In memoriam

September 2021

The Montana Standard

In Memoriam

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ABOUT THIS SECTION

In Memoriam started in July 2019 and publishes six times a year. The section honors the memories of the community members we've lost during the prior two-month period. This edition includes those whose obituary appeared between June 28 and August 29.

Adams - Breitag

Marilynn Lucille Adams
April 11, 1947 - Aug. 13, 2021

Loretta Gay Ashcraft
Sept. 11, 1934 - June 30, 2021

Joyce Roberta Baumberger
GREAT FALLS
April 20, 1928 - July 6, 2021

Valeria Elvera (Blaskovich) Bleile
Jan. 8, 1932 - July 12, 2021

Marian Joyce Alexander
Nov. 4, 1934 - Aug. 18, 2021

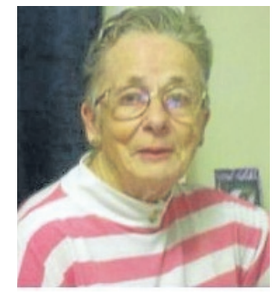
Roney G. Audo
BUTTE
May 26, 1955 - Aug. 2, 2021

Lois Marie Bennie
Feb. 5, 1934 - July 9, 2021

Michelle Denae Bouley
Jan. 15, 1968 - July 10, 2021

Betty Lewis Ambo
April 4, 1925 - July 14, 2021

Noreen Margaret Austin
June 22, 1936 - June 26, 2021

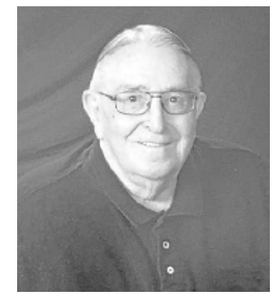


Mary Bice
FORMERLY OF DEER LODGE
May 9, 1936 - July 21, 2021

Jared Scott Bowser
Aug. 1, 1997 - Aug. 10, 2021

John Frederick Anderson
WHITEHALL
Oct. 13, 1933 - July 29, 2021

Patrick John Baker
BUTTE
Oct. 18, 1942 - Aug. 11, 2021



John Bleile
June 9, 1943 - Aug. 15, 2021

Kay Walund Breitag
May 23, 1939 - Aug. 15, 2021

Bronson - Forhan

George Bronson
July 27, 1940 - June 27, 2021

Jean Suydam Burns
BUTTE
1926 - Aug. 21, 2021

Dr. Claudia Ann (Hoy) Clague
July 5, 1934 - Aug. 16, 2021

John "Joe" William Crooker
March 25, 1945 - July 23, 2021

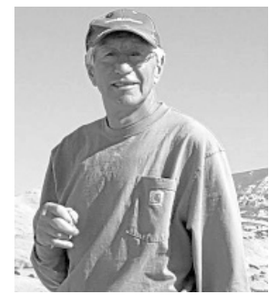
Bertha Linda Descharme
Jan. 9, 1930 - Aug. 6, 2021

Brad Evans
LAS VEGAS, NV
Sept. 8, 1976 - July 11, 2021

Rita Pauline Brown
April 7, 1958 - July 9, 2021

Mary Ellen Butala
Oct. 13, 1933 - July 18, 2021

Ramona Clark
BUTTE
Dec. 26, 1929 - April 1, 2021



Donald Fletcher Davies
Oct. 4, 1952 - July 13, 2021

Roland Lawrence Dilley
June 29, 1943 - July 1, 2021

Joseph Ferguson
May 22, 1949 - May 14, 2021

Thomas Alan Brown
June 30, 1964 - Aug. 16, 2021

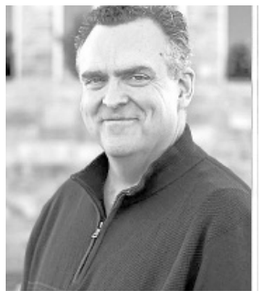
Robert E. Casagrande
April 18, 1947 - May 15, 2021

William Michael "Billy" Clark
Feb. 17, 1956 - July 25, 2021

Donna Sylvia Davis
Aug. 29, 1937 - July 18, 2021

Elda Mercedes (Balfour) Drew
March 7, 1928 - July 8, 2021

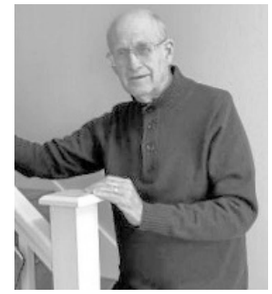
Kathryn Louise Flick
SHERIDAN
1932 - July 16, 2021



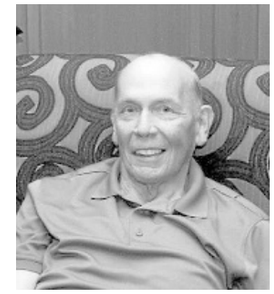
Joe Burger
FATE, TX
Oct. 14, 1966 - July 30, 2021

Robert Churchill
Nov. 15, 1952 - April 24, 2021

Roberta "Berta" Connors Clowes
BUTTE
Dec. 26, 1938 - June 26, 2021



Paul Davis
June 7, 1948 - July 17, 2021



Dr. Robert Edward Engebrecht
Sept. 12, 1936 - July 14, 2021

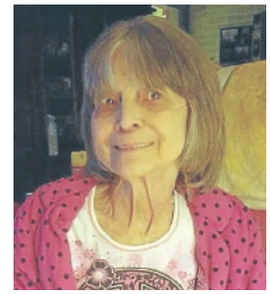
Alice (Mehrens) Forhan
VACAVILLE, CA
April 14, 19224 - July 26, 2021

Forkan - Lazzari

Joseph "Joe" T. Forkan
Jan. 21, 1932 - Aug. 15, 2021

Andrew Gray
Oct. 11, 1985 - May 25, 2021

Carl Oscar Halvorson
Oct. 3, 1934 - June 25, 2021



Janice Lee Hoffman
May 2, 1941 - June 11, 2021

Walter William Johnson
July 5, 1940 - Aug. 13, 2021

Kenneth "Ken" Glenn Kopp
OPPORTUNITY
Aug. 14, 1937 - June 27, 2021

Harold Forsman
DILLON
Sept. 19, 1937 - June 28, 2021

Ethel M. (McWilliams) Halsey
Oct. 9, 1945 - Aug. 22, 2021

Richard "Hawkeye, Dick" Lee Hauck
BUTTE
March 25, 1942 - June 20, 2021

Lorraine Estelle Hulverson
July 10, 1927 - June 28, 2021

Bernice "Bea" Era Jorgensen
Feb. 13, 1934 - March 30, 2020

Robert J. "Pudgy" Kovacich II
May 2, 1963 - July 9, 2021

Philip R. "Ray" Giudici
May 26, 1933 - Aug. 12, 2021

Beth Ann Halvorsen
Sept. 28, 1963 - July 28, 2021

Josephine Marie (Parini) Hiltunen
BUTTE
Nov. 25, 1934 - July 29, 2021

Kieran Anne Johnson
July 7, 1950 - July 28, 2021

Francis James "Peanuts" Joseph
Jan. 3, 1926 - Aug. 14, 2021

Richard James Krum
BUTTE
May 23, 1950 - June 27, 2021

Sandra Lee Graham
April 28, 1946 - Aug. 1, 2021

William "Willy" Mose Halvorsen
Nov. 17, 1964 - July 29, 2021

Billie Hodges-Hennelly
Jan. 18, 1976 - June 10, 2021

Ronald Lee Johnson Jr.
Aug. 28, 1995 - July 5, 2021

Arlene Koetting
SPOKANE, WA
Nov. 24, 1934 - July 5, 2021

Daniel Robert Lazzari
April 25, 1968 - July 21, 2021

Loranger - Montoya

Virginia "Ginny" Loranger
Nov. 18, 1931 - July 30, 2021

Rose Maloney
ALDER
Sept. 29, 1924 - Aug. 19, 2021

Matthew Charles Matich
Aug. 18, 1932 - July 7, 2021

Zena Beth McGlashan
BUTTE
July 19, 1939 - June 22, 2021

Harold James Miller Jr.
July 20, 1947 - July 24, 2021

Napoleon John Montoya
Sept. 17, 1927 - July 21, 2021

Patricia Ann Lorello
ANACONDA
Oct. 23, 1931 - June 25, 2021

Margaret Martell
March 19, 1953 - July 6, 2021

John Thomas "Jack" McCaffery
March 15, 1944 - June 10, 2021

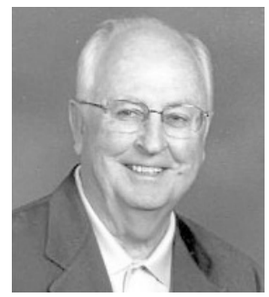
Margaret "Margie" Jean McMahon
Feb. 23, 1967 - Aug. 10, 2021

William G. Mitchell
July 29, 1951 - Aug. 4, 2021

Rudy D. Montoya
ALBUQUERQUE, NM
Feb. 19, 1952 - Dec. 12, 2020

Judith Ann (Bugni) Lowney
Feb. 11, 1946 - July 2, 2021

Harry Clair Martz
Aug. 14, 1943 - Aug. 4, 2021



James McCaughey
Aug. 24, 1929 - July 2, 2021

Johns Lyons
May 29, 1938 - July 9, 2021

Louis C. Matesich
Aug. 30, 1928 - July 30, 2021

Heath Logan McCloskey
ALASKA
Aug. 23, 1988 - June 15, 2021

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Mullen - Plutt

Sister Mary Bridget Mullen
Died June 30, 2021

Derla Irene Newton
BUTTE
March 9, 1936 - June 23, 2021

Darlene Joy Olson
WHITEHALL
March 23, 1939 - July 10, 2021

Carol Ann Panion
Feb. 16, 1949 - July 19, 2021

Mary Elizabeth "Liz" Perusich
Sept. 29, 1943 - July 23, 2021

Paul Ployhar
MELSTONE
April 25, 1932 - June 30, 2021

Karl "Curly" John Muniz
BUTTE
March 7, 1956 - Aug. 2, 2021

Martha M. Oaas
Died Sept. 22, 2020

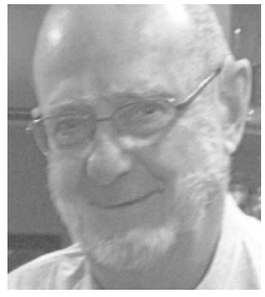
Cody Tanner O'Neal
BUTTE
Aug. 23, 1987 - Aug. 15, 2021

Darold James "Ponch" Pansch
July 3, 1930 - Aug. 23, 2021

Ronald Roy Peterson
April 15, 1942 - Aug. 4, 2021

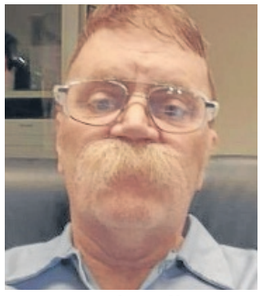
Constance Mary Finnegan Plutt
July 11, 1940 - July 10, 2021

Robert "Bob" Naugle
BUTTE
Nov. 19, 1950 - July 5, 2021



James Bernard O'Leary
Dec. 14, 1937 - July 15, 2021

Robert O'Reilly
HELENA
Sept. 30, 1941 - July 27, 2021



Kevin Neff
July 7, 1962 - July 15, 2021

Timothy Allen Olsen
Sept. 15, 1951 - July 28, 2021

Eufelia Ortega
May 5, 1919 - Aug. 22, 2021

IN LOVING memory

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Podorski - Sherick

Nancy Mae Podorski
Jan. 13, 1952 - Aug. 7, 2021

Sandra Grey Radonich
May 31, 1933 - July 21, 2021

Eugene "Gene" Michael Reilly
Nov. 2, 1940 - June 9, 2021

Donna Rose Royse
July 7, 1936 - July 31, 2021

Doris Sevores
Oct. 15, 1927 - July 21, 2021

Brenda Lee Shea
July 12, 1949 - July 3, 2021

Curtis Preece
May 17, 1979 - Aug. 6, 2021

James William Ralph
BUTTE
March 27, 1965 - Aug. 2, 2021

James F. "Jim" Rickard
July 31, 1957 - Aug. 12, 2021

Jerome Paul "Jerry" Schutz
March 11, 1943 - Aug. 7, 2021

Theodore Charles "Ted" Shaw
Jan. 25, 1942 - July 9, 2021

Diane M. Sherick
GREAT FALLS
June 10, 1942 - Aug. 13, 2021

Dorothy Jean Privett
March 18, 1946 - June 23, 2021

Eugene G. Rebich
July 15, 1943 - July 6, 2021

Robert "Bob" Eugene Rodrigues
Oct. 16, 1954 - July 25, 2021

Dorleen Probasco
Aug. 29, 1922 - Jan. 9, 2021

Helen Dorothy Rebich
Nov. 28, 1931 - Aug. 17, 2021

Donna Roth
1935 - July 7, 2021

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Sichveland - Walkingshaw

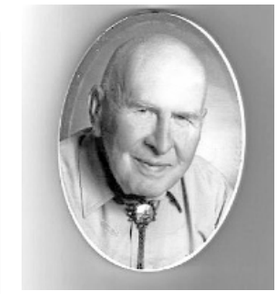
Louann Sichveland
March 9, 1941 - July 7, 2021

Carole A. Standa
March 23, 1941 - July 20, 2021

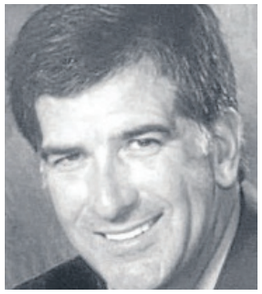
Joseph James "Joe J." Sullivan
Oct. 2, 1932 - May 28, 2021

Jeanne Marie (Joki) Tanner
Jan. 16, 1925 - Nov. 9, 2020

Keith Lomax Trowbridge
June 17, 1930 - July 3, 2021



Richard M. Venable
MISSOULA
Sept. 22, 1926 - July 15, 2021



Charles Slaughter
Oct. 30, 1956 - March 20, 2021

Dolores Haller Stauffer
Sept. 8, 1934 - Nov. 17, 2020

Virginia Sullivan
WEST SEATTLE, WA
July 2, 1936 - July 8, 2021

Margie Thompson
Jan. 4, 1941 - Aug. 17, 2021

Jack John Robert van Meel
April 18, 1958 - July 19, 2021

Carole L. Walkingshaw
BUTTE
July 1, 1946 - July 25, 2021

Robert Delane Smith
BUTTE
Jan. 31, 1941 - July 10, 2021

Barbara Regina Strong
Oct. 14, 1955 - Aug. 16, 2021

Lynda L. Surplis
July 6, 1953 - July 25, 2021

Robert M. Tilley
BUTTE
Dec. 20, 1924 - Nov. 24, 2020

William "Bill" Smyers
May 20, 1928 - June 23, 2021

Daniel J. Sullivan
May 15, 1925 - Aug. 23, 2021

Kenneth Robert "Ken" Svejkovsky
Aug. 6, 1962 - Aug. 10, 2021

Timothy Matthew Tolon
July 21, 1952 - Aug. 20, 2021

Thank You

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Weaver - Worring

Lois Kathryn "Kay" (Mitton) Weaver
DRUMMOND
Jan. 8, 1941 - July 24, 2021

Kenneth "Nick" Williams
Nov. 12, 1951 - June 23, 2021

Robert Michael "Mike" Weis
Feb. 25, 1958 - Oct. 26, 2020

Patricia Wills (Farrell)
March 27, 1955 - Aug. 12, 2021

Rose Marie White
Aug. 1, 1938 - July 9, 2021

Steven Michael Wood
Sept. 17, 1959 - July 15, 2021

James Timothy "Tim" Williams
Dec. 28, 1964 - July 28, 2021

Rita E. (Sconfienz) Worring
Sept. 23, 1938 - Aug. 13, 2021

Tips for finding an estate attorney

The intricate details required to make documents legal are not worth gambling when estate planning. Your best bet is to work with an estate attorney who can ensure your belongings and finances are handled per your wishes after death.

Modern technology makes claims that those concerned with creating end-of-life plans can easily create documents through free or affordable websites. But a local attorney is a safer bet.

When you're researching local attorneys, it's beneficial to meet with a few experts to gauge your compatibility. During your meeting, the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys encourages you to ask these questions to understand an attorney's qualifications and experience regarding estate planning.

- Does the practice emphasize a particular area of law?
- What percentage of the firm is devoted to special needs planning?
- How long has the attorney been in practice or the field?

It's imperative to be clear with the goals you aim to accomplish when pre-planning so you're both prepared to create a solid strategy.

What is an Estate Planning Attorney?

When becoming an estate lawyer, a bar-certified attorney must specialize in estate planning to understand how to direct clients through the process. They are experts in the federal and state laws required to create documents legally.

Complex Details

Working with an expert estate lawyer is imperative when preparing your pre-planning strategy. Since each state may set its specific regulations and requirements, their expertise is invaluable to ensure your assets are covered to full protection.

Some areas feature differing laws regarding property rights for spouses, rights for children to inherit and responsibilities for estate and inheritance taxes.

Avoid DIY Planning

When creating a concrete estate plan, it's best to avoid DIY methods to save a few bucks. Since your final arrangements are meant to ensure your financial obligations and assets are legally appointed, mistake-free documentation is crucial.

An expert estate attorney can not only draft secure documentation, but they will stand by it and update it as requirements change, or at a client's request.

- Green Shoot Media

Text Tributes

Denny A. Bowen
Aug. 14, 1972 - Aug. 17, 2021

Bessie Lee Buie
MISSOULA
Oct. 29, 1932 - July 1, 2021

Jerry L. Harpster
PRINEVILLE, OR
Feb. 27, 1940 - July 5, 2021

Deborah Ann "Debbie" Heffern
BUTTE
April 12, 1951 - Aug. 9, 2021

Larry L. Martin
TWIN BRIDGES
Jan. 28, 1942 - March 28, 2020

Michele Ann McQueary
July 31, 1949 - Aug. 6, 2021

Larry Lee Morrison
WEST RICHLAND, WA
April 11, 1950 - Aug. 23, 2020

Atlas Angel Pesanti
Died July 31, 2021

Betty Lou Thompson
Oct. 26, 1928 - June 29, 2021

Jakob Allen Washburn
March 10, 1997 - Aug. 15, 2021

What is a Lady Bird deed?

Lady Bird deeds, or an enhanced life estate deed, are critical planning strategies for Medicaid recipients.

The program simply guarantees that a homeowner continues control of their property until his or her death. Once the owner dies, the household is automatically transferred to the specified beneficiary without going through probate.

The deed got its nickname when Lyndon B. Johnson used it to transfer property to his wife, "Lady Bird Johnson." There are minor differences between this specialized strategy and a traditional life estate deed. However, the changes can benefit those in specific situations.

According to the American Council on Aging, a traditional deed limits a homeowner's power over the property. Once the plan is approved, the life tenant cannot sell or mortgage the building without approval from the beneficiary.

With a lady bird deed, the recipient will automatically receive the title at the time of the trustor's death but has no rights to the home until the death occurs.

What it Means for Medicaid Members

At the time of death of a Medicaid recipient, the states typically try to recover some accrued expenses while covering long-term care for the person. Since a home is often someone's most expensive asset, it is often the subject of interest.

The process is called estate recovery and typically occurs during probate.

Since lady bird deeds don't require the court process after death, the home is automatically transferred at the time of death. Residencies protected under this clause cannot be subject to an attempted reimbursement from Medicaid.

Should You Hire an Attorney?

Absolutely. Ensuring your estate is secure after perishing offers peace of mind and guarantees that your chosen loved ones will inherit the property.

Since lady bird deeds are not permitted in all states, some jurisdictions use more extensive tactics to obtain reimbursement, like extended estate recovery, protection may be disqualified. If you live in an area that does not allow the specialized deed, ask your attorney for other measures to keep your home in your family's possession.

Sit down with a local attorney to discuss how, when and why you should consider this unique type of deed as part of your estate planning process.

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Estate planning tips for newlyweds

Making estate or end-of-life planning is likely the last thing on your mind after beginning life as a married couple.

However, with the new unity, the responsibility of protecting your spouse in case of an untimely death is critical. Experts say that thinking about estate planning early in the marriage process can actually be a bonding experience.

Discussing estate planning isn't always easy. However, the journey must be traveled together. If your spouse is hesitant to approach the subject, share the importance of its meaning and the peace of mind gained once it is achieved. Begin your life together by following these tips to secure the future for both parties and any children involved.

Combine Your Documents

After your marriage, you will receive a certificate that shows the legality of your union. Take this opportunity to combine it with other vital documents and keep them in a secure, fireproof safe. It's also a good idea to make separate copies and store them in an off-site location like a deposit box.

A few forms you should include are birth certificates, social security cards, passports and documents that represent your children. You will also need to be honest about financial information like bank accounts, life insurance policies and retirement plans.

Set a List of Goals

Writing a list of goals for your estate can help you meet milestones and make more significant attempts to save to meet your vision. Consider deciding on a set amount that will benefit your loved ones and a sum that goes to a chosen charity.

Work together to make a plan, set achievements and reach your accomplishments. One significant advantage is to work with an expert estate planning attorney who can provide the right steps you should take.

Create a Will and Trust

A secure will or trust is an excellent place to begin when drafting your estate plans. The documents or accounts can express your desires for distributing your assets or finances without loved ones facing drawn-out probate processes.

Of course, remember to update your final wishes as you welcome children into the world or life situations change.

- Green Shoot Media

Become an organ donor

When you make a commitment to donate healthy organs or tissue at the time of your death, you positively impact the lives of others. When planning your legacy, it's easy to have your loved ones at the forefront of your mind, but a simple registration could influence the life of a stranger.

According to the United States Department of Health & Human Services, there are two ways to sign up to be an organ donor. From the comfort of your home, visit their website and fill out a simple form. If you would rather complete the process with a representative, the experts at the local Department of Motor Vehicles can help.

Statistics

There are thousands of Americans in need of healthy organs or tissue. Here are some sobering statistics from the United Network of Organ Sharing, to show you the importance of registering:

- A person is added to the national transplant waiting list every ten minutes.
- In 2018, there were 33,432 transplants performed.

How you can help

Adults who are legal citizens in the United States are eligible to donate organs at the time of death, and, in some cases, during their lifetime. Of course, certain diseases may inhibit your from becoming a donor; be honest about your health conditions during registration.

Some things that may prevent someone from applying are an HIV infection, cancer or a systemic infection. Keep in mind that organs that aren't affected from these diseases may qualify, so visit a representative to discuss your options.

Talking with family

Make sure to discuss your wishes with your family. Conversations regarding death are never easy. You should approach the subject with sensitivity by discussing the benefits that registration offers to others. Your loved ones may even be curious as to how they register for the national donor list.

In Memoriam

TRIBUTE SECTION

REMEMBER THE LOVED ONES LOST WITH THIS SPECIAL TRIBUTE SECTION

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