

MILDRED MAY "MILLIE" (CASADY) ADAMS
Birth: October 25, 1915 - Death: September 28, 2003

Liberty County Times
October 8, 2003



"Millie" Adams

Mildred May "Millie" (Casady) Adams was born on October 25, 1915 at Casady, Montana (north of Chinook in Blaine County). She was the youngest of seven children born to Ledden and Stella (Wiseman) Casady. She grew up on the family homestead and received her formal education at a country school near the farm.

In October of 1946 Mildred married Victor D. Adams at Cut Bank, MT. During those early married years, she worked as a clerk at the J. C. Penney stores in Shelby and Havre. After the Adams' moved to a farm seven miles south of Rudyard, Millie worked diligently as a farmwife, homemaker, and mother of eight children. In later years, they made their home at Inverness.

Her husband, Vic, died in 1990. Millie remained in Inverness for a few years, then lived at Hamilton until 1996 when she moved to Spokane, Washington. Her health began to fail the following year, so she transferred to the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre. Millie suffered with cancer. She died at the Havre rest home on Sunday evening, September 28, 2003. She was 87 years old.

Her survivors include four daughters, Darlene Harris of Henning Mennesoty, Karen Leimkuhler of Otis Orchards, Washington, Maria Strissel of Hamilton, and Pamela Adams of San Diego, California; four sons, Victor Adams of Roundup, Terry Agams of New Galilee,

Pennsylvania, Timothy Adams of Fort Benton, and Kelly Adams of Inverness; 21 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; 2 great-great-granddaughters; and numerous nieces and nephews. Millie was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also two sisters (Helen Peelman and Valeria Waldrip) and four brothers (Cedric, Clinton, Robert, and Keith Casady).

While still quite young and living on the family homestead, Millie taught Sunday School to the local children in the hayloft of their barn.

She told many stories about going to school by horseback. In the wintertime, she would ride bareback to take advantage of the horse's warmth. She continued to enjoy horseback riding over the years; in fact, her most recent ride was in the summer of 1999 on her granddaughter's horse in Libby, MT. Millie was 83 years old at that time!

Millie loved music of all kinds. She enjoyed playing the piano and taught many children to play "I love coffee, I love tea." Her children's personal favorite was "I love you a Bush and a Peck!" She loved to sing songs to her children and grandchildren while taking trips in the car.

Millie also loved to play cards of all kinds, especially with her friends when they came to visit. All of the grandchildren learned to play "Kings in the Corners," by Grandma's rules, of course.

Millie was known for her beautiful flower gardens ... several people proclaimed more than once that she had the most spectacular gardens in the Hi-Line. She even grew the flowers for her granddaughter's wedding. And she had an extraordinary "green thumb"; her home was always full of healthy houseplants.

Millie liked her "flip-flops" and big earrings. She never liked to be seen without her makeup and her hair just right! Still, she was an outdoorsy woman who enjoyed camping and fishing. And more often than not, she would always catch the biggest fish on the fishing trip.

Family gatherings were always fun. Millie enjoyed cooking and baking. Her homemade cookies were always great.

Mildred - Millie - Mom - Ma - Grandma - Auntie - and Friend: You always brought sunshine, good advice and a listening ear over a cup of coffee, and love into the lives of everyone you knew. You will be deeply missed, but your precious memories will linger with us forever...

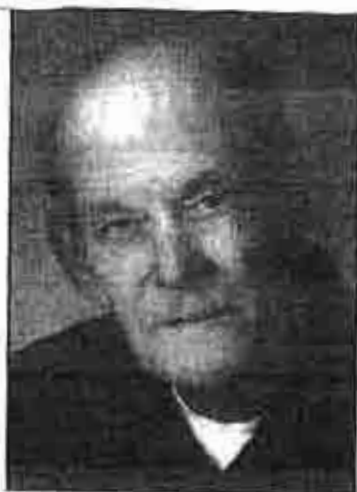
Graveside services with burial of ashes were conducted by Grandson, David Hessig, at the Inverness Cemetery at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 4. Selected taped music included "Fly Like an Eagle," "Just as I am," "Amazing Grace," and "The Wind Beneath My Wings." The service contained special readings, remembrances, and a balloon ceremony. A reception followed at the home of Zane Adams in Rudyard. Arrangements and cremation by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to local cancer charities or foundations.

ROBERT OWEN "BOB" AITKEN

Birth: July 9, 1933 – Death: January 27, 2003

Liberty County Times

February 5, 2003



Robert Aitken

Robert Owen "Bob" Aitken, was born at Conrad, Montana on July 9, 1933. He was the eldest of three children born to Forrest and Inez (Palmbush) Aitken. Bob grew up in Conrad and received his education there. During his school years he was active in FFA and 4-H. He graduated from Conrad High School in 1951. Bob began working as a mechanic at the Ford Dealership in Conrad before accepting a milk delivery route for the Vita-Rich Dairy Company in Pondera County.

Bob met a Wisconsin girl, Carol Mae Zehner, who moved to Montana to teach school in Conrad. They were married on June 26, 1955 at Ladysmith, Wisconsin. The Aitkens lived in Conrad until 1959 when Vita-Rich transferred Bob to a new route at Chester. He delivered dairy products throughout Liberty County until 1965 when Vita-Rich discontinued the routes. Bob worked at the Standard Oil gas station in Chester for a short while, then began working as an equipment operator for the Liberty County Road crew. In 1977 a position opened at the Town of Chester; he worked there as an operator and Shop Foreman until his retirement in 1995.

Bob was active in the Chester community. He was a longtime member of the Volunteer Fires Department and ambulance crew.

A charter member of the Chester Lions Club, and an active Jaycee. Bob served on several boards, including the Liberty County Credit Union and the Liberty County Weed District. He was also a member of the Hi-Line Sportsmen's Club. He loved to stay busy. In his free time he contracted metal/aluminum products for recycling. Always a good neighbor and friend, he enjoyed helping out whenever he could. While working at the Chester landfill Bob resurrected old bicycles and parts then offered this equipment to those in need. These humanitarian efforts prompted his selection as "Area #3 Senior Citizen of the Year" in 1996.

Bob was diagnosed with cancer in February of 2002. He fought the good fight and kept a positive attitude in his treatment. Unfortunately, his condition deteriorated rapidly in the past few weeks. Bob died at the Chester hospital on this past Monday afternoon January 27, 2003. He was 69 years old.

Bob enjoyed many hobbies during his life: hunting, fishing, and family camping were some of his favorites. He was a 'farmer at heart' who loved tractors and farming equipment. He loved to attend the MAGGIE and antique tractor shows, or just stop by an implement dealership to examine the newest equipment. He personally owned several antique tractors, not including his lawn tractors and plows, plus an outstanding collection of 1000 toy tractors. He also collected coins and stamps. A longtime fan of NASCAR racing, he also enjoyed watching NBA basketball—the LA Lakers were his favorite team. During his quiet time at home Bob enjoyed hidden word puzzles, playing cards (Solitaire and Kings-in-the-Corner), and watching old John Wayne war movies. Bob liked to sing privately and enjoyed the old-time Country music. Several years ago he

mechanically restored an old 1953 Military Jeep, which he and the grandkids enjoyed cruising around town during the summer months. Probably his greatest enjoyment in his retirement years was his daily trips to the coffee shop, where he could share stories and news with his friends.

Bob is survived by his wife of 47 years Carol of Chester; one daughter Dawn Hall and husband William of Chester; three sons: Duane Aitken of Chester, Darrell Aitken and wife Joyce of Chester, and Douglas Aitken of Ellensburg, Washington; one sister Helen Stordahl and husband Ralph of Conrad; one sister-in-law Jean Aitken of Conrad; seven grandchildren including Stefi and husband Perry, Nicole, Abbey, Timon, Brandon, Julie, and Gretchen; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother James.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 pm Friday January 31, 2003 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Pastor Peter Erickson. As a special tribute, the "Chester Music Makers" provided prelude music. The congregation sang "Abide With Me," accompanied by organist Karen Slack. Selected vocal tributes by Bryan Oswood were "It Is No Secret," and "One Day at a Time." Ushers were Jason Jacobson and Ron Christenson. Pallbearers were Charles Green, Dick Burrows, Steve Cameron, Quannah Bailey, Jim Ronshaugen, and Don Marble. Honorary bearers were listed as Wilbur Eveland, and the "Spud's Coffee Crew." Following burial at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to the Chester Swim Team, VICA, or donor's choice.

DAVID EUGENE ALLEY

Born: March 17, 1949 - Died: January 10, 2003

Liberty County Times

January 15, 2003



David Alley

David Eugene Alley was born in Havre, Montana on March 17, 1949. He was one of three children born to Bert W. Alley and Kathryn "Kay" VanDessel. Dave grew up at Joplin and received his education there, graduating from Joplin High School in 1967. During his school years he excelled in sports and still holds the Shot Put record at Joplin High School. Dave continued his education at Northern Montana College in Havre, where he played football for one semester.

He married Faith Ann Knab in Joplin on June 26, 1968. They made their home in Joplin with their three children until their marriage ended in divorce. Dave lived and worked in the Joplin community his entire life. He farmed with his brother north of town; Dave enjoyed farming and could sit behind the steering wheel of a tractor from sunup to sundown. In addition to farming, the Alley family ran a Lawn Service business in the Hi-Line communities during the past 20 years. Dave also drove bus for the J-I School system for 24 years. Because of a disabling heart condition Dave quit his job as school bus driver in 2001.

A well-known Hi-Line sports enthusiast, Dave enjoyed competing in adult sports, including softball, bowling, and golf. He played in the Hi-Line Softball League for 20+ years. An exceptional First Baseman in his

prime, he spent his summer weekends playing in softball tournaments around the state. More than once he was selected to tournament 'All-Star' teams for his excellent play and his athletic "split-like stretch" at First Base. His favorite league team was the Joplin Big Sky Husky Sky Digs, but he played with several other teams for tournament action. In later years he worked as a softball referee for the Hi-Line leagues.

Dave played Little League baseball in his youth and coached Little League as an adult. He also served as the J-Junior High Basketball Coach in the early 1980s. He also volunteered as a JV and Junior High referee for several years. A loyal supporter and fan of J-I sports, Dave was especially proud of the girl's volleyball team. Many times he drove the team bus, assisted with paperwork and stats, and served as a Line Judge during volleyball play. Dave enjoyed helping with school events, and was always ready to volunteer for community projects, too.

Dave was a member of Bethel Lutheran Church where he was baptized and confirmed. In addition he was a past member of the Joplin Fire Department and a past President of the Joplin Commercial Club. In his youth Dave was an active Boy Scout. In fact, he had attained the rank of Eagle Scout. He cared for his fellow man and was a loyal blood donor for many years.

Dave enjoyed deer hunting, shooting gophers, and ice fishing. He loved playing cards, especially Cribbage and "Spite & Malice" with his mother and brother. His favorite sports teams included the New York Yankees, Indianapolis Colts, and Los Angeles Lakers. He was also an avid fan of the World Wrestling Federation. Dave enjoyed tinkering in his shop. As a recent hobby he began making outdoor lighted Christmas trees

by stacking, soldering, and wiring paint cans together.

Dave loved his family, who affectionately called him 'Big Wally' or 'Big Dave' over the years. He was a proud grandfather to Nicholas and was looking forward to meeting two more grandchildren who were expected soon.

Dave was getting ready to go to the J-I vs. Chester basketball game on Friday evening January 10, 2003 when he suddenly collapsed at home. He was rushed to the Chester hospital where resuscitative efforts were to no avail. He died at the age of 53.

Survivors include two sons and wives: Micheal and Lisa Alley, and Martin and Patty Alley, all of Joplin; his daughter Michelle Alley of Omaha, Nebraska; mother Kay Alley of Joplin; brother and wife Duane and Nancy Alley of Joplin; nephew Jarad Alley of Tempe, Arizona; niece Danette Alley of Gilbert, Arizona; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Dave is also survived by grandson Nicholas Alley, and a brand new grandson Nolan James Opitz who was born

January 12th and weighed 9 lbs. 12 oz.

Dave was preceded in death by his father in 1984, and his sister Judy in 1981.

Memorial services will be 1:00 pm Thursday January 16, 2003 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Cremation and arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Joplin Community Hall, Joplin Fire Department, Liberty County Hospital, or donor's choice.

BEULAH PEARLE (THORSON) ANDERSON
Birth: November 17, 1919 – Death: April 21, 2003
Liberty County Times
May 7, 2003



Beulah Anderson

Beulah Pearle (Thorson) Anderson, age 83, a former Montana resident, went to be with her Lord and Savior on Monday April 21, 2003 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Beulah was born November 17, 1919 at Joplin, Montana. She was the youngest of five children born to Gilbert and Mabel (Lewis) Thorson. She grew up at Joplin and received her education there, graduating from Joplin High School as the Valedictorian of the Class of 1937. She continued her education at Northern Montana College at Havre where she earned her teaching certificate in 1939. In the few years that followed, Beulah taught school at Minneota, Hysham, and White Sulphur Springs.

Beulah married Donald L. Anderson on May 23, 1943 at

Joplin, MT. She took time off from teaching to work as homemaker and mother of three. During their married life, the Andersons lived at Havre, north Chester, Augusta, and Fairfield. She eventually returned to her teaching profession. She taught Kindergarten classes at Choteau for 20 years. In 1974 she proudly earned her B.A. degree in Education from the College of Great Falls.

The Andersons were married 47 years at the time of Donald's death in 1990. Beulah remained in the Fairfield community for several years before moving to Edgewood, New Mexico to be near a daughter. In 2002 she moved to Atlanta, Georgia to spend time with another daughter. She remained in Georgia until her death.

Beulah was an active member of the churches she attended, teaching Sunday School for many years, and serving as an officer and volunteer in the church women organizations. Of historical interest is the fact that Beulah and Donald were baptized, confirmed, married and buried through the Bethel Lutheran Parish in Joplin. Beulah was a prayer warrior extraordinaire, often spending over two hours each day in prayer for her family, friends, church, and nation. Her family described her as "an angel on earth." Perhaps that is why she was so drawn to angel figurines, which she collected for many years.

In her quiet time at home, Beulah loved to read anything and everything, especially her Bible. She was a dedicated caregiver throughout her life. She was also loyal to family and friends with frequent contacts via phone calls, cards, and letters. In addition to angels, she also collected thimbles. Beulah was an excellent cook and baker. Her home always had those wonderful aromas of baked breads, cookies, and pies.

She is survived by three children and their spouses

Including: Donis and Dough Leach of Stone Mountain, Georgia, Barry and Cary Anderson of Roundup, Montana, and Laura Lyn and Neal Kasper of Edgewood, New Mexico; seven grandchildren: Dana handler, Justin leach, Joel Kasper, Larisa Anderson, Tyler Kasper, Cole Anderson, and Prosper Anderson; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Beulah was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by three sisters: Gladys Thorson, Alviva Tabor, and Violet Leichner; and one brother Clifford Thorson.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 am Tuesday May 13, 2003 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Burial of ashes will follow at the Joplin Cemetery. Local arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be sent to the Benefis Foundation, Gift of Life, P.O. Box 7008, Great Falls, MT 59406.

JOHN ASKVOLD JR.
Birth:1917 – Death: January 28, 2003
Liberty County Times
February 5, 2003

John Askvold Jr.

John Askvold Jr., age 85, died Tuesday January 28, 2003 at a Havre care center.

He was a World War II veteran and retired pharmacist, who at one time owned Liberty Drug in Chester.

Survivors include a step-daughter Gladys Jacobson of Malta.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Adams Funeral Home and Hi-Line Crematory in charge of arrangements.

MARILYN FAYE (BEBEE) BARROWS
Birth: May 18, 1954 – Death: July 13, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 16, 2003



Marilyn Barrows

Marilyn Faye (Bebée) Barrows, age 49 of Sunburst, MT, went home to Jesus at her home Sunday July 13, 2003 after a lengthy battle with cancer. A memorial service was Tuesday July 15th 2:00 PM, at the Sunburst Methodist Church. Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby, MT in charge of arrangements.

She was born May 18, 1954 at Malta, Montana to Frank and Loretta (Henderson) Bebee, where she grew up and graduated from high school in 1972. Marilyn married Brian Barrows July 9, 1994 at Malta.

Marilyn worked as a bank teller at the First National Bank in Powell, WY and the First State Bank in Malta. She dedicated her life to her children, husband, family and friends. She was a devoted and talented homemaker. Marilyn loved making dried flower arrangements and crafts for her family and friends. Those lucky enough to be touched by her kindness will always remember her beautiful smile and the twinkle of her eyes. Her loving spirit will live on in all of us. She attended the Sunburst Methodist Church.

Survivors include her husband and love of her life.

Brian Barrows of Sunburst; sons, Charlie and Andy Scott of Powell, Wyoming, Shad (deAmbra) Barrows of Miles City; a daughter, Cristy Barrows of Bandera, Texas; parents, Frank and Loretta Bebee of Malta; brothers Dennis (Joy) Bebee, Jim (Deb) Bebee all of Malta; sisters Theresa (Bob) Frye of Malta, Cindy Bebee of Chinook, Annie (Shannon) Dunk of Sunburst, and Connie (Bruce) Knudsen of Billings; mother-in-law, Doris Ehli of Sweet Grass; sister-in-law Artha (Dick) Dunk of Sunburst; brother-in-law Lee (Udeen) Barrows of Great Falls; grandchildren: Michael, MIMI, Kara, Conagher and Aiden; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

The family wishes to express their gratitude and appreciation to the entire Sunburst, Sweet Grass and Kevin communities for their generosity and support.

Memorials in lieu of flowers may be sent to H.I.S. Ministries, P.O. Box 174, Sunburst, MT 59482.

JOSEPH BAUMGARTNER
Born: April 8, 1911 – Died: September 25, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
September 28, 2003

Joseph Baumgartner

Joseph Baumgartner, 92, of 1500 32nd St. S., a retired farmer and rancher, died of natural causes



Baumgartner

Thursday at a local nursing home.

His funeral is 11 a.m. Monday at O'Connor Memorial Chapel, with burial in Pleasant View Cemetery in Belt. O'Connor

Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Survivors include a sister, Elizabeth Ryffel of Belt; five nieces and one nephew.

He was born April 8, 1911, near Fingal, N.D. He came to Montana with his parents in 1916, growing up and receiving his schooling in Chester and later the Monarch area. In 1944, he moved to Belt where his family owned the S.L. Crane Ranch. The family sold the ranch in 1962 and moved to Simms, where he and his brother, Julius, farmed until 1989.

He enjoyed playing the role of an elf, along with his brother Julius, who played Santa Claus at Christmas for children in Simms. He played the accordion by ear, and had a special love of raising and breaking horses.

He was preceded in death by a brother and a sister.

Memorials are suggested to the Simms Fire Department or Park Place Health Care Center Special Care Unit.

— Reprinted at request of the family.

GEORGIA (REYNOLDS) BIRCH
Born: July 3, 1919 – Died: December 29, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
January 3, 2004

Georgia Birch

SPOKANE — Former Montana resident Georgia (Reynolds) Birch, 84, died of natural causes Monday at a Spokane nursing home.



Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Survivors include sons Jim Birch of Spokane and Lowell Birch of Santa Rosa, Calif.; sisters Phyllis Curtis of Great Falls and Helena Baggerly of Beaverton, Ore.; and four grandchildren.

She also is survived by many nieces, nephews and friends.

Georgia was born July 3, 1919, to John and Pauline Reynolds of Kremlin, Mont. She married Russell Birch in June 1941. They lived in Cut Bank, Mont., until the early 1950s, and then moved to Kalispell, Mont., where Russell passed away in 1962. Georgia moved to Spokane in 1987 to be near her son Jim.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Dennis, in 1970; two brothers, Norman and John Reynolds of Kremlin; and a sister, Corrine Jones of Post Falls, Idaho.

CARL EUGENE "GENE" BJORNSTAD
Birth: January 17, 1925 - Death: May 10, 2003
Liberty County Times
May 14, 2003



Gene Bjornstad

Carl Eugene "Gene" Bjornstad was born at Havre, Montana on January 17, 1925. He was the only child of Carl and Ida Mae (Young) Bjornstad. Gene grew up on the family homestead 25 miles north of Joplin. He received his early education at the Tingdahl School near the farm. He completed his schooling in Joplin where he graduated from Joplin High School in 1942. Gene started farming at age 13 after his

father died and continued to farm after his school years.

Gene began building his own home on the farm in 1947. He married Dawn E. Ross in Joplin on June 28, 1948. They made their home on the farm during the past 55 years, where they worked and raised a family of three. Gene officially retired in 1992, but continued to be active in the farming operations as best he could.

His health had failed in recent years. He died peacefully in his sleep at home on the early morning hours of Saturday May 10, 2003. He was 78 years old.

Gene was baptized and confirmed at Immanuel Lutheran church and remained active there for many years. He was past president of the Hill County Farm Bureau and served as a Liberty County ASCS board member for 25 years.

A quiet, unassuming man, he enjoyed the simple things in life. He loved woodworking, and made many of the furnishings and fixtures in their home. Some of his woodworking projects were made

as gifts to his family. In his earlier years, he enjoyed snowmobiling, fishing, and hunting. Although Gene wasn't a TV fan, he did like to watch the news and weather, the PBS channel, and professional hockey and football. The only time he enjoyed playing cards and games was on three occasions: Halloween, New Year's Eve, and his birthday, when he and Dawn would get together with the same good friends each year to celebrate these holidays. In 1973 the Bjornstads took a memorable trip to Israel. Gene loved his role as a Montana farmer and was very content with his life.

Gene is survived by his wife Dawn Bjornstad of Joplin; three children: Donald "Barney" Bjornstad and wife Alvinia of Joplin, Barbara Nelson of Billings, and Robert Bjornstad and wife Rose of Missoula; seven grandchildren including: Cameron, Cale, Laura Dawn, Felicia, Halcyon, Jocelyn, and Kayleith; one great-grandson Caden; and several nephews and nieces.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents and two sons-in-law John Pierce and Ron Nelson.

Memorial services will be 2:00 pm today (Wednesday) May 14, 2003 at the Chester Alliance Church. Pastor Scott Davis will officiate. Greta Davis will serve as pianist and the congregation will sing "Children of the Heavenly Father" A granddaughter, Jocelyn, will sing a solo accompanied by her mother Rose. A special taped selection which was written and sung by nieces Lisa and Missy Beedy entitled "I Wish you Could see me" will be played. Family friend Paul Sundgren will share the eulogy, and Kip Lybeck will read the scripture.

Honorary bearers are friends Donald Fusk, Rex Gulick, Kip Lybeck, Norbert VanDessel, Robert VanDessel, and Rolph Foster.

A luncheon will follow the service at the church. Graveside services and burial of ashes will be 4:30 pm Wednesday at the Joplin Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

LOUISE "ROBBIE" (ROBISON) BLAKE
Born: 1914 – Died: December 15, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
December 20, 2003

Louise 'Robbie' Blake

KALISPELL — Lothair native Louise "Robbie" (Robison) Blake, 89, of Kalispell, a former nurse and L.A. Lakers fan, died of natural causes Monday at Immanuel Lutheran Home.

Her memorial service will be in the spring. Johnson Mortuary and Crematory is handling arrangements.

Survivors include sons Wayne J. Blake of Kalispell and Ron E. Blake of Marion; sisters Nadene Larson of Havre and Ardyce Swank of Chester; seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

MARJORY (ANDERSON) BLOMQUIST
Birth: N/A – Death: June 19, 2003
Liberty County Times
June 25, 2003

Marjory Blomquist

Marjory (Anderson) Blomquist, age 84, a Scobey homemaker, died of Alzheimer's disease Thursday June 19, 2003 in Scobey.

Survivors include her husband Gordon Blomquist of Scobey; a daughter Carol Erbe of McKinney, Texas; sons Gordon LeRoy Blomquist, and Ron Blomquist of Browning, and Rick Blomquist of Missoula; a sister Millicent Knoss of Rock Glen, Saskatchewan, Canada; 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Her funeral was at 11:00 am Monday at Scobey Lutheran Church, with burial in Scobey Cemetery. Waller Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

BEN ALFRED BRADBURY, JR.

Birth: December 19, 1936 – Death: May 26, 2003

Liberty County Times

June 4, 2003



Ben Bradbury, Jr.

Ben Alfred Bradbury, Jr. was born December 19, 1936 at Havre, Montana. He was the only son of three children born to Beulah Wilcox and Ben Bradbury, Sr. He grew up at Rudyard and received his formal education there, graduating from Rudyard High School in 1955. In the few years that followed, he worked on the family farm.

Ben enlisted in the US Army in 1957. He attended aviation school and attained the rank of Specialist 4 before his honorable discharge in 1960. He transferred to the Army Reserve Corps until 1963.

Following his military years, Ben attended college at the University of Montana where he received his degree in Education. He continued his schooling in Colorado where he earned his Master's Degree in Mathematics.

Ben pursued a career in teaching in the late 1960s and early 70s. He taught school at

Browning for four years, then served as Principal at Sunburst, and eventually became Superintendent at Ryegate.

Ben married Judy A. Blaquiere on May 26, 1973 at Las Vegas, Nevada. They made their home at Lake Blaine. Ben operated several businesses in the Flathead Valley, including Danny's Restaurant. When Ben's father became ill in 1979, they moved back to Rudyard to help on the family farm. They lived in Rudyard from that time on and raised their family of two. In 1993 the Bradburys began wintering at Quartzsite, Arizona. They had recently returned to Rudyard. On this past Monday (Memorial Day) May 26, 2003 Ben died peacefully in his sleep at home. He was 66 years old.

In his younger years Ben enjoyed hunting, fishing, and camping. He continued to love fishing and traveling. He was a strong believer in education; he improved his personal knowledge through his love of reading. During his quiet time at home he enjoyed playing Solitaire or board games with his family. Ben loved to laugh, and even through his poor health he maintained his good sense of humor. His family was very important to him; they will remember Ben as a "kind-hearted father" and a "loving husband."

Ben is survived by his wife of 30 years Judy Bradbury of Rudyard; daughter Brook Bradbury of Las Vegas, Nevada; son Brad Bradbury of Rudyard; two sisters Beverly Leopold of Wichita Falls, Texas, and Bonita

Baker of Shelton, Washington; and several nieces and nephews. Ben was preceded in death by his parents.

It was Ben's wishes to be cremated without fanfare. In remembrance of his life, the family held a small gathering at the home of Alfred Bradbury, 171 – 17th St. in Havre from 2:00-4:00 pm on Saturday May 31st.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

WILLAGENE (BERG) BRANDT
Birth: June 25, 1940 – Death: November 16, 2003
Liberty County Times
November 26, 2003

***Willagene
Brandt***

Harlem Native and former Chester resident Willagene (Berg) Brandt, age 63 of Missoula, died of natural causes Sunday November 16, 2003 of natural causes at St. Patrick Hospital in Missoula.

She was born June 25, 1940 in Harlem, Montana to Jessel and Georgia (Granger) Berg.

Willagene was raised and educated in Chester, graduating from Chester High School in 1958. After high school she attended Kinman Business School in Spokane, Washington for a year before returning in 1959 and working at the bank in Chester.

On August 3, 1950 Willagene married her high school sweetheart, Loren Brandt, in Great Falls. They made their family home in Shelby. After several moves, Willagene and Loren settled in Superior in 1978. She worked for the US Forest Service for several years before she and Loren moved to Missoula in 1986. Willagene worked for Riverside Contracting Inc. for several years before she retired in 2002.

Willagene liked fishing, music, and gardening but her greatest enjoyment was her grandchildren. She was a very giving person, always putting other before herself. Willagene was always trying to find someone to help out.

Willagene is survived by her husband Loren of Missoula; children Lori Brandt of Lewistown, Brenda Lewis and husband Dan of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Tania Hutchin and husband Robin of Vancouver, Washington, and Lyn Brandt of Post Falls, Idaho; brothers Jim Berg and wife Beverly of Longview, Washington, and George Berg and wife Cynthia of Grosse Point Farms, Michigan; a sister Jessalyn Dilling and husband Richard of North Bend, Washington; 14 grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister

Nancy Gifford.

Visitation was from 6:00-8:00 pm Tuesday November 18, 2003 at Garden City Funeral Home in Missoula. Her funeral was at 2:00 pm Wednesday November 19 at the funeral home. Burial was in Missoula Cemetery. There was a reception at the funeral home's community room following the burial.

Palbearers were Dan Lewis, Robin Hutchin, Richard Dilling, and Dan Neff.

The family suggests that memorials be made in Willagene's name to the charity of the donor's choice.

DIANTHA ELIZABETH (DIGNIN) BRANEN
Born: May 17, 1904 – Died: August 30, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
September 3, 2003

Diantha Elizabeth Branen

Diantha Elizabeth (Dignin) Branen, 99, a longtime educator and political activist, died of natural causes Saturday at the Rosetta House, where she had been a resident the past two months.

Visitation is 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday at Schnider Funeral Home. A vigil is 7 p.m. Thursday at Hillcrest Lawn Memorial Chapel. Her funeral is 10 a.m. Friday at the University of Great Falls Chapel, with burial in Mount Olivet Cemetery.

Diantha is survived by her nieces Diane Dehne-Killpack and Lorna (David) Nelson; her nephew Edward Dignin; her grand-niece



**Branen
in 1970s**

Coleen MacDonald; her grand-nephews Michael Nelson, Aaron Dehne and Franklin Nelson; great-great-nephew Morgan Nelson and great-great-niece Mary Jen Nelson.

Born May 17, 1904, in Chilton, Wis., Diantha was the eldest of three children born to Edward Dignin and Ella Chesner Dignin. Her brothers, who were twins, preceded her in death; Eddie died of spina bifida when he was 6 months of age, and his brother Franklin died in 1960. Her parents also preceded her in death, Edward in 1949 and Ella in 1957.

The family moved from St. Paul, Minn., to homestead in Inverness, Mont. Diantha grew up among aunts, uncles and cousins who had also taken up homesteading in the area. She attended school in Inverness, having to walk three miles each way, and was valedictorian of the first graduating high school class of Inverness.

After graduation, Diantha enrolled at Eastern Washington College in Cheney, Wash., and earned a two-year degree in education. She began her teaching career in rural Washington schools, boarding with families and riding a horse to and from school. These families treated her as a daughter, and she often joked how they protected her "virtue" from the young men of the community by closely chaperoning her.

During summer vacations, Diantha finished earning teaching credits at the University of Washington, where she finally received her four-year degree. In 1931, she took a job in Port Angeles, Wash., at Roosevelt Junior High School, where she taught middle-school English from 1931 to 1941.

It was in Port Angeles that she met her husband, Fred Branen, an Army engineer, at a USO dance. They were married in 1937.

She also taught in California, Texas, and at Paris Gibson Junior High School in Great Falls. Known for being a member of the old school of strict disciplinarians, Diantha was fondly remembered by her former students as "Old Lady Rough Guts."

She finished her teaching career in 1961 at Clover Park High School in Tacoma, Wash., where she retired after 31 years of teaching. Then, after a sojourn in Europe, she and her husband settled in Great Falls at 520 6th Ave. N.

World travelers, Diantha and Fred traveled around the world at least five times by boat, train and plane, visiting most of the countries of Europe and Asia. At one point, they housesat for friends in Mallorca, Spain, for a year. They also traveled to all 50 states. Their knowledge of Spanish, French and German made many friends for them. They had been married 53 years at the time of Fred's death in 1990 at the age of 85.

After Fred's death, Diantha continued her travels by taking a riverboat trip in Russia and Mexico with Dorothy Bohn (a close friend and political ally in the Cascade County Democratic Party) and a trip to the Orient in 1994.

The extent of her travels can be seen from the fact that each Christmas, she sent out 250 Christmas cards and handwritten notes to friends she had made in her travels around the world.

An avid Democrat, Diantha was an astute political observer and commentator. She was proud to be a champion of the "wage slaves" and "gored oxen" of the world, and she let people know it. Strong-willed and outspoken, Diantha was never one to "hide her light under a bushel." She was also active in BPW, AAUW and the College of Great Falls Faculty Wives Guild.

Although Diantha and Fred never had children of their own, Diantha had nephews and nieces to whom she was close. She was loved by the students whom she had taught over the years, being invited to reunions when she was in her 90s and her students in their 70s.

Memorials are suggested to Benefis Peace Hospice, the Great Falls Rescue Mission, or Save the Bridge Foundation.

Diantha and Fred were often applauded as superb dancers. Now she and Fred are dancing forever among the stars.

THERESA A. BROOKS
Birth: 1915 - Death: April 5, 2003
Liberty County Times
April 9, 2004

Theresa Brooks

Theresa A. Brooks, age 88, who grew up in Chester, died Saturday April 5, 2003 at St. Mary's Nursing Home in Kansas, of natural causes. Theresa graduated from the Columbus Hospital School of Nursing in 1936, and worked for Dr. Casey from 1956 until retiring in 1976.

Survivors include a daughter Marta Bowers of Delia, Kansas; four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Harvey P. Brooks on August 9, 2002; and a son Vernon Joseph "Butch" Brooks on September 14, 1997.

Visitation was 2:00 p.m. Monday April 7, 2003 at Piper-Verscheiden Funeral Home in St. Mary's. Funeral Mass was at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday April 8 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Emmett, Kansas with burial in Holy Cross Cemetery.

MARY "LOUISE" (SPOONER) BRUG
Born: May 15, 1897 - Died: December 10, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
December 12, 2003

Brug, known for her keen sense of fashion, dies at 106

By CATHY GRETCH
Tribune Staff Writer

Mary "Louise" (Spooner) Brug, of 2910 7th Ave. N., a Minnesota native who had lived in Montana for the past 90 years, died of natural causes Wednesday at her home. She was 106.

Rosary is 7 this evening at O'Connor Memorial Chapel.



Brug

Funeral Mass is 11 a.m. Saturday at Holy Family Catholic Church, with burial in Mount Olivet Cemetery. O'Connor

Funeral Home

is handling arrangements.

She is survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Carl, in 1969; her parents, Cyprian and Mary Spooner; a sister, Julia Spooner Fink; and brothers Joseph, Benjamin and Thomas Spooner.

Mary "Louise" Spooner was born May 15, 1897, in Faribault, Minn., and grew up on the family farm. She received her high school diploma from Bethlehem Academy in Faribault, where she boarded during the week and went home weekends by horse and buggy.

Her father decided to move the family, and he and her brothers went ahead to North Dakota and then to Montana, where they homesteaded in the Chester-Joplin area. The rest of the family joined them after Louise had graduated.

After her father's death in 1915, the other members of the family stayed on the farm and she went to work to support them. She worked as a phone

operator and hotel clerk in Joplin, traveling home to the farm on weekends. She continued to be the support of her family until her marriage.

She married Carl F. Brug on May 15, 1923, her 26th birthday, at St. Joseph's Church in Great Falls. They first lived in Shelby, where she was involved in society, playing bridge and attending teas, and later moved to Great Falls.

Louise was a "true clotheshorse," according to her niece Loretta Bryant, one of her caretakers for the past several years.

During her time in Minnesota, she became conscious of fashion. When Louise first arrived in Montana, she was

impeccably dressed in the best of current fashion — "big hat, dress, parasol, the works," said Bryant — and then she got to Joplin, "which didn't even have sidewalks. She was completely out of place in her finery, but she stuck with it."

Her love of clothes never left her, even in her later years. After being widowed at 72, even though she lived alone, she insisted on getting

dressed every day in a dress, hose and shoes. "None of this lying around all day in her robe," said Bryant. "That just wasn't done."

After Louise's marriage, she became a notary public, assisting her husband in his accounting practice. Although they had no children of their own, she had been "half-mother, half-sister," to her youngest sister, Bryant's mother, Julia, and also helped out at the St. Thomas Orphanage in Great Falls during the 1940s.

Although Louise never flew in an airplane or embraced any later technology, including computers, she did have her hobbies in addition to clothes.

She loved shopping and liked her coupons, Bryant said. They'd often drive all over town, using \$2 worth of gas to redeem a 25 cent coupon, other family members complained.

She also enjoyed cooking, reading recipes the way other people read books, and owned "every gadget, pot and pan you could think of to cook with."

Known for her sewing ability, she was an expert in intricate crocheting and beautiful embroidery, making many beautiful items for her home and for others.

She continued to live in her own home, although after a fall several years ago, family members came in to help care for her.

Although she was fairly reserved and didn't dwell on the past, "Aunt Louise was a very charming, gracious lady, who enjoyed people and was always happy to see others.

"She was always the belle of the ball," said Bryant.

Memorials in her name are suggested to Holy Spirit Catholic Church or the donor's choice.



Brug in 1923

CORRECTION

Mary Louise Brug

The obituary in Friday's Tribune for Mary Louise Brug, 106, a homemaker, who died of natural causes Wednesday at her home, should have listed a brother, Alphonse Spooner, as preceding her in death.

MICHAEL J. BURKHARTSMEYER
Birth: September 6, 1913 – Death: July 6, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 16, 2003



**Michael
Burkhartsmeier**

Michael J. Burkhartsmeier, age 89, died Sunday July 6, 2003 at a Great Falls hospital of natural causes.

Michael was born September 6, 1913 to Josephine and Gottlieb Burkhartsmeier at home on the homestead between Goldstone and Fairchild, north of Hingham. He attended a country school between Inverness and Rudyard until the 8th grade. He then went to work doing various jobs.

As a young man, he had many adventures. Once he hopped a train and rode in a boxcar to California and back. He later came back to the Hi-Line where he started to farm and ranch in Hingham and Gildford area. In 1962 he married Doris (Esplin) Horinek. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Elks, and the Eagles Clubs. His passion was hunting and fishing with his nephews and on Saturday nights he could be seen out dancing. He was very close to his family and will be missed by all.

He is survived by his daughter

Linda and husband Craig Patrick; and son Ralph Burkhartsmeier all of Hingham; grandchildren include: Kim, Kile, Sadie, and Robin Patrick, and Trevin, Thad, and Shilo Burkhartsmeier; a brother A.F. Burkhartsmeier of Chinook; and sisters Katy Yeager of Havre, and Christine Hanses of Hingham.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, and his wife Doris.

Prayer Vigil Service was held 7:00 pm Wednesday July 9, 2003, with Funeral Mass at 11:00 am Thursday July 10, 2003 both at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham, with Father Joseph Diekhans officiating. Sharon Spicher accompanied soloists Marcus Jochim and Terry Stevenson. Pallbearers were Joe Raunig, Terry Stevenson, Joe Hanses, Tim Hanses, Mark Burkhartsmeier, and Bill Burkhartsmeier. A fellowship followed the service at the church. Burial was held after the fellowship luncheon at the Highland Cemetery. Memorials in Michael's honor may be made to a memorial of one's choice.

Services and arrangements are under the direction of Holland & Bonine Funeral Home, Havre.

DARELL CADY
Birth: 1943 - Death: July 1, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 23, 2003

Darell Cady dies from heart attack

Word has been received that Darell Cady, age 60, passed away July 1 at Libby, Montana, from a heart attack.

Darell was born in Havre and lived in Inverness, attending the Inverness School.

He was married to Helen Aaberg, who had relatives in the Sweetgrass Hills area.

He is survived by his daughter, Melissa Peterson, of Homer, Alaska; two grandchildren; a sister Alvina Tempel of Joplin; and two brothers, Stanley Cady of Silver Springs, Nevada, and Bill Cady of Libby, Montana.

There were no services.

JANE (ZYGMOND) CALLAHAN
Born: January 4, 1927 - Died: March 15, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
March 16, 2003

Jane Callahan

HAVRE — Havre native Jane (Zygmund) Callahan, 76, of Havre, a retired dental assistant, died Saturday at Peace Hospice of Montana of cancer.



Callahan

A rosary and vigil are 7 p.m. Tuesday at St. Jude's Catholic Church. Her memorial service is 10 a.m. Wednesday at the church, with burial of ashes in

Highland Cemetery. Croxford and Sons Funeral Home in Great Falls is handling arrangements.

Survivors include her husband, John Callahan of Havre; daughters Shannon (Owen) Johnson of Billings; Maureen (Russ) Wicks of Ledger and Kerry (Bob) Bronson of Great Falls; sons Pat Callahan of Seward, Alaska and Tim Callahan of Havre; a sister, Margaret Webb of Havre; brothers Lou Zygmund of Billings, Alex Zygmund of Mesa, Ariz., and Joe Zygmund of Havre; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Alex and Olga Zygmund and brothers John and Jack Zygmund.

She was born January 4, 1927, in Havre, where she was raised and educated. She attended St. Judes Grade School and graduated from Havre High School in 1945, then attended Northern Montana College in Havre. She worked as a dental assistant for Dr. Ray Gallus and Dr. Floyd Valie.

She was a member of Catholic Daughters and St. Gerard's Circle. She enjoyed sewing, reading and the cabin at Beaver Creek.

Memorials are suggested to St. Judes Catholic School or Peace Hospice of Montana.


JOHN H. CALLAHAN
Born: May 10, 1926 - Died: May 4, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
May 11, 2003

John H. Callahan

HAVRE — John H. Callahan, 76, an electrician who had served in the Merchant Marines, died of lung cancer May 4 at Peace Hospice Residence Center.



Callahan

 Funeral Mass is 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Jude's Catholic Church in Havre, with burial in Highland Cemetery. Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory of Great Falls is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include daughters Shannon (Owen) Johnson of Billings, Maureen (Russ) Wicks of Ledger and Kerry (Bob) Bronson of Great Falls; sons Patrick Callahan of Seward, Alaska, and Timothy Callahan of Havre; sisters Kathleen Overcast of Quincy, Wash., and Patricia Morris of Havre; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jane (Zygmond) Callahan.

John was born May 10, 1926, in Havre, and attended St. Jude's grade school. He graduated from Havre High School in 1944 and attended Northern Montana College.

After attending the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, N.Y., he was stationed at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center near Chicago, and served as a clerk typist for the Army. He later worked for Havre Electric Co., eventually owning the business.

He married Jane Zygmond in 1949 at St. Jude's Church in Havre; she died March 15, 2003.

John was an avid sports fan and Chicago Cubs supporter. He was a member of the 1941 Havre High School state championship football team, and the 1957 state championship fast pitch softball team. He spent a number of years officiating basketball and umpiring softball. He was inducted into the Montana Softball Hall of Fame in 1993. He was also a member of the Knights of Columbus, Elks, Eagles and Havre Central Booster Club.

Following his retirement, John enjoyed spending time at the family cabin in the Bear Paw Mountains, golfing, and following his grandchildren's sports activities.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Tom and Lydia Callahan; and a brother, Patrick.

Memorials are suggested to St. Jude's Catholic School or Peace Hospice.

WILBUR MARION "BILL" CAVITT, JR.
Born: August 29, 1927 – Died: December 22, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
December 28, 2003

Wilbur Marion 'Bill' Cavitt Jr.

BIG SANDY — Wilbur Marion "Bill" Cavitt Jr., 76, of Big Sandy, a farmer and rancher, died of natural causes Monday at a Big Sandy hospital.



Cavitt

His funeral is 2 p.m. Saturday at United Methodist Church in Big Sandy, with visitation an hour before the service. Burial with

Masonic rites will be in Big Sandy Cemetery. Benton Funeral Home of Fort Benton is in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Darlene Cavitt of Big Sandy; daughters Kathleen "Kathi" Reinertson of Escondido, Calif., and Patti Gasvoda of Big Sandy; a son, John Cavitt of San Diego; sisters Betty Bjornrude of Kallispell, Mildred Hajek-Dobeas of Great Falls and Lucille Russell of Ledger; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Bill was born to Wilbur and Vivian (Edmister) Cavitt on Aug. 29, 1927, in Great Falls. He attended the Grandview School north of Galata.

Bill Cavitt and Rosemary Cole were united in marriage in 1947

in Chester. A daughter, Kathleen Rae, was born to this union.

The family farmed and ranched north of Galata, and later moved to the Big Sandy area, where they bought a farm. The marriage ended in divorce.

Bill and Darlene Kessler were married Oct. 17, 1965, at the Rohrer Methodist Church in Big Sandy. Two children were born to this union, Patti Cavitt-Gasvoda and John Cavitt.

Bill was a lifetime farmer and rancher. In 1987, Bill and Darlene purchased the Farmers Union Building, where they opened the Farm and Ranch Supply Store in Big Sandy.

Bill enjoyed restoring old vehicles and old machinery. He liked to teach the younger generation and was always willing to help anyone in need.

He always commented on what wonderful communities Big Sandy and Galata were. He never forgot the help he received when his house burned after moving to the Big Sandy area. He was amazed at the people who came to help whom he had never met.

Bill was a 50-year Mason, a member of the Bear Paw Chapter 100 Order of the Eastern Star, and a Shriner.

Memorials may be made to the Big Sandy Medical Center or to the donor's choice.

LORENE (FEY) CHRISTIAN

Birth: September 19, 1905 – Death: January 29, 2003

Great Falls Tribune

February 2, 2003

Lorene Christian

Lorene (Fey) Christian, 97, who for many years ranched with her husband in the Sweet Grass Hills, died Wednesday in Shelby of natural causes.



Christian

Visitation is 1 to 5:30 p.m. Monday at the Whitted Funeral Chapel. A vigil service is 7 p.m. Monday at St. Williams Catholic Church in Shelby.

Her funeral Mass is 11 a.m. Tuesday at the church, with burial in Mountain View Cemetery. Whitted Funeral Chapel is handling arrangements.

Survivors include a daughter, Helen Whirry, and her husband, Walt, of Kalispell; a son, Steve Christian, and his wife, Doreen, of Whitefish, nine grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Her parents, her husband Gordon, her brothers George and Joseph Fey, her sister Helen Fey Carter and many loving friends preceded her in death.

Lorene was born in Great Falls, on September 19, 1905, to John and Rosa (Blansfield) Fey. She attended grade school in a single room schoolhouse in Gold Butte, Montana. She later spent a school term in San Diego, California and then returned to Great Falls where she finished high school at age 16. After high school it was back to Gold Butte to work in the hotel for her uncle Tony Fey. For a brief time she traveled to New York, where she worked as a stenographer. A year later, she again returned home to Gold Butte to work on her family's ranch in the Sweet Grass Hills.

On June 16, 1927, Lorene was married in Hingham, Montana to her close childhood friend, Gordon Christian. She and Gordon owned and operated a cattle ranch in the Sweet Grass Hills for the next 38 years. Both their parents began ranching in 1892 and 1894, having traveled from New York to settle in the Sweet Grass Hills. Portions of the ranch have remained in the family for over 100 years.

After her husband Gordon passed away in 1965, Lorene moved to Shelby where she resided for her remaining 37 years. Lorene's greatest joy was sharing life with friends and family. As a pillar in the community, she was active in St. Williams Altar Society, Toastmasters, Soroptimist, the Marias Museum of History and Art, Shelby Book Club, Toole County Republican Women, and Business and Professional Women (BPW). She also enjoyed current events, traveling, knitting and reading.

She was a recipient of many awards, including the KSEN Silver Spur and BPW Woman of the Year. She was most proud of being known as "Grandma" to everyone she knew.

The family suggests contributions should be sent to the Marias Museum of History and Art, 206 12th Ave. S., Shelby, MT 59474.

ZETTA (WIGGINS) CREPEAU
Born: February 17, 1909 – Died: July 9, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
July 14, 2003

Zetta Crepeau

SIMMS — Zetta (Wiggins) Crepeau, 94, a homemaker and active community member, died of natural causes Wednesday at a Great Falls nursing home.



Crepeau

At her request, cremation has taken place and private services will be held at a later date. Gorder Funeral Home of Choteau is in

charge of arrangements.

Survivors include daughters Sylvia Jensen of Chester and Leslie Yeager of Great Falls; sons Frank Crepeau of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Jim Crepeau of Arlee; 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by husbands Francis Crepeau and Leslie Crepeau.

She was much loved by her son-in-law, Harley Yeager of Great Falls, and daughters-in-law Sherry Crepeau and Anne Crepeau.

Zetta was born to Alex and Ruth Wiggins on Feb. 17, 1909, in Wilson Creek, Wash. The family moved to Cashmere, Wash., where she attended and graduated from high school in 1928. She attended business college in Seattle, Wash., and married Francis Xavier Crepeau in November, 1930.

Zetta came to Simms in 1934 with her husband and two children. Xavier died of leukemia in 1938, leaving Zetta with three children. She married Leslie Martin Crepeau on Oct. 14, 1939, in Choteau. Les passed away in April, 1993. She remained living in Simms until two years ago, when she broke her hip. She then became a resident of Missouri River Manor, where she remained until her death.

Zetta was an active member of the Simms community. She was a charter member of the Simms Home Demonstration Club and Sun River Valley Senior Citizens. She never learned to drive an automobile, but her home was always open to others and there was always food for one more at the table. She was an excellent cook and gardener, and loved to sew and crochet. Her crocheted doilies are in many homes in the Sun River Valley. She loved being a housewife, mother and grandmother, and adored her great-grandchildren.

Zetta will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Memorials for Zetta can be sent to Leslie Yeager, 3229 WildRose Lane, Great Falls, MT 59401.

LOUISE (KOESLER) CUMMINGS
Born: July 31, 1918 - Died: April 3, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
April 5, 2003

Louise K. Cummings

Louise (Koesler) Cummings, 84, of 1427 17th Ave. S., a former teacher and school librarian, died of natural causes Thursday at her home.

Services are 2 p.m. Monday at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Fort Shaw. Burial of ashes is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Mount Olivet Cemetery. O'Connor Funeral Home is handling cremation and arrangements.

Survivors include a son, Daniel Cummings of Ennis; sisters Martha Koesler and Mariann Gjeffe of Missoula; brothers Rudy Koesler of Sun Valley, Calif., and David Koesler of Missoula; three grandchildren



Cummings

and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Eljay Cummings, in 2000; and a daughter, Patricia Eileen Kelley, in 2001.

Louise was born July 31, 1918, in Marias, Mont., and attended St.

Francis Xavier school in Missoula and Sacred Heart Academy in Missoula. She attended the University of Montana and received a bachelor's degree in education from the College of Great Falls in 1938.

After receiving her degree, Louise taught at Schrammeck Lake School in Cascade, UIm School and at Fort Shaw Elementary. The last 19 years of her teaching were at Greenfield School in Fairfield, where she also set up the central library for the school and served as librarian.

She married Eljay Daniel Cummings in Great Falls in 1943.

In the summer of 1943, she joined a group of teachers who spent their summer vacation at the Helena division of the Spokane Air Depot, working in the sheet metal shop, where they learned to cut and shape metal for repair of fighter plane fuselages brought in from the Pacific combat areas.

Louise enjoyed gardening, horticulture, flower arranging, youth activities, Montana history and classical music.

Memorials are suggested to St. Ann's Catholic Church in Fort Shaw.

LORI LYNN (MINNEHAN) DARR
Birth: January 1, 1955 – Death: July 9, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 16, 2003

Lori Minnehan-Darr

Former Havre resident, Lori Lynn Minnehan-Darr, age 48, died of natural causes Wednesday July 9, 2003 at a hospital in Casper, Wyoming.

Lori was born January 1, 1955 in Shelby, Montana, the daughter of John and Ruth (Carlson) Minnehan. She graduated from Havre High School in Havre in Havre, Montana in 1973. She then attended Montana State University in Bozeman, graduating in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural economics.

On June 10, 1978 she married Carey Douglas Kelly Darr at the Bozeman United Methodist Church in Bozeman. In 1983 the couple moved to Hobbs, New Mexico. They moved to Casper in October of 1989, then to Douglas, Wyoming in March of 1993.

Lori's work history included jobs at Production Credit Association, Farmer's Home Loan, Farm Credit, the United Methodist Church, and Aspen Realty. She was a board member of the Wyoming Beef and Cattle Improvement Association and the Wyoming State Angus Association. She was on the State High School Rodeo Host committee and was also an FFA Alumni and 4-H leader.

Lori enjoyed horses, racing, 4-H, being a realtor, and spending time with her children.

Visitation was from 1:00-5:00 Sunday at Gorman Funeral Home, Converse Chapel in Douglas. The funeral was 11:00 am Monday July 14, 2003 at First United Methodist Church in Douglas, with burial in Douglas Park Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband Kelly Darr; children Jeremiah Darr, Casey Darr, and Whitney Darr, all of Douglas, Wyoming; her mother Ruth Minnehan of Bozeman; and brothers Joe Minnehan of Chester, and Tom Minnehan of Kazakhstan.

She was preceded in death by her father.

A memorial to the Lori Lynn Minnehan-Darr Memorial Fund in care of Converse County Bank, PO Box 689, Douglas, WY 82633, would be appreciated by the family.

JOHN WALLACE DUNCAN
Birth: June 29, 1913 – Death: July 23, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 30, 2003



John Duncan

John Wallace Duncan, 90, retired rancher went home to be with the Lord, Wednesday July 23, 2003 at a Chester care facility. A funeral service was held 2:00 p.m. Monday July 28, 2003 at the Chester United Methodist Church in Chester with Pastor Dale Wolery officiating. A fellowship reception followed the service at the church. A private family interment will take place at the Duncan Family Cemetery north of Joplin at a later time. Memorials in John's honor may be made to The Hill County 4-H Foundation, c/o Hill County Extension Service, P.O. Box B, Havre, MT 59501 or to the Hi-Line Health Foundation, Box 705, Chester, MT 59522.

Accompianist for the service was Caroline Hall. Soloists were Sarah Wolery and Rhea Duncan. Pallbearers included Bill Dalby, David Kidd, Dan Packer, Daniel Kidd, Mike Duncan, and Neal Duncan. Honorary pallbearers were Lloyd Wolery, Giles Gregoire, David LaValley, Roger Lincoln, Art Lincoln, Charles Green, and Bob Larson.

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

John was born June 29, 1913 to Troy and Helen (Keith) Duncan on the family ranch 28 miles north of Joplin, MT. He attended The Burke School in rural Liberty County. He would ride his horse to school and the horse would often dump him in the creek causing him to get wet enough that school attendance was not possible. He then attended and graduated from the Joplin High School in 1931. While in High school he went to the State Track Meet in Missoula twice competing in the Mile and the High Jump. At one track meet he placed second in the state in that distance. In 1944 he met Dorothy Anne Packer and the couple married July 25, 1946 at the Grace Evangelical Church north of Rudyard. To this union five children were born. The couple have always lived and worked on the family ranch. In the 1940's he showed carloads of feeder cattle at the International Show in Chicago several times, and at the National

Western in Denver in the 1950's. In 1953 he purchased his first registered Herefords. The highlight of his livestock career was in 1986 when a bull bred and raised on the ranch was named Reserve Grand Champion bull at the largest Hereford show in the world, the National Western in Denver.

John was a conservationist all his life. He served on the Liberty County Soil Conservation Committee for over 20 years. He was a board member of the Montana Land and Mineral Association for 15 years and served in an advisory role to the Montana Department of Natural Resources. He also served on the Natural Resources committee of the Montana Farm Bureau Federation. Working with his neighbors, John formed the Sage Creek Water District and served on its Board. The rural water district brought water out of the Sweetgrass Hills that hadn't been polluted with alkali and distributed it to rural families in the North Country from Chester to Inverness.

John loved the land and was happiest when he was improving his ranch and making it more efficient and productive. With his father he developed a private irrigation system that he spent his entire adult life improving. He loved to irrigate and was never happier than when he was wearing his irrigation boots, running water, making things grow. Although John had always been active and wasn't used to being idle, he accepted his assignment at the Nursing home, knowing his life was in God's hands.

John was preceded in death by his parents Troy and Helen (Keith) Duncan. He is survived by his wife of 58 years Dorothy Anne (Packer) Duncan of Joplin, MT; children Keith Duncan of Great Falls, MT, Sylvia (Jack) McComber of Rocky Ford, CO, Bruce (Tammy) Duncan of Joplin, MT, Rhea Duncan of Portland, OR, Tim Duncan of West Lafayette, IN, and a sister Ina Rose Kelly of Scottsdale, AZ, 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

JOYCE EILEEN (PIMLEY) EASTON
Birth: 1938 – Death: April 1, 2003
Liberty County Times
April 9, 2003

Joyce Easton

Former Joplin and Conrad resident, Joyce Eileen (Pimley) Easton, age 65, died Tuesday April 1, 2003 at a Helena hospital after a long illness.

Joyce enjoyed crocheting, painting, and fishing.

Survivors include a son Sterling Wade of East Helena; daughters Kathy Garrett and Trena Wade of Helena; brothers Vern Pimley and Donald Pimley both of Joplin; and six grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Ernest "Ernie" Easton.

A private service will be held at a later date. Big Sky Cremation in East Helena is handling arrangements.

NORA T. (TOWNSEND) ENGSTROM
Birth: July 27, 1913 - Death: December 27, 2003
Liberty County Times
January 14, 2004



Nora Engstrom

Nora T. Engstrom died at home in Lynnwood, Washington at the age of 90, on December 27, 2003.

Nora was born July 27, 1913 in Spokane, Washington to her parents, William H. and Mabel Townsend. She worked for the U.S. Forest Service.

She is survived by her son John R. Engstrom and his wife Pat; daughter-in-law Claudette Engstrom; grandchildren: John Engstrom, New York City, New York, Michael Engstrom, San Francisco, California, David Engstrom, Denmark, Tom Paffile, Covington, Washington, Joe Paffile, Federal Way, Washington, Lorrie Bernardi, Spokane, Washington, Kim Beardslee, Cheyenne, Wyoming; and great-grandson David.

Memorial service was Saturday, January 10, 2004 at 11:00 am, Chapel of Purdy & Walters at Floral Hills, 409 Filbert Rd., Lynnwood, Washington 98036.

DORIS E. (SHIPMAN) LUDWIG EEN

Birth: September 23, 1931 – Death: August 29, 2003

Liberty County Times
September 10, 2003



Doris Een

Doris E. (Shipman) Ludwig Een was born September 23, 1931 at the Goldstone community north of Rudyard, Montana. Her parents were Anna (Schwartz) and Ernest Shipman. Doris received her early education at the Goldstone country school, then transferred to Rudyard where she graduated from high school in 1948. She continued her education at Northern Montana College in Havre, where she earned a two-year teaching certificate. Doris taught grade school at Inverness for a year before becoming a homemaker.

She married Roger Ludwig on June 28, 1952 at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham. They lived in Pasco, Washington for a short time before moving back to Montana to work on the Ludwig family farm near Rudyard. Doris worked diligently as a farmwife and mother to six children. Following her husband's death in 1986, Doris continued to live on the farm.

She began dating a Rudyard widower, Clarence "Bud" Een. They were married November 9,

1996 at Rudyard. The Eens made their home in town and enjoyed their retirement years together. Unfortunately, Doris was diagnosed with cancer and her health deteriorated this past year. She died at the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester on the afternoon of Friday August 29, 2003. She was 71 years old.

Doris was baptized and confirmed in her youth and remained active in her church throughout the years. She was a member of the Holy Family Altar Society and served as a Catechist. Other memberships included the VFW Auxiliary, the PTO, and the Birthday Club. In recent years Doris served on the Hi-Line Health Foundation Board, and was active in the Hi-Line Antique Car Club.

Her life was filled with many hobbies. She enjoyed sewing and crocheting; Doris made numerous afghans and quilts for her children. She was an avid reader with a 'passion for books.' She loved music, played the piano, and enjoyed dancing. An excellent cook, she once won a national cooking award. In her younger years Doris enjoyed softball, bowling, ceramics, and gardening. In her quiet time at home she liked to play cards and work crossword puzzles. In her later years with Bud she enjoyed traveling.

In addition to her husband Bud of Rudyard, Doris is survived by six children and their spouses, including: 3 sons Dale (Lorene) Ludwig of Anchorage, Alaska, Edward Ludwig of Anchorage, Alaska, and Brian (Karen) Ludwig of Great Falls; 3 daughters: Lori (Rick) Davenport, of Kalispell, Lynn (Dan) Hybner of Rudyard, and Tracy (Greg) Scheibel of Bozeman; 12 grandchildren including: Anna, Eric, Richard, Brian, Daniel, Jasmine, Karl,

Jared, Tyler, Shelby, Mike, and Nicole; one great-granddaughter Mia; one brother Ercell Shipman of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin; 4 sisters: Louise Richter of Omak, Washington, Marion Gilson of Guarnsey, Wyoming, Donna Nealy of Chester, and Ann Tracht of Kalispell; and many nephews and nieces.

Doris was preceded in death by her first husband, her parents, and two sisters Ruthie and Bernece Wolery.

Vigil Prayers were 7:00 pm Monday September 1, 2003 at Our Lady of Ransom Church in Hingham. Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 am Tuesday September 2 at the church by Father Joseph Diekhans. Iris White served as organist. Vocalists Carol Bangs, Lynn Heydon, and Jerry Toner performed "Gather Us In," "Gift of Finest Wheat," "On Eagle's Wing," and "You Are Near." Greeters were Jerry Hybner and Virgil Jurenka. Altar servers were Conrad Wendland and Kelly Domire. Scripture readings were by Jasmine Mikulecky and Richard Davenport, who also shared the eulogy. The communion gifts were presented by the five granddaughters. Eucharistic ministers were Tim Gatzemeier, Pat Ludwig, and Mary Lois Hybner. The seven grandsons served as Pallbearers. Honorary bearers were Tom Ludwig, Merlin Wolery, Ron Kinder, Allen Twedt, Cliff Ulmen, Arvid Blessing, Alvin Krejci, Cliff Krejci, and all of Doris' many friends.

Burial followed at the Rudyard Cemetery. A luncheon was held at the Rudyard Catholic Youth Center. Arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to Benefis Gift of Life in Great Falls or the Hi-line Health Foundation in Chester.

MARY ELIZABETH "BETTY" (BENJAMIN) FENGER

Birth: April 18, 1922 – Death: March 26, 2003

Liberty County Times

April 2, 2003



Betty Fenger

Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Fenger was born April 18, 1922 at Gilliam, Louisiana. She spent her early life in Louisiana where she received her elementary education at Belcher. Her mother, Elizabeth Starling, married a Montana farmer, Scott Benjamin, so she grew up with her two sisters in Northcentral Montana. Betty finished her schooling at Galata where she graduated in 1940.

Betty married Herb Fenger on March 25, 1941 at Joplin, Montana. They made their home on Herb's farm seven miles north of Lothair. She worked diligently as a farm wife and mother to their two sons. In 1979 the Fengers retired and purchased a home outside of Polson. They spent their winter months in Mesa, Arizona.

Betty was diagnosed with cancer in 1998. Because of her declining health, the Fengers moved back to the Hi-line two years ago. They purchased a home in Chester to be near their

family and friends. Betty continued to receive medical treatments. She died peacefully at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester on the evening of Wednesday March 26, 2003, the day after their 62nd wedding anniversary. Betty was 80 years old.

Betty was baptized and confirmed at Trinity Lutheran Church north of Lothair, where she maintained a lifetime membership. She also attended Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Polson. Additional memberships included the Big Sky Rock and Gem Club of Polson, and the 'Flying Farmers' of Montana. Betty was a strong supporter of cancer research and helped raise money during the annual 'Cancer Walk' in Polson for several years.

Her hobbies were many. She loved flying, camping, traveling, and being with friends. She enjoyed rock-hounding and arrowhead hunting. Herb made beautiful jewelry from their gems and precious stones. During her quiet time at home Betty enjoyed crafts and painting—her oil and china paintings were exceptional. She loved to spend time with her family, always enjoying fun card games like 'Phase 10,' Whist and Pitch. Just for the fun of it she collected old bottles and 'Precious Moments' figurines. An all around good cook, Betty especially enjoyed decorating cakes and making jams, jellies, and candy. She loved to read—mainly the Living Bible, Reader's Digest, and similar publications.

Betty is survived by her

husband Herb Fenger of Chester; two sons: Joel Fenger and wife Ruth of Chester, and Gerald "Jerry" Fenger of Galata; a special family friend Judy Wickum of Chester; five grandchildren: Rachelle Fenger of Phoenix, Renee and Jim Kralic of Helena, Mary Fenger of Galata, Matthew Fenger of Galata, and Michael and Michelle Fenger of Hardin; four great-grandchildren including: Joy, Kimberly, Kelli, and Alec; and her loving poodle 'Nikki.'

Betty was preceded in death by her parents and sisters Ruby McGuigan and Lucille Karst.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Monday March 31, 2003 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Rev. Peter Erickson. The Chester "Music Makers" played prelude music. Vocalist Loren Hawks performed "In the Garden" and "The Green, Green Grass of Home." Karen Stack served as organist and the congregation sang "I Love to Tell the Story," and "How Great Thou Art." Ushers were Tim Fenger and Steve Oraw. Pallbearers were Wes Fenger, Herb Karst, Steve McClain, Robert Inabnit, and Errol Fritz. Memorial bearers were Betty's

many friends and neighbors. Following interment at the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

THEODORA ALVIRA (DIXON) FOLDEN
Birth: July 23, 1913 – Death: November 22, 2003
Liberty County Times
November 26, 2003

Alvira Folden

Theodora Alvira Was Folden was born July 23, 1913 at Hendricks, Minnesota. She was one of six children born to Knute and Clara (Johnson) Dixon. Alvira grew up in eastern Montana and received her education at Opheim, graduating from Opheim High School in 1931.

She married Lyle Wade on November 1, 1934. They lived in Glasgow, where Alvira worked as a homemaker and mother of four. Sadly she became a widow at age 34 following Lyle's untimely death on June 11, 1947.

Alvira met her second husband, Olaf Folden, and they were married on October 1, 1949. With the addition of Olaf's two children to the family, Alvira became the mother of six. The

Foldens made their home at Joplin for 11 years. In the late 1950s Alvira worked as a clerk at the Joplin Post Office. In 1960 they moved to Gildford where they owned and operated Folden's Garage. In addition, Alvira worked as a secretary for a few years at the Gildford School System. Following Olaf's death on November 7, 1980, Alvira sold their Gildford home and business, then moved to Havre. In the late 1980s she moved to the Eagle's Manor where she lived until her health began to fail. In October of 2002 she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. Alvira died at the Chester nursing facility on Saturday evening November 22, 2003. She was 90 years old.

Alvira was confirmed as a Lutheran at Opheim in 1929. During her retirement years in Havre she attended St. Paul Lutheran Church. An additional membership was the Jolly Jane's Home Demonstration Club in Gildford.

Alvira loved her life as wife and mother. Her hobbies included darning, knitting, oil painting, and gardening. In her younger years she enjoyed playing cards, especially pinochle and Whist.

In addition to her husbands and parents, Alvira was preceded in death by a daughter Belva Jean Stratton in 1996, a sister Hilma Johnson, and three brothers: Harris, Kenneth, and Elton Dixon.

She is survived by three children: Leslie Wade of Cut Bank, Bruce Wade and wife Patti of East Helena, and Diane Miller and husband Don of Gildford; two step-children Neil Folden and wife Linda of San Jose, California, and Ann Thielman and husband Gale of Great Falls; one sister Esther Honrud of Bellingham, Washington; 15 grandchildren; and numerous great-grandchildren.

Cremation has been completed. A memorial service with burial of ashes in Glasgow will be planned in the spring. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

ERROL ORTAS FOSSEN

Birth: August 28, 1914 – Death: February 11, 2003

Liberty County Times

February 19, 2003



Errol Fossen

Errol Ortas Fossen was born on the family farm South of Joplin, Montana on August 28, 1914. He was the only son and eldest of two children born to Otto and Edith (Holum) Fossen. Errol grew up in the Joplin community and received his education there, graduating from Joplin High School in 1933. He continued his schooling at Montana State College in Bozeman, where he studied agriculture for a year, then returned to the farm. In addition to farming, the Fossens delivered fuel, coal, and ice to families throughout Northcentral Montana.

Errol was inducted into the US Army Air Corps in 1942. He served in the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign during World War II with the 76th Troop Carrier Squadron. He attained the rank of Tech Sergeant before his honorable discharge in 1945; he then returned to Montana.

He married Theresa A. Terwolbeck on March 5, 1946 at Havre, Montana. They lived and farmed in the Joplin community during their 57 years together, and raised a family of eight children. They built a home in Joplin in 1962. They began traveling South in the late 1970s. In 1984 they purchased a winter home at Apache Junction, Arizona where they enjoyed the past 19 seasons.

Errol's health began to fail these past six months. He entered the Liberty County Nursing Home on January 17, 2003. He died at the Chester rest home just three weeks later on this past Tuesday afternoon, February 11th from pneumonia. He was 88 years old.

He loved life as a Montana farmer. He started farming at age 13 and bought his first tractor in 1928. Although he eventually turned the farm over to his sons, he never officially retired. He was still climbing on grain bins and combings at age 85!

Errol maintained his membership at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin, where he was baptized on October 2, 1914. An

active community person, he had served on the Joplin Commercial Club, Joplin Fire Department, Joplin School Board for 9 years, Hill County Water District, and Sons of Norway. In addition he was a lifetime member of the VFW, had served as a Director on the Liberty Shovel Factory. And had been a member of the Joplin Community Band in those early years.

His hobbies were many. Errol enjoyed playing cards, (especially Whist and Pinochle), golfing, dancing, collecting Indian rocks, and vegetable gardening. An amateur musician, he enjoyed playing and tinkering with violins.

During his quiet time at home he liked to read, mainly newspapers and informative magazines. Errol also enjoyed television, especially Lawrence Welk, Red Skelton, game shows, and Westerns. But most of all, he liked to stay busy and fix things around the farmstead.

The Fossens enjoyed traveling. They made many memorable trips to China, Norway, Germany, South America, and other interesting places.

Errol is survived by his wife Theresa of Joplin, four sons and spouses: Dale and Mary Ann Fossen of Joplin, Al Fossen of Great Falls, Larry and Christy Fossen of Inverness, and Marlowe and Chelli Fossen of Joplin; four daughters and spouses: Arlene and Terry Williams of Dillon, Trudy and Bruce Mansfield of Joplin, Jean and Rod Oraw of Chester, and Denise and Dan Moerkerke of Hamilton; his sister Marvel Olsen and husband Martin of Deer Lodge; 24 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and numerous other relatives.

Errol was preceded in death by his parents and two granddaughters.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 pm Sunday February 16, 2003 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Pastor Tim Singleton and Father Joe Diekhans provided ministry. Marcus Jochim sang "Beyond the Sunset," and "On Eagle's Wings," accompanied by Christy Fossen. Ushers were Frank Richter, Bob Lake, and Doug Moore. Pallbearers were Shann, Kenny, Jim, Kurt, and Quinn Fossen and Jeromy Mansfield. Family members who shared special readings included Dale Fossen (Eulogy), Arlene Williams (Memorial Poem), Shaney McChesney (Obituary), Kim Fischer and Wendi Williams (Scriptures). Graveside services followed at the Joplin Cemetery. Military 'Taps' were played and the flag presentation was made by Al Fossen. A luncheon followed at Kjos Hall. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

GUST (GUS) V. FRANSEN
Birth: May 23, 1921 – Death: July 5, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 9, 2003



Gus Fransen

Gust (Gus) V. Fransen, 82, of Shelby, a long time Dunkirk area farmer and WW II veteran, passed away Saturday, July 5, at the Marias Care Center in Shelby.

Gus was born May 23, 1921 at Dunkirk to Carl & Gertrude (Mousel) Fransen. He graduated from Shelby High School in 1940.

Gus served in the Army Air Corps during WW II from October 1942 to September of 1945 as a Staff Sgt. waist gunner aboard a B-24 that flew 35 missions. He went across the Atlantic on the *Queen Mary* along with 15,000 troops in June of 1944 and returned from Europe on the *USS Russell* after the liberation of France. After the war Gus returned to the farm north of Dunkirk, which he operated until his retirement in 1992.

He married Annabelle (Ann) Aaberg on May 24, 1974 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Gus was a caring husband, father and grandfather. He loved his wife more than anything and said his life began when he married Ann and her family. When the grandkids came to visit he was very proud, kind and loving to them. He used to say, "Life doesn't get any better than this"

He was a member of the Shelby Rifle & Pistol Club which he helped establish, a life member of the NRA, and Shelby Elk's Lodge #1696.

Gus enjoyed target shooting, walking, the land and nature, and mostly his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife Ann Fransen of Shelby; stepdaughter Val Agnew and husband Dan of Great Falls; stepson Blaine Thrasher and wife Cindy of St. Paul, MN; and five grandchildren: Jessie and Julie Agnew, Megan, Drew and Ryan Thrasher; nephews, Steve & Gail Fransen of Prosser, WA, John & Diana Fransen of Dunkirk, and Edward & Christina Fransen of San Antonio, TX.

His parents and brothers, Carl and John Fransen, precede him in death.

Funeral services were 11:00 am Tuesday, July 8, 2003 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby, followed by burial with military honors in the Mountain View Cemetery. Visitation was Monday July 7 from 1:00-8:00 pm at the Whitted Funeral Chapel, Shelby.

Any undesignated memorial will be given to the Gift of Life.

JAMES McMILLAN "JIM" FRASER
Birth: August 14, 1930 - Death: May 10, 2003
Liberty County Times
May 21, 2003



James Fraser

James McMillan "Jim" Fraser was born on the family farm at Cascade, Montana on August 14, 1930. His parents were Donald and Theresa (Borys) Fraser and he was one of 15 children born to the couple. At age nine Jim moved with his family to a farm south of Inverness. He attended country schools through Grade 7, and then finished his secondary education in Joplin, graduating from Joplin High School in 1948. For the next three years he attended the College of Great Falls where he studied accounting and business administration.

In 1951 Jim received his draft notice from the US Army. Preferring not to be a foot soldier, he enlisted in the US Navy. Jim served during the Korean Conflict in the China campaign on the ship *USS Philippine*. Because of his strong bookkeeping skills, he worked mainly as a payroll clerk during those military years. He received honorable discharge in 1955 and returned to Montana.

Jim worked for two of his brothers in the farming business in the few years that followed. In 1960 he began working as an elevator repairman in the mid-Montana Hi-Line. In 1965 Jim and two brothers, Charlie and Duane, formed a partnership and bought the old Mike Meyer's Service

Station in Inverness. Fittingly, they named their new business "Fraser's Conoco" which specialized in gasoline and bulk fuel, tire sales, and automotive repairs. They expanded their business in 1973 with the purchase of Hanson's Texaco in Chester, then again in 1988 when they bought the Galata Co-op in Galata. Although Charlie eventually sold his interests, Jim and Duane have continued to operate this well-known family enterprise, currently called "Fraser's Oil, Inc." They were proud to be recognized as the "Small Business of the Year" in 2001 by the MSU-College of Business.

Jim married Carol Ann Evans on July 11, 1970 at Inverness. They lived in the Inverness community throughout their married lives and raised a family of four. Jim loved his life and work, and even though he was or retirement age, he continued to

work hard and remained dedicated to his business. He maintained good health until this past March 6th when he was diagnosed with cancer. His condition rapidly deteriorated. Jim died on Saturday afternoon May 10, 2003 at Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls. He was 72 years old.

Jim was a long-time member of the Inverness Commercial Club, and the volunteer fire Department. His interests included hunting, fishing, and camping, and his family has many fond memories of outings with Jim. He has always been a "Ford" man, but enjoyed working on all vehicles. During his quiet time at home he liked watching pro sports, especially hockey. Some of his favorite teams were the Edmonton Oilers, New York Yankees, Boston Celtics, and Dallas Cowboys. Just for the fun of it, he enjoyed an occasional Cribbage match. Jim will be

remembered for his good sense of humor, and his ability to pull off a practical joke without hard feelings.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Carol Fraser of Inverness; four children and spouses: Tina

and Marty Wood of Joplin, Danny and Erin Fraser of Seattle, Washington, Kip Fraser and significant other Donde Hopstad of Inverness, and Stacy and Darby Diltmar of Rudyard; one grandson Payne Diltmar; seven brothers: Donald Fraser of Cascade, Rodney Fraser of Sun Prairie, Bill Fraser of Chester, Charles Fraser of Joplin, Scott Fraser of Springdale, Washington, Duane Fraser of Inverness, and Darrell Fraser of Great Falls; five sisters: Bertha Standley of Cascade, Eleanor Fransen of Great Falls, Ruby Barrett of Concord, Ohio, Ann Carlson of Sun City, Arizona, and Darlene Wood of Payson, Arizona; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, and two brothers Bud and Cliff Fraser. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" Benefis Foundation in Great Falls.

Vigil Prayers were 7:00 pm Thursday May 15, 2003 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness. The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Diekhans at 11:00 am Friday at

the church. Iris White accompanied the Sacred Heart Choir who sang "Ave Maria," "You are Near," "you are Mine," "All I Ask of You," and "Song of Farewell." Ushers were Steve Dahinden, Jan Phillips, Bob Moog, and Larry Fossen. Altar servers were Dennis Mangold, and Kelsey Doney. Scripture readings were by Lois Evans and Jada Fraser, and the eulogy was

shared by Marty Wood. Communion Gifts were presented by Brenda, Leonard, Tyler, and Karnell Streit. Eucharistic ministers were Una Moog, Richard Fisher, and Claire Miller. Pallbearers were Bob Woods, Butch Tempel Kim Haaland, Dalton Dahlke, Lary Poulton, Mick Smith, Dale Dahlke, and Jack Bowen. Old friends listed as Honorary Bearers were Bob Rathbun, Bob Wehr, Don Han, Lonnie Cady, Ezzie Ereaux, Rodney Svenson, Clarence Ramberg, Gene Kraft, Lloyd Wolery, and Wayne Wolery. Burial followed at the Inverness Cemetery. Military "Taps" was played and the American vets flag was presented to the family by don Buffington. A luncheon was held at the church.

MARTHA ANN (BICKLE) FREEMAN
Birth: April 7, 1921 – Death: July 16, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 23, 2003



Ann Freeman

Martha Ann (Bickle) Freeman was born April 7, 1921 at Havre, Montana. She was one of five children born to Hiram Bickle and Martha Green. She grew up in Havre and received her education there graduating from Havre High School in 1939.

Ann married Archie E. "Bud" Freeman in September of 1940. They made their home in Inverness where they farmed and raised a family of four. In addition to being a homemaker, Ann worked part-time as a CAN at the Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home in Chester for several years.

The Freemans enjoyed spending their summers in the Flathead Valley. In 1956 they built a home on Whitefish Lake, where Ann loved to entertain family and friends. In 1974 they semi-retired and moved to their Whitefish home. Their marriage ended in divorce in 1985. Ann remained in Whitefish until 1989, and then moved to Kalispell. In 1998 she fell and broke her hip, so she transferred to the Liberty County nursing Home for extended care. Ann remained in the Chester rest home until January of 2003, when she moved to the Lakeview Care Center in Bigfork to be near her

daughters. She died in her sleep at the Bigfork nursing facility on Wednesday afternoon July 16, 2003. She was 82 years old.

In her younger years Ann was affectionately called "Mugsy." She loved to dance (especially square-dancing) and during their early married years the Freemans spent most Saturday nights dancing at the Inverness Bar and Stake House. Ann also enjoyed bowling in the Hi-line mixed and women's leagues, and she attended many tournaments through the state in those early years.

Another favorite pastime was playing cards with friends; she was especially fond of Bridge. In her quiet time at home she loved to play the piano. Ann loved her home and was an excellent housekeeper. She had a green thumb for African violets, and she always enjoyed working in her yard. Over the years she collected china, teacups, and coffee mugs.

In recent years she accumulated a large collection of stuffed animals. In her retirement years her favorite pastimes were Circle Word puzzles, Keno and Bingo.

Ann is survived by one son, Gary Freeman of Thompson Falls; three daughters and spouses Karen and Lanny Morton of Bigfork, Brenda and Vince Pemicano of Missoula, and Marcia and Ed Diemert of Lothair; 11 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; two sisters: Winnie Osburnson and Jo Marsden, both of Missoula; and several nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, two brothers: Tom and Robert Bickle; granddaughter Annie Nell Diemert; great-grandson Conner Paul Stevens; son-in-law Jim Orcutt; and nephew Jim Osburnson.

Graveside services and burial will be 10:00 am Saturday July 26, 2003 at the Highland Cemetery in Havre, MT. The services will be conducted by Pastor Vaun Dalee

Delong. Special vocal music by Marcus Jochim will include "Amazing Grace," and "The Lord's Prayer." Family members will share scripture readings and special remembrances.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

MARY ELLEN (HOWERY) FRENCH
Birth: July 17, 1951 – Death: May 9, 2003
Liberty County Times
June 4, 2003



Mary Ellen French

Mary Ellen French, age 51, of Miles City, passed away at the Holy Rosary Health Center in Miles City, surrounded by her family on Friday May 9, 2003.

Mary Ellen who was born on July 17, 1951 in Chester, the daughter of Audrey and Alvin Howery, was one of four children. When she was very young her family moved to Shelby where she went to school through her sophomore year. In 1967 the

family moved to Whitlash, where Mary Ellen finished high school, graduating from Chester high School in 1969.

She continued her education at Eastern Montana College in Billings for two years and then went to work in the medical records department at Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home from 1971 until 1980. Mary Ellen was in the United States Army Reserve from 1972 until 1976.

On July 16, 1977 Mary Ellen married her best friend, Larry B. French at the Whitlash 4-H picnic grounds. Larry and Mary Ellen were more than married to each other; they were each other's best friend and number one fan.

In 1980 Mary Ellen and Larry moved to Missoula where she worked for Western Montana Clinic. In 1984 they moved to Miles City where she worked at the Holy Rosary Hospital from 1985 until 1990. After that she then went to work for Fort Keogh as an automated office technician where she was currently employed.

Mary Ellen was 'Gramma' to four very special little children, whom she thought the world of. She wanted them to know their 'Gramma' and she did her best to be with them as much as she could.

Mary Ellen was always looking for ways to give—to her family, her friends, and her community—even throughout her battle with cancer. She served as a shining example of courage, grace, and strength, inspiring everyone who met her. She refused to let cancer dampen her spirit and joy for life.

Mary Ellen is survived by her husband Larry of 25 years; two step-daughters: Crystal Verellen and her husband Mike of Olympia, Washington, and Heather Furigay of Miles City; two granddaughters: Tiara and Brianne Furigay of Miles City; two grandsons: Riemann Furigay of Miles City, and Trevor Verellen of Olympia, Washington; her parents, Audrey and Alvin Howery

April Gordon and husband Leonard of Cheyenne, Washington; three nephews, two nieces, and her mother-in-law and father-in-law Bonnie and Ben French of Deer Park, Washington.

Visitation was Tuesday May 13, 2003 at the chapel of Stevenson and Sons Funeral Home in Miles City. Funeral services were at 10:00 am on Wednesday May 14th at the chapel of Stevenson & Sons Funeral Home. Private family interment will follow at a later day.

Stevenson & Sons funeral Home of Miles City entrusted with arrangements.

If desired, memorials may be made to the Custer County Art Center, Water Plant Road, Miles City, MT 59301 or to the charity of one's choice.

LOIS JEAN (SCHROER) GAGNER
Birth: July 26, 1929 – Death: February 27, 2003
Liberty County Times
March 5, 2003



Gagner

Lois Gagner

Lois Jean Gagner, 73, a long time business owner and bookkeeper, passed away Thursday, February 27, at the Marias Medical Center in Shelby, Montana due to COPD.

Funeral Mass was 11:00 a.m. Monday, March 3, at St. William

Catholic Church in Shelby with burial to follow in the Mountain View Cemetery. Visitation was Sunday, March 2, from 1:00 until 5:30 p.m. at the Whitted Funeral Chapel with a Vigil set for 7:00 p.m. at St. William Church. The family suggests memorials be given to the St. William Altar Society.

Lois was born July 26, 1929 at Lothair to Allo and Josephine (Johnson) Schroer. She graduated from Shelby High School in 1948 and that same year married Ronald Gagner on June 7th at St. William Church in Shelby.

When they were first married they lived in Shelby where Lois worked at the telephone office. They then lived in Los Angeles for two years before moving to Chester where they owned Gagner Jewelry for seven years.

They returned to Shelby in 1960 where they owned and operated the G&G Bowling Lanes for 28 years, retiring in 1988. Lois had also worked as a bookkeeper for Greenup Trucking and Keller Transport.

Lois was a member of St. William Catholic Church where she was active in the Altar Society. She was also a member of the bridge club and bowling association. Lois enjoyed camping, reading, visiting with friends and family, playing bridge and cards, bowling, as well as violin and piano music.

Lois was a great wife, mother, grandmother and friend with a tremendous gift of gab. She will be greatly missed by all those whose lives she touched.

Survivors include her husband Ronald of Shelby, daughters Sandra Haley and husband John of Tofino, BC and Rhonda Wiegand and husband Will of Shelby, and sister, Joan Chandler and husband Charles of Spokane, WA. Five grandchildren Ron and John Haley, Becky Tooke, Bill and Kathy Wiegand and four great-grandchildren also survive Lois. Her parents, a sister Kathleen and a brother Charles Schroer preceded Lois in death.

NARCISS ELZEAR GAGNON

Birth: May 17, 1919 - Death: January 1, 2003

Liberty County Times

January 8, 2003



Narciss Gagnon

Narciss Elzear Gagnon was born at Chester, Montana on May 17, 1919. He was one of nine children born to Louis and Elise (Hamel) Gagnon, who farmed south of Chester. Narciss received his education in Chester, graduating from Chester High School in 1941. During his school years he participated in basketball and the FFA Club.

As part of his contribution to the World War II effort, Narciss lived in Long Beach, California and worked at Northrup Aircraft. He fell in love with flying so he attended the School of Aeronautics at Tulsa, Oklahoma, and earned his private pilot's license in 1945. As he was wound down in 1946, he returned to the family farm at Chester.

Through family ties Narciss met his wife-to-be Mina E. Piquette. They were married on February 12, 1948 at Los Angeles, California. During their 53 years of married life together, they made their home on the original Gagnon homestead nine miles south of Chester. Mina passed away in Chester on August 4, 2001. Narciss recently suffered a stroke following heart surgery in California. He died at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester on New Year's Day January 1, 2003 at age 83.

Narciss loved his life as a Montana farmer. In the 1960s he became one of the first Amway

enjoyed people, so selling Amway products was a fun sideline. He retired from farming in the early 1990s.

Other than farming and family, Narciss' greatest enjoyment was his music. He was a founding member of "The Lamplighters" band, a well-known group who performed at dances and celebrations throughout the Golden Triangle for 30+ years. Narciss played the tenor banjo and harmonica in the band, but also played the guitar and piano for fun. He designed all of the band's stage décor and decorated many parade floats that featured the band. In addition he made many tapes of the band's musical melodies. Narciss remained active in "The Lamplighters" until the mid-1990s when he quit to take care of his ailing wife.

Narciss was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. He and Mina took a memorable pilgrimage to Europe where they visited the major Catholic shrines. They both enjoyed a strong Christian faith.

Narciss' hobbies were many. He enjoyed boating, water-skiing, and bowling in his younger years. He liked to play cards, especially Pinochle, and he enjoyed gardening. He raised a huge vegetable garden each year and loved to share his produce with friends and neighbors. Narciss enjoyed flying small airplanes into the 1960s. In fact, he did his own aerial crop-spraying for several years. He loved to be around people, so he enjoyed traveling and visiting with relatives and friends.

Narciss is survived by his only daughter Mary Ann Gagnon of San Marcos, California; two brothers: Ernest and Joe Gagnon, both of Chester; one sister Jeanne-Hull of Chester; and many nephews, nieces, and cousins.

He was preceded in death not only by his wife and parents, but also by three brothers: Leon, George, and Frances Gagnon; and two sisters Erma Riecke, and Marie Boucher.

Vigil Prayers were 7:00 pm Sunday January 5, 2003 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester. Father Joseph Diekhans led the prayers, Iris White played the organ, and Marcella Hull led the congregation in "Mother Dearest, Mother Fairest."

The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joe at 11:00 am Monday at St. Mary's. Scripture readings were by Brenda Harmon and the Eulogy was shared by Bill Harmon. Iris White served as organist and St. Mary's Choir performed "Ave Maria," "The Lord Is My Shepherd," "On Eagle's Wings," "Song of Farewell," and "Mother, O Dear, Please Pray for Me." Altar servers were Shane Gagnon and Tyler Hull. The Communion Gifts were presented by the Pat Harmon family. Eucharistic Ministers were Mary Jo Harmon and Ken Gagnon. Ushers were Tom Osterman and Dan Riley. Pallbearers included Bill Harmon, Charles, Don and Louis Hull, and James, Lee, Ken, and Lyle Gagnon. Burial was at the Chester Cemetery. A luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation.

LOIS ELEANOR (WELIN) GILCHRIST
Born: March 23, 1914 - Died: January 6, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
January 7, 2003

Lois Eleanor Gilchrist

SHELBY — Lois Eleanor Gilchrist, 88, a homemaker from Shelby, died Monday at the Marias Heritage Center of natural causes.



Gilchrist

Visitation is 1 to 8 p.m. today at Whitted Funeral Chapel. Her funeral is 2 p.m. Wednesday at Community United Methodist Church, with burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

Survivors include her daughter, Myrna and husband Ernest Damm of Pocatello, Idaho; a son, Eldon Gilchrist of Las Vegas; her sisters Lillie Purcell of Los Gatos, Calif. and Victoria Ramey of Boise, Idaho; her sister-in-law Norma Welin of Bottineau, N.D.; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Lois was born March 23, 1914, at Omemee, N.D., to Werner and Helen (Munter) Welin, where she graduated from high school in 1932. She moved to Whitefish for a time and then to Pocatello, Idaho, where she worked as a waitress and also helped family members with babysitting chores.

Lois married Ronald Gilchrist on Sept. 14, 1940, at Butte. Her husband worked for the railroad, and they lived in various towns: Gildford for nine years and Lohman for seven years before moving to Shelby in 1958. Ronald died at Shelby in 1998.

Lois was a member of the Community United Methodist Church where she had been very active with the UMCW (United Methodist Church Women). She also was an avid bridge player and had played every week for many years until this past year. She also was a member of the Round Robin Bridge Club. She also enjoyed cooking and being active at the Shelby Senior Center where she often had meals and attended dances.

Her parents, husband, two sisters, and two brothers preceded her in death.

Family suggests memorials to the Community United Methodist Church in Shelby.

THOMAS LEE GILLIN
Born: December 9, 1941 – Died: September 3, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
September 6, 2003

Thomas Lee Gillin

SPOKANE — Former Great Falls resident Thomas Lee Gillin, 61, a computer programmer and Army veteran, died of a heart attack Wednesday at his workplace in Cheney, Wash.

Services are 2 p.m. today at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Spokane. Cremation has taken place.

Survivors include his wife, Joleen Gillin of Spokane; daughters Kelly Penberthy of Post Falls, Idaho, and Kami Sinko of East Wenatchee, Wash.; sons Kevin Lake of Spokane and Kip Gillin of Great Falls; his mother, Laverne Gillin of Great Falls; a brother, Lloyd Gillin of Missoula; and 10 grandchildren.

Tom was born Dec. 9, 1941, in Great Falls, grew up here and graduated from Chester High School. He attended the University of Montana before joining the Army, where he was a military policeman, receiving commendations for both rifle and pistol sharpshooting.

He married Joleen Crawford in 1968 in Great Falls.

Tom worked at Montana Bank and IFG Leasing before going to work for Fiserv in Spokane. He later began working at Eastern Washington University at Cheney.

He was an avid sports fan and also enjoyed fishing and boating.

Memorials are suggested to St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 9704 N. Division, Spokane, WA 99218.

DOUGLAS C. GORDON

Born: November 30, 1929 – Died: October 24, 2003

Great Falls Tribune

October 26, 2003

Douglas C. Gordon

SHELBY — Douglas C. Gordon, 73, a rancher and cowboy from the Cut Bank/Shelby area, died of natural causes Friday at a Great Falls Hospital.



Gordon

His memorial service is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Whit-

ted Funeral Chapel in Shelby, with burial of ashes with military honors in Mountain



View Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Jean Gordon of Shelby; a daughter, Cherie Wigen and husband, Chris, of Devon; a son, Tom Gordon and wife, Sara, of Kevin; a sister, Gem Dahlen of Kevin; brothers Jock Gordon of Twin Falls, Idaho, and Bill Gordon of Lewistown; and three grandchildren.

The grandchildren are Deen, Taylor and Lane Gordon.

His parents; a sister, Brucia Crane; and an infant sister, Patty, all preceded him in death.

He was born Nov. 30, 1929, at Kevin to Douglas E. and Bess (Marler) Gordon. He grew up in Whitlash where he attended grade school.

He served with the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. Doug married Jean Potter April 20, 1959, at Boise, Idaho. They lived in Shelby where he was a yard foreman for the Shelby Livestock yards. In 1965, he went to work on the Bill Newhouse Ranch by the Two Medicine River south of Cut Bank as the ranch foreman. In 1976, he bought the Potter Ranch south of Kevin, which he operated until 1996, when a stroke forced him to retire.

He enjoyed horses, cows, team roping and just being a cowboy, all of which he was very good at. Doug was also a great storyteller. He particularly loved going to rodeos and was a saddle bronc rider and participated in team roping in his younger days.

He was a member of the Cut Bank VFW, Cut Bank Roping Club, National Team Roping Association, and NOTRA (National Old Timers Rodeo Association).

GAYLORD JOHN HALVERSON
Birth:1934 – Death: January 27, 2003
Liberty County Times
February 5, 2003



Halverson

Gaylord Halverson

Gildford native and former Lewistown resident Gaylord John Halverson, age 68, died Monday January 27, 2003 at his home in Billings.

He owned a trucking business in Oklahoma for many years and worked on ranches and in road construction in Montana until his retirement.

Survivors include sons Raymond, Tom and Chuck; daughters Brenda, Terrie, Kellie, and Bobbie; brothers bill and Allen; a half-brother Rick; sisters Marcie and Sheila; and nine grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at 2:00 pm Saturday February 1, 2003 at the American Legion in Lewistown.

FREDA GENE (RATHBUN) HANSARD

Birth: March 30, 1928 - Death: December 14, 2003

Liberty County Times
December 24, 2003



Freda Hansard

Freda Gene (Rathbun) Hansard was born March 30, 1928 at Havre, Montana. She was the younger of two daughters born to Alfred "Pete" Rathbun and Winifred "Winnie" Boyer. She grew up on the Rathbun homestead south of Inverness and received her early education at the Cockrell Springs Country School near the farm. During several winters in

her early teens Freda traveled to Shelburn, Indiana with her folks to visit her mother's family, so she attended school there. The rest of her education was completed at Inverness and Rudyard, where she graduated from Rudyard High School in 1946.

Freda married Jim Meyers in July of 1946 at Havre. She attended Northern Montana College for a short time, and then began her life as a homemaker and mother. Freda and Jim had two children before their marriage ended in divorce.

Freda's second marriage was to Gene Hansard in Bemidji, Minnesota on December 1, 1952. Four more children were added to the family, including a stepson and three new Hansards. They made their

home in Rudyard where they farmed in four different locations in Chouteau and Hill Counties. Freda bought the old Gambles store and converted it to Rudyard Upholstery, a business she operated for several years. In 1967 she purchased the Rudyard Café and Drug Store. She put in long, hard days at this business adventure for 11 years, and then sold it. The Hansards divorced in 1975. Freda moved to Havre for a few years and worked at H&R Block.

In 1983 she bought two taverns in Glacier Park - "Packer's Roost" in Coram, and the "Deer Lick" in Martin City. Freda and her children operated these bars for several years. Their saloons became popular stops by Hi-Line friends who traveled to and from the Flathead Valley. Because of health problems Freda eventually sold the two bars. She lived with her son Rick in Columbia Falls and managed a popular tourist attraction, the "House of Mystery," for approximately two years. Freda moved to Cut Bank for a short while before returning to her home in Rudyard.

Freda suffered from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease,

which required daily oxygen use. Still, she wanted to remain active and productive, so she took a job as the Blue Sky High School librarian. In addition, she volunteered as the curator at the Depot Museum in Rudyard. Unfortunately, more medical problems developed, including a recent bout of 'flu-like' symptoms. Freda died peacefully at her Rudyard home on this past Sunday December 14, 2003. She was 75 years old.

Freda raised six children and was a working mother throughout her life, so she didn't have much time for interests outside

of her home. She did enjoy crocheting, arts & crafts, gardening, and her collection of dinner plates and china. She loved her volunteer work for the Museum and spent countless hours documenting historical information and categorizing materials on her computer.

Freda loved people, especially young people. Her kids' friends and others in the neighborhood were always welcome in her home. Many of these young friends affectionately called her "Ma."

She was preceded in death by her mother in 1979, her father in 1985, a daughter Tammy Jean Hansard in 1977, and a son Dale Lee Hansard in 1997.

She is survived by one daughter, Linda Foster of Elko, Nevada; two sons: Jim Meyers of Whitefish, and Danny "Sam" Hansard of Rudyard; one stepson Rick "Hazard" Hansard of Las Vegas, Nevada; her sister Lourene Willis of Camarillo, California; four grandchildren including: Cheri Hudson, Karl Zercher, Christopher Foster, and Patrick Foster; seven great-grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces.

A memorial service was conducted at 11:00 am Saturday December 20, 2003 at the Blue Sky High School gymnasium by Pastor Brian Pederson. The eulogy was shared by Terry Grant, Superintendent of Blue Sky Schools. Selected CDs including "Imagine" by John Lennon, and "I did it My Way" by Frank Sinatra, were played as musical interludes. Ushers were Leonard Wendland and Greg Spinier. A reception followed at the Rudyard Catholic Youth Center.

Freda's ashes will be buried this spring in the family plot at the Rudyard Cemetery. Cremation and arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Rudyard Museum or the Blue Sky School Foundation.

ALMA "MARLENE" (NORENBERG) HANSON
Birth: 1933 - Death: December 10, 2003
Liberty County Times
December 17, 2003

Marlene Hanson

Alma "Marlene" (Norenberg) Hanson, age 70, a former Hingham and Malta resident and dress shop manager, died of natural causes at a Havre hospital.

Prayer Vigil was 7:00 pm Sunday December 7, 2003 at Holland and Bonine Funeral

Chapel, Havre. Funeral Mass was 10:00 am Monday December 8 at St. Jude Catholic Church, followed by a fellowship at St. Jude Parish Center.

Survivors include children Deborah Guenther of Glasgow, and Chan Hanson and Todd Hanson of Havre; a sister June Richter of Havre; and seven grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband Kenneth R. Hanson in 2001.

HARRIET B. "BETTY" HANSON

Birth: December 12, 1933 – Death: November 2, 2003

Liberty County Times

November 12, 2003

Betty Hanson



Harriet Betty Hanson was born at Algona, Iowa on December 12, 1933. She was the second of three children born to Charles and Christene (Stromberg) Hanson. Betty grew up at Algona and received her formal education there.

Even though she was handicapped with a leg disability, Betty tried to be active and productive. In her early years she worked as a dishwasher in local restaurants and operated a press machine at a laundry company. Extended time on her feet caused increased weakness to her legs, so Betty began working at home as a caregiver to her parents. Her father died in 1959 and her mother died in 1971. Betty remained in Algona until 1977, when she moved to Chester, Montana to be near her sisters. She became a resident of the Sweet Grass Lodge in 1979. Her health continued to fail, so she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in 1992. About two weeks ago Betty developed pneumonia and transferred to Benefis East Medical Center for extended care. She died at the Great Falls hospital on Sunday morning November 2, 2003. She was 79 years old.

Betty was baptized and confirmed at First Lutheran Church in Algona. She attended Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester during her early years here, but was unable to participate as her health failed. She did enjoy attending church services at the nursing home.

Betty's favorite activities included embroidery, latch-hooking, and jigsaw puzzles. In her younger days she was an excel-

lent cook, especially homemade soups and cakes. She also enjoyed working in the garden with her mother. Betty loved to read; although her eyesight eventually failed, she still looked forward to the "Guidepost" publication and the comics from the Sunday newspaper. Her favorite television shows were "Jeopardy" and "Wheel of Fortune." Last but not least, she loved costume jewelry and saved a large collection of jewelry items over the years.

Betty never married. She is survived by her sister Violet "Butch" Bauder of Chester, and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her brother Charles Hanson, Jr. and her half-sister Myrtle Broadhurst.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 am on Friday November 7, 2003 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Burial followed at the Chester Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Pastor Pete Erickson officiated; Karen Slack served as organist and the congregation sang "Nearer My God to Thee," "In the Garden," and "How Great Thou Art." Pallbearers were Craig Broadhurst, Ace Diemer, Wayne Thisselle, John Thissell, Stuart Scabery, and Bob Matt. 1.

ANDREW WILLIAM HARMON
Birth: October 16, 1912 – Death: October 24, 2003
Liberty County Times
October 29, 2003



Andrew Harmon

Andrew William Harmon, age 91, died of natural causes on Friday October 24, 2003 at the Liberty County Nursing Home. Andy had been a resident of the Home for over five years.

Andy was born October 16, 1912 near Arkansaw, Wisconsin to William and Barbara (Schlosser) Harmon. He was one of seven children and grew up on a dairy farm. He married Irene Johnson in 1937 in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Plum city, Wisconsin. Andy and Irene owned and operated dairy farms in Wisconsin where their four children were born. In 1952 the family moved to Liberty County and took over the Frank Egger ranch, which is owned today by their son Richard.

In later years Andy worked for the Federal Crop Insurance and served as the Liberty County Appraiser. His hobbies included traveling, playing shuffleboard, raising and riding horses, play-

ing cards, hunting, fishing, and spending hours with his grandchildren. Andy and Irene wintered in Arizona for over 25

years.

He was an active Catholic throughout his life. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester for over 50 years. He was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus, served as a 4-H leader, and participated in saddle clubs.

Andy is survived by his wife Irene Harmon of Chester; two sons: Richard and wife Sharon Harmon of Chester, and Daniel and wife Marilyn Harmon of Kalispell; daughters: Elizabeth and husband Jerry Hendrickson of Chester, Judy and husband Jack Cozzens of Littleton, Colorado, and acquired daughter Rose and husband Al Michel of Richmond, Minnesota; 17 grandchildren; and 36 great-grandchildren.

Vigil Prayers will be 7:30 pm Thursday October 30, 2003 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in

Chester. Mass of the Resurrection will be conducted by Andy's grandson Fr. Andrew Harmon Cozzens at 11:00 on Friday October 31, 2003. Burial will follow at the Chester Cemetery. The family prefers memorial to St. Mary's Church in Chester in lieu of flowers.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

HELEN M. (LYONS) HEFFERNAN
Birth: May 25, 1922 - Death: January 28, 2003
Liberty County Times
February 5, 2003

Helen Heffernan

Helen M. (Lyons) Heffernan passed away Tuesday January 28, 2003 at her home in Edgewood Vista.

Helen was born May 25, 1922 in Newberry, Michigan to Fred and Della Lyons. She was raised and educated in Fulton, Illinois. Helen graduated in 1940 from Fulton High School.

On January 12, 1941 Helen married Elmo Newell Heffernan in Clinton, Iowa. Elmo and Helen moved to Missoula in 1948. Together they raised six children. In the 1950s she worked in central supply at St. Patrick Hospital. Helen then went to Modern Beauty School and received her cosmetology license. She opened her own shop in her home and worked until the early 1990s.

Helen was a member of St. Francis Xavier Parish, DAV Auxiliary, Altar Society, Social Women's Club, American Legion Auxiliary, and served as an election judge for many years.

She was accomplished seamstress and enjoyed knitting

and crocheting. Her handiwork has provided warmth and beauty for many. Her sense of humor and unique laugh brightened everyone's day.

Helen is survived by two sons and five daughters-in-law: Patrick Heffernan of Missoula, Bob and Linda Heffernan of Kalispell, Karen Booth and Diane Kulstad of California, Susan Johnson of Missoula, and Sheila Heffernan of Salt Lake City, Utah; two daughters and sons-in-law: Bunny and Vern Cardon of Sandy, Utah, Cyndee and Bill Fraser of Chester; two sisters: Lorraine Musk, Mary (Bernie Housenga of Fulton, Illinois; a brother Bob Lyons of Florida; 15 grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband Elmo; her parents; two brothers Joseph and Fred; sons William and Donald; and a granddaughter Ashley.

Rosary was recited at 7:00 pm Sunday at the Livingston, Malletta & Geraghty Funeral Home chapel in Kalispell.

A Celebration of Life Mass was held at 10:30 am Monday February 3, 2003 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic church. A luncheon followed at the church. Interment was at the Old St. Mary's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family suggest memorials to Partners in Home Care Hospice, 2687 Palmer St, Ste B, Missoula, MT 59404; or Loyola Sacred Heart Foundation, 300 Edith, Missoula, MT 59801.

HELEN MARIE (DETERDING) HEMMER
Birth: November 29, 1923 - Death: January 14, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
January 16, 2003

Helen Marie Hemmer

SHELBY — Helen Marie (Deterding) Hemmer, 79, a bookkeeper and homemaker, died Tuesday at a Shelby care center after a long illness.



Hemmer

Visitation is 1 to 5:30 p.m. Friday at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby, with a vigil service at 7 p.m. at St. William Catholic Church. Funeral Mass is 11 a.m. Saturday at the church, with burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband, Charles Hemmer of Shelby; daughters Susan Lutke of Lewistown and Mary Jane Borlaug of Havre; sons Dennis Hemmer of Cheyenne, Wyo., and Joe Hemmer of Shelby; a sister, Mildred Steibel of Prairie Du Rocher, Ill.; a brother, Clifford Deterding of Ruma, Ill.; eight grandchildren and two step-grandchildren.

Additional survivors include sons-in-law Doug Lutke of Lewistown and Bud Borlaug of Havre; and daughters-in-law Mary Kay Hemmer of Cheyenne, Wyo., and Marie Hemmer of Shelby.

Helen was born Nov. 29, 1923, to Stephen and Pearl (Allgire) Deterding, in Prairie Du Rocher, Ill., where she grew up and was educated. She worked for the telephone company in St. Louis for a time. Then, in 1947, Helen came to Montana to help her sister at Chester, who had recently lost her husband. She stayed, met and later married Charles Raymond Hemmer on April 3, 1948, at St. William Catholic Church in Shelby.

For a while, the couple lived and worked on a ranch in the Sweet Grass Hills. They then moved to Kalispell for a short time before moving to Shelby permanently. She and Charles began the Hemmer Plumbing and Heating Business in 1954, which they operated until retirement in 1988. She had also worked as a maid for the Star Motel, but for the past many years she was the bookkeeper for the family business.

Helen was a member of St. William Catholic Church, where she was very active in the Altar Society. She enjoyed sewing, gardening and chasing after her grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters, Grace Ellner and Goldie Shields; and a brother, Norville Deterding.

Memorials are suggested to St. William Church; Parkinson's Disease Research; or Alzheimer's Disease Research.

HELEN (TEMPEL) HODGES

Birth: November 8, 1912 - Death: October 31, 2003

Liberty County Times

November 5, 2003



Helen Hodges

Helen (Tempel) Hodges was born November 8, 1912 at Chicago, Illinois. She was the eldest of eight children born to Edward and Mary (Kreitmeir) Tempel. At age four she came to Joplin, Montana with her parents, who homesteaded north of Chester. Helen received her early education at the Tingdahl School near the farm. She continued her schooling in Joplin through her sophomore year, when she quit to help on the farm after her father was injured in a farming accident.

In her early 20s Helen worked as a cook on the Prescott Ranch near the Sweetgrass Hills. She met William N. "Bill" Hodges and they were united in marriage on April 5, 1935 at the Tempel family home. Bill and Helen began farming 17 miles north of Joplin, where they raised their family of three. After 36 years of marriage, Bill died in 1971. Helen moved into Joplin and became an active member of the community. In the spring of 2001 she moved to the new Wheat Country Estates (assisted living housing) in Chester. In September of that same year Helen suffered a broken hip, so she transferred to the Liberty

County Nursing Home. She lived at the rest home until her death on the afternoon of Friday October 31, 2003. She was 90 years old.

Helen was a member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church north of Joplin, where she was active in the Ladies Aid and taught Sunday School for many years. After moving to Joplin she became active at Bethel Lutheran Church and the ALCW quilting group. Helen was also active in the Farmer's Union and the Liberty County Democratic party. She was a loyal supporter of our local medical facilities by serving on the Liberty County Hospital Auxiliary and the Hi-Line Health Foundation Board. During her years on the Hospital Guild Helen volunteered as a hairdresser for the nursing home residents.

Helen loved to travel. In the early 1980s she took a memorable trip with her son Richard to Germany to search out her ancestry. Another wonderful trip was to Hawaii with her good friend Havreen Frydenlund. Helen loved to ride on the Amtrak. When the Empire builder zoomed through town she would often say, "There goes my train!"

Her hobbies were many. She enjoyed crocheting and knitting afghans for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She also enjoyed gardening and cooking. Her family will always remember her delicious peach cobbler and banana bars. At family gatherings she liked to play "Scrabble" and cards, especially Pinochle. During her quiet time at home Helen enjoyed reading, mainly historical literature. She also enjoyed television game shows—"Jeopardy" and "Wheel of Fortune." And just for the fun of it, she collected thimbles.

She was a soft-spoken lady who was always kind and caring. Her home was always immaculate and welcome to visitors. She loved those special visits from her grandchildren and her nieces and nephews.

Helen was diagnosed with breast cancer at age 65, so she was a 25-year survivor of the disease. Because of this, her family is suggesting memorial gifts to Breast Cancer Research.

Helen is survived by two sons: Richard and wife Ann Joy Hodges of St. Paul, Minnesota, and Dean and wife Mary Hodges of Joplin; one daughter Sharon and husband Steve Vondracek of Plains, Montana; six brothers: Eddie and wife Joyce Tempel of Chester, John and wife Ruby Tempel of Apache Junction, Arizona, Bill and wife Marcia Tempel of Pullman, Washington, Ted and wife Elvina Tempel of Joplin, Bert and wife Ann Tempel of Las Cruces, New Mexico, and Ben and wife Lorraine Tempel of Kalispell; one sister Mary Gornley of Choteau; four grandsons: Mark (Sushmita) Hodges, Terry (Beth) Sherping, Randy (Lilly) Sherping, and Kevin Hodges; three granddaughters: Dr. Christina (Dr. Gus) Mantz, Sandra (Jerry) Harrington, and Kim (Jeff) Gerdes; 10 great-grandchildren including: Samantha, Serena, Matthew, Trevor, Sarah, Alexander, Nicholas, Andreas, Kylie, and Toby; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

She was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by an infant daughter Mary Kay in 1946.

Funeral will be 11:00 am Wednesday November 6, 2003 (today) at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. Burial will follow in the Joplin Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman

Funeral Chapel, Chester/

The funeral will be conducted by Pastor Brian Pederson with assistance by Helen's son Pastor Dick. A special reading will be shared by son Dean. Congregational hymns are "Children of the Heavenly Father," "I Know of a Sleep in Jesus Name," "Borning Cry," and "Jesus Loves Me." Organist is Tammy Duncan, pianist is Christi Fossen, and vocalist is Ruth Ann Norick ("Lift High the Cross"). Ushers are nephews David and Russ Tempel. Pallbearers are Kevin Hodges, Jerry Harrington, Randy Sherping, Christina Mantz, Mark Hodges, and Steve Vondracek. Following the burial rites, a luncheon will be held at Kjos Hall.

EDWARD "ED" HOFER

Birth: May 20, 1940 - Death: September 2, 2003

Liberty County Times
September 10, 2003



Edward Hofer

Edward "Ed" Hofer was born May 20, 1940 at Raley, Alberta, Canada. He was one of nine children born to Jacob and Elizabeth Hofer. Ed received his early education at Sterling, Alberta. Most of his secondary education was completed at the Prairie Bible Institute at Three Hills, Alberta. He finished his senior year at the Western Mennonite High School at Salem, Oregon where he graduated in 1959 and met his future wife-to-be, Esther Landis. Ed enrolled and attended Hesston College in Hesston, Kansas for a year before being recruited by the draft board during the Vietnam Conflict. In lieu of active military duty, he spent a three-year-stint working for the Selective Service System as an orderly at the Elkhart General Hospital in Elkhart, Indiana.

Ed married Esther on June 3, 1966 at Vancouver, Washington. They made their home on the family farm in northern Montana from that time on. This farming operation near the Sweetgrass Hills south of Whittash was purchased by the Hofer family in 1952. In addition to farming with several brothers, Ed also maintained his realty sales license for 20 years and was recently associated with Fort Benton Realty. Ed loved his life as a Montana farmer/rancher and was active in the family business at the time of his sudden death. He suffered a heart attack at his farm home on the morning of Tuesday September 2, 2003, and resuscitative measures were to no avail. He was 63 years old.

Ed was well-known in the north Chester community. He attended the Whittash Presbyterian Church and served on the board of the Whittash Community Hall. He was an active participant of the Sweetgrass Hills Family Camp, serving on the planning board for 20+ years.

Ed loved "Southern Gospel" music. The past several years he enjoyed the Southern Gospel Quartet Convention at Red Deer, Alberta. Some of his favorite music was performed by the Dixie

Melody Boys.

In his youth Ed loved to play hockey. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing. In addition he was a lifelong spectator fan of boxing. And just for the fun of it, he collected Hesston rodeo bell buckles for his son.

Ed was always a sociable man with a big friendly smile. His family reported that 'he never met a stranger!' One of his greatest enjoyments in life was drinking coffee and visiting with friends and neighbors.

Ed is survived by his wife of 37 years, Esther of Whittash; one son Jim Hofer (and wife Teresa) of Whittash; one daughter Lori Christopherson (and husband Clayton) of Windsor, Colorado; seven grandchildren including Amanda, Waylon, Jessica, Bryan, Shelby, Gage, and Syndi; his mother Elizabeth Hofer of Whittash; his mother-in-law Ruth Landis of Albany, Oregon; six brothers: Herb Hofer of Omaha, Nebraska, Dr. Jack Hofer of Upland, California, Peter Hofer of Three Forks, Joseph Hofer of Helena, Marvin Hofer of Whittash, and John Hofer of Whittash; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Ed was preceded in death by his father Jacob in 1983, and two sisters Katherine and Elizabeth.

Funeral services were 11:00 am Friday September 5, 2003 at the Whittash Presbyterian Church. Officiants were Reverends Ernest Doyle and John Maatta. Piano music was provided by Ruth Maatta. Special vocal music by Curt and Kathy Hofer was "I Can Only Imagine." Ushers were urban Kultgen and Bill King. Pallbearers were Willis Nixon, Mark McCormick, Mark Wickum, Rick Wickum, John Wickum, and Waylon Hofer. Memorial bearers were "All of Ed's many friends." Following burial at the Whittash Cemetery, a luncheon was held at the Whittash Community hall.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

LAUREL ANN (KOEFOOD) HOLLOWAY
Birth: August 22, 1930 – Death: May 25, 2003
Liberty County Times
June 11, 2003

Laurel Holloway

Laurel Ann Holloway, age 72 of Gilbert, Arizona, a homemaker and Rudyard native, died of natural causes May 25, 2003 at the East Valley Hospice in Mesa, Arizona.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial gathering for family and friends is planned for late June.

The youngest of three children, laurel was born August 22, 1930 in Rudyard, Montana to Ralph and Lottie Koelod. She attended Montana State University and was a member of Delta Gamma Sorority.

She married Frank Holloway in 1950; he died in the 1970s.

Her family will miss her warm sense of humor and strong will.

Survivors include daughters: Pamela Holloway of Estes Park, Colorado, and Wendy Lambros of Gilbert, Arizona; a grandson Ben Lambros of Gilbert, Arizona; and a sister Kathleen VanLuchene of Mesa, Arizona.

Contributions in her name may be made to hospice of the Valley, 1510 E Flower, Phoenix, AZ 85014; phone (602) 530-6900.

JOHN FRED HOLSTINE
Born: 1920 - Died: June 11, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
June 15, 2003

John Fred Holstine

LINCOLN — John Fred Holstine, 83, a Navy veteran, former Conrad business owner and postal carrier, died of bone cancer Wednesday at a Great Falls hospital.



His funeral is 1 p.m. Monday at Lincoln Baptist Church. Burial with military honors is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Hillside

Cemetery in Conrad. Chapel of Chimes Funeral Home of Great Falls is handling arrangements.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Holstine; his three daughters, Sandra Sepe and Tammy Fuhrmann of Great Falls and Terry Eaton of Phoenix, Ariz.; his grandchildren Kaylene Chalmers of Great Falls, Bryan Chalmers of Missoula, John Eaton of Las Vegas, Nev., Tracy Irwin of Phoenix, and Tia Lee and Kurt Konrad Fuhrmann of Great Falls; seven great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Henry Holstein of Midland, Texas, and Leland Holstine of Meridian, Idaho.

J. Fred was a World War II Navy veteran and served aboard the U.S.S. Maryland all during the war's entirety, surviving many sea battles. He was honorably discharged Oct. 4, 1945.

The Holstines were former residents of Conrad, where they owned and operated "Fred and Pat's Upholstery Service" for 30 years. Fred ("Freddie") was also a rural letter carrier.

Fred was very active in community service. For his 46 years of continuous service in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, he was granted a lifetime membership in November, 1992. He worked diligently in his church by both building and teaching the youth.

Upon his retirement from the postal service, the Holstines moved to Lincoln, Mont.

MARGARET L. (MOTT) HOLZHEIMER
Born: July 15, 1908 – Died: September 2, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
September 4, 2003

Margaret L. Holzheimer

Margaret L. (Mott) Holzheimer, 95, of 5200 9th Ave. S., a homemaker, died of natural causes Tuesday at a local assisted living center.



Holzheimer

Visitation is 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday at Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory. Her funeral is 1 p.m. Saturday at Croxford's, with burial in Highland Cemetery.

Survivors include a son, George (Esther) Holzheimer of Great Falls; eight grandchildren, George (Gail) Holzheimer Jr., Sue Tonne, Steve (Colleen) Holzheimer, Marcee Mizenko and Marg Anderson, all of Great Falls, Joe (Noreen) Anderson of Choteau, Gary (Lynette) Anderson of Mankato, Minn., and John Anderson of New Knoxville, Ohio; 11 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Earl A. Holzheimer, in 1956; a son, Myron B. Holzheimer, in 1983; and a daughter, Zetta Ramona Anderson, in 1989.

She was born July 15, 1908, in Lisbon, N.D. She attended schools in Dodson, Mont., and graduated from Dodson High School.

She married Earl A. Holzheimer in 1929 in Fort Benton and became a full-time homemaker. She was a member of the F.O.E. Auxilliary No. 14 and the Great Falls Senior Citizens Center. She enjoyed dancing, gardening, and spending time with family and friends.

Memorials are suggested to Peace Hospice of Montana.

BYRON DeMARR ISRAEL

Birth: December 5, 1919 – Death: September 9, 2003

Liberty County Times

October 22, 2003

Byron Israel

Byron DeMarr Israel died September 9, 2003 in Auburn, Washington. He was 83 years old.

Born December 5, 1919 in Webster, Wisconsin, he married Gertrude McKnight on July 10, 1947 in Livingston, Montana.

Byron was an ordained pastor and served at the Assembly of God Church in Chester from 1951 to 1964.

He was a nursing home administrator from 1969 – 1986 when he retired and moved to Harrison, Idaho. He served as secretary of the Nursing Home Associations of South Dakota from 1971 – 1974.

He is survived by his wife Gertrude of Auburn, Washington; sons: Richard Israel of San Jose, California, and Michael Israel of Toronto, Canada; three daughters: Darlene DeMonfried of Los Angeles, California, Charlotte Day of Auburn, Washington, and Doris Ball of Luxembourg, Europe; nine grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Byron was preceded in death by his son Larry Israel.

ELMER JENSEN

Born: November 6, 1907 - Died: January 30, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
February 6, 2003

Elmer Jensen



Jensen

CONRAD — Elmer Jensen, 95, a retired Conrad businessman, died Jan. 30 at a Conrad hospital.

A memorial service is 11 a.m. Monday at the LDS Church in Conrad, with inurnment of ashes in Hillcrest Mausoleum in Great Falls. Croxford & Sons Funeral Home is handling cremation and arrangements.

Survivors include daughters Sharon Walston of Conrad, Dianne Diedrich of Garfield, Minn., and Yvonne Sharp of Medford, Ore.; seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

His wife, Ida, died in December 1997.

Elmer was born in Bryant, S.D., on Nov. 6, 1907, one of three children of Morris and Nikolina Jensen. Elmer's family moved several times in South Dakota.

He married Ida Parent in 1937 and they lived in several places before moving to Conrad in 1945, where he started the Coast-to-Coast store.

He was a member of the Conrad Lions Club and was instrumental in planning to start a Moose Lodge in Conrad in 1952. A charter member for 51 years, he held many offices and served as governor five times. He was president of the Montana Moose Association, an officer in the Supreme Lodge one year and held several offices in the Legion of the Moose.

He received his Pilgrim's Degree in 1965 and is in the Hall of Records at Mooseheart, the Home for Children, and Moosehaven, the home for the elderly in Florida.

He started taping his travels and life story in 1981. In 1996, at age 89, he completed a book, "The Life and Times of Elmer Jensen."

He wrote in part: "I've been luckier than many. I have a good family and have had 60 years to share with Ida. I caught a lot of fish, made a lot of friends, and hopefully, haven't made too many enemies. Yep, I've been a pretty lucky son-of-a-gun."

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Pondera Medical Center; Conrad Community Center; Horizon Lodge or charity of the donor's choice.

ROBERT E. "BOB" JOCHEMS
Born: May 31, 1926 - Died: April 25, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
April 29, 2003

Robert E. Jochems

CUT BANK — Army veteran and retired farmer Robert "Bob" E. Jochems, 76, of Cut Bank, died of natural causes Friday at a local hospital.



Jochems

His graveside memorial is 11 a.m. May 10 at Crown Hill Cemetery with military honors. Cremation has taken place. Day Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Survivors include daughters Diane Claxton and Rita Hawks, both of Chester; sons



Marvin Jochems of Billings and Don Jochems of Cut Bank; stepsons Larry Nordstrom of Post Falls, Idaho and Steve McAdams of Clinton; sisters Ruth Hanley of Riverside, Calif., Marrion Hancock of Las Vegas and Pat Jones of Conrad; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Freda Jochems; his mother, Nellie Jochems; his father, Garret Jochems; and brothers-in-law William Hanley, Eugene Hancock and Raymond Jones.

He was born May 31, 1926, in Conrad. He served in the Army and worked construction and farming.

He was a member of the Moose and American Legion.

He enjoyed all his pet cats and dogs.

DONALD CURTIS JOHNSON
Born: 1942 - Died: April 4, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
April 6, 2003

Donald Curtis Johnson

Donald Curtis Johnson, 61, of 3313 Wildrose Lane, an Army veteran, carpenter and construction worker, died of cancer



Friday at Peace Hospice.

At his request, no services are planned.

Burial will be at a cemetery in Noonan, N.D., at a later date. Croxford Funeral Home and Crematory is handling local arrangements.

Survivors include his mother, Doris Johnson of Kalispell; sisters Bonnie Jones and her husband David of Hingham and Nancy Hoffman of Waldorf, Md.; six nieces and nephews of Missoula, Salt Lake City and Cincinnati.

His wife, Charlane Dahlke, died in 1998.

Memorials are suggested to the Peace Hospice of Great Falls.

GRAYCE MARIE (STRATTON) JOHNSON

Born: 1924 – Died: October 8, 2003

Great Falls Tribune

October 12, 2003

Grayce Marie Johnson

KALISPELL — Grayce Marie (Stratton) Johnson, 79, of Kalispell, who graduated from Shelby High School and worked for Conrad National Bank until retiring in 1985, died of natural causes Wednesday at a Kalispell hospital.

Visitation is 3 to 8 p.m. Monday at Buffalo Hill Funeral Home in Kalispell. A celebration of her life is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Christian Center Assembly of God Church, with burial in Glacier Memorial Gardens, followed by a luncheon at the church.

Survivors include her husband, Arvid Johnson of Kalispell; a son, Ron Severson of Kalispell; daughters Lonnie Bailey of Chandler, Ariz., Janna Rae Severson of Wasilla, Alaska, and TerryAnn Lorentzen of Kalispell; a brother, Austin Stratton of Lothair; a sister, Alvera James of Havre; nine grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

NORMAN STANLEY JOHNSON
Birth: August 1, 1913 – Death: April 7, 2003
Liberty County Times
April 16, 2003



Norman Johnson

Norman Stanley Johnson, age 89, and retired Kremlin Farmer's Union Oil Company Manager, died Monday April 7, 2003 at a Havre care facility of natural causes.

Norman was born August 1, 1913 to John and Inga (Vigness) Johnson at Coalridge, Montana. He was one of ten children. He was raised in Grenora, North Dakota and attended school and graduated from Grenora High School.

On June 3, 1939 he married June Phyllis Kezar at Havre, Montana.

Norman managed the Farmer's Union Oil Company in Kremlin for 40 years before retiring in 1979. Norman and June moved to Whitefish where they lived for 15

years, 10 of those years Norma worked for the Whitefish Golf Course. They then returned to Havre in 1996.

Norman loved the game of baseball. His favorite team was the Atlanta Braves. He was also an avid Boston Celtics fan.

Some of his hobbies were golf, working in the yard, and baking his delicious buttermilk donuts, and oatmeal raisin cookies. He was a wonderful family man and will be missed by all who knew him.

Norman is survived by his wife June of Havre; sons: Pete and wife Lynne Johnson of Helena, Don and wife Denise Johnson of Havre, and David Johnson of Havre; daughters: Diana and husband Ted Burfield of Florence, and Delonna and husband Ned Malone of Havre; daughter-in-law Carla Peck Johnson of Havre; sister Verna Farnik of Helena; 23 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers: Ilet, Jasper, and Lloyd; five sisters: Oranga, Lillian, Emma, Viola, and Ethel; one son Daryl, and one grandson Mitchell Burfield.

Cremation has taken place. Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 am Wednesday April 23, 2003 at the Fifth Avenue Christian Church in Havre with Pastor Rowlie Hutton officiating. A fellowship luncheon will follow the Memorial Service at the church. A private family committal service will take place at a later date. Memorials in Norman's honor may be made to: Fifth Avenue Christian church, 2015 - 5th Ave, Havre, MT 59501 or to Havre Youth Baseball, c/o C&D Thompson, PO Box 2200, Havre, MT 59501.

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

OSCAR THEODORE JOHNSON

Birth: May 2, 1915 – Death: November 25, 2003

Liberty County Times

December 3, 2003

Oscar Johnson

Oscar Theodore Johnson, age 88, was welcomed into the arms of the Lord on Tuesday, November 25, 2003.

He was born May 2, 1915 to Albert and Inga (Amundson) Johnson in Glendive, Montana. The Johnson family moved to Rothsay, Minnesota in 1919 and returned to Montana in 1930. He established a farm at Goldstone, north of Rudyard, where Oscar was a charter member of the Goldstone Lutheran Church.

Oscar married Signe Tollefson in 1938 and born into this union were two sons, Douglas and Darryl. They were later divorced.

After selling the grain farm he had worked for 32 years, he moved to the Flathead Valley. He married Dorothy Anderson on July 3, 1970 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell. Oscar embarked on a new career with the Forest Service on the Flathead National Forest where he began as a seasonal with the trail crew on the Spotted Bear Ranger District. After two seasons, he became a full-time soils technician and with his special creative skills designed and built the Soils Testing Lab at the Forest Service Shop. He retired from the Forest Service in 1980.

Oscar returned to the Rudyard

area for numerous summers to help out at harvest on the Sam Berge farm. It was his way of taking a "vacation."

Oscar was everyone's expert "handyman" as he could fix anything. He gave much of his time to projects at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, the church, or to anyone who needed a helping hand. The log shop he built was a workshop of love where he created so many wonderful things from wood and restored old pieces of furniture to their original beauty.

He was very active in Bethlehem Lutheran Church and served on the Church Council and as President of the Sons of Norway.

He was preceded in death by his parents Albert and Inga Johnson, sisters Irene and Adella, brother Donald, son Darryl, stepdaughter Jerralyn and step-grandson Jeremy.

Oscar is survived by his wife Dorothy, son Douglas Johnson of Olympia, WA, stepsons Doug Anderson and wife Bev of Kent, WA, Tim Anderson and wife Rosemary of Spokane, WA, stepdaughters Nola Rice and husband Curt of Kalispell, Penny Lee and husband Jim of Kennewick, WA, and Linda Duplessie of Phoenix, AZ, niece's Claudia Curd of San Mateo, CA, Carolyn

Frederickson of Tyler, Texas, Cheryl Causey of Burke, VA, Ardyce Endresen of Tucson, AZ, Margaret Tollefson of Santa Barbara, CA, nephew's Roger Zentzls of Inverness, Calvin Tollefson of Havre, Alfred Tollefson of Helena, Marilyn Miller of Billings, Rodney Miller of Clyde Park, and Dr. Harold Tollefson, Jr of Las Cruces, NM; 17 step-grandchildren; and 34 step-great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, November 29, 2003 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Kalispell with burial at Glacier Memorial Gardens.

The family suggests memorials be given to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, 603 Main Street, Kalispell, MT 59901 or a charity of your choice. You may contact Douglas Johnson at 4806 Stratford Ln SE, Olympia WA 99501.

ALVIN RUSSELL KEITH
Birth: April 26, 1923 – Death: July 19, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 30, 2003

Alvin Keith

Alvin R. Keith, age 80, a Navy veteran and former Great Falls and Chester resident, died Saturday July 19, 2003 at his home in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Alvin Russell Keith was born April 26, 1923, the son of DeVall W. and Hazel V. (Staudacher) Keith in Great Falls, Montana. His family moved to Chester where he graduated from high school. He entered the US Navy in 1943 and served in the Pacific Theatre separating in 1946.

He married Fern E. Heydon on December 28, 1945 in Shelby. After the war he returned to Chester and worked for his family's bulk oil business. In 1949 he began working for the Great

Northern Railway in Havre, then Great Falls, and in 1969 he moved to Grand Forks, North Dakota. He retired from the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad in 1981 as a supervisor of locomotives.

Visitation was at 6:00 pm at the Gregory J. Norman Funeral Chapel in Grand Forks with a prayer service at 7:00 pm. Burial will take place in Havre.

Survivors include his wife Fern Keith of Grand Forks; daughters and spouses: Jane and Ricky Smith of Moorhead, Minnesota, and Sharlot and Darrell Gelbert of O'Fallon, Illinois; a son and his wife, Gene and Mary Keith of Havre; grandchildren: Kristi, Andy, Tori, Malinda, Darren, Michael, Amanda, Adam, Scott, Dennis, and Daniel; four great-grandchildren; a first cousin Earl Keith of Chester; and many nieces and nephews.

Alvin was preceded in death by his parents; a sister Thelma Pinar; and brothers Lloyd and Robert.

Arrangements by Gregory J. Norman Funeral Chapel in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

ROBERT PAUL KEITH
Birth: August 8, 1972 – Death: November 28, 2003
Liberty County Times
December 10, 2003



Robert Keith

Robert Paul Keith, 31 years of age, died Friday, November 28, 2003 at a Havre care facility after a courageous battle with cancer. A funeral service was held Tuesday, December 2, 2003, 2:30 pm at the Assembly of God Church in Havre with Pastor Russ Michaels officiating. The committal rite was at Highland Cemetery following the service. A fellowship was held at the church immediately following the interment. Services and arrangements under the direction of Holland and Bonine Funeral Home in Havre, Montana.

Robert was born August 8, 1972 to David and Louise (Orr) Keith in Council Bluffs, Iowa. After moving to Montana in childhood he grew up and attended schools in different areas of Montana, graduating from Great Falls High School in 1991.

On September 27, 1998 he married Joni Vickers in Havre. To this union three children were born. He and Joni resided in Chinook until 2002 when they moved to Havre due to employment. In July 1998 he went to work for Schwan's Sales as a route manager where he remained until his health would not allow him to continue. He loved his job and especially each and every one of his customers.

Family always came first with Robert and he loved doing anything that involved spending time with them. Robert also enjoyed golfing, playing card games with friends and family, playing video games and watching movies.

Robert is survived by his wife Joni, and children Thomas, Jordan, Kathrine "Katy" all of Havre, MT; parents Dave and Teri Keith of Great Falls; mother Louise Keith of Great Falls; sisters April and Annisa Keith of Great Falls; brothers James and Holly Vance of Philomath, Oregon, William Wallace of Denver, Colorado, and Ryan Keith of Great Falls; paternal grandparents Ethel and Bob Darnall of Chester; maternal grandparents Pat Orr of Kalispell, and Jean Orr of Eiko, Nevada; and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

JUNE AMY (TOOLE) KELLEY

Birth: October 30, 1913 - Death: January 21, 2003

Liberty County Times
January 29, 2003



June Kelley

June Amy (Toole) Kelley, age 89, died early Tuesday morning January 21, 2003 at the Liberty County Nursing home in Chester.

June was born on October 30, 1913 at Lamont, Iowa. She was the only daughter of two children born to Ray and Amy (Lewis) Toole. June grew up and received her early education in Iowa. At age 10 she moved with her family to Bozeman, Montana where she finished her formal schooling.

June married Marion F. Kelley in Bozeman on November 27, 1930. They made their home in Bozeman where June worked diligently as a homemaker and mother of seven. The Kelleys moved to Havre in 1959 then to Chester in 1962. During their years in Chester, her husband worked as a butcher at the County Fair Food Center. When he died on January 5, 1976 they had been married 45 years. June remained in Chester from that time on. She lived at the Sweetgrass lodge for five years, then transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home in 1994. She resided at the rest home until her death.

June was described as a 'busy lady' during her life. While in Bozeman, she was active in the Eagles Club and the Grand Avenue Christian Church. She and her husband took a geology

course at Montana State University and became avid rockhounds. They collected, cut and polished many beautiful rocks and gems and made jewelry from the best specimens. June was awarded a sweepstakes fossil case from the Northwest Federation in recognition of her superb collection; she donated this case and collection to the Liberty County Museum for permanent display.

After coming to Chester June became active in the Royal Neighbors of America, the Eastern Star, and served as a Rainbow advisor. In addition she volunteered as a leader of the Campfire Girls, she served on the Chester Garden Club (in fact, she was one of the first Garden Club members to plant flowers at the

City Park), and she played the kazoo in the Chuckwagon Band. June was also a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and WELCA in Chester.

June was a very artistic woman. She worked as a private seamstress during those early married years. She sewed wedding dresses, made draperies, and did upholstery work. She also baked and decorated wedding cakes. She enjoyed art in her hobby life, too; she did free-hand oil paintings, made silk flowers and floral arrangements, and enjoyed knitting and crocheting. Just for the fun of it, she collected thimbles, bells, and lead crystal glassware. An excellent ice skater in her youth, she continued to enjoy family camping, hiking and rockhounding. During her time at home, June loved to cook and bake, and watch her favorite soap operas on TV. She will always be remembered as a loving mother and grandmother.

Survivors include four sons: Marion "Jim" Kelley and wife Bobbie of Helena, Shelby "Joe" Kelley and wife Shirley of Great Falls, Lewis "Bud" Kelley and wife

Romy of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Ray Kelley and wife Karen of Bakersfield, California; three daughters: Amy Smith of Havre, Dorothe Overlie and husband Paul of Chester, and Bonnie Eppers and husband Gary of Fort Benton; 26 grandchildren, including Peggy Wagy (whom she raised from infancy); 53 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

June was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by her brother Lewis Toole; two sons-in-law Henry 'Smitty' Smith, and Richard 'Dick' Overlie; one grandchild; two great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Memorial services were held at 11:00 am Friday January 24, 2003 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Pete Erickson officiated and a special reading entitled "I'm Free" was shared by family friend John Maatta. Karen Stack served as organist and the congregation sang "Amazing Grace." Vocalist Wayne Wardell performed "In the Garden," and "Whispering Hope." Honorary bearers were all of June's loving

grandchildren. A luncheon followed in the Lutheran Fellowship Hall.

Cremation and arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. June's ashes will be interred at the Sunset Memorial Cemetery in Bozeman later this spring, when the family will gather for a final committal service.

Memorials are suggested to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester.

EMMI VIOLA (MARKUSON) SCHROER GIRARD KELSO

Birth: October 2, 1913 – Death: February 2, 2003

Liberty County Times

February 12, 2003



Emmi Kelso

Emmi Viola (Markuson) Schroer Girard Kelso, age 89, died early Sunday morning February 2, 2003 from complications of Alzheimer's Disease at a Spokane, Washington care center.

Emmi was born October 2, 1913 on the family homestead north of Galata, Montana. She was one of eleven children born to Linus and Ester (Naslund) Markuson. She grew up on the farm and received her early education at the Greenhill Country School. After graduating from Galata High School, Emmi continued her education at Western Montana College in Dillon where she received her teaching certificate in 1934. During the next four years she taught school near the Sweetgrass Hills and Galata.

Emmi met her husband-to-be, Louis J. Schroer, and they were married on June 27, 1939. They lived in Browning until 1945, then purchased 'Lou's Service Station' at Lothair. This "Mom & Pop" business was a truck stop, motel,

mini-grocery, and souvenir store. In addition to operating the business, the Schroer's raised a family of three.

IN the late 1950s they went back to teaching: Lou became the principal at Chester High School, and Emmi taught school in Sunburst. In 1960 she accepted a teaching position at the Chester grade school, so they moved into town. Husband Lou died on January 28, 1967. Emmi continued to teach. In addition, she attended school at Northern Montana College in Havre where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Education in 1972. She retired from the Chester school system in 1974 and moved to Kallispell.

Emmi married her second husband Richard Girard in 1976. He died the following year. Several years later she married husband number three, Robert Kelso. They made their home in the Flathead Valley until 1995, when they moved to Spokane, Washington to be close to Emmi's daughters. Mr. Kelso died in March of 2000.

Emmi has resided at Moline's Adult Family Home in Spokane for the past three years. She died peacefully at the rest home this past Sunday morning.

Emmi had been very active in the Catholic church throughout her life. She loved music, embroidery, gardening, dancing, and playing Bridge. A wonderful cook, Emmi will be remembered by her family for her delicious cinnamon rolls and breads. As a hobby, she collected sups and saucers. A loving mother and friend, she helped guide the lives of her children and grandchildren.

Survivors include her three children: Marilyn Rider of Nine

Miles Falls, Washington, Karen Gertson and husband Richard of Spokane, Washington, and Louis John Schroer and wife Linda of Casper, Wyoming; three sisters: Lillian Cockrell Fenster of Kallispell, Mildred Visocan of Raynesford, and Ester Marie Berry of Mesa, Arizona; 12 grandchildren including: Christie, Rodney, and Brett Raunig, Marc Rider, Ken and Jeff Gertson, Shannon Tucker, Maria Rich, John Scott, and Marnie, Matt and Andy Schroer; 18 great-grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces. Emmi was preceded in death not only by her husbands and parents, but also by three sisters: Elizabeth Leighton, Evelyn Jones, and Ethel Knyon, and two brothers Harold and Leonard Markuson.

Funeral Mass was celebrated at 1:00 Saturday February 8, 2003 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Chester by Father Joseph Diekhans. Richie Hamel served as organist and St. Mary's Choir sang "Be Not Afraid," "Valley of Green," "Amazing Grace," "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," "On Eagle's Wings," and "When the Saints Go Marching In." Scripture readers were Marnie Schroer and Maria Rich. The communion gifts were presented by John and Linda Schroer. Eucharistic Ministers were Marj Dahinden, Rita Laird, and Pat Ludwig. Altar servers were Garrett Graff and Bill Duffin. The eulogist was Marilyn Rider. Pallbearers included Mark Visocan, Brett Raunig, Ronald Cockrell, Dennis Cockrell, Lynn Markuson, and Eugene Markuson. Following a luncheon provided by the Altar Society, the graveside services were held at the Lothair Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

NELLIE (FLEMING) SMITH KOLSTAD
Born: 1900 - Died: May 27, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
May 31, 2003

Retired teacher dies at age 103

LEWISTOWN — Scotland native Nellie (Fleming) Smith Kolstad, who taught in the Lewistown area for almost 50 years and was a member of several organizations, including the Christian Women's Club, Retired Teachers Association and Republican Women's Club, died of natural causes Tuesday at a Lewistown nursing home. She was 103.

Her funeral is 10:30 a.m. Monday at Cree Funeral Chapel in Lewistown, with burial in Central Montana Memorial Gardens.

She is survived by her daughter, Ardeth Rosenbahn of Gold Canyon, Ariz.; four grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Albert Smith, in 1981; and her second husband, Selmer Kolstad, in 1993.

DONNA JEAN (BISHOP) LaFOURNAISE
Born: March 29, 1932 - Died: October 29, 2003

Great Falls Tribune
November 1, 2003

Donna Jean LaFournaise

MISSOULA — Donna Jean (Bishop) LaFournaise, 71, a former Havre and Great Falls resident, died of pancreatic cancer Wednesday at a Missoula hospital.



LaFournaise

Visitation is 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday at Sunset Memorial Funeral Home.

Her funeral is 2 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home, with burial in Sunset Memorial Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband, Gordon LaFournaise of Missoula; a son, Michael LaFournaise of Missoula; three grandsons, Nikolas, Christopher and Joseph LaFournaise; a great-granddaughter of Helena; a sister, Mavis Hanson (Jim) of Missoula; and several nieces and nephews.

Donna was born March 29, 1932, in Havre, Mont., to Clara and Clarence Bishop of Kremlin. She grew up on the family farm, graduating from Kremlin High School in 1950, and attended Northern Montana College.

On Sept. 24, 1955, she married Gordon LaFournaise of Havre, and in October, they left for Kentucky, where Gordon served in the U.S. Army. Upon their return to Montana, they lived in many towns during their marriage, namely Conrad, Great Falls, Wolf Point, Havre, Helena, Billings and Missoula. Donna was employed by the State Highway Department for 15 years.

Donna and her husband were involved in many bowling leagues. She loved a good game of cribbage, and she and Gordon spent much time and made many good memories at a summer cabin near Lincoln. They enjoyed entertaining friends and relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Robert, who died at the age of 2.

The family suggests memorials to Camp Mak-A-Dream, P.O. Box 1450, Missoula, MT 59806; or Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 2512 Sunset Lane, Missoula, MT 59801.

GAYLENE YVONNE (WILLIAMS) LALUM
Birth: February 16, 1956 – Death: April 4, 2003
Liberty County Times
April 9 - 23, 2003

Gaylene Lalum

Gaylene Yvonne (Williams) Lalum, age 47, died of Hodgkin's lymphoma Friday April 4, 2003 at her home in Kalispell.

Survivors include her husband Andy Lalum of Kalispell; son Adam Lalum; daughters Andrea Lalum and Jesi Lalum of Kalispell; sisters Ramona Kienenberger of Lovelock, Nevada, and Bonnie Lankford of Dodson; brothers Dan Williams and Jerry Williams of Landusky, and Terry Williams of Frenchtown.

Services were 10:30 a.m. Tuesday April 8, 2003 at the J-I High School gymnasium in Joplin, with burial at 4:30 in the Landusky Cemetery.

Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook was in charge of arrangements.



Gaylene Lalum

Gaylene Yvonne Lalum, age 47, went to be with the Lord on Friday April 4, 2003 at her home in Kalispell.

She was born February 16, 1956 in Havre to Raymond and Margaret Williams of Landusky. She attended grade school in Landusky, Dodson, and at St. Jude's Catholic School in Havre. She attended Fergus County High School in her freshman year, then completed her high school education at Loyola Catholic High School in Missoula, graduating in 1974. She then attended the College of Great Falls and graduated from Spokane Community College with an Associate degree in Childhood Development.

In 1979 Gaylene married Andy Lalum and they lived on the family farm near Joplin until 1998. Then they moved to Bozeman where Gaylene owned and operated

"Auntie Gayle's Day Care."

In April of 2000 she was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. She fought a long, hard battle with this disease. She spent time in Dodson with her sister, Bonnie, while undergoing treatment. She was living in Kalispell with her family at the time of her death.

Gaylene had a love for everyone she met, especially children. Children were drawn to her like a magnet. You truly felt the love of the Lord when you met Gaylene. She radiated the love of Jesus in every action of her life. She lived her life for the Lord and her family. Her faith in the Lord truly was displayed through her complete trust in the Lord, that He would meet her every need, and He did.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 am on Tuesday April 8, 2003 at the J-I High School Gymnasium in Joplin, Montana, with burial in the Landusky Cemetery.

Gaylene is survived by her husband Andy; children Adam, Andrea, and Jesi; brothers Dan and wife Carol Williams, Gerry and wife Lorri Williams, both of Landusky, and Terry and wife Linda Williams of Frenchtown; sisters Ramona and husband Bill Kienenberger of Lovelock, Nevada, and Bonnie and husband Jerry Lankford of Dodson; plus numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

(The above obituary has been reprinted in a more complete form.)

I wanna go home.

Just looking at her, you know you've never met anyone quite like her before. She's five foot eleven, with hazel, thick brown hair, that grin that melts your heart, and those beautiful green, understanding eyes. Always shoulder to cry on, she could listen to any child's stories, solve any teen's problems, and make anybody smile. You know when you saw her you could expect a big smile on that glowing face of hers. Known to young and old as "Auntie Gayle," my mother, Gaylene Yvonne Lalum, was the strongest, most determined person I have ever known. She knew what she wanted in life, and nothing would stop her until she reached her goal. As the days grew nearer to the end, looking at her, she may have lost her hair a few times, and her body was wrinkled from loss of weight and radiation, but when you looked into her loving eyes, and she smiled that grin, your fears fled from your heart, as a tear comes to your eye and you feel her love penetrate to the depths of your soul, and you just know...that everything will be alright. "Everything is alright in the end, if it's not alright, then it's not the end." From dealing with my mom's illness, I have learned that life is going to happen to you, no matter what, everything that happens, happens for a reason, and that God is in complete control of "Everything," so faith is your best friend. Having to deal with my mom and her illness has been a life-changing experience. Throughout everything, my family has remained a strong bond to help my mother cope with her cancer and remain strong, even though that's already her mindset. Every person has obstacles in their life for which they need to prevail. Whether it's taking your first step, or finding a date to the prom, obstacles are what make life, life. People live different lives with different hurdles they need to overcome which are why we are all distinctive individuals, with different morals. Our challenges can either break us down, or make us stronger. My mom has lived her life to its most completeness and even though her race has ended, it ended just as she wanted it to, with complete peace and serenity. She has fought the good fight, and we know that she will always be there, standing right beside us, cheering us on. All that she has taught us will be embedded in our hearts forever. Just looking at her, you know you've never met anyone quite like her before. I love you mom. Love your daughter, Just Rae.

She is the best friend and teacher I have ever had through the good times and the bad.

So smile now, for she's not sad, she's up in heaven with her dad.
And her mom's there and Tuffy too, there all up there smiling down at you.
So cry not now, for she loves you, and don't forget wherever you do
To keep a special place tucked away, for a sunny or rainy day
A place where Gaylene will always stay. We love you mom, love Just Rae.

Arrangements by:
EDWARD'S FUNERAL HOME
Chimayo, Montana



In Loving Memory

Gaylene Williams Lalum

CLIFFORD CLINTON LEIGHTON

Born: December 8, 1912 - Died: January 1, 2003



Cliff Leighton

Clifford Clinton Leighton was born December 8, 1912 at Mount Hope, Wisconsin, Grant County. He was the only son of two children born to Clinton A. and Cecelia (Holman) Leighton. The Leighton family moved to Montana in 1919. Cliff received his education at Havre and graduated from Havre High School in 1931. He began working for Oscar Drake of Galata and served as a mail carrier for many years.

Cliff met a Galata girl named Elizabeth "Beth" Markuson. They were married on December 6, 1935 at the Markuson homestead north of Galata. The eventually purchased a small farm adjacent to the Markuson place, which they later sold. The Leightons moved to Chester in the fall of 1945. Cliff began working for Henry Kolstad at the Chester Implement Company, where he sold John Deer farm machinery and equipment. A faithful employee at Chester Implement for 35 years, Cliff retired in the fall of 1980.

The Leightons continued to live in their Chester home until 1994, when they moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge. Beth died on April 20, 1995. Cliff remained at the Lodge until 2001, when he

Liberty County Times January 8, 2003

became one of the first residents at the Wheat country Estates (assisted living apartments). In 2002 his health began to fail, so he transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home this past October. Cliff died peacefully in his sleep at the Chester rest home on the morning of Wednesday, New Year's Day January 1, 2003.

He had recently celebrated his 90th birthday.

Cliff was an active member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church and had served on the church council. He was also a longtime, dedicated member of the Chester Rotary Club. In his earlier years he held membership in the Great Falls Shriners Club. In his retirement years Cliff enjoyed the Senior Citizen's Center, where he socialized and played cards with his buddies. And last, but not least, Cliff was proud to be a member of the Republican Party.

Back in the 1960s Cliff bought an old school bus and converted it to a hunting camper affectionately named "Old Yeller." Cliff and his hunting friends, including Dr. Richard Buker, Jr, Clifford Hanson, Vern Nealy, and other, made many memorable trips in this old bus. "Old Yeller" also traveled to many family reunions over the years. Following Cliff's retirement he sold the bus and purchased a motorhome. He and Beth made many fun adventures in the motorhome. Unfortunately, Cliff's eyesight failed in the early 1990s. Because he couldn't drive nor hunt anymore, he sold the motorhome and his rifle—"the hardest tow things he ever did!"

Cliff's other interests were many. He enjoyed cooking. His family reported that his beef stews were delicious, but there was definitely room for improvement in his pancakes! Cliff liked to play the saxophone and in fact was a member of the Community Band during his early years in Chester.

He also enjoyed working in his garden and riding his horses. In his quiet time at home Cliff liked to read, especially investment and stock market publications. In his youth he loved to play basketball, and continued to be an avid fan of his children and grandchildren.

Cliff and Beth enjoyed nearly 60 years together and to this union were six children who survive them: Sharlene (Ron) Hanson of Havre, Sandra (Dean) Schumacher of Overland Park, Kansas, Larry (Bonnie) Leighton of Scottsdale, Arizona, Mark Leighton of Helena, Randi (James) Holland of Gig Harbor, Washington, and Chelli (Marlowe) Fossen of Joplin. Also surviving are 14 grandchildren: Jacquie Mencke, Scott Hanson, Eric

Hanson, Mark Schumacher, Tyler Schumacher, Lynn Pannell, Ryan Leighton, Kim Leighton, Matthew Holland, Meaghan Holland, Jamie Holland, Alisha Fossen, Quinn Fossen, and Trevor Fossen.; five great-grandchildren: Stefanie Stromberg, Keith Stromberg, Jack Hanson, Lane Elizabeth Hanson, and Katie Pannell; and two Great-great-grandchildren: Kiley Nicole Hanson, and Elijah Cordero.

Cliff was preceded in death by his parents, wife, and sister Hazel Brendgard.

Funeral services were 11:00 am Saturday January 4, 2003 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Pete Erickson conducted the service. Eulogist was Gary Jensen; scripture reading were by Karla Kulpas. Special vocal music by Wayne Wardell included "On Eagle's Wings," and "Borning Cry." Karen Stack was organist and the congregation sang "Amazing Grace." Ushers were Carmen and Gary Jensen. Grandsons serving as pallbearers included Scott Hanson, Mark and Tyler Schumacher, Dave Pannell, and Quinn and Tyler Fossen. Cliff's "many friends" were listed as Honorary Bearers. The service concluded with a selected CD by the Dixie Chicks entitled "Godspeed."

SHIRLEY (HADER) LYBECK

Birth: August 26, 1928 – Death: November 13, 2003

Liberty County Times

November 19, 2003



Shirley Lybeck

Shirley (Hader) Lybeck was born August 26, 1928 at Havre, Montana. She was the eldest of three daughters born to Floyd and Jenniema (Arnold) Hader. She grew up in Chester and received her education here, graduating from Chester High School in 1946. During her formative years Shirley worked as a waitress at the Old Grand and Mint Cafes in Chester. The summer after graduation she worked for Great Northern Railroad in

the construction of tunnel #2 near East Glacier. She was later employed by Buttrey's in Havre where she sold fur coats.

Shirley married Clifford Lybeck in Havre, on February 8, 1947. They moved to the Lybeck ranch 38 miles north of Chester, where Shirley adjusted well to her new role as farmwife, homemaker, and mother. She always felt her life was an exciting challenge with all of the adventures in raising a family of eight in rural Montana!

Shirley supported her children and grandchildren in all of their endeavors, yet still found time to do volunteer work and be active in numerous civic organizations over the years. For example, she was a longtime member of

the Liberty County Hospital Guild and she helped organize the U-Shoppe (in fact, many family and friends affectionately called her the "U-Shoppe Queen" because of the many hours she spent working there).

She had also served on the Chester and Laird School Board, the Liberty County Hospital Board, and the Council on Aging. Shirley was a 50-year member of the Bears Den Home

Demonstration Club and a longtime member of the Immanuel Lutheran Church where she served as a Sunday School teacher for several years.

She loved local history so she enjoyed her work at the Broken Mountains Genealogy Society and the Liberty County Museum (she was presently Chairman of the Museum Board). She collected old photographs, historical facts, and interesting tidbits on various subjects, i.e. Liberty County lawmen, physicians, rural schools, etc. and then made scrapbooks for posterity's sake. She also published old pictures and interesting articles in the local newspaper.

Shirley was a proud Chester High School alumni and remained an active supporter of school programs/events. She served on several "All School Reunion" committees, and volunteered in the RiSE Reading Program at the Chester school system.

A dedicated 4-H mother and leader for many years, Shirley continued to volunteer as a 4-H judge long after her kids had completed the program. Shirley was presently an active member of the VFW Auxiliary, the Liberty County Chamber of Commerce, the Liberty County Health Planning Council (she served as Chairman) the Triangle Health Care Rural Health Clinic Advisory Committee (she served as consumer member), and the

Through all of these countless hours of meetings, program, traveling, research, writings, correspondence, and everything else that went into this volunteer effort, Shirley never expected or wanted any accolades. However, she was recognized on several occasions with special awards. In 1981 she was selected as the "Montana Mother of the Year" and has remained an honorary member since. In 2000 she was chosen as Liberty County Citizen of the

Year. In 2001 she was awarded Senior Citizen of the Year in Liberty County. Although she appreciated this award, she really didn't consider herself to be a senior citizen at age 73!

In the late 1980s Shirley and Cliff began spending their winters at Lake Havasu City, Arizona. In 1997 they were surprised when their children traveled to Arizona to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. After 12 winters at Lake Havasu and some declining health problems, the Lybeck's purchased a home in Chester for their retirement years. Although Shirley suffered from a heart condition and diabetes, she continued to be energetic and active in Chester, the place she thoroughly loved! This past Thursday morning of November 13, 2003 she died at home peacefully in her sleep. She was 75 years old. Shirley leaves a void in the community that can never be filled.

As busy as she was, she never neglected to correspond with family and friends via many letters, Christmas cards, and birthday greetings. She enjoyed playing Pinochle and Whist at family gatherings. She loved to lie on the living room floor with the grandkids and play a game of marbles.

She liked to listen to old Western music; she did her ironing to the beat of Johnny Cash. She enjoyed simple things like working in her garden or sharing a good joke. In her quiet time she loved to read, so books were always a perfect gift for her. Just for the fun of it she collected Heston belt buckles, "Smurfs," matchbox cars, dishes, and Zane Grey novels.

Shirley was an avid sports fan, especially of her kids and grandkids. She also enjoyed the NFL and was a staunch fan of the San Francisco 49ers. She loved all animals and all children. This love was reciprocated too, as her grandkids and their many friends all referred to her affectionately as 'Gramma.' Shirley had other popular nicknames, including Nan, Gramma Nan, and GG.

In 1992 the Lybecks made a memorable trip to England for a 50-year reunion of Cliff's military platoon to relive his missions

and experiences of World War II. Worth mentioning is another memorable day in the life of Shirley Lybeck—it was about 25 years ago when she assisted in the delivery of a newborn baby boy by the name of BoDean Woods.

Shirley had an unconditional love for her family. She had a talent for making each one of them feel unique and special. She took great pride in supporting them in their growth, in both happy times and sad times, and throughout all the phases of their lives. Although she had a weak heart, it was the biggest heart in the world! Her family's love for her is eternal and their memories will linger forever.

Shirley is survived by her husband of 56 years, Cliff Lybeck of Chester; seven children and spouses; Lynda Colbry of Portland, Oregon, Lonna and

Butch Tempel of Joplin, Janis Hanson of Spokane, Washington, Judy and Russ Tempel of Chester, Kip and Delia Lybeck of Joplin, Colin and Julie Lybeck of Chester, and Chad and Jayna Lybeck of Cheyenne, Wyoming; 23 grandchildren including: Gannon, Kyran, Conor and Crestan; Jennie, Jada, Jalena, and Jeb; Desiree; Hapi, Tanr, Mari and Maci; Drue Ann, Bryony, Laine, and Josh; Logan, Lexi, and Larisa; and Chelsey, Madelyn, and Landon; 13 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Shirley was preceded in death by a son Calvin in 1995, her two sisters Roberta Beals, and Margaret Woods, and her parents.

Funeral services were 11:00 a.m. Monday November 17, 2003 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Pete Erickson officiated and Dr.

Richard Buker read scriptures. A personal poem was shared by son Kip Lybeck, and the eulogy was done by Gary Jensen. Pianist Deb Lanman accompanied the congregation, who sang "Peace in the Valley," and "America the Beautiful." Vocalist Wayne Wardell performed "In the Garden," and "Beyond the Sunset." A special piano rendition of "Wings of a Dove" was played by John Osler. Ushers were Arnie Woods, BoDean Woods, and Bob Mattson. Shirley's grandchildren served as pallbearers and honorary bearers. Following burial in the Chester Cemetery, a luncheon was provided at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials are suggested to any of the civic organizations that Shirley loved.

SHIRLEY (HADER) LYBECK

Born: August 26, 1928

at Havre, Montana

Died: November 13, 2003

at Chester, Montana

Age: 75 years... 2 months... 18 days...



"Let Me Go"

*When I come to the end of the day
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room...
Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss me a little—but not too long
And not with your head bowed low,
Remember the love that we once shared...
Miss me—But let me go.*

*For this is a journey we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all a part of the Master's plan...
A step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick at heart,
go to the friends we know...
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.
Miss me—But let me go.*

—Fr. Michael Lennon

Services: 11:00 a.m., Monday, November 17th at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester, Montana

Officiant: Reverend Peter Erickson

Scripture Reading: Dr. Richard Buker, Jr.

Special Poetic Reading: Son, Kip Lybeck

Eulogy & Personal Memories: Gary Jensen

Musicians: Pianist, Deb Lanman
Vocalist, Wayne Wardell
Piano Tribute, John Osler

Ushers: Arnie Woods, BoDean Woods, & Bob Mattson

Pallbearers: Grandchildren, Kyran Colbry, Jeb Tempel, Desiree Hanson, Tanr Tempel, Drue Ann Lybeck, and Logan Lybeck

Honorary Bearers: All of Shirley's loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren...

Interment: Chester Cemetery

... Luncheon to follow at the church fellowship hall ...

Shirley's Family: Husband Cliff; 7 children, Lynda, Lonna (Butch), Janis, Judy (Russ), Kip (Delia), Colin (Julie), and Chad (Jayna); 23 grandchildren, Gannon, Kyran, Conor, Crestan, Jennie, Jada, Jalena, Jeb, Desiree, Hapi, Tanr, Mari, Maci, Drue Ann, Bryony, Laine, Josh, Logan, Lexi, Larisa, Chelsey, Madelyn, & Landon; and 13 great-grandchildren...

Arrangements: Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester, Montana

Memorials: In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials to any of the civic organizations that Shirley supported.

DONNA LOUISE (KENNY) MAGIS
Birth: 1964 – Death: September 14, 2003
Liberty County Times
September 24, 2003

Donna Magis

Donna Louise (Kenny) Magis, age 39, died of complications from a long illness on Sunday September 14, 2003 at a Havre hospital.

Donna was a nurse who had worked for hospitals in Big Sandy, New Mexico, Great Falls, and Havre.

Funeral service was at 2:00 pm Thursday September 18, 2003 at St. Jude Catholic Church. Burial was in Highland Cemetery followed by a luncheon at the parish center.

Survivors included a son, Christopher Magis of Havre; her parents Donald and Louise Kenny of Havre; and a brother, Don Kenny, former manager of Wheat Country Estates in Chester.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home of Havre in charge of arrangements.

GLORIANNE VIRGINIA (EVANS) MANGOLD
Birth: April 3, 1938 – Death: June 13, 2003
Liberty County Times
June 25, 2004



Glorianne Mangold

Glorianne Virginia (Evans) Mangold was born April 3, 1938 at Havre, Montana. She was the third of 12 children born to Clinton Evans, Sr. and Mathilda "Tillie" Jenniges. Gloria grew up in Rudyard and received her formal education there. In the years that followed she worked as a waitress at various restaurants, including Evans' Café, the Rudyard Café, and K-Lanes.

Gloria married Howard W. "Howie" Mangold on November 4, 1972 at Great Falls. They lived in

Great Falls for a year, then moved back to Rudyard where Gloria and her mother opened the "Snack Shack." Gloria also worked for a short time as a cashier at Sarvik's Store. She and Howard eventually purchased the Rudyard and Grand Hotels. In addition to operating the hotels, Gloria worked part-time as janitor in the Rudyard Bank and bartender at Kline's Bank Bar.

In the early 1990s Gloria was diagnosed with lupus, so she was unable to continue her rigorous working life. She began traveling to Kalispell to visit her daughter and family; it was there that she worked as a relief houseparent at the Guidance Home.

Gloria's husband died from complications of throat cancer on October 13, 1998. About that same time she was diagnosed with breast cancer. She moved to Great Falls for treatment and to be near her daughter's family. Gloria went into remission twice. On Mother's Day of 2002 she was given 1-3 months to live, as the cancer had spread to her bones. She transferred to the Missouri Manor nursing facility in Great Falls, where she fought a courageous battle for 13 months! Her condition deteriorated recently so her family moved her to the Peace Hospice Residence on June 12th. Gloria died there the following morning, Friday June 13, 2003. She was 65 years old.

Gloria enjoyed many hobbies, like sewing, embroidery, and crafts. She loved to read, especially romances and historicals. She was an excellent cook who will be remembered for her wonderful homemade soups and Roquefort dressing. She will also be remembered for her decorated dishtowels that she made for family newlyweds and her personalized handmade greeting cards that she sent on special occasions. In her quiet time at home Gloria enjoyed crossword puzzles and playing

cards—mainly Solitaire and Kings-in-the-Corner. Just for the fun of it, she collected spoons and wheat pennies. Gloria loved listening to music and her favorite television program was the "David Letterman Show."

Gloria knew everyone throughout the Hi-Line. She liked to be with people and could easily make friends with complete strangers. She loved her grandkids—both natural and adopted. Gloria was so thankful that she lived to see and experience her one-and-only great-grandson, who always had a smile for her. She took great joy in the fact that this little one-year-old boy always wanted to "fix" her wheelchair so she could continue to get around.

Survivors include her daughter Doreen Seidlitz and husband Mick of Great Falls; two granddaughters: Tamara Jarrett and husband Michael, and Toni Seidlitz, all of Great Falls; one great-grandson Keaton Jarrett; four step-children including Debbie Lammerding, Steve Mangold, Howard Mangold, and Bill Mangold; numerous step-grandchildren; seven sisters: Mary Ann Riley of Salem, Oregon, Cyrilla Burrows of Chester, Arliss Keller of Billings, Valorie Peterson of Lansing, Michigan, Teresa Bartholomew of Billings, Anita "Nicky" Evans of Dubuque, Iowa, and Julie Holt of Havre; four brothers: Mathias "Tiger" Evans of Havre, Clinton Evans, Jr. of Auburn, Washington, Eugene Evans of Kalispell, and William "Bill" Evans of Havre; and many nieces and nephews.

Gloria was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Vigil prayers were recited at Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester at 7:00 pm Wednesday June 18, 2003. The Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Diekhans at 11:00 pm Thursday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church

in Inverness. Iris White served as organist and the congregation sang "On Eagle's Wings." Selected CD music included "Please Remember," and "One More Day." Ushers were Neal Keller and Mike Bartholomew. Scripture readings were by Katie Lucas. The Communion Gifts were presented by Ashley Lucas, and Michelle Collum. Pallbearers were Michael Jarrett, Eric Wendland, Jim Evans, Steve Evans, Brian Evans and Nick Holt. The eulogy was shared by Bill Evans and a poetic reading was done by Joan Evans.

Burial services followed at the Rudyard Cemetery. After Father Joe's final prayers, a poem was read by Judy Collum and a CD was played of "The World's Greatest" by R. Kelley. The service concluded with a purple balloon ceremony. A luncheon followed at the Rudyard Catholic Youth Center. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

MARIE (LEOM) MARDEN

Born: February 5, 1929 – Died: October 19, 2003

Great Falls Tribune

October 21, 2003

Marie Marden

HAVRE — Marie (Leom) Marden, 74, a homemaker and retired business owner, died of natural causes Sunday at a Great Falls hospital.



Marden

Rosary is 7 this evening at Holland and Bonine Funeral Home in Havre. Funeral Mass is 10 a.m. Thursday at St. Jude Catholic Church in Havre, with burial in Calvary Cemetery. A fellowship reception will be held at St. Jude Parish Center after the burial.

She is survived by sons Roger Marden, Steven (Ginny) Marden and Douglas Marden, all of Havre, and Allan (Debbie) Marden of Bismarck, N.D.; daughters Kris (Alan) Moe of Florence, Mont., and Karla (Duane) Baney of Stevensville, Mont.; sisters Agnes Cushing of Minot, N.D., Norma Layton of Chester, Mont., Nina Verhasselt of Sidney, Mont., and Sylvia Jones of Fruit Height, Utah; brothers Kenneth Leom of Saint Marie, Mont., and Arne Leom of Watford City, N.D.; 13 grandchildren, Tracie Parrott of Tucson, Ariz., Kevin Marden of Greeley, Colo., Dawn Marden of Fort Collins, Colo., Brandy and Corrie Marden of Bismarck, N.D., Taylor and Jade Marden of Havre, Mont., Ryan, Justin and Damon Moe of Florence, Mont., and Kyle, Brandon, and Noah Baney of Stevensville, Mont.; three great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Marie was born Feb. 5, 1929, to Neckolae and Anna (Amundsen) Leom, in Bonetrail, N.D., the second of seven children. She attended schools in Bonetrail and Williston, N.D., and graduated from Williston High School in 1946.

After graduation, she worked as a proofreader for the Williston Daily Herald until her marriage to Darel Marden, June 28, 1947. To this union, six children were born. The family moved to Havre in 1961 when the Great Northern Railway transferred Darel.

In addition to raising six children, for more than 30 years before retiring, Marie was part owner and active in the everyday operation of Marden's Trailer Sales, a recreational vehicle business currently owned by her sons Roger, Steve and Douglas. When her husband passed away in 1980, she worked tirelessly to establish the Darel Marden Memorial Campground in Beaver Creek Park. She was instrumental in the planning, funding and development of the camping area.

Marie enjoyed being involved in camping, playing cards, bowling, visiting friends and family and watching sports on television. During her lifetime, she was a member of several clubs and organizations. She was a charter member in The Happy Hi-liners Camping Club. At the time of her death, she was a member of the Havre Eagles Club, St. Jude Catholic Church, the Wisconsin Genealogical Society and was an officer in the Fort Assiniboine Genealogical Society. In her later years, she enjoyed researching the family tree on both sides. Even finding the occasional skeleton in the closet was enjoyable.

Marie was preceded in death by her parents Neckolae and Anna (Amundsen) Leom; and husband Darel Marden in 1980.

Memorials in Marie's honor may be made to the Fort Assiniboine Genealogical Society, C/O Havre Hill Co. Library, 402 3rd St., Havre, MT 59501; or to a donor's choice.

LAURA MABEL McCAIG

Birth: December 29, 1909 – Death: April 29, 2003

Liberty County Times

May 7, 2003



Laura McCaig

Laura Mabel McCaig was born on December 29, 1909 at Tripp County, South Dakota. She was the eldest of four children and only daughter born to Daniel and Rose (Bember) McCaig. Laura received her early education at a country school in Tripp County and at public school in Witten, South Dakota. She moved to Spokane, Washington to live with an aunt in 1926. She attended the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic High School and graduated in 1929. Laura continued her education at a business school in Spokane where she learned secretarial skills.

In 1930 Laura traveled to Great Falls, MT to visit another aunt. While there she found a job. She lived and worked in the Great Falls community until 1939, when she moved to Helena to work for the Montana State Board of Health. Several years later a job opportunity opened in San Francisco, California, where Laura began working for the Utah

Construction Company. This company sent her to Whitehorse, Canada for a year where she processed a lot of the paperwork relating to the construction of the Alaskan Highway.

In 1943 Laura was offered a contract with the Arabian-American Oil Company. She moved to their offices in Dharan, Saudi Arabia where she lived and worked until her retirement in 1965. Laura returned to the United States; she settled at Ashland, Oregon to be near friends she had met during her years in Saudi Arabia.

Laura became active in the Ashland community. She assisted with the "Meats on Wheels" program and was a member of the Garden Club. She was also an active member of an Ashland social club called the "Knife and Fork" Club, and she served as club secretary for many years. Her health remained good until 1991, when she suffered a stroke.

Laura remained in Ashland until 1999 then moved to Chester, MT to be near her cousin and friend Pat Laird. She lived in an apartment until December of 1999, then transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. She died at the Chester rest home on Tuesday afternoon April 29, 2003 at the age of 93 years.

Laura enjoyed art; she was a member of the Dharan Art Club in Saudi Arabia and did some oil painting as a hobby during her years there. Other hobbies included crocheting, crossword puzzles, collecting spoons, and reading; she was especially fond of biographies.

Laura never married. Her only survivors are a few nephews, nieces, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, by three brothers: John, James, and Francis McCaig; and by her longtime companion—a pet cat named Mr. Missy.

It was Laura's wishes to be cremated without fanfare or services. At her request, her ashes will be scattered in the mountains near Ashland, Oregon. Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester is in charge of arrangements.

JEAN E. McQUIGG
Birth: January 4, 1946 – Death: February 12, 2003
Liberty County Times
March 5, 2003

Jean McQuigg

Jean E. McQuigg, age 57, passed away February 12, 2003 in West Covina, California after a courageous battle with cancer.

Born January '4, 1946 in Long Beach, California, Jean lived her entire life in Monrovia, California with the exception of her college years in Davis, California. She graduated from Monrovia high School in 1963 and attended University of California-Davis, where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Animal Physiology.

Jean spent the next 30 years working with her father, Howard McQuigg, in his piano tuning business, and became proficient in all aspects of the craft. Later years, as Howard's health deteriorated, Jean became his full-time caregiver until he died in December 2002.

Jean was a lifelong member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Monrovia, where her great love was being a member of the choir and sharing the joy of making beautiful music. Jean was also a passionate gardener, and one of her proudest accomplishments was the creation of landscaping incorporating plants and flowers emitting distinctive, pleasing odors that could be enjoyed by her blind father. She adored

animals, and was totally committed to preserving our natural resources and leaving the world a better place for future generations.

Above all, everyone who truly knew Jean will remember a caring, generous person devoted to her causes and beliefs. We'll miss her humor, intellect, unpredictability, and far-reaching discussions. Jean marched to the beat of a different drummer, and thanks to that fact, enriched the lives of those she touched.

Jean is survived by her mother Ruth (Howard) McQuigg of Monrovia; brother John (Mary) McQuigg of Rathdrum, Idaho, sister Mary Ann (Rafael) Garcia of Monrovia; sister-in-law Susan (Robert) McQuigg of Minden, Nevada; and seven nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father Howard, and brothers Robert and James.

Funeral services were held Saturday February 22, 2003 at 10:00 am at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Monrovia, with interment following at the site.

In Lieu of flowers, Jean requested that donations be made to: St. Luke's Church, Friends of Music, 122 S. California Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016.

DONALD KENNETH MEECH
Birth: February 23, 1912 – Death: November 15, 2003
Liberty County Times
November 26, 2003

Donald Meech

Donald Kenneth Meech, age 91, a longtime Central Montana area rancher and real estate broker, died of natural causes Saturday November 15, 2003 at Teton Nursing Home in Choteau.

Donald was born February 23, 1912 on the Bill Meech homestead near West Butte. He married Annetta Zell in 1933; they later divorced. He farmed and ranched in Sweet Grass Hills and Dutton area for several years until 1960 when he opened a real estate office in Missoula. In 1970, he moved his operation to Simms and then retired in 1975. He donated the land south of Whittash for the 4-H Campgrounds.

Donald enjoyed traveling to Mexico and Costa Rica during the winter months while spending his summers prospecting for gold at Gold Butte. Donald was a 50-year Mason and a member of the Galata Lodge AF & AM No. 106.

Survivors include a daughter Deanna Thielman of Columbia Falls; sons Russell Meech of Cascade, and Tom Meech of Simms; eight grandchildren; and

six great-grandchildren.

His parents, two brothers, and on granddaughter preceded him in death.

Visitation was 1:00-8:00 pm Wednesday November 19, 2003 at Whitted Funeral Chapel. His funeral was at 2:00 pm Thursday at the Funeral Chapel, with Masonic graveside rites. Burial followed in the Mountain View Cemetery in Shelby.

SELMA MATHILDA (SUNDBY) MIDBOE
Born: December 11, 1900 – Died: February 26, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
March 1, 2003

Selma Mathilda Midboe

Selma Mathilda (Sundby) Midboe, a longtime Shelby resident and homemaker, died of natural causes Wednesday at the Marias Care Center. She was 102.



Midboe

Visitation is 1 to 9 p.m. Monday at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. Her funeral is 1 p.m. Tuesday at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, with burial in Mountain View Cemetery.

Survivors include her daughters Ione Kincaid and husband Joe, and Shirley Bebich and husband Steven, all of Shelby, and Dolores Matteson and husband Leonard of Galata; her son, James Midboe and wife Shirlee of Shelby; 18 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

Selma, one of eight children, was born Dec. 11, 1900, in Bloomfield Township, N.D., on the farm of her parents, Simon and Martha (Skogstad) Sundby. In 1913, the family moved 32 miles northeast of Shelby. She attended school at Dunkirk through the eighth grade, and then worked on the family farm helping raise cattle, horses and pigs.

Selma married Nels Midboe on Dec. 27, 1922, in Great Falls. The couple then moved to Shelby where Nels worked for the Toole County Road Department. She stayed at home and cared for their four children.

She was a life member of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, where she was involved in many activities. In her early years of growing up, she recalled the circuit rider pastors who would have services in various homes until the Bethany Lutheran Church was established northeast of Shelby.

Selma was a charter member of the Ladies Aid and was very active in the Shelby Senior Center where she was Senior of the Year in 1990-91. She enjoyed crocheting and cooking Scandinavian food and also enjoyed the card game whist, at which she was very good and hard to beat.

Selma entered the rest home in October of 1998. There she stayed active and loved playing blackjack with the residents — especially the fun competition with Theresa Berqwest, who was like a sister to her. Many of the employees there became like her children.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, six brothers, one sister, one grandson, one great-grandson, one great-granddaughter and one granddaughter-in-law.

KENNETH EUGENE MILLER

Birth: July 4, 1922 – Death: September 16, 2003

Liberty County Times

September 24, 2003



Kenneth Miller

Kenneth Eugene Miller was born July 4, 1922 at Salem, Oregon. He was the only child of Roy and Maude (Rolph) Miller. He came to Montana in his youth and attended a country school north of Joplin. He fin-

ished his formal education in Joplin, graduating from Joplin High School in 1941. In the few years that followed, Kenny serviced engines for the Great Northern Railroad, then began farming with his father northwest of Joplin.

Ken married Elaine L. Wehr on October 27, 1948 at Havre, Montana. They made their home on the Miller farm near Joplin during their 55 years of married life together and raised two sons. Although Ken's health had failed these past few years, he still remained active in the farming operations. He collapsed and died at his home on Tuesday evening September 16, 2003. He was 81 years old.

Kenny enjoyed traveling, dancing, music, golfing, and bowling. During his quiet time at home he liked to read farm magazines and newspapers, watch old Western movies on television, and 'paint-by-number' kits.

He loved his life as a farmer, and harvest season was his favorite time of the year. He was also proud of his automobiles and always kept them in immaculate condition. But most of all, he loved his family dearly, and thought the world of his kids and grandkids.

Survivors include his wife Elaine Miller of Joplin; sons and spouses: Darryl and Donneta Miller of Sidney, and Rick and Deb Miller of Joplin; five grandchildren including: Kirk, Stefanie, Tony, Dustin, and Craig; two sisters-in-law Ruth VanWechel of Chester, and Helen Chapman of Henderson, Nevada; four nephews and nieces; and his loyal pet schnauzer 'Jingles.'

Ken was preceded in death by his parents.

No funeral services are planned. Cremation and arrangements are by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester.

VIOLA E. (PIMLEY) CARLSON NESS
Birth: March 18, 1927 – Death: February 11, 2003
Liberty County Times
February 19, 2003



Viola Ness

Viola E. (Pimley) Carlson Ness, age 75, died early Tuesday morning February 11, 2003 from complications of Parkinson's Disease at the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre. She had been a resident of the rest home since February of 2000.

Viola was born March 18, 1927 at Chester, Montana. She was one of nine children born to Estella Jesse Skonord and Percy F. Pimley, and she was raised on the Pimley homestead North of Joplin. Vi received her formal education at Joplin and Power. In 1943 she moved to Seattle to work as a riveter for Boeing during World War II. About two years later she moved back to Joplin to help her mother, who was recovering from surgery.

Vi met and married Erwin "Swede" Carlson in 1948. They initially lived in Joplin and Glasgow, where her husband worked in construction. They eventually moved to Hingham, where they operated a machine shop. Vi worked as a homemaker and mother to their four sons. The marriage later ended in divorce.

Vi continued to live in Hingham where she worked as a cook at the school for several years. In the early 1970s she accepted a position as Postmaster at the Hingham Post Office. She was later transferred to Libby, where she continued to work as a Postal Clerk. While working in Libby, Viola met Ron Ness, who was formerly from Chinook. They were married on December 31, 1979 at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The Ness' remained in Libby where Vi worked for the Postal Service until her health began to fail in 1985. They decided to move back to the Hi-Line in 1992, so they bought a home in Hingham. She lived there until moving to the Havre care center three years ago.

Viola enjoyed many hobbies: gardening, cooking, sewing, crocheting, and reading. In her quiet time she liked to do crossword and jigsaw puzzles, play the organ and guitar, or paint freehand scenic landscapes. Vi also enjoyed traveling throughout the US, where she could study geology of the land and collect rock specimens during her explorations. And just for the fun of it, she loved to attend rummage sales. She enjoyed listening to music, especially the Old-time Hymns sung by Elvis Presley.

She is survived by her husband of 23 years, Ron Ness of Hingham; four sons and spouses: Dwight and Sandy Carlson of Kelson, Washington, Kelly and Julia Carlson of Littleton, Colorado, Stuart and Linda Carlson of Troy, and Loren and Ronda Carlson of Havre; two step-children and spouses: Penny and Dennis Heilman of Lewiston, Idaho, and Rod and Sheila Pilkington of Clarkston, Washington; two brothers: Vern and Donald Pimley, both of Joplin;

one sister, Joyce Easton of Helena; 12 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; many nephews and nieces; and her loving pet poodle "Toby."

Vi was preceded in death by her parents and five brothers: Anson, Orville, Francis "Ike," Jesse, and Percy "Tiny" Pimley.

A memorial service was conducted by Pastor Tim Singleton at 1:00 pm Saturday February 15, 2003 at the Hingham Lutheran Church. Dwight Carlson read the obituary and Kelly Carlson served as Eulogist. The congregation sang "Beneath the Cross of Jesus," and "Just As I Am," accompanied by organist Iris White. Special vocal tributes by Terry Stevenson were "Beyond the Sunset," and "In the Garden." A luncheon followed at the church. Cremation and arrangements were by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Vi's ashes will be interred later this spring at the Kuper Memorial Cemetery in Chinook.

ANNA A. (SCHWAB) NORDSTROM

Birth: February 20, 1909 – Death: December 27, 2003

Liberty County Times

December 31, 2003



Anna Nordstrom

Anna A. (Schwab) Nordstrom was born February 20, 1909 at Chetek, Wisconsin. She was the youngest and only daughter of John and Helen (Skierka) Schwab. Her family came to Montana in 1910 and homesteaded south of Chester. Anna's early education was at country schools near the farm. She was sent to Chester to complete her junior high courses; she got so lonesome while boarding in town that she made good use of her time and finished her 7th and 8th grade classes in one year. Anna continued her schooling in Chester and graduated from Chester High School in 1927 as class Valedictorian. In addition, she was a member of the girls' high school basketball team.

Anna enrolled in Normal School at Eastern Montana College in Billings where she received her teaching certificate in 1932. She returned to the Chester Community where she taught at the Erickson Country School for two years, then moved to town to teach in the Chester elementary system.

Anna married Bert Otis Nordstrom on October 27, 1938 at Hingham, Montana. They lived in Chester where Bert

worked for the city. In 1945 they purchased the local Phillips 66 station (Roosevelt Service), which they owned/operated until their retirement in 1968, when their son took over the business. Anna did the bookkeeping tasks for the business for 35 years.

The Nordstroms had been married 41 years when Bert died on June 10, 1979. Anna remained active in the Chester community and lived in her own home until May of 2002, when she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home. Recently, she was admitted to the Chester hospital where she died on the early morning of Saturday December 27, 2003. She was 94 years old.

During her early married years, Anna worked for a short while at the local allotment office. She was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church and the Altar Society. She also served on the Liberty County Hospital Guild for many years. In her 80s and 90s Anna volunteered at the Rise Reading Program at the Chester Elementary School.

Anna enjoyed many hobbies, like knitting, crocheting, oil painting, and flower gardening. She was a good cook and her family will always remember her delicious candies (especially divinity) and her wonderful turkey dressings. She loved to play cards, especially Bridge and Pinochle, and she always looked forward to playing "Kings-in-the-Corner," "7-Up," and checkers with her three granddaughters at family functions.

Anna was an avid reader and a loyal supporter of the local library. She kept up on current events; often she would cut out interesting articles and mail them to her granddaughters at college. She also purchased her girls a subscription to the TIMES so they could stay current on local events while they were

away.

In her later years Anna enjoyed sightseeing trips with friends or little shopping excursions with her grandkids. She remained a safe and prudent driver into her early 90s.

Anna's life was immaculate, including her home, her personal appearance, and her spirituality. A soft-spoken lady, she will be remembered as a kind and gentle soul.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and two brothers John and Leo Schwab.

Survivors include her son and daughter-in-law Bob and Barb Nordstrom of Chester; three granddaughters and their spouses: Tracey and Jody Hansen of Rudyard, Jami and Josh Chisholm of Helena, and Kristy and Nathan Bailey of Bozeman; three great-grandchildren: Katelyn, Riley, and Hunter; and several nephews and nieces.

Anna's Funeral Mass was celebrated by Father Joseph Diekhans at 11:00 am Tuesday December 30, 2003 at St. Mary's Church in Chester. Greeters were Earl and Wanda Keith. Altar servers were Will Hamel and Kurt Matkin. Scripture readings were by Margaret Meissner and the eulogy was shared by Gary Jensen. The communion gifts were presented by Anna's granddaughters, who also served as pallbearers with their husbands. The Eucharistic ministers were Leota Hansen, Marje Dahinden, and Pat Seidlitz. St. Mary's Choir provided Mass music with accompaniment by Richie Hamel. Vocalists Anne Seidlitz-Melton and Rock Svennungsen sang "Wind Beneath My Wings," and "Ave Maria," respectively. Following burial at the Chester Cemetery a luncheon was held at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

DONNA FAYE (DAUWALDER) OTNESS
Birth: October 19, 1925 – Death: August 15, 2003
Liberty County Times
August 20, 2003

Donna Otness

Donna Faye (Dauwalder) Otness age 77 of Choteau, died of natural causes Friday at Teton Medical Center in Choteau.

Donna was born October 19, 1925 in Lincoln, Nebraska, the daughter of Walter and Irene (Jones) Dauwalder. She was raised and educated in Bole and Choteau, Montana. She graduated from Teton County High School in Choteau in 1943, and attended college at UM in Missoula.

She was married to Davie W. Barrett in 1947 in Choteau; they later divorced. In 1980 she married Ronald Otness in Fairfield, Montana. She had worked as a clerk at J.C. Penney while in high school; the Olson Agency in Choteau; Hartford Insurance of Salt Lake City; and Clarke Insurance in Miles City. She had also worked for the Choteau City Office, Teton Memorial Hospital, and Teton County Assessor. She last worked for the Sun Rive Electric as a clerk, retiring from there in 1987.

Donna was a member of the United Methodist Church, VFW Auxillary, Republican Women's Club, and the Teton County Old Timer's. She was a Red Cross and Choteau Swim Team volunteer and a member of the Alpha Phi Sorority. She enjoyed Bridge,

bowling, poker machines, crossword puzzles, and dancing. She also enjoyed the Pitch Club, traveling in the motor home, and loved music and animals. She was the No. 1 fan of her children and grandchildren's activities.

Donna is survived by her husband Ronald Otness of Choteau; daughters Jerri Lee Morris of Choteau, Wendy Dennis and Christie Pierce, both of Spokane, Washington; sons R.W. Barrett of Albuquerque, NM, Conrad Barrett of Clinton Township, Michigan, and Darrel Otness of Pasco, Washington; sister Anna Lee Erickson of Choteau; brothers Robert Dauwalder of Dutton, and Richard Dauwalder of Fairfield; 12 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a brother William McManus; her parents, Walter Dauwalder and Irene Dauwalder McManus; a granddaughter Laurel Corbett Edmonds; and a grandson Cyril Morris.

Memorial Services were 11:00 am Monday August 18, 2003 at the United Methodist Church in Choteau, with private burial at the Choteau Cemetery. Cremation

has taken place under the direction of Gorder Funeral Home in Choteau.

Memorials suggested to the Choteau United Methodist Church or to Bright Eyes Animal Center, PO Box, 1498, Choteau, MT 59422

PAUL BERNARD OVERLIE

Birth: January 23, 1940 – Death: July 27, 2003

Liberty County Times

August 6, 2003



Paul Overlie

Paul Bernard Overlie was born on Jan. 23, 1940 in Terry, Montana; he was the third of six children. The family moved to Bozeman when Paul was 12 years old and he attended junior high and high school there.

After his enlistment in the Air Force in 1956, he returned to Bozeman where he and Dorothea Kelley met; they were married there in 1959. The wedding was a double ceremony that included the marriage of his brother Richard to Bonnie Kelley at the same time. In the early years of their marriage they lived in Bozeman, Seattle, Washington, Havre, and finally settled in Chester in 1963.

Paul worked at Keith's Chevrolet in Chester in 1963 then started working at the County Fair IGA (now Mike's Thriftway) later that year. He became the manager of that store and remained in that job until Nov. of 1974. After working construction jobs for two years, Paul settled into a position at Marias Equipment Company where he became the parts manager in 1977. He worked for Marias

Equipment and, out of the same building, for Big Sky Equipment until the business was closed in 1998. He went to work in the parts department at Benchmark Equipment in Chester until they closed. From there he worked at Torgerson's in Ethridge where he remained employed until his death.

Paul enjoyed people and working, especially working with his hands. He was always on the go but he never seemed too busy to help a friend or neighbor. His hobby was working on projects; his own projects or those of family and friends. He felt that any job worth doing was worth doing well and put his all into every job or project he worked on. He loved doing just about anything, except plumbing.

He was a strong swimmer throughout his life and he enjoyed hunting, fishing, boating, water skiing, skiing, hiking camping and just about any outdoor activity. He enjoyed sports, especially Chester High School sports. From football to wrestling, basketball to tennis, he really liked following the local kids. He was instrumental in starting the wrestling and tennis booster club and liked working with the group.

He was also an avid reader with an interest in a wide variety of topics. He was a man of many talents from carpentry, to writing poems and stories, to putting together songs for his kids.

Paul loved his family and he wanted to know about everything they did. He took an interest in the careers and accomplishments of his brothers and sisters, and enthusiastically passed on family news to friends and other family members. But his true passion was his children and grandchildren. From water fights to playing basketball, dancing to wrestling around on the floor,

there was always time in his life for the kids and he always tried to include their friends and the friends' families.

Paul died of natural causes in his sleep Sunday, July 27. He was 63 years old. Husband, father, mentor, neighbor and friend; he will be missed.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothea Overlie, of Chester; daughters Wendy Overlie of Havre, Amber Thompson of Olympia, Washington, and Heidi Overlie of Chester; sons Paul Jr. and wife Joy of Chester, Darren and wife Lisa of Havre, and Mitchell and wife Lissa of Fallon, Nevada; sisters Donna Lingle of Shelby, Mary Overlie of New York, New York, and Debbie White and husband Bill of Bozeman; brother Eric and wife Kate of Belgrade; sister-in-law Bonnie Eppers and husband Gary of Fort Benton; grandchildren: Ethan, Chloe, Mercedes, Tayla, Brianna and Acadia, and special "grandson" Joel Rocks; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Paul was preceded in death by

his father Olav, his mother Elaine, and his brother Richard.

A memorial service was held at 11:00 am Friday, August 1, 2003 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Pastor Peter Erickson officiated. A special message and personal remembrances were shared by John Maatta. Granddaughter Tayla Overlie wrote and read a poem entitled "Grandpa." Ruth Maatta played the piano and the congregation sang "How Great Thou Art." Vocalist Lissa Maatta Overlie performed "Amazing Grace." Additional music during the service included two of Paul's favorite Elvis Presley tapes "Peace in the Valley," and "Take My Hand, Precious Lord." Interment of ashes followed in the Chester Cemetery. Including graveside prayers by Pastor Pete, a special recording was played, "In Daddy's Hands" by Holly Dunn.

A reception luncheon followed at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester.

Grandpa

Grandpa I wish you were here,
Even though I know you're near,
You meant the world to so many peers,
Now we are all shedding tears.
You were the best grandpa anyone could have,
And you knew how to make me laugh;
Even when you were teaching me to dance,
Thanks, I got the moves so now I can prance.
You were always so supportive,
Even when I was quite retortive.
Oh how I wish you were here,
To listen to me read this without a doubt or fear,
Heck, you could even shed a tear,
Or better yet, just relax with a beer.
May God grant you the best,
And I hope you are able to easily rest.

—By Tayla Overlie

EDNA L. (TROWBRIDGE) OWEN
Born: 1919 - Died: April 26, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
May 7, 2003

Edna L. Owen



Owen

Edna L. (Trowbridge) Owen, 84, of 3604 3rd Ave. S., who had owned a dress shop in Westby and operated a bar in Flaxville with her husband before moving to Great Falls in 1984, died of complications from a stroke April 26 in San Antonio.

Cremation has taken place and there will be private burial of ashes.

Survivors include her husband, Chuck Owen of Great Falls; a son, Darold Gjesdal of Chester; daughters Yvonne Black and Karen Jack of San Antonio; stepsons Chauncey Owen and Errol Owen of Vancouver, B.C., David Owen of Fairbanks, Alaska, and Rod Owen of Great Falls; 16 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

CESAR CUSI PEREZ, MD

Birth: March 6, 1931 – Death: October 26, 2003
Liberty County Times
November 5, 2003

Dr. Cesar Perez

Cesar Cusi Pérez, M.D., age 72, of Great Falls, died of natural causes Sunday October 26, 2003 at a Great Falls hospital.

Dr. Perez was born March 6, 1931 in Batangas, Philippines, and was raised in Mindoro, Philippines. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from San Beda College in Manila, and a Doctor of Medicine degree from Manila Central University.

He practiced in Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, and Louisiana and served the people of Montana in the communities of Warm Springs, Anaconda, Glasgow, Fort Harrison, Chester, and Great Falls.

He was an ardent sports fan, especially of the New York Yankees, and enjoyed traveling with his family.

Survivors include his wife Cathy Perez of Great Falls; daughters Riza Perez of Great Falls, and Ning Perez of Alaska; sons Matt Perez of Anaconda, and Chris Perez of Helena; sis-

ters Nocy Bulay and Dr. Dulce Baliado of Manila, Philippines, and Dely Perez and Ery Unadia of Chicago, Illinois; a brother Cyrus Perez of Manila, Philippines; and six grandchildren.

Vigil Service was 7:00 pm Wednesday October 29, 2003 at O'Connor Memorial Chapel. Funeral Mass was at 2:00 pm Thursday October 30 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Great Falls, with cremation following the service.

O'Connor Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

MARTHA M. "MARTY" (FARNIK) PERRY
Birth: September 6, 1921 – Death: April 10, 2003
Liberty County Times
April 16, 2003

Martha Perry

Former Hingham and Great Falls resident Martha M. "Marty" Perry, age 81, died Thursday April 10, 2003 at her home in Columbia Falls, Montana.

She was born September 6, 1921 on the Farnik homestead to Frank and Elizabeth Farnik. She was raised and educated in Hingham, Montana. She graduated from Hingham High School in 1940. When she turned 18 she moved to Great Falls. There she attended cosmetology school and worked at the *Great Falls Tribune*.

She was married to John H. Perry at St. Ann's Cathedral in Great Falls on August 20, 1946. In 1948 they moved to Columbia Falls, where she worked for School District #6 and the Anaconda Aluminum Club. In 1960 she and her husband went in to business with her brother in the coin-operated laundry business in Columbia Falls for 34 years. They were also part owners in the Glacier Lanes from 1970 to 1980.

Marty enjoyed several years of being a bowling coach. In 1939 she and her husband won first place "A" Division, Montana Senior State Championship Tournament. She loved dancing, golfing, and her greenhouse.

She is survived by her sons and their families: Rick Perry of Kalispell and granddaughters Kay and Sara of Palm Springs, California; Jim Perry and his wife Judy Dell and grandchildren Farah, Jeff, and Jarrett of Kalispell, and Jack and great-

grandson Jack Jr. of Austin, Texas, and Mark of Chico, California; Dave Perry of Columbia Falls; sister, Mary Olson of Billings; and many other relatives and friends.

Marty was preceded in death by her husband John H. Perry, her parents, and two brothers Joe and Otto Farnik.

A memorial Mass was at 11:00 am Wednesday April 16, 2003 at St. Richard's Catholic Church in Columbia Falls, with a reception following at the church. The family has suggested that memorials be made to St. Richard's Catholic Church Building fund, or to the Cemetery Fund.

Arrangements by Columbia Mortuary.

ELIZABETH "QUEENIE" PETERSON
Born: 1912 – Died: November 28, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
November 29, 2003

Elizabeth Peterson

CHINOOK — Elizabeth "Queenie" Peterson, 91, a housewife, died of natural causes Friday at a Havre care center.



Peterson

Her funeral is 11 a.m. Monday at Edwards Funeral Home Chapel in Chinook, with burial in Kuper Memorial Cemetery.

Survivors include daughters Lois Schelling of Moorcroft, Wyo., Patricia Farrar of Chinook, Louise Weigand of Chinook and Ruth Powell of Glendive; sons Eugene Peterson of Hingham and Ted Peterson of Chinook; 18 grandchildren, and numerous great and great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Reynold Peterson, and a son Robert Peterson.

HERBERT JOSEPH "HERB" POETZL
Birth: March 25, 1908 – Death: October 3, 2003
Liberty County Times
October 8, 2003



Herb Poetzl

Herbert Joseph ("Herb") Poetzl was born at Winona, Minnesota on March 25, 1908. He was the eldest of two sons born to Joseph & Bertha (Kellermann) Poetzl. His parents moved to Springdale, Washington when Herb was still an infant. They came to Montana in the winter of 1912 and homesteaded 10 miles northwest of Joplin. They eventually moved to a farm 9 miles north of Joplin and herb attended the Meldrum country school near there.

Herb and his brother, Franklin, both confirmed bachelors, lived and worked on the Poetzl farm throughout their lives. Franklin died in 1972. Herb remained active in the farming operations until 1998, when his health began to fail. He moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester where he resided until his death on the early morning of Friday, October 3, 2003. He was 95 years old.

Herb was a very private and compassionate person. He took

care of his brother and parents during their last-illnesses and deaths. He loved all kinds of animals and always had a few favorite pet cats throughout the years. During his quiet time at home, Herb enjoyed watching rodeo events on television, reading farm publications, or playing the harmonica. He loved his life as a Montana farmer and his favorite hobby was simply working on the farm. On a related vein, he also enjoyed doing dozer work on his old D-6 caterpillar. Herb was essentially a homebody, but he always looked forward to his annual trip to the Flathead Valley for huckleberries, and he enjoyed riding around the local countryside to check out the crops.

Last, but not least, Herb was a very caring and giving man. His philanthropy was always sincere, heartfelt and private. Now that he has passed away, it should be known that he have a substantial annuity to our local Hi-Line Health Foundation.

Herb is survived by several cousins. He also has many neighbors and friends who were very dear to him.

Funeral services were held 2:00 p.m. Monday, October 6, at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Reverend Pete Erickson of O.S.L.C. officiated. Special readings were shared by Donna Rudolph. Iris white served as organist and the congregation sang "Amazing Grace." Pallbearers included Harley Rudolph, Tom Graff, Norbert VanDessel, Vic Johnson, P.J. Johnson, and ed Milnar. Burial followed in the family plot at the Joplin Cemetery.

WADE REESE

Birth: April 25, 1918 – Death: November 4, 2003

Liberty County Times

November 12, 2003



Wade Reese

Wade Reese was born April 25, 1918 at Teresita, Missouri, to George and Myrtle (Culpepper) Reese. He was one of eight children. He grew up in Missouri and received his formal education there.

During the depression years Wade came to Montana in 1937 to work on a farm near Chinook. He met the love of his life, Edna L. Lemieux, and they were married in Chinook on October 26, 1940. Wade worked as a Montana farmer most of his adult life. In 1947 the Reeses acquired their own place in the Kremlin-Gildford community, where they raised their family of four. Wade eventually took a second job with the Hill County Road Department until osteoporosis forced his retirement in 1978. He remained active in the farming operations until a few years ago, when his health continued to fail.

On this past Tuesday afternoon November 4, 2003, Wade became acutely ill at home. He was taken to the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, where he died soon after arrival. He was 85 years old.

Wade was an active member of the Gildford Baptist Church, having served as a Council member and a church Deacon. He especially enjoyed cooking for the Men's Pray Breakfasts. He was also a Gideon and supported the Bible Society. In addition, he had served as a Deacon at the 6th Avenue Christian Church in Havre, and was a past Board member of the Big Sky Christian Youth Ranch at Whitewater.

Music was always an important part of Wade's life. He played the guitar and mandolin, and loved to sing. His favorite music was country, folk, and

Gospel. In those early days on the farm, he loved those musical 'jam sessions' with other talented neighbors and friends.

Wade also enjoyed hunting and fishing. When it came to these activities, it was the general consensus that he was "as good as they get." In his prime, Wade had the 'eye of an eagle' and exceptional shooting skills. He hunted everything from jackrabbits to geese to big game animals. As he grew older his interests turned to fishing, and he became an excellent fly fisherman. His enthusiasm and love of these activities have been passed down to his children and grandchildren.

During his quiet time at home Wade enjoyed writing poetry (a tongue-in-cheek variety). He also liked to read, especially true detective stories and military historicals. In addition, he enjoyed gardening and television—mainly old comedy sit-coms. In his younger years he loved to play Pinochle and poker.

Wade was essentially a "self-taught man" who valued education and stressed the importance of it to his family. For instance, he enjoyed studying economic trends in the stock market. He enjoyed the lighter side of life, too, and will be remembered for his quick wit and fun sense of humor.

Wade operated a road grader during his employment with the Hill County road crew. Instead of "Wade Reese," his fellow employees affectionately called him "Grade Reese," and he got a kick out of that!

Wade never met a stranger, so visitors were always welcome at the Reese home. The coffee pot was always on and there were always stories to share.

Last, but not least, Wade truly loved his family. He expressed many times how fortunate he was to have experienced the birth, growth and love of his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years Edna Reese of Gildford; two sons: Glen and wife Catherine Reese of Charlotte, North Carolina, and Ken and wife Loreen Reese of Portland, Oregon; two daughters: Beth and husband Bill Warwick of McMinnville, Oregon, and Margie and husband Jerry Williams of Havre; one brother Doc (Agnes) Reese of Havre; two sisters: Hazel Ball, and Seima (Loyd) Hammer, both of

Missouri; nine grandchildren including: Nate, Chad, Jerrod, Anita, Corinne, Janell, Kristin, Joelle, and Lindsay; eight great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Wade was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, and three sisters.

Wade's funeral was 2:00 pm Monday November 10, 2003 at the Assembly of God Church in Havre. Services were conducted by Pastor Eddie Fallo. Scripture readings were by Larry Honnek, and grandson Pastor Jerrod Williams shared the eulogy. Pianist was Judy Fallo, and the congregation sang "There's a New Name Written Down in Glory." Vocalist Matt Antonich performed "The Old Account Was Settled Long Ago." The vocal duet of Eddie and Judy Fallo sang "Victory in Jesus." Ushers were Charlie Griffith and Dick Pollington. Pallbearers were Wade's three grandsons and his nephews (Dallas, Gary, Dennis Reese). Friends listed as honorary bearers were Doc Reese, Jerry Williams, Bill Warwick, Stan Wall, Leo Wall, Rande Letang, Dan Jorgenson, Sid Haugen, and Bud Werbelow. Burial followed at Highland Cemetery in Havre. After the burial rites a luncheon was held at the church Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Per Wade's request, memorials will be given to KXEL Christian Radio, PO Box 2426, Havre, MT 59501.

PEARL VIOLA (BROWN) RICHTER
Birth: December 30, 1935 – Death: July 24, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 30, 2003

Pearl V. Richter

Pearl Viola (Brown) Richter was born December 30th, 1935 in Hinsdale, Montana. She was one of 14 children born to Marlin and Leila (Hull) Brown. Pearl was raised on a ranch at Thoene, a small community north of Hinsdale. She received her early education at Hinsdale, then transferred to Joplin where she graduated from high school in 1953.

She married Christian W. "Chris" Richter on October 28th, 1953 at Hingham. They lived on the Richter farm south of Hingham and began raising their family of five. In 1970 they bought the "HiWay Bar & Cafe" in Hingham. Pearl began working as a postal clerk at Hingham in 1973 and eventually was promoted to postmaster. She worked for the postal service for 29 years until ill-health forced her retirement in 2002.

The Richters lived in the Hingham community during their 50 years of married life. They enjoyed traveling to Bigfork to visit family and friends. In fact, they had recently sold their home in Hingham and were in the process of moving permanently to their summer home near Bigfork. On this past Thursday morning (July 24th, 2003) Pearl passed away quietly at their Bigfork residence. She was 67 years old.

Pearl was a very private woman with a strong Christian faith. She was a longtime member of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church and served on the Altar Society funeral committee for 31 years.

In her quiet time at home Pearl enjoyed reading (she was especially fond of mysteries and romances). She was also an avid

fan of Elvis Presley, so she enjoyed watching his old movies and listening to his music. Pearl was an excellent cook, and her family remembers her wonderful homemade pies and breads. She loved to visit with good friends and family; she especially cherished those quality times with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. In addition to kids Pearl loved all animals, and was a strong supporter of the Humane Society and related charities.

Back in the early 1960's Pearl kept current on the activities of the Kennedy family. She was thrilled to have met Bobbie Kennedy prior to his tragic assassination.

Survivors include her husband, Chris of Hingham; four sons and their spouses, Dan and Rebecca Richter of Phoenix, Arizona, Don and Jocelyn Richter of Bigfork, Dave and Judy Richter of Bigfork, and Dennis and Shari Richter of Bigfork; one daughter and her husband, Denise and Lowell Strissel of Hingham; one brother, Harold Brown of Fort Peck; three sisters, Helan Samuelson of Cottonwood, Arizona, Alice Hoerster of Billings, and Millie Harden of Billings; 13 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and numerous nephews and nieces. Pearl was preceded in death by her parents, six brothers (Clarence, Claude, Raymond, Eddy, Harry and Lawrence), three sisters (Gertrude, Libby and Minnie), and one grandson (Zachary Richter).

A family vigil service was held at 7:00 p.m. Sunday (July 27th) at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester. Father Joe Diekhans recited prayers and scriptures.

The funeral mass was celebrated at 11:00 a.m. Monday (July 28th) at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham by Father Joe. Vocalist, Lexi Richter, performed "Ave Maria", "The Lord's Prayer", "Going Up Yonder", and "On Eagle's Wings". Vocalist, Marty Richter, sang "Amazing Grace". Sharon Spicher served as Paul Harden. Pallbearers were Bruce, Christopher, and Dustin Richter, Mark and Clark Harden, and Cal Brown. Honorary bearers were Rick and Bob Richter, Patrick

Mader, Mike Adams, and Craig Fraser. Pearl's son, Dan, shared the eulogy and scriptures were read by Sam Richter. Altar servers were Sadie and Robin Patrick; communion gifts were presented by Dana and Dani Richter and Natalie Strissel; and Eucharistic ministers were Vern and Bev Moog and Tammie Gatzemeler. A luncheon was held in the church basement.

Cremation followed the service.

Pearl's ashes will be interred at the Hingham Cemetery at a later date. Arrangements by Rockman funeral Chapel.

Memorials will be given to the "Gift of Life" Housing in Great Falls, Our Lady of Ransom Church in Hingham or donor's choice...

ALMA WILHELMINA (KAISER) ROBINSON
Birth: January 1, 1907 – Death: September 13, 2003
Liberty County Times
September 17, 2003



Alma Robinson

Alma Wilhelmina (Kaiser) Robinson was born January 1, 1907 at Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada. She was one of six children born to William and Helena (Westendorf) Kaiser. Alma received her formal education at

a country school near Wetaskiwin, then obtained nursing skills at a local hospital in the few years that followed.

She married Hubert C. Robinson at Wetaskiwin on November 26, 1926. Hubert was an Assembly of God minister, so her served as pastor in several churches throughout British Columbia during the first 15 years of their marriage. In addition to being a minister's wife, homemaker, and mother of three, Alma also worked part-time as a nurse's Aide in various hospital and nursing homes and served as a babysitter during many of those years.

The Robinsons moved to Deer Park, Washington in 1947; to Miles City, Montana in 1956; to Scobey, Montana in 1961; to Libby, Montana in 1965; and they returned to Osoyoos, BC in 1975. After 63 years of ministerial service, Hubert retired in 1981. He died in 1988.

Alma remained in Osoyoos until 1996, when she moved to Gildford, Montana to be near her son Charles. Later that fall she suffered several strokes, so transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home at Chester, Montana. She lived at the Chester nursing facility until her death on the afternoon of Saturday September 13, 2003. She was 96 years old.

Alma was active in church-related organizations over the years; she was always there to help with receptions, dinners, and other church functions. She loved to read her Bible and religious publications.

Other interests included vegetable gardening, canning, cooking and picnics. She enjoyed traveling and visiting with family and friends. Alma loved people and was loyal to her old parishioners and friends with her frequent letters and annual Christmas greetings.

Alma and her husband were always formal and prudent in their dealings with people. They were deeply devoted to their family and their church. And they always exhibited the utmost respect for their elders, their leaders, and their country. They were married 62 years when Hubert died in 1988.

Alma is survived by one son and his wife, Charlie and Kay Robinson of Gildford, Montana; one daughter-in-law Joyce House of Las Cruces, New Mexico; two sisters Anne Sheeler of Leduc, Alberta, and Gertude Ryall of Kelowna, B.C.; eight grandchildren including: Danny Wilhelm, David Wilhelm, Diane Wilhelm, Dwayne Wilhelm, Larry Robinson, LaRae Snodgrass,

Shari Robinson, and Randy Robinson; 16 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by two children David Robinson in 1993, and Viola Wilhelm in August 2003, one brother George Kaiser, and two

sisters Della Kaiser, and Charlotte Lidderdale.

Alma's funeral will be 11:00 am Monday September 22, 2003 at the Osoyoos Christian Center in Osoyoos, B.C. Burial will follow at the Osoyoos Cemetery.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester, Montana.

PEARL K. (MARSH) ROBINSON
Born: July 11, 1915 – Died: September 10, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
September 12, 2003

Pearl K. Robinson

SHELBY — Pearl K. (Marsh) Robinson, 88, a homemaker, died of cancer Wednesday at a Shelby care center.

Her funeral is 5 p.m. Saturday at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Shelby. Cremation has taken place under the direction of O'Connor Funeral Home.

Survivors include a son, Joe Johnson of Great Falls; a daughter, Delores House of Whitefish; a stepdaughter, Donna Washburn of Elk, Wash.; brothers Fred Marsh of Seeley Lake and James Marsh of South Carolina; grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and sisters-in-law too numerous to count; and many other extended family and friends.

One of 12 children, Pearl was born July 11, 1915, in Pupippi, Wis., to Florence (Lull) and Orin A. Marsh, and moved to Devon, Mont., at an early age. On June 1, 1934, Pearl married Warden "Spud" Johnson; they later divorced. She married Donald Robinson in 1964.



Robinson

She was preceded in death by her parents; nine siblings; a daughter, Joyce (Johnson) Pechia; her former husband; her second husband, Donald Robinson; a great-grandson, Chance; a daughter-in-law, Arlene Johnson; a stepdaughter, Middy Jay; and a stepson, James.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to hospice or Brandt Memorial Suite, c/o Marias Care Center, P.O. Box 915, Shelby, MT 59475.

CARROLL RAY RUDOLPH

Birth: October 10, 1923 - Death: June 1, 2003

Liberty County Times

June 11, 2003



Carroll Rudolph

Carroll Ray Rudolph, age 70, passed away on Sunday afternoon June 1, 2003 of natural causes at the Sweet Memorial Nursing Home in Chinook, where he had resided for about a month.

Carroll was born on the Keith Ranch north of Chester on October 10, 1923 to Ray and Hazel (Ray) Rudolph. He grew up on the family farm and graduated from Joplin High School in 1941.

He attended Northern Montana College in Havre for two years. Carroll worked for Eskestrand Construction after college and also worked for Great Northern Railroad for a time. In 1946 he and his brother Donald bought a farm north of Joplin. That winter they went to Yuma, Arizona and got work building irrigation ditches for the Bureau of Reclamation. In 1956 they purchased another farm in the Hogeland area and Carroll moved there. He and Donald were partners in Rudolph Brothers Registered Angus from 1959 till 1987 when Carroll retired and the cowherd was dispersed. Carroll lived east of Chinook on the valley place at the time of his retirement.

Carroll had been retired from ranching for a year when he married Kathern (Hall) Lowry in December 1988. They lived in Chinook and owned a number of rentals. They enjoyed attending auction sales in the area. Carroll liked to do woodworking and made numerous display cases, etc. in his retirement. In his earlier years, he was the carpenter who helped build or remodel several homes in the Joplin area,

including his brother Harley's home, and sister Thelma's home.

Although Carroll had no children of his own, he enjoyed his nieces and nephews and was always interested in what they were doing. Then, after his marriage, he enjoyed being "Grandpa" and watching the children grow up.

He is survived by his wife Kathern of Chinook; two brothers: Donald and wife Shirley Rudolph, and Harley and wife Mary Rudolph all of Chester; stepson Dale Lowry, Montana; stepdaughters Joan Mord of

Havre, Jean and husband Mike Radavich of Great Falls; eight step-grandchildren; three step-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother in 1961, his father in 1979, his sister Thelma in 2001, and an infant sister.

Funeral services were held on Thursday June 5, 2003 at the American Lutheran Church in Chinook. Pallbearers included Kent Rudolph, Kyle Rudolph, Jim Coffman, Daryl Essing, Terry Salo, and Ira Hall. Honorary bearers included 'All his family

and friends.' Ken Overcast of Chinook sang "In the Garden" and "The Old Rugged Cross." He and Sherri Miller, also of Chinook and both friends and neighbors of Carroll, remembered him with some little excerpts of his life.

Sherri was also the pianist. Burial followed the service in the Kuper Memorial Cemetery, Chinook. Arrangements were by the Edwards Funeral Home of Chinook.

Memorials may be sent to Sweet Nursing Home, Chinook, the Gift of Life in Great Falls, or the donor's choice.

LOIS G. (ANDERSON) SCHAUB
Birth: July 3, 1929 - Death: July 31, 2003
Liberty County Times
August 6, 2003



Lois Schaub

Lois G. Schaub was born in St. Paul, Minnesota on July 3, 1929 to Victor and Tilda (Peterson) Anderson. Lois's family moved to Cass Lake, Minnesota when she was about four, where she attended school graduating in 1947. The family moved to Chester, Montana in 1950, where Lois worked at the Liberty County Courthouse.

She met and married carpenter/farmer Leo Schaub in Chester in 1953. Together they raised two children. After the children started school, Lois went to work in the Chester School Libraries where she worked for 27 years before retiring in 1990.

Lois loved to travel, and had many memorable trips with her children, brother, and a wonderful cruise to Alaska with her friend Lil. She loved shopping, sewing, reading, cooking, music, scrapbooks and being with her family. She was a member of the VFW Auxiliary and Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. Lois and Leo moved to Kalispell in 1995 for health reasons and to be closer to their children. Leo passed away in 1999. In January of 2003, Lois moved into the Immanuel Lutheran Home where she made several friends and had wonderful caregivers.

At the age of 74, she passed away at the Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell, Montana on Thursday July 31, 2003.

Lois was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, and brother Jerry Anderson. She is survived by her daughter, LeAnn Howell and husband Jerry, a son Lon Schaub and wife Jere, all of Kalispell; six grandchildren Kris Schaub of Portland, Oregon; Tracy Emery and husband Zach of El Cajon, California; Kale Schaub of Butte; Chelse Howell of Des Moines, Iowa; Sarah Howell and Matt Howell both of Kalispell; and one great-grandchild, Taylor Emery of El Cajon, California.

Memorial services for Lois were held Tuesday, August 5, 2003 at 1:00 pm in the Johnson Mortuary Chapel. The family invited friends to gather at LeAnn Howell's home following the services for a light luncheon.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Immanuel Lutheran Home, 185 Crestline Ave, Kalispell, MT 59901 or the Hi-Line Pool & Rec. (New Pool); Box 325, Chester, MT 59522.

Arrangements were under the direction of Johnson Mortuary & Crematory.

ELIZABETH "LIZZIE" (ROTH) SCHWEITZER

Birth: September 29, 1920 - Death: December 1, 2003

Liberty County Times

December 10, 2003



Elizabeth Schweitzer

Elizabeth "Lizzie" (Roth) Schweitzer was born September 29, 1920 at Bow Island, Alberta, Canada. She was one of seven children born to George and Katherine (Dorscher) Roth. She grew up in Canada and received her formal education there.

In November of 1928 Elizabeth married Anton Schweitzer at Bow Island. They made their home in Montana on the Schweitzer farm in the Goldstone Community north of Rudyard. In 1939 they moved to Rudyard to a farm on the outskirts of town. Elizabeth worked diligently as a farmwife, homemaker, and mother of 13 children.

In 1957 Anton and Elizabeth moved to Hingham and bought the "Chicago Store" a grocery business they renamed the "Schweitzer Store." A few years later they sold the business and retired. Following Anton's death in 1968 Elizabeth remained in Hingham. In 1987 she moved to an apartment in Havre. In 1992 she transferred to the Eagles Manor Retirement Home, where she resided for ten years. When her health began to fail in the spring of 2002, she moved to the Liberty County Nursing Home in Chester. Elizabeth died at the Chester rest home on the afternoon of Monday, December 1, 2003.

Elizabeth was baptized and confirmed a Catholic and remained dedicated to her faith throughout her life. She was a longtime member of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church in Hingham and was active in the Altar Society. After moving to Havre, she became a loyal member at St. Jude's Parish. She enjoyed quiet meditation and reading religious publications.

In her younger years Elizabeth enjoyed camping and fishing outings with the family. Over the years she developed excellent skills in cooking, canning, and baking to accommodate the needs of her large family. Some of her memorable recipes included her homemade German noodle dishes, chocolate chip cookies, and cinnamon rolls. She loved to be outdoors in her flower and vegetable gardens, in fact she did her own

yard work into her early 80s. During her quiet time in the house Elizabeth enjoyed watching televisions or listening to Western music; a few of her favorite artists were John Denver and Vince Gill. In her later years she took several memorable trips to Alaska, Hawaii, and Nevada. She always had a sweet tooth and was especially fond of Kit-Kat candy bars.

Her family describes her as a strong, hard-working, and gentle woman. She earned several affectionate nicknames, including 'Nanny' and 'Lizzie.'

Elizabeth is survived by seven sons and spouses: Leander and Sarah Schweitzer of Billings, Willy and Cherie Schweitzer of Reno, Nevada, Ed and Donna Schweitzer of Hingham, Marvin and Beth Schweitzer of Troy, Richard Schweitzer of Washington City, Utah, Don and Dodie Schweitzer of Sparks, Nevada, and Randy and Brenda

Schweitzer of Sparks, Nevada; three daughters Helen McCann of Missoula, Leona and John Lakman of Bountiful, Utah, and Beverley Smith of Havre; 23 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; 3 great-great-grandchildren; two sisters Margaret Kolody and Barbara Holfarth both of Medicine Hat, Alberta; and numerous nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by three sons: Michael, Joseph, and Lawrence; three grandchildren Christopher, David and Shelley; and four brothers John, Tom, Joseph, and Andrew Roth.

Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11:00 am Monday, December 8, 2003 at Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Church by Father Joseph Diekhans. Scripture readings were by Joyce Spicher, and the Eulogy was shared by Tony Schweitzer. Altar servers were Trent Schweitzer and Dennis Mangold. Ushers were Rob Spicher and Toney Schweitzer. The communion gifts were presented by Amy Schweitzer, Jill Johnson, and Katny Cahoon, and the Eucharistic Ministers were Jerry and Mary Lois Hybner and Una Moog. Lizzie's grandchildren served as pallbearers and honorary bearers. Organist was Iris White and vocalists were Marcus Jochim and Chaslee Schweitzer. Selected music included "Be Not Afraid," "On Eagle's Wings," "Ave Maria," "I Am the Bread of Life," and "You Are Near." Taped music was "She's Gonna Fly" and "The Circle Will Be Unbroken." A luncheon followed at the church.

Graveside services were 2:00 pm that afternoon at Highland Cemetery in Havre. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation (Chester) or donor's choice.

THEDA MAE (GREEN) SEEBAUM
Birth: May 13, 1916 – Death: February 17, 2003
Liberty County Times
February 26, 2003



Theda Seebaum

Theda Mae Seebaum, age 86, passed away February 17, 2003 at her home in Powell, Wyoming. Cremation has taken place. Private services will be held at a later date.

Born May 13, 1916 in Atwood, Kansas, she was the daughter of Palmer and Clara Green. They traveled by covered wagon to Craig, Colorado when she was a baby and homesteaded at Great Divide.

Theda was raised and educated in Craig. She married Carl Seebaum on October 14, 1933. He was employed by Texaco Inc. for 41-1/2 years. They made several moves during this time until his retirement when they settled in Powell.

She loved cards, crafts, boating, fishing, and being with friends and family.

Theda is survived by three daughters: JoAnn Simmons of Maybell, Colorado, Alma Harris of Craig, Colorado, and Lois (Herb) White of Hingham, Montana; eight grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 65 years; two brothers Raymond and Merrill Green; son-in-law Norm Simmons; and one grandson Donny Jay Harris.

Miratsky-Easton Funeral Home of Powell Wyoming in charge of arrangements.

GARY LEE SHEPHERD

Birth: November 27, 1939 - Death: November 5, 2003

Liberty County Times
December 3, 2003



Gary Shepherd

Our husband, father, grandfather, brother, and uncle, Gary Lee Shepherd, passed away after a difficult journey with cancer, at his home in Lusby, Maryland on Wednesday November 5, 2003.

He was 63 years old. Gary will be deeply missed by all of us. A service with full military honors will be held at Arlington National Cemetery on Friday January 9, 2004 at 1:00 pm. There will be a service of remembrance at the Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King St, Alexandria, Virginia at 10:30 am January 9, 2004.

Gary was born in Chester, Montana on November 27, 1939. He lived the first third of his life in Montana, graduating from Chester High School in 1958 and from Rocky Mountain College in 1962. He was commissioned an officer in the United States Navy on December 21, 1962.

In May of 1962, just shortly before Gary began his military career, a retiring General Douglas MacArthur told a group of young officers: "Duty, Honor, Country—those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you want to be, what you can be, what you will be." Gary accepted this challenge. Life for him was serious and earnest.

During twenty years of active service, four were spent in Foreign Service and fifteen years were spent at sea, includ-

ing time aboard the aircraft carrier *USS Enterprise* and the *USS Oklahoma City*, while serving as Intelligence Officer for Commander 7th Fleet. Gary saw combat duty in Vietnam during nine of the 11 campaigns of the 10-year war. His many medals include: Navy Achievement Medal with combat "V", two Navy Commendation Medals, Vietnam Service Medal and Campaign (9), and two Foreign Service Commendation medals with gallantry cross.

The last third of Gary's life was spent in Washington, DC as a civilian employee of the Office of Navy Intelligence (ONI). His last position with ONI was ONI/NMIC MWR Director. In March of 2003 Gary was given the Betty P. Swift Distinguished Civilian Award by the Office of Navy Intelligence. He retired after 41 years of service to his country on September 30, 2003.

It was said that Liberty "is the most jealous and exacting mistress that can beguile the brain and soul of man. She will have nothing from him who will not give her all." Gary Shepherd, born and raised in Liberty County, Montana, gave Liberty

his all. In January of 2004 his body will be laid to rest appropriately among those with whom he so served.

Gary is survived by his wife Donna of Lusby, Maryland; two sons: Jeffrey Dean Shepherd of Solomon Island, Maryland, and Richard Henry Shepherd of Laurel, Maryland; one daughter, Renee Jones of Washington, North Carolina; one granddaughter McKenzie Shepherd of Lusby, Maryland; and four brothers and sisters-in-law: Rod and Patti Shepherd of Arlington, Texas, Don and Marguerite Shepherd of Bellingham, Washington, Doug and Judith "Tim" Shepherd of Bellingham, Washington, and Dan and Sharon Shepherd of Havre, Montana. Nine nieces and nephews, who kept Gary in their thoughts and prayers during his final journey, also survive him.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents Ralph and Nina Shepherd.

LOUISE MAY (PERRY) SIEFERT

Birth: May 25, 1959 – Death: November 23, 2003

Liberty County Times
December 10, 2003

Louise Siefert

Louise May Siefert, 44 years of age, died of cancer Sunday, November 23, 2003 at her residence in Havre. A memorial service was held 7:00 pm Wednesday, November 26, 2003 at the Northern Montana

Care Center Chapel with Ila McClenahan officiating. At the memorial service the Honorary Pallbearers were listed as "All of her family, friends, and co-workers."

Cremation has taken place. A private family service for interment will take place at a later date. Memorials in Louise's honor may be made to the Ronald McDonald House, P.O. Box 1119, Missoula, MT 59806; or the Gift of Life Housing, P.O. Box 7008, Great Falls, MT 59406-7008.

Louise was born May 25, 1959 to Richard and Dolores (Sommers) Perry in Hamilton, Montana. She grew up in the Hamilton area and attended school in Victor, Montana until the seventh grade. She moved with her family to Opheim, and completed her schooling and graduated from Opheim High School in 1977.

After graduation she was employed at the Opheim Air Base until it closed.

On January 16, 1978 she married Bruce Siefert in Glasgow, Montana. To this union four children were born. After marriage the couple lived in Fraser, and later moved to Martinsdale and Rosebud working at farms and ranches in many different areas. She was Bruce's best hand.

The couple later moved to Chester where they lived for 12 years and finally to Havre in 1996. She worked at Shambo Veterinary Clinic. For the past four years she worked at the Northern Montana Hospital Pharmacy.

Eleven years ago she survived a bout with cancer.

Louise enjoyed crocheting, riding horses, and loved all animals. She also enjoyed visiting with family and friends.

Louise was preceded in death by her maternal and paternal grandparents.

She is survived by her parents Richard and Dolores Perry of Gildford, MT; husband Bruce Siefert of Havre, MT; son Paul (Jodie) Siefert of Glasgow, MT; daughters Dana (Duane) Meiers of Clinton, MT; Sheila (Matthew) Kuhr of Clinton, MT; and Jennifer Siefert of Havre, MT; four grandchildren; a brother

Fred Perry of Whitefish, MT; and a sister Patricia (Jerry) Dowd of Victor, MT.

HELEN CAROL (LODINOFF) SMITH
Birth: March 18, 1944 – Death: June 7, 2003
Liberty County Times
June 25, 2003

Carol Smith

Helen Carol (Lodinoff) Smith, age 59, formerly of Rudyard, died on Saturday June 7, 2003 at an Anchorage medical center from colon cancer.

Carol was born in Whitefish, Montana on March 18, 1944 to Maxine Lodinoff.

She married James Smith in 1963 right after graduating from high school. Following four years of college in Superior, Wisconsin, she and Jim shared 32 years serving education in Montana and Alaska. The family spent 21 of those years in Rudyard, where Carol was known for her exceptional cooking skills, hospitality, and as a great friend. She was an excellent bowler and would knit a blanket for every newborn close to her. Carol always opened her arms and her home to friends in need, doing her best unselfishly to serve the needs of those around her.

They moved to Galena, Alaska in the summer of 1999, where she worked for the Galena City School District in the library.

Knitting, cooking, and spending time with her family were her favorite things to do.

She was preceded in death by her natural father Bill Robertson, and sisters Carlene and Linda.

Survivors include her husband Jim of Galena; son Doug and wife Patti Smith of Galena; daughter Kimberly and husband Ameer of Anchorage, Alaska; her parents Maxine and Alex Lodinoff of Whitefish; brothers Bubby Lodinoff of Whitefish, Bernie Robertson of Rainier, Washington, and Bob Robertson of Havre; sisters Penni Robertson of Havre, and Debbie Robertson of Billings; sister-in-law Shirley Devoe of Nova Scotia; her father and mother-in-law Lloyd and Marjorie Brownell of San Francisco, California; a granddaughter; and nieces and nephews.

A small service for friends and family was held at Evergreen Memorial Chapel in Anchorage on Thursday afternoon. Plans for a second memorial service in Whitefish on June 24 are pending.

Arrangements and cremation took place in Alaska under the direction of Evergreen Memorial Chapel Funeral Home.

ORVILLE KENNETH SOLUM

Birth: May 29, 1932 – Death: December 6, 2003



Orville Solum

Orville Kenneth Solum was born May 29, 1932 at Joplin, Montana. He was one of five children born to Edwin and Karen (Spaberg) Solum. Orville grew up on the family farm south of Inverness and received his early education at the Rathbun Country School. He finished his education in Rudyard where he graduated from Rudyard High School in 1951.

In October of 1951 Orville enlisted in the US Air Force to serve during the Korean Conflict. After his basic training in Texas, he was stationed in Denver, Colorado where he worked as a medic and made several Air-Vac flights to Korea. He was later transferred to Biloxi, Mississippi where he was trained in radio and Morse Code Communications. Orville was proud of his military career and earned several medals including the "Purple heart" during his four-year stint in the Air Force.

On March 25, 1953 (while home on military leave) Orville married his high school sweetheart, Mary Ellen Patrick. Following his honorable discharge in October of 1955, the Solums returned to Montana. Orville began working for his in-laws on the Patrick farm north of Rudyard. He also raised cattle

Liberty County Times December 17, 2003

helped in the construction of the new church. He also served on the music committee and had been active in church music plans and productions. Orville had a passion for music, dating back to his high school days when he enjoyed singing and playing the baritone in the band. Over the years he sang in various duets, quartets, and cantatas, at weddings, funerals, and other community events.

His other interest included carpentry and woodworking. He enjoyed raising a big vegetable garden each year and was also a good cook. During his quiet time at home he liked to read Western books or watch those good old Western movies.

Orville loved people and enjoyed visiting with everyone, even complete strangers. He really enjoyed hearing and telling new jokes. He loved his and hogs and did meat processing as a sideline. The Solums raised four sons on the farm, the place they called "home" for the past 48 years.

Orville was diagnosed with lung cancer about two years ago. Since then, his health has gradually declined. He was recently admitted to the Brendan House in Kallispell for extended care. He died at this nursing facility on Saturday morning December 6, 2003 at the age of 71 years.

In earlier years Orville had served on the Farm Bureau Board and the Goldstone and Rudyard school boards. In addition, he was a lifelong member of the NRA.

During their early-married life the Solums attended the Grace Church north of Rudyard. They later transferred their membership to the Alliance Church in Chester, where Orville served on the building committee and

life on the farm; he was best described as a latent cowboy who enjoyed working with horses, cattle, and other livestock. When his sons were growing up Orville enjoyed hunting and fishing with them. Throughout the years his love has remained constant for his sons and their families.

Orville suffered a setback by the untimely death of a son, Russ, this past May. He was also preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Helen Richter.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Mary Ellen Solum of Rudyard; three sons and their spouses: Kenneth and Renae Solum and children Ryan and Sonya of Kallispell, Edwin and Sue Solum and children Hans, Katie, Heidi, and Megan of Bonners Ferry, Idaho, Phil and Lynda Solum and children Nathan and Joseph of Nisswa, Minnesota; Russ' three children Melodi, Kenneth, and Timothy; daughter-in-law Kim Solum and son Billy of Phoenix, Arizona; two brothers Glen and Irene Solum of Havre, and Marcel and Myrl Solum of Rudyard; one sister Evelyn and Philip Griffin of Puyallup, Washington; his mother-in-law Anna Patrick of Chester; and numerous nephews, nieces, aunts and uncles.

Funeral services were conducted at 3:00 pm Monday December 15, 2003 at the Chester Alliance Church by Rev. Scott Davis. Pianist Edi Hodges accompanied the congregation who sang, "What a Day That Will be" and "In the Sweet By and By." Vocalists Faith Gilstrap and Twila Olson performed "A Name I Highly Treasure," "I Bowed on my Knees and Cried Holy," and "The King Is Coming." Ushers were Garth Good and Joe Lincoln. Pallbearers were Wayne Hodges, Calvin Tollefson, Stan Langel, Don Forbes, Rodney Svenson, and Howard Conquergood.

Graveside services were 4:30 pm at the Rudyard Cemetery. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the Alliance Church or donor's choice.

ROGER RUSSELL SOLUM

Birth: April 4, 1962 – Death: May 8, 2003

Liberty County Times

May 14, 2003



R. Russell Solum

Roger Russell Solum, age 41, died on Thursday May 8, 2003 at the Paradise Valley Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona from complications of hepatitis and kidney failure.

"Russ" as he was lovingly nicknamed by family and friends, was born April 4, 1962 at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester, Montana. He was one of four sons born to Orville and Mary Ellen (Patrick) Solum. Russ grew up on the family farm and received his education in Rudyard, graduating from Rudyard high School in 1980. He continued his schooling at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota where he graduated with a degree in psychology in 1984. To fulfill his ROTC obligations, Russ entered the US Air Force. After completing basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, he was assigned to Williams Air Force Base near Phoenix. Because of his desire to pursue a nursing career, Russ left the Air Force and began working as a nurse aide temp in the Phoenix area.

He met and married Jan Fuchs in November of 1986. They returned to Moorhead, Minnesota where Russ continued his education at Concordia College. He earned a B.S. degree in Nursing. The Solums returned to Phoenix where Russ worked as an Intensive Care nurse for several years. He enjoyed his work in healthcare and managed several Hospice programs in the Phoenix area in the years that followed. Russ and Jan had three children prior to their divorce.

Russ married his second wife Kimberly Lockett on October 11, 2001 in Phoenix. For the past two years he has worked as a manager for an air conditioning and heating company in Phoenix.

This past February he was diagnosed with Hepatitis and pneumonia, which required hospitalization and intensive care. He returned to work and continued to be productive until his health failed again just prior to his untimely death.

Russ was a lifelong lover of music and played the trumpet and piano in his youth. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and outdoor activities. An avid sports fan, he especially enjoyed bowling. He always loved dogs and had one or more as pets throughout his life.

Russ cared for his fellowman; he served as an AA counselor in Phoenix for several years. Although he maintained a private spirituality, he first accepted the Lord into his life at the "Good News Bible Club" during his elementary years in Rudyard.

Survivors include his wife Kim, and stepson Billy, of Phoenix; three children: Melodi, Kenneth, and Timothy of Phoenix; his parents Orville and Mary Ellen Solum of Rudyard; three brothers

and their spouses: Ken and Renae Solum of Kalispell, Ed and Sue Solum of Bonner's Ferry, Idaho, and Phil and Lynda Solum of Nisswa, Minnesota; his maternal grandmother Anna Patrick of Chester; and numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews, and nieces.

Russ was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, maternal grandfather, and a cousin.

For Phoenix friends and family, a funeral was held Monday afternoon May 12, 2003 at the Desert Hills Chapel in Scottsdale.

A second service for the Hi-Line community will be 2:00 pm Thursday May 15th at Calvary Evangelical church in Rudyard. Pastor Scott Davis will officiate. Iris White will serve as organist and the congregation will sing "How Great Thou Art." Vocalist/guitarist Carole Hanson will perform "One Day at a Time," and "What a Day That will be." Ushers will be Roger and Joe Lincoln. Pallbearers are Kelly Kline, Ken Kops, Garth Good, David Wehr, Howard Conquergood, and Kelly Tollefson. Burial will follow at the Rudyard Cemetery. Local arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester. Memorials will be given to the scholarship fund at Blue Sky High School (formerly Rudyard High School) or to donor's choice.

REGINALD LLOYD SPENSLEY
Birth: N/A – Death: July 9, 2003
Liberty County Times
July 16, 2003

Reginald Spensley

Reginald Lloyd Spensley, age 71, a Navy veteran and retired custodian for Northern Montana College, died of natural causes Wednesday July 9, 2003 at a Havre hospital.

Survivors include his wife Janet Spensley of Havre; son Reese James Spensley of Hollywood, California, Ronnie Gardner and Victor Gardner of Hillsdale, Michigan; daughters Michelle Jones of Portland, Oregon, Pam Spensley of Portland, Stephanie Spensley of Athens, Alabama, Ana Gardner of Billings, and Helen Elmore of Havre; a brother Gavin T. Spensley of Turlock, California; 29 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by sons Scott Spensley in 1974, and Todd Spensley in 1994.

Graveside services with military honors were at 2:00 pm Monday July 14, 2003 at Glacier Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Kalispell. Holland & Bonine Funeral Home of Havre in charge of arrangements.

EMILY (BELLIS) SPICHER
Born: December 4, 1925 - Died: May 23, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
May 25, 2003

Emily Spicher

WHITEFISH — Former Hingham resident and English war bride Emily (Bellis) Spicher, 77, of Whitefish, died Friday of cancer at Brendan House in Kalispell.

Visitation is 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday at Austin Funeral Home in Whitefish. Her funeral is 1 p.m. Tuesday at Christ Lutheran Church in Whitefish, with burial in Whitefish Cemetery.

Survivors include her husband, Richard Spicher; a daughter, Kim Spicher; and grandchildren Leslie Bailey, Lisa May and her husband, Dr. Mike May, and sons-in-law Claude Bailey and Dick Peterson.

She was preceded in death by a daughters Corinne in 1994 and Georgia in 1996.

Emily was born on Dec. 4, 1925, in Garsten, England, to Antonio and Sarah Bellis. She met Richard Spicher in Southport, England, during World War II and they were married on Sept. 22, 1945, in Ainsdale, England. Richard returned to Hingham, Montana in 1946 to set up their home and five months later Emily arrived by train in Havre after traveling by ship to New York City. She was amongst the first group of English war brides to come through Ellis Island to become American citizens.

She left a bombed and devastated England to live in a small apartment in Hingham, Montana with electricity but no running water or indoor plumbing.

In her nearly 30 years in Hingham, she gave birth to three children: Georgia Ann Bailey, Corinne Fae Peterson and Kim Patricia Spicher. She supported Richard in his farming and fertilizer adventures and eventually retired to Whitefish in 1975. She enjoyed dancing, golf, bridge, arranging flowers and especially entertaining.

Memorials are suggested to Brendan House, 350 Conway Dr. Kalispell, MT 59901.

MARLIN C. "SONNY" SPICHER

Birth: December 25, 1944 – Death: January 29, 2003

Liberty County Times

February 5, 2003



**Marlin C.
"Sonny" Spicher**

Marlin C. "Sonny" Spicher went to be with Jesus on the afternoon of January 29, 2003, after a seven year battle with leukemia. Born on Christmas Day, 1944, he was 58 years old when he left us.

Sonny was a true family man whose whole life was wrapped around his family and his faith. He farmed at Joplin and Hingham until his illness forced him to retire a few years ago. He became a snowbird and wintered in Nevada, where he was at the time of his death.

Sonny leaves behind his wife of 35 years, Karen; three sons and their wives: Randy and Ann Spicher, Daron and Kim Spicher, Jerry and Laurie Spicher; one daughter and son-in-law Sunni and Adam Buchanan. He also leaves behind his greatest delights, his grandchildren Michelle, Miranda, Jack, and Lily. Additionally, he is survived by three brothers and four sisters.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Cremation has taken place. There will be a memorial service at a later date. Arrangements were made under the direction of Spilsbury & Beard Mortuary in St. George, Utah, (435) 673-2454.

MARGARET ANNA (SCHWARTZ) SPRAGUE
Birth: May 31, 1916 - Death: October 12, 2003
Liberty County Times
November 12, 2003

Margaret Sprague

Margaret Ann (Schwartz)



Sprague was born at Gildford, Montana in her longtime home on May 31, 1916. Her parents were Henry and Mary (Gray) Schwartz and she was the only daughter of five children. Margaret received her early schooling in Bozeman, then finished her education at Gildford, graduating from Gildford High School in 1934.

She married a Gildford area farmer, Ben A. Sprague, on October 28, 1934 at Gildford. They spent their entire married life in the Gildford community, where Margaret worked diligently as a farmwife, homemaker, and mother to six children. They retired from farming in 1987 and continued to live in Gildford. After 64 years of marriage, Ben died on July 21, 1998.

Margaret was a resident of the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre for a short time before moving to the Life Care Center in Idaho Falls, IS about four years ago. Following a long illness, she died at this Idaho nursing home on the afternoon of Sunday October 12, 2003. She was 87 years old.

Her hobbies included quilting, sewing, cooking, reading, singing, music, and traveling. Her greatest enjoyment was spending time with her family or simply visiting with friends over a cup of coffee. Margaret had a wonderful sense of humor and was loved by many. She will truly be missed by those who loved her.

Margaret was preceded in death not only by her husband and parents, but also by three children: Gwendolyn in 1938, Jeff in 1973, and Gail in 1981; and her four brothers: Henry, Kenneth, Allan, and Robert

Schwartz.

She is survived by three daughters: Judy Meagher and husband Jerry of Idaho Falls, Idaho, Lana Connolly of Fayetteville, Georgia, and Nancy Taylor and husband Gary of Naples, Florida; seven grandsons; 11 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be 2:00 p.m. Saturday November 15, 2003 at the Gildford Baptist Church with Pastor Eddie Fallo officiating. Judy Fallo will serve as pianist. Vocalist Terry Stevenson will perform "Precious Lord," and "How Great Thou Art." Burial of ashes will follow at the Gildford Cemetery. A reception will follow at the church. Arrangements and cremation by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

PAUL H. STEINKE
Birth: August 19, 1923 – Death: April 8, 2003
Liberty County Times
April 16, 2003



Paul Steinke

Paul H. Steinke, age 79, passed away on Tuesday April 8, 2003 at Hospice and Palliative Care of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

He was born August 19, 1923 in Hope, North Dakota to Herman and Olga (Grams) Steinke.

On November 26, 1944 Paul married Alice Madson in Moorhead, Minnesota.

While he lived in Rudyard, Montana, he was a school board member and also belonged to the Farmer's Union. He volunteered

at OUR Center, and was a trustee of the churches he belonged to, including Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Longmont, Colorado. He moved to Longmont from Montana in 1967.

Paul was an electrician for the City of Longmont for 16 years. The last two years of these 16 he was City Electrical Inspector. He retired in 1985.

He enjoyed gardening, especially raising tomato plants and geraniums. Fishing with his grandchildren was very special to him.

Survivors include his wife Alice of Longmont; three sons: Michael Steinke of Michigan City, Indiana, Rodger Steinke and wife Ruth of Longmont, and Paul Steinke, Jr. and wife Deborah of Colorado Springs; two daughters: Norma Watkins and husband Tom of Littleton, Colorado, and Shelly Kunselman of Longmont; on sister Evelyn Carlson of Fargo, North Dakota; nine grandchildren including: Amanda McElroy and husband Tommy, Aggie Ruscitti and husband Giovanni, Greg Blake, Kelli Trainer, Dustin

Steinke, Todd DeVries and wife Heather, Michelle Chavez and husband Steve, Lee Kunselman and wife Heather, and Like Kunselman and wife Emily.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial Service was held Friday April 11, 2003 at 3:00 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with Rev. Glenn Isernhagen. Inurnment was at Bethlehem Lutheran Church Columbarium. Cremation took place at Ahlberg Funeral Chapel and Crematory.

Memorials may be made to World Hunger, c/o Ahlberg Funeral Chapel, 326 Terry St., Longmont, CO 80501.

WILLIAM F. "BILL" STEWART

Born: March 10, 1926 – Died: December 19, 2003

Great Falls Tribune

December 21, 2003

William F. Stewart



Stewart



HAVRE — World War II Navy veteran William F. Stewart, 77, a former locksmith, died of cancer Friday at his Havre home. His prayer vigil is 7 p.m. Monday at St. Jude Catholic Church. Funeral Mass is 1 p.m. Tuesday at the church, with burial in Highland Cemetery. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Bill is survived by his wife Kathleen I. Stewart of Havre, Mont.; his children Mark (Madeline) Stewart of Kremlin, Mont., Jeff (Carla) Stewart of Helena, Mont., Paula (Chuck) Vaughn of Havre, Mont., Willy Stewart of Kremlin, Mont., Robert (Joni) Stewart of Cut Bank, Mont., Kelly (Phillip) Toldness of Havre, Mont., Rebecca Stewart of Seattle, Wash., Oscar Stewart (Ruby Mecklenburg) of Havre, Mont.; Joe (Debbie) Stewart of Havre, Mont.; brother Bruce (Vera) Stewart of Kalispell, Mont.; a very special brother-in-law, Pete (Annette) VanderVen of Havre, Mont.; his mother-in-law, Marie VanderVen of Havre, Mont.; a sister-in-law, Fern Vosen of Glasgow, Mont.; 25 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Bill died Friday Dec. 19, 2003, at his home surrounded by his family, after a long battle with cancer.

William "Bill" was born March 10, 1926, in Havre, Mont., to Robert and Rosa (Tucker) Stewart. Bill was raised and educated in Havre, graduating from Havre High School. He also attended Northern Montana College and Eastern Washington College.

He entered into the United States Navy on July 22, 1944, serving in WW II, and was honorably discharged on June 14, 1946, in Bremerton, Wash., as a Carpenter's Mate Third Class.

He married Kathleen I. Thompson Dec. 30, 1948, in Havre. Together the couple had nine children. They made their home in Havre where Bill worked as a carpenter until they purchased the Key & Repair Shop that he operated for many years.

Bill was a very family-orientated man. He enjoyed many things, such as hunting with his sons, playing cards with family and friends and teaching his grandchildren to play cards. He had a robust love for life and looked forward to many adventures.

Bill always had two ways to arrive at his destination and he loved to take the back roads. He liked the challenge of being a locksmith and was very qualified in his chosen profession. Bill was well-known across the state of Montana for being very skilled at opening safes. Bill was a charter member of the Montana Locksmith Association and a member of the American Locksmiths Association and the VFW.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Donald Stewart and Robert Stewart; and one sister, Marie Schachle.

Memorials in William's honor may be made to The gift of Life Housing, P.O. Box 7008, Great Falls, MT 59406-7008; or to the St. Jude Parish Center, 624 4th St. Havre, MT 59501.

LAWRENCE A. STRUCK

Birth: December 11, 1916 – Death: January 14, 2003

Liberty County Times

January 22, 2003

Lawrence Struck

Lawrence A. Struck, age 86, passed away on Tuesday January 14, 2003 in a Rugby, North Dakota hospital.

Lawrence, a son of Frank and Bertha (Reber) Struck, was born on December 11, 1916 in Rudyard, Montana. It was here he was reared and graduated from Rudyard High School in 1935. Following his education he worked in a grocery and hardware store until 1941.

On October 27, 1941 he entered the US Army in Missoula. He took RADAR training at Scott field, Illinois. In 1942 he was promoted to Staff Sergeant and a year later was promoted to Tech. Sergeant. He was stationed State-side at Ft. Douglas, Utah and Boca Raton, Florida. He was stationed in the Panama Canal and Trinidad areas during his enlistment. Lawrence was honorably discharged as a Master Sergeant in 1945.

On September 14, 1946 he married Eva McNair at Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. He then operated the Farmer's Union Oil Station and V-Store in Rudyard for 7-1/2 years. In 1964 they moved to Dunseith, North Dakota where he managed the Hosmer Department Store until he retired in 1979. Following retirement, he became Superintendent Greens Keeper of the Garden Gate Golf Course in Dunseith.

Eva passed away on June 5, 1983. Lawrence married Florence Williams on September 22, 1984 at Great Falls, Montana. He resided in Dunseith since.

He loved to golf and also loved working with wood in his woodshop. He was a member of

Peace Lutheran Church in Dunseith. He was also a member of the VFW and the American Legion of Dunseith.

Lawrence was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Eva, two brothers, and an infant sister.

Survivors include his wife Florence Struck of Bottineau; two daughters: Edith and her husband Slater Lampman of Hudson, Wisconsin, and Gwen and husband Clint Dumas of Havre, Montana; son Lee Struck of Phoenix, Arizona; four grandchildren; 6 step-daughters; 3 step-sons; 21 step-grandchildren; and 7 step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Friday January 17 at 2:00 pm in Peace Lutheran Church in Dunseith, North Dakota. Officiating at the services was the Rev. Fred Anderson. Agnes Salmonson was the organist. Bettie Struck sang "How Great Thou Art" with Joni Richard accompanying her. Casket bearers were Rick Williams, Floyd Dion, Dennis Espe, Ray Lagerquist, Clayton Mastvelton, and Paul Soland. Burial was held

in the Riverside Cemetery in Dunseith.

Arrangements by Nero Funeral home of Bottineau.

AARON DAVID SWALLOW
Birth: 1918 – Death: January 17, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
January 20, 2003

Aaron David Swallow

HAVRE — Aaron David Swallow, 84, of Havre, retired owner of the Rocky Mountain Packing Plant who enjoyed fishing, rock collecting and restoring antique trucks and Model T's, died Friday at a local hospital after a short illness.



Swallow

Cremation has taken place. Graveside services are 2 p.m. Tuesday at Highland Cemetery. Holland and Bonine Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Mamie R. Swallow of Havre; daughters Laura Fanning of Grand Coulee, Wash., Janet Roche of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Judith Gebhardt of Helena; a son, David "Hollis" Swallow of Havre; brothers James Swallow of Arizona, Mark Swallow, Steven Swallow and Amos Swallow, all of California; sisters Esther Coverdale of Kalispell and Naomi Harris and Martha Little, both of Oregon; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

A granddaughter precedes him in death.

WILBUR SWENSON

Born: September 6, 1920 – Died: October 2, 2003

Great Falls Tribune

October 8, 2003

Wilbur Swenson

HAVRE — Wilbur Swenson, 83, of Havre, a retired school administrator, principal and teacher, died of natural causes Thursday at a Havre care facility.



Swenson

His memorial service is 11 a.m. Saturday at First Lutheran Church in Havre, followed by a fellowship reception. Cremation has taken place under the direction of Holland and Bonine Funeral Home.

Survivors, all of Havre, include his wife, Margaret (Jabes) Swenson; sons Lowell (Karen) Swenson and Bruce Swenson; a sister, Mary Helen (Glenn) Heilman; a brother, Keith (Marlene) Swenson; and two grandchildren, Geoff Swenson of Washington, D.C., and Carly Swenson of Havre.

Wilbur was born Sept. 6, 1920, to John D. and Clara A. (Hammer) Swenson, in Flaxville, Mont. He grew up in Flaxville and graduated from Flaxville High School in 1938. He furthered his education at Northern Montana College and then at the University of Montana.

He then came to Havre, where he met Margaret Jabes. They were married May 18, 1945, in Joplin.

The couple spent the rest of their lives together in Havre, except for one year in Helena. He taught at the Devlin School, Havre Junior High School and Havre High School. He then served as the Hill County school superintendent and later taught at the Bryant School in Helena.

He returned to Havre, and served as principal at Havre Junior High School. After retiring from the school system, he worked for First National Bank.

During his adult life, John was very active in Kiwanis Club, Montana Education Association, Retired Teachers, AARP, Elementary and Secondary Principals, the Governor's Council on Aging and the Blue Horizons-Good Sam Club. Even while being so active in community service, he found time to square dance.

John was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Evan Swenson.

Memorials in Wilbur's honor may be made to the First Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 66, Havre, MT 59501; to the Senior Citizens Center, 2 W. 2nd St., Havre, MT 59501; or to a person's choice.

EDGAR O. TACKE
Born: April 22, 1923 - Died: June 1, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
June 3, 2003

Edgar O. Tacke

World War II veteran Edgar O. Tacke, 80, of 1317 4th Ave. S. died Sunday at his home of natural causes.



Tacke

Cemetery.



Cremation has taken place. Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Survivors include his wife Anna of Great Falls; daughters Diane (Don) Willems of Great Falls, Sandra (Randy) Bryant of Belgrade; sons Donald of St. Helena, Calif., Victor of Great Falls and David (Suzann) of Bigfork; sisters Gertrude Baune of Great Falls, Helen Jakobsen of Fort Benton; brothers Vincent Tacke of Livingston, Leonard Tacke and Victor Tacke, both of Great Falls; 23 grandchildren and three great-grand children.

He was preceded in death by brothers Richard and Norman.

Edgar was born on April 22, 1923, at the family home in the Goosebill area between Carter and Fort Benton. He attended country schools and then St. Mary's Catholic School in Great Falls.

He entered the Marines during World War II. Following his discharge from the service, he returned to Fort Benton and along with his brother operated E & N Bar in Fort Benton for a couple of years. He then married Anna Carr on Nov. 22, 1947, at Hingham. For a short time, he managed the VFW Club in Fort Benton, then moved to Great Falls and worked for Zion Construction. He was the foreman for 29 years and semi-retired in 1973. With his son David, Edgar was a partner in the Longhorn Leather & Western in downtown Great Falls. He worked construction with Casey Cummings off and on.

He was a member of Our Lady of Lourdes and of Holy Name Society of Our Lady of Lourdes, a past board member of the Athletic Committee, and also a member of the Parish Council. He was a past member of the Elk's and Eagles. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council No. 1493.

He enjoyed woodworking and keeping up with his daughter's crafts, traveling to Arizona and California during the winter months. He was always there to help his children and grandchildren with their many projects. Camping, fishing, golfing and going to the lake were a few of his favorite pastimes.

Memorials to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish or Scholarship Fund, or Peace Hospice of Montana.

JUDITH "JUDY" (JOHNSTON) TAYLOR
Birth: November 12, 1944 - Death: June 16, 2003
Liberty County Times
June 25, 2003

**Judy
Taylor**



Judith "Judy" (Johnston) Taylor, 58, died on Monday, June 16, 2003, at her home in Cascade, Mont., from the effects of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. A memorial service will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Glasgow with Pastor Gustafson officiating, on Saturday, June 21, at 10 a.m.

Cremation has taken place, under the direction of the Schnider Funeral Home in Great Falls. The burial of her ashes will be held at the Highland Cemetery in Glasgow. Following the service, a reception will be held at the home of Albert and Doris Franzen.

She was born on Nov. 12, 1944, in Glasgow to Clifford and Ida Johnston. She received her education in the Glasgow school system. On Sept. 9, 1962, she married Rody Taylor in Glasgow. They made their home in Pennsylvania for six years before returning to Glasgow for a brief time until Rody was employed by the telephone company. At that time they moved to the Great Falls area where they spent a number of years. To this union was born two sons and a daughter. Eventually they divorced at which time Judy returned to Glasgow to make her home.

She worked as a cook in the Clansman Café for a few years.

After that she held a position as cook in Havre, Chester and Vaughn. She retired to Cascade a couple of years ago.

Survivors include her children, Dean Taylor, and his wife, Kathy, and their two children of Vaughn; Daren Taylor of Cascade and daughter, Kara Lee Belnick and three children of Billings; four sisters, Doris Franzen and her husband, Albert of Glasgow, Shirley Clark of Juneau, Alaska, Fay McNabb of Kansas and Penny McNabb of Hamilton; three brothers, Bud Johnston and his wife, Rita of Belgrade, Gary Johnston and his wife, Bonnie of Spokane, Wash., and Allen Johnston of Reno, Nev; and numerous nieces and nephews.

ROBERT "BOB" PAUL TEMPEL
Birth: August 27, 1929 – Death: December 6, 2003
Liberty County Times
January 7, 2004

Robert Tempel

Robert (Bob) Paul Tempel, age 74 of Las Cruces, New Mexico, passed away peacefully on December 6, 2003 at Mountain View Regional Medical Center.

Bob was born August 27, 1929 to Mary and Edward Tempel in Havre, Montana. He grew up on the Tempel family farm in northern Montana.

Bob served proudly in the US Air Force during the Korean War, earning four service medals, including a Bronze Star. He met his beautiful wife Anna Faye Roush in Kansas City, Missouri, and they were married on April 5, 1957 in El Dorado Springs, Missouri.

Bob worked at White Sands Missile Range with Raytheon Corporation for 35 years as an electrical engineer. He enjoyed camping, fishing, bowling, and golf. He loved gardening and spending time with his family and grandchildren.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents Mary and Edward; and sister Helen Hodges, all of Montana.

Survivors include his wife

Ann Tempel of Las Cruces; son Jimmy and wife Patricia of Albuquerque, daughter Debora and husband Eric of Buckeye, Arizona; and grandchildren Bryan, Tori, and Dane. He is also survived by his brothers Edward, John, Bill, Ted, Ben and sister Mary, as well as many nieces and nephews.

In keeping with Bob's wishes, cremation has taken place and private services will be held by the family.

A memorial fund has been established at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Museum, and memorial donations can be sent in the name of Bob Tempel, to: 4100 Dripping Springs Road, Las Cruces, NM 88011.

Arrangements are with Graham Mortuary and Mesilla Valley Crematory.

ARTHUR PAUL THIELMAN

Birth: November 23, 1902 – Death: January 30, 2003

Great Falls Tribune

February 1, 2003

Arthur Paul Thielman

Arthur Paul Thielman, of 1615 9th St. S., a longtime Chester resident and farmer, died of natural causes Thursday at a local nursing home.

He was 100.



Thielman

A memorial service for friends and family is 11 a.m. Monday at Croxford and Sons Funeral Home, with private family burial of ashes.

Survivors include daughters Billie Dailey of Great Falls and Nyla Thorn of Fairfield; sisters Clara Baxter and Helen Goodan of Lewistown; a brother, Alfred Thielman of Lewistown; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Alice (Reid) Thielman, in 1988; and a daughter, Kay Sleater, in 2001.

Additional survivors include sons-in-law Jerry Dailey and Ken Thorn, as well as countless other family members.

He was born Nov. 23, 1902, in Hector, Minn. He was raised in Chester and attended Sunny Hill Country School.

He started work in the Kevin and Cat Creek oilfields near Lewistown from 1923 to 1928. In 1929, he returned to the family homestead near Chester and farmed until he retired in 1986.

He married Alice Reid in 1934 in Conrad, Mont. She died July 25, 1988.

He was a lifetime member of the Elks Lodge in Great Falls and enjoyed bowling, square dancing, cards, checkers, gardening, fishing, hunting and visiting his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He also was preceded in death by a son-in-law, Norm Sleater; his parents, Fred and Clara Thielman; brothers William, Otto and George Thielman; and sisters Esther Thielman and Alice Keller.

MINA MAY (AMES) THIELMAN

Birth: May 23, 1907 – Death: June 2, 2003

Liberty County Times

June 18, 2003



Mina Thielman

Mina May (Ames) Thielman was born May 23, 1907 at Mildred, Minnesota. She was one of nine children born to Claude and Ella Mae (Porter) Ames. When Mina was a child, her family moved to Hannah, Alberta, Canada; she began her early education there. At age 10 Mina came to Lothair, Montana where her father operated a Livery Stable. She continued her schooling at Lothair, and then transferred to Galata High School where she completed her 10th grade education.

Times were tough, so Mina took a job as housekeeper for the F.A. Buttrely family in Havre. She also did some contract sewing in exchange for painting lessons. She met her husband-to-be Harold A. Thielman, and they were married November 24, 1925 at Shelby. They moved to the Chester community in 1928 and began renting a farm near Tiber. The Thielman's eventually purchased their own land at Tiber and farmed until their retirement in 1972. They moved into Chester in 1977 and traveled to Arizona for five consecutive winters. After 61 years of marriage, husband Harold died in 1986. Mina

remained in their Chester home until 1991, when she moved to the Sweet Grass Lodge. Two years later she fractured her hip, so she transferred to the Liberty County Nursing Home for extended care. For the past 10 years the nursing home has been her residence, and she died there peacefully in

her sleep on the early morning of Monday June 2, 2003. Mina was 96 years old.

She was a longtime member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester and the affiliated Circles and Bible study groups. Of historical interest is the fact that she received her religious confirmation at the old German Lutheran church in Rudyard in 1938.

Mina's hobbies were many. She loved to read, especially her Bible, *Guideposts* magazine, cookbooks, and other publications. She was an avid fan of Helen Steiner Rice poetry, but more importantly, she enjoyed composing her own poems. In addition to her skills as a seamstress, she was talented at crocheting; she made a lot of doll clothes over the years. Mina was an excellent cook—her family has fond memories of her baked 'masterpieces' like her homemade candies, mints, and decorated Christmas cookies, to name a few. Socially, she enjoyed dancing, and during her quiet time at home she enjoyed jigsaw puzzles. Just for the fun of it, she collected Lennox porcelain birds and lead crystal dishes.

Mina loved her family and doted over her grandkids. She made her in-law's feel part of the family and treated them with the same love and respect as she did her own children. She never meddled in her kids' affairs, but was always there for them if they needed help or advice. It's no wonder she'll be remembered as a beautiful mother and friend.

Survivors include two sons and their spouses: Gale Thielman and Ann of Great Falls, and Terry Thielman and Trina of Chester; four daughters and spouses: Eloise Morehead and Charles of Tenino, Washington, Georgia Mondy of Idaho Falls, Idaho, Joanne Willman and Wayne of Chinook, and Linda Kathman and Jim of Great Falls; 20 grandchildren; numerous great- and great-great-grandchildren; one brother Jim Ames of Canby, Oregon; one sister Phyllis Wakefield of Beaverton, Oregon; and many nephews and nieces.

Mina was preceded in death not only by her parents and husband, but also by three sons: Dean,

Charles, and Dale; four brothers: Earl, Claude, Edward, and William; two sisters: Ruth and Mable; one grandson, and one great-grandson.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 pm Thursday June 5, 2003 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester by Rev. Joe Haugestuen of Shelby. Organist Karen Stack accompanied the congregation who sang "How Great Thou Art," and "Softly and Tenderly." Vocalist Ruthann Norick performed "In the Garden" and "Sweet Hour of Prayer." Scripture readings were shared by Phyllis Wakefield, and Karla Niebauer. The eulogist was Greg Thielman and a poetic reading was done by Tara Thielman. Ushers were Pat Brinkman and Kevin Willman. Pallbearers were grandsons and great-grandsons: Dean, Dennis, and Doug Mondy, Charlie and Greg Thielman, Dale Kathman, Todd Willman, Ken Lybeck, Jarrett and Jack Mondy. Memorial bearers were listed as Mina's loving grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. The services ended with a taped selection "Angels Among Us" by Alabama.

Burial followed at the Chester Cemetery. A luncheon was held at the church. Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Nursing Home, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, or donor's choice.

RAMON ANTHONY "TONY" TRESCH
Birth: 1959 – Death: December 10, 2003
Liberty County Times
December 17, 2003

Ramon 'Tony' Tresch

Ramon Anthony "Tony" Tresch, age 44, peacefully passed away in his home surrounded by his loving family and friends on December 10, 2003 in Strasburg, Colorado, after a long battle with cancer.

Tony was born and raised in Lewistown, Montana. He received a BA degree from Eastern Montana College in Secondary Education in 1983. While in his second year of teaching he met his wife Nellie Ann Williamson of Bozeman, and they were married October 18, 1986.

Tony's legacy was the many lives that he touched throughout the communities in which he taught and coached. He was a constant role model. The biggest lesson he felt he could teach his own children and students was to never quit. He never complained about what life handed him.

He is survived by his wife Nellie Ann Tresch, sons Anthony

Bo age 16, Tyler Reed age 13, Eric Allen age 11, and one daughter Haily Ruth age 6; mother Pat Franzen of Lewistown; Diane Lynn Patterson of Hobbs, New Mexico, Cathy Wittmier of Idaho, Lori Guyer of Bozeman, Verna Jean Pashak of Denver, and Roger Tresch of Rapid City, South Dakota.

His father Ramon G. "Ozzie" Tresch preceded him in death.

Memorial services were at the Strasburg High School Gymnasium on Sunday December 14, 2003 at 3:00 pm with cremation following. Dove Society provided all arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to a scholarship fund to be established in his name at Strasburg High School.

NEVA E. (NELSON) TURPIN
Born: February 20, 1929 - Died: November 6, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
November 9, 2003

Neva E. Turpin

Neva E. (Nelson) Turpin, 74, of 412 6th Ave. N., a retired Blue Cross employee and homemaker



Turpin

who was active in her church, died of natural causes Thursday at her home.

Services are 1 p.m. Saturday at Choteau Baptist Church, with a luncheon following the service.

Schnider Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

She will be lovingly missed by surviving relatives: daughters Carlene Westphal and husband Ben of Marlon, Paula Ayers and husband Laird of Kalispell, and Ruthann Norick and husband Shawn of Chester; a son, Lance Stalnaker and wife Debra of Helena; sisters Lola DeWitt and Ruth Staley of Great Falls and Rena Hardy of Renton, Wash.; brothers Earl Armstrong of Billings and Marvin "Bruce" Nelson of Great Falls; grandchildren Jessica, Eric, Mackenzie, Sannon, Shyann, Shawnee, Shanell, Shayney, Shaion, Haley, Sion, Regan, Shivell and Andrea; great-grandchildren Eli, Yance, Desiree and Mya; and numerous relatives and friends.

Neva was born Feb. 20, 1929, to Gladys (Joseph) and Hans Nelson, in Brady, Mont. She grew up in a large family, always knowing the best of what life was really about.

She attended first grade at Collins and finished her schooling at Choteau. She continued her education in Pullman, Wash. She later married and was a devoted wife and a loving mother.

She was baptized at the age of 10 at the Methodist Church in Choteau. Later she joined the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church, where she cared for the altar flowers and taught Sunday school to the handicapped.

She loved to sew and was an excellent seamstress, cook and housekeeper. She loved to refinish furniture, read, do crossword, and play Scrabble according to "family rules." She had the greatest sense of humor and always tried to look on the bright side. Every day that her children went off to school she instructed them (with a smile and hug) to "do what's right with all your might."

While finishing the raising of five children, she worked at Blue Cross until her retirement. Mostly she loved the Lord Jesus with all her heart and soul and mind, walking and talking with God every day of her life, even until the last moment. What joy, that her faith in God allowed her the privilege of going to heaven to experience all the promises He made to her and to all fellow believers.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Richard Turpin; a sister, Jean Steele; a son, Layne Stalnaker; and a great-grandchild, Jane Hendershott.

"This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalms 118:24)

RALPH I. TYLER
Birth: July 9, 1912 – Death: June 14, 2003
Liberty County Times
June 18, 2003

Ralph Tyler

Ralph I. Tyler, age 90 of rural Hartford, South Dakota, died Saturday June 14, 2003 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Ralph Tyler, the son of Albert and Ida (Schimming) Tyler, was born July 9, 1912 in Decorah, Iowa. He grew up on a farm near Decorah where he attended country school. Ralph graduated from Decorah High School. He then attended Luther College, where he received his teaching degree. His first teaching assignment took him to Joplin, Montana.

On July 23, 1941 he was united in marriage to Dorothy Mlinar in Joplin. The couple then made their home in Lyons, South Dakota where Ralph taught for 15 years. They then moved to Sioux Falls where he began working in the school system. In the 1950s the couple moved to a farm near Hartford, where in addition to teaching, Ralph farmed. He retired from teaching in 1974. During retirement, the couple traveled throughout the United States and overseas. Dorothy

preceded him in death on September 19, 1987.

Ralph was a member of First Lutheran Church, Noon Optimist, and Retired Teachers Association. He also was affiliated with Sioux Falls Symphony, Sioux Falls Municipal Band and he played music for many years for communion services at nursing homes.

Grateful for having shared his life are his children: Marilyn Ronken and husband Dick of Sioux Falls, Marcella Anderson and husband Mel of Sioux Falls, Herb Tyler and wife Jane of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Dean Tyler and wife Dianna of Humboldt, South Dakota; 11 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a brother-in-law Ed Mlinar of Rudyard, Montana; a sister-in-law Etta Mlinar of Chester, Montana; and several nieces and nephews.

His parents, two brothers, Leonard and Spencer, and a sister Edith also preceded him in death.

GAVIN LEWIS VANDE SANDT

Birth: December 3, 2003 – Death: December 3, 2003

Liberty County Times
December 10, 2003

Gavin Vande Sandt

Gavin Lewis Vande Sandt died six hours following his birth on Wednesday, December 3, 2003 at Benefis East Medical Center in Great Falls. The infant's death was attributed to a chromosomal abnormality.

Gavin was the first child born to Curtis and Sara (Gjesdal) Vande Sandt, who were married on January 2, 2002 and have made their home in Havre.

In addition to his parents, Gavin is survived by paternal grandparents Keith and Lynda Vande Sandt of Chester; maternal grandparents Jerry and Lenore Gjesdal of Joplin; paternal great-grandparents Bud and Margaret Vande Sandt of Gildford, and Bob and Fern Holmes of Chinook; maternal great-grandparents Duane and Myrna Gjesdal of Chester, and J and Wanda Gorden of South Carolina, several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Funeral services were conducted at 11:00 am Tuesday December 9, 2003 at the Chester Assembly of God Church by Pastor Vernon Brown of Havre. Pianist Mary Brown provided prelude and postlude music. There were also several taped musical selections. As a special dedication to the infant, the congregation sang "Jesus Loves Me." Pallbearers were Gavin's uncles, Bob and Ben Vande Sandt.

Graveside prayers were recited at the Chester Cemetery. A poem entitled "The Tiny Rosebud" was read by Pastor Brown, and blue and white balloons were released by family members.

A luncheon followed at the church.

Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester was in charge of arrangements.

DONNA R. (GOLDBERG) VAN WECHEL
Birth: September 23, 1936 – Death: January 14, 2003
Liberty County Times
January 29, 2003

Donna Van Wechel

Donna R. Van Wechel, 66 years of age, died Tuesday January 14, 2003 at her residence, of natural causes. Donna was born September 23, 1936 to Oscar and Hazel (Wallum) Goldberg at Havre, Montana. Her family farmed north of Inverness. She attended school in Inverness and when her family moved to Havre each winter, she attended school there. Donna graduated from Havre High School in 1954. She attended Northern Montana College in Havre for a short time.

On November 23, 1955 Donna married James Van Wechel at

Joplin, Montana. To this union four children were born. The couple lived north of Havre. They later moved north of Rudyard and the to Denver, Colorado. Donna attended college in Denver as well. The couple later divorced.

In 1977 Donna moved back to Havre. She worked at a local law office and later for Farm Credit Services until her retirement.

Donna's hobbies included watching football, doing crossword puzzles, and helping her grandchildren with their homework.

Funeral service was at 10:00 am Tuesday January 21, 2003 at First Lutheran Church with Pastor Brad Ulgness officiating. Organist was Kay Hammler, and special music was by Mavis Filler, who sang "Pray for Me," and "Let There be Peace on Earth." Pallbearers were Dalton Dahlke, Charles Adams, Brett Hickman, Mel VanWechel, Steve Rambo, and Lou Lucke. Honorary bearers were listed as all of Donna's family and friends. Burial followed at Highland Cemetery in Havre, Montana. Luncheon followed the Committal Rite at her daughter's residence.

Memorials in Donna's honor may be made to a person's choice. Services and arrangements under the direction of the Holland and Borine Funeral Home, Havre.

GERTRUDE "GERTIE" (NARESTAD) VANWECHEL
Birth: January 6, 1906 - Death: September 9, 2003
Liberty County Times
September 17, 2003



Gertrude VanWechel

Gertrude "Gertie" VanWechel, age 97, Rudyard homemaker and farmwife, died Tuesday afternoon September 9, 2003 at the Missouri River Manor Nursing Home in Great Falls, Montana.

Gertrude Margaret Narestad was born in Iola, Wisconsin on January 6, 1906. She was one of five children born to Thomas and Bessie (Larson) Narestad. Her father came to Montana to homestead in 1912; the rest of the family followed in the spring of 1913. They lived on a homestead 15 miles northwest of Rudyard. Her father died in 1913. Her mother eventually married Lawrence Tippie and a sixth member of the family (sister Francis) was born to this union. Gertie received her early education at the Oreamna County School north of Rudyard and finished her schooling at Rudyard High School. In the few years that followed she worked at Augusta and Havre.

Gertrude married Jacob A. "Jake" VanWechel on June 30, 1927 at Havre, Montana. They lived and worked on a farm 12 miles north of Rudyard. They raised a family of four and Gertie enjoyed her role as homemaker and farmwife. The VanWechels retired from farming in 1967 but

continued to live on the farm until 1973 when they moved into Rudyard. During their retirement years they also enjoyed trips to their 'cabin' at Columbia Falls. Jake died at the age of 100 on May 17, 1990. Gertie remained in their Rudyard home and continued to be active in the community until her health failed in 2001. At that time she moved to the Northern Montana Care Center in Havre. Three months ago she transferred to the Great Falls rest home to be closer to family.

Gertie was a longtime member of the E.U.B. Church and Ladies Aid in Rudyard (currently known as the Calvary Evangelical Church). She had also been active in the Home Demonstration Club, the Rudyard Bridge Club, and the Hingham Rebecca Lodge. She enjoyed bowling in the Housewives league and the Mixed Doubles league at K-Lanes. She was an excellent cook and homemaker. Gertie loved to play cards, especially Pinochle, Bridge, and Whist with family and friends. During her quiet time at home she enjoyed gardening, television, reading, and Solitaire. Considering her generation and age, her family described her a 'a very modern grandmother.' Although her physical body eventually wore out, she retained her friendly personality and alertness to the end.

Gertie is survived by two sons and spouses: Melvin and Donna Mae VanWechel of Havre, and James and Mary VanWechel of Chatteroy, Washington; one daughter Kathryn "Kay" Norenberg of Great Falls; 11 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; six great-great-grandchildren; one sister Evelyn "Netes" Langel of Rudyard; one son-in-law Richard Anderson of Chester; and many nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a daughter Phyllis Anderson in

1989, three brothers: Evan, Harvey, and Carl; one sister Francis Evanson, two grandsons Jeff and Jessie VanWechel, and a son-in-law Edward Norenberg.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 pm Saturday September 13, 2003 at Calvary Evangelical church in Rudyard by former Pastor Nolan Spenset. The eulogy and Scripture readings were shared by Dick Tardiff. Pianist Caroline Hall accompanied the congregation who sang "In the Garden," and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." Vocalist Sara Wolery performed "Amazing Grace," and "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." Joyce Afdahl served as greeter. Ushers were Joe and Roger Lincoln. Pallbearers included Kim Merryman, Rusty Cowan, Clint Doney, David Rugtvedt, Dave Watson, and Dick Tardiff. Following burial at the Rudyard Cemetery, a reception was held at the church.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel, Chester.

L. NEIL WATERS
Birth: March 5, 1925 – Death: November 21, 2003
Liberty County Times
December 17, 2003



Waters

L. Neil Waters

L. Neil Waters, age 78, a World War II veteran and farmer, died Friday November 21, 2003 at the Philips County Hospital of natural causes.

Neil was born March 5 1925 in Malta, the son of Clyde and Ethel (Cole) Waters. He graduated from Malta High School, and entered the Army in 1943. He served in Germany and received a Purple Heart. After his discharge in 1946 Neil returned to Malta to help on the family farm. He later moved to Chester where he met Harriett Nealy and they were married in 1953 in Chester. She died in 1960. He worked in sales for farm equipment. After moving to Malta in 1965 he met and later married Helen Vennes on August 12, 1967 in Malta. Neil was the owner and operator of a radiator

repair shop and later went into farming full time. He enjoyed woodworking, fishing and discussing politics.

Survivors include his daughter LaRae (Troy) Blunt of Malta; step-sons Carl (Paula) Vennes of Spokane, Washington, Martin Vennes of Laurel, Gene (Peggy) Vennes of Plevna, Jim (Patti) Vennes of Great Falls; brothers Don (JoAnn) Waters of Malta, Harlie (Betty) Walters of Phoenix, Arizona; sister Mona (Jerry) Worley of Minot, North Dakota; 18 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wives, Harriett in 1960, and Helen in 2000; and daughters Cynthia Haynes and Mary Ann Spencer.

Funeral services were Wednesday November 26 at the Adams Memorial Chapel. Interment was in the Malta Cemetery with military honors.

Adams Funeral Home of Malta was in charge of arrangements.

CALVIN WEARLEY
Birth: April 27, 1939 – Death: January 12, 2003
Liberty County Times
January 22, 2003

Calvin Wearley

Calvin Wearley, age 63, a retired coach and math teacher, died of a heart attack Sunday January 12, 2003 at his home in Augusta, Montana.

Calvin was born April 27, 1939 in Choteau, Montana and was raised in Augusta. He married Wanda Klawitter in Blanchard, Idaho in 1961.

Calvin taught math and coached at Clark Fork High School in Clark Fork, Idaho from 1961 to 1964, and at Post Falls High School in Post Falls, Idaho from 1964 to 1974.

After working on the home ranch in Augusta from 1974 to 1978, he taught math and coached at Augusta High School from 1978 to 1984, and at K-G High School in Gildford from 1984 to 1994. He then became Superintendent of K-G schools, a position he held until retiring in 1999.

Calvin was preceded in death by his father Milford Wearley in 1975.

He is survived by his wife Wanda Wearley of Augusta; sons Justin Wearley of Augusta, and Jon Wearley of Kissimmee, Florida; his mother and stepfather Margaret and C.A. Froye of Augusta; sisters Lorna Scott of Augusta, and Beryl Lohr of Osburn, Idaho; brothers Reg Wearley of Big Arm, and Gerald Wearley of Augusta; and two grandchildren.

Additional survivors include daughter-in-law Kimberly Wearley of Augusta; brother-in-law Pete Scott of Augusta; and sisters-in-law Kay Wearley of Big Arm, and Connie Wearley of Augusta.

Services were at 10:00 am Friday January 10, 2003 at Augusta High School, with burial in Augusta Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Augusta Fire Department or Ambulance Service.

Gorder Funeral Home of Choteau in charge of arrangements.

JURGEN B. WIGEN
Birth: February 24, 1912 – Death: October 12, 2003
Liberty County Times
October 22, 2003



Jurgen Wigen

Jurgen B. Wigen, age 91, a longtime Devon area farmer, passed away Sunday, October 12, 2003 at Liberty County Hospital and Nursing Home in Chester due to natural causes. Private family services will be held.

He was born Feb. 24, 1912 at the family farm near Devon to Olaf and Kari (Kvello) Wigen. He attended school in Devon and graduated from high school in Galata. He served in the Army from 1942-46 as a Master Sergeant in the 20th Armored

Division in Europe during WWII. He worked on the family farm his whole life, until retiring in 1988.

Jurgen married his wife Velma in 1965 in Salmon, Idaho.

He was a member of the Shelby Elks, and enjoyed fishing, hunting and traveling around the country. He was known as an excellent machinist who could build just about anything.

Survivors include his wife Velma of Chester; four sons: Elbert of Havre, Dennis of Moreno Valley, California, Loren of Devon, and Warren of Chester; two sisters: Olive Sparks of Shelby, and Sylvia Carty of Montesano, Washington; a brother, Byron Wigen of Devon; as well as eight grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Jurgen was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers Arthur and Alton, and a sister Cora.

Whitted Funeral Chapel of Shelby is in charge of arrangements.

DELMAR DANIEL WOLFE

Birth: May 23, 1923 - Death: October 6, 2003

Liberty County Times

October 15, 2003



Delmar Wolfe

Delmar Daniel Wolfe was born May 23, 1923 at Columbia Falls, Montana. He was the eldest of six children born to Daniel and Josephine (Steen) Wolfe. Delmar received his early schooling in the Flathead Valley, and then came to Chester with his family in 1933. He grew up on the Steen farm south of town and attended the Erickson Country School nearby. He finished his formal education in Chester, graduating from Chester High School in 1941.

In those early years Delmar worked on the Arvid Boreen farm, then began farming on his own. In addition, he bought a small 'drive-in' restaurant at Tacoma, Washington, which he operated during the non-farming season for several years. Delmar was also a certified private pilot and did some aerial crop spraying in the 1950s. He also worked as a pasture bartender at the Chester Vet's Club for several years.

Delmar married Gerry (Grubb) Groseclose on July 12, 1962 at Sparta, North Carolina. They made their home on his farm south of Chester during most of their married life. In addition to

farming, Delmar worked in farm implement sales, first for Thielman Implement of Chester and then for Morris Rodweeder of Canada.

Because of declining health Delmar retired from farming in 1986. He and Gerry continued to live on the farm until 1994, when they moved to Chester. Delmar had numerous health problems and hospitalizations these past few years. He died Monday afternoon October 6, 2003 at the Liberty County Hospital in Chester. He was 80 years old.

Delmar's memberships were many. He was a lifetime member (56 years) of the elks club (Havre and Shelby Lodges), a charter member of the Chester Lions Club, a longtime member of the Joplin Masonic Lodge, and a confirmed member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester. In addition, he served on the early board of the Liberty County Hospital, and was a committeeman for the local Democratic Party. On a personal note, he was a loyal blood donor over the years.

Delmar enjoyed many hobbies throughout his life, including flying, hunting, fishing, swimming, boating, camping, dancing, bowling, and gardening. He was an avid fan of local sports, but also enjoyed professional sports, too; because he had no favorite time, he always cheered for the 'underdogs' or any team that was playing the New York Yankees!

Delmar was a reportedly good cook, especially his breakfasts and homemade stews. He also enjoyed playing cards, mainly Pinochle. Apparently a good handyman, he liked to 'putter' in his shop and he always took pride and care in his machinery, equipment and automobiles. During his quiet time at home,

Delmar liked to 'doodle' or read; he was very well read on many subjects. And just for the fun of it, he collected belt buckles, miniature vintage toy cars, and commemorative whiskey bottles.

Up until the past few years Delmar had been a very social man, who loved to be with people. He had a good sense of humor and he liked to tell stories. You always knew Delmar was in the room because of his hearty, distinctive laugh!

His children will remember him as being patient and understanding.

Delmar and Gerry were married for 41 years and were good friends and companions. They made several memorable trips, including their Caribbean and Hawaii adventures.

Survivors are his wife Gerry of Chester; three children: Ron Groseclose and wife Bev of Hingham, Sharon Gomke and husband Robert of Kremlin, and Linda Dill and husband Don of San Diego, California; four grandsons: Jeff, Robbie, Jerrad, and Daniel; three brothers and spouses: Kenneth and Betty Jeanne Wolfe, Dean and Fay Wolfe, and Roger and Fay Wolfe, all of Chester; one brother-in-law Albert Hanson of Chester; and numerous nephews and nieces. Delmar was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters Anna Mae Hanson and Maxine/Leo Wigen; and one grandson Jason Groseclose.

Delmar's ashes were buried in the family plot at the Erickson Cemetery, a little country cemetery located just south of Delmar's old farm home. Although the cemetery dates back about 100 years, and was always considered a community cemetery, this plot of land was actually owned by Delmar as part of his homestead. In 1998 he officially deeded the cemetery grounds over to the Liberty

Memorial services were 2:00 pm Thursday October 9, 2003 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Pastor Pete Erickson officiated. Selected readings were shared by Jeff Groseclose and Don Dill. Organist was Karen Stack and the congregation sang "Borning Cry." Vocalist Wayne Wardell performed "In the Garden" and "On Eagle's Wings." Ushers

were Earl Keith and Tom Osterman. A reception followed at the church fellowship hall.

Arrangements by Rockman Funeral Chapel. Memorials will be given to the Liberty County Hospital, the "Gift of Life," Our Savior's Lutheran Church, or donor's choice.

ELIZABETH KAY (JOCHIM) WOOD
Birth: May 24, 1916 – Death: October 19, 2003
Liberty County Times
October 29, 2003

Elizabeth Wood

Elizabeth Kay Wood, age 87, a former resident of The Dalles, Oregon died at a Pendleton, Oregon care facility on Sunday, October 19, 2003.

She was born May 24, 1916 in Inverness, Montana, the fourth of seven children born to Martin and Marianna (Mangold) Jochim.

She married Floyd E. Wood in Great Falls; they lived in The

Dalles from 1978 to 1997, and then moved to Nyssa, Oregon. She was a member of the Catholic Church and enjoyed her family, cooking, the outdoors, gardening and her TV soap operas.

Elizabeth is survived by three children: George D. Wood of Reno, Nevada; Eileen Martha Burr of Pendleton, Oregon; and Capt. Nadine Barbara Malone of the U.S. Army, stationed in Korea; three grandchildren: Pamela Jenson, Lester C. Huff, and Diana C. Huff; one great-granddaughter Olivia; one brother Tony Jochim, of Inverness; and one sister, Barbara Fisher of Havre, Montana.

She was preceded in death by her husband Floyd in October of 1996.

Funeral services were held at Spencer, Libby and Powell Funeral Home in The Dalles on

Thursday, October 23, 2003 at 1:00 pm with Asa Jenson officiating. Interment followed at Dufur Community Cemetery in Dufur, Oregon.

RAYMOND E. ZELENKA
Born: July 4, 1924 – Died: July 30, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
August 2, 2003

Raymond E. Zelenka

SHELBY — Raymond E. Zelenka, 79, a lifelong Galata area farmer, died of cancer Wednesday at a Shelby care center.



Zelenka

Visitation is 1 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Whitted Funeral Chapel in Shelby. His funeral is 10 a.m. Monday at Galata Lutheran Church, with burial in Galata Cemetery.

Survivors include his wife, Marjorie Zelenka of Shelby; a daughter, Trudy (Mike) Burke of Helena; a son, Scott Zelenka of Portland, Ore.; a granddaughter, Caroline Burke of Helena; and many nieces and nephews.

Ray was born July 4, 1924, on the family farm at Galata, to Frank and Anna (Heisel) Zelenka. He graduated from Shelby High School in 1942.

Ray married Marjorie Biddle on Sept. 9, 1967, in Galata. He farmed his entire life and had lived in Shelby for the past 16 years.

Ray was a member of the Galata Lutheran Church, where he had served on the church council. He was a director with the Farmers Union, a board member on the Soil Conservation Service and a member of the Gopher Brokers Investment Club. He was a past member of both the Shelby and Galata school boards and also was a 4-H leader.

He enjoyed his family and friends, reading, geography and traveling. Among his travels was a trip to Czechoslovakia on a steam ship at the age of 5. In later days, he traveled to Australia, New Zealand, Alaska, Hawaii, Mexico and the Bahamas. He was very proud that he had hiked to the bottom of the Grand Canyon with his children.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Frank, Ed and Don Zelenka; and two sisters, Clara Caffyn and Rose Hopwood.

Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society; Red Cross; or a favorite charity.

RUTH (SETERGREN) ZORN
Born: October 12, 1906 - Died: March 13, 2003
Great Falls Tribune
March 16, 2003

Ruth S. Zorn



Zorn

Longtime Great Falls resident and Livingston native Ruth (Setergren) Zorn, 96, of Arlington, Wash., a former teacher, died Thursday in an Arlington nursing home of natural causes.

Visitation is 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday at Croxford and Sons Funeral Home. Graveside services are 1 p.m. Wednesday in Highland Cemetery, followed by a memorial service at 2 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church. There will be a reception in the church after the service.

She is survived by a daughter Caryl Minard, one granddaughter, a nephew Teddy Zorn and a niece Cletus Jacobson, two grandnephews and three great-grandnephews, two great-grandnieces and numerous cousins.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Louie Zorn; her parents; and her sister, Grace.

She was born on October 12, 1906, in Livingston, Montana. For the last six years Ruth lived in Washington State with a granddaughter and her husband. For more than fifty years prior, she resided here in Great Falls. She attended Faith Lutheran Church and was a member of the Ruth Circle there. She was also a member of the Pythians and the Myrtle Rebekah Lodge.

At age sixty-four she graduated from Montana State University with a degree in Elementary Education and went on to teach well into her seventies.

Ruth and her late husband were avid gardeners. She enjoyed putting up the harvest from their vegetable garden as well as baking scrumptious desserts.

Memorial Contributions can be made to Faith Lutheran Church.