

Eva Hultin Amundson

Born: April 23, 1911 – Died: July 3, 2017

Eva Amundson was born on April 23, 1911, in Langdon North Dakota, to Elmer and Alma Hultin, and passed away peacefully at the age of 106 on July 3, 2017, in her apartment at The Springs in Missoula. Eva grew up on a farm near Joplin, Montana. She met the love of her life, Leif Amundson, and they married on March 1, 1929.

They owned a wheat farm outside of Joplin, and raised four daughters, Connie, Eleanor, Ardis and Priscilla. She is survived by daughter, Priscilla Pimley, from Chester, Montana; sister Ruth Downing, from Mill Valley, CA; 10 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren and 21 great-great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Leif; daughters Connie, Eleanor and Ardis; 3 brothers and 2 sisters; 3 grandchildren; 2 great grandchildren; and 1 great-great grandchild. In 1948 the family moved to Missoula to give their developmentally disabled daughter Ardis more opportunity in her learning environment. **Eva** was proud to be instrumental in starting and organizing the non-profit organization, Opportunity Resources Inc. (ORI).



ORI has been committed to assisting individuals with disabilities become productive members of the community for over 60 years. Eva was a longtime supporter of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and several civic organizations in Missoula. She was recognized many times for her volunteer work, and has received many awards. In 1998 the City of Missoula proclaimed April 22 as "The Eva Amundson Volunteer Day".

Eva was fond of her Norwegian heritage and taught herself the art of Rosemaling, which is a Norwegian form of decorative flower painting. Her family has loved and enjoyed the painted treasures she has given them over the years. Eva was truly loved by everyone that knew her. She was always "the rock" for her family and friends.

Her amazing wisdom and kind, wonderful spirit will be missed every day. A Celebration of Life will be held on Tuesday, July 11th, at The Springs at Missoula, 3710 American Way, Missoula, at 10:30 am. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Opportunity Resources, Inc., 2821 S. Russell Street, Missoula, MT 59801; phone (406) 721-2930. You can also visit their website, and have the option to designate your gift in Eva's name..

Michael Balsley

Born: Unknown, 1982? – Died: June 13, 2017

On June 13, 2017, Mike took his final walk to be with the Lord, and with his Father Mike. He was 35 years old.

Mike was born in Glasgow, Montana. He was the second child of 5 and the first-born son, to Michael and Shelly Balsley.

Mike came into this world with the immediate disadvantage of being overrun by women. He spent most of his early years fighting his sisters for a spot in the bathroom. This may have been the cause of his love for the outdoors. He would spend every waking minute out riding his bike, playing kick the can, and let's not forget his dominance in Ollie Ollie Oxen Free. The time spent scavenging old ghost towns and digging through old dump sites are clear memories his family still talk about today.

Whenever you needed to find Mike, you could be sure he was in the barn, playing with goats, tinkering with anything he could get his hands on, including his mother's toaster. Installing car stereos, a life lesson used later in life, un-installing car stereos. And let's not forget his obsession with fire, when he almost burnt down the church, or the barn.

His free spirit came from our father's creative spirit when he would pull us on the hood of a car behind the green suburban in the field, or going on a wild goose chase with a game of "Who can pick the most potato bugs" in the garden. This led to Mike's drive for never wanting to lose no matter how bad he had to cheat. Speaking of, Mike was lousy at games, like Nurtz, Aggravation, or really anything that was competitive. You always had to keep one eye on his mischievous, quick hands.

Family time was always a favorite. Anyone who knew Mike, knew his love for his Momma. The relationship they shared was one we should all strive to have. The bond they had was unbreakable and beautiful. His life would be spent measuring all people to the pedestal he placed his mom on. His other main lady in his life, was his baby sister Jamie. The term, "Big Brother Protector", is an understatement. For both Mikey and Jaime, they always would consider each other number 1 in their lives, and nobody could take each other's place.



While the "Balsley nose", may be one of the only things that Mike shared with his sister Shannon, their relationship was one of love between a brother and a sister. Big sister Cheyloh, held a position of guidance and knowledge. Looking up to a sister is something he did often to Cheyloh. She was always able to give the answer to his questions, whether it was his homework as a child, or when it bloomed to his never-ending questions on his faith, and of God.

Michael was blessed with a gift from God, in his daughter Brooke. She was the driving force in his life. Even when he was not able to be there, he loved her more than himself. There wasn't a day or week that went by that he was not blowing up the phone just to find out about how she was doing, or learn about anything new that happened. He wanted her to have the best life and be happy.

Mike's calling in life was to love these women that God surrounded him with, and he did that until his dying breath.

Mike is survived by his daughter Brooke Eveland (Balsley). His mother Shelly Balsley-Baker and Step Father Bucky Baker. Sisters, Cheyloh (Corey) Eveland and their children Kieran, Ryian, Macie, Dane and Hayden. Shannon (Jon) Reich and their boys Landon and Grayson. Jamie Balsley and her sons Merik and Parker. He had many uncles, aunts, and cousins whom he loved very much. Preceded in death, is his father Mike Balsley, his uncle Mike Allen, his Grandmother D. Darlene Keil, and his best friend Chris Drake who he will get to be with forever now. Mike had many many friends, made over the years that he loved and cherished, you all know who you are. Shannon (Jon) Reich and their boys Landon and Grayson. Jamie Balsley and her sons Merik and Parker. He had many uncles, aunts, and cousins whom he loved very much. Preceded in death, is his father Mike Balsley, his uncle Mike Allen, his Grandmother D. Darlene Keil, and his best friend Chris Drake who he will get to be with forever now. Mike had many many friends, made over the years that he loved and cherished, you all know who you are.

Published in Great Falls Tribune on June 22, 2017

Danny Lee Belcher

Born: October 22, 1958 – Died: May 22, 2017

Danny Lee Belcher, 58, of Phoenix, Ariz., passed away in Great Falls on Monday, May 22, 2017.

A Memorial Service will be Friday, June 16 at 11 a.m. at the United Methodist Church, 413 2nd St. S., Shelby. A luncheon will follow at the church. Danny's ashes will be spread on the family ranch in the Sweetgrass Hills of Northwest Montana.

Danny was born in Conrad on Oct. 22, 1958. He started school in California before his family moved to Spokane, Wash., in 1969. Danny graduated from Central Valley High School, Spokane, in 1977.

Danny was a hard worker and very capable. He worked in Lubbock, Texas and Phoenix as a glazier. He moved to Seattle, Wash., to work for Boeing. Danny worked in Seattle and California on the Stealth Bomber for Boeing. He returned to Spokane and opened his own auto body and detail shop. Later he accepted a job working in Seattle for Metro Bus and settled in Enumclaw, Wash.



Several years ago Danny retired due to a disability and moved to Phoenix. Danny was talented and fun loving with quick humor. He was kind with a generous nature, willing to help anyone in need and always lending a helping hand. He made friends wherever he went. His artistic ability emerged at an early age. He began oil painting, giving away many paintings to family to enjoy. He used his natural talents throughout his life, working with tools to do house construction and remodeling, or gardening and landscaping. Danny enjoyed hunting and fishing and was an automobile enthusiast! Danny loved animals and enjoyed the companionship of his bull dog, Mini, the last few years.

Danny treasured the time he spent with his family at the Bingham Ranch in the Sweet Grass Hills of Northern Montana.

In 1987, Danny's son Ryan was born and was the joy of his life. Danny loved taking Ryan to the ranch. When Danny retired to Phoenix, he was pleased to be near his son and appreciated Ryan's help and companionship. Danny's last wish was to see his grandmother and visit his brother and spend time at the ranch. The Bingham Ranch is now operated and owned by fifth generation grandson Rick and Lois Belcher.

Danny is survived by his son Ryan (Lauren) Belcher of Phoenix; parents Gerald Marvin and Carol Belcher of Spokane; grandmother Beva Bingham of Shelby; sister Carrie (Eric) Goodwin of New Braunfels, Texas; and brother Rick (Lois) Belcher, of Whitlash; as well as numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Jerry Belcher; grandfather Nelson Bingham; grandparents Helen (Belcher) and Ray Migneault; uncle Robert Belcher; and aunt Marie (Belcher) Fanning.

Andrew Campros

Born: June 4, 1928 – Died: November 7, 2017

Andrew James Campros, 89, passed away Tuesday, November 7, 2017.

Rosary services will be held Friday, November 10, at 7:00 PM. Funeral mass will be Saturday, November 11, at 10:00 AM. Both Services will be held at St. Mary Catholic Church.

Andy was born June 4, 1928 in St. Louis, MO to Thomas and Ann Campros.

Andrew married Elaine Horalek on September 22, 1950 in Medicine Lake, MT. He moved to Chester in 1954 to sell insurance and lived in Chester until his death. Andrew was a devout Catholic and had a great love of the Rosary. He will be remembered as a humble and generous man.

Survivors include his wife, Elaine; children, Warren (Lori) Campros of Troy, Diane (John) Abrahamson of Shelby, George Campros of Great Falls, Janine Fox of Clinton, MO, Lana (Charles) Juden of Great Falls, Marla (Mark) Duffin of Missoula, and Joseph Campros of Chester; 37 grandchildren and 50 great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by sons, Steven and Kenneth; daughter, Yvonne, and 2 grandchildren.

Shirley Ann Colbry

Born: April 18, 1950 – Died: November 6, 2017

Shirley Ann (Toren) Colbry, 67, of Chester, passed away Monday, November 6, 2017. She was born April 18, 1950 in Conrad, Montana. She was one of 5 children born to John Toren and Margaret Alice Gemar Toren. Shirley grew up on the family farm and helped around the house outside of Valier, Montana and was involved in choir while she received her formal education at Valier High School.

Shirley met Earl Colbry at a dance in Valier, MT and were married on June 7, 1969. They made their home on the Colbry farm north of Chester where they raised five children. Shirley loved her life as a farm wife and mother. She was an active member of Immanuel Lutheran Church, baking and helping at Bible School, she served as a 4-H Leader, and was active in the north country Bible Study. When winter arrived, mom would be the first one into the snow to make a snow angel and start a snowball fight. Every December mom busted out all the stuff to make Christmas candy. All the kids would help to make these sugary creations to distribute to neighbors. Playing dice or cards games kept the family busy.

Every summer, the Colbry family would enjoy huckleberry picking (varying from picking at Kentla Lake, Devil's Creek Campground, and Lost Johnny & Lid Creek at Hungry Horse) where she stayed at the campsite waiting the arrival of the pickers to clean them to make Fresh Huckleberry Pie's. She enjoyed spending summers and holiday's at Flat-head Lake whether it was spent with at her parents house in Lakeside or at her in-laws house at Table Bay Resort. She enjoyed visiting with her friends in the community, attending her children's games to cheer them and the J-I Rams on. She also enjoyed helping out at the Joplin Mart when Kathy Pimley needed her shelves cleaned. When grandkids arrived she loved spending time with them and usually had a camera in her hand taking pictures.

She was diagnosed with melanoma cancer on September 30, 2017 where she was admitted into the Liberty County Medical Center where she received the best care from the staff there until her passing.

Shirley passed away peacefully on Monday morning (November 6, 2017) at the age of 67.

Shirley is survived by Earl Colbry; her children and grandchildren: Brent (Tari) Colbry, Bryce & Ryan of San Diego, CA; Brenda (Ray) Hetherington, Alex, Tyler, Jade & Katie of Warrenton, VA; Bethany (Jim) Bender & Colby of Billings, MT; Ben (Angel) Colbry, Tiffany & Shiloh of Chester, MT; Bonita (Adam) Munson, McKell, Mistaya, Maverick of Chester, MT; brothers: Art (Dana) Toren of Kalispell, MT; Ed (Lana) Toren of Columbia Falls, MT; sisters: Sharon Toren of Lakeside, MT; Margaret (Rick) Berland of Kalispell, MT; and numerous nieces & nephews.



She was preceded in death by her parents: John Toren & Alice Gemar Toren; nephews Connor Hayes & Steven Toren, a niece Mandi Hayen, and numerous Aunts & Uncles.

Funeral services will be Friday, November 10, at 10:00 AM at Chester Assembly of God Church.

Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the church.

Kathy June Dearing

Born: November 20, 1940 – Died: January 21, 2017

Kathy June Dearing of Graham, Texas was born November 20th, 1940 and passed January 21st, 2017 at the age of 76.

She was a resident of the Sweet Grass Lodge in Chester, Montana and a 28 year resident of Whitefish, Montana. She had moved to Chester in August of 2017 to be with her son Robert Whitley and his family.

Kathy was born in Graham, Texas to Mary and Dean Halford. She was married to David Dearing, the love of her life and soulmate of 30 plus years, who passed 8 years ago.

She leaves behind her son Robert Whitley and wife Angie of Chester, Montana; her daughter Wanda Fissell and husband Bryan of Sherman, Texas; her daughter Mary Gramer and husband Jay of Aledo, Texas; her son Scooter Dearing and wife Nicole of Kalispell, Montana; 10 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and many other loved ones and friends who have become family.

Memorial services will be held at 10 am on Friday, January 27th, 2017 at the Chester Alliance Church.



A memorial service will be held May 5 at 11:00 am at the Chester United Methodist Church. Arrangements are being handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

Memorials may be made to the Chester United Methodist Church, Hi-Line Health Foundation, National Wildlife Federation, or the charity of your choice .

Donald Theodore Dees

Born: March 27, 1927 – Died: January 23, 2017

Donald Theodore Dees, 89, of Kremlin, passed away Monday, Jan. 23, 2017, at Northern Montana Care Center of natural causes.

At his request cremation has taken place and his memorial service will be held at a later date this summer when family can gather together. Memorials in Donald's honor may be made to the Kremlin Volunteer Fire Department, the Kremlin Lutheran Church, or the charity of the donor's choice.

Holland & Bonine Funeral Home has been entrusted with services and arrangements. Please visit Don's online memorial page and leave a message of condolence for his family at <http://www.hollandbonine.com>.

Donald was born on March 27, 1927 in Havre, to Andrew and Dorthea (Lee) Dees. He grew up on the family farm south of Kremlin and attended Kremlin High School, graduating in 1945. Following graduation, Don enlisted in the Navy, serving during the end of WWII as a yeoman. Don was very proud of his service. Upon returning home he met

Rita Burfield, a Gildford girl, at a basketball game. Don and Rita were married Oct. 23, 1949. They raised their three daughters in Kremlin where they lived in the house that he built for his family.

Don was a wheat farmer, which he loved, but he was a wonderful woodworker as well and truly enjoyed being in his shop creating beautiful gifts for his family. He was a phenomenal carpenter, from building the family home to doll cradles for the grandchildren. He was meticulous in his details and enjoyed the quiet time working on these projects afforded him. Donald served his community as treasurer of the Kremlin Lutheran Church and was also involved in the Kremlin school board, Elks Club and Eagles Club. One could also be sure to find him at the lutefisk dinners that the Kremlin Commercial Club hosted.

Don was preceded in death by his wife of 66 years, Rita; parents, Andrew and Dorthea; and siblings, Alvin (Evelyn), Morris (Maxine), Ella (Howard) Hammond, Arnold (Joyce), Richard (Lois), Dorothy (George) Sanda and Norman (Mary).

He is survived by his daughters, Debbie (Conn) Hellebust and Lynn (Alvin) Gatzemeier, both of Havre, and Holly Liles of Brookings, South Dakota; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.



Diane Donovan

Born: September 22, 1952 – Died: March 18, 2017

Diane Donovan of Kremlin, 64, passed away of natural causes, surrounded by her loving family, Saturday, March 18, 2017, at Billings Clinic.

Diane was born to Leslie and Mavis Madsen in Plentywood Sept. 22, 1952. She moved around Montana with her family before finally settling in Hobson, where she graduated high school in 1970.

She met Barry Donovan at Eddie's Corner near Hobson, where she worked as a bartender. The couple was married Nov. 22, 1984, and moved to Kremlin, where she resided until her death.

Diane enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, and shopping for and collecting antiques. She was a homemaker and worked as a paraprofessional at Havre Public Schools for many years. Diane's children and grandchildren held a special place in her heart. She was also a "second mother" to many of her children's friends.

Preceding Diane in death is her mother, Mavis, in 1997 and her father, Leslie, in January 2017.

Diane is survived by her husband of 32 years, Barry Donovan of Kremlin; daughters, September (George) Searles of Hamilton and Heidi and Tara Donovan of Billings; son, Kyle (Kristin) Donovan of Havre; grandchildren, Xian, Xander and Xachery Searles and Grayce Mavis Donovan; siblings, Donna (Doug) Vladic of Billings, Dick (Becky) Madsen of Hawaii and Bill Madsen of Alaska; and many nieces, nephews and numerous other relatives.

A memorial will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 25, at First Lutheran Church, 303 Sixth Ave. in Havre. A luncheon will follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to American Lung Association, St. Jude Children's Hospital or your charity of preference.

Michelotti-Sawyers Mortuary of Billings and Holland & Bonine of Havre are assisting with arrangements.



Marvin Ray Gulick

Born: May 15, 1952 – Died: December 30, 2017

Marvin Ray Gulick, 65, of Fairfield, Montana, passed away peacefully on December 30, 2017, in Great Falls, Montana, after a short battle with cancer. By God's grace, Marv recently accepted his gift of salvation and professed his faith in Jesus Christ the Lord.

Marv was born May 15, 1952 in Havre, Montana. He was the oldest of six children born to Rex and Erma (Moesch) Gulick. Marv grew up on the farm north of Joplin and attended Tingdahl School, which was the local country school. He graduated from Joplin High School in 1970. After graduating, he worked various jobs from oil rigs, road construction, and at the Anaconda Refinery. His search for work took him to California, where he ended up at a Marine recruiting office where he decided to join up. In 1971, he entered basic training at Camp Pendleton near San Diego. During his time in the Marines, he served as a court martial recorder in Cherry Point, North Carolina. Marv was honorably discharged with the rank of Corporal. After his military service, he attended Northern Montana College in Havre.



In 1974, he married his "Pretty Woman," Donna Lalum. This was Marv's special song about Donna. They

In 1974, he married his "Pretty Woman," Donna Lalum. This was Marv's special song about Donna. They moved to Fairfield in 1978 and began their own farm life on the Sunny Slope Bench. During those years, he supplemented their income by doing custom trucking, farming, and haying. Many of his customers became his dear and lifelong friends. He later started a local fertilizer business with his sons. Marv and Donna have been blessed with 5 children, 13 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandson.

Marv's interests were varied. He enjoyed slalom skiing and motorcycles were his passion. He organized a motorcycle benefit rally to help with the expenses during his grandson's cancer treatments. He loved "muscle cars" from his era, rock and roll music, and to enjoy a cold beer while reminiscing with his old and new friends. His total recall would marvel many. He enjoyed telling stories about his 1969 Road Runner to his friends and family. Marv loved people, and strangers weren't strangers very long with Marv. It came natural to him to inspire others. His interest in them was always genuine. He made a point to remember their names. He appreciated giving the opportunity to many young men to learn the value of hard work and life skills. Because of this, his employees often became like family to him.

He was the ultimate optimist and "the luckiest, unlucky guy" according to his son-in-law, Tim. He lived the Marine code, "Semper Fi" faithfully, and the Marine Corp motivation of "Yours is not to question why-- Yours is but to do or die." And always applied his own personal philosophy: JUST DO IT!! No matter the difficulty, he made it happen, with NO FEAR. He never gave up. He was proud to have been a Marine, and

through the years became even more patriotic. He also grew in devotion to his grandchildren.

After a head trauma 10 years ago, he applied his code for life – Adapt, Improvise, Overcome!

Marv is survived by his wife, Donna; 5 children, Brandi (Tim) Jergenson, Jeremiah (Jenny) Gulick, Michael (Brittany) Gulick, Joseph Gulick, and Carrie (Chad) Skelton; 13 grandchildren, Caleb, Sophie, Macie and Darla Jergenson, Trace, Tucker, and Trinity Gulick, Kylie, and Jayce Gulick, Allie, Madison, Liam, and Ava Skelton; great-grandson, Theodore Trace; his mother, Erma Gulick of Fairfield; brothers Dave (Sherrie) Gulick and Steve (Vicki) Gulick; sisters Karen (Mike) Johnson, Carol (Nick) Fullerton and Lois (Bill) Meehan; and numerous nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his father, Rex Gulick

The children would like to extend their most sincere appreciation to their mother for the countless hours of care and devotion through their dad's battle.

A memorial service will be held at the Fairfield Community Hall on January 16, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Arrangements are being handled by Schnider Funeral Home in Great Falls.

Memorials are suggested to the Fairfield Volunteer Fire Department, or the Augusta Volunteer Fire Department.

Ray Edward Gulick

Born: August 2, 1914 – Died: April 7, 2017

Ray had fond memories of his time spent at Central Washington University in Ellensburg. One of his fondest memories was pilot lessons where he flew a Piper Cub. He lived an unselfish life devoted to the care of his ailing parents and sister. He was proud of his farming heritage and devoted time, money and energy into working the family farm.

Ray lived a life full of ambition and adventure spanning 102 years. During the drought years of 1919-1922, the family lived in Byron, Michigan. They moved to San Diego, California, in 1923. During the depression years, the family moved back to Joplin and settled again on the homestead.

In 1935, Ray packed field stones to help build the rock house in which he lived until 2002. A few years later, Ray with his siblings and dad started the J. C. Gulick and Sons Mustard Seed Company which brought to the area the first mustard seed market.

Ray was prominent in politics, running for several offices. He ran in 1954 and 1976 for the U. S. Senate. He attended the World Fair in 1964. He served on the Montana Constitutional Convention in 1971.

He was a passionate historian, often writing articles for the Liberty County Times and Great Falls Tribune. He was an avid life-long member of the Great Falls Writer Group from 1952 until 2004, when he relocated to a lake cabin on Cooney Reservoir close to Red Lodge, Montana. The family is especially grateful for all the videos and photos Ray compiled over the years recording family history and the farming practices from an era gone by.

Hundreds of community members graced the bow of his boat at Tiber Reservoir. He continued his love for the water upon retiring to Cooney, where he spent many hours on the Nardinger family pontoon boat.

Ray was very community-oriented and especially passionate in his support of veterans. Ray was a member of the Joplin Lodge, the Scottish Rite Masonry Valley of Great Falls and Algeria Shrine. On his 100th birthday, he participated in the Home of Champions Rodeo over the Fourth of July while riding in the horse-drawn stage coach.

He was a good inventor. Family and friends were often entertained by stories of his great "auk." There wasn't anything that Ray couldn't fix with a little baling wire, duct tape, and his favorite, DAP and Gorilla glue adhesive.

Ray passed away peacefully in Red Lodge surrounded by loved ones.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents and brother George (Ruby), sister Elsie Jane (Robert) Sullivan, brothers Rex and Seward, and nephew Charlie Sullivan.

Ray is survived by longtime friends and caretakers, Phil, Stacie and Danni Lynn Nardinger, Dan and Susie Nardinger, Joe, Ali, Lane, Caleb, and Grady Nardinger, Greg (Didi) Nardinger, John and Vickie Ropp, and Jennifer, Jeff, Abigail and Cooper Quick.

He is survived by family including sisters-in-law Emma Gulick and Arlene Gulick. He is also survived by nephews and nieces Patrick Gulick, Susan Galvan, Marjorie Brooks, James Sullivan, Marvin Gulick, Dave Gulick, Karen Johnson, Carol Fullerton, Lois Meehan, Steven Gulick, Debbie Carvo, Joseph Gulick and Timothy Gulick, and multiple great- and great-great-nephews and -nieces.

Graveside services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Monday, April 10, in the Chester Cemetery, Chester, Montana. Visitation will be 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, April 10, at the Our Savior Lutheran Church in Chester. Smith-Olcott Funeral Chapel of Red Lodge and Rockman Funeral Chapel of Chester have assisted with the arrangements.



Ken Gutcher

Born: May 11, 1929 – Died: February 5, 2017

LOVELAND, Colo. - Ken Gutcher of Loveland, formerly of Joplin, Montana, 87, passed away peacefully in hospice care Feb. 5, 2017, with his family by his side.

Ken was born in Havre, Montana, May 11, 1929, and was raised on his family farm north of Inverness, Montana. Upon graduating from Inverness High School in 1947, Ken attended Montana State College prior to marrying his devoted wife, Peg (Fyvie), Nov. 14, 1953. Ken was very active in the community, serving on the Inverness School Board of Trustees and Inverness Commercial Club. Ken and Peg lived on the farm until they retired and moved to Loveland in 1997.

Ken was preceded in death by his wife, Peg.

He is survived by his sons Bruce (Jane), Brad (Rebecca) and Brian (Elaine); grandchildren Maggie, Molly (Wylie) Hobbs, Wendy, Aaron, Isaac and Nathan.

Ken will be buried with Peg in Highland Cemetery in Havre on a date yet to be determined.

Our family suggests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Ken's name to the Good Samaritan Society, Loveland Village or a nursing home of your choice.

We are so grateful for the outstanding loving care provided to Dad by the staff of Good Samaritan Society over the past year.

No services are planned at this time.



She is survived by her six children, Kenneth Nelson, Lawrence Nelson, Tracy (Cindy) Nelson, Rhonda Nelson, Lonna (Clayton) Linnell and Jennifer (Donald) Kaump; 13 grandchildren, Allyson Brown, Windy Bowman, Travis Nelson, Ryan Nelson, Michael Nelson, Kali Tuckerman, Damon Neer, Brooks Nelson, Darien Nelson-Henry, Matthew Linnell, Grant Linnell, Peri Linnell and Ensley Kaump; 16 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild. She is also survived by her brother, Lysle (Alvera) James, her sister, Angela (Jerry) Eldridge and her brother-in-law Donald Keough.

Her memorial service will be held at Bethel Lutheran Church this Saturday, July 22, at 2 p.m. A luncheon will follow.

Memorial donation may be made to the Bethel Lutheran Church or Joplin Memorial Park.

Condolences can be made to Doris' memorial page at <http://www.asperfh.com>.

Kenneth Melvin Han

Born: September 26, 1922 – Died: February 3, 2017

Kenneth Melvin Han, 94, of Inverness, passed away Friday, February 3, 2017 at Liberty County Medical Center of natural causes.

His memorial service will be held Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Inverness at 11:00 am. Burial will follow at the Inverness Cemetery. Memorials in Ken's honor may be made to Hi-Line Health Foundation, Liberty County Library, or the [charity of the donor's choice](#). Asper Funeral Homes has been entrusted with services and arrangements.

Ken was born on September 26, 1922 on the family farm 17 miles south of Inverness to L.B. and Fanna Han. He grew up on the family farm and received his elementary education at Hay Coulee country school and high school education in Inverness. Following his graduation, Ken served in the [Army](#) Air Corps. He married his high school sweetheart, Eileen Meyer on September 23, 1944 in Riverside, California where he was serving in the military. Following his discharge, they returned to Montana to the farm south of Inverness.



Ken had no shortage of hobbies during the growing season. He was an amazing farmer and gardener and maintained 3 shelter belts including trimming trees for all 94 years of his life. Ken was blessed with a very analytical mind and always wanted to know how things worked including the Internet. Ken wasn't afraid of technology. He enjoyed trading stocks and even set up a Facebook account at the age of 92 to keep in touch with friends and family. He had a passion for airplanes, music and dancing. He hauled thousands of bushels of wheat out of the field in his beloved GMC Astro. In his later years, Ken hauled many gallons of fuel to keep the harvest crew moving in the family fuel truck known as Slug. Ken was quite the story teller and loved teaching his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren integrity and work ethic and what family fun days were all about which included picking rock and pulling wild oats.

Ken was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Eileen; parents, L.B. and Fanna; siblings Charles Han, Reba Boucher, and Dorothea Haaland; and granddaughter Nicole Eileen Han. He is survived by his brother Richard Han; 6 children; Al (Barb) Han, Dave Han, Renee (John) Kowalski, Desi (Jay) Warwick, Jeff (Vicki) Han, and Anita (Lynn) Robirds; grandchildren Kristin (Andy) Burgoyne, Jake (Melissa) Han, Cassidy (Jeff) Marn, Breanne (Brian) Lawson, Ke'ala Warwick, Tyler (Erika) Han, Dallas Robirds, Kelsey (Tony) Allabastro, Hunter Warwick, Megan Han, Poli'ala Warwick, and Jaydes Warwick; great grandchildren Daniel, Jolee, Cameron, Jett, Presley, Colter, Makenna and another expected in April.

Condolences can be made to Ken's memorial page at www.asperfh.com.

Ronald Elton Hanson

Born: December 21, 1933 – Died: February 10, 2017

Ron, son of Clifford and Mildred Hanson, loving husband of Sharlene Faye Hanson, passed away at Northern Montana Hospital in Havre after a battle with leukemia.

He is survived by his wife, Sharlene; daughter, Jacquie (Neal) Bonser of Spokane, Washington; son, Scott (Jan Marie) Hanson of Havre; and son, Eric (Laurel) Hanson of Missoula, Montana. He is also survived by five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Survivors also include his brother, Clifford (Charlotte) Hanson, sister, Gaye Kehm and sister, Julie (David) Larson.

Ron was born Dec. 21, 1933, in Havre. He grew up in Chester, Montana, where he attended first grade through high school.

During Ron's senior year he saw President Harry Truman, who was Chester to initiate the Tiber Dam project. After high school, Ron attended Waldorf College in Forrest City, Iowa, before enlisting in the U.S. Marine Corps. He proudly served from 1952 to 1956. He attended boot camp at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina and later was stationed in Japan during the Korean War.

He was honorably discharged in September of 1956 and upon moving back to Chester, he reunited with Sharlene Leighton and the two would marry Dec. 28, 1956. His past December they celebrated 60 wonderful years of marriage.

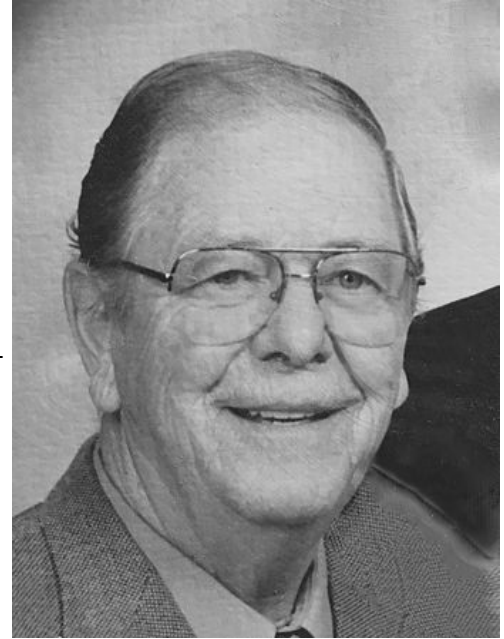
Ron worked a variety of jobs during his life, and no matter what he was doing, he gave it his all. He always took great pride in everything he did and had an unmatched work ethic. He retired as a compliance officer with the state of Montana-Department of Transportation, Motor Carrier Services Division. Ron enjoyed driving vehicles for car dealerships and flagging farming equipment in his retirement.

During Ron's variety of careers, he and his family resided in Huron, South Dakota, Moorhead, Minnesota, and Hampton, Iowa, but it was in Havre that he lived the longest. Ron was an active member of First Lutheran Church in Havre for many years. He was also a regular blood donor for the American Red Cross. Since 1993, he donated 104 times and 13 gallons of blood.

Ron loved visiting Glacier National Park and Flathead Lake and passed on the appreciation for these Montana treasures to his kids. There have been many family reunions in Glacier Park over the years, a place the Hanson's hold dear to their heart.

He will be missed greatly and we cherish all the wonderful memories.

A small family service was held Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017, at the Rockman Funeral Chapel in Chester followed by a reception at Chelli and Marlowe Fossen's - Sharlene's sister - house in Joplin.



in

Willis Eugene “Willie” Hodges

Born: June 2, 1937 - , 2017

Willis Eugene “Willie” Hodges was the second child born to Harold and Ruth Hodges in Wolfpoint, Montana on June 2, 1937. He was the first-born of identical twin boys. To friends and family he was known as Willie, Dad or Grandpa.

Willie grew up on the family farm north of Joplin, Montana. He attended Tyngdal Country School and graduated from Joplin High School. He also attended Concordia College for one year.

Willie married Elaine Harrison on June 16, 1962 in Havre after dating only 6 month! They had five children, Jonathan, Gary, James, Naomi and Loren. They just celebrated their 55th anniversary this year.

Willie and Elaine lived in a separate home on the large farm owned by Willie’s parents. Willie and his dad built a grain cleaning plant. Willie was a man of many talents. He also built two broom trucks. Over the 33 years they lived there, he was a farmer, mechanic, grain cleaner, volunteer firefighter, school bus driver for 12 years, constructed steel buildings, did electrical wiring and “pulled” wells for neighbors (some were 800 feet deep!)

In May of 1995 they moved to Arizona. Willie worked at Better Built Window Factory in Prescott Valley and was a “handy man”.

Over the years, willie served as a deacon in several churches. He enjoyed growing roses and plants, playing pinochle, doing word search puzzle books and telling stories.

A bit of trivia....Willie’s parents had 3 boys, then one girl and one boy. Willie and Elaine had their five children in the same order! However, no twins, all were single births.

In the early 1970’s...when they had three little boys, Willie would just lose his balance and fall down. Then on day he had a terrible headache. He was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. He tried lots and lots of treatments and walked with a can for three years. The treatments had destroyed his immune system and when he went to see the doctor he was told he had about three weeks to live. Willie told a friend that “God had to get me down, so all I could do was look up!” At that point, he knew in his heart that he was healed and he slowly started to improve! Many people said that he never had MS. In 1996 he had a full check-up and the doctors checked his old medical records and did more test and confirmed that he really did have MS in the past. They said that Willie was healed and it could only be explained as a miracle!

Recently, over a period of about six years, Willie and Elaine worked together to created over 200 quilts mad from old blue jeans. People donated their jeans and the two cut the denim into squares and created some beautiful, personalized keepsake quilts that will be treasured forever by all who received them.

Willie was dearly loved and is survived by his wife, Elaine; five child and their spouses, Johnathan, Gary and Becky, James and Heidi, Naomi and Darrin Hewitt and Loren. Along with the two “honorary” children who lived with Willie and Elaine during their high school years as part of the family, Diana Greytak and Blaine McCauley; nine grandchildren Mitchell Hodges, Dallas Settlemire, Logan Hodges, Lia Peterson, Brook

Hewitt, Madison Hewitt, Riley Hodges, Chase Hodges, Ozona McMillan; one great-granddaughter, Isabella McMillan; his sister Midge Hippen and two brothers Ron and LeRoy. Willie is preceded in death by his grandson Landon Lyle Hodges, his twin brother Wayne Hodges and his parents Harold and Ruth Hodges.

Bernard Dean “Ben” Holmes

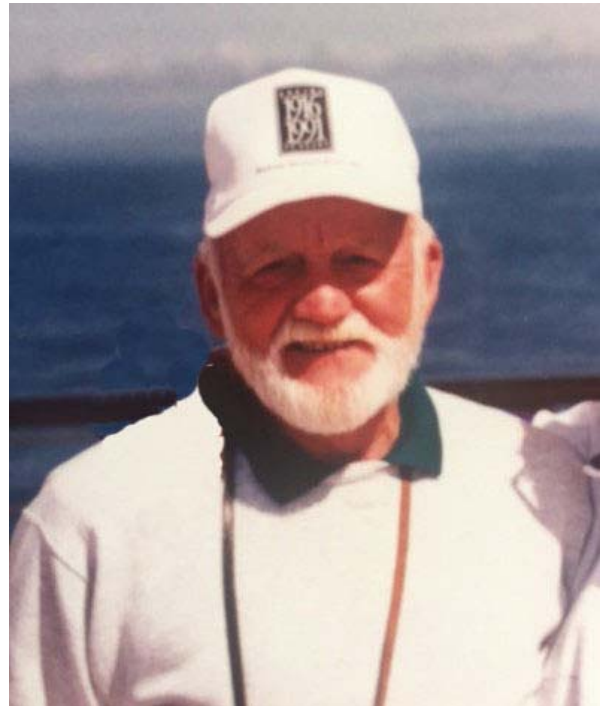
Born: January 5, 1930 – Died: August 30, 2017

Bernard Dean Holmes, 87, of Chester died Wednesday, August 30, 2017.

Ben was born in Kennard, Nebraska on January 5, 1930. After graduating high school, he joined the US Navy in 1948 and was honorably discharged in 1954. He married Marilyn Smith and they had 3 children. They later divorced. In 1986 he married Marjorie “Maggie” (Stores) Coon. They retired to Montana and spent their time traveling and enjoying camping with friends, visiting family, and spending time gardening.

Ben is survived by his wife, Maggie; daughter, Janese of Stanwood, WA; son, Kirk (Liz) of Ellensburg, WA; brothers, Roger and Larry; sisters, Nancy and Cindy; stepchildren, Tony Coon and Teri Sternkopf; numerous grandchildren and a great grandchild.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Lenora; father, Roland; stepmom, Lorraine; and daughter, Dorene.



Cremation has taken place under the direction of Rockman Funeral Home. No services are planned.

Sherian Denning Horinek

Born: July 27, 1959 – Died: March 23, 2017

Sherian Denning Horinek of Hingham, 57, passed away March 23, 2017, after a hard-fought battle with Glioblastoma, brain cancer.

Sheri was born to Richard and Betty Denning in Swindon, England, July 27, 1959.

Her father was in the Air Force and was stationed all over the United States. In her early teens, her family was stationed at Ramstein Air Base in Germany. From there, they traveled much of Europe, often visiting family in England. Finally, the family settled in Great Falls, where she graduated from C.M.R. High School in 1977.

Sheri married Dan Horinek in 1980 and had two sons Richard and Robert Horinek.

Sheri was a dedicated wife, mother, hard worker, go-getter and loved spending time with family. Some of her favorite things she enjoyed were camping, traveling, reading, crafting and geocaching. Sheri also enjoyed attending her husband's RC flying events.

Sheri worked the last several years at Walmart as a cashier and made many great friends there. Being involved in the community was important to her, volunteering with Vacation Bible School in Gildford and being secretary and later troop leader for the local Boy Scouts, and serving on the boards for Hingham Economic Development Association, Hingham Centennial Committee, Hingham Volunteer Fire Department and on the Hingham Town Council.

Preceding Sheri in death is her father, Richard Denning, in 1991; her mother, Betty Denning, in 1995; and her father-in-law, Richard Horinek, in 1997.

Sheri is survived by her husband of 36 years. Dan Horinek of Hingham; sons, Richard Horinek of Havre and Robert Horinek of Havre; two brothers, Paul (Linda) Denning of Redding, California and Garry (Ruth) Denning of Great Falls; mother-in-law, Ruth Horinek of Hingham; brothers-in-law, Larry (Alou) Horinek of Hingham, Mike (Carol) Horinek of Tucson, Arizona, and Mark (Teri) Horinek of Hingham; and many nephews and nieces.

A celebration of life will be held at the Hingham Lutheran Church in Hingham, Montana, April 14, 2017, at 11 a.m. Reception will follow.

Condolences can be made to Sherian's memorial page at <http://www.asperfh.com>.



Alice Joyce Sciacqua Murray Johannsen

Born: February 9, 1919 – Died: January 23, 2017

Despite her diminutive stature, Joyce had an outsized heart that loved people and animals in equal measure. She loved to sing and many people were amazed by how such a small person could produce so much sound. She was friendly, fun-loving and imaginative, a fashionable dresser with a great sense of style, a good cook, tidy housekeeper, and loved nothing more than being with family. She died following a brief illness on January 23, 2017 at Liberty Medical Center where she had been a resident since 2011.



Born Alice Joyce Sciacqua on February 9, 1919 in Stockett, Montana to immigrant parents, she was the youngest of three sisters. Her father John came from Lucca, Italy and her mother Mabel came from Killarney, Manitoba.

Joyce attended school in Stockett and Centerville where she graduated from high school in 1938. She then attended the Great Falls College of Education to earn a two-year diploma. Upon graduation, Joyce taught at a country school in the Sweetgrass Hills. Here she met and married Burnham Murray, the eldest son of a Sweetgrass Hills pioneer. Together, they built a thriving grocery store, crude oil refinery, and Texaco service station in Whitlash.

During WWII, Joyce and Burnham worked for the war effort in Brigham City, Utah and Great Falls. Returning to Whitlash after the war, they started a family, and expanded their business to include sales of Ford tractors and Dearborn farm equipment.

In 1954, the Murrays moved their farm implement business to Chester where they established the Tiber Tractor Company, and by 1955, the family made a new home in Chester. Joyce was an active member of the Chester United Methodist Church, the Republican Women's Club, the Senior Center, Council on Aging, and served on the board of the Sweet Grass Lodge.

Following Burnham's death in 1974, Joyce remained in Chester until her marriage to Russell Johannsen in 1982. They made their home on the Johannsen farm at Sunburst. Russell's death in 2000 prompted her move back to Chester where she lived until her death.

Joyce was preceded in death by her parents, sisters Connie and Vivian, both of her husbands, stepson Gary Burnham "Bill" Murray, stepdaughter Nona Byrne, and niece Carol Thorson Weese. She is survived by her son Gregg "Alex" Murray of Billings and daughter Glee ("Kit" Muller) Murray of Washington, DC, grandchildren Heather (Joe) Murray-Wollen of Lincoln, NE, and Shannon Murray of Aurora, CO; stepchildren Cleve (Jonette) Johannsen of Sunburst and Barb Johannsen of Monrovia, CA and their families; step-granddaughter Kim Byrne Hartman, WI; niece Sharon (Neil) Snyder and nephew Gary (Pauletta) Byers, both of Great Falls, and their families.

A memorial service will be held May 5 at 11:00 am at the Chester United Methodist Church. Arrangements are being handled by Rockman Funeral Chapel.

Memorials may be made to the Chester United Methodist Church, Hi-Line Health Foundation, National Wildlife Federation, or the charity of your choice .

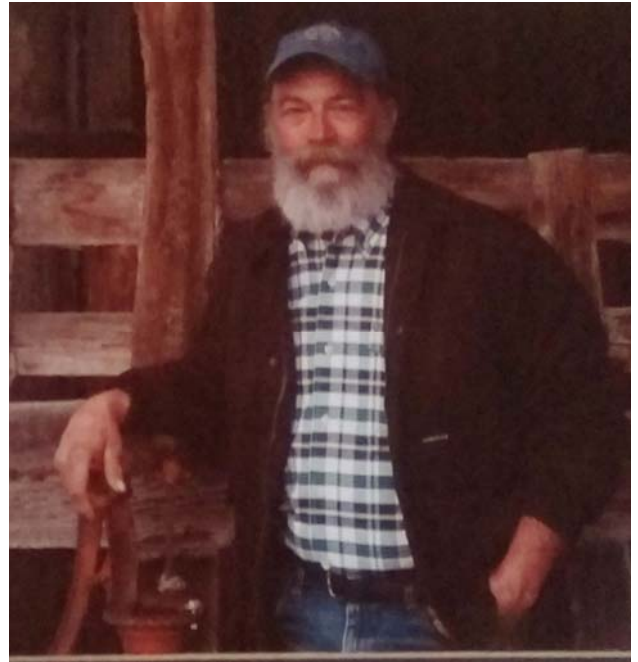
Allan Wayne Mangold

Born: February 4, 1951 – Died: October 4, 2017

Allan Wayne Mangold passed away Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2017, in Missoula. Allan was born in Havre, on Feb. 4, 1951. He joined the U.S. Navy in 1970 which is when he went to nuclear school. He then went to Virginia to help build the U.S.S. Nimitz. He was stationed on the U.S.S. Nimitz for her maiden voyage on July 15, 1975.

Allan married Deborah Eveland in September 1974, and they had five children: Jess, David, Kari, Joshua and Brian. He had 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Allan was a very talented wood worker and loved his work as a rancher. He will be mourned by everyone who knew and loved him.

He is preceded in death by his parents and two brothers. He is survived by his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, four brothers, six sisters, and numerous nieces and nephews.



A funeral will be held Saturday, Oct. 14, at 1:30 p.m. in the Foster Funeral Chapel in St. Ignatius with military rites presented at his burial in the Ronan Cemeteries.

Daniel Scott May

Born January 11, 1978—Died March 7, 2017



A devoted friend, father, brother and son, Daniel Scott May of Cowley, Alberta, Canada, was born on Jan. 11, 1978 and joined Our Lord on March 7, 2017, after a 13-year battle with brain cancer. He was 39.

The fifth child of six, Dan was born in Medicine Hat, Alberta and raised on the family farm outside of Etzikom, Alberta. The family moved to Kalispell, Montana, when he was three. He attended Fairmont Egan grade school until the family moved to farm outside of Valleyview, Alberta, when he was eleven. Dan graduated from Hillside High School, Valleyview, Alberta, in 1996. He spent time working and playing in Bozeman, Montana, until moving back to Canada.

Dan is predeceased by his paternal grandparents, Conrad and Frances May of Inverness, Montana; maternal grandparents, Eldon and Margaret Graff of Chester, Montana; paternal uncles and aunts, David May (infant), Leo May, and Flora Ann Aevertmann; maternal uncles Richie Graff (infant) and Audie Collins.

Dan leaves behind his son, Braiden May of Valleyview, Alberta; parents Ephraim and Jean May of Elkford, British Columbia; sister Janette May of Bozeman, Montana; brother Rodney (Stephanie) May of Kalispell, Montana; brother Craig (Kristi) May of Bozeman, Montana; sister Yvonne (Jake Christiansen) May of Whitefish, Montana; brother Tyson May of Edmonton, Alberta. He also leaves behind nieces and nephews, Cody, Katlyn, Alexa, Emily, Vale, Konnor, Quinton, McKinlee and Kaden, plus numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

A Memorial Service will be held at Snodgrass Funeral Home in Pincher Creek, Alberta, on Friday, March 17, 2017 at 11 a.m. Memorial contributions can be made to the charity of your choice. A Celebration of Life event will be held in Bozeman, Montana, this summer. Date to be announced. Contact Craig May at Craig@ckmayexcavating.com for more information.

Doris Helen James Nelson

Born: October 10, 1929 – Died: July 17, 2017

Doris Helen (James) Nelson passed away peacefully in her sleep to be with her Lord and Savior in heaven July 17, 2017, at Benefis Hospital in Great Falls at the age of 87.

She was diagnosed with metastatic pancreatic cancer four weeks earlier after which she soon became symptomatic and quickly declined.

Doris was born to David and Lillian James in Havre, Montana, Oct. 10, 1929. She attended Joplin schools, graduating from high school in 1947. After graduation, she attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, for one year before returning home to marry her high school sweetheart, Fred Nelson. Doris and Fred married in 1949, purchased Fred's father's farm and started farming and raising their family. They had five children together, Ken, Larry, Tracy, Rhonda and Lonna. The family worked hard both farming and ranching.

Doris married Jack Nelson in 1969 and they soon had her youngest child, Jennifer. The family lived in the town of Joplin where Doris became an active member of the community. She worked as the secretary for Bethel Lutheran Church and the bookkeeper for Nelson Farms and James Farms for many decades. Doris was a member of her church's circle group, Democratic Women, Bethel Quilters, the hospital auxiliary, and Eastern Star. She was the first woman to run for and be elected to the Joplin school board. She served 20 years on the board, 10 of which she was the chairwoman. She and Jack were two of the original founders of the Joplin Memorial Park and spent many hours creating and maintaining the beautiful sanctuary that exists today. She was also one of the original founders of Joplin's Art in the Park.

Doris has had several hobbies and activities she has enjoyed through the years: playing cards and board games, crocheting blankets for family members, and most anything that brought her friends and family together. She had a very strong faith and was very devoted to her church. In her later years, one of her greater joys was serving with the Bethel Quilters creating quilts for those in need around the world.

Doris had many friends, many of whom were life-long, but she was open-hearted and loved acquiring new friends, often being a friendly face to newcomers in town. She loved her family. Her mother was her best friend and she was a devoted daughter and caregiver of her parents until their deaths. She loved and was loved by her six children and many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Jack Nelson, sister Dorathy Keough, and daughters-in-law, Candy Nelson and Jan Nelson.



She is survived by her six children, Kenneth Nelson, Lawrence Nelson, Tracy (Cindy) Nelson, Rhonda Nelson, Lonna (Clayton) Linnell and Jennifer (Donald) Kaump; 13 grandchildren, Allyson Brown, Windy Bowman, Travis Nelson, Ryan Nelson, Michael Nelson, Kali Tuckerman, Damon Neer, Brooks Nelson, Darien Nelson-Henry, Matthew Linnell, Grant Linnell, Peri Linnell and Ensley Kaump; 16 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild. She is also survived by her brother, Lysle (Alvera) James, her sister, Angela (Jerry) Eldridge and her brother-in-law Donald Keough.

Her memorial service will be held at Bethel Lutheran Church this Saturday, July 22, at 2 p.m. A luncheon will follow.

Memorial donation may be made to the Bethel Lutheran Church or Joplin Memorial Park.

Condolences can be made to Doris' memorial page at <http://www.asperfh.com>.

Laurence “Larry” Delbert Olson

Born: June 20, 1937 – Died: October 24, 2017

Laurence Delbert Olson (Larry) passed away peacefully, surrounded by loved ones on October 24, 2017 at Liberty County Hospital in Chester at the age of 80.

Funeral services will be held Sunday, October 29, at 2:00 PM at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin.

Larry was born to Albert and Julia Olson in Havre on June 20, 1937. He attended school in Joplin and graduated from JHS in 1955. Following his graduation from high school, he spent time at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN, MSU in Bozeman, and Northern Montana College in Havre before returning to Joplin to join his father and brother Leonard on the family farm.

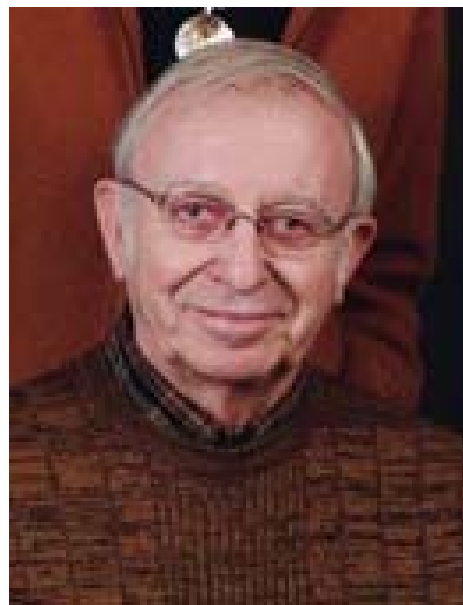
Larry married Nancy Thorson in December of 1962 and together they made their home in Joplin until Nancy's death in 2013. They had 3 children together; Scott, Todd, and Heidi.

In 1959 he joined the Montana Air National Guard and served until he was honorably discharged in 1965. He often recollected assisting as a Guardsman during the Great Montana Flood of 1964.

Larry was active in the local community and served on several boards including the TV Board, the Hill County Water District Board, the Joplin School Board, the Bethel Lutheran Church Council, and the Central Hi-Line Lutheran Ministries Joint Church Council. He was a lifelong member of Bethel until his death.

Larry had a love of music and enjoyed singing. He was a member of the Bethel Lutheran church choir and for many years performed a Christmas cantata with a group of choristers in churches along the Hi-Line. He enjoyed crossword puzzles and started almost every day with the Great Falls Tribune crossword. Other activities that he enjoyed included golf, bowling, dancing with Nancy, and socializing with friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his wife, and his brother. He is survived by his three children: Scott Olson of Los Angeles, CA, Todd Olson (Kristi) of Chester, Heidi Richter (Bruce) of Joplin and 4 grandchildren: Brandon Richter, Cory Richter, Spencer Richter, and Lucas Olson. He is also survived by his sister Deanna Standiford (Ray) and numerous nephews and nieces.



Winifred Packer

Born: July 9, 1916 – Died: May 15, 2017

Winifred E. Packer, 100, died early Monday morning, May 15, in her warm and cozy assisted living apartment at Westpark Village Retirement Center. She enjoyed almost 10 years at Westpark and we are so grateful for the loving care she received on every level. Winnie was born in Manvel, ND on July 9, 1916, the 4th of 7 children, to Ward and Winifred Middleton. She was always proud to be the MIDDLE child in the Middleton household. After High School, Winnie attended the Holiness Methodist School of Theology in Minneapolis, where she went on to become a teacher at the College. To this day, she is considered a favorite among the students who are still among us and remember those days. Winnie's life led her to Seattle where she worked as a secretary before coming to Montana in the early 1950's to become the secretary for her brother in law, Franklin Robbie, who was establishing the work of Youth for Christ throughout Montana and Northern Wyoming. It was through this connection that she met Bruce Packer, a handsome, eligible Rancher from the Highline, who had a love for young people and concern for their Spiritual growth.



Franklin was sad to lose a good secretary, but happy to gain a wonderful brother in law on November 12, 1955, when Winnie and Bruce became husband and wife. This partnership and loving union led to 26 years of fruitful tilling of the soil, both literally and figuratively as they poured into the lives of many nieces, nephews, and younger farming couples just East of the lovely Sweetgrass Hills and North of Rudyard, MT. They were also blessed with one son, Daniel Bruce, who gave them much joy, and eventually a daughter in law, 4 lovely granddaughters, and 6 great grandchildren, so far. Sadly, Bruce passed away as a result of an accident in December of 1981. Many would say he left too soon, but Winnie graciously attested to the goodness of God in sustaining her through this loss. She eventually sold the Ranch and moved to Billings, where she enjoyed the fellowship of 3 of her sisters and their families. Winnie eventually survived all of her siblings and their spouses. Tragedy struck again in 2008 when her son Dan, by this time a highly respected Fire Chief in the Seattle area, was taken in a wild fire he had volunteered to help fight. Again Winnie's strong faith in Jesus and the Sovereignty of a loving God continued to give comfort and purpose to her remaining years. She was the consummate example of a Godly woman who was ready to go to Heaven, but had chosen contentment for as long as she remained here on earth. Winnie will be long remembered as a wise, generous and caring mentor to friends and family. She fought the good fight, she finished the course, she kept the faith, and she has now received the crown of Righteousness which the Lord has awarded to her. 2 Timothy 4:7-8 To coin the Packer Family Phrase: We Love You Muchly A celebration of Winnie's life will be held Monday, May 22nd at 2 p.m. on the lower level of Westpark Village, 2351 Solomon Avenue, Billings. Interment will follow at the family plot North of Rudyard, later in the summer.

James "Jim" Norbert Pester

Born: June 10, 1934 – Died: July 10, 2017

James "Jim" Norbert Pester, 83, passed away at Northern Montana Hospital Monday, July 10, 2017.

A recital of the Holy Rosary will be held at 7 p.m. today, Thursday, July 13, 2017, and preceded by a public viewing starting at 6 p.m. at Our Lady of Ransom (OLR) Catholic Church in Hingham. Funeral services are at 11 a.m. Friday, July 14, 2017, at OLR. Burial to follow at Hingham Cemetery. A luncheon will be held at OLR.

Jim was born north of Hingham, one of 10 children, to Thomas J. and Christina S. (Spinler) Pester June 10, 1934. He went to Brennan School for his elementary education and attended Hingham High School, graduating in 1952. Jim then took up farming full-time with his dad and brothers. He farmed out of Windham with two of his older brothers.

March 2, 1957, Jim married Maryle Lynn Herman. Over the course of time, eight children were born. In 1960, Jim, Maryle Lynn and two babies moved to the family farm north of Hingham, where they raised their children.

Jim and Maryle Lynn recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a family reunion.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, seven brothers and an infant daughter, Mary Ann Denise Pester. He is survived by his wife and seven children, Jayme (William) Tuskan of Lompoc, California; Jerome (Sharon) Pester, Hingham; Donnette (Timothy) Mann, Marion, Montana; Darryl (Lorraine) Pester, Havre; Gary Pester, San Jose, California; Lowell (Jai) Pester, Mesa, Arkizona; and Jeffrey Pester, Beaverton, Oregon; as well as sisters Martha Kiemele and Rosemary (Con) Murphy. The family has been blessed with 12 beloved grandchildren along with four great-grandchildren.

His faith in Jesus Christ, family, and farming were his life. Jim enjoyed his last years farming with his sons and took great pride in the accomplishments of his wife, children, and family.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to a charity of your choosing.

Condolences can be made to Jim's memorial page at <http://www.asperfh.com>.



Pastor Bruce Peterson

Born: May 6, 1953 – Died: June 3, 2017

A funeral service for Pastor Bruce Peterson, 64, of New England, ND will be 10:00 a.m., Thursday, June 8, 2017 at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in New England with Bishop Mark Narum officiating. Burial will take place at a later date in Joplin, MT. Visitation for Pastor Bruce will be 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 7 at Stevenson Funeral Home in Dickinson with a prayer service being held at 6:00 p.m.

Pastor Bruce passed away Saturday, June 3, 2017 at his home in New England.

Bruce Carl was born May 6, 1953 in Madison, WI, the son of Andrew and Edna (Emilson) Peterson. He grew up in McFarland, WI, attending school and graduating in 1971. Bruce continued his education at the University of Montana in Missoula, studying Forestry and working for the U.S. Forest Service.

There he met Susan Burnham who shared his passion for the outdoors. They were united in marriage on June 9, 1973 in Missoula, honeymooning on a lookout in the mountains of Idaho, overlooking Lake Pend Oreille. Bruce and Susan were blessed with five children, Michael, Sarah, Timothy, Matthew, and Christopher. After college, Bruce worked as an assistant manager for K-Mart. While at K-mart, the family lived in many states; Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, and Texas. After nine years, Bruce left K-mart and the family moved to Joplin, MT. There he worked the land; farming alongside Susan's family at Evergreen Grain Farms for fourteen years. It was during this time that Bruce received his call to the ministry. Bruce and Susan moved to St. Paul where he attended Luther Seminary, graduating with a Master's of Divinity in 2002. Pastor Bruce received his first call to Concordia Lutheran Church, in Crosby, ND where he served as Pastor for five years. Pastor Bruce was then called to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in New England where he was blessed to serve for nearly ten years. Pastor Bruce LOVED the game of golf. He and Susan could often be seen Monday mornings on the local course at South Heart. He also loved playing games with family and friends. Frisbee golf, Monopoly, Rage, and any sort of card game; especially Euchre or Cribbage. Pastor Bruce was involved in his community and church, finding many ways to serve. While in Montana, he served as Scoutmaster and then District Chairman with the Boy Scouts. He served on the church council, was the Sunday School Superintendent, and a Gideon's spokesman. Pastor Bruce ministered at the Women's Correctional Facility in New England, served on the Child Abuse Prevention Board of Southwest North Dakota and on the Board at Badlands Ministries. He was a member of the Lions Organization in New England. He enjoyed supporting local high school sports and announced the Basketball and Volleyball team line ups for the New England Tigers. No one was a stranger for long to Pastor Bruce, with his encouraging smile and friendly demeanor, he could visit with anyone that he met.



Pastor Bruce is survived by his wife, Susan; children, Michael (Rebecca) Peterson of Laurel, MT, Sarah (Andrew) Davis of Laurel, MT, Timothy (Adrienna) Peterson of Stevensville, MT, Christopher (Crystal) Peterson of Milaca, MN; eleven grandchildren, Shayla, Kennedy, Cooper, Tucker, Hannah Belle, Abigail, Joseph, Aragorn, Andrea, Avery and Hazel; brother, Steven (Stephanie Allyn) Peterson of St. Paul, MN; sister, Susan (Jerry) Drebelbis of Bemidji, MN.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Andrew and Edna Peterson; son, Matthew Peterson; grandson, Matthew Peterson.

Family suggests memorials to:

Badlands Ministries – www.badlandministries.org

New England Booster Club – PO Box 86, New England, ND 58647 or donation of their choice.

Leroy George “Mike” Poier

Born: 1934 – Died: July 7, 2017

Leroy “Mike” Poier, 83, passed away peacefully Friday, July 7, 2017 at Mason General Hospital in Shelton, Washington surrounded by his loving family. Mike was born in 1934 in Lake Stevens, Washington to Leonard Poier and Leannah (Wilder) Poier, and as raised in Rudyard, Montana on the family farm which his grandfather had homesteaded around the turn of the 20th century. After high school, Mike served in the Army and was stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington during which time he met his wife Elaine Pettyjohn and the two were married in 1954.

They returned to Rudyard and farmed for the next 30 years. Following that, they owned and operated several business in Montana, Arizona and Washington. Mike and Elaine settled back in Shelton, WA in 1990 where Mike was active in real estate and land development.

Throughout his life, Mike was active in the Lutheran church wherever he lived and he had served as a lay minister and on the church council. He was also involved in the school board for many years and other civic clubs. Mike enjoyed woodworking and spending time with family and friends.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine Poier of Shelton; son and daughter-in-law Michael and April of Olympia; daughter and son-in-law Machel and JB Ledford of Shelton; grandson Tyler Smith of Massachusetts; granddaughter Mikayla Smith of Kalispell; granddaughter Hannah Poier of Olympia; grandson Luke Poier of Olympia; great-granddaughter Zoe Smith of Massachusetts; great-grandson Morgan Smith of Florida; sister and brother-in-law Rita and Ed Bordelon of Texas.

Alice Johana Jensen Polk

Born: January 3, 1922 – Died: March 12, 2017

Alice Johana Jensen Polk passed away peacefully at Park Place Nursing Home on March 12, 2017.

Her cremains will be interred in the Jensen family plot in Chester Saturday, July 1 at 11 a.m. with graveside service. Lunch will follow at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

Alice was born Jan. 3, 1922 in Barton, N.D., and was raised on the Jensen homestead north of Chester, the third of five children born to Hans and Bertha Jensen.

Those early years on the farm instilled in her the strong work ethic that served her well for the rest of her life.

She spent many years working in the hospitality industry as a waitress and bartender. The skills she learned and her personality made her a successful businesswoman in her later years.



She and her business partner Walter Babcock owned and operated the Pioneer Bar in Cut Bank from the mid 1970s until the early 1980s when Walt's health failed and they sold the bar. They sponsored several sports teams and made a lot of friends and had a lot of fun during the time they owned the Pioneer.

Alice is survived by her sons, James LaValley (Vicky) and Phil Nordstrom (Sue); five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Hans and Bertha; three brothers, Ole, Harold (Katheryn) and Leo; one sister Hazel (Gordon) Broeder; and her husband Jim Polk.

Christian “Chris” Walter Richter

Born: January 5, 1929 – Died: September 29, 2017

Christian "Chris" Walter Richter, 88, passed away on September 29, 2017 from complications of a cerebral hemorrhage. Visitation will be from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Friday, October 6, 2017 at the Hi-Line Funeral Services. Funeral services will be 11:00 A.M., Saturday, October 7, 2017 at Our Lady of Ransom Church in Hingham.

Interment with Military Honors will be in the Hingham Cemetery. Lunch will follow the graveside services at the Spencer's Hi-Way Bar. Memorials may be made to the .

Chris was born on the family farm south of Inverness on January 5, 1929, to George and Margaret (Schwan) **Richter**; he was 9 of 15 children. Chris attended school in Inverness and graduated in 1947. While in high school he played basketball and football all the while working for different farmers to help his mother make ends meet.



On November 10, 1952, Chris joined the United States Army and was sent to Korea. Chris served in the Army until 1952, he was very proud of his service to his country. He remained an active member of the VFW Club, he was a 40 + years member of the Eagles, and in later years was a member of the Loyal Order of Moose .

On October 5, 28, 1953, Chris married the love of his life, Pearl (Brown) in Hingham. They resided in Hingham the rest of their lives. Together they had five children, Dan, Don, Dave, Denise, and Dennis.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Margaret, all of his siblings, and his wife, Pearl, who passed away in 2003, and a grandson. Survivors include his children, Dan (Rebecca) **Richter** of Boise, ID, Don (Jocelyn) **Richter** of Bigfork, MT, Dave (Judy) **Richter** of Columbia Falls, MT, Denise (Lowell) Strissel of Hingham, MT, and Dennis (Shari) **Richter** of Conrad, MT; 13 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren.

Robert F. "Bob" Rinehart

Born: May 2, 1923 – Died: January 25, 2017

Robert F. "Bob" Rinehart of Kremlin, 93, passed away due to natural causes Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017, at Big Sandy Medical Center.

A viewing will be held Jan. 31, 2017, from 1 to 4 p.m. at Holland & Bonine Funeral Home. At his request, a graveside service with military honors will be held Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2017, at 11 a.m. at Highland Cemetery in Havre. A fellowship luncheon will be held immediately following the service at the First Lutheran Church in Havre. Memorials may be made in Robert's name to the Hill County 4-H Chuckwagon Fund, the Big Sandy Medical Center or to the charity of the donor's choice. Holland & Bonine Funeral Home has been entrusted with services and arrangements.

Please visit Robert's online memorial page and leave a message of condolence for his loved ones at <http://www.hollandbonine.com>.

Bob was born May 2, 1923, to Robert and Anna Rinehart in Pueblo, Colorado. His mom passed away when Bob was 2 years of age. Bob's dad's job on the railroad brought the family to Havre, where Bob attended elementary school. When he was 11, his dad passed away, so Bob moved to Kremlin to be with his sister and continue his education. One day, Ralph Johnson came to town and asked Bob if he would like to come work on his farm. Bob then went to work on the farm with the clothes on his back, a bicycle and a dollar and twenty-seven cents in his pocket.

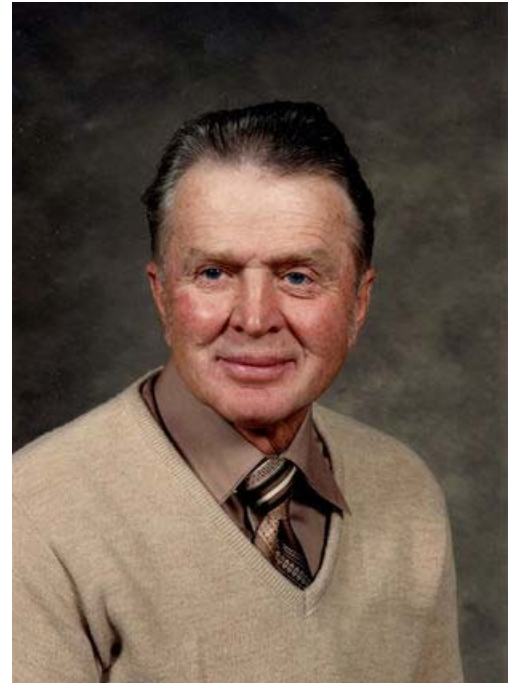
After graduation from Kremlin high school, he went to Helena for welding certification and later worked as an electric arc welder building dry docks in Everett, Washington. In 1943, Bob enlisted in the U.S. Army. He served during WWII in the Italian campaign, E Company of the 361st Infantry Regiment as a rifleman. He received a Purple Heart, a Campaign Medal with Three Bronze Clusters, a Good Conduct Medal and WWII Victory Medal.

Upon completing his service, he returned to work for the Johnson family. There he farmed and prospered while also building a relationship with Kathryn, the Johnson's only daughter. Kathryn and Bob were married Feb. 10, 1963, in the Kremlin Lutheran Church. Over the years, the couple worked on the farm, growing wheat and raising cattle. They also contributed to their community, especially by supporting the area youth. The Rinehart's were the kind of folks who could always be counted on when one needed a friend.

In the winters, Bob would spend hours tinkering on motors, and old cars and tractors in his shop. He enjoyed his trips to town, where no one was a stranger and everyone was ensured a good laugh. Most can probably remember a time Bob rattled off a one-liner in his distinctive tone.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife of 47 years, Kathryn; his parents; his sister; and a niece.

He is survived by all those whose lives he touched.



Wayne Frederick Romain

Born: June 29, 1957 – Died: May 3, 2017

PHOENIX, Ariz. - Wayne Frederick Romain was born in Fort Benton, Montana, June 29, 1957, to Meradel Vaughan Romain (1931-2014) and John Dominic Romain (1927-2015).

Tuesday, April 25, Wayne went in for a very complicated heart surgery and after a long process passed away May 3, 2017, at 2:31 p.m.

Wayne was raised in Havre, Montana. He had a successful farm and bar in Montana before joining the rest of the family in Phoenix. He was in the real estate appraisal business for several years before he retired over a decade ago.

His pride and joy was his daughter, Amelia of Phoenix, who survives him, and her daughter, Anya. He is also survived by his brother, Richard John "Rick" Romain, and sister-in-law, Janet Boling Romain, his niece, Kaley Romain of Fountain Hills, and his big sister, Angela Romain of Phoenix. Wayne was also very proud of raising his stepchildren K.J., Dru, Jamie and Ryan from a previous marriage.

He loved to travel and over the last couple years had an RV that he hung out in when away from Phoenix. He had a brilliant mind and could figure out how to fix things without blueprints or directions. He was very creative such as how he took certain pictures or how to address problems. He loved family more than anything. He was an absolutely amazing father and will be sorely missed.

We will be having private events in his honor in Phoenix.



Ronald B. Sampson

Born: 1937 – Died: April 5, 2017

Ronald B. Sampson, 79, passed away April 5, 2017, at his home with his loving wife and youngest daughter at his side.

Cremation has taken place, and no services will be held at this time.

Memorial donations in Ronald's name may be made to Independence Bank for his daughter Angel Sampson's education, Liberty House, or to a charity of one's choice.

Holland and Bonine Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements.

Please visit Ronald's online memorial page at <http://www.hollandbonine.com> to leave a message of condolence for the family.

Ronald was born and raised in Worcester, Massachusetts, the eldest of four children born to Shirley Sampson. He received his formal education in Worcester, attending Worcester Boys Trade High School, where his interest in carpentry was sparked.

Ronald was always very motivated, working when he wasn't in school. Before school and on weekends, he delivered the paper and helped his stepdad with the bread truck, and shined shoes after school. Ronald was known as the "Professor" to the kids in the neighborhood because he was so smart, which was aided by his photographic memory. He was only 15 when he bought his own automobile, but with a learner's permit, he was required to be accompanied by an adult while driving. Ronald worked weekends with his uncle Eddie, who owned his own carpentry business. After Worcester was hit with a devastating tornado in the early 1950s, Ronald quit school to go to work full time with his uncle.

At the age of 17, after careful consideration, he decided to go into the military. His mother signed off, and in 1954 Ronald joined the U.S. Air Force. While in the Air Force, Ronald completed his high school education and received his GED. He was encouraged to take the college aptitude exam, and he passed half of the courses. Following basic training, Ronald came home on leave to marry his childhood sweetheart, Nancy O'Connel, with whom he later had seven children. His orders soon came, indicating he was to be stationed in Guam, and then he was relocated to Japan. Nancy remained in Worcester until Ronald re-enlisted, which paid for her flight to Japan. After Japan, he was stationed in California, and then Spokane, Washington, before his honorable discharge in 1961. The couple eventually moved back to his hometown of Worcester, and they divorced in 1965, although they remained good friends until Nancy passed away.



Ronald met and married Wendy Dunbar in 1966. They remained in Worcester for a short time before moving to Montana, where they moved around a bit before settling in Havre. The couple had six children together. Ronald and Wendy also later divorced.

On April 1, 1989, Ronald met Debra Springer, and was instantly smitten. Ronald and Debra continued to date for four years, learning and sharing everything about each other and their families. In June 1993, Ronald asked Debra to marry him, and they married on Aug. 5, 1993. Their daughter, Angel, was born on Christmas 1995, and they remained in Hingham.

Through the years, Ronald worked as an apprentice lineman for the Great Northern Railroad, a signalman for the Burlington Northern Railroad, and as a journeyman electrician for Mack's Electric. Ronald went on to get his master electrician license in 1975. In 1981, he got certified as an electrical inspector general. While in Lewistown, he ran his own electrical company and was later employed as the state electrical inspector. When a position opened at the Havre Air Force base, he applied for and received the master electrician position. He moved to Havre where he remained until 1992, when he and Debra bought a house in Hingham. When the new contractors took over, they asked Ronald to stay as the new project manager/master electrician. He next worked at Northern Montana College as the electrician on campus.

When BNSF advertised for a locomotive electrician's job, Ronald applied and got the job. He remained until 2001 when his health started to decline. In 2009, he was forced to cease all work due to a partial leg amputation. Ronald returned home from Denver in a wheel chair, where he had been fitted with a prosthetic leg. He moved around using the aid of a walker or quad cane, but that didn't stop him from getting around. Sometimes he would forget he was supposed to use walking aids to help get around. Ronald continued to putter around the house and in his garage, doing tasks that had been put off.

Ronald enjoyed life to the fullest, never having any regrets. Working two jobs for most of his life, he still found or made time to take in the great outdoors. After he retired he had a lot more time to do the things he really enjoyed. He got to travel back east a couple of times to visit with his children, grandchildren, and some of the great-grandchildren. Family was an important factor in Ronald's life. Ronald really enjoyed hunting, boating, fishing, camping, horseshoes and just sitting around the campfire enjoying conversation with friends. Ronald also enjoyed playing pool, throwing darts, and dancing. Away or at home, he enjoyed playing Jenga and card games, especially pinochle and cribbage.

In the quiet time spent at home, he loved watching TV programs, John Wayne movies, Fox News, science fiction and especially the Western channel. He was a kind and generous man, who was a good judge of character when it came to people. He loved visiting with everyone, meeting someone new and learning about them, especially the things they may have had in common. Ronald will be greatly missed by all his family and his many friends. Ronald was a Disabled American Veteran and had been a member of the American Legion for many years. Ronald was preceded in death by his mother, his sister Marilyn and his brother, David.

Ronald is survived by Debra Sampson of Hingham, his loving wife of 23 years; his children, Debra (George) Smalanskas, Ron (Diane) Sampson, Shayne Sampson, Ricky (Kelly) Sampson, Timmy (Debbie) Sampson, Scott Sampson, Danny Sampson, Kim (Gary) Worthen, Virginia (Sampson) Starkey, Kelly (McKay) Bahr, Connie Young, Heather (Richard) Toombs, Heidi (James) Angell, Michael Sampson (fiancé Julia James), and Angel Sampson; 37 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; his sister Nancy (Paul) Millette; and his uncle Edward Sampson. A last request of Ronald's was that you do an act of kindness for someone. These things were very important to Ronald throughout his life.

Eileen Zentzis Schafer

Born: January 16, 1932 - November 29, 2017

Eileen was born to Stewart and Ethel (Peterson) Zentzis in Inverness on January 16, 1932. She was raised on the family farm near Inverness with her younger sister, Margie. She attended elementary school in Inverness and graduated from Joplin High School in 1950. After graduation she worked as a bookkeeper at the Farmer's Union in Rudyard.

She and Bill Schafer of Chester were married on March 9, 1952 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rudyard. They lived in Great Falls and Vacaville, California where Bill was stationed with the Air Force. They returned to farm the Zentzis farm in 1955, which they farmed until retiring in 1980. Their daughter, Debbie, was born in 1956 and son, Randy, was born in 1959.

Eileen enjoyed being a farm wife. She was a true help mate to Bill on the farm. She loved to play the piano and organ and in the early years gave piano lessons. She was a gifted seamstress. She made most of her daughter's and her own clothes. Family and many friends received beautiful quilts which she made. During her winters in Joplin she helped the quilters at Bethel Church. She was a loyal follower of her children's activities. She drove the activities school bus for several years for the Inverness and later Joplin-Inverness schools. She faithfully sent greeting cards to family and friends for special occasions. She loved visits from family and friend.

After Bill died in 1981 she spent half of each year at the family cabin at Apgar. In those 30 plus years she worked at a variety of businesses at Glacier Park. She enjoyed interacting with visitors from all over the world and sharing her love of the Park with them. Being at the cabin, among the trees with the sound of the creek nearby, was her favorite place to be.

When her health began to fail three years ago she became a resident of Wheat Country Estates and eventually the Liberty Medical Center. She passed away peacefully the evening of November 29, receiving tender attention from her caregivers at LMC whom she had come to treasure and love as part of her family.

She was preceded in death by her husband, parents and sister. She is survived by her daughter, Debbie (Lowell) Pimley of Littleton, Colorado and their daughters Ashley (Steve) Pool and Brittany (fiancé' Greg Wood) and son, Brian, all of the Denver area. Her son, Randy, Kalispell, survives her along with his son, William of Lakewood, Washington. She is also survived by cousin, Roger Zentzis (Marlene) of Inverness and several of Bill's nephews and nieces, including Betty Ann Wolery of Joplin and Judy (Bob) Sargent of Great Falls.

She was a kind lady with a special smile. Her family will gather in the summer to lay her to rest beside her husband in Joplin Cemetery. Eileen's family has requested that any memorials be given to the Hi-Line Health Foundation.

Joseph E. Seidlitz

Born: Unknown – Died: February 12, 2017

Joseph E. Seidlitz, 89, passed away February 12, 2017.

Vigil services will be held Thursday, February 16, at 7:00 PM. Funeral Mass will be held Friday, February 17. Both services will be at St. Mary Catholic Church in Chester.



Gail (Knaus) Shatkus

Born: June 4, 1959 – Died: March 27, 2017

Gail (Knaus) Shatkus, age 57, of Plymouth, Ohio passed away on Monday, March 27, 2017 at the Willows at Willard after a long illness. She was born on June 4, 1959 in Shelby, Ohio to Kent and Nancy Jane (Barbour) Knaus. She had quite the adventure in her life. She attended Plymouth High School, Bowling Green State University and had earned a Masters Degree from Ashland University. She was employed by Morton Thicol at the space center, Cape Canaveral, FL, was an assistant professor at the University of Montana and she was a certified welding inspector for the state of Montana. She was also working on a GPS system in Liberty County, Montana. She wrote the grants for installation of GPS Systems in Montana. She will always have Montana in her heart, she thought it was a wonderful place.

She is survived by her husband, Leonard Shatkus; father, Kent (Carol) Knaus; sister, Ann Knaus; brother, Andy Knaus; aunt, Sally Vanasdale; uncle, David Barbour; cousins, and very special friend, Bob Staley.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Nancy Knaus and maternal and paternal grandparents.

Her family would like to thank all of the people that stayed in touch with her and the family in her time of illness.

A graveside service will be held at 10:00 AM on April 8, 2017 at Maple Grove Cemetery with a memorial service following at 11:00 AM at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plymouth, Ohio with Pastor Blanche Tyree officiating. Lunch to follow the service at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Stein Hospice in Sandusky, Ohio or the First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Plymouth. Online condolences may be shared to the family by visiting www.secorfuneralhomes.com.

Published in the News Journal on Apr. 4, 2017

Karen Colleen Sloan

Born: December 19, 1941 - November 26, 2017

Karen Colleen Scalese Sloan was born December 19, 1941 in Chester, MT. She was the eldest of three children born to Hales Scalese and Ambjorg Jeppesen Scalese. She grew up on the family ranch in the Sweetgrass Hills and graduated from Oilmont High School in 1959.

Karen attended nurses training through Montana State College in Havre and Great Falls and became a registered nurse. She worked in Chester for several years before moving to Hawaii to work at the Queen's Hospital in Honolulu. She came home to Chester and met her husband, Duaine R. Sloan.

Karen and Dewey were married on June 30, 1968 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lothair. The couple moved to Havre, her beloved community for over 45 years.



Karen worked in Havre as the obstetrics supervisor and was proudly present at the birth of many hi-line babies in the 1960's and 70's. She was the Nurses Association's first "Nurse of the Year" in 1972, and briefly served as Director of Nursing. In 1980, she started at Hill County Family Planning and fought to provide access to women's and reproductive health on the Hi-line for 28 more years. She became a Nurse Practitioner in 1988. She reluctantly retired in 2008.

Karen and Dewey enjoyed bowling, pinochle club, and dancing together. Karen loved being a mom to Michael and K'Lynn and participated and supported their many school activities like Boy Scouts, football, theater, confirmation, speech, music and Key Club. She had five blessed years being a grandma to William and then Katherine. According to William, grandma made "the best pancakes in the universe."

She had a remarkable faith and was a member of First Lutheran Church. She served as council president, joyfully taught Sunday school and confirmation to many, and was so happy to share her faith with everyone in her daily life. She was also proud of her work on the Mosquito Control Board, United Way, the Governor's Priorities for People Council, and with the Democratic Party, running for the Legislature in 2012. She enjoyed giving all of herself to her community.

Karen was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in August. She spent the next two and a half months receiving treatment in Helena surrounded by her children and grandchildren. She died early Sunday morning, after spending a special weekend surrounded by her family, friends, godchildren, and reaching out to many she loved to let us know that she found peace and was excited to meet up with Dewey in heaven. She was 75 years old.

Karen was a unique and special lady whose life mission was to care for others. She did everything she could for everyone she could help, guide, counsel, assist, listen, and love, sometimes to her own detriment. She enjoyed her friends and coffee and bible study groups and was most happy when she was visiting with others. The world was blessed to have this woman in it.

She is survived by her father, Hales A. Scalese of Galata, her son Michael H. Sloan of Havre, daughter K'Lynn Sloan and Zach Harris of Helena, grandchildren William and Katherine Harris, brothers Harold "Sonny" & Karen Scalese of Sunburst, Steven Scalese & Diane Claxton of Chester, Special in laws Curtis and Mary Sloan of Great Falls and Thomas Ward of Raleigh, NC. Nephews Duaine Sloan and Harlan Sloan of Missoula, Larry Scalese and Beth Heron of Sunburst, niece Linda & Rod Keller of Great Falls, Cousins Pam Seidlitz and Ken Jeppesen of Great Falls and Connie (Ted) Mathis of Belgrade. Cousins Shirley Wilson, Dorothy Rennick, Rita Ward, John Ward, Margo Hendrix, Caroline Forseth, Kathy Hammer, Pete Ward, Judy Deaver, Marge Schwede, Joy Mariska and Jeanne Larson, and several great nieces and nephews and great-great nephews and numerous other generations of cousins. She was preceded in death by her husband Duaine, mother Amby Scalese, Sister in Law Linda Ward and by several cousins including Wallace Meissner and Karen Forseth.

Services will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, December 2nd at First Lutheran Church in Havre, followed by burial at the Chester Cemetery. Memorials may be made in her honor to First Lutheran Church and Planned Parenthood of Montana. Holland & Bonine Funeral Home has been entrusted with services and arrangements. Please visit www.hollandbonine.com to leave Karen's family a message of condolence.

Tim Snyder

Born: June 19, 1957 – Died: September 14, 2017

Tim Snyder, 60, passed away unexpectedly in his sleep on Sept. 14, 2017.

In Norfolk County Virginia, June 19, 1957, Larry and Ruth Snyder became proud parents of a little blonde-haired boy they named Tim.

Tim spent most of his childhood in Shelby, Montana before going after his Navy sea legs on the USS Ranger stationed at San Diego, California. From there, Tim worked for John Deere dealerships in Fort Benton and Chester before starting a career with the Chouteau County Sheriff's office. He eventually became a deputy/coroner for Liberty County Sheriff.

On April 19, 1982, Tim married the girl that stole his heart, Susan Anderson. The couple spent 22 years sharing fun and travels before her passing.

Later in life, Tim crossed paths with a beautiful woman named Marilyn Schmidt. On March 23, 2006, Marilyn and Tim decided to tie the knot. They enjoyed traveling on motorcycle adventures.

Tim is survived by his wife, Marilyn; stepdaughters, Alana Vosen of Bozeman, and Ariel (Justin) Jones of Great Falls; father, Larry Snyder of Columbia Falls; brothers, Paul (Theresa) and Tom, from Columbia Falls; sister, Dawn (Monte) Fauque of Shelby; numerous nieces and nephews.

He Tim was extremely excited to retire in October. He had plans of driving BNSF engines at grain shuttle facilities. He couldn't wait to ride his Harley, hunt, fish, go to hockey games visit friends and just relax. Tim was a generous caring person. He looked forward every year to ride in the Montana Hope Project. Tim loved his cats and Toys.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Susan; mother Ruth; brother Bob, and sister Karen Rost.

Services are at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 30, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester with burial following.



David “Butch” Kenneth Tempel

Born: April 1, 1948 – Died: November 29, 2017

David “Butch” Kenneth Tempel was a surprise arrival with his twin sister, Dolores; on April 1, 1948 to John and Leone Tempel in Havre, MT. He attended the Grassy Butte School from the first through seventh grade. He finished his high school education on as a Joplin Bulldog, and participated in basketball, track, and football where he set a school record in track.

He ran away from home and joined the Navy in 1967. Butch was stationed on the U.S.S. Lawrence in the M division as a machinist. When he got home, he started dating his first love, Lonna Lybeck. They were married on December 19, 1971. They moved to Billings, MT where he attended the vo-tech and received his associate degree and had their first daughter.

They moved back home north of Joplin, where he worked for Lloyd and Fern Wolery. He and Lonna continued to add to their family with two more daughters and a son. They purchased the Joplin Husky station. After he sold the station, he worked the family farm for several years before starting his construction company. He continued to help people make their homes beautiful to his last day.

Butch enjoyed fishing, camping, hunting, smoking turkeys and sharing with friends and family, and having magic campfires. He was an avid sports fan, following his children and grandchildren in their adventures and gaining more “grandchildren” in the process. He was never caught without a sucker to give out to all the kids that referred to him as “Papa”. He was the Joplin volunteer fire chief for many years. He was a reserve Liberty County Deputy and was on several boards, including the Joplin Water Board, Joplin Commercial club, Immanuel Lutheran church, the Disaster Relief board for Liberty County and other many other boards. He was generous with his time and would help anyone who was in need. He was the go-to guy people called on when they needed something fixed.

Butch passed away November 29, 2017. Services were held Tuesday, December 5, at Bethel Lutheran Church in Joplin. He is survived by his four children; Jennie (Curtis) Payne, Rebecca, Trusten, TyLynn; Jada (Cory) Fraser, Kayona, Abby; Jalena (Bret) Preeshl, Tande, Thatcher; and Jeb Tempel. Siblings: Linda (Dennis) Moore, twin sister Dolores (John) Cicon, Rod (Joanne) Tempel, Joan (Scott) Thompson, Tim (Carol) Tempel, and Scott (Christi) Tempel; several nieces, nephews, and cousins and one special friend Mary Walker and her family. He is preceded in death by his wife Lonna Lybeck Tempel, parents John and Leone Tempel, in-laws Clifford and Shirley Lybeck, grandson Dawson Fraser, and his favorite cat Sugar Daddy. Memorials can be sent to the Joplin Fire department, Joplin park, Joplin Commercial Club, or donor’s choice.



Lloyd H. Tracht

Born: July 30, 1938 – Died: October 3, 2017

Lloyd H. Tracht passed away on Tuesday, October 3, 2017, in Kalispell, Montana after a long battle against cancer.

Lloyd was born in Havre, Montana on July 30, 1938. Lloyd spent his childhood in the Rudyard, Montana area, living first in town and later on a dryland grain and cattle farm. In 1952, Lloyd moved with his family to Kalispell, Montana, where he graduated from Flathead County High School in 1956. Lloyd attended college in Missoula and then returned to Kalispell to help with the family farm. He was involved with several farming organizations and also raised cattle.

Among Lloyd's many hobbies were camping, fishing, hunting, painting, and landscape photography. His family and friends will remember him for his positive outlook and great sense of humor. A true Montanan, Lloyd enjoyed rides in the woods, helping friends, exchanging stories, and riding four wheelers. He was preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Ann Tracht. He is survived by his long-time friend Reuben Braaten, his sister Maryle Roll, his nephew John Roll, his great nephew Marshall Roll, and his niece Linda Robb.

Services will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2017, at 10:00 am at the Buffalo Hills Funeral Chapel in Kalispell. A reception will be held following the service. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your favorite charity. To send a note of condolence to the family please visit www.buffalohillfh.com. Buffalo Hill Funeral Home is caring for the family.

Robert Sage Turner

Born: August 5, 1931 – Died: March 14, 2017

Amazing Grace led our loved one into the presence of his Lord and Savior, Tuesday, March 14, 2017, in Yakima WA. Robert Sage Turner (Bob) was born August 5, 1931 in Havre, MT to Alex and Bessie Emma (Sage) Turner.

In 1953 Bob married Betty Jean Irving. They raised their six children on the family farm north of Chester.

Bob is survived by Betty, his wife of 63 1/2 years, and his children Bruce (Lourie) Turner of Libby, MT, Barry (Cindy) Turner of Irrigon, OR, Betha (Bruce) Pierson of Bozeman, MT, Jackie Lincoln Turner Ashbeck, Yakima, WA, Becky (Ken) Kinder of Longview, WA, and Blaine (Jodi) Turner of Yakima, WA; and numerous grand and great-grandchildren.

Bob is preceded in death by his parents Alex and Bessie Turner, and sons Bradley Ray and Bryan Lee.

A memorial service will be held April 1st in Chester MT at the Assembly of God Church at 11:30 am.



Alfred William Waite

Born: December 25, 1926 – Died: December 28, 2017

Alfred W Waite, 91 went to be with Mom on December 28, 2017. He was born on December 25, 1926 in Saco, MT to Horace and Henrietta (Niles) Waite. He lost his Mother at age 4 and he and his sister Lois were raised by his Grandparents Harry and Gertrude Niles.

Dad attended school in Saco and joined the Army in March of 1945 and was honorably discharged as Private First Class on his birthday in 1946. Dad was proud to have served his country and through his lifetime you could see it in how he displayed items in his garage and on his flagpole. When he returned, he worked for the US Forest Service for several months before finding a job in the Signal Department for the Great Northern Railroad. Finally in 1953 Dad went to work for Mountain States Telecom until his retirement in 1983.

Alfred married Audrey White on January 20, 1953 in Fort Benton, MT. They moved frequently with Alfred's Ma Bell job. From Fort Benton to Malta, Whitefish and Havre, Kalispell to Cut Bank and finally to Great Falls.

Dad was a member of the Eagles Auxillary, Veterans of Foreign War, American Legion and the Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. He loved animals, especially his best friend Dasher. You could find him out in the yard filling the bird feeders and giving the squirrels peanuts. Dad was a prankster, he was always putting stickers on our vehicles or nuts and bolts in our purse so when you got home you would find them and think of him. You knew you were loved if Dad was teasing you. If you wanted a vehicle he would tell you to get out there and work for it.

Dad and Mom had seven kids, daughters: Julie (Rodney Sr.) Kriedeman of Helena, Wanda (Jim) Banks and Norma of Great Falls, sons: Duane (Lynett), Ronald (Berta) and Timothy all of Great Falls and Alvin (Lue) of Havre.

Dad was preceded in death by his wife Audrey, his daughter Wanda, son-in-law Rodney Kriedeman Sr., sister-in-law Cecilia Jeppesen and brother-in-law Jerry White.

Dad is survived by his children Julie, Duane, Alvin, Ronald, Norma and Tim. Grandchildren: Rodney Kriedeman Jr.; Dustin Steele, Derrick (Nicole) Waite, Leann (Trent Brown) Waite; Nikole (Nick Rosman) Waite, Tiana (Justin) Boyce; Geneva (Mike) Joseph, Kayce (James Kruger) Waite, Stacey (Spencer) Buckman; Tyler (Taylor Hele) Waite; Jennifer (Chris) Upchurch and James (Casie) Banks. Great Grandchildren: Paige (Joshua) Schleining and Chase Kriedeman; Thomas Steele, Cain and Kairi Waite; Taivin Rosman and Tristan Friede and Madison Boyce; Allisyn Lamere and Ashley and Aaron Joseph; Jordan, Alexandra and Catalina Upchurch and Brooke, Kayleigh and Aria Banks, great-great grandchildren: Ellee and Piper Schleining, plus two more great-great granddaughters arriving in January and February of 2018.



Alfred's sister Lois Shore, niece Kathy Shore, and nephew Harry Shore of Polson and sisters and brothers-in-law: Donna Minnick, Herb White, James White, Carl White, Rose Gehl, Mary Vollmar, Leona Peske and Eddy White, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Alfred was also a Dad to many of the neighborhood kids through the years, Doreen & Russ, Bubba, Della & Vic, Dennis and Mike to name a few. If you spent the night outside in his yard in a sleeping bag and you were sleeping when he was headed to work in the morning you might be awakened by the sprinklers being turned on. A special thank you to all of you for being there with us this week.

A celebration of life will be held when the weather warms up. A memorial fund has not been set up yet due to the holiday. Cards of condolence may be sent to PO Box 667, Havre, MT 59501.

Edna Caroline Wickens

Born: June 1, 1921 – Died: November 17, 2017

Edna Caroline Wickens passed away November 17, 2017 at Pondera Medical Center Extended Care.

Funeral mass will be held Tuesday, November 21, at 11:00 AM at St. Mary Catholic Church in Chester. Burial to follow in the Catholic Section of Chester Cemetery.

Edna was born June 1, 1921 in Lothair to Eugene "Ike" and Jessie "Annie" Diemert. Edna married William Wickens on November 26, 1941 in Chester. They later divorced in 1972.

In 1973 Edna began working as a clerk in the Cascade County Treasurer's office and worked for 16 years in the same office until retiring in 1989. In 2010 she moved to the Skyline Lodge in Choteau and in 2012 moved to the Sweetgrass Lodge in Chester.

Edna was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church, Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Great Falls, and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Choteau.

Survivors include sons, Allan Wickens of Ketchikan, AK and Wyatt Wickens of Fairbanks, AK; and daughter, Sharon Vick of Cupertino, CA.

She is preceded in death by her parents; brother, Clark Diemert; and sisters, Jessie Diemert and Abbie Skierka.



Lloyd Earl Wolery

Born: October 23, 1931 – Died: September 20, 2017

Lloyd Earl Wolery, youngest son of homesteaders, Guy and Blanche (Wilson) Wolery was born on October 23, 1931 in Deer Park, Washington. The family moved back to the north Joplin homestead in 1932. Lloyd's elementary school years were spent at Grassy Butte and Minnesota rural schools. He graduated from Joplin High School in 1949. As a farm kid, Lloyd learned about machinery, weather, crops, critters, hard work, and just getting by as did every other farm kid of his generation.

He took the jump into marriage in 1956. He often joked that they spent the week of October 23 to 26 in one big party (two birthdays and an anniversary).

Lloyd took over the farm from his Dad in 1957, putting in crops and running cattle. Always interested in new things, he and brother Wayne went to AI school in Utah and began artificially inseminating cattle, a first for our area. Lloyd served as unofficial veterinarian for the north country and he also had the first big round baler in our area. Lloyd enjoyed working with horses and riding for fun. Lloyd and his wife, Fern, raised four kids on the farm and several of the "hired men" were just like his own.



Lloyd served with Hill County EMS as first responder, teacher and CPR instructor, activity bus driver for JI schools, Immanuel Church Council, Hill County Commission, Montana Simmental Board (sale chairman, board member, president), Joplin Park Board and chief cook for the Pitchfork Fondue outfit. He was a member of New Beginnings Lutheran Church in Rudyard and Immanuel Lutheran in North Joplin.

After their big move to town, he kept busy with the park, the snow shovel and the lawn mower. During those years, Lloyd and Fern enjoyed many condo exchanges in many different states with friends and neighbors, Jerry and Mary Lois Hybner.

A tussle with a chunk of concrete and its after effects changed Lloyd's life completely. He spent the last several years close to home but still enjoyed visits from family and friends. He loved his family, friends, and his Lord Jesus.

Lloyd passed away September 20, 2017.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Royal (Mary), Olyn (Bernece), Wayne (Betty), and Elvyn (Eileen); sister, Opal (Norris) Harrison; well-loved nephews, Leroy, Sterling, and Donald; and almost brothers, Vern (Loreene) Pimley and Bob Connor.

He is survived by his wife, Fern; sons, Dan (Debbie) of Chester, Bryon (Jana) of Inverness; daughters, Sandra (Wayne) Johnson of Kalispell, Kathleen (Jeff) Pimley of Colstrip, and brother-in-law, Ray (Alice) Sterling of Eureka. He leaves behind 12 grandkids and 6 great grands. Lloyd is also survived by sons and daughters of the heart, Dale and Jim Davy, Clyde Richter, Russ Pimley, Tom, Carol, and Linda Bangs, Josh Lincoln, numerous nieces and nephews and several young folks he considered "grandkids."

Memorial services will be held Tuesday, September 26, at 11:00AM at the Joplin Community Hall. A "Pitchfork Fondue" will follow service.

Fay Marie Wolfe

Born: July 25, 1936 – Died: October 16, 2017

Fay Marie (Heimbigner) Wolfe, 81, of Chester, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 16, 2017.

Visitation will be Thursday, October 19, from 4 to 7pm at Rockman Funeral Chapel. Funeral services will be Friday, October 20, at 11:00 AM at Our Savior Lutheran Church. Burial will be in Erickson Cemetery followed by a reception at the church.

Fay was born on July 25, 1936 in Chester. She was raised in Chester and graduated from Chester High School. On December 11, 1953, Fay married her high school sweetheart, Dean R. Wolfe, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Chester when she was 16 years old. Fay worked as a telephone operator until they acquired some neighboring farmland, including the old Gunder Strand place.

In the late 1970's, the Wolfes and several friends purchased Laas Bar in Chester. They helped operate the lounge, restaurant, and dancehall for 10 years before selling it.

In the early 1980's, a group of Hi-Line investors, including Dean and Fay, were instrumental in the development of the Meadow Lake Golf Course in Columbia Falls. After a few years, the Wolfes sold their interests in the project.

Dean and Fay moved into Chester in 1982. They retired from farming in 1998 and continued to make Chester their home.

Fay enjoyed crocheting. They had transformed a bus into a camper and she spent many days and summers camping at the lake.

Survivors include daughters, Deanna (Don) Hull and Tracie (Rob) Romanchuk both of Chester and Jan (Dave) Winegar of Helena; grandchildren, Daved (Alisha) Hull, Deena (Michael) Nelson, Dolan (Paula) Hull, Korey Romanchuk, Christine (Matt) Gregoire, and Matthew Wolfe; great grandchildren, Molly, Nate, Levi, Jenell, & Josie Nelson, Tyson, Tatum, Timber, & Teagan Hull, and Jennifer Gregoire; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Dean; parents; sister, Audrey Stewart; son, Rod Wolfe; and grandson, Bradley Lancaster.

Memorials can be made to Hi-Line WABC and Hi-Line Health Foundation.



Reverend Charles Allen Woodworth

Born: 1929? – Died: February 10, 2017

Reverend Charles Allen Woodworth, age 88, entered eternal life on February 10, 2017, in Great Falls, MT. A family graveside service has already taken place.

He is survived by his beloved wife and their children, grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Hillcrest Memorial Chapel, 1410 13th St. S. in Great Falls on April 12, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. with Reverend Grover Briggs presiding. In lieu of flowers or gifts, the family requests Pastor Chuck's lifetime commitment to those in need be remembered with memorial donations to the Great Falls Rescue Mission, PO Box 129, Great Falls 59403; Family Promise of Great Falls, PO Box 455, Great Falls 59403; or to your local Food Bank.

Condolences for the family may be mailed to PO Box 815, Cut Bank, MT 59427.

