paw Credit Union, 201 Second St., Havre, MT 59501.

Cause of death was a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

E. IRVIN BROWN

Birth: August 3, 1921 - Death: December 6, 2002

Liberty County Times

December 11, 2002



Irvin Brown

Sweet Grass Hills rancher, E. Irvin Brown, 81, of Whittash, passed away peacefully Friday, December 6, at the ranch on which he lived, loved and worked his entire life.

Funeral services will be Tuesday at 11:00 am at the Whittash Community Presbyterian Church. Burial with military honors will follow in the Whittash Cemetery. Visitation will be Monday from 1:00 until 8:00 PM at the Whittied

Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Family suggests memorials to the Whittash Community Presbyterian Church or the 4-H Foundation.

Irvin was born August 3, 1921 at Great Falls to Elmer Marshal Brown and Randi Forseth Brown. He attended Whittash area schools and later graduated from Havre High School in 1939. Then in 1941 he attended MSU in Bozeman for a year where he completed the Agriculture short course.

He served with the US Army near the end of WW2 where he managed an officer's mess hall in Korea. On October 31, 1948, he married Jeanette Tomscheck at Shelby. He spent the rest of his life working the ranch. He was

very proud to be the third generation on the land that his grandfather, John A. Brown, homesteaded over 100 years ago. Irvin's lifelong loves were his family, his ranch and his animals - especially the horses he raised and trained.

He passed along his life's values not only to his children, but to all he came in contact with and through his extensive work in the 4-H. Earlier this year he and his wife Jeanette were inducted into the Montana Congress of the 4-H hall of Fame at a ceremony in Bozeman. From the time he was a young man Irvin was involved in many community and state organizations.

He was a member of the Whittash Community Presbyterian Church, Shelby Elk's Lodge, Marias Hereford Breeders, Sweet Grass Hills Family Camp, Montana-Wyoming Cutting Horse Association, and the Montana Stock Growers Association.

His hobbies and interests were being involved in the 4-H, saddle clubs, training horses, giving to and competing in a variety of horse events and reading - especially Montana stories and history.

Survivors include his wife Jeanette Brown of Whittash; his daughters Irva Jean and husband Nick Schultz of Conrad, Toni Rae and husband Bob Dafoe of

Chester, and Polly Etta and husband Keith Sundgren of Miles City; and his son, Buster Brown and wife Helen of Whittash. Nine grandchildren and his sister, Myrtle Robinson Cunningham of Cut Bank also survive Irvin. His parents, 1 brother, 2 sisters and a granddaughter Nicole Ann Schultz died before him.

LEWIS FORREST "LEWIE" BURNHAM

Born: June 9, 1923 - Died: July 12, 2002



Lewis Burnham

Lewis Forrest "Lewie" Burnham was born June 9, 1923 at Ada, Minnesota. He was one of six sons born to Forrest and Alice (Denelsbeck) Burnham. Lewie received his formal education at a country school near Ada. In those early years he worked with his dad and brothers in the Minnesota woods, where they cut and sold firewood.

Lewie came to Montana at age 15. He took a job on a sheep ranch near Miles City where he worked for \$1/day. In December of 1942 he enlisted in the US Army during World War II. Lewis

attained the rank of Sergeant in the 874th Bombardment Squadron of the 498th Bombardment Group. He served in the Western Pacific and Asiatic Pacific Theatres and the air offensive with Japan in the Eastern Mandates. Following his honorable discharge in November of 1945, he returned to Canby, Minnesota to be near his family.

Lewie began working in the elevator business at Porter, Minnesota. He met a college student Dorothy J. Foster, who hailed from Montana. They were married on June 17, 1951 at Bethel Church in Joplin, Montana. They made their home at Porter, where Lewie managed the Eagle Roller Mill.

Liberty County Times

July 17, 2002

In 1954 the Burnhams came to Joplin to farm with the Foster family. They built a home on the farm and have lived there since. Lewis and his brother-in-law Rolph Foster were partners in the farming operations for many years. When they divided their corporation in 1997, Lewie took over the farming interests in Hingham and continued to remain active in the business.

On this past March 7th he was diagnosed with cancer; he has received numerous treatments and care since. As a patient at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, Lewie died on the morning of Friday July 12, 2002. He was 79 years old.

Lewis was a member of the VFW Post in Chester and had assisted with many military rites and ceremonies over the years. He was also a member of a special group called the "Last Man's Club," consisting of military men from the Canby, MN community who enjoyed annual reunions every fall.

Lewie served on the board of the Liberty County Conservation District for many years. He was also an active member of the Assembly of God Church in Chester. He enjoyed his life as a Montana farmer and remained a strong conservative in his political beliefs.

In his earlier years, Lewie enjoyed hunting, fishing, and bowling. He always enjoyed playing cards, especially Pinochle

and Whist. During his quiet time at home, he liked to read; he was fond of Westerns, farm publications, and newspapers. He loved to attend auction sales, mainly for the social aspect. And just for the fun of it, he collected caps/hats. Lewie also enjoyed working in his garden: he raised asparagus, squash, raspberries, rhubarb, and evergreen trees.

One of the highlights of his life was in August of 1989 when he took a "Tiger Cruise" on a naval destroyer at Charleston, SC with his son mark.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years Dorothy of Joplin; son Mark Burnham of Norfolk, Virginia; two daughters: Susan Peterson and husband Bruce of St. Paul, Minnesota, and Pamela Paulsen and husband David of Waterford, Wisconsin; one brother Francis Burnham of Canby, Minnesota; 10 grandchildren: Melissa, Mandy, Zachary; Michael, Sarah, Timothy, Christopher, Jeremy, Angela, and Jonathan; four great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. Lewie was preceded in death by his parents, four brothers: John, Charles, Ray and Myron, and a son Steven.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Tuesday July 16, 2002 at the Chester Assembly of God Church by Pastor Todd Lanman. Scripture readings were by sons-in-law, Bruce Peterson and David Paulsen.

Personal remembrances were shared by grandson Michael Peterson. Harpist Leslie Mielke provided prelude and postlude music. The congregation sang "Amazing Grace," accompanied by Debbie Lanman. A family ensemble performed "The Old Rugged Cross" and "No More Night," and they were accompanied by Pam Paulsen. Pallbearers were grandsons Jon, Chris, Jeremy, Tim and Michael and friend Curtis VandeSandt. Usher was Bob VandeSandt. Graveside services followed at the Joplin Cemetery, where military rites were conducted. The flag was

presented to Dorothy by Lewie's grandson Timothy. A luncheon was held at Our Savior's Lutheran Fellowship hall in Chester. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

LLOYD M. CADY

Born: June 14, 1937 - Died: April 9, 2002

Liberty County Times

April 17, 2002

Lloyd Cady

Lloyd M. Cady, age 64, passed away April 9, 2002 at Kalispell Regional Medical Center.

Lloyd was born June 14, 1937 in Havre, Montana to Elmer and Esther Cady. Lloyd was raised in Inverness, Montana where he attended high school and graduated in 1955. In high school Lloyd was an outstanding basketball player.

In 1972 he moved to the Flathead Valley. Lloyd loved flying, gardening, hunting, and fishing.

He was preceded in death by his parents. Lloyd is survived by his sons: Darwyn and Dexter Cady; daughters Darcy Sloan, and Deena Elliot; significant other Kay Anderson; sisters: Joyce Sedivy of Swan Lake, Francis Whilish of Malta, Daria Cook of Piedmont, South Dakota, Merla Warden of Ulm, and Bonnie Fraser of Inverness; one brother Lonnie Cady of Inverness; grandchildren Ingrid Cady, Walker Cady, Brook Sloan, Britney Sloan, Boe Elliot, Chellsey Cady.

Cremation has taken place, and services will be held at a later date. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home and Crematory caring for the family.

MONTA A. (WILSON) CAMPBELL

Born: March 23, 1907 - Died: July 19, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

July 21, 2002

Monta A. Campbell

GILDFORD — Monta A. (Wilson) Campbell, 95, a longtime Gildford grocer, died Friday at a Cut Bank care facility of natural causes.

A memorial service will take place at a later date. Cremation has taken place. Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby is in charge of the arrangements.

Survivors include a daughter, Ardith Roush of Cut Bank; a son, John Campbell of Gildford; a sister, Helen Brown of Renton, Wash.; four grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; five stepgrandchildren; 10 stepgreat-grandchildren; and 11 stepgreat-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack Campbell.

The surviving grandchildren are Kay and her husband Jake Neil, Ryan and his wife Robin Roush, Neal and his wife Stacy Roush and Glenda and her husband Bryan Armstrong. The great-grandchildren are Stephanie Neil, Travis Neil, Renae Roush, Kaylie Roush, Todd Roush, Anyssa Roush, Madison Armstrong and Sydne Armstrong. The surviving stepgrandchildren are Karen and her husband Glen Nepil, Linda and her husband Spence Flegel, Kanute

Heen, Erik and his wife RaMona Heen, and Inger and her husband Danny Lemler. Also surviving are a son-in-law, Glenn Roush of Cut Bank; and a daughter-in-law, Ann Campbell of Gildford.

Monta was born March 23, 1907, in Stevensville to David E. and Clara Bell (Ellis) Wilson. She received her schooling in Everson and Denton. She married Jack Campbell in Havre on Nov. 22, 1927. They farmed in the Denton and Fairfield areas before moving to Gildford in January of 1941, to work in her uncle's store. The couple moved out into the country in 1946. She worked for Bert Twedt Hardware in Gildford for many years and also worked at a grocery store in Chester.

In February of 1953, the couple, along with their son John, bought the grocery store in Gildford. That was where she was the happiest; behind the counter.

Her husband Jack passed away on Jan. 1, 1969. Monta moved into the nursing home in Cut Bank in 1996.

She was a member of the Gildford Baptist Church and enjoyed crocheting and making quilts.

She was also preceded in death by four brothers and two sisters.

Memorials are suggested to the Gildford Baptist Church or a charity of the donor's choice.

EDWIN ARNE "ED" CARLSTAD

Born: March 31, 1930 - Died: June 23, 2002

Liberty County Times

July 3, 2002



Ed Carlstad

Edwin Arne ("Ed") Carlstad was born on March 31, 1930 at Columbus, North Dakota. His parents were Arne Carlstad and Edna Arneson, both of strong Norwegian ancestry. Arne died before Ed's birth. Two years later Edna married Arne's brother, Otto, who helped raise the four Carlstad children.

Ed received his formal education at Fortuna, North Dakota, then began working as a farm and construction laborer. He joined the National Guard and was called into the regular Army in 1951 during the Korean Conflict. He served in Austria in Company "A" of the 969th Engineer Construction Battalion before receiving his honorable discharge in 1953. Ed returned to North Dakota to be with his wife, Eunice Faldalen, who he married in Ambrose on February 16th 1953.

The Carlstad's worked in construction and excavation, so they traveled to various work sites throughout the northwest United States. They settled in Chester, Montana in 1974. Ed worked on small construction projects throughout the Hi-Line in the summers and contracted snow removal in the winters. In the early 1990's he started "Ed's Windshield Chip Repair," a business he enjoyed until his health failed.

Ed was diagnosed with cancer about five years ago. He went through the gamut of surgeries and treatments. Following a two-week stay at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester he died on Sunday evening. (June 23, 2002). Ed was 72 years old.

He was raised in the Lutheran faith and was active at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Other memberships included the V.F.W. and the Sons of Norway, where he served as past president and helped build the Viking ship used in local festival parades. Ed was proud of his Norwegian heritage; he learned to speak Norwegian and was always anxious to help with a local lutefisk dinner or related event. In 1981 Ed was thrilled by a trip to Norway. The Carlstad's also enjoyed the annual "Hostfest" in Minot, North Dakota, which they attended several years.

Ed had many hobbies. He was very mechanical and he loved to "tinker" on his equipment, especially his old 1960 Buick. He enjoyed music, dancing, and playing the accordian. During his quiet time at home, he loved to record music (he has hundreds of tapes to confirm this!) He also enjoyed reading, especially National Geographic. Just for the fun of it Ed collected John Deere memorabilia. In addition he always had an interest in aviation; many years ago he took a few private flying lessons, but not enough to receive a license.

After he semi-retired in Chester, Ed volunteered as a grade school reading assistant for several years. He loved kids, animals, his friends, and his family. He loved to visit with people and always exhibited that Montana friendly attitude (when you met him in his car or saw him on the street, you could always expect a smile and a wave!). Ed appreciated his family always, but especially their love and concern these past few

He is survived by his wife of 49+ years, Eunice of Chester; two sons, Dale of Chester and Darrell (and his fiancée Tracey) of Billings; three daughters and spouses, Julane and Carmen Jensen, Jeanette and Sandy Anderson, and Janice and Larry Hendrickson, all of Chester; nine grandchildren (including David, Michael, Carlane, Jason, Doug, Christi, Tyrel, Samantha, and Tyler); one brother Wallace Carlstad (and wife, Evelyn) of Williston, ND; one sister Joyce Gustafson (and husband, Claude) of Kallispell; one sister-in-law, Charlene Carlstad of Richey; and numerous nephews and nieces. Ed was preceded in death by his parents, a brother (Kenneth) and a nephew (Steve).

Memorial services were conducted at 3:00 pm Tuesday (July 2nd) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church by Reverend Peter Erickson. Organist, Karen Stack, accompanied the congregation, who sang "Rock of Ages" and "The Old Rugged Cross". Vocalist, Sue Violet, performed "Green, Green Grass of Home". Special taped selections included "Saturday Night Waltz" and "Life in the Finnish Woods."

Ushers were John Englund and Arlo Skari. A poetic reading entitled "When Tomorrow Starts Without Me," was shared by Gary Jensen. The eulogist was Carmen Jensen, who also made the military flag presentation. Burial of ashes followed at the Chester cemetery. A luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

ERWIN G. "SWEDE" CARLSON

Born: September 4, 1920 - Died: February 8, 2002

Liberty County Times

February 20, 2002

Erwin "Swede" Carlson

Erwin G. "Swede" Carlson, 81 years of age and owner of the Carlson and Son Machine Shop in Hingham, died Friday, February 8, 2002 at his residence of natural causes.

Erwin was born September 4, 1920 to Algot and Anna (Hatford) Carlson at Joplin, MT. He was educated in Joplin and graduated from Joplin High School in 1939. Swede lived his entire life in Hingham. On June 20, 1948 Swede married Viola Estella Pimley, to this union four boys were born. The couple later divorced. Swede served in the United States Army during World War II from 1940-1945. He served his country with the 2075th Trucking Company in the South Pacific achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant. He returned to Hingham

from active duty in 1945. From 1945 to 1953, he worked in the road and dam construction. In 1953 he acquired Rice Motors and changed the name to Carlson Machine Works.

Swede enjoyed dancing, working and building with metal. He enjoyed farming, hunting, fishing, and driving the grain truck in the summer for Dennis Kannberg. One special lady friend that has been with him for the past 5 years is Rose Peters. Swede was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and the Elks Club.

Carlson was preceded in death by his parents Algot and Anna (Hatford) Carlson; three brothers: Axel, Melvin and Eric.

Swede is survived by his son Dwight (Sandy) Carlson of Kalso, Washington, Kelly (Julia) Carlson, Littleton Colorado, Stuart (Linda) Carlson, Libby, and Loren (Rhonda) Carlson, Havre, Montana; grandchildren: Justin Quinn Carlson, Kari Beth Carlson, and Collin Raymond Carlson; one sister Ruth Minnehan of Bozeman MT.

Funeral services were 9 am Thursday February 14, 2002 at the Hingham Lutheran Church with Pastor Tim Hauge officiating. Accompanist was Iris White, soloist Terry Stevenson, ushers were Gary Brekke and Dennis Kannberg, and Burial was at the Joplin Cemetery. Pallbearers were John Gilead, Alan Sterry, Mike Famik, Allen Chinadle, David Chinadle and Robert Rathbun. A fellowship reception followed at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Hingham. Donations in Swede's honor may be made to:

Disabled American veterans Association, 1032 19th St, Havre, MT 59501

Services and arrangements are under the directions of the Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.

SISTER MARIETTA CHVILICEK

Formerly PETRONELA CHVILICEK

Birth: August 3, 1912 - Death: August 29, 2002

From the Santa Maria, California Newspaper

August 31, 2002

Sister Marietta Chvilicek, O.S.F.

Sr. Marietta Chvilicek, O.S.F., 90, of Santa Maria passed away, Thursday, August 29, 2002 at Marian Extended Care Center. She was born August 3, 1912 on a farm in Marion, Kansas, the daughter of Frank and Mary Ann (Klabacka) Chvilicek with the birth name of Petronila (Helen) Chvilicek. Sister made her



Sr. Chvilicek

Profession of Vows in the Order of the Sisters of St. Francis on August 31, 1931 at Stella Niagara, New York. As a child her family moved to Montana (which was still Indian Territory), to homestead. She walked four miles to school; always said "Little House on the Prairie" was the way she lived. At age 13 she went to work at the Sisters Hospital in Havre, MT. In 1929, she took her first train ride to enter the Sisters of St. Francis in

Stella Niagara, New York. Sr. Marietta served the community as a cook, housekeeper and laundress in St. Vincent's Orphanage in Columbus, Ohio and in convents and hospitals in New York, Nebraska, Ohio, California, Washington and Montana. Sister

Marietta arrived in Santa Maria eleven years ago.

Sister Marietta is survived by her sister in law, Lavona Chvilicek, of Havre, MT.; many nieces and nephews, grand nieces and nephews and great-grand nieces and nephews and the Sisters of St. Francis and friends.

Recitation of the Holy Rosary will be 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 3, 2002 in the Marian Residence Chapel. Mass of Christian Burial will be 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, September 4, 2002 at the Marian Residence Chapel, 124 So. College Drive, Santa Maria. Interment will follow in the Santa Maria Cemetery. Rev. Howard Hill, O.F.M. will officiate.

Arrangements are in the care of Magner - Maloney Funeral Home.

GLADYS "PAT" OPAL CRITES

Born: January 17, 1909 - Died: March 23, 2002

Liberty County Times

March 27, 2002

Gladys Crites

Gladys "Pat" Opal Crites, 93 years of age and retired farm wife, died Saturday March 23, 2002 of natural causes at a Havre care center. Funeral service is 2:00 pm Thursday March 28, 2002 at the Calvary Baptist Church with pastor Mel Gemmill officiating. Burial to follow at the church. Memorials in Pat's honor may be made to a person's choice. Services and arrangements are under the direction of the Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.

Pat was born January 17, 1909 to Floyd H. and Minnie C. (Aker) Light at Pendleton, Oregon. Her family moved to Polson, Montana when Pat was six weeks old. In 1912, the family moved to south of Gildford, where they farmed. Attended "Pride of the Prairie" Grade School and graduated from Hingham High School.

October 1, 1928 she married Hollis Crites. After the marriage, the couple moved to the Gildford area. To this marriage, four daughters were born. They are: Gladys, Lyndal, Karen, and Arla.

Hollis died in 1942. On September 29, 1945 she married

William "Bill" Crites. The couple lived and farmed north of Gildford. To this union, one son was born, Russell Crites. Bill died in 1989.

Pat's hobbies included doing fancywork, reading, studying the Bible, and history. Her favorite place to be was at home, spending time with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Survivors include: Daughters-Gladys Thackery of Havre, Lyndal Mauldin of Brooksville, Florida; Karen Dolphay of Belt, and Arla Beene of El Centro, California; on son Russell Crites of Gildford; 23 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Hollis Crites, husband William Crites, one infant daughter, one set of twin boys, two sisters, one brother, and one grandson.

RUTH (STOTT) MCGEE DAVIS

Birth: December 26, 1913 - Death: November 22, 2002



Ruth Davis

Ruth (Stott) McGee Davis was born at East Butte, Montana on December 26, 1913. She was the youngest of eight children born to

Lester Allen Stott and Nettie Addie Alvord. Because of the severe winters on the Butte, the Stotts moved to Whittlash where Lester built a big, two-story building. This structure served as their living quarters, a blacksmith shop, grocery and mercantile store, Post Office, and customs office in the years that followed.

Ruth received her early schooling at the Sunnyside School near Whittlash. She attended Chester High School during her freshman year. The Stotts moved to Chattaroy, Washington in 1928 so Ruth finished her formal education there. She met her first husband Harold H. McGee and they were married on March 11, 1930 at Spokane. The McGees had three daughter before their marriage ended in divorce in 1938.

Ruth's second husband was Charles A. Davis, whom she married on February 21, 1939 at Spokane. The product of this union was four children, two boys, and two girls. The Davis' lived and worked in the Spokane community during their early married life. Sadly, Ruth's two eldest McGee daughters died within hours of each other from Diphtheria in 1944.

Liberty County Times

November 27, 2002

Ruth and Charles traveled throughout Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Arizona, and Nevada during their 51 years together. When Charles died in 1990, Ruth and daughter Evelyn were living at Chattaroy near her oldest daughter's family (the Delongs). In 1999 they moved back to

Whittlash to be with her sister Louisa Anderson, and live in the house where she grew up. Since then, sister Louisa passed away, and a second daughter Fay joined them at Whittlash.

Ruth's health had failed this past year, still she was happy to remain at home. She was recently admitted to the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, where she died on the evening of Friday November 22, 2002. Ruth was 88 years old. She was a member of the Whittlash Community Presbyterian Church. She enjoyed many hobbies over the years. In her younger days she liked to hunt and was proud of the fact that she bagged a 6-point elk one season. Ruth enjoyed fishing, too, and shared many fun fishing tales through the years. Her crocheting products have become precious family treasures. Other interest included reading (mainly novels), crossword puzzles, playing cards especially Cribbage and Solitaire, and 'Scrabble.' During their years in Arizona and Nevada, the Davis' loved to cruise the terrain on their dune buggy in search of collectible mineral rocks. No matter where they lived, Ruth always took pride in her year and garden. In addition she was an awesome cook—her family will always remember her delicious homemade breads and her special 'animal' pancakes. Ruth was also an amateur pianist who preferred to play privately. She also wrote several wonderful children's stories, but never pursued publishing them.

Generally, an unassuming and private person, Ruth did enjoy

people. Her greatest love in life was her family. She will be missed by them.

Of interest, Ruth is a descendant of Alexander Alvord, who came to American in the 1620s, and William Brewster of the "Mayflower."

She is survived by two sons: Lee Davis and wife Kaye of Shelby, and Edwin Davis and wife Cindy of Halfway, Oregon; three daughters: Barbara Delong and husband Bill of Chattaroy, Washington,, Fay Clark of Whittlash, and Evelyn Davis of Whittlash; 15 grandchildren: Corey, Kyle, Tonya, Sterrin, Addy, Nathan, Lydia, Boaz, Seeley, Cliff, Norman, Chuck, Anton, Dorinda, and Jennifer; and numerous great-grandchildren, nephews, and nieces.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents and husband, two daughters Ethel Mae and Ruth Lucille, and seven siblings including Ray Stott, Ellen McGee, Louisa Anderson, and four siblings in their youth.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 Tuesday November 26, 2002 at the Whittlash Community Presbyterian Church by Pastor John Maatta. Ruth's son Lee shared the Eulogy. The congregation sang "In the Garden," and "When the Role Is Called Up Yonder." Pianist was Ruth Maatta. Pallbearers were Lee and Corey Davis, Doug Demarest, Walt Stratton, Bob Thompson, and Urban Kultgen. Honorary bearers were Claude Demarest, Jim Fritzsche, and her loving grandchildren. Following burial at the Whittlash Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Hospital or donor's choice.

CRAIG S. DEYOUNG

Born: December 10, 1954 - Died: July 19, 2002

Liberty County Times

July 31, 2002

Craig DeYoung

Craig S. DeYoung, age 47 of Idaho Falls, Idaho, died Friday July 19, 2002 after a three-year battle with kidney cancer.

Craig was born December 10, 1954 in Kalispell to Gordon Samuel and Iva (Gerri) DeYoung. He attended schools in Kalispell and Missoula.

On June 18, 1977 he married Diane McClafferty in Butte. To them two wonderful sons were born: Christopher Samuel and Matthew Joseph. Craig and Diane were later divorced. On October 29, 1984 he married Joan DesRosier in Butte.

Craig had a lifelong career in the drilling industry. He learned to drill with his father as a small boy and had many fond memories of spending time with his dad on the rigs. No trip through the Flathead Valley was complete without Craig pointing out water wells his dad had drilled.

Early in his career he worked at Liberty Drilling with his very good friend and mentor, Gene Munson. In 1990, he purchased Andrew Well Drilling in Idaho Falls with his friend and partner Craig Stanley.

Horse racing with his longtime friend and trainer Bill Beamer, was another life passion.

Other interests included snowmobiling, cars and model railroading, but most of all, time spent with his boys Chris and Matt.

He is survived by his wife Joan; his sons: Chris of New York and Matt of California; his sister Junellen (Stacey) Winchester and

her children Lauriellen and Michael of California; his wife's parents Jim and Joy DesRosier of Butte; wife's sisters and brother and their family; and cousins Albert Hanson of Chester, Beth Jensen of Kalispell, Beverly Bergh of Longview, Washington, and Wanda Keith of Chester.

Rosary was at 7:00 pm Tuesday July 23, 2002 at Buck-Miller-Hann Funeral Home followed by visitation with the family at 7:30. Funeral Mass was at 9:30 am Wednesday July 24 at Christ the King Catholic church. The celebrant was Craig's special friend Father Marcellus Fernandez. Burial was at the Conrad Cemetery in Kalispell.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Immunotherapy Program, c/o St. Luke's Medical Center, 2900 W. Oklahoma, Milwaukee, WI 53215.

EARL NEIL DONOVEN

Born: November 2, 1941 - Died: January 13, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

January 16, 2002

Earl Neil Donovan

HAVRE — Longtime Kremlin area farmer, Earl Neil Donovan, 60, died Sunday at his Havre home of cancer.

Viewing begins at 11 a.m. today at Holland & Bonine Funeral Chapel. His funeral is 10 a.m.

Thursday at First Lutheran Church in Havre, with burial in Highland Cemetery. A reception will follow at the church.



Donoven

Surviving are his wife, Jackie, of the family home; sons Jerry Donoven of Havre, Greg Donoven and David Roque of Oakland, Calif., and Dean Donoven of Kremlin; daughter Stacey Stenseth of Spokane; brothers Keith Donoven of Kremlin and Lyle Donoven of Lander, Wyo.; and five grandchildren.

Also surviving are daughters-in-law Janine Donoven of Havre and Dana Donoven of Kremlin; a son-in-law, Rich Stenseth of Spokane; aunts Frances Knutson and Lola Holst of Havre; and several nieces and nephews. His grandchildren are Haily and Chelsea Donoven of

Havre, Jordy Donoven of Kremlin and Cole and Morgan Stenseth of Spokane.

Earl Neil Donovan died at his home Saturday, surrounded by his wife and children, after a long battle with cancer.

He was born Nov. 2, 1941, to J. Lloyd and Irene (Knutson) Donoven in Havre. He grew up and attended school in Kremlin. After high school graduation he attended Northern Montana College for two years.

On Nov. 12, 1960, he married Jackie E. Bullman at St. Jude's Catholic Church in Havre. To this union four children were born.

Earl farmed in the Kremlin area until his retirement in 1997. He and Jackie owned and operated the Short Stop convenience store from May 1993 until July 1995. They moved to Havre in 1997.

Earl enjoyed visiting with friends and playing cards. He also collected Coca-Cola and John Deere memorabilia.

Earl was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorials are suggested to Relay for Life, c/o Harvey Brock, P.O. Box 431, Havre, MT 59501; or the donor's choice.

GLEN ALLEN ELLING

Birth: December 17, 1957 - Death: November 9, 2002

Liberty County Times

November 13, 2002



Glen Elling

Glen Allen Elling was born at Havre, Montana on December 17, 1957. He was the only son and eldest of three children born to Fredrick Elling and Elva Johnson. He grew up at Rudyard and received his formal education there, graduating from Rudyard High School in 1976. During his high school years Glen was active in wrestling, football, and music (he played trumpet in the band). He continued his education at Missoula Vo-Tech where he studied heavy equipment operation.

During the next few years Glen operated a scraper in Jefferie City, Wyoming and worked in the oil fields at Cut Bank and Northern Montana. He returned to Rudyard to work at the Farmer's Union where he handled the bulk fuel delivery. Glen eventually began working on the family farm South

of Rudyard. During the winter months he worked on local construction projects and operated a windshield replacement business with his cousin Lane Rigg.

This past Friday evening Glen was visiting friends in the Chester community. He was apparently heading home just after Midnight November 9th when he lost control of his pick-up at the intersection of Montana Highway #223 and US Highway #2. His truck crashed into a railroad embankment and he sustained critical injuries. Glen died at age 44.

Glen was baptized and confirmed at the old St. John's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. In his adult years he was a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Rudyard. He was also a member of the Farmer's Union, where he had served as a Director on the Board.

Glen was a people person. He participated in the Hi-Line Bowling and Softball leagues for many years. He was a sports fan of the NFL and enjoyed trap-shooting. Because of his large scope of friends, Glen attended and participated in many weddings over the years. During his private time at home he enjoyed television, good movies, and music of the 70s.

Glen loved farming. He wanted to drive truck at age 7 and did drive combine at age 11. He was a fussy farmer who prided himself in keeping his furrows straight and true. He also enjoyed keeping an immaculate yard for his mother.

A great cook, Glen always helped in the kitchen at family dinners. He loved his sisters dearly and always looked forward to those quality times with them and their children.

Survivors include his parents Fred and Elva Elling of Rudyard; two sisters and spouses: Paula and John Kratochvil of Billings, and Traci and Mark Waugh of Kalispell; four nephew and nieces: Michael and Cole Kratochvil, and Linsey and Levi Waugh; his maternal grandmother Dorma Haddford of Chester; and numerous uncles, aunts, and cousins.

Glen was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather Paul Johnson, and his paternal grandparents Fred and Estella Elling.

Memorial services were held 11:00 am Tuesday November 12, 2002 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. Services were conducted by Pastor Tim Singleton, and special readings were shared by old friend Pete Wendland. Stanleigh Barbie served as organist and the congregation sang "Just a Closer Walk With Thee." Glen's aunt Candy Johnson performed "The Wind Beneath My Wings." Ushers were Bill Strissel, Calvin Tollefson, and Phillip Wendland. Honorary bearers were "All of Glen's many friends."

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

VICTOR ROY "VIC" ELLIOTT

Birth: November 3, 1919 - Death: December 4, 2002

Liberty County Times

December 11, 2002

Vic Elliott

Victor Roy "Vic" Elliott was born at Fort Benton, Montana on November 3, 1919. He was one of six children born to Allen and Theresa (Haakensen) Elliott. While growing up in Fort Benton, Vic worked as a stock/delivery boy at the Pioneer Mercantile. He received his formal education in Fort Benton and played football during his high school years. He graduated from Fort Benton high School in 1938.

Vic enlisted in the US Coast Guard on September 16, 1939 at Seattle, Washington. He attained the rank of Boatswain's Mate 1st Class and served during World War II on two ships: *USS Spencer* and the *USS Wakefield*. Vic was honorably discharged on October 2, 1945 at Boston, Massachusetts; then he returned to Montana.

Vic began working as the second man at the Montana Elevator Company in Fort Benton, a job he held for 10-1/2 years. In 1956 he took the manager's job at the Anderson-Brown Grain Company Elevator in Tiber, Montana. Vic worked in Tiber until 1980. Anderson-Brown became Cargill, Inc. in 1972. Vic finished his career at the Cargill Elevator in Inverness from 1980-1984, then he retired. Vic had begun living in Chester in 1973, and continued to make his home here during his retirement years.

His health remained relatively good over the years, although he did have diabetes. Vic was recently admitted to the Liberty County Hospital in Chester where he died on the afternoon of Wednesday December 4, 2002. He was 83 years old.

Vic was a life member of the Fort Benton VFW. He was proud to have served in the Coast Guard, which he affectionately referred to as the "Hooligan Navy."

Vic aspired to be a coach in his younger years, so it's not surprising that he remained an avid sports enthusiast. He was especially fond of professional baseball and football, and also enjoyed watching pro bowling tournaments. Vic described himself as a 'TV Junkie.' He enjoyed A&E, Discovery, and related channels. During his quiet time at home he loved to read; his favorites were *National Geographic*, *Newsweek*, *Reader's Digest*, and the local newspapers. Vic also enjoyed playing pool, chess, and cards, especially Rummy and pinochle.

When he was able, he used to walk along the railroad tracks for the exercise, fresh air, and scenery. In recent years, Vic enjoyed the solitude of sitting in his car on a nice day, reading the newspaper, and watching the trains go by. Although he generally kept to himself, Vic did enjoy visiting with people; he had made many good friends in the Chester, Joplin, and Inverness communities, and he kept in touch with folks in Fort Benton. When Vic traveled, it generally was to family gatherings, area Fairs, or Coast Guard reunions.

Vic never married. His survivors include two brothers: John Elliott (and wife Margaret Lease) of Belmont, California, and Walter Elliott (and wife Phyllis Daughters) of Lewistown, Montana; two sisters: Alice Treat of Billings, and Eva Carstensen

of Portland, Oregon; one brother-in-law Bruce Anderson of St. Paul, Minnesota; and numerous nieces and nephews. Vic was preceded in death by his parents and one sister Myrtle Anderson.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Saturday December 7, 2002 at the Chester United Methodist Church by Pastor Waveland King. Karen Stack played the organ, and

Wayne Wardell sang "Rock of Ages," and "In the Garden." Steve Brown served as usher. Pallbearers included Tim Campbell, Chet Eveland, Wally Morger, Bill Morkrid, John Englund, and Tyrone Rockman. Honorary bearers were Bill Hochberger, Armand Anderson, Cliff Krejci, Jerry Hendrickson, Glen Peterson, Dalton Dahlke, Tom Wood, Wilbur Eveland, and Swede Jacobson.

A luncheon followed at the church. Graveside services were 2:00 pm Saturday at the Riverside Cemetery in Fort Benton. The Fort Benton VFW Military Squad provided veterans burial rites.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Diabetes Association, the Muscular Dystrophy Fund, the Hi-Line Health Foundation, or donor's choice.

It was Vic's wishes that his military flag be given to the Chester Lions Club for their use at the Lions Park. He appreciated all of their good deeds in the community.

MARGARET ALICE "MARGIE" (SCHAFFER) ENGSTROM

Birth: May 2, 1922 - Death: December 3, 2002

Liberty County Times

December 11, 2002



Margie Engstrom

Margaret Alice "Margie" Engstrom was born on May 2, 1922 at Seattle, Washington. She was the eldest of two daughters born to William H. Schaffer and Mary A. Rogers, who ranched in the Sweetgrass Hills near Whittlash, Montana. Margie grew up on the ranch and received her early education at country schools. She finished her schooling in Chester, graduating from Chester High School in 1939. In the few years that followed, she worked as a clerk at the Clerk & Recorder's Office at the Chester Courthouse.

At the outbreak of World War II, Margie moved to Seattle to work as a secretary for the Superintendent of the Shipyards. When the war ended, she took an office job at Davies Chevrolet. It was there that she met her husband-to-be, Norman W. Engstrom. They were married in Whittlash on September 14, 1951. They made their home in the Seattle and Bellevue communities, where Margie worked diligently as a homemaker and mother. When Norman retired in 1984, they moved to Whidbey Island, Washington and have lived there since.

University of Washington Huskies. Margie also enjoyed watching the Seattle Mariners. But her greatest love of all was her family, to whom she was a dedicated mother and a loyal friend.

Survivors include her husband Norman Engstrom of Whidbey Island; two daughters: Eleanor Engstrom of Modesto, California, and Carrie Engstrom of Sammamish, Washington; one son Mark Engstrom and wife Kathy of Whittlash; five grandchildren including: Zeb, Katy, Kim, Yvonne, and Michael; her sister Lois Brauer of Sammamish, Washington; and several nieces and nephews.

Margie was preceded in death by her parents and her brother-in-law Robert Brauer.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Monday December 9, 2002 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, Montana. Pastor Peter Erickson officiated. Karen Stack served as organist. Vocalist Marcus Jochim performed "Peace in the Valley." The congregation sang "O Holy Night." A vocal duet by Katy Engstrom and Bryan Oswood was "What Child Is This?" Ushers were Charley and Jackie Frey. Pallbearers included Zeb Engstrom, Dennis Iverson, Steve Weinert, Pete Woods, Buster Brown, and Albert Hanson.

Margie's friends and family and all the football players who raided her refrigerator after practice, were listed as memorial bearers. A luncheon followed at the Fellowship Hall.

Graveside services were 2:00 pm Monday at the Whittlash Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Whittlash Community Presbyterian Church.

Margie was fortunate to have good health over the years. She recently developed pneumonia and was admitted to the Whidbey General Hospital, where she died from complications on the evening of Tuesday December 3, 2002. She was 80 years old.

Margie was a lifelong Lutheran. She loved her role as a homemaker and strived to make her home a 'happy, warm place' for family and friends. She enjoyed cooking, baking, canning, sewing, and reading. She loved antiques and she collected owls and salt & pepper shakers. Always an early riser, Margie loved her morning solitude as she watched the busy shipping lanes from her home at Whidbey Island. She also loved the beautiful sunsets.

The Engstroms were sociable people. They enjoyed bowling, fishing, camping, and traveling. They made many memorable trips during their 51 years together. In addition they were devoted football fans of the

HELEN MARIE (BROWN) FIELD

Born: 1918 - Died: October 2, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

October 4, 2002

Helen Marie Field

HAVRE — Helen Marie (Brown) Field, 84, a retired dry goods manager, died of natural causes Wednesday at a Havre hospital.



Field

Her funeral is 2

p.m. Monday at the First Presbyterian Church, with burial in Highland Cemetery. Following the burial, there will be a fellow-

ship in the church.

Survivors include sons Dwayne Field of Camarillo, Calif., and Ronald Field of Denver; daughters Phyllis Hurley of Great Falls and Linda Keeler of Havre; a sister, Mary White of Hingham; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Her husband, Phillip Field, died March 3, 2002.

ALVINA MYHRERE (LARSEN) FLAGE
Born: May 4, 1917 - Died: December 27, 2002
Liberty County Times
January 15, 2003



Alvina Flage

Alvina Myhrene Flage, age 85, a long time Galata farmwife, died Friday, December 27, 2002 due to injuries received in a one-vehicle accident east of Devon. Funeral services were 11:00 AM Friday Dec. 10th at the Galata Lutheran Church. Visitation was Thursday from 5:00-9:00 PM at the Whitted Funeral Chapel, Shelby, Montana.

Alvina was born May 4, 1917 to Joseph M. and Lovisa (Hatteberg) Larsen at their farm northeast of Galata. She attended Minerva, Tiel and Galata schools, graduating from Galata High School. She attended Pacific Lutheran College for one year. Alvina married Grant Flage at the Galata Lutheran Church on March 23, 1944. Grant and Alvina spent their married life farming and ranching in the Galata area.

Alvina worked as a clerk in various county offices in Toole County and also worked as a postal clerk, receiving her 40-year pin when she retired. A member of the Galata Lutheran Church, she served as church treasurer for many years and held various offices in the women's church groups. Alvina and her husband were 30-year members of the Sons of Norway in the Normont Lodge. She was a 4-H leader, local historian, and belonged to the Galata Home Demonstration Club. She wrote the Galata News for the *Shelby Promoter* and the *Liberty County Times*.

Alvina was an avid letter writer, keeping in touch with family and friends over the years. She enjoyed crocheting having given away much of her work as gifts. Her caring and concern for others will be greatly missed.

Her husband of 58 years, Grant Flage; her brother, Quinten Larsen of Shelby; her sisters, Joyce Dye of Shelby and Lou Ann and husband Miles Burd of Galata; and her sister-in-law, Frances Smith of Galata survive Alvina. Seventeen nieces and nephews, 28 great-nieces and nephews, and seven great-great-nieces and nephews also survive her.

The family suggests memorials to Pacific Lutheran University, 1010 122nd Street So. Tacoma, WA 98447.

HAZEL (ANDERSON) MELDRUM FREELAND
Born: July 22, 1912 - Died: December 30, 2002
Liberty County Times
January 8, 2003

Hazel Freeland

Hazel Meldrum Freeland, age 90, went home to be with the lord on Monday December 30, 2002 at Immanuel Lutheran home where she resided since April 2001. Hazel was born July 22, 1912 in Joplin, Montana to Simon and Ida (Bildn) Anderson. Her parents were farmers and homesteaders.

Hazel was the oldest sibling of four children. She graduated from Joplin High School. In 1934 she married William "Bill" Meldrum, Jr. They moved to Somers, Montana in 1942. They had four children. Bill passed away in September of 1975.

In 1982 Hazel married James "J.C." Freeland. Hazel had known his family and had worked for his mother in a restaurant in Joplin while going to high school. Both Hazel and J.C. enjoyed traveling. They lived as "snowbirds" in Apache Junction and Mesa, Arizona during the winters. J.C. passed away in January of 2000.

Hazel loved to read and sew until her eyesight prevented it. she belonged to a Bridge club for many years. She also helped make many quilts with church friends for mission projects. Hazel enjoyed all music, especially Country and Western. She was a member of Eidsvold Lutheran Church in Somers.

She is preceded in death by her parents, both husbands, one sister, and one brother.

Hazel is survived by two daughters: Marilyn Nelson and husband Norman of Kalispell, and Elaine Sloan and husband Charlie of Jefferson, Oregon; two sons: Lloyd Meldrum and wife Marcella of Beaverton, Oregon, and Kenny Meldrum of Anchorage, Alaska; three step-children: Barbara Hansen, Beverly Nagel, and Connie Freeland, all of Washington state; 12 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren; one brother Richard Anderson of Chester, MT.

Visitation for Hazel was held Thursday January 2, 2003 at Johnson Mortuary. Graveside services were held Friday January 3, 2003 at Glacier Memorial Gardens at 10:00 am with a Memorial Service following at 11:00 am at Eidsvold Lutheran Church in Somers. Pastor Wayne Pris was the officiant. The family suggest memorials be made to Eidsvold Lutheran Church, 5935 Hwy 93 S, Somers, MT 59932, or to Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline Ave, Kalispell, MT 59901.

Arrangements under the direction of Johnson Mortuary and Crematory.

IRIS HARRIET GREGORY (CRAWLEY) FURLONG
Born: February 20, 1920 - Died: March 3, 2002

Liberty County Times

April 10, 2002

Iris Furlong

Iris Harriet Gregory Crawley Furlong died on March 3, 2002 at the Brighton Care Center in Brighton, Adams County, Colorado. Visitation was Thursday March 7, 2002 and the funeral was Friday March 8 at the Highland Mortuary. Interment was at the Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Broomfield, Colorado. She was buried on top of her beloved husband.

She was born in LaVeta, Colorado on February 20, 1920 to Edward and Mae Crawley. She worked in an ammunition plant (Remington Arms) and that is where she met Philip William Furlong, of Chester, Montana. He wasn't able to go into the service, so he too, worked for Remington Arms. After they married and had three children, they moved back to Chester to help his dad in the blacksmith shop. That was in 1947, and his dad died suddenly in 1949. One of his sisters talked him into running for the office that would make him head of the Liberty County Yards. He won, so Iris became mother not only to her three, but to many nieces and nephews as well.

She is still remembered for her French braiding hair with lacing ribbons of her daughters and nieces. Many of the older generations around here will also remember her for her 4-5" high cinnamon rolls.

After the blacksmith shop was sole in 1953, they returned to Colorado where he became a meat cutter with Safeway for 26 years. He had also been a meat cutter for Schultz's Grocery in Chester.

Iris had attended two years of college when World War II came. After they returned to Colorado in 1953, she waited until her youngest child was in Junior High, then became a Supervisor for Blue Cross health insurance, retiring in 1977. That retirement was short-lived and she worked in the J.C. Penney warehouse for five years. Then she really retired.

When they lived in Montana they had joined the Methodist Church, but never really found one quite as good in Colorado. Her husband went back to the Mason's after a few years absence, but she wasn't interested in joining the Eastern Star. She had always loved to sew and made clothes not only for her family, but many friends as well. Iris was a member

of the Royal Neighbors of America while she was in Chester.

She is survived by her three children and families: Douglas William Furlong of New York, New York; Carol Denise Cummins, and Doris LouGene Sims, both of Commerce City, Colorado; nine grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren. She is also survived by brothers Charles Thomas Crawley of Alaska, and Edward Thomas Crawley, Jr. of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Preceding her in death were her parents, one sister Maxine Mae Ritter, and her husband Philip William Furlong.

MATTHEW M. FURNELL

Born: December 29, 1916 - Died: October 22, 2002

Liberty County Times

October 30, 2002

Matthew Furnell

Matthew M. Furnell, age 85, a longtime Whitlash area farmer and rancher, passed away Tuesday at the Marias Medical Center in Shelby.

At his request, no services will be held and cremation has taken place under the direction of the Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby.

Matt was born in Great Falls December 29, 1916 to Bert and Edna Furnell. He was raised on the family ranch near Whitlash where he attended school.

He worked his entire life as a farmer and rancher. He married Rosemary Marra on August 29, 1962 at Shelby. That same year he moved to Shelby, but continued working for many area farms and ranches.

Matt enjoyed playing Cribbage, and reading anything that had to do with horses. He also loved visiting with his old friends Claude Demarest and Glen Aiken.

He is survived by his wife Rosemary of Shelby; son Anton Furnell; two daughters: Dorinda Furnell, and Jennifer Furnell; two stepsons: Glen Dean and Mike Dean of Shelby; two grandchildren: Karna and Michael Furnell; two step-grandchildren: Noah and Tanner Dean.

His parents and a sister Frances Furnell preceded him in death.

GERTRUDE M. (MORAN) GANNON

Born: June 25, 1907 - Died: May 24, 2002

Liberty County Times

June 5, 2002



Gertrude Gannon

Gertrude Marion (Moran) Gannon was born June 25, 1907 at Springfield, Massachusetts. She was one of five children born to Jeremiah and Esther (Woodlock) Moran. Gertrude received her early education at the Parker Street Elementary School at Indian Orchards, Massachusetts. During her high school years at Springfield, she played the piano, girls' baseball, and was active on the swim team. In addition she worked part-time as a secretary in a local hardware store. Following her graduation from high school in 1924, she continued her education at Springfield Commercial College where she studied secretarial and clerical skills.

Gertrude married Thomas Anthony Gannon in June of 1928 at Springfield. They lived in New York City for a short while before moving to Florida. In the early 1930s they traveled to Montana to visit relatives at Sunburst. There were job opportunities at the Texaco Refinery, so they made their home in Sunburst for the next 25 years. Gertrude enjoyed her life as a homemaker and mother of five. To help supplement their income, she worked as secretary/treasurer for the Farmer's Union at Sunburst.

In 1958 the Gannons were transferred to Anacortes, Washington where Thomas finished his career in the refining business. They retired in 1968 and moved back to West Palm Beach, Florida. They lived in Florida for 10 years, then bought a home in Fresno, California to be near their son. They traveled to Montana in the summer months,

spending most of their time in Great Falls with their daughters.

Husband Thomas died in Great Falls in 1984. Gertrude continued her travels between Montana and California and lived in her Fresno home until 1998. Since then she has spent winter months with her son in California and summer months with her daughter in Chester, Montana. Gertrude's health has slowly deteriorated and she was recently admitted to the Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home in Chester. She died there on the early morning of Friday May 24, 2002 at the age of 94 years.

Gertrude was never fond of her given first name, so during her formative years she preferred to be called Trude or Sara. After she married Thomas he affectionately called her G.G. (short for Gertrude Gannon). These nicknames have stuck with her throughout the years.

Her hobbies were many. She loved to read, especially mysteries and historicals. After her eyesight failed, her passion for reading continued via audiobooks. Gertrude also enjoyed playing BINGO and many card games; her enjoyment for playing was surpassed only by her enjoyment for winning!

She also liked music, dancing, crocheting, and traveling. Throughout her adult years she remained an active participant in swimming, fishing, tennis, and badminton.

Her survivors include: one son Thomas "Jerry" Gannon and wife Christine of Sanger, California; one daughter Marjie Dahinden and husband Vern of Chester; one son-in-law Richard Fox of Great Falls; one brother George Moran of Long Meadow, Massachusetts; 18 grand children; 26 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Gertrude was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by three daughters: Shirley Wills, Nancy Fox, and Sheila Fischer; two great-grandsons: Lucas and Joseph Dahinden; two brothers: Harold and Gerald Moran; and one sister Esther Mailard.

Vigil Prayers were recited by Sister Catherine Kinsella at 7:00 pm Monday May 27, 2002 at the Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Great Falls, Montana.

Special music included "Amazing Grace." and "America the Beautiful."

The funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Michael Guinan at 10:00 am Tuesday at the Peter and Paul Church. Vocal music by Mary DuPuis included "Morning has Broken," "Ave Maria," "On Eagle's Wings," "Panis Angelicus," "Song of Farewell," and "O Danny Boy." Pianist was Mary Steffes. G.G. grandchildren participated as greeters, servers, readers, Eucharistic ministers, eulogist, and pallbearers.

Following burial rites at the Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Great Falls, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Memorials will be given to the American Heart Association or donor's choice.

PEARL MARY (WIDHALM) GHEKIERE

Born: January 11, 1924 - Died: January 30, 2002

Liberty County Times

February 6, 2002



Pearl Ghekiere

Pearl Mary (Widhalm) Ghekiere was born at Cornlea, Nebraska on January 11, 1924. She was one of 14 children born to Jacob and Catherine (Zuerline) Widhalm. Pearl grew up in Nebraska and received her formal education there. At age 18 she came to Montana to be near several brothers who were living near Valier.

Pearl met John A. Ghekiere and they were married at Williams, Montana on May 4, 1943. They made their home on the Ghekiere family homestead and raised a family of 10. Following her husband's death in 1982, Pearl moved into Conrad, the place she called home for the past 20 years.

Pearl was fortunate to enjoy good health during her life. On this past Saturday January 26, she was visiting family in Great Falls when she suffered a stroke. She was admitted to Benefis East Medical Center, where she died on Wednesday evening January 30, 2002. She was 78 years old.

Pearl was very active at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Conrad. She had served as a Eucharistic minister, lector, and parish council member; she was active in the Altar Society and taught CCD. She cooked for the priests and helped around the

church whenever she was needed, and she was loyal to her Bible and daily devotions.

Her hobbies were many. She enjoyed making silk flower arrangements and other crafts. Pearl liked rummage sales and shopping in Dollar Stores. She played the piano by ear and always looked forward to a good card game of Rummy. Pearl was an excellent cook; she could make anything from scratch, but was also known to revamp recipes to her specifications. When family and friends stopped to visit, they were always sent home with lots of goodies from Pearl's kitchen. One of her family's favorites was her delicious homemade cinnamon rolls.

Pearl maintained a good sense of humor throughout her life. She loved her role in mother hood and appreciated all of her children and grandchildren. She taught by example to instill those important concepts of faith, hope and love. She will truly be missed.

Pearl is survived by nine children and their spouses: Phillip and Carolyn Ghekiere of Shelby, Mark and Michelle Ghekiere of Conrad, Dennis and Carla Ghekiere of Fort Benton, Steve and Natalie Ghekiere of Chester, Jerry and Sandra Ghekiere of Chester, Donna and Jim Widhalm of Tracy, Montana, Joan and Larry Ellis of Camas, Washington, Jim and Rachel Ghekiere of Chester, and Julie and George Vasquez of San Antonio, Texas; a daughter-in-law Randi Ghekiere of Great Falls; 25 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; five siblings, including her twin brother Earl Widhalm of Humphrey, Nebraska; brothers Paul, Andrew and Alfred Widhalm of Valier; and her sister Sister Ethel Widhalm of Nebraska City, Nebraska; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pearl was preceded in death by her parents and husband, a son Eugene in 2001, and eight siblings (brothers George, Math, and Walter Widhalm, and sisters

Barbara Sindiar, Elizabeth Connely, Catherine Connely, Ella Ternus, and Hilda Keimig).

Rosary services were 7:00 pm Sunday (February 3, 2002) at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in Conrad.

The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Patrick Rohen at 11:00 am Monday (February 4, 2002) at the church.

Interment at the Sacred Heart Cemetery 15 miles northwest of Conrad. A luncheon followed at St. Michael's.

Funeral arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials in Pearl's name will be given to St. Michael's.

WALTER GNOJEK

Born: 1923 - Died: August 15, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

August 18 - 21, 2002

Walter Gnojek

Walter Gnojek, 79, of 2218 6th Ave. N., a retired plumber, longtime musician and entertainer throughout the Great Falls retirement community, died of natural causes Thursday at his home.

Visitation is 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. today and Thursday at O'Connor Funeral Home. A vigil and rosary is 7 p.m. Thursday at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, with a funeral Mass 11 a.m. Friday at the church. Burial will be in Mount



Gnojek



Olivet Cemetery.

Survivors include children Andrea Boushey of Everett, Wash., Rosemarie Cooper of Marysville, Wash., Victoria Darpino of Colorado Springs, Colo., Vincent Gnojek of Lawrence, Kan., Frederick Gnojek of Great Falls and Nicholas Gnojek of Denver; a sister, Stella Gandy of Forestville, Md.; a brother, Ludwig Gnojek of Seattle; and 10 grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Alice.

Born in Chester, Mont., of Anna Victoria (Juzec) and Andrew Gnojek, he grew up on the West Side of Great Falls and attended Franklin Elementary and Great Falls High School.

After serving in the U.S. Infantry during World War II, he married Alice Valades and returned to Great Falls, where he worked as a union plumber for 35 years.

A founding member of St. Gerard's Parish and an active member and cantor of Sts. Peter and Paul, he also belonged to the Knights of Columbus, the Eagles and the Moose fraternal organizations, and was a lifetime member of the Musicians' Union.

Walter generously shared with others throughout his life, leaving those he touched a part of himself. He will be dearly missed by all.

He was also preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Antone; and a sister, Mary Ann.

The family requests memorials be made to the Walter Gnojek Music Scholarship Fund, c/o Stockman Bank, P.O. Box 2327, Great Falls, MT 59403.

ELMER ALFRED HADFORD

Born: July 9, 1922 - Died: January 20, 2002

Liberty County Times

January 30, 2002



Elmer Hadford

Elmer Alfred Hadford was born on the family homestead south of Joplin Montana on July 9, 1922. He was one of four children born to Carl A. Hadford and Clara Belle Shettel. Elmer grew up on the family farm and received his formal education in Joplin. During his early years he worked for several local farmers including Dodds Keith and Mike Kammerzell. He eventually began farming on his own in the south Joplin community.

In the early 1950s Elmer drove truck for Ryan's Wholesale in Havre. Unfortunately, he had to quit the job after suffering a blinding injury to his left eye in an unrelated automobile accident.

Elmer married Dorma Heydon Johnson on November 14, 1964 at Joplin. They lived and worked in the community during their married life together. When Elmer's health began to fail in 2000, he retired from farming and ranching. He moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home and has been fortunate to get out and about to community social events. His health deteriorated rapidly these past few weeks and he passed away on Sunday morning on January 20, 2002. Elmer was 70 years old.

He was baptized, confirmed, and married at the Lutheran church in Joplin. In the 1990s Elmer and Dorma began attending the Methodist church in Chester.

An avid horseman, Elmer loved working with horse teams and wagons. He helped with several community hayrides and special events, and enjoyed participating in statewide cattle drives. In fact, one of the highlights of his life was the Montana Centennial Cattle Drive of 1989.

Elmer loved to be around people, so he never missed many social events (celebration dinners, auction sales, funerals, and community dances. He loved

Western music and filler contests. He and Dorma enjoyed polka and square dancing.

Elmer also loved animals, especially dogs and cats. At the time of his death, he appreciated two pet Border Collies named "Tippy" and "Queeny."

Elmer was dedicated and faithful to those he loved. During those years his mother and wife lived at the local rest home, Elmer drove to town on a daily basis to be with them.

He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Dorma Hadford of Chester; his brother and sister-in-law Lloyd and Alma Hadford of Joplin; a sister-in-law Elaine Hadford of Rudyard; a brother-in-law Delmar Greene of Carmangay, Alberta; and numerous nephews and nieces. Elmer was preceded in death by his father in 1975, his mother in 1993, a sister Marie Greene, and a brother Lyle Hadford.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 pm Wednesday January 23, 2002 at the Chester united Methodist Church by Pastor Kama Morton and Pastor Tim Singleton. Karen Stack served as pianist and the congregation sang "Amazing Grace." Vocal music by Dennis Kenfield was "How Great Thou Art." Kama Morton performed "Abide With Me."

Ushers were Steve Dahinden and Ted Tempel. Pallbearers included Tim Campbell, Rob Cushing, Tom Wood, Sr., Lloyd Wolery, Wayne Wolery, and Dennis Kenfield.

Following gravesides services at the Joplin Cemetery, a reception was held at the Kjos Hall of Bethel Lutheran Church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Nursing Home or donor's choice.

EILEEN HELEN (MEYER) HAN

Birth: February 20, 1924 – Death: November 7, 2002

Liberty County Times

November 13, 2002



Eileen Han

Eileen Helen (Meyer) Han was born on the family homestead east of Inverness, Montana on February 20, 1924. She was the youngest of eight children born to Michael Leo Meyer and Rose Elizabeth Pfannenstern. Eileen grew up on the family farm and received her education at Inverness. She was the only student in the Inverness High School graduating class of 1941. Following high school she attended Northern Montana College in Havre for a year.

Eileen married Kenneth M. Han on September 23, 1944 at Riverside, California where Ken was serving in the military. Following his discharge, they returned to Montana to a farm south of Inverness. Eileen worked diligently as a farm wife, homemaker, and mother of six children. They made their home on the farm throughout their married life. In later years they spent their winters in Mesa, Las Vegas, Hemet, and Colorado Springs.

Eileen's health began to fail in 1999 and she had major surgery in 2000. Her health continued to deteriorate so she moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home this past July. Eileen passed away at the Chester rest home on the afternoon of Thursday November 7, 2002. She was 78 years old.

A lifelong member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness, she was also active in the Altar Society and the church choir. Eileen had a strong Christian faith and her church was an integral part of her life.

Her hobbies were many. She was an incredible seamstress who made very fashionable clothing items. She also made many afghans and enjoyed ceramics. Eileen was a good cook who will be remembered by her family for her delicious pies and her big turkey dinners. In earlier years she enjoyed bowling in the Hi-Line leagues. She was an avid high school sports enthusiast who possessed those special skills as a perpetual cheerleader and a grandstand referee! Eileen enjoyed walking with Ken for good

health, and just for the fun of it, she collected dolls.

Eileen loved to travel. She made many memorable trips including Japan and Korea in 1985, the Seoul Olympics in 1988, England in 1992, a Caribbean cruise and a trip to Mexico, to name a few.

Her greatest love in life was for her children. She never passed up an opportunity to be with family. She cherished her grandchildren and was always concerned for their well-being. As her health began to decline, her family planned several events in 2001 to cheer her up: a summer family reunion and a family Christmas dance. In addition, her first grandchild was married in June of 2002. These three events provided happy times and special memories for Eileen and the family.

Survivors include her husband of 58 years Ken Han of Inverness; three sons and spouses: Allen and Barb Han of Inverness, Dave and Linda Han of Belgrade, Jeff and Vicki Han of Inverness; three daughters and spouses: Renee Kowalski and John of Helena,

Desi Warwick and Jay of Monument, Colorado, and Anita Robirds and Lynn of Powell, Wyoming; 12 grandchildren including: Kristin, Jarod, Cassidy, Tyler, Kelsey, Megan, Breanne, Dallas, Ke'ala, Hunter, Poliala, Jaydes; two sisters LaVern McFadden of Great Falls, and Claudette Alex of Inverness; one brother-in-law Frank Kraft of Big Fork; and many nephews and nieces.

Eileen was preceded in death by her parents, four sisters Ione, Alda, Adelaide, and Inez; one brother Donald; and one granddaughter Nicole Eileen Han.

Vigil prayers were 7:00 pm Sunday November 10, 2002 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness.

Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 am Monday November 11, 2002 at the church by Father Joseph Diekhans. Special music by Iris White organist, Marcus Jochim vocalist, and the Sacred Heart Choir included "Ave Maria," "On Eagle's Wings," "Panis Angelicus," and "Whispering Hope." Ushers were Barlow Haaland and Don Han. Altar servers were Tyler and Kelsey Han. Scripture readings were by Cassidy and Jarod Han. The Communion Gifts were presented by Eileen's two sisters. Eucharistic Ministers were Renee Han-Kowalski, Leota Hansen, and Doral Anderson. The Eulogy was shared by Kristin Han-Burgoyne. Eileen's children and their spouses served as her pallbearers.

Following burial at the Inverness Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation or donor's choice.

ESTHER AILEEN (WOODS) HAN

Born: April 9, 1919 - Died: September 12, 2002

Liberty County Times
September 18, 2002



Aileen Han

Esther Aileen (Woods) Han was born April 9, 1919 on the family homestead near Inverness, Montana. She was the eldest of two children born to Robert and Esther (Strissel) Woods. Her family moved to Alberta in 1920. She received her early education at Warwick, Vegreville, and Lavoy. The Woods returned to Inverness in 1937, so Aileen finished her schooling there, graduating from Inverness High School in 1938. During the next few years she worked as a clerk at Sanvik Brothers in Rudyard and the Post Office in Inverness.

Aileen married Charles D. "Dud" Han on September 13, 1941 at Great Falls. They lived and worked on the Han farm south of Inverness throughout their married life, and they raised a family of four. Aileen and Dud moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in 1997. Dud died on December 3rd of that year. Aileen remained at the rest home from that time on. This past April she was diagnosed with breast cancer and her condition

deteriorated. Aileen died at the nursing home on the early morning of Thursday September 12, 2002. She was 83 years old.

A longtime member of the United Methodist Church in Inverness, Aileen served on the Church Council and was past president of the UMW. She also served as a precinct committeewoman for many years and worked as an election judge. Aileen was recognized as a "Gold Star Mother" following the death of her eldest son 'Chuck,' a casualty of the Viet Nam conflict.

Aileen's hobbies were many. She loved flowers and plants, especially African violets. She enjoyed raising a vegetable garden and nurturing her strawberry patch, then canning her produce. She was talented at cooking and baking; reportedly, she could whip up a delicious meal in short order with minimal planning. Aileen had a sweet tooth for chocolate, so she baked a lot of cookies and cakes as "Care packages" and treats for her children and grandchildren. Other interest included crocheting, sewing, fishing, square dancing, and collecting plates. Aileen loved music; she was an amateur pianist and a pretty good vocalist in her prime. During these past few years at the nursing home it was common to hear Aileen humming some of her favorite tunes.

She is survived by two daughters: Shirley Dick of Billings, and Dorothea "Doty" Dick and husband Chuck of Hardin; one son Don Han and wife Jaye Dee of

Rudyard; one brother Bob Woods and wife Virginia of Inverness; one aunt Vi Woods of Chester; seven grandchildren: Gail Flemming, Bruce Dick, Sheri Smith, Lori Flory, Darlene Dick, Jourdon Han, and Bridjour Han; 15 great grandchildren: Jeremy, Joshua, Sean, Michael, Brittany, Ryan, Sierra, Dominic, Pamela, Patrick Jr., Nathan, Trae, Catherine, LaChe, and LaRicia; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband and son Aileen was preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Monday (September 16, 2002 at the United Methodist Church in Chester by Rev. Waveland King. Organ and piano duet prelude music was provided by sisters Sharon Woods and Shirley Boley. Vocal music by Marcus Jochim was "In the Garden," and "Amazing Grace." The congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross," Ushers were Bill Woods, and Lowell Strissel. Nephews serving as pallbearers included Greg Wood, Kim Haaland, Byron Boucher, Allen Han, Barlow Haaland, and Jeff Han. A luncheon followed at the church.

Graveside services were held at 2:00 pm Monday at Highland Cemetery in Havre. Prayers were provided by Pastor King. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester

Memorials will be given to the united Methodist Church in Inverness or the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester.

ORVILLE C. HANSON

Born: 1913 - Died: October 13, 2002

Great Falls Tribune
October 18, 2002

Orville C. Hanson

GILDFORD — Orville C. Hanson, 89, a former insurance agent, barber, farmer, and retired Gildford postmaster, died of natural causes Sunday at a retirement home in Everett, Wash.



Hanson

Visitation is 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday at Holland & Bonine Funeral Home in Havre, and at 9:15 a.m. Monday at the Gildford Baptist Church, with his funeral at 10:30 a.m. Burial will be in Gildford Cemetery, followed by fellowship at the church.

Survivors include daughters Shane Arlene Jacobs and Bonnie R. Hanson of Lynnwood, Wash.; a sister, Nora Sanvik of Mesa, Ariz.; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth E. (Bailey) Hanson, on Oct. 16, 2000; and a son, Orville Dwight Hanson.

GERTRUDE MYRTLE (YOUNG) GREEN, THRASH, HEIMBIGNER

Born: June 30, 1916 - Died: June 14, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

June 16, 2002

Gertrude Myrtle Heimbigner

HAVRE — Gertrude Myrtle (Young) Thrash Heimbigner, 85, of Havre, a former business owner



Heimbigner

and waitress, died Friday of natural causes at a Havre hospital.

Her funeral is 11 a.m. Tuesday at The Little White Church in Malta, with burial in Malta Cemetery, followed by a fellowship at the church. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre is handling the arrangements.

Survivors include sons Lyal Green of Astoria, Ore., and Larry Thrash of Eugene, Ore.; daughters Dolores Wicklund of Casper, Wyo., and Lyla Akerlund of Havre; a sister, June Yolbright of Havre; 13 grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by husbands Lawrence Thrash and Harry Heimbigner; children Raymond and Geraldine Green; and one grandson.

Gertrude was born June 30, 1916, to Albert and Alma (Sterns) Young in Cambri, Sask. Her family moved to Malta when Gertrude was 6 years old to homestead. She was educated in Malta and graduated from Malta High School. She

married Cecil Green in 1932 in Malta. To this union five children were born. The couple later divorced. In 1942 she married Lawrence Thrash in Malta. To this union one child was born. They were married 26 years. Lawrence preceded her in death. In 1971 Gertrude married Harry Heimbigner in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. They were married 17 years. Harry preceded her in death.

Gertrude owned and operated The Super Fountain in Havre in the 1960s. She was a waitress at the Iron Horse Restaurant from 1968 to 1970. During the late 1970s and early 1980s she was a nurse's aid at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. Gertrude retired in 1983.

Gertrude enjoyed sewing, traveling, crafting, doing puzzles, gardening, quilting and doing crossword puzzles. She was a member of the Good Sam's Club.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, Albert and Alma (Sterns) Young; brothers Joe and Dale Young; sisters Myra Alvana, Janette Moore, Grace Labrie and Doris Norden. The grandson who preceded her in death is Michael Ray Wicklund.

Memorials in Gertrude's honor may be made to the Make a Wish Foundation, P.O. Box 52435, Phoenix, AZ 85072-2435.

LAWRENCE ALBERT "LORRY" HEMMER

Born: April 28, 1917 - Died: September 27, 2002

Liberty County Times

October 2, 2002

Lawrence Hemmer

Lawrence Albert "Lorry" Hemmer, Sr. age 85, formerly of Galata and Chester, died Friday September 27, 2002 of natural causes, at Aspen Meadows Nursing Home in Billings.

Lawrence, or "Lorry" to his many friends, was born in Lothair, Montana on April 28, 1917. He was the third of nine children born to Matt and Anna Hemmer. He attended school in Galata and Chester, and worked on a neighboring farm. Lawrence began farming on his own land near Galata in 1937.

He married Dorothy Tangney in Seattle on October 15, 1955. Together the two of them settled on the farm north of Galata where they raised their three children. They lived on the farm until 1995 when they moved to Billings.

Lorry loved the simple things — a good steak, spending time with

his family, and Dorothy's cooking. He loved to make things grow, whether it was a bumper winter wheat crop, or his tomato and zucchini plants. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing, reading, watching a good Western on TV, and spending time at the cabin.

His cheery outlook on life and loving smile will be missed by all who knew him.

Lawrence is survived by his wife Dorothy of Billings; three children and 10 grandchildren: Larry and Jan of Billings and children David, Dan, Laura, and LeAnne; Teresa and Kevin Dosland of Whitehall and children Kyle, Colleen, and Keith; and Mike and Shirley Hemmer of Federal Way, Washington and children Jennifer, Eric, and Abby; brothers Charles and Helen of Shelby, and Jerry and Betty of Billings; sister Annaleen and Bob Zeeck of Billings; brother-in-law Jack Tangney of Tacoma, Washington; sisters-in-law Bernice Tangney, and Teresa Kennedy of Seattle, and Nora

Hemmer of Chester; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Lawrence was preceded in death by his parents, and brothers Joe, Frank, John, George, and Jim.

Rosary service was at 7:00 pm Monday September 30, 2002 at the Michelotti-Sawyers and Nordquist Mortuary. Funeral Mass was held at 2:00 pm Tuesday October 1 at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Billings.

NORA CECILIA (HULL) HEMMER

Born: November 17, 1919 - Died: October 30, 2002

Liberty County Times

November 6, 2002



Nora Hemmer

Nora Cecilia (Hull) Hemmer was born on the family farm north of Chester, Montana on November 17, 1919. She was the fifth of nine children born to Anselm and Mary (Friel) Hull. Nora attended the Grauman Country School near the farm and graduated from St. Thomas High School in Great Falls in 1938. She returned to the Chester community and met her future husband Frank Robert Hemmer at a CYO dance. They were married at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester on September 17, 1940. They settled on their farm West of Lothair, where Nora worked diligently as a homemaker and mother of eight children.

The Hemmers were married 45 years when Frank died on December 30, 1985. Nora continued to live in their farm home until 1996, when her health began to fail. She moved to Chester to be near family and friends. She had several hospitalizations these past four months. On the early morning of Wednesday October 30, 2002 Nora died peacefully at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester. She was 82 years old.

Nora was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and served as a CCD teacher for several years. When their kids were young, the Hemmers

enjoyed summertime weekend outings to Tiber Lake for fishing, boating, and picnicking. In later years they made several memorable trips to Texas, California, and Florida to visit relatives.

Nora had many hobbies. She liked to play cards, especially pinochle, Whist, and Solitaire. She was a wonderful cook and baker. Her family will always remember her delicious cinnamon rolls, buns, cookies, and pies. She was an avid sports fan, not only of high school athletics, but also fond of the NFL and the LA Dodgers baseball team.

On a more personal note, Nora loved sweets of all kinds. She loved her grandchildren, too, and was recently collecting the new State Quarters for all of the grandkids. A wonderful, caring mother, she will be missed by her devoted family.

Survivors include two sons: Raymond Hemmer and wife Sue of Lincoln, and Bob Hemmer and wife Earlene of Belgrade; five daughters: Anna Marie Anderson and husband Norm of Chester, Janice Mattson and husband Carl of Chester, Marlene Howery and husband Wally of Shelby, Kathy Lynch and husband Patrick of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Carol Horinek and husband Mike of Tucson, Arizona; a daughter-in-law Carmen Hemmer of Kalispell; 15 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one brother James Hull and wife Marcella of Chester; one sister Sister Marleen Hull of Spokane; brothers-in-law Ernest Gagnon of Chester, Charles Hemmer and wife Helen of Shelby, and Jerry Hemmer and wife Betty of Billings; sisters-in-law Jeanne Hull of Chester, Analeen Zeeck and husband Bob of Billings, and Dorothy Hemmer of Billings; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Nora was welcomed into heaven by her husband and parents, her son Jack, brothers Michael and Raphael Hull, and sisters Catherine Hull "Sister Mary Louise," Genevieve Gagnon, Suzanna Nickol, and Patricia Schaller.

Vigil Prayers were 8:30 pm Friday November 1st at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Father Joseph Diekhans led the prayers. Readings were by Marlene Howery and Helen Brown. Jody Hill provided vocal music.

Mass of the Resurrection was celebrated by Father Joe at the church at 11:00 am Saturday November 2, 2002. Richie Hamel served as pianist and St. Mary's Choir sang "On Eagle's Wings," "Valleys of Green," and "Lamb of God." Vocalist Marcus Jochim performed the "Lord's Prayer," and "Ave Maria." Greeters were Bob Sisk and Don Raunig. Altar servers were Shane Gagnon and Kayla Matkin. Scripture readers were Tom Nickol and Gail Matkin. Eucharistic ministers were Mary Jo Harmon, Tom Graft, and Ken Gagnon. Eulogist was Bob Zeeck. Nora's nine granddaughters offered the communion gifts and flowers in her memory. Her six grandsons served as pallbearers. Memorial bearers were listed as "her many friends and neighbors."

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

HELEN JULIA (BRANDVOLD) HENDERSON

Born: January 27, 1927 - Died: October 25, 2002

Liberty County Times

November 6, 2002



Helen Henderson

Helen Julia (Brandvold) Henderson was born at Joplin, Montana on January 27, 1927. She was one of eight children born to Julia Lintvet and Benhard "Ben" Brandvold. "Tudy," as she was affectionately called by her family and friends, grew up in the Joplin community where she received her education through grade 11. She transferred to Chester for her senior year and graduated from Chester High School in 1945. During her school days Tudy was active in high school drama, plays, and cheerleading.

In 1947 she married Robert "Bob" Keith. Tudy worked as a homemaker and mother to their two daughters Kryss and Kim. The Keiths lived in Chester until 1965 then moved to Great Falls. After her girls graduated from high school, Tudy took a secretarial job for Blue Cross of Montana in Great Falls for several years. The Keiths divorced in the 1970s.

Tudy married John "Jack" Henderson in July 20, 1974 at Grangeville, Idaho. They made their home in Glendale, Arizona where Jack worked as Regional Manager for Petrolane Gas Service. Following Jack's retire-

ment in 1989, they purchased a home in Sun City, Arizona and lived there in the years that followed. They enjoyed traveling to Oregon and Montana in the summer months to visit family and friends.

Tudy's health remained good until 1996 when she had open-heart surgery. Still, she continued to be energetic and vivacious until the summer of 2000, when she suffered several small strokes. The Hendersons moved back to Montana in 2001 and Tudy entered the Chester nursing home for extended care. In February of 2002 she was strong enough to leave the rest home; she transferred to the Wheat Country Estates to be with her husband Jack. Her condition deteriorated these past few months. She collapsed at her apartment on Friday October 25, 2002 and was rushed to the Chester hospital where she died soon after arrival. Tudy was 75 years old.

Tudy was baptized as an infant and confirmed in her teens at the Chester Lutheran church and was active in the church choir for many years. She was a past member of the Chester VFW Auxiliary, served on various PTAs, and had been active in women's bowling leagues in Chester and Great Falls.

Her hobbies were many. An avid reader, she loved novels, and *Reader's Digest* and *Guideposts* magazines. She enjoyed music and dancing; she also liked to cross-stitch, crochet, and knit. During quiet times at home, Tudy enjoyed jigsaw and crossword puzzles and television—her favorite shows were "Wheel of Fortune" and "Jeopardy." She also enjoyed playing hand-held video games. During social times with friends she liked to play cards especially Pinochle and Bridge. And just for the fun of it, Tudy collected birdhouses.

She is survived by her husband of 28 years, Jack of Chester; two daughters Krystal Laas and husband Don of Hillsboro, Oregon, and Kimberly Kane and life mate David Cantu of Troutdale, Oregon; one stepson Dr. Curt Henderson of Phoenix, Arizona; four grandchildren: Haven Frank and husband Aaron, Taison Kane, Jessie Henderson, and Aaron Henderson; one great-granddaughter Rowan Julia Frank; one brother Ken Brandvold of Great Falls; one sister Doris "Poppy" Austin of Forrest, Mississippi; and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins.

Tudy was preceded in death by her parents, by three brothers Bennie, Donald, and Leonard Brandvold, and by two sisters Gladyce Romain, and Betty Krejci.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 pm Friday November 1, 2002 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Peter Erickson officiated. Scripture readings were shared by Beverly Nealy and Bryce Rockman; the eulogy was done by Rlynn Rockman. Karen Stack served as organist and the congregation sang "Beautiful Savior," and "In the Garden." Vocalist Marcus Jochim performed "Amazing Grace," and "The Lord Prayer." The greeter was Wanda Keith and the ushers were Earl Keith and Bill Roach.

Pallbearers were Robert "Speed" Wright, Tyrone Rockman, Monty Nealy, Benny Austin, Bob Wiggen, and grandson Taison Kane. Tudy's friends and relatives were listed as honorary bearers.

Following burial rites at the Chester Cemetery, a reception was held at the Lutheran Fellowship Hall. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Undesignated memorials will be given to Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin or Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester.

HELEN ILENE (HERRON) HEPPNER

Born: November 14, 1946 - Died: April 20, 2002

Liberty County Times

May 1, 2002

Helen Heppner



Helen Ilene (Herron) Heppner, age 55, of 25 Wilderness Lane, Great Falls, a retired health care worker, died Saturday April

20, 2002 at a local hospital of complications from diabetes.

A memorial service was held April 25th at Westside Methodist Church. Cremation has taken

place under the direction of O'Connor Funeral Home of Great Falls. There will be a graveside service in Helena at a later date.

Survivors include her son, Chad Heppner of Great Falls; her parents Del and Helen Herron of Great Falls; brothers Gary Herron of Great Falls, and Dave Herron of Chester; and two grandchildren.

Additional survivors include a daughter-in-law Patty Heppner of Great Falls; nephews Brad and Clay Herron of Chester; a sister-

in-law, Vivienne Herron of Chester; and numerous relatives in the Townsend and Helena areas.

Her grandchildren are Skylar Wiegard, and Kayla Spencer of Great Falls.

Helen was born Nov. 14, 1946 in Townsend. She attended school in Townsend and Chinook, completing her education in Great Falls. She worked as a home health care provider until her illness forced her to retire.

In her younger years, she enjoyed barrel racing with her horse, as well as rodeoing. She loved doing leatherwork, ceramics and fancy handwork. She always had a love of animals, including her horses, dogs, llamas, birds, and registered rabbits she raised. She also enjoyed fall canning and baking.

She was preceded in death by an infant sister, Caroline.

Memorials are suggested to the Westside Methodist Church or the donor's choice.

CAROL JESSIE HOLE

Born: October 2, 1921 - Died: October 26, 2002

Liberty County Times

October 30, 2002



Carol Hole

Carol Jessie Hole, age 81, died early Saturday morning October 26, 2002 at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. She had been a resident at the nursing home for the past 41 years.

Carol was born October 2, 1921 at Lexington, Kentucky. Her parents were Samuel Alan Hole and Lela W. Glynch, and she was the eldest of two daughters. Injuries at birth affected her motor skills, so she was unable to attend public schools. She did, however, receive personal tutoring at home and she was a good learner. As a child she loved to hear poetry; she memorized two of her favorite poems, "About Ben Adhem" by Leigh Hunt, and "The Swing" by Robert Louis Stevenson, which she could recite into her later years.

Carol lived with her parents in Shelby, Montana for many years. They were visiting a friend at the Chester rest home in 1961, and Carol fell in love with the facility and staff. She moved to the nursing home that same year. The staff has been her dearly loved extended family since.

Carol enjoyed knitting and stamp collecting in her early years. She loved to travel and always looked forward to trips and outings with her folks. She had a wide circle of friends in Shelby and Chester, and loved to be with people and be part of special events. Carol had a terrific memory for people, phone numbers, and addresses. Throughout her many years of disability and illness, she always remained cheerful, outgoing and loving—and she was loved in return.

Carol's mother died in 1963 and her father died in 1971. Her only survivors are her sister Jean

Peterson of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; two nieces Brooke Peterson and Wendy Peterson-Roiz; two nephews Jeffrey and Roger Peterson; and three cousins: Alan Larson, Dr. Robert Coleman, and James Coleman. Her family is deeply grateful to the staff at Liberty County Nursing Home for their skills, devotion, and tender living care offered to Carol throughout the years.

A memorial services will be planned in early November at the nursing home. Carol's ashes will be buried with her folks in Shelby. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Home, Chester. A funeral notice will follow at a later date.

MARIE BARBARA (HUBER) JACKSON

Born: April, 1909 - Died: May 9, 2002

Liberty County Times

May 15, 2002



Marie Jackson

Marie Barbara (Huber) Jackson was born to I.G. and Cecelia Huber, the 6th of 8 children, in April 1909, in Haddam Kansas. In her early teens, the family moved to Portland, OR where she met and married Russell Jackson on February 18, 1928.

Their first child, Patsy, was born May 17, 1932. A son, Thomas was born January 23, 1937, and died when he was 3 days old.

During World War II, Marie worked as a welder at the Oregon Shipyards in Portland, Or.

In 1943, the family moved back to Montana, Russell's home state. They bought a small farm near Ronan. Early in 1945 they again moved, this time to the original Jackson homestead, north of Rudyard. They farmed in the Rudyard area until their retirement in Whitefish in 1962. Their final home was in the Belt, Great Falls vicinity.

When their daughter moved to Ennis, during 1988, they were transferred to Bozeman, until their need for more care, and then moved to the Madison Valley Manor in Ennis. Russell died in July 1993. Marie remained at the manor until her passing May 9, 2002 at the age of 93.

During her lifetime she enjoyed dancing, card playing (Pinochle),

sewing and other handwork. She also liked to go fishing, from their boat on Fresno Reservoir.

She is survived by her daughter Patsy Long of Havre, 6 grandchildren; Tom of Williston, ND. Steve in the Seattle Wa area, Jeanine of Berkley Ca. Scott in Seattle Wa. Terry of Campbell CA, and Collin in Chicago, there are 11 great grandchildren, and 1 great great grandchild, also a sister Beatrice, and a brother John of Portland, Or.

She was preceded in death by her parents, 2 brothers, 3 sisters her son and a great granddaughter.

Cremation has taken place with services to be held at a later date.

Marie Jackson

Marie Barbara (Huber) Jackson, age 93, formerly of Rudyard, died May 9th at the Madison Valley Manor in Ennis, Montana.

A Memorial Mass will be 1:00 p.m. Monday (July 1st) at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. Burial of ashes will follow at the Rudyard Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Survivors include her daughter, Patsy Long of Havre; a brother and sister, John Huber and Beatrice Mertes, both of Portland, Oregon; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter. She was preceded in death by her husband (Russell) and a son (Thomas).

EDNA MAE (LEE) JOY
Birth: January 15, 1921 – Death: December 26, 2002
Liberty County Times
January 1 – June 4, 2003



Edna Mae Joy

Edna Mae Joy, 81 years of age, died Thursday December 26, 2002 at a Havre care facility of natural causes. Cremation has taken place.

A Memorial Service will take place at a later date. Services and arrangements are under the direction of the Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.

Edna was born January 15, 1921 to James and Rosezetta

(Brown) Lee at Boswell, OK. The family followed work in many states. Edna settled in Havre, MT in 1954 and worked at the Park Hotel as a maid for many years. On October 3, 1959, she married Fred R. Joy in Havre. The couple farmed for 23 years (16 miles north of Joplin) until Fred died, at which time Edna moved to Havre, MT.

Edna enjoyed fishing and gardening. She was a member of the Eagles Club.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Fred Joy September 3, 1982; one brother, and one half-sister

She is survived by daughters JoAnn Brekhus of Havre, MT, Edith Erwin of LaGrande, OR, Linda Drong of Rock Springs, WY; six great-grandchildren; and eight great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials in Edna's honor may be made to the Northern Montana Care Center Chapel Fund, P. O. Box 1231, Havre, MT 59501; or to a person's choice.

HOMER BURTON KINYON

Born: January 10, 1912 - Died: April 15, 2002

Liberty County Times

April 24, 2002



Homer Kinyon

Homer Burton Kinyon was born at Galata, Montana on January 10, 1912. He was one of six children of May Pegg and James Kinyon. Homer grew up at Galata and received his formal education there. In the years that followed he worked as a farmer at Galata, Joplin, and Kalispell.

Homer was married four times during his life. His first wife was Ethel Markuson; they were married at Galata on December 28, 1931. Ethel died in 1945. Homer married Eldora Lalum on November 13, 1945 at Polson. Eldora passed away in 1987. Wife #3 was Sylvia Hartssock, whom he married on November 8, 1987 at Columbia Falls. Sylvia died in 1992. Homer's fourth wife was Andrea J. Bubnash. They were married in Chester on January 7, 1997. Andrea survives him.

Throughout his life Homer lived at Galata, Kalispell, Joplin, Columbia Falls, and Chester. In his later years he wintered in Arizona. In addition to working 42 years as a Montana farmer, Homer drove school buses in Inverness, Whitefish, and Joplin. He drove bus for the Joplin School system from 1952 to 1973. During that 21-year span, he drove 310,000 accident-free miles! Also during that time period, Homer worked four years at the Joplin school

library. When he officially retired from farming in 1974, he and Eldora spent their summers working for the State Parks system at Flathead and Thompson lakes.

Homer was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and was a longtime member of Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. He was also a member of the Joplin Farmers Union and served on its Board of Directors for 20 years. He also served as President of the Joplin TV District at its early inception.

Homer loved to travel. He had visited American Samoa, the Philippines, Alaska, Arizona, and other states. Following Sylvia's death in 1992, he moved back to the Hi-Line community. He lived at the Sweet Grass Lodge in Chester, and then moved to the Prairie Homes Apartments following his marriage to Andrea. When his health failed in 1999, he transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. Homer died at the Chester hospital on Monday afternoon April 15, 2002. He was 90 years old.

His hobbies were many. In his younger days he enjoyed hunting, fishing, trapping, baseball, and softball. In later years he liked bowling and horseshoes. A lifelong lover of music, Homer played the organ, piano, violin, electronic keyboard, and accordion. During his years in the Flathead Valley, Homer raised beautiful gardens especially roses and tomatoes; he also operated a Christmas tree farm. He loved people and always tried to maintain a positive attitude to stay "young at heart."

In addition to his wife Andrea Kinyon of Chester, Homer is survived by three daughters: Esther May and husband Con of Joplin, Myrna Orme and husband Bill of Seattle, Washington, and Eldora Rosling and husband Bernie of Lakeside; one foster son Evan Mueller of California; 12

grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; two brothers, Brondle Kinyon of Shelby, and Ray Kinyon of Chester; and numerous nephews and nieces. Homer is also survived by four step-children (Andrea's family): Angie Nace of Lewisville, Texas, Andy Russell of Montesano, Washington, Bob Russell of Phoenix, Arizona, and Robin Russell of Billings.

Homer was preceded in death not only by his parents and wives, but also by one son James, two brothers Vern and Olen, and a great-granddaughter. In addition Homer's only sister, Maggie McSweeney of Oelwein, Iowa, died this past Monday, two hours after Homer.

Funeral services were conducted at 10:00 am Saturday April 20, 2002 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester by Father Joe Diekhans. Readers were Susan VanDessel and Shana Rosling. Eulogist was Bernie Rosling. Christy Fossen served as pianist and Raena Fossen sang "How Great Thou Art," "Amazing Grace," and "As the Deer." Pallbearers were Homer's grandchildren. A luncheon followed at the church.

Graveside services were conducted at 4:30 pm Saturday at the Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell by Bill Orme.

Arrangements by Rockmar Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Nursing Home or Joplin Memorial Park.

JACOB J. "CLYDE" KLEINSASSER

Born: April 21, 1954 - Died: June 4, 2002

Liberty County Times

June 12, 2002

Jacob Kleinsasser

Jacob J. "Clyde" Kleinsasser, age 48, of the Riverview Hutterite Colony south of Chester, died Tuesday morning June 4, 2002 at the scene of a road grader accident.

Funeral services were 12:15 pm Thursday June 6th at the Riverview Colony Church. Burial followed at Riverview Colony Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Clyde was born on April 21, 1954 at the Miller Colony near Choteau, Montana. He was one of 14 children born to Jacob and Rebecca (Wipf) Kleinsasser. At age 7 he moved to the Sagecreek Colony north of Chester. Where he received his formal education. In 1980 he transferred to the Riverview Colony where he worked as the colony plumber. On July 7, 1985 he married his

beloved wife Susanna A. Hofer. They have made their home at Riverview from that time on.

The colony men were recently digging water lines. Clyde was in charge of the project. On Tuesday morning he was driving a grader up Moffil Bridge Road. Near the top of the ridge the grader stalled out; Clyde tried to control the machine as it careened in reverse down the hill. Unfortunately, the grader left the roadway and tipped over into Basin Coulee. Clyde died instantly as he was pinned in the cab. Basin Coulee is approximately 21 miles south of Chester in Liberty County.

Clyde loved his job and was always a serious worker. He was an outgoing man who developed many friendships. He loved to visit with people and will be greatly missed by everyone, especially his family.

In addition to his wife Susie, Clyde is survived by his parents,

Jacob and Rebecca Kleinsasser of Riverview; five brothers: Paul, and Jonathan Kleinsasser of Sagecreek, and Joe, Dan, and John Kleinsasser of Riverview; seven sisters: Rebecca Wipf of Baildon, Moose Jaw, Sask., Judy Hofer of Raymond, Alberta, Esther and Sarah Hofer of Sagecreek, Elizabeth and Lydia Hofer of Riverview, and Mary Kleinsasser of Riverview; mother-in-law Rachel Hofer of Sagecreek; and numerous in-laws, nephews, and nieces.

Clyde was preceded in death by his father-in-law Andy P. Hofer of Sagecreek; and his sister Susie J. Kleinsasser of Riverview on Dec. 21, 2001.

SAFELY HOME

I am home in heaven, dear ones;
Oh so happy and so bright!
There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.
All the pain and grief is over,

Every restless tossing passed;
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in heaven at last.
Did you wonder I so calmly
Trod the valley of the shade?
Oh, but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.
And he came Himself to meet
me
In that way so hard to tread.
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or
dread?
Then you must not grieve so
sorely,
For I love you dearly still.
Try to look beyond earth's
shadows,
Pray to trust our Father's will,
There is work still waiting for you
So you must not idly stand;
Do it now, while life remaineth
You shall rest in Jesus' land
When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you home;
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,
Oh, the joy to see you come.

BETTY L. (DRAEGER) KNUTSON

Born: April 13, 1947 - Died: April 13, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

April 19, 2002

Betty L. Knutson

HAVRE — Former schoolteacher Betty L. (Draeger) Knutson, 54, died of cancer Saturday at her home in Sun City West, Ariz.

A prayer vigil service is 7 p.m.



Knutson

Sunday at St. Jude Catholic Church in Havre. Funeral Mass is 2 p.m. Monday at St. Jude, with burial in Highland Cemetery. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre is in charge

of arrangements.

Survivors include her husband, Ron Knutson of Havre and Sun City West; a daughter, Jacinte Knutson of Phoenix; her parents, Alfred and LaVearn Draeger of Havre; and sisters Marilyn Wojtwick of Havre, Pat Thomas of Keller, Texas, and Rita Zuehlsdorff of Battlelake, Minn.

She is also survived by a niece and five nephews.

Betty was born April 13, 1947, to Alfred and LaVearn (Frey) Draeger. She attended Grainbelt Elementary School north of Havre. After graduating from Havre High School in 1965, she attended Northern Montana College for two years. She received a bachelor of arts degree in home economics and science from Montana State University.

On April 19, 1970, she married Roland "Ron" Knutson of Gildford, Mont. They resided in Sunburst, where she taught home economics for one year. The following year, they moved to Gildford, where she then taught science and home economics.

In March of 1974, a daughter, Jacinte, was born. Betty and Ron decided she would quit teaching and stay at home and raise their daughter. She was also involved in helping Ron with the farming. Six years later, they moved to Havre, where she was a homemaker. For the past 10 years, she enjoyed the warm winters in Arizona. She especially enjoyed spending time with her friends and family. She also loved gardening, home decorating and attending sporting events.

Betty was a member of St. Jude Catholic Church.

Memorials in Betty's honor may be made to Havre Public Schools Education Foundation, Box 7791, Havre, MT 59501; St. Jude Catholic Church, 624 Fourth Street, Havre, MT 59501; or to a charity of one's choice.

ILA B. (MYERS) KOSSEL

Born: February 23, 1920 - Died: June 11, 2002

Liberty County Times

June 19, 2002



Ila Kossel

Ila B. Kossel was born February 23, 1920 on the family homestead near Reedpoint, Montana. She was the only daughter and youngest of three children born to Ira and Myrtle (Tucker) Myers. She received her early schooling at Reedpoint. The Myers family eventually moved to Kalispell, so Ila finished her formal education at Flathead County High School.

She married Oren Stearns in 1937 at Kalispell. The product of this marriage was a daughter Ardith, and a son Larry, who died in infancy. The Stearns lived in Tacoma, Washington, where Oren worked in the shipyards during World War II. They returned to the Flathead Valley in 1944. Both Ila and Oren worked in real estate sales during those early construction years of the Hungry Horse Dam. Their marriage ended in divorce in 1949, so Ila moved to Shelby,

Her second husband was John K. Kossel, whom she married on April 19, 1952 at Conrad. They made their home in Chester where they worked in the tavern business; they managed the Golden West Bar & Café from 1953-1955. In 1955 the Kossels purchased Sully's Bar in Galata. Ila ran the restaurant at Sully's for many years before they closed it down. They continued to operate the bar in Galata until 1994, when they sold the business, retired, and purchased a home in Chester. After 47 years of marriage, husband John died in Chester on December 27, 1999.

Valier to live near her granddaughter Kay. In April of 2002 Ila developed blood clots in her legs, so she transferred to the Ponder Medical Center in Conrad for extended care. She died at the Conrad nursing facility on Tuesday evening June 11, 2002 at the age of 82 years.

Ila enjoyed canning and cooking; her family will always remember her wonderful pickles, jams, and homemade potato soups. Ila loved family dinners, gatherings, and holidays, especially those quality times with her grandchildren. Although Ila and John were dedicated to their business, they did take several memorable trips to the West coast, the Seattle World's Fair, and Disneyland.

Survivors include her daughter Ardith "Tinkey" Cushing of Chester; two step-daughters: Bonnie Aman and Donna Hellwig,

both of Portland, Oregon; five grandchildren: Leslie Vaskey, Robbie Cushing, Jim Cushing, Ken Cushing, and Kay Boumans; nine great-grandchildren; one great-great-granddaughter; two brothers: J. Ray Myers and wife Vi, and Melvin Myers and wife Wilma, all of Kalispell; and numerous nieces and nephews. Ila was preceded in death by her husband, son, and parents.

Memorial services were 11:00 am Friday June 14, 2002 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, with Pastor Peter Erickson officiating. Special vocal music by Anne Seidlitz-Melton was "He," and Rock Svennungsen sang "How Great thou Art." The congregation sang "Amazing Grace" accompanied by pianist Stanleigh Barbie. A special closing number was "Mariah." Ushers were great-grandsons Adam Vaskey and Mason Cushing. Memorial bearers were listed as "all of Ila's lady friends throughout the years." A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

It was Ila's wish to be cremated. Her ashes will be buried with John at the C. E. Conrad Memorial Cemetery in Kalispell.

NORMA L. (SANVIK) LAFRANCE

Born: January 27, 1929 - Died: July 21, 2002

Liberty County Times

August 14, 2002

**Norma (Sanvik)
LaFrance**

Norma L. LaFrance, age 73, passed away Sunday July 21, 2002 at Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell.

She was born January 27, 1929 in Rudyard to Ole and Lena Sanvik. She attended school in Rudyard and moved to Kalispell in 1945, finishing her last two years of high school there.

She married Robert LaFrance on May 6, 1950 and they were married 52 years.

Norma spent most of her life as a homemaker and also took care of children. Her hobbies were cooking, baking, and most of all, she loved embroidery work.

Norma is survived by her husband Robert; two daughters; eight grandchildren; great-grandchildren; one sister Lillian DeMartin of Rudyard; one brother Robert Sanvik; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister Agnes; and three brothers: Oris, Selmer and Obert Sanvik.

Graveside services were held at Glacier Memorial Gardens at 11:00 am Thursday July 25, 2002.

Memorials may be made to Immanuel Lutheran Home or to Bethlehem Lutheran Home.

DELORES ELAINE (BREKKE) LAKEY

Born: September 8, 1928 - Died: January 19, 2002

Liberty County Times

February 20, 2002

Delores Lakey

Delores Elaine (Brekke) Lakey was born on September 8th, 1928 at Browning, Montana. She was one of three children born to Ole and Ruby Brekke. Delores grew up in Browning and Cut Bank, and received her formal education at Cut Bank.

She met Charles McKelvey; the product of their relationship was two children. After they separated, Delores and the two kids moved to the Chester community where she worked as a caregiver/housekeeper for the Lakey family. While here, Delores met Gordon Ell Lakey, and they were married in 1955. They lived and worked on the Lakey farm north of Chester. The Lakey's had three more children, so they raised a family of five.

In the early 1970's, Delores' health failed. She required extended care, so she lived in nursing homes at Galen, Chester and Havre in the years that followed. Her husband, Gordon, died in 1973.

The three Lakey daughters were living in Oregon, so they moved Delores to Portland in 1984. She resided at the Park Forest Care Center for the past eight years. She died there on Saturday (January 19th, 2002). Delores was 73 years old.

In her younger years she enjoyed dancing. In later years she enjoyed most nursing home activities, especially bowling and BINGO. She loved having her children and grandchildren near by for visits. She will be missed by her family, including the staff at Park Forest Care Center.

Survivors are her son, Vaughn "Duffy" McKelvey of Pablo, MT; her four daughters, Roxana (McKelvey) Mangold of Havre, Bonita Dewberry of Myrtle Creek, Oregon, Charlotte Johnson of Canyonville, Oregon and Debbie

Banducci of Canyonville, Oregon; 14 grandchildren (including Marisa, Betina, Sereta, and Tom Mc Kelvey, Casey Staples; Casandra, Tina and Ross Dewberry; Jeremiah, Jessica, Joseph and Joanna Johnson; and Christina and Carrie Banducci); and numerous nephews and nieces. Delores was preceded in death by her husband, parents and two siblings (Barbara Sarsfield and Galen Brekke).

The body was cremated in Portland and her ashes will be buried in the family plot at the Chester Cemetery. A memorial service to celebrate Delores' life will be held in July (an additional notice will be published in the paper at that time.) Local arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.


CARLOS F. LIVERS

Born: 1927 - Died: December 30, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

January 3, 2003

Carlos F. Livers

 **BOZEMAN** — Bozeman native, former Boeing manager and Navy veteran Carlos F. Livers, 75, died Monday at a Bozeman care center after a long illness.

A memorial service is 2 p.m. Saturday at Dahl Funeral Chapel in Bozeman.



Livers

Survivors include his wife, Elaine Livers of Bozeman; daughters Linda Monson of Bozeman and Sue Sailer of Chester; a son, Tom Livers of Helena; his father, Joe Livers of Seattle; a brother, Jim Livers of Roseburg, Ore.; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Additional survivors include sons-in-law Gene Monson of Bozeman and Bruce Sailer of Chester; a daughter-in-law, Ellen Livers of Helena; and a sister-in-law, Marian Livers of Roseburg, Ore.



Livers in 1945

His grandchildren are: Michael Monson of Bozeman; Kaci Monson of Denver, Colorado; Joshua (Erin, daughter Kiera) Brown of Eureka; Rebekah Brown of Spokane, Washington; Jennifer Brown of Bozeman; Joe Livers of Helena; and Sarah Livers of Helena.

The son of Joe and Mary Livers, Carlos was born and raised in Bozeman, where he was active in Scouts and grew up fishing and hunting, which he enjoyed throughout his life. He skied competitively for Gallatin County High School and Montana State College and won numerous titles.

At 17, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, and upon his return from the South Pacific in 1946, Carlos married Elaine Hammerstrom of East Helena.

Carlos received his B.S. and his M.S. in mathematics from Montana State College. He taught math at Roundup High School from 1950 to 1957, where he also coached boys' JV basketball.

In 1957, Carlos joined the Boeing Co. in Seattle, Washington. The Livers family moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1962 with Boeing's Saturn V booster rocket contract from NASA. In 1967, he moved to Cocoa Beach, Florida, to manage telemetry and other computer services for Boeing's Gemini and Apollo contracts. He returned to Seattle in 1973 at the end of the Apollo program, continuing his career with BCS. Carlos suffered a serious stroke and retired from Boeing in 1991. The couple returned to Bozeman in 1998.

Carl was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Fuhman Livers, in 2000.

Memorials may be sent to Bozeman Firefighters Association, P.O. Box 1230, Bozeman 59717-1230.

H. LYLE MANSFIELD

Born: April 10, 1926 - Died: August 5, 2002

Liberty County Times

August 14, 2002



H. Lyle Mansfield

H. Lyle Mansfield was born April 10, 1926 on the family homestead 30 miles north of Joplin, Montana. He was the only son of two children born to Herbert and Effie (Branner) Mansfield. Lyle received his education at Havre, graduating from high school in 1944. While working as a lineman for a power company near Wolf Point, he met his wife-to-be, Rosemary Sorensen. They were married at her home near McCabe, Montana on September 5, 1948. They returned to the Mansfield farm at Joplin where they worked and raised a family of five. The Mansfields moved into Joplin in 1964 and continued to farm until their retirement in 1988.

Lyle was diagnosed with cancer in 1991. He moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in January of 2001. Although he battled a long, hard fight, he succumbed to cancer on this past Monday morning August 5, 2002 at the Chester rest home. He was 76 years old.

In addition to farming, Lyle ran 'Mansfield's Upholstery' in Joplin for several years. He wasn't afraid of hard work and he practiced perfection in most of his self-taught endeavors. An inventive man, Lyle could fix most anything, be it mechanical, electrical or plumbing.

He enjoyed fishing and camping. In his later years he liked to watch television - his favorite shows were "The Price Is Right" and "Johnny Carson." He also enjoyed NASCAR racing and the Discovery Channel. On a personal note, Lyle enjoyed the solitude while smoking his pipe and he loved to give hugs to his grandchildren.

The Mansfields made several memorable trips to Hawaii, San Diego, and Washington, DC during their 54 years of married life together.

Lyle is survived by his wife Rosemary of Joplin; one daughter Cheri Swank and husband Scott of Chester; four sons: Lyle "Lanny" Mansfield and wife Mary of Shelby, Mike Mansfield and wife Shirley of Billings, Bruce Mansfield and wife Trudy of Joplin, and Dean Mansfield of San Diego, California; ten grandchildren: Ami, Nathan (and Megan), Laura (and Jason), Kris, Jennifer, Jeromy, Melissa (and Ryan), Katie, Michael, and Jean (and Greg); five great-grandchildren: Paige, Mallory, Gavin, Kellen, and Kavan; and numerous nieces, nephew, cousins, and in-laws.

Lyle was preceded in death by his parents, and his sister Evelyn Fourage.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 pm Thursday August 8, 2002 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin by Pastor Dale Wolery. Christy Fossen served as pianist and Marcus Jochim sang

"Beyond the Sunset," "How Great Thou Art," and "Green, Green Grass of Home." Ushers were Lloyd Wolery and Jerry Thorson. Pallbearers included Nathan Mansfield, Ryan Wickum, Michael Swank, Jeromy Mansfield, Jason McKee, and Doug Moore. Honorary bearers were Fred Shore, Wayne Wolery, and all of the CNAs at the Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home. Following burial at the Joplin Cemetery, a luncheon was held at Kjos Hall.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Joplin Memorial Park.

DR. ROBERT C. McCROSKEY IV

Birth: December 2 , 1966 – Death: October 26, 2002

Liberty County Times

November 13, 2002



Dr. Robert C. McCroskey IV

Dr. Robert C. McCroskey, 60, Havre physician died Saturday October 26, 2002 at his home of cancer. Cremation has taken place. A memorial service was held 2 p.m. Saturday November 2, 2002 at the Havre High School Auditorium. A fellowship followed the memorial service in the foyer of the auditorium. A private family burial was planned at the Black Hills National Cemetery. Memorials in Dr. McCroskey's honor may be made to the: Northern Montana Medical Group, C/O K. Richardson, P.O. Box 1231, Havre, MT 59501; or Montana State University Northern Foundation, College of Education, P.O. Box 7751, Havre, MT 59501.

Services and arrangements were under the direction of Holland & Bonine Funeral Home.

Dr. McCroskey was born December 2, 1941 in Ann Arbor, MI and raised in Rapid City, SD. He graduated High School in 1959 and completed his undergraduate work at the University of Wyoming in Laramie in 1962. He attended medical school at the University of South Dakota from 1962 to 1964, and at Temple University from 1964 to 1966. He completed his internship in Albuquerque, NM from 1966 to 1967.

He married Mary Lynn November 2, 1968. They had two children, Rob and Kim.

Dr. McCroskey served two years in the United States Army in Vietnam and was honorably discharged as a Captain on September 7, 1969. He completed his residency from 1969 to 1972 in Albuquerque.

He joined the Havre Clinic and moved to Havre in 1972. His activities at Northern Montana Hospital included Chief of Staff of NMH, Northern Montana Care Center Medical Director, and served on the Hospital Board.

His favorite hobby was fly-fishing on the reservoirs surrounding Havre.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and one brother William McCroskey.

He is survived by his wife Mary McCroskey of Havre, MT; one son Robert "Rob" McCroskey of Chicago, IL, and his fiancé Shari Ostrom of St. Paul, MN; daughter Kim and her husband Jon Tripp of Billings, MT; two grandchildren: granddaughter Kalysta Tripp and

grandson Jon Tripp Jr. both of Billings, MT; one sister Patti and husband Ken Zenor of San Clemente, CA; and one brother John and wife Lydia McCroskey of Brenham, TX.

CLARENCE CHARLES McDANIEL

Born: 1924 - Died: September 15, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

September 17, 2002

Clarence Charles McDaniel

HAVRE — Army veteran Clarence Charles McDaniel, 78, a retired machinist for Burlington Northern Railroad, died of cancer Sunday at his home in Havre.



McDaniel

A memorial service is 1 p.m. Wednesday at First Baptist Church in Havre.

Burial of ashes with military honors will take place in Highland Cemetery, followed by a fellowship luncheon at the VFW Club. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home of Havre is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia McDaniel of Havre; a daughter, Myrna Christopherson of Saint Marys, Ga.; a son, Thomas F. McDaniel of Havre; a sister, Joyce Tempel of Chester; a half-sister, Olive Svenson of Joplin; a half-brother Jim Woods of Whitlash; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

HOWARD JAMES McQUIGG
Born: March 9, 1916 - Died: December 15, 2002
Liberty County Times
January 8, 2003



Howard McQuigg

Howard James McQuigg, age 86, passed away at Duarte, California on December 15, 2002.

Howard was born in Chester, Montana on March 9, 1916 in the house formerly known as the Mary Lynn Hospital. Cottonwood Creek flowed by their home, so his mother jokingly told family and friends that he came 'down the Cottonwood in a basket.'

Howard's father Jim McQuigg, was a telegrapher for the Great Northern Railroad. His mother Mae, filed on a claim 32-1/2 miles north of Chester. Because of health problems, the family moved to Monrovia, California.

Howard, a graduate of Cal State at Santa Barbara, became a school teacher.

He married Ruth Verrilla on September 3, 1938. To this union five children were born. An infant son passed away at birth.

Howard worked as an engineer for the gas company, retiring at age 62.

His real love was music and his piano tuning business, which he continued to do until his eyesight failed. He was a great supporter of music and the arts.

A kind and gentle man, he loved Montana—the blue sky, open spaces, and the vast prairies. He returned with his family to their homestead each and every year until his failing health did not allow it. They would visit the families and neighbors that lived near their holdings very near to the Arnie Woods home.

Howard was preceded in death by his parents, brother, and two sons.

Surviving are his wife of 64 years; son John; daughters Jean and Mary Ann and their families.

GRACE (BROWN) MILLER

Born: October 10, 1918 - Died: July 28, 2002

Liberty County Times

August 7, 2002

Grace Miller

Grace (Brown) Miller, age 83, a retired Registered Nurse passed away Sunday at the Marias Medical Center in Shelby due to natural causes. Funeral services were held Thursday August 1, 2002 at 11:00 am at the United Methodist Church in Shelby. Burial with military honors was at 2:00 pm Thursday at the Hillside Cemetery in Conrad. Visitation was Wednesday from Noon until 9:00 pm at the Whitted Funeral Chapel. Memorials are suggested to the Montana Hope Project, Marias Care Center, or the Community United Methodist church building fund.

Grace was born October 10, 1918 at Great Falls to Elmer and Randi (Forseth) Brown. She went to the 8th grade at Galata, graduating from Chester High School in 1935. She received her RN degree from the Deaconess Hospital in Great Falls in 1939 and began her career at the USPH Marine Hospital in Louisville, KY. Grace was a First Lt. Army Nurse during World War II from Nov. 4, 1943 until Feb. 11, 1946 stationed at Fort Ord, California.

After the service Grace married Frank (Bud) Miller on July 3, 1946 at Butte. They moved to Washington state where both of their children were born. In 1950, the family returned to Montana where Grace helped her husband with his radio and TV business in

Conrad. Always seeking better opportunities for their son, they packed up and moved to South Dakota where Kirk could attend a special school for physically and mentally handicapped children. There she returned to her nursing career at the VA hospitals in Hot Springs, SD and Sturgis, SD. A job transfer took them to New Mexico in 1976. Grace continued to work at the VA Hospital in Albuquerque until retiring in 1982. In 1992 they returned to Shelby to again be near family.

Grace was a member of the Community United Methodist church in Shelby. Her hobbies and interests included Western history, geology, hiking, dancing, hot-air ballooning, elder hostel, seeing to her family's needs, and caring for her son Kirk for 52 years.

Survivors include her daughter Valerie Miller Wadman of Cut Bank; son Kirk Irvin Miller of Shelby; sister Myrtle Cunningham of Cut Bank, and brother Irvin Brown of Whitlash. Grandchildren include Valora Freeman and husband Mark of Dillon; Vanessa Rapkoch and husband Geof of Great Falls; Will and Wyatt Wadman both of Cut Bank; and great-granddaughter Janessa Ann Freeman.

Grace's husband Bud Miller, sister June Clark, brother George Brown, and granddaughter Willow Wadman, preceded her in death.

WILLIAM ALBERT "BERT" MONDY

Born: December 17, 1923 - Died: September 1, 2002

Great Falls Tribune & Liberty County Times

September 10 -18, 2002

William 'Bert' Mondy

William Albert Mondy, age 78 of Idaho Falls, Idaho died September 1, 2002 at his home following an extended illness.

He was born December 17, 1923 at the family home in Galata, Montana, to James Mondy and Jessie Bell DeLong. He received his education in Galata and Chester, Montana. William served in the US Army as a military policeman at the Presidio and in San Francisco from 1944 to 1948 during World War II.

On July 6, 1944 he married Georgia Thielman in Galata.

Mondy worked as a mechanic for 10 years, a truck driver for 10 years, and was a bus driver for the INEEL for 21 years. He lived in Montana from 1946 to 1952 when he moved to Idaho. He logged out of northern Idaho, Riggins, and Salmon. He retired in 1986.

After retirement, William and Georgia spent winters in Yuma, Arizona. He was a member of the Lutheran church. He was also a member of the American Legion in Riggins and Idaho Falls, the Eagles Lodge and a former member of the Bonneville County Sheriff's Mounted Posse.

He played the trombone, guitar, and organ. His hobby was woodcarving, and he enjoyed snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and camping. William loved playing Santa Claus for his grandchildren. He had a great sense of humor, was witty, made friends everywhere he went, and was very much loved by all.

Survivors include his wife Georgia Mondy of Idaho Falls; children: Dean and wife Barbara Mondy of Thayne, Wyoming, Dennis and wife Deana Mondy of Idaho Falls, Idaho; Douglas and wife Kim Mondy of Helena, Montana; Dale Anne Mondy of Boise, Idaho; sisters Hazel Hunt of Salem, Oregon, Iva and husband John Sherrard of Great Falls, Montana; nine grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

William was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Franklin and Elmer; sister Effie; and nephew Gary Mondy.

Graveside services were held at 2:00 pm Friday September 6, 2002 at fielding memorial Park with military honors by the Bonneville County Veterans Team.

The family visited with friends on Friday from 12:00 to 1:00 pm at Coltrin Mortuary in Idaho Falls.

The family suggest contributions be made to Hospice of Eastern Idaho, 1920 E 17th ST, Idaho Falls, ID.

William 'Bert' Mondy

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho — World War II veteran and Galata native William Albert "Bert" Mondy, 78, of Idaho Falls, Idaho, who worked as a mechanic, truck driver and bus driver, died Sept. 1 at his home following an extended illness.

Graveside services with military honors were held Friday at Fielding Memorial Park in Idaho Falls. Coltrin Mortuary handled the arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Georgia Mondy of Idaho Falls; children Dean Mondy of Thayne, Wyo., Dennis Mondy of Idaho Falls, Douglas Mondy of Helena and Dale Anne Mondy of Boise, Idaho; sisters Hazel Hunt of Salem, Ore., and Iva Sherrard of Great Falls; nine grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

GRETA (MORRISON) MORKRID

Born: November 13, 1911 - Died: January 2, 2002

Liberty County Times

January 9, 2002



Greta Morkrid

Greta (Morrison) Morkrid was born on November 13, 1911 at Seattle, Washington. She was the only child of William and Carrie (Christianson) Morrison. She grew up and received her education in Seattle. Following her graduation from the University of Washington, Greta taught high school for several years. She eventually took a job as secretary for the Engineering Dept. at the University of Washington.

Greta met a Montana farmer, Oliver C. Morkrid, who attended the Wilson Business College in Seattle. They were married in Seattle on March 30, 1944. They returned to Montana and settled on the Morkrid farm south of Tiber. They raised their three sons in the Chester community and continued farming until their retirement in 1970. They spent several winters in Seattle, Great Falls, Spokane, and Mesa, Arizona. Oliver died on October 9, 1987. Greta remained on the family farm until 1993, when she moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge Retirement Facility in Chester.

Greta enjoyed good health, even into her later years. Many of her family members were with her this past fall to celebrate her 90th birthday. Always a well-kept and classy lady, Greta maintained her sharp mind and independence. She enjoyed spending the Christmas holidays with family and friends, although she hadn't felt well during that time. On this past Wednesday morning January 2, 2002, she was found dead in her apartment; she died peacefully in her sleep.

Greta was an active member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and WELCA in Chester. She was also a long time member of the Chester Garden Club and the Liberty County Republican Women. For over 25 years she was a supporter of the American Association of Universities in Spokane and Great Falls.

In her younger years, Greta enjoyed art and music, and her favorite participating sport was tennis. She loved to read, especially historical novels, biographies, and non-fiction on a variety of subjects. Her hobbies included flower gardening and photography, and she enjoyed collecting plates and cups-and-saucers. Greta was fond of animals, mainly dogs and cats, and she loved her eight grandchildren.

She is survived by her three sons and their families: Bill and Ella Morkrid of Chester and their children Ray, Gail, and Angela; David Morkrid of Vernon Hills, Illinois and his children Wendy and Lisa; John and Cindy Morkrid of Kalispell and their children Mandy, Kimberly, and Nicholas; and three great-grandchildren: Paige and Summer Morkrid, and Braden

Buehtman. Greta was preceded in death by her husband and parents.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 pm Saturday January 5, 2002 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor Peter Erickson. The congregational hymns were "Beautiful Savior," and "Faith of

Our Fathers." Karen Stack was organist, Wayne Wardell sang "The Lord's Prayer," and the vocal duet of Sue Violett and Wayne Wardell performed "What a Day That Will Be." Ushers were Shirley Peck and Jean Buffington. Pallbearers were Morton Skarl, Bill Fraser, Sr., Kelly Christenot, Bill Fraser, Jr., Leonard Streit, and Pete Henderson. Honorary bearers were listed as Greta's friends in the Chester Garden Club.

Interment was at the Chester Cemetery. A coffee hour followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

WILLIS EDGAR MYERS

Born: July 7, 1930 - Died: April 23, 2002

River Press-Fort Benton

May 15, 2002



Myers



Willis Edgar Myers

Willis Edgar Myers, 71, a retired bulk fuel dealer who farmed in Fife and Floweree, died of natural causes on Tuesday, April 23, 2002, at his home in Havre.

Funeral Services were held Friday, April 26, 2002 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Havre, followed by burial with military honors in Highland Cemetery. Holland & Bonine Funeral Home of Havre is in charge of arrangements.

Willis was born July 7, 1930 in Great Falls to Walter and Ruby Myers. He attended grade school in Floweree and graduated from Fort Benton in 1949. Willis entered the United States Army in 1951 and served in the Korean War in the infantry. He was honorably discharged in August 1953. He received the Korean Service Medal with two bronze service stars, Combat Infantry Badge, and the United Nations Service Medal. After the service

Willis returned to Floweree and worked at the Grain Elevator in Carter and then farmed in Floweree and Fife. On March 26, 1955 he married Louise Mangels in Havre. To this union four sons were born. The couple later moved to Havre where Willis worked as a Bulk Fuel Dealer. His hobbies were his family and especially his grandchildren. He was a member of the Lions and of the St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Survivors include his wife, Louise, of Havre; sons Gregg & Sherrie Myers of Coon Rapids, Minnesota, Gordon & Robin Myers and Keith Myers of Havre, and Kevin & Julie Myers of Billings; sisters Ida Jo Neiffer of Fort Shaw and Shirley Clark of Fort Benton; brothers Walter Myers of Hingham, Robert Myers of Floweree, and Gerald Myers of Carter, and 13 grandchildren: Nick, Shandel, Rick, McKenna, Tyler, Chris, Tabitha, Karlee, Brandon, Kristina, DaLene, Karl, and Kimberly.

He was preceded in death by his father and mother, Walter and Ruby Myers.

VICKIE REA NELSON

Born: January 21, 1960 - Died: April 13, 2002

Liberty County Times

April 17, 2002

Vickie Nelson

Vickie Rea Nelson was born on January 21, 1960 at Sidney, Montana. She was one of three children born to Allen and Gloria (Frank) Nelson. Vickie received her early education at Glendive and Lewistown. Her family moved to Shelby in the early 1970's, so she finished her formal schooling there.

In 1979 Vickie married Scott McDonald at Shelby. They moved to Richey where Vickie worked as a clerk at Big Sky Hardware. They eventually moved back to Shelby where Vickie worked as a cook in various community restaurants.

The McDonalds had two daughters prior to their marriage ending in divorce.

In 1992 Vickie became a companion to Robert Wahl. They moved to Chester in 1994. She managed "DJ's Golden Harvest CafE" in Chester for five years then her health began to fail. She quite her management position, but continued to work part time as a cook in several Chester restaurants. About a year ago Vickie became disabled due to complications of her diabetes, including renal failure and dialysis. Still, she tried to stay active in the Chester community.

This past Christmas Vickie entered the Liberty County Hospital. Her prognosis was poor, but her strong will and courage helped her endure 100 days of hospitalization. She died peacefully at the Chester Hospital on the early morning of Saturday April 13, 2002. She was just 42 years old.

Vickie's hobbies were many. In her early years she enjoyed crocheting, water-skiing, fishing, and camping. In more recent years she liked to play Keno and cards

(especially Pinochle and Rummy). Vickie collected angel and cow figurines and miniature pink and green depression glassware. She enjoyed her many houseplants and was an excellent cook. Her family will always remember her delicious homemade pies. Vickie

was a life long cat lover; her most recent feline pet was called "Otis." She also loved her family and called them on a regular basis. They will miss her frequent phone calls.

Vickie's survivors include her two daughters: Sarah Cole and husband Lenny of Chester, and Rebecca McDonald of Butte; three grandchildren: Peyton, Jasmine and Ivan; one brother Todd Nelson of Butte; one sister Penny Zuroff and husband Mal of Richey; five nephews/nieces: including Troy Nelson, Shane Keller, and Matthew, Tyler and Lindsay Zuroff; and her significant other, Robert Wahl of Chester. Vickie was preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral services were at 1:00 pm on Tuesday April 16th at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Pete Erickson officiated. Karen Stack served as pianist and Anne Melton sang "May You Walk With Christ". Vickie's favorite song, "The Wind Beneath My Wings," was played as recorded by Bette Midler. Pallbearers were Mal Zuroff, Shane Keller, Steve Babb, Todd Nelson, Jerry Lamb, and Phillip Jeffrey. Honorary bearers were listed as Vic Elliott, Ray Kinyon and all of Vickie's old friends at the cafE.

Interment was at the Chester Cemetery; a coffee hour followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

SUSANNA "SUSIE" HULL NICKOL

Born: February 1, 1926 - Died: April 2, 2002

Liberty County Times

April 10, 2002



Susie Nickol

Susanna (Susie) H. Nickol, age 76, a long time Ledger area farm wife, passed away Tuesday, April 2, at a Great Falls Hospital.

Visitation was Thursday at the Whitted Funeral Chapel with a rosary service at 7:30 pm that evening at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Conrad. Funeral Mass was 11:00 AM Friday at St. Michael's Catholic Church with burial following in the Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Conrad.

She was born Feb. 1, 1926 at Lewistown to Anselm and Mary (Friel) Hull. The family then moved to Chester where she was raised on the family homestead north of town. She was the fourth daughter in a family of three sons and six daughters. As a young girl she attended grammar school in Chester and then went to St. Thomas High School in Great Falls where she graduated in 1944.† That fall she started working at the Liberty County Assessors Office and later became Deputy County Assessor under Karl Edward.

Susie married Edward Nickol October 9, 1952 at St. Mary's Church in Chester. They farmed east of Ledger for many years where they raised a family of six.† Edward died Dec. 7, 1999. Susie started work at the Ledger Post Office in 1977 and was Postmaster from 1992 until her retirement in 1997. She had also served for many years on the local election boards. She was the Ledger area news reporter for the Liberty County Times, Conrad Independent Observer and the Shelby Promoter.

She was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church and she enjoyed playing cards, traveling to the mountains and visiting with friends and family.

Survivors include daughters: Mary Louise Finlayson of Great Falls and Cecelia Wall of Twin Falls, ID; sons: Vernon Nickol of Vancouver, WA, Thomas Nickol of Coeur d'Alene, ID, Michael Nickol of Great Falls and Kevin Nichol of Ledger; sisters: Nora Hemmer of Chester and Sister Marleen Hull of Spokane, WA; and one brother James Hull of Chester. Seven grandchildren, Josh, Joe, Ben, Megan, Melissa, Spencer and Brandon; one great-grandchild, Desmond; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins also survive Susie.

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

IONA FRANCIS (DICKEN) VANVLEET NICKOLEY

Born: May 12, 1938 - Died: March 28, 2002

Liberty County Times

April 3, 2002



Iona Nickoley

Iona Francis (Dicken) VanVleet Nickoley was born May 12th, 1938 on the Shettel farm five miles northeast of Chester, Mt. Her parents were Lois Iona Shettel and Charles Austin Dicken. The Dicken family lived here in Chester, where Iona received her first two years of elementary education.

In 1945 the Dicken's moved to Illinois following the death of Iona's grandfather, William Dicken. Iona continued her education at Auburn, Illinois. Of interest was the fact that Iona's father worked for an auto business that sold the first Kaiser car in 1947. Unfortunately, her father became ill in 1948 and passed away the following year. Mother Lois and the four Dicken children moved back to the Shettel farm at Chester.

Iona attended school at Kevin for a while, and then moved to Wallace, Idaho to help care for her ailing Grandmother Shettel. Iona was now in her early teens and attended school at Mullan, Idaho. At age 17 she met and married Charles V. VanVleet; they were wed at Wallace, Idaho on August 8th, 1955. The product of this marriage was three daughters. The VanVleet's spent most of their married years together in the Missoula community. They divorced in 1963 at Los Angeles, California.

Iona took a job as an injection moulder for the "Long Life Pen Factory" in Monrovia, California in 1963. She continued to operate factory equipment for the next 20 years. While living in California, Iona met her second husband, Dewey Ray Nickoley, and they were married on July 2nd 1966 at Monrovia. They lived at Glendora from 1967-1992. Following Dewey's retirement in 1992, they purchased some land at Magalia (California) to be near their very best friends, Bill and Ervene Hicks.

In 1995 the Nickoley's moved to Havre, MT to be closer to relatives and other old friends (in fact they moved next to Iona's cousin, Ruby Heimbigner Borst). They were enjoying their retirement at the time of Dewey's unexpected death in 1996. Iona continued to live in their Havre home, where she enjoyed visits with her children and grandchildren. In the late fall of 2001 Iona was diagnosed with cancer. Her condition steadily failed, yet she chose to stay at home and be cared for by her daughter and hospice nurses. Iona passed away peacefully in her sleep on the early morning of Thursday (March 28th, 2002). She was 63 years old.

Iona's hobbies were many. She enjoyed taking care of her home and yard in California; she raised and pruned over 50 rose bushes! In her quiet time she read books, made quilts and painted tri-chem projects.

She enjoyed playing cards (especially "Canasta") and she liked to bake.

Iona loved country music and her favorite artists were Dwight Yoakam and Neal McCoy. She also enjoyed watching movies and had a large collection of her favorite V.C.R's.

Iona had a good memory for people, places and events. She was an unassuming lady who enjoyed the simple things in life.

She enjoyed visiting with people and was an easy person to like. The friends who loved her most affectionately called her "Tiny" or "Toots".

She is survived by her three daughters, Patricia Lynn Stengel and Diane Iona Johnson, both of Missoula, and Barbara Jean Evens of Havre; one stepson Johnny Joe Nickoley of Pomona, California; 11 grandchildren Christina, Manuel, Desirae, Johnnie Joe, Jason, Charles, Pamela, Clyde, Laura, Joseph, and Karl Ray; six great-grandchildren; one sister Juanita Arnott of Tacoma, Washington; two brothers William Dicken of Tacoma, Washington, and Robert Dicken of Yuma, Arizona; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, a great-grandson (Daniel) and her best friends (the Hicks).

There will be visitation at the Rockman Funeral Chapel on Friday (April 5th) and Saturday (April 6th). Graveside services will be 2:00 p.m. Saturday (April 6th) at the Chester Cemetery. Pastor Peter Erickson will officiate. Pallbearers will be Brett and Blake

Borst, Walter Sandvig, Gary Amott, Donovan Heimbigner, and Bill, Jace and Jeff Dicken. A coffee hour will follow at the mortuary. Memorials will be given to the Shriner's Crippled Children's Hospital in Spokane or Donor's choice.

ELIZABETH ANN "LIBBY" (KINGSTON) O'BRIEN

Born: August 25, 1920 - Died: August 10, 2002

Elizabeth 'Libby' O'Brien

Elizabeth Ann Kingston O'Brien "Libby" died in the afternoon of August 10, 2002 at Peace Hospice in Great Falls, Montana after a year-long battle with cancer. Her four daughters, her daughter-in-law, three of her six grandchildren, and her former husband were present for her last moments. She was 81 years old.

Libby was born in Conrad, Montana on August 25, 1920 to Joseph William and Anna Lillian Christiansen Kingston of Valier. The fourth of nine siblings, she was raised a Methodist. As a child, she loved to read, create imaginative games with her sisters, and roam the hills surrounding her father's coalmine. She attended elementary and secondary schools in Valier, where she was the school pianist, a member of the 1938 women's all-star basketball team, and Valedictorian of the Valier high School Class of 1938.

Libby went on to Normal School at Western Montana College in Dillon and earned an elementary teaching certificate in 1940. She returned to Valier and began teaching in a two-room school at Dupuyer.

On her way to go skating one evening, Libby first met her husband, Richard Darby O'Brien (Darby), who was working in the print shop of the *Valarian* newspaper. The young couple enjoyed skating, hiking, and bicycling.

In the summer of 1942, Libby moved with her two sisters, Lil and Jo to Seattle, Washington, where she worked as a secretary at Simms-Drake to assist with the war efforts. Libby and Darby were married in Seattle on September 26, 1942 and Darby enlisted in the Navy. He was assigned to San Diego, California where Libby also resided until September 1943 when Darby was shipped to the Pacific War Theater.

Libby returned to Valier to live with her parents and to give birth to their first daughter, Judith Kathleen, in December 1943. Libby resumed teaching first and third grades at Valier Elementary School. One of her more challenging assignments was to teach sewing in a Home Economics class. Ever resourceful, Libby received nightly instructions from her older sister, Helen, and then asked for student volunteers to demonstrate each of the lessons.

Libby joined her husband in June of 1946 in Chester, where Darby was co-owner of *The Liberty County Times*. In addition to assisting in the print shop, Libby gave birth to Mary Patricia "Pat" in 1946 and Richard Darby, Jr. "Rick" in 1948. Two more children, Debora Ann "Debbie" and Nancy Joan were born in 1951 and 1956 respectively.

Libby was primarily a homemaker until 1961 when she returned to the workplace full-time as office manager for the Darby O'Brien Insurance Agency in Chester. She was always actively involved in community service, and was especially proud of her role in the "greening" of Chester through the planting of trees and the establishment of the city park. She was an original member of the Hospital Board, and in the facility's earliest days served as the substitute cook when needed. Libby and Darby were legally separated in 1968 and she continued working at the O'Brien Agency until her retirement in 1969.

After being diagnosed with multiple myeloma in the summer of 2001, Libby divided her time between Chester and Cut Bank, where she stayed with her daughter and buddy Debbie, and received compassionate care at Northern Rockies Medical Center, Benefis East, and Peace Hospice.

Liberty County Times

August 21, 2002

A longtime Bridge enthusiast, Libby was a Life Master, and instructor, and enjoyed attending tournaments with friends. An avid Democrat, she was deeply concerned with national and international issues. At various times she also was active in the VFW Auxiliary, the Garden Club, and the Liberty County Arts Council. She loved to attend the sports activities of her children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews; and was a die-hard fan of the Philadelphia '76ers, Tiger Woods, and the Seattle Mariners. Libby bowled until 2001, and received great pleasure from spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren. She also enjoyed reading, solving crossword puzzles, tending her plants, debating social issues, and traveling, especially on luxurious cruises.

Libby was preceded in death by her only son, Rick; her parents, Joseph and Lillian; her brothers James Paul and John Kingston; and her sisters Mary Jane Stark, and Janet Arnst.

She is survived by her four daughters: Judith O'Brien Cole and husband Ray of Geneva, Switzerland, Mary Patt Hawthorne of Olympia, Washington, Debbie O'Brien of Cut Bank, and Nancy O'Brien of Billings; her daughter-in-law Jan Dolezal O'Brien of Kallispell; six grandchildren: Tarik Taybi, Sam Taybi, Ian Hawthorne, Jaxson O'Brien, Erin Elizabeth O'Brien, and Baylea O'Brien Norrod; four sisters: Helen Johnson of Valier, Lillian Borge of Great Falls, Josephine Engle of Everett, Washington, and Evelyn Johnson of Shelby; her former husband Darby O'Brien of Essex; and many nieces and nephews.

Libby bequeathed her body to the School of Medicine at the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks. Memorial gifts will be sent to the Intermountain Children's Home, 500 S Lamborn Street, Helena MT 59601. The best memorial for Libby however, would be for all of her friends and relatives to vote Democratic!

It was Libby's wish not to have a traditional funeral service, so her family planned a simple "Service of Remembrance." This celebration of Libby's life was held at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, August 18, 2002 at the Lutheran Fellowship Hall in Chester. Taped prelude music was piano renditions by Phil Aaberg. Family friend, Pat Seidlitz, served as eulogist. Family and friends shared personal readings and special memories. A reception followed.

Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

OLNEY RAYMOND OSWOOD

Born: April 14, 1917 - Died: January 30, 2002

Liberty County Times

February 6, 2002



Olney Oswood

Olney Raymond Oswood was born north of Chester, Montana on April 14, 1917. His parents were Canute and Christine Oswood and he was one of six children. His father was a Norwegian emigrant who settled in the Sweetgrass Hills north of Chester, so the Oswood children grew up on the family ranch. Olney received his formal education at the Froke School near the farm.

Olney and his brother Frank took over the family ranch in 1931. When Frank was inducted into the US Army during World War II, Olney operated their cattle business. After Frank's return, these two bachelor brothers continued to live and work together until their retirement in 1976. They leased the place out, but continued to live on the ranch. Olney moved to the Sweet Grass Lodge in Chester in 1983. Frank died in 1988.

When Olney's health began to fail in 1997, he moved to the Liberty County Nursing home. He passed away at the rest home on the late evening of Wednesday January 30, 2002. He was 84 years old.

Olney could best be described as a quiet and private man who

enjoyed living the simple life. He liked to read, watch television, and listen to music. His favorite TV shows were "Lawrence Welk" and "The Price Is Right." He enjoyed the old time music, especially poikas and Country Western. During those years on the ranch, Olney did the gardening, sewing, and coking. Of interest was the fact that they produced their own wind-generated electricity. As a hobby, he enjoyed fixing clocks and watches, and he also collected Indian arrowheads. Last but not least, it should be mentioned that Olney always kept a spotless and well-organized house.

After moving to the Lodge, Olney enjoyed his daily walks around Chester, where he frequently picked up litter and cans. He developed several personal missions: delivering the daily mail to the Lodge, helping with tidiness at the Lodge, and controlling evening traffic in and out of the Lodge. He enjoyed the comfortable facilities and appreciated his friendships there.

Olney never married. He is survived by several nephews, nieces, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers Frank and Clarence, and three sisters Elsie, Caroline, and Agnes.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Saturday February 2, 2002 by Pastor Pete Erickson at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Karen Stack played the organ, and the congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross." Vocalist/guitarist Bryan Oswood performed "The River." A postlude music tribute was "Home on the Range." Pallbearers were Brett and Bryan Oswood, Don Buffington, Bob Dafoe, Lance McDowell, and Adrian Hawks. Burial followed at the Chester Cemetery.

GEORGE BRIAN PARKER

Born: November 23, 1936 - Died: November 5, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

November 8, 2002

George Brian Parker

George Brian Parker, 65, of 520 1st Ave. S.W., a retired salesman, died Tuesday of a heart attack at a local hospital.



Parker

A memorial service is 2 p.m. Monday at O'Connor Memorial Chapel. Cremation has taken place under the direction of O'Connor Funeral Home.

Survivors

include his significant other, JoAnn Falls of Great Falls; a daughter, Linda Parker of Helena; stepdaughters Freda Karjala and Sheila Culp of Great Falls and Debbie Rowe and Linda Ala of Spokane; sons Brian Bourne and Brett Parker of Great Falls and Scott Bourne of Washington, D.C.; stepsons Greg Falls of Great Falls and Timothy Kathan of Helena; sisters Jean Craft of Kenai, Alaska and Jan Roscoe and Judy Kope of Washington; brothers Mike Parker of Umatilla, Florida, Ron Parker of Libby, and Dennis Parker of Morgan Hills, Calif.; 16 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

George was born Nov. 23, 1936, in Kalispell. He was raised and educated in Washington state and Montana, and graduated from Gildford High School.

George was a member of the American Bowling Association for more than 10 years, bowling professionally throughout the United States in the late 1960s and receiving numerous awards. He was also a member of Walleyes Unlimited of Montana.

He spent many busy weekday and Sunday afternoons for five years as a dedicated volunteer for the Senior Companion Program and Aging Services, and will be greatly missed by everyone he helped.

He enjoyed bowling, fishing, Sunday drives and growing tomatoes. He was a wonderful owner to his little dog, Ene, his pride and joy for over 10 years. Both George and Ene will miss each other greatly.

George was a man of strong character who will be missed by many.

We love you and miss your jokes, laughter and love already.

GLENN EUGENE PETERSON

Born: November 19, 1926 - Died: March 17, 2002

Liberty County Times

March 20, 2002



Peterson

Glenn Peterson

Glenn Eugene Peterson, 75 years of age and retired railroad employee from Gildford, Montana, died Sunday March 17, 2002 at a Havre hospital of natural causes. Cremation has taken place. A Memorial Service will be held on Friday at 2:00 pm at the Gildford Baptist Church with Pastor Eddie Fallow officiating. Fellowship luncheon to follow the memorial service at the church.

Glenn was born on November 19, 1926 to Rudolph and Lulu (Diggs) Peterson at New Winsor, Illinois. He was educated in New Winsor. At the age of 17, he began working for the Great Northern Railroad. One year later he joined the U.S. Navy aboard the *USS Intrepid*. Glen served his country during World War II and was honorable discharged in August 1946. He resumed his career with the railroad as a Signal Maintainer. In 1957, Glenn moved to Gildford with the railroad, and in 1956 he met and married Esther (Meeder) Bengtson. They made their home in Gildford and raised three children. Glenn enjoyed hunting and fishing, and was extremely proud of the elk he and his son John brought home during

their last hunting trip together. Before losing his eyesight, he liked to spend time tinkering in his shop. His parents, and sisters Gladys and Elsie, preceded him in death. He is survived by his wife Esther of Havre; sons John Peterson of Kremlin, and Kraig Peterson of Havre; daughter Judi and husband Jim Kase of Havre; grand-daughters Jen Kase and Amanda Kase of Havre; sisters Judy (Schuie) Schuhart of Seattle, Washington, and Lois Hoffman of Mitchell, South Dakota; sister-in-law Helen Lemmons of Libby, Montana; and various nieces and nephews.

Memorials in Glenn's honor may be made to: Senior Citizens Nutrition Site, Gildford Baptist Church, Gildford, MT 59525; or the Havre Railroad Museum, PO BOX 1605, Havre, MT 59501

Services and arrangements under the direction of the Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.

MYRTLE VICTORIA (BERGAN) POPPLER

Born: September 5, 1909 - Died: October 22, 2002

Liberty County Times

October 30, 2002



Myrtle Poppler

Myrtle Victoria (Bergan) Poppler was born September 5, 1909 at Arvilla, North Dakota. She was the seventh of eight children born to Peter and Marie (Costello) Bergan. Myrtle grew up in North Dakota and received her education there, graduating from Crary High School in 1927.

A talented vocalist, Myrtle was offered a music scholarship to university, but was unable to attend due to the sudden illness of her mother. She became a caregiver in the few years that followed. In fact, she traveled to Montana in 1929 to help her sister Ruth, who was pregnant. During her stay at Joplin, Myrtle met her

husband-to-be Earl K. "Bud" Poppler. They were married in Havre on March 14, 1934.

The Popplers made their home in the Joplin community where Bud worked in the grain elevator business. In 1948 they purchased the Poppler farm north of town. They built a new home in Joplin in 1952. Myrtle worked diligently as a homemaker and mother of two daughters. They sold the farm in 1965 and continued to make Joplin their home. They enjoyed their winter months in Nevada for 30+ years.

Myrtle's health remained good into her 80s. She suffered a stroke in 1992 and was fortunate to live at home for the next four years. Since 1996 she has resided at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. Myrtle died at the rest home on the early morning of Tuesday October 22, 2002. She was 93 years old.

Myrtle was raised Lutheran and was active in the Bethel Church during her life in Joplin. A loyal member of the church choir and ladies aid (WMF) she also served on the building committee during the construction of Kjos Hall.

Her interests were many. She loved to play the piano and sing. She enjoyed bowling, baseball, Bingo, flowers, and her favorite soap operas. During her quiet time at home she liked to read—her favorite writer was Danielle Steele. She was a wonderful cook—her family will always remember her roast beef dinners, delicious gravies, potato dumplings (klüb), and homemade breads and pies. During those winter years in Las Vegas, Myrtle loved to play the poker machines at the Horseshoe Casino where she was well known by the staff for her bubbly personality and exceptional luck!

Myrtle had two favorite 'addictions' in life—number one, she could never pass up a hot fudge sundae with nuts from Dairy Queen, and number two, she was the proverbial shop-a-holic. In fact, her family bought her a personalized T-shirt that proclaimed, "I love to shop." Myrtle loved clothes and all of the accessories (including shoes, hats, purses, and jewelry). Always prideful in her personal appearance, she loved to look good and feel good.

Myrtle loved her family and was very content during her 68 years of married life with Bud, who survives her. In addition, she is survived by her two daughters and spouses: Erkle and Arlo Howe of Dickinson, North Dakota, and Linda and Bob Wehr of Rudyard; five grandchildren including: Cathy Schmitz, Dona Cornatzer, David Wehr, Deborah Brownlee, and Jeffery Wehr; 14 great-grandchildren; a special nephew Ellsworth Graff of

Chester; and other nephews and nieces. Myrtle was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers Hillman, Palmer, and Bernard, and four sisters Alvina, Victoria, Emma and Ruth.

Funeral services were conducted at 3:00 pm Saturday October 26, 2002 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin by Pastor Tim Singleton. The organist was Sharon Spicher and the congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross," and "In the Garden." Myrtle's grandchildren provided special music, including vocals by Cathy Schmitz "How Great Thou Art," and "The Lord's Prayer" with accompaniment by Debbie Brownlee and Jeff Wehr. Special readings were shared by David Wehr and Amy Cornatzer. Ushers were Norbert VanDessel, Tom Wood, and Charles Fraser. Pallbearers were David Wehr, Jeffery Wehr, Steve Brownlee, Brock Brownlee, John Schmitz and Bill Cornatzer. Memorial bearers were all of Myrtle's many friends including her caregivers at the Liberty County Nursing Home.

Following burial at the Joplin Cemetery, a luncheon was held at Kjos Hall. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

HORTENSE (STEPHENSON) PREESHL

Born: November 1, 1909 - Died: March 16, 2002

Liberty County Times

March 20, 2002

Hortense Preeshl

Hortense (Stephenson) Preeshl, age 92, died peacefully at her home in Gildford, Montana on this past Saturday afternoon March 16, 2002.

She was born at Independence, Kansas on November 1, 1909, the only daughter of three children born to Paul and Goldena (Schaffer) Stephenson. Hortense came to Montana with her parents in 1916. She grew up and received her education in Gildford, graduating from Gildford High School in 1928. She married William L. Preeshl in 1931. They farmed and ranched north of Gildford, where Hortense worked diligently as a farmwife, homemaker, and mother of four. Following William's death in 1966, Hortense continued to live in the family farm home throughout the rest of her life.

A quiet and gentle lady, she enjoyed taking care of her home and spending time with her family. In her younger years she liked to play women's basketball and also did some crocheting. In later years Hortense enjoyed cooking and reading. She liked educational publications, i.e. "Reader's Digest." She loved to play cards especially Shanghai and Kings-in-the-Corner, and she always looked forward to a good baseball game on television, especially

when her favorite team, the New York Yankees, were playing. Hortense was affectionately called 'Gram' by her children and grandchildren. They are happy that Gram was fortunate to lead an independent life and sustain relatively good health throughout her 92 years here on earth.

She is survived by four children: Robert Preeshl and wife Mary of Chinook, Montana, Joanne Warren and husband Marcus of Hingham, Paul Preeshl and wife Alice of Kremlin, and Noel Preeshl and wife Joyce of Gildford; 14 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; and nephews and nieces. Hortense was preceded in death not only by her husband and

parents, but also by her two brothers Paul and John Stephenson.

Graveside services will be 2:00 pm Thursday March 21, 2002 at the Highland Cemetery in Havre, Montana. Pastor Eddie Fallo will conduct the cemetery rites and Paul Preeshl will provide a eulogy. Grandsons will serve as pallbearers. Family and friends will sing "Amazing Grace." Hortense will be buried next to her loving husband, William.

Visitation for family and friends will be Wednesday March 20th at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Memorials may be sent to the Hi-Line Health Foundation in Chester.

IRENE GUSTINA (OLSON) RISHOFF

Born: February 17, 1912 - Died: August 10, 2002

Liberty County Times

August 14, 2002



Irene Rishoff

Irene Gustina (Olson) Rishoff was born February 17, 1912 at London Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota. She was one of nine children born to Ida Midje and M.E. Olson. Irene grew up on a Minnesota farm and received her formal education in Minnesota. Following the death of her father, Irene was sent to Montana to live with an aunt and uncle. While here she met a Chester area mechanic, Claude Broadhurst, and they were married in 1929. The product of this marriage was two children, Claude Jr. born in 1930, and Jean born in 1932. Following their divorce, Irene remained in the Chester community where she cleaned houses and worked as a bartender.

About two years later she met a Lothair area farmer, Marvin E. Rishoff, who had been discharged from the Army during World War I. They were married on December 3, 1946 and eventually had a son, James. The Rishoffs built a new home on the farm north of Lothair in 1949 and lived there until they retired in 1971. They moved the house into Chester and resided here for many years. They lived at the Sweet Grass Lodge for a short time, then moved to Kalispell in 1993 to be near their son and family.

Irene's health failed in 1996, so she moved to the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell. Marvin joined her at the home in 1997. He died there on October 7, 1999. Irene continued to live at the rest home until her death this past Saturday morning August 10, 2002. She was 90 years old.

During those early years on the Rishoff farm, Irene enjoyed driving tractor, combine and truck. She continued to work part-time as a Chester bartender, assisting at the Tip Top, Grand, and Vest Club. During that time she collected more than 100 decorative liquor bottles. Other hobbies included knitting, crocheting afghans, and quilting. Irene enjoyed gardening, both flowers and vegetables, and canning her produce. She also liked to play cards.

The Rishoffs attended Trinity Lutheran Church north of Lothair in those early years. They were also members of the Moose Lodge.

Irene is survived by her daughter Jean Harris of Diamond Springs, California; her son James Rishoff of Kalispell; six grandchildren: R.J. Burns, David Johnson, Don Johnson, Doug Johnson, Marvin Rishoff, and Cindy Rishoff; 12 great-grandchildren; one sister, Jewell Bellmore of Kalispell; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Her oldest son Claude, Jr. was killed in the Korean Conflict. She was also preceded in death by her husband, her parents, and seven siblings: James, Oliver, Esther, Ken, Alvin, Ruth and LaVonne.

Funeral services will be at 1:00 p.m. today (Wednesday) August 14, 2002 at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Graveside services will be 3:00 p.m. Wednesday at the Mountainview Cemetery in Shelby. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

YVONNE KAY (NYGAARD) RONSHAUGEN

Born: October 19, 1939 - Died: July 7, 2002



Yvonne Ronshaugen

Yvonne Kay (Nygaard) Ronshaugen was born on October 19, 1939 at Webster, South Dakota. She was one of four children born to Harvey and Hazel (Aadland) Nygaard. The Nygaards made their home on a farm near Pierpont, and later moved into Roslyn, South Dakota.

Yvonne graduated from Roslyn High School in 1957; during her school years she was a cheerleader and an exceptional student. After graduation she began working at a grocery store in Webster.

Yvonne married Jim Ronshaugen on June 27, 1958 at

Skudesnes Lutheran Church near Pierpont. They made their home at Webster where Yvonne worked at the Day County Treasurer's Office. In 1960 they lived in West Germany where Jim was stationed in the US Army. They returned to South Dakota in 1963 and Yvonne worked as a clerk at the County Extension Office. In 1966 the Ronshaugens moved to Watertown, South Dakota. During their 15 years in Watertown, Yvonne worked diligently as a homemaker and mother to their three adopted children. The Ronshaugens lived in Great Falls, Montana from 1981-1984, then moved to Chester. Yvonne was employed at Frontier Aviation in Chester until 1996 when Jim's job was transferred to Conrad. They have lived in Conrad since. While

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there, Yvonne worked at the Ben Franklin store and Gary & Leo's IGA.

This past May, Yvonne became acutely ill and was diagnosed with cancer. As a patient in the Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls, she died on the early morning of Sunday July 7, 2002. She was 62 years old.

Yvonne was always active in her church life. She was baptized and confirmed at Skudesnes Lutheran Church. During their married years she attended Grace Lutheran at Webster, our Redeemer's at Water town, and Faith Lutheran at Great Falls. She maintained her membership at Our Savior's in Chester, where she had been active in WELCA and had served on the Church Council. She also assisted with the summer Bible School program.

Yvonne's hobbies were many. She loved to crochet and do handiwork; she made beautiful afghans and the finest Christmas ornaments and angels! Her projects were gifts to family and friends, so she will continue to be remembered, especially at Christmas time when many trees will be decorated with her handiwork. Yvonne enjoyed reading—her favorite author was Danielle Steele—and just for the fun of it, she collected Beanie Babies. An exceptional cook, some of her favorite family dishes included lasagna, scalloped potatoes, and *kumla*, which is a Norwegian potato dumpling. She loved to cook for her family and always made their favorite things on special occasions or visits. Yvonne was devoted to her family and friends, and there was nothing she wouldn't do for them. Her grandchildren affectionately called her 'Nanny.'

Yvonne loved her home. She was an early riser (usually about 4:30 am) because she cherished her quiet time in the morning. She always took pride in her personal

appearance. She never went out in public without looking "just so"; her hair was always done and her shoes/laces were always perfectly white. She was a dedicated wife, mother and friend.

Survivors include her husband of 44 years Jim Ronshaugen of Conrad; son Jeff Ronshaugen

and fiancée Kathleen Larson of Great Falls; two daughters: Mary Ronshaugen and fiancée Mark Staigmiller of Great Falls, and Julie Englert and husband Jeff of Ramstein, Germany; one brother, Ron Nygaard and wife Judy of Eden, South Dakota; two sisters: Jon Ingemann and husband Bud of Coltage Grove, Minnesota, and Mariene Hanson of Rosholt, South Dakota; her mother-in-law Josie Ronshaugen of Roslyn, South Dakota; five grandchildren including: Terra, Maggie, and Beth Ronshaugen, and William and Abigail Englert; and numerous nephews and nieces. Yvonne was preceded in death by her parents and a brother-in-law Arthur "Skip" Hanson.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Thursday July 11, 2002 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with pastor Pete Erickson officiating. Karen Stack was organist and the congregation sang "Rock of Ages," and "Children of the Heavenly Father." A special vocal tribute by Anne Seidlitz-Melton was "Wind Beneath My Wings." Poetic readings were shared by daughter Julie and granddaughter Maggie. Family remembrances were read by friend Linda Mettam. Usher was Stuart Stone. Pallbearers were Yvonne's three children and their significant others. Honorary bearers were her loving grandchildren. A luncheon followed at the church. Rockman Funeral Chapel handled the arrangements.

A second service was held at 11:00 am Saturday July 13, 2002 at the Skudesnes Lutheran Church near Pierpont, South Dakota. Burial was in the Skudesnes Church Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the church.

JULIA F. SCHWAN

Born: 1918 - Died: October 21, 2002

**Great Falls Tribune
October 22, 2002**

Julia F. Schwan

HAVRE — Julia F. Schwan, 84, a retired Havre Laundry employee and lifelong Montana resident,



**Schwan
in 1956**

died of natural causes Monday at a Havre hospital.

Visitation is 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday at Holland & Bonine Funeral Home in Havre. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Friday at St. Jude Catholic Church,

with burial in Calvary Cemetery. Fellowship will be held at St. Jude Parish Center after the burial.

Survivors include brothers Frank Schwan of Lothair and Paul Schwan of Havre; sisters Pauline Læupple of Havre, Aggie Sherman of Ronan and Theresa Houim of Spokane.

LINDA GAYLE (HYBNER) SCHWEITZER

Born: October 24, 1960 - Died: February 18, 2002



**Linda (Hybner)
Schweitzer**

Linda Gayle (Hybner) Schweitzer, age 41, of Billings, died at her parents farm home north of Rudyard on the early morning of Monday (February 18th 2002). She traveled to Rudyard the previous weekend to visit her family and friends. Linda had a long history of diabetes and apparently experienced a severe hypoglycemic episode during her sleep.

She was born on October 24th 1960 at Havre Montana. One of six children to Jerry and Mary Lois (Stanberry) Hybner. Her early education was at the Oreana Country School near the farm. She finished her secondary education in Rudyard, graduating from Rudyard High School in 1979. Linda attended M.S.U. in Bozeman for one year and then transferred to U. of M. in Missoula. She graduated in 1983 with a B.A. in Social work. Linda spent the next two years working at Child Protective Services in Havre. She moved to Billings in 1986 and took a job with the state of Montana. She was presently employed as a supervisor for the Department of Health and Human Services.

Linda married Tony J. Schweitzer on July 17th 1993 at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. This church she attended during her formative years and received her rites of

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baptism and confirmation. Linda and Tony have made their home in Billings where they attended worship services at St. Pius X Church. In addition to her social work, Lynda enjoyed her life as homemaker and mother to Tony's daughter, Amber. Although she suffered from Juvenile diabetes she stayed as active as possible.

Her hobbies were many. She enjoyed baking cookies or playing games with her nieces, nephews and the neighborhood kids. Her favorite card games were Whist and Pinochle, a favorite dice game was "Bunko" and she loved the challenge of "Trivial Pursuit" and related games. She used to play women's softball. More recently, she enjoyed their summer camping trips to Red Lodge Yellowstone. Just for the fun of it, she collected bells and Dreamscapes. In her quiet time at home, Linda enjoyed reading (She was especially fond of Agatha Christie Mysteries). She was staunch Democrat and an Avid

Montana Grizzly Football fan!

This past summer Linda and Tony enjoyed a memorable trip to Mexico with the entire Schweitzer family.

She is survived by her husband, Tony of Billings; Parents, Jerry and Mary Lois Hybner of Rudyard; Daughter Amber Henson (and Husband Mike) of Henderson, Nevada; 2 sisters, Joan Marie McClendon (and husband Jeff) of Denver, Colorado and Amy Hybner of Windsor, California; 3 brothers, Dan Hybner (and wife Lynn) of Rudyard, Roger Hybner of Sheridan, Wyoming and Terry Hybner (and wife Mary) of Rudyard; parents in laws Leander

and Sarah Schweitzer of Billings; 2 brothers-in-law, Jeff Schweitzer (and wife Jaci) of Billings and Kent Schweitzer (and wife Sandra) of Burke, Virginia and 13 nieces and nephews (including Mark, David, Colleen, Brian, Paul, Jacob, Anna, Scott, Daniel, Jasmine, Chaslee,

Trent and Collin). Linda was preceded in death by an infant sister (Theresa Ann Hybner)

Memorials are suggested to Linda's favorite charities including the Billings Homeless' shelter for Men or the Montana Diabetes Association (for research).

A Prayer Mass was conducted at 7:00 pm Wednesday (Feb 20th) by Father Joseph Diekhans at our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. Altar Servers were Molly and Kevin Jurkenka; greeters were Tom and Ted Jurenka; reader was Kelly Domire; the communion gifts were presented by nieces and nephews; eucharistic ministers were Colleen Snell, Tim Gatznermeier and Gaynelle Gatznermeier, and the eulogist was Mike Wendland. The organist was Iris White. Vocalists, Marcus Jochim and Jeff McClendon, performed "Ave Maria", "On Eagles Wings, "I am the bread of life" "Song of Farewell" and traditional mass music. Linda's brothers and nephews served as pallbearers, a reception followed in the church basement.

Vigil Prayers were recited by Father Steve Tokarski at 8:00 pm Friday (Feb. 22nd at the St. Pius X

Church in Billings. There was a "Time of sharing" by family and friends and special music was provided.

Linda's funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Steve Tokarski at St. Pius at 11:00 am Saturday (Feb 23rd). Mass music was provided by Donna Luebeck (organist) and Jeff McClendon (vocalist). Billings area friends and family participated in the Mass. A luncheon followed at St. Pius.

Linda was cremated Saturday afternoon in Billings. Her ashes were entombed on the grounds of St. Pius Parish in the Calvary Cemetery Columbarium on Sunday (Feb. 24th). Family members attended her committal.

Funeral arrangements were made by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

PATRICIA J. SEVEREIDE

Born: 1936 - Died: August 31, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

September 1, 2002

Patricia J. Severeide

MALTA — Patricia J. Severeide, 66, a former desk clerk at Roger's Motor Inn, died Saturday at her home in Malta of complications from diabetes.



Severeide

Graveside services are 3 p.m. in Malta Cemetery. Adams Funeral Home/HiLine

Crematory is handling the arrangements. Cremation is planned.

Survivors include her husband, Norris Severeide of Malta; daughters Colleen Kluck of Malta, Kim Johannesen of Havre and Cindy Simonson of Rudyard; a son, Terry Anderson of Malta; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

NEIL SHEPHERD

Born: June 11, 1923 - Died: August 31, 2002

Liberty County Times

September 11, 2002



Neil Shepherd

Neil Shepherd was born June 11, 1923 at Chester, Montana. He was one of five children born to Glen and Lottie (Mitchell) Shepherd. Neil grew up in Chester and received his education here, graduating from Chester High School in 1942. For the next two years he continued his schooling at Northern Montana College in Havre.

Neil enlisted into the US Army in 1945 during the final days of World War II. He attained the rank of Corporal and served stateside before receiving his honorable discharge due to military demobilization. While serving in the Army, he met his wife-to-be, Alice Marie Nelson. They were married in Missoula on October 26, 1946. They eventually returned to the Shepherd farm at Chester, where they worked and raised their two children.

In 1952 the Shepherds built a new home in Chester. In addition to farming, Neil operated the Standard Oil Bulk Plant in Chester for a few years. They sold their Chester home in 1972 and moved to Great Falls, where Neil continued to work for Standard Oil in the bulk fuel business.

After 10 years in Great Falls, the Shepherds moved back to their farm near Chester. They began spending their winters in Hemet, California where they

were regulars at the Casa Del Sol RV Park. They loved RV camping and traveling, and were long-time members of the Good Sam's Club.

When Alice's health began to fail in 1999, they moved back to Great Falls to be near medical specialists. They lived at the Park Plaza. Alice died in Great Falls on April 15, 2001. They had been married 54 years.

Neil returned to Chester to live at the Sweetgrass Lodge Retirement Center. He enjoyed his home here knowing he was always close to family, friends, and the farm. In fact, on this long Labor Day weekend, Neil was spending time with friends at Essex, MT. Although his death was untimely, he died peacefully in his sleep on this past Saturday morning August 31, 2002. He was 79 years old.

Neil was a life-long member of the Chester United Methodist church; he served in many capacities on church boards and committees over the years. He was also active in the Chester American Legion, assisting with many military burial rites, Memorial Day services, holiday flag placements, and other local activities. In 1959 he served as Commander of the Montana State American Legion, and attended numerous state and national conventions in the years that followed. In addition Neil served on the Montana Board of Veterans Affairs from 1978-1994.

Other memberships included the Chester Lions, Joplin Masonic Lodge, the Great Falls Shriners Club, P.M. Optimist club of Great Falls, and the Great Falls Elks Lodge.

Neil's hobbies were many. He loved to golf, especially during those planned outings with friends at Marias Valley in Shelby or the Country Club in Cut Bank. He also enjoyed bowling with Alice and friends for many years. Neil always looked forward to a good card game, and was especially

fond of Pinochle and Pan. During his quiet time at home he enjoyed watching old movies; his favorite television shows were "Seventh Heaven," "Doc," and "Bonanza."

Neil could best be described as a 'people person' who easily made friends. Always an early riser, he enjoyed going to the coffee shop to socialize with his buddies.

He is survived by his son Roger Shepherd and wife Julie of Chester; his daughter Dawn Marie Lockwood and husband Scott of Helena; eight grandchildren including: Rob, Terri, Cora, Lon, Megann, Ryan, Kim, and Sean; 12 great-grandchildren; two step sisters: Mary Anna Zauner of Kalispell, and Dixie Tye of Minneapolis, Minnesota; special friend Nell McLouth of Cut Bank; many cousins including: Janell Wardell of Chester, Thelma Shaw of Deer Lodge, and Helen Welch of Lake Oswego, Oregon; and numerous nephews and nieces. Neil was preceded in death by his wife, parents, three brothers: Ralph, Harold and Leo Shepherd, and one sister Carrie Bracken.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Wednesday September 4, 2002 at the Chester United Methodist church by pastor Waveland King. Vocal music by Kama Morton included "He Gave Me Lord Jesus," and "How Great Thou Art." Scripture readings were by Scott Lockwood, and personal remembrances were shared by Duane Bracken. Ushers were Earl Keith and Jack Henderson. Friends serving as pallbearers were Dick Henderson, Lyle Glee, Tom Osterman, John Kammerzell, Tom Gummer, and Lin Duffin. Interment was in the Chester Cemetery. Military rites were performed and the flag was presented by Don Buffington. A luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

MYRA MAE(GIFFORD) ROSS SITCH

Born: October 31, 1916 - Died: July 20, 2002



Myra Sitch

Myra Mae (Gifford) Ross Sitch was born October 31, 1916 at Drake, North Dakota. Her parents were Ione E. Hanson and Olen D. Gifford, and she was one of nine children. Myra grew up in North Dakota and received her formal education there.

She married George "Ed" Ross on June 25, 1934 at Great Falls, Montana. They made their home in Chester where Myra began her life as a homemaker and mother of three daughters. The Ross family moved to Hamilton in 1953. Following the untimely death of their daughter Candyce in 1966, the Ross' adopted their two grandsons Mark and Scott. They spent three years in Helena before moving to Spokane, Washington in 1970. Husband Ed died in 1972. Myra and the two boys remained in Spokane until 1981, then moved back to Chester to be closer to other family members.

Myra began dating a local farm widower, Fred Sitch. They were married in Shelby on July 1, 1984. They made their home in Chester where they were active in community and social functions. Fred died in 1998. Myra continued to live in their Chester home until this past December when her health started to decline. Since then she has lived with her son Scott Ross and his family. Myra's

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health continued to fail. On Saturday morning July 20, 2002 she collapsed at home and died soon after arrival at the Chester hospital. She was 85 years old.

Myra was proud to be a lifelong member of the Assembly of God Church in Chester. She served as a Sunday school teacher and camp counselor at Glacier Bible Camp for several years. She loved children and was always excited to see them involved in church activities. In fact, one of her favorite camp kids Mary Ballenger, is now an active missionary in West Africa, and Myra had always felt some personal accomplishment in this.

When Myra returned to Chester in the 1980s, she envisioned more activities for the senior citizens here. Before long, she organized the "Hi-Line Chuckwagon Band," a group of seniors who played entertaining music with homemade instruments. Not only did she head up the band, she made most of the instruments for the band and personally "played" the washboards in the band. A memorable highlight was in 1991 when the band traveled to Billings to perform at a state Council on Aging Conference, where then Governor Stan Stevens played with the band and was inducted as an honorary member of the band.

Myra had many hobbies over the years. In her younger days she enjoyed swimming and camping. She and husband Ed liked to rock-hound and make jewelry. During her years in Hamilton, Myra loved to bake and decorate cakes; in fact, she made many wedding cakes and catered several social events during her time there. She also enjoyed sewing, crocheting, and needlework. In later years Myra spent her quiet time reading, especially fond of Louis L'Amour and Zane Grey writings. She also

enjoyed a good John Wayne movie. Because of her interest in the preservation of local history, she volunteered as a worker at the Liberty County Museum. Myra loved being around people, so her family and friends were very important to her.

Myra is survived by two daughters, Glenda Keune of Chester, and Cheryl Hughes and husband Ken of Hamilton; two sons and their spouses: Mark and Jody Ross of Conrad, and Scott and Shelley Ross of Chester; five grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; two sisters; Carrie Harmon of Everett, Washington, and Sue Brown of Chester; four brothers: Wally Gifford of Duarte, California, Russell Gifford of Florida, Glen "Butch" Gifford of Brady, and George Gifford of Sugarland, Texas; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her daughter, and her husbands, and two brothers: O.D. and Roland Gifford.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Tuesday July 23, 2002 at the Chester Assembly of God Church by Pastor Todd Lanman. Vocalists, Candy Ross and Ruthann Norick, performed "I Can Only Imagine" and "Mansion Over the Hilltop," respectively. Pianist Nick LaSorte provided prelude music and accompaniment to Ruthann. Debbie Lanman played as the congregation sang "The Old Rugged Cross" and "I'll Fly Away." At the end of the service, taped music by the Chuckwagon Band with Myra on washboards included "When the Saints Go Marching In" and other favorites. Ushers were Lance McDowell and LeRoy Green. Pallbearers were Thadd Gifford, Gary Jensen, Ed Staudacher, Cliff Hanson, Charlie Thielman, and Rob Laas. Memorial bearers were listed as "all of Myra's friends and relatives."

Graveside prayers by Pastor Bryan Gifford followed at the Chester Cemetery. A taped bagpipe rendition of "Amazing Grace" was played. A luncheon was held at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman
Funeral Chapel, Chester.
Memorials will be given to the
Chester Assembly of God "Kids
Camp" Scholarship Fund.

ELIZABETH PHOEBE "BETH" (PIMLEY) SKONORD

Born: August 18, 1913 - Died: June 21, 2002

Liberty County Times

June 26, 2002



Elizabeth Skonord

Elizabeth Phoebe "Beth" Skonord was born August 18th, 1913 at Park Rapids, Minnesota. She was the youngest of six children born to Lorena Eade and James Pimley Jr. The same year Beth was born, Her father traveled to Montana to claim a homestead near Joplin. About a year later mother and children boarded an immigrant train to their new home in Montana. Beth's older brothers also filed homesteads here.

In 1923 the Pimley family (including father, mother, and the younger children) returned to Minnesota to care for their ailing parents. Beth finished her formal education at Park Rapids and also earned a teaching certificate. She taught in a rural Minnesota school for a year. In 1934 Beth and her mother came back to Montana to visit her siblings, who lived near the Lars Skonord homestead, while there, Beth met her husband-to-be, Palmer Skonord, and they were married in Joplin on June 15th, 1935.

Beth and Palmer made their home on the Skonord farm 21 miles north of Joplin throughout their working lives. In addition to farming and ranching they raised a family of five. They retired from farming in 1972 and moved to the

Chester rest home, happy and appreciative to have her children and grandchildren nearby. This past Friday morning (June 21, 2002) she suffered a heart attack; Beth passed away later that evening at the Chester Hospital. She was 88 years old.

During their married years on the farm, the Skonord's were active members of the Immanuel Lutheran Church. After retiring to Chester, they became loyal members of Our Savior's Lutheran Parish. They also enjoyed the fellowship at the Chester Senior Center.

In addition to being a farmwife and mother, Beth taught school for several years at the Tingdahl country school near the farm. Sadly, she was preceded in death by two young sons: Gary Palmer died at age 2 from Scarlet Fever in 1939 and Gary Dean died at age 16 from auto accident injuries in 1955.

Beth and Palmer enjoyed gardening; dancing, and playing cards (mainly pinochle and Whist.) Beth's personal hobbies were many. She loved to crochet; she made (literally) hundreds of Afghans, booties, decorative hangers and other crocheted items over the years! She also enjoyed crossword puzzles and reading (especially, "romances" by Danielle Steel). In her younger days she loved to swim; in her later years she loved to walk for good

exercise. Beth was an exceptional cook and her family will never forget her German Chocolate cakes, banana and sugar cookies, and delicious fried chicken!

Beth enjoyed the simple things in life. Simple gifts, events and traditions were all precious to her. "Loving," "Sweet" and "thoughtful" are words that describe her, and she always maintained a good sense of humor. Last but not least, she sincerely appreciated the love of her family and friends.

Survivors include 2 daughters, Gori Broadhurst, (and husband Bud), of Ledger, and Beverly Green (and husband LeRoy) of Chester; 1 son Rudy Skonord (and wife Karen) of Kalispell, 1 sister in law Alma Hadford (and husband Lloyd) of Joplin, 15 grandchildren (including Kim, Patti, Joan, Tara, Craig, Rory, Wendy, Toni, Jani, Micah, Jessica, Casey, Debbie, Daren and Darwin,) 25 great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband, sons, and parents, Beth was preceded in death by 2 sisters (Hazel King and Murial Yocoric) and 3 brothers (Anson, James, and Percy Pimley).

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Tuesday (June 25th) at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Reverend Tim Singleton. Kim Stensland served as pianist and Desi Stensland sang "In the Garden" & "Borning Cry" the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art." Two special taped selections were played. Karen Skonord, Beth's grandchildren served as ushers, candle lighters, eulogists, and pallbearers, shared Scripture readings. Burial followed at the Joplin Cemetery. Family and friends returned to Our Savior's for a fellowship luncheon. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

RUBY MARIE (MANGOLD) SKOYEN
Born: 1937 - Died: June 16, 2002
Great Falls Tribune
June 18, 2002

Ruby Marie Skoyen

CHINOOK — Ruby Marie (Mangold) Skoyen, 65, of Chinook, a librarian's aide, died Sunday at her home of an apparent heart attack.

Her funeral is 11 a.m. Thursday at Lloyd Sweet Auditorium in Chinook High School, with burial at the Skoyen family ranch north of Chinook. Edwards Funeral Home in Chinook is handling the arrangements.

Survivors include her husband, Floyd Skoyen; a daughter, Jen Andrews Skoyen; sons John, Greg and Loren Skoyen, all of Chinook; sisters Betty Sattleen of Chinook, Shirley Kline of Rudyard and Marge Stubbs of Arizona; and eight grandchildren.

HELEN KAY (THIELMAN) SLEATER

Born: January 12, 1940 - Died: March 17, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

March 21, 2002

Helen Kay Sleater

CHESTER — Chester native Helen Kay (Thielman) Sleater, 62, died Sunday at her home in Salt Lake City, Utah. She had been ill for some time.



**Sleater
in 1961**

A graveside service is noon Thursday at Salt Lake City Cemetery. Holbrook Mortuary of Salt Lake City is in charge of arrangements.

She is survived by her children, Scott Sleater, Paula Sleater and Becky Sleater, all of Salt Lake City; her father, Arthur Thielman of Great Falls, two sisters and a granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Norman L. Sleater, and an infant son.

Her mother, Alice (Reid) Thielman, also has died.

Helen was born Jan. 12, 1940, in Chester to Arthur and Alice (Reid) Thielman. She moved to Salt Lake at the age of 20, where she met Norman L. Sleater. They married Sept. 16, 1961, in Elko, Nev., and spent 35 happy years together.

Helen's life was devoted to doing for her family, to whom she was an example of kindness, patience and service. She loved the outdoors, gardening, strawberries and cheering on the Denver Broncos. Most of all, she loved her granddaughter, Alexandra Kay Sleater, and the companionship of her many friends (Marilyn H., Marilyn B., Janelle, Patty, Jolene, and Perry).

Our family may only aspire to attain the respect, love and admiration that this proud woman gained over her countless years of medical ailments. This very special lady will be missed by all.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Heart Association in her memory.

RUDOLPH "RUDY" JOSEPH SPINLER

Born: March 22, 1914 - Died: August 23, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

August 26, 2002

Rudolph 'Rudy' Joseph Spinler

HAVRE — Rudolph "Rudy" Joseph Spinler, 88, World War II veteran and retired farmer, of Havre, died Friday at a Havre care facility of natural causes.



Spinler

His funeral service is 2 p.m. Tuesday in the St. Jude Catholic Church in Havre, with burial in the Highland Cemetery with full military honors, followed by a reception at the Vets in Havre. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Survivors include a sister, Agnes Wencil of Medford, Minn.; and brothers, Jay Spinler of Havre and Frank Spinler of Hingham.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy (Hanson) Spinler in 1976.

He also is survived by two sisters-in-law, Lillian Spinler of Havre and Judy Spinler of Hingham, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Rudy was born March 22, 1914, to Rudolph J. and Mary (Spinler) Spinler at Hingham. They preceded him in death. He attended Brennan School, north of Hingham. In 1963, Rudy married Dorothy Hanson in Havre. The couple resided at 937 2nd Street N. in Havre. She died in 1976.

Before entering the U.S. Army, Rudy worked for Frank Kocar in Hingham from 1929 until 1940 as a farm laborer raising wheat, oats and rye. He operated the reaper, combine and tractor. He also repaired farm machinery and tractors.

On Nov. 20, 1940, Rudy entered the Army. He was a member of the engineer construction battalion, which constructed roads, built bridges and constructed other obstacles such as mines and cleared minefields. He used jackhammers, wrecking bars, picks and shovels, and pioneer sets. He was wounded in Sicily and received a Purple Heart. He also received an EAME Theatre Ribbon, a Bronze Service Star for the Rome-Arno Campaign, and a Bronze Service Star for participation in the Algerian Tunisian Sicilian and Naples Campaigns. He received the American Defense Service medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Theatre Ribbon, the World War II Victory Medal, and a Lapel Button. He was honorably discharged March 8, 1946.

From 1947 until 1952, Rudy owned and operated the Spinler family farm near Hingham. He also was a veterinary assistant for a local clinic. He was also a service station attendant before retiring. He moved to Havre for employment reasons in 1958.

He was a member of the St. Jude Catholic Church, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans. He enjoyed raising his chickens and gardening. He was very patriotic, flying a flag on a flagpole located on his front lawn year-round. He was a member of the Honor Guard and presided at numerous funerals for fellow veterans.

He was also preceded in death by three sisters, Martha Beranek, Elizabeth "Bessie" Smiler and Mary Matejcek; and two brothers, Vencil Spinler and Benjamin Spinler.

Memorials in Rudy's honor may be made to: The Building Fund, St. Jude Catholic Church, 624 Fourth Street, Havre, MT 59501.

COURTNEY JENNIFER STAHL

Born: September 1, 2000 - Died: February 16, 2002

Liberty County Times

February 20, 2002

Courtney J. Stahl

Courtney Jennifer Stahl, age 1 1/2, died from complications of Cerebral Palsy on Saturday morning February 16, 2002 at Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls.

Courtney was born on September 1, 2000 at Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada. The only child of Richard and Rosa Stahl, her short life was spent with the loving care of her family at Gildford Hutterite Colony. Courtney loved to be cuddled and always responded with her precious smile. This special little girl will always be remembered by those who knew her.

Survivors include her parents Richard and Rosa Stahl of the Gildford Colony; maternal

grandparents Elias and Annie Stahl of Atzikom, Alberta; paternal grandparents, Fred and Susanna Stahl of Gildford Colony; great-grandmother Susanna Stahl of Cranford, Alberta; paternal great-grandparents Paul and Katie Stahl of Gildford Colony; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. She was preceded in death by her paternal grandfather Mike Stahl.

The family offers this poem (author unknown) in memory of their beloved daughter.

*When God calls little children to
dwell with him above,
We Mortals sometime question
the wisdom of His love.
For no heartache compares with
the death of one small child,
Who does so much to make our
world seem wonderful and
mild.*

*Perhaps God tires of calling the
aged to his fold,*

*So he picks a rosebud before it
can grow old.*

*God knows how much we need
them and so he takes a few;*

*To make the land of Heaven
more beautiful to view.*

*Believing this is difficult, still
somehow we must try;*

*The saddest word mankind
knows will always be*

"goodbye".

*So when a little child departs we
who are left behind,*

*Must realize God loves
children—Angels are hard to
find.*

Courtney's funeral was 12:30 pm Monday February 18, 2002 at the Gildford Colony Hutterian Church. Burial followed at the Gildford Colony Cemetery. Arrangements made by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

DONALD GLENN STARK

Birth: November 27, 1925 - Death: December 10, 2002



Donald Stark

Donald Glenn Stark was born in Great Falls, Montana on November 27, 1925. He was the only child of Lynne and Ann (Dittrich) Stark. Don grew up on the family farm north of Rudyard. He received his early schooling in Rudyard, then attended the Happy Hollow Country School for two years (this was a one-room schoolhouse located 1-1/2 miles North of the farm). He finished his secondary education in Rudyard, graduating from Rudyard High

School in 1943. The began working with his folks on the farm.

Donald was inducted into the US Army in 1945 to serve in the infantry during World War II. His rank was Private First Class and he received training as a sharpshooter rifleman. Fortunately the war was winding down so he was given an honorable discharge in 1946. Although he never served overseas, he was awarded a Victory Medal at the time of his discharge.

Don returned to the farm at Rudyard. Sometime later, he met a Canadian nurse who was working in Havre; this lady was Anne Hawrylak. They were married on October 28, 1949 at St. Jude's Church in Havre. They made their home in Havre for the next seven years where Don worked for the railroad, the Case and John Deere dealerships, and

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Health Service Center during that time. In 1956 they moved to the Stark farm nine miles North of Rudyard, where they have lived and worked since. They raised a family of three daughters.

Don's health had been good over the years. On this past Tuesday December 10, 2002 he was out in the farmyard watching grain being loaded into a truck for market. Without complaint or warning, he suddenly collapsed. Resuscitative attempts were to no avail. Don died at the age of 77 years.

Donald was a past member of the Hill County Water Board and the Farmer's Union Board in Rudyard. He was active at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham, where he was baptized after his marriage to Anne.

In addition to farming Don was in the hog business from 1962-1974; he raised SPF pigs and used the profits to put his three daughters through college. Don loved working on the farm. He was a 'fix-it' man who could do almost any plumbing, electrical, or mechanical project, and he took great pride in keeping his

machinery in good working condition.

He also was one of the top welders in the county; he could make something out of nothing by using his creative welding skills. Always a good neighbor, Don was ready to help his friends whenever they needed him. Because of his passion for reading and learning, he was very knowledgeable on many subjects, then adapted this knowledge to practical use.

His hobbies were simple. He enjoyed horseback riding in his youth and continued to enjoy hunting and fishing. In addition to reading he liked to play Solitaire during his quiet time. His favorite television activities were rodeos and boxing events.

A personable man, he enjoyed telling stories and jokes when greeting friends. He and Anne were constant companions during their 53 years of married life together.

In addition to his wife, Don is survived by three daughters and their spouses: Marjorie and LeWayen Kroeger of Libby, MT, Donna and Jerry Hall of Great Falls, MT and Jean and Robert Becker of Helena, MT; five grandchildren: Katie and Eric Kroeger, and Christopher, Adam, and Nicole Becker; and one cousin Joanne English of Havre. Don was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral Mass was 11:00 am Friday December 13, 2002 at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham by Father Joseph Diekhans. Iris White was organist. Vocalist Marcus Jochim performed "Amazing Grace," "On Eagle's Wings," "How Great Thou Art," and "Be Still My Soul." Greeters were Eric Kroeger and Christopher Becker. Reader was Terry Hybner; the communion gifts were presented by Katie Kroeger, Adam Becker, and Nicole Becker. Eucharistic ministers were Dan Hybner, Tim Gatzemeier, and Mary Lois Hybner. Eulogist was Robert

"Joe" Becker. Pallbearers were Fred Rigg, Ross Bartz, Jerry Copenhaver, Mel VanWechel, Bob McKinley, and Jerry Hybner. Honorary bearers were Buster Ness, Art Ditmar, Arnie Woods, Joe DeMartin, Mark Widdis, and Alvin Krejci. Interment was at the Rudyard Cemetery. Military "Taps" were played and the flag was presented by Alvin Krejci. A luncheon followed at the Rudyard Catholic Youth Center.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to Triangle Health Care in Chester.

RICKIE HINES "RICK" STARKE

Born: October 9, 1956 - Died: October 6, 2002

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October 30, 2002



Rickie Starke

Rickie Hines "Rick" Starke, age 45, formerly of Chester and Cut Bank, died Sunday evening October 6, 2002 at Rawlings, Wyoming.

Rick was born on October 9, 1956 at Havre, Montana. His parents were Heinz and Audrey "Pat" (McCourt) Starke and he was the youngest son in a family of six. Rick grew up in Chester and received his early schooling here. The Starkes moved to Cut Bank in 1964, so he finished his education there, graduating from Cut Bank High School in 1974. During those high school years he excelled in football and wrestling but loved all sports in general. Rick continued his education at Western Montana College in Dillon, where he played football. He met Pamela Smith of Dillon and they were eventually married

in 1984. Together they had a daughter Tarryn Lynn. Although they later divorced, they remained good friends throughout the years.

Rick worked on oil drilling rigs in Montana, Alaska and Wyoming all of his life. He had just moved from Casper to Rawlings, Wyoming on the weekend of his death to work in the oil fields there. He suffered a seizure in his pickup at the parking lot near a convenience store. He was rushed to the Carbon County Hospital in Rawlings by ambulance, but resuscitative attempts were to no avail.

Rick was preceded in death by his father Heinz in 1984. He is survived by his daughter Tarryn Starke of Belgrade; mother Audrey "Pat" Starke of Shelby; two sisters Luana Johnson of Cut Bank, and Patti Davis of Musselshell; three brothers: Ken Loveall of Fairview, Utah, Ron Loveall of Columbia Falls, and John Starke of Prescott Valley, Arizona; 23 nieces and nephews; and a host of friends.

Memorial services were conducted at 1:00 pm Friday October 11, 2002 at the Elks Lodge in Cut Bank by Pastor Connie Cranston of Shelby. Rick's ex-wife Pam served as eulogist. His favorite song "The Wind Beneath My Wings" by Bette Midler was played in tribute. Ushers were Steve Tough, Burke McCormick, and Doug Embody. Pallbearers included Dave Bell, Allan Parrent, Monty Snowden, Dick Weatherston, Robert "Bado" Kennedy, Mike Simanton, and his other good friends. Graveside services and burial of ashes were held at 3:00 pm Friday October 11, 2002 at the Chester Cemetery. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. A no-host reception and "Celebration of Rick's Life" was held later that same evening at the Elks Lodge in Cut Bank.

HENRY J. STAUDACHER

Born: May 26, 1908 - Died: October 16, 2002

Liberty County Times

October 23, 2002

Henry Staudacher

Henry J. Staudacher, age 94 of Holcombe, Wisconsin, died Wednesday October 16, 2002 at the Cornell Area Care Center.

He was born the son of Andrew and Amanda (Crye) Staudacher on May 26, 1908 in Medford, Wisconsin. Henry moved with his family to Montana in 1912. He married Mary Cox on July 22, 1932 in Great Falls, Montana. They moved to Holcombe in 1934.

Henry was employed in several occupations, having worked as a rancher raising beef cattle, and also raised beans and other crops. He was employed as a mail carrier and had served on the Holcombe school board for a number of years.

Henry had been a charter member of the first Holcombe Lions Club and had donated land to the present Lions Club, which

is now called Staudacher Field.

Henry is survived by three daughters: Joanne (Anthony) Cuban of Spring Valley, California, Jean (Peter) Wolfe of Cornell, and Carol (John) Bell of Holcombe; one son David (Susan) Staudacher of Holcombe; 12 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Mary, one son Henry, one daughter Marie in infancy, three brothers: Maurice, Tom and Wesley, and one sister Jessie.

Memorial services were held at 1:30 pm on Sunday October 27, 2002 at Holcombe United Methodist Church in Holcombe with Rev. James McKay officiating. Burial was in the Holcombe Cemetery.

Borton Funeral Home in Cornell in charge of arrangements.

ELSIE CATHERINE (WIEWECK) STEEN

Birth: April 14, 1909 – Death: November 22, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

November 25, 2002

Elsie Catherine Steen

BELT — Elsie Catherine (Wieweck) Steen, 93, of Belt, a former professional cook, died Friday at Benefis Skilled Nursing Home of natural causes.



Steen

Her memorial service is 11 a.m. Wednesday at Christ Church on the Hill, with burial of cremains in Manchester Cemetery.

Survivors include a daughter, Aria Thompson of Belt; sons Ronald Krattiger and Robert Krattiger, both of Great Falls and Larry Krattiger of Three Forks; a stepson, Bob Steen of Grand Forks, N.D.; 18 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Elsie was born April 14, 1909, in Buffalo Lake, Minn. She moved to Montana as a small child and homesteaded with her family in the Tiber area. She married Frank Krattiger in Great Falls in 1932; he died in 1945. She later married Melvin Steen in Chester in 1960; he died in August of 1993.

Elsie was active in the Senior Center, and was an avid gardener. Her favorite pastime was baking.

Memorials are suggested to the donor's choice.

SWEN ARVID SUNDGREN

Born: June 19, 1911 - Died: April 19, 2002



Swen Sundgren

Swen Arvid Sundgren was born June 19, 1911 on the family homestead 16 1/2 miles Northeast of Chester, Montana. He was the eldest son of six children born to Swedish immigrants, Arvid and Ericka (Lund) Sundgren. Swen grew up on the farm and received his formal education at the Sundgren School near there. In his early adult years he worked for various farmers and ranchers in the Chester/Joplin communities; naming a few included the Thompsons, Jabes, Carlsons and Eggens. During that same time he began purchasing his own farm ground and cattle.

In the late 1930's Swen wintered in Seattle where he worked as a riveter for Boeing in the airplane industry. In 1942 after the outbreak of World War II, Swen was

inducted into the U.S. Army. He served in company "C" of the 877th Airborne Engineer Battalion in campaigns at Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe. Following his honorable discharge in 1945 he returned to the family farm in Montana.

Swen met his wife to be, Thelma Jessie Tapp, on a blind date. They were married on June 5, 1949 in Great Falls. They farmed and ranched in the Chester community and raised two sons. They built a home in Chester in 1959 and moved there permanently in 1973.

Swen remained active in the farming operations. In fact, he drove the tractor every spring until

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move machinery and assist however he could until age 88.

Swen fell and broke his hip in 1999. He recuperated at the Chester and Fort Benlon nursing homes, then moved to the Marias Heritage Center in Shelby in June 2000. Other than his mobility problems, his general health remained good. This past month he developed some breathing difficulties, so he transferred to the Marias Medical Center. Swen died at the Shelby hospital on the early morning of Friday April 19, 2002. He was 90 years old.

Swen was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith, but he and Thelma joined the Methodist church in 1956. He was active in the United Methodist Church in Chester and served as a church trustee for several years. He was also a member of the American Legion in Chester and an active Democrat.

Swen was content with his life as a simple man. He was proud of his Swedish heritage; although his given name was "Swen" he preferred to be called "Sven" because of the Swedish implication. He always greeted his friends with a smile and a hand shake, and his word was always as "good as gold." (In fact years ago he was nicknamed "Honest Sven".) He loved his life as a farmer; his pride and joy was his 8760 John Deere tractor! Always the diligent worker, he never complained about hard work (even after long, monotonous hours of picking weeds by hand in the fields.)

Swen loved the comfort of home. He enjoyed playing cards and board games, i.e. Whist, Pinochle, Sorry and Monopoly, and he liked to listen to music, especially when his family was performing. His favorite radio programs were "Grassroots Gold" and the "Market News" reports. Swen kept aware of current events, so he enjoyed reading the newspaper and *Reader's Digest*. His favorite television shows were:

"The Walton's," "Lawrence Welk," "700 Club," "Big Valley," "Bonanza," and "Rawhide." Swen loved all animals; he had a gentle nature with them and could calm nervous animals when others couldn't. And last but not least he had a great love and pride of all of his grandchildren.

After 42 years of marriage, the love of his life, Thelma, died in 1991. Swen's survivors include two sons and their spouses: Elvin and Janet Sundgren of Chester, and Harold and Marjorie Sundgren of Dickinson, North Dakota; seven grandchildren: Tami Park (and Dave), Keith Sundgren (and Polly), Paul Sundgren (and Roxie), Haley Sundgren, Kristie Pulst (and Robert), Ashley Wickum (and Justin), and Eric Sundgren; eight great-grandchildren; Jason, Renee, Stephanie, Jessie, Jennifer, Lydia, Phillip and Joshua; two sisters: Carol Ness of Seattle, Washington, and Estrid Freeland of Great Falls; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Swen was preceded in death by his parents, wife, brother Arthur Sundgren, and sisters Margaret Thielman and Gladys Carlson McNealy.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Tuesday April 23 2002 at Chester United Methodist Church by Pastor Karna Hamilton-Morton. Karen Stack served as organist and the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art" and "The Old Rugged Cross." Two special CD's, "Grandpa" and "The Great Speckled Bird," were played during the service. The closing was a piano rendition of "Red River Valley". Ushers were P.J. and Art Johnson. Pallbearers were Swen's grandchildren. Honorary bearers were listed as his old friends and neighbors. Graveside services included prayers and a short military ceremony. Grandson Paul Sundgren made the flag presentation. A luncheon followed at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

OLIVE BERTHA (WOOD) SVENSON

Birth: July 25, 1912 – Death: December 15, 2002



Olive Svenson

Olive Bertha (Wood) Svenson was born at Estevan, Saskatchewan, Canada on July 25, 1912. She was one of a family of 11 and her parents were William and Margaret (Loehr) Wood. She spent her early years in North Dakota and Idaho. Following the death of her father, the Wood family came to Hill, Montana near the Sweetgrass Hills. Her mother eventually bought a relinquished homestead north of Chester. Olive grew up on the farm and received her formal education at the Hill and Laird Country Schools. In the years that followed she worked as a housekeeper and helper to local farm families (including Brauers, Lybecks, Lairds, and others).

Olive met Knut Svenson, a Swedish immigrant who was working as a shepherd in the north Chester community. They were married on November 17, 1933 at Havre, Montana. They began leasing a place north of Chester in 1936; in 1944 they purchased a farm north of Joplin. They lived and worked on this farm until their retirement in 1968. For the next 11 years they spent their winters at Yuma, Arizona. Knut's health began to fail in 1983, so they moved permanently to Joplin. When Knut passed

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away on March 14, 1987, they had been married 53 years.

Olive remained in her Joplin home until 1985 when she moved to the Sweet Grass Lodge in Chester. In 1998 she moved back to Joplin to live with her daughter. When her health deteriorated in 2001, she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. Olive died at the Chester hospital on Sunday evening December 15, 2002 at the age of 90 years.

Olive was baptized and confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran Church north of Joplin, and she maintained her membership there. She was one of the Charter Members of the Bear's Den Home Demonstration Club. During her early married years she served on the Burke School Board. For several winters in Yuma, Olive enjoyed working part-time on a fruit farm where she packaged dates for special order shipments. A memorable trip for the Svensons was to the Seattle World Fair in the 1960s.

Olive was affectionately known by her family and friends as "Ollie." Her hobbies included sewing, quilting, crocheting, and crafts. She loved to work in her flower gardens and always worked hard to keep her yard immaculate. An excellent cook, she will be remembered by her family for her delicious breads, doughnuts, and berry pies. Olive and Knut loved to play cards, especially Pinochle and Whist, and they enjoyed bowling. Just for the fun of it, Olive collected spoons, figurines, and rocks. A loyal mother and friend, she also enjoyed her role as farm wife. She was proud to have worked side-by-side in the field with Knut during their years on the farm together.

including: Shawn Jones, Sherri Marrs, Tammy Koch, Pamela Boucher, and Gay Buffington; 15 great-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

Olive was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by an infant son, a granddaughter Karina Svenson, and eight siblings: Leora Wood Ness, Edgar Wood, Ray Wood, Charles McDaniel, Alvin McDaniel, Vern McDaniel, Verna McDaniel Wood, and Earl McDaniel.

Funeral services were held at 1:00 pm Friday December 20, 2002 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Officiating pastors were Dale Wolery and Tim Singleton. Special music by pianist Shawn Jones and guitarist Tyler Jones included "The Old Rugged Cross." Soloist, niece Jean Patera, performed "Amazing Grace," and "The Lord's Prayer." The congregation sang "In the Garden" accompanied by Iris White. Ushers were Vern Pimley and Russ Tempel. Pallbearers

were Lanny and Tyler Jones, Gary and Casey Buffington, Russell Boucher, and Gale Thielman. Interment was at the Joplin Cemetery. A reception followed at

Kjos Hall.

Memorials will be given to the Joplin Memorial Park. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

Survivors include her son, Rodney Svenson and wife Dee of Joplin; her daughter Dorothy Fraser and husband Charles of Joplin; a special daughter Ann Thielman of Great Falls; one brother Jim Wood of Galata; one sister Joyce (McDaniel) Tempel of Chester; five grandchildren

JOHN HARVEY SWANK

Born: April 29, 1910 - Died: July 4, 2002

Liberty County Times

July 17, 2002



John Swank

John Harvey Swank was born on April 29, 1910 near Nappanee, Indiana in Kasciusko County. His parents were Rosa Wyman Swank and Charles A. Swank and he was one of 15 children. The Swank family came to Chester, Montana when John was 1-1/2 years old. He grew up on the homestead and received his early education at a country school near Black Coulee. John finished his schooling in Chester, graduating from high school in 1933.

John married Ardyce Robison on June 26, 1935 at Great Falls. They made their home in the Chester community where John worked in the trucking and farming business. In the mid-1950s they purchased a farm/ranch operation north of Zurich, which John ran in conjunction with his Chester farm. The Swanks retired in 1972 and began spending their winters in Yuma, Arizona. They maintained a home in Chester during the summer months, but old it last year and moved to Great Falls to live with a daughter. John's health had been relatively good considering his age. On this past March 17 St. Patrick's Day John suffered a stroke, which required extended care. He and Ardyce moved to the Park Place Health Care Center. John died there on the afternoon of Thursday July 4, 2002 Independence Day. He was 92 years old.

John was a longtime member of the Chester United Methodist church and had served on the church board. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge of Joplin and the Scottish Rite of Great Falls. During his younger days in Chester John served on the school board, the volunteer fire department, and he was a strong supporter in the construction of the local swimming pool. Last, but not least, he was proud to be a staunch Republican.

John had always been a hard worker during his life. He enjoyed gardening and yard work, and he could build or repair almost anything. In his youth he enjoyed hunting; in later years he did some deep-sea fishing. Other activities including swimming, bike riding, and playing cards. During his quiet time at home, John enjoyed reading his Bible or

Reader's Digest. He loved to spend time with his grandchildren/great-grandchildren and was always looking for fun things to do.

Throughout their 67 years of married life together, the Swanks were fortunate to have good health and happiness. They made several memorable trips to Europe, Australia, Panama Canal, Mexico, and the Baja Peninsula.

Survivors include his wife Ardyce of Great Falls; two daughters: Meredith Anderson and husband Don of Great Falls, and Sandy Meech and husband Russell of Hardy Creek; one son Terry Swank and wife Monica of Chinook; one brother Ed Swank of Chester; seven grandchildren including Jeff, Scott, Greg, Steffani, Steve, Ronda, and Donnie; 12 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. John was preceded in death by his parents, one granddaughter Robin Meech, and 13 siblings.

Memorial service was conducted by Pastor Kama Morton. Special readings were by grandchildren Steffani Grogan, Jeff Anderson, and Donnie Meech. Grandsons serving as ushers were Steve Swank, Scott Anderson, and Greg Anderson. Pianist was Gail Cicon. John's two daughters, Meredith and Sandy, performed vocal music including "Because He Lives," "How Great Thou Art" and "Mansion Over the Hilltop." A luncheon followed at the church.

John's ashes were buried in the family plot at the Chester Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the United Methodist Church, Liberty County Hospital, or donor's choice.

KENNETH RAYMOND "KENNY" TEMPEL

Born: September 22, 1925 - Died: April 21, 2002

Liberty County Times

May 1, 2002



Kenneth Tempel

Kenneth Raymond "Kenny" Tempel was born September 22, 1925 on the family homestead in the Alma community 20 miles Northwest of Joplin, Montana. He was one of seven children born to Gus and Louise (Heyen) Tempel. Kenny grew up on the farm and received his formal education at the Tingdahl School near there. Following his school years, he pursued his career as a Montana farmer.

In 1946 he enlisted in the US Army and served during the Korean Conflict. He attained the rank of Corporal; in the 564th Quartermaster Depot Company. After three years of active service, he was honorably discharged in 1949 and returned to Montana.

Kenneth met his wife-to-be, Lillian Marie Abrahamson, and they were married October 11, 1950 at Havre, Montana. Initially they farmed in partnership with his brother Ernie, in the north Joplin community. They eventually split up the land. Kenny, Lillian, and their family of six daughters made their home on the old Dodds Keith place, located 23 miles north of Chester. Over the years they raised horses, cows, pigs, sheep, dogs, cats, and other farm animals. After the kids were all grown, they bought a house in Chester in 1980. They commuted to and from the farm until 1989, and then officially retired.

Kenny's health remained reasonably good through his early 70s. He developed weakness in his legs with other complications so he moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester in 1997. He was recently transferred to the Chester hospital where he died on Sunday morning April 21, 2002. He was 76 years old.

Working as a farmer his entire life, Ken learned to be a good handyman. He could fix most anything and always kept his shop well organized. In his younger days he enjoyed hunting. He also liked to go fishing, especially with his children and his old friend, Dodds Keith. Kenny enjoyed traveling and made memorable trips to Alaska, Hawaii, Wisconsin, Michigan, and the Dakotas. Other interests included gardening, playing cards (mainly pinochle), and reading farm and mechanic magazines. Kenny loved his 'big boy' toys, namely his snowmobiles, and 4-wheelers. In his quiet time he enjoyed listening to Country/Western music—his favorite recording artists were Hank Williams, Sr., Patsy Kline, and Tammy Wynette. He also enjoyed old John Wayne movies and the comedy of Red Skelton. But most of all, he loved visiting with family and friends. Kenny attended many auctions over the years, mainly for the social aspect of the sale.

Kenny is survived by his wife of 51 years, Lillian of Chester; his six daughters and spouses: Donna Calace of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Doris and Tom Kloonz of Malad City, Idaho, Sally and Fran VanHoudt of Dillon, Janet and Elvin Sundgren of Chester, Karen Johnson of Chester, and Leslie and Bob Wear of Kooskia, Idaho; 16 grandchildren: Jason, Elisa, Vince, Bryan, Jeannean, Shanon, Anna, Haley, Kristie, Ashley, Eric, Levi, Johanna, Jillien, Lewis, and Dixie; four great-grandchildren: Taylor, Trey, Sarah, and Odellia; one brother Clinton Tempel of Great Falls; two sisters Dorothy Heydon of Bozeman, and Ellen Overton of Great Falls; and

many nephews and nieces. Kenny was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers Ernest Tempel and an infant, and one sister Maggie Anderson.

Funeral services were conducted at 1:00 pm Thursday April 25, 2002 at the Chester united Methodist Church by Rev. Kama Morton. The congregation sang "Amazing Grace" accompanied by Karen Stack as organist. A vocal duet of Gaynell and Stacy Tempel performed "In the Garden" and "Just a Closer Walk with Thee." The family selected a special recording by Ken Overcast, "Granny's Mansion." Ushers were Robert Pulst and Keith Gustitis. Pallbearers included Jason Tempel, Shanon Koontz, Vince Calace, Eric Sundgren, Scot Marshall, Justin Wickum, Lewis Johnson, and Bryan Calace. Honorary bearers were listed as all of Kenny's relatives, friends, and neighbors. Scripture readings were by grandchildren Ashley Wickum and Jason Tempel.

Pastor Kama offered committal prayers at the Chester Cemetery. A poetic reading by granddaughter Jillien Johnson followed. Military "Taps" were played, and then daughter Donna, a reservist, and granddaughter Elisa, active military, presented the flag to Lillian.

A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

DOROTHY ELLEN (EDMISTER) VIOLETT

Birth: June 15, 1914 – Death: November 26, 2002

Liberty County Times

December 4, 2002



Dorothy Violet

Dorothy Ellen (Edmister) Violet was born at Galata, Montana on June 15, 1914. She was one of eight children born to Whitney Edmister and Nellie Snoderly. Dorothy grew up and received her education at Galata, graduating from high school in 1932. She continued her schooling in business and nursing training for a year, then moved to Shelby to work as a secretary.

Dorothy married a Lothair area farmer, Willis H. Violet, on February 4, 1938 at San Jose, California. They made their home at Lothair where Dorothy became a homemaker and mother of three. The Violets retired from farming in 1968. They moved to the townhouse Apartments in Shelby in 1986. Willis died on September 6, 1996. Dorothy remained in Shelby and eventually moved to the Marias

Heritage Center. She fell this past October and was receiving extended care at the Toole County Nursing home. Dorothy was recently transferred to the Marias Medical Center where she died on Tuesday morning November 26, 2002. She was 88 years old.

Dorothy was a past member of the Eastern Star. An avid bridge enthusiast, she played with friends in many tournaments over the years. In her quiet time at home she enjoyed reading and gardening. Dorothy liked to travel; she made several memorable trips to Alaska, Europe, and India. The Violets were staunch Democrats.

They were proud of their children in the fact that they received good educations and careers. Their daughter Billie Lee Violette, is a psychoanalyst in San Francisco, CA. Son Richard H. Violet is a retired Justice Dept. agent in San Francisco, CA; and son David H. Violet is an accountant in Dallas, TX. Dorothy is also survived by many nephews and nieces, including local nieces Muriel Steevers, Donna Nelson, and Marion Wanken. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, two sisters Mabel Standiford, and Vivian Cavett, and five brothers: Merlin, Donald, Leonard, Roy, and Todd Edmister.

No services are planned at this time. Cremation has taken place. Her ashes will be buried in the family plot at the Lothair Cemetery. Arrangement by Rockman Funeral chapel, Chester.

NORA ELVENA (FREY) VOSEN

Born: January 21, 1915 - Died: October 23, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

October 25, 2002

Nora Elvena Vosen

KREMLIN — Nora Elvena (Frey) Vosen, 87, of Kremlin, who farmed with her husband south of Kremlin, died Wednesday at a Big Sandy care facility of natural causes.



Vosen

Visitation is 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday at Holland and Bonine Funeral Home in Havre. Her funeral is 11 a.m. Monday at the funeral home, with burial in Highland Cemetery, followed by a fellowship at the Eagles.

Survivors include a daughter, Lorraine (Ralph) Beck of Havre; a son John (Dianne) Vosen of Pleasant Hill, Iowa; brothers Ray Frey of Havre, Floyd Frey and Clarence Frey of Harlem and Dennis Frey of Simms; sisters Doris Morse and Delores Tudor of Havre; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Richard George Vosen; brothers Edwin Martin Frey, John E. "Jack" Frey; and a sister Loretta Clapper.

Nora was born Jan. 21, 1915, in Bottineau, N.D., to John and Christina (Wittmier) Frey. The family lived north of Gildford until moving south of Kremlin in 1925. Nora attended Sage Creek Country School south of Kremlin.

On Aug. 4, 1936, she married Richard George Vosen. He died Nov. 27, 1999. She spent all of her married life on their farm south of Kremlin. She enjoyed all the farm work, the cattle, harvest, gardening, playing cards, dancing, and when she was younger, she enjoyed horseback riding. In later years she enjoyed visiting with her grand and great-grandchildren. She was a member of Kremlin Lutheran Church and the Eagles Club.

Memorials in Nora's honor are suggested to The Kremlin Lutheran Church, Kremlin, MT 59532, or The Big Sandy Medical Center, Big Sandy, MT 59520, or to a memorial of one's choice.

LUCILE M. (CARTER) WARFORD

Born: June 2, 1930 - Died: September 24, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

September 27, 2002

Lucile M. Warford

HAVRE — Lucile M. Warford, 72, a former office assistant for Havre Public Schools, died Tuesday at a Great Falls hospital of complications from lung and liver cancer.



Warford

Her funeral is 5 p.m. today at Fifth Avenue Christian Church in Havre,

followed by a reception. Graveside services and burial are 3 p.m. Saturday at Custer County Cemetery in Miles City, followed by a reception at Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home.

Survivors include children James E. Viall of Mount Vernon, Wash., Don J. Viall of Sidney, Paula R. Wargo of Burlington, Wash., Marla Warford and Brenda J. Evans of Havre, Becky L. Willson of Winifred, Diane Pierce of Kent, Wash., and Herb Warford, Price Warford and Hugh Warford, all of Florence; her mother, Magdaline Carter of Miles City; a sister, LaVawn Guerechit of Oregon; a brother, Jim Carter of Chester; 25 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her second husband, Oris M. Warford; two grandsons and two granddaughters.

Additional survivors include daughters-in-law Margo Viall of Mount Vernon, Wash., Sherry Viall of Sidney, and Sue Warford and Ania Warford of Florence; sons-in-law Donald Wargo of Burlington, Wash., Travis Willson of Winifred, Jim Evans of Havre, Dennis Pierce of Kent, Wash.; a sister-in-law, Peg Carter of Chester; a brother-in-law Joe Powell of Billings; an aunt, Margaret Carter of Miles City; nu-

merous nieces and nephews; and the family of the Havre Public Schools.

Lucile "Lucy" was born at her Aunt Mary DuRussell's house next to the Yellowstone River in Miles City, Mont., on June 2, 1930, to James D. and Magdaline (Wiepert) Carter.

She attended Sacred Heart grade school in Miles City, Mont., and graduated from Custer County High School. Shortly after graduation, she married Bill E. Viall; they later divorced. To this union six children were born.

On March 13, 1970, in Sheridan, Wyo., Lucile married Oris M. Warford. With their marriage, Oris brought four additional children.

While residing in Miles City, she was involved in March of Dimes and Displaced Homemakers. In 1989, she moved to Havre, where she was involved in as a volunteer at Northern Montana Hospital and Americorp reading program. She was employed at the Havre Public Schools as an office assistant and a paraprofessional at Lincoln-McKinley until retiring in August, 2002.

Her pleasures consisted of reading, sewing, playing cards and spending time with her children and grandchildren. She attended Fifth Avenue Christian Church in Havre.

In addition to her husband and grandchildren, Fawn M. Warford, Treyton Pierce, Keenan Viall and an infant granddaughter, she was also preceded in death by her father, James D. Carter; and a sister, Laurain Powell.

Memorials can be sent to the American Cancer Society, 1403 W. 3rd, Spokane, WA 99204, Attention Kathi Mattatws, Cancer research, in honor of Lucile Warford or Lincoln-McKinley Child Fund, 801 4th, Havre, MT 59501

DAVID M. WILMES

Born: August 4, 1909 - Died: September 15, 2002

Great Falls Tribune

September 18, 2002

David M. Wilmes

David M. Wilmes, 93, of 1109 6th Ave. N., a retired farmer, died of natural causes Sunday at a local nursing home.

At his request, a private family gathering will take place 3 p.m. Friday at Schnider Funeral Home.



Wilmes

Survivors include a daughter, Lorraine Watson of Sun City West, Ariz.; a brother, Joe Wilmes of Joplin; three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Lucille; and sons Donald and Stanley.

Dave was born Aug. 4, 1909, in Inverness, Mont., and was raised in Inverness.

He married Lucille Kossel in Havre in 1928; she died in 1988.

Dave engaged in several enterprises through the years, including owning and managing a bar in Inverness, the Pepsi-Cola bottling plant in Great Falls and a nightclub in Kalispell. In the early 1950s, he began farming north of Havre and continued until retirement.

Dave enjoyed all hunting and fishing, especially goose hunting.

Memorials are suggested to Peace Hospice.

RONNIE R. WIPF

Born: June 15, 1982 - Died: January 1, 2002

Liberty County Times

January 9, 2002

Ronnie R Wipf

Ronnie Reuben Wipf was born on June 15, 1982 at the Riverview Colony south of Chester. He was the oldest of two children born to Reuben and Barbara (Kleinsasser) Wipf. Ron grew up at Riverview and received his formal education there.

In the fall of 2000 Ron began working for a custom harvesting crew based out of Alex, Oklahoma. He recently returned to Montana to spend the Christmas holiday with his family and friends at Riverview. He enjoyed this time so much that he was reluctant to leave, but work obligations were important, so he headed for Levelland, Texas. Ron and his traveling companion arrived in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on New Year's Eve, so they decided to spend the night there. They were the victims of a hotel room robbery incident on the early morning of Tuesday January 1, 2002. Ron was stabbed during the attack and he died at the scene. He was just 19 years old.

Ron had a love for automobiles and trucks and he took great pride in keeping his vehicles clean, neat, and in sound mechanical condition. He enjoyed listening to music in his truck and his favorite song was "Convoy" by G.W. McCall.

Ronnie loved to be around Hutterite company, but he also enjoyed making friends wherever he went. During his teen years at the colony he liked to play football with his friends. He had a tender heart when it came to children; he always found time for them. A caring person who loved people and enjoyed helping people, he will be greatly missed.

Ron loved his parents very much. He also had a special bond with his only sibling, his sister Elsie. In addition to his Dad, Mom and sister at the Riverview Colony, Ron is survived by his maternal grandmother Anna Kleinsasser, and his paternal grandparents Reverend Paul and Anna Wipf, all of Riverview. He is survived by six aunts and uncles and numerous cousins at various colonies. Ron was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather Sam Kleinsasser, and an aunt Deborah Kleinsasser.

The body was shipped from Oklahoma to Montana for burial at the Riverview Colony. Funeral arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

CLARA MARIE (WELSH) WISE

Born: May 29, 1916 - Died: March 14, 2002

Liberty County Times

March 20, 2002



Clara Wise

Clara Marie (Welsh) Wise was born at Hingham, Montana on May 29, 1916. She was one of seven children born to Steve and Dora (Erdman) Welsh. Clara grew up at Hingham and received her education there, graduating from Hingham High School in 1935.

Clara married Lyle R. Wise on November 24, 1938 at Hingham. They lived and farmed north of Gildford in the years that followed. They moved to Hingham in 1967 and retired from farming in 1976. During their retirement years they wintered in California and Arizona.

Lyle died in 1994. Clara remained at their home in Hingham until 1999, then moved to the Marias Heritage Center in Shelby. When her health failed in September of 2001, she transferred to the Extended Care Unit of the Pondera Medical Center in Conrad. Clara died at the Conrad nursing facility on the evening of Thursday March 14, 2002. She was 85 years old.

Clara received her baptism and confirmation at the Hingham Lutheran Parish. She remained active in the church and the Lutheran Ladies Aid throughout her adult life. She was also a loyal

member of the Democratic party, and the Havre Sons of Norway.

Clara loved to entertain friends at her home; she was a good cook and a good hostess. She also enjoyed gardening and embroidery. She was an amateur pianist, and enjoyed playing cards especially Bridge and Whist. Just for the fun of it, she collected bells.

Clara and Lyle did a lot of traveling throughout their 56 years of married life together. Although they never had children of their own, they were caring partners and loyal friends to their nephews and nieces.

Clara is survived by one sister: Alyce Woolway of Bakersfield, California; two brothers Orville "Swede" Welsh of Havre, and Chet Welsh of Hingham; and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by one sister Doris Moss, two brothers Walter and Clarence Welsh, and three nephews/nieces.

It was Clara's wishes to be cremated. Private committal services and burial of her ashes was 1:00 pm Monday March 18, 2002 at the Highland Cemetery in Havre.

Memorial services were conducted at 3:00 pm Monday March 18 at the Hingham Lutheran Church by pastor Tim Singleton. A special poetic reading was recited by Shari Richter. Vocal music by Terry Stevenson included "In the Garden," and "On Eagle's Wings." Sharon Spicher served as organist and the congregation sang "Rock of Ages." Ushers were Dick Hansen and Dave Jones. A coffee hour followed at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Special Care unite (Remodeling Project) at the Pondera Medical Center in Conrad, Montana.

OLYN CHARLES WOLERY

Born: April 23, 1918 - Died: October 12, 2002

Liberty County Times

October 23, 2002



Olyn Wolery

Olyn Charles Wolery was born at Joplin, Montana on April 23, 1918. He was one of six children born to Guy and Blanche (Wilson) Wolery. Olyn's early years were spent on the family farm north of Joplin (near the Canadian border), where he attended the Grassy Butte School. The Wolerys moved to Deer Park, Washington for several years and he continued his education there. They returned to Montana in 1931 so Olyn finished his schooling at Grassy Butte before he began farming.

He met Bernece Marie Shipman, a schoolteacher, and they were married in Havre on May 27, 1929. They initially farmed in the Goldstone community north of Rudyard, then moved to a place north of Inverness where they lived and worked for 50+ years. The Wolerys raised a family of four.

Due to declining health, Olyn and Bernece moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home at Chester

in 1997. Bernece died on December 16, 2001. Olyn remained at the rest home until his passing on this past Saturday evening October 12, 2002. He was 84 years old.

Olyn loved his life as a Montana farmer. He experienced the wonders of farming technology; he remembered those early years of working a team of horses in the field, then marveled at the fact that he could summer fallow 300 acres a day with our modern tractors! Olyn wasn't afraid of hard work and continued to be productive into his late 70s.

In addition to being a loyal husband for 62 years and a dedicated father, Olyn was always a good community friend. For many years he served as "Santa Claus" at the Joplin and Inverness school and community Christmas programs. He shared his horse buggy and sleigh at local events and celebrations. During those severe winters in the 1960s and 70s he plowed out the roadways to all the neighborhood farms. And he was always willing to pitch in and help his neighbors whenever he could.

Although not a hobby man, Olyn enjoyed the simple things in life. In his youth he loved baseball. Olyn and Bernece liked to play cards, especially Pinochle and whist, with family and friends. During his quiet time at home he enjoyed watching game shows on television. Probably his greatest love was spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Survivors include his three sons and spouses: Leroy and Marilyn

Wolery of Gildford, Sterling and Betty Ann Wolery of Joplin, and Merlin and Patricia Wolery of Rudyard; his daughter and spouse Coleen and Ron Vestal of Aurora, Colorado; three brothers: Wayne and Lloyd Wolery of Joplin, and Elvyn Wolery of Chester; one sister Opal Harrison of Rudyard; 10 grandchildren including: Darwin, Craig, Derek, Jill, Jane, Julie, Trevor, Heather, Ryan and Holly; eight great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. Olyn was preceded in death not only by his wife and parents, but also by a brother Royal Wolery and a granddaughter Jolene Wolery.

Funeral services were conducted at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard at 2:00 pm Friday October 18, 2002. Pastor Dale Wolery and Pastor Tim Singleton officiated. Special piano music was provided by granddaughters Jill Miller and Heather Wolery. The congregation sang "Gift of Finest Wheat" and a special vocal tribute by Sarah Wolery. Ushers were nephews Dan and Loren Wolery. Olyn's grandchildren served as pallbearers and readers. Burial was at the Rudyard Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

PAUL A. ZIMBELMAN

Born: November 14, 1950 - Died: May 30, 2002

Liberty County Times

June 19, 2002

Paul Zimbelman

The funeral for Paul A. Zimbelman, age 51 of West Fargo, and formerly of Oakes, ND, was at 4:00 p.m. Monday

June 10, 2002 at St. Charles Catholic Church in Oakes. The Rev. Julian Kupisz officiated.

Burial was in Oakes View Cemetery with Dahlstrom Funeral Home of Oakes in charge of arrangements.

A prayer service was at 7:30 pm Sunday at the funeral home in Oakes.

Visitation was Sunday at the funeral home.

Paul died of natural causes Thursday, May 30, 2002 at his home in West Fargo.

Paul A. Zimbelman was born November 14, 1950 to Allisen and Barbara (Kelsch) Zimbelman in Oakes. He moved with his family to Rudyard, Montana. In 1961 the family returned to Oakes, where he attended school. He attended college at the University of North Dakota, Ellendale Branch, before

transferring to North Dakota State University in Fargo, where he graduated. After college he returned to the Oakes area and farmed.

Paul married Debra Girard on April 29, 1995 in Oakes. The couple made their home on the Zimbelman family farm. In 2000 he retired from farming due to health reasons. In October 2001 he moved to West Fargo where he lived until the time of his death.

Survivors include his father Allisen (Rachel) Zimbelman of Oakes; one brother Darryl Zimbelman of Hudson; and two sisters: Charlotte (and Dennis) Kenfield of Chester, Montana, and Patty Kraft of Rapid City, South Dakota.

He was preceded in death by his mother.

Pallbearers were Al Zimbelman, Lloyd Gebhardt, Darwin Kunrath, Month Albers, Dean Schmidt and Tom Rodine.