

# Remembering those who left us during the past year

The following obituaries appeared in the *Big Timber Pioneer* for the year 2003:

## JANUARY

Darwin J. Sathre, age 92  
Richard (Dick) Harper, age 69  
William "Jim" Bretzel, age 77  
Adeline Sylvia Manis, age 90  
Morris J. Tronrud, age 73  
Veva Dean Stoessel, age 73  
Alice Van Campen, age 95  
Thomas Joseph Rose, age 20  
Charles William Campbell, Jr., age 72  
Donald Andrew Jennings, age 50  
Elmer C. Skaarland, age 83

## FEBRUARY

Ananais George (Nai) Cook, age 90  
Woods A. "Toby" Caperton III, age 68  
Betty Olson Jones, age 82  
Donald Stetson Todd, age 41

## MARCH

Corwin R. Lamach, age 63  
Christine Marie "Chris" Kearney, age 35  
Theodore (Teddy) Amos Thompson, age 83

Verna Haugstad, age 82  
James Boe, age 73  
Donald O. Hauge, age 87  
Ellen Evelyn Plaggemeyer, age 90  
Jerald Max "Jerry" Everson, age 70

## APRIL

Lois J. Reed, age 73  
Lucille Clark, age 85  
Astrid Stene, age 88  
Mary Savage, age 79  
Henry Elgen, age 89  
Akira Elizabeth Olson, infant  
Lawrence Furstenberg, age 71

## MAY

James Dale Gottlob, age 82  
Isabelle Todd Birkeland, age 88  
Theodore (Ted) Fichtner, age 90

## JUNE

Owen Moore, age 79  
Robert Edward Rule, age 78  
Mary E. Myrskog, age 65

## JULY

Ruth May Bernice Rostad, age 77  
George J. Mathes, age 90  
Erling Satre, age 100  
Nell B. Algard-Betz

(Announcement ran July 2003, actual date of death November 26, 2002; no date of birth or age was furnished)

Lydia Frank Fichtner, age 88  
Walter Herbert Nicholson, age 82  
Linda Ann Chapel, age 53  
Alta Eula Campanella, age 103

## AUGUST

Anna Johanna Zorn, age 97  
Charles A. Fallang, age 95  
Ruth Pierson Johnson, age 86  
Hazel Skaarland Smasne, age 80

## SEPTEMBER

Larissa Haarr, age 27  
Lois Knowles Williams, age 90  
Juanita Almeda Hale, age 84  
Charles Roman Freeberg, age 86  
August "Gus" Mathes, Jr., age 90  
Signy Marie Wullum Deeney, age 102

## OCTOBER

Florence H. Harper, age 77  
Robert (Bob) Simmons, age 89  
Lennard Frances Mosness, age 83

Sigrud Jarrett, age 83  
Wyatt Royal Westervelt, 22  
Hilda C. Coster, 93

## NOVEMBER

William Hart Forsythe, 83  
Lawrence D. Smith, 63  
Elizabeth J. "Betty" Baskett, 76  
Warren Louis Lintz, 84  
Jennie Snyder, 94  
Gerald McCurry Connolly, 81

## DECEMBER

Glen Harold Kenison, 71  
Louise Gibson, 94  
Ella Mae Moore, 88  
Peter Baker, 87  
Wilbert Wesley Phares, 88  
James T. Ross, 78  
Ora "Orie" Thompson, 88  
Jeanne Elgen, 86

**THANKS!**  
For Reading  
The Pioneer!

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## Obituaries

### Jeanne Elgen

Jeanne Elgen, age 86, passed away peacefully in Missoula on December 20 with her daughter, Connie and son-in-law Jack Byrne, at her side.

Jeanne was born on June 20, 1917 to Charles and Helen Nicholson at McLeod. She attended schools in McLeod and Big Timber and graduated from Sweet Grass County High School in 1935.

After graduation she attended Johnson Business College in Billings before accepting employment with the County Agent at the Sweet Grass County Courthouse. While employed there she met County Sheriff Ralph "Bus" Jarrett. They were married in 1940 and lived in Big Timber until 1943 when Ralph's term as sheriff was completed, and then moved to his Tomahawk Ranch on Mendenhall Creek. They moved down to the lower ranch on Jarrett Creek in 1948 and lived there until his death in a haying accident in 1950. She continued to run the ranch after Bus's death. They had three children, Monte, Steven, and Connie Jarrett.

She met Henry Elgen at the shooting range in Big Timber. They were married September 3, 1954 and continued to work and live on the ranch west of Big Timber until 1962 when they built a house in town. They had one son, John Elgen.

Jeanne worked in the Sweet Grass County Sheriff's Office as a stenographer, radio dispatcher and deputy from 1962 until her retirement in 1980. Jeanne was very proud of her work at the Sheriff's Office and she had some interesting stories to tell about her adventures in transporting women to Warm Springs and Galen. She also taught some classes at the Police Academy in Bozeman.

Jeanne was very active in the Sweet Grass County Red Cross, a long time member of the American Legion Auxiliary and a founding member of the Crazy Mountain Museum.

Jeanne loved to fish, sew, crochet and oil paint. She enjoyed the winters they spent in Arizona. She also enjoyed spending time with

family and friends.

Jeanne and Henry moved to Missoula in November of 1999 to an assisted living facility. After Henry's death on April 17, 2003 she moved to the smaller, more personal Beehive Homes assisted living. She enjoyed her final months there very much, especially all the attention and care she received from the staff.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, Donald Nicholson and Dick Nicholson, and sister Marian Cashen as well as a son, Steven Jarrett, in an auto accident in 1962.

She is survived by two sons, Monte Jarrett of Big Timber, and John Elgen of Great Falls, and daughter Connie Jarrett Byrne and her husband Jack of Missoula; two granddaughters, Gina Breeding (Will) Rothrock of Spanaway, Washington, Cindy Breeding (Mike) Hext of Missoula, one grandson, Scott Breeding and wife Jana of Edgar, and nine great-grandchildren. She will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

A memorial service is planned for a later date. Donations can be made to the Crazy Mountain Museum in Big Timber, Partners in Home Care in Missoula or the charity of your choice.

### Ora "Orie" W. Thompson

Ora "Orie" W. Thompson, 88, of Livingston died Monday morning, December 22, at Livingston Memorial Hospital.

Orie was born November 5, 1915 in Big Timber, the son of Fred W. and Nettie (Weaver) Thompson. He spent his early years in Big Timber and attended grade school until forced to go to work to help support his immediate family due to the depression. Orie married Hilda J. Birkeland on June 5, 1946 in Big Timber. Shortly after their marriage they moved to Livingston where he worked as a ranch hand for the O'Hair Ranch.

Orie retired from ranching in the late 1980's. He loved to spend his days watching fly fishermen on Spring Creek. Orie was a great story-teller and always had a smile on his face.

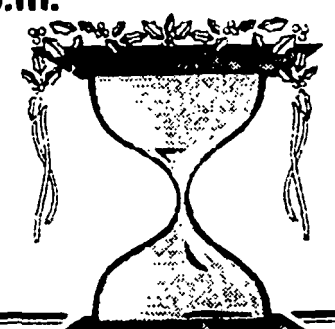
Survivors include his wife, Hilda, four sons and five daughters: Ginger Clause and Bob of Big Timber; Lucilda Fischer of Renton, Washington; Kenneth and Kathleen (Anderson) of Livingston; Gerald and Mary (Bentley) of Alliance, Nebraska; Lloyd and Sandra (Angle) of Anchorage, Alaska; Lela Coates of Bozeman; Susan Bliler of Livingston; Verna and Brent (Harris) of Livingston; and Kevin Thompson of Livingston. Orie is survived by two of 11 siblings, a sister, Cordelia Groom of Billings, and a brother, Maurice Thompson of Billings. 13 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. Orie was preceded in death by a son, Clifford, and a son-in-law, Rudolph Fischer.

A memorial gathering for family and friends will be held Monday, December 29, at the Brisbin Hall on the Old Yellowstone Trail.

Letters to the Editor are welcome! Letters must be signed by the author and include a telephone number. The Pioneer staff reserves the right to accept / edit all letters. Letters should give the writer's opinion and not disseminate news information, solicit sponsorship or participation, or express appreciation..

We appreciate your Loyalty  
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forward to a Great Year!  
**Doug & the Rest of the  
COLE DRUG GANG**

**EARLY DEADLINE**  
... For the Jan. 2nd issue of the  
**BIG TIMBER PIONEER**  
is Tuesday, December 30  
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