

Betty Grace Alexander

Betty Grace Alexander, 90, passed away on December 29, 2014 in Cortez. She was born on May 23, 1924 in Mancos, to Clarence Roy Beers and Hattie Ann Lucas Beers.



Betty grew up in Mancos where she graduated from Mancos High School in 1942. After high school, she attended Colorado Woman's College in Denver, Colo. where she received a degree in Secretarial Science. In 1966 she began working as a clerk with the U.S. Forest Service until her retirement in 1987.

Betty married Noland Alexander in 1946 in Greeley, Colo. They were happily married for 68 years. Betty was a member of the Mancos United Methodist Church, Chapter BD, P.E.O., Cowbelles, and V.F.W. Auxiliary.

Betty was the District Clerk (later Support Services Supervisor) on the Mancos District from 1966 to 1987. She was one of those iconic District Clerks that you found in that era throughout the Forest Service. Rangers come and go, it was the District Clerk that provided the quiet leadership that kept many a Ranger District on a true and steady course. Betty was always there to greet guests. Her middle name, Grace, could not be more fitting. Whenever one encountered her you were met by her clear-eyed gaze and had the sense that you in the presence of a person full of grace. Along with grace, Betty embodied those dearest traits of quiet leadership, nurturer, and friend. You were always in the best of company with Betty.

Betty is survived by her husband, Noland of Mancos; her children, Gwen Hawkins, Brent Alexander and Gail Moore; six grandchildren; and four great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, C.R. and Hattie Beers; siblings, Helen Neeley, Robert Beers and Mary McClellan; a child, Kent Alexander and great grandchildren Chance Hawkins and Jace.

Harriette Lucille Allen

Harriette Lucille Allen of Greybull, WY, 88, died Dec. 13. She was born June 3, 1926, in Douglas, WY, the daughter of Fletcher and Hazel Newton Kershner. She was raised in the Big Horn Basin and graduated from high school when she was 16 years old. She attended Denver Business College for two years.



Harriette married Harry H. Allen June 7, 1946, at Red Lodge, Mont. She worked from 1962 through 1986 for the U.S. Forest Service as a District Clerk, Support Services Specialist, and District Administrative Assistant on the Bighorn N.F.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church where she served as a deacon and a treasurer. Harriette was also a member of the V.F.W. Auxiliary and the BPO Does. She is survived by her daughter Kathy Bullinger of Cody; two grandsons, Scott Carpenter and Bruce Allen, and two granddaughters, Kacy Heiser and Rikilyn Allen and their families, and a great-grandson, Aiden Heiser.

Julie M. Bagan

Julie M. Bagan, 66, passed away at the Joni Fair Hospice House in Pueblo on Sunday, Apr. 27, 2014. She was born June 11, 1947, in Danville, Ill. to the union of James and Alta Chenoweth. Following the death of her father in 1958, Julie, her mother, and brother, James, moved to Colorado Springs. Julie graduated from Palmer High School in 1965 and went on to marry Michael Bagan, in 1967. In 1978, she began working for Pike National Forest, a career she would follow for 30 years. In 1990, she moved to Pueblo and began working for San Isabel National Forest, until her retirement in 2007.



She is survived by three children, Heidi Heffron of Pueblo, Brian Bagan and Cindy Bagan; several grandchildren; numerous extended family members and many friends. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Michael, in 1990, second husband, Danny Rivera, in 2002, parents, and brother, James Chenoweth. Julie was a wonderful mom and a great person. She loved music, dancing, and playing Scrabble. She was dearly loved by all her family and friends and will be sadly missed.

Herman Edward Ball



Herman Edward (Herm) Ball passed away Wednesday, April 16, 2014 at his home in Lafayette, CO. He was born September 12, 1927 in Robertsdale, Alabama to William and Bertha Ball. He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Bill and two sisters, Dolores and Betty. Herm graduated from Robertsdale High School and then joined the Merchant Marines for two years. After several mercenary trips across the ocean, he attended Auburn University where he studied Forestry and worked summers as a smoke jumper in Missoula, Montana. He worked for the CIA out of college and met his wife, Debbie Leonard, of Longmont, while both were working in Washington, DC.

They married in June 1956 and started their married life in Florida but later moved to Bailey, Colorado where Herm began his career with the US Forest Service, a job which would later take him to Colorado Springs; Sundance, Wyoming; Custer, South Dakota; Laurel, Maryland; and back to Durango and Lakewood in Colorado. They had five children; two young daughters, Cathy and Nancy, died from Muscular Dystrophy complications and a son, Billy, who died in 1984 from a carbon monoxide poisoning.

After retirement Herm and Debbie continued with their love for travel and visited their daughter, Tricia, in Jerusalem, Africa, Philippines, England and Thailand. Herm donated countless hours working at the St. Francis Center in Denver, Habitat for Humanity, Senior Services, and RSVP in Boulder. He also started a business putting together forestry management plans for landowners, including Rich and Cyndi's mountain property where he spent most of his spare time hiking the hills and thinning the forest. He loved spending weekends with his family in the mountains.

He is survived by Debbie Ball, his loving wife of 57 years and two daughters, Cyndi and husband Rich Hause of Littleton and daughter Tricia Morgan of Bangkok, Thailand. He is also the very proud 'Papa' of six grandchildren, Alexandra, Garrett, Rhian, Evan, Bailey and Hannah.

David L. (Dave) Branham



David Lee (Dave) Branham passed away on March 10, 2014 in Port Angeles, Washington. Dave retired from the Regional Office in 1983 as a land surveyor and worked in the Geometric Section of Engineering unit for a number of years. He worked there in the late fifties in what was then called “Surveys and Maps” and then worked on the White River N.F. In the mid-late 70’s he returned to the R.O. and worked there in Cadastral Surveying until his retirement.

David was born September 7, 1933, in Hubbard Township, Minnesota, on the farm where he was raised. He had the strength and will to live fully for more than 80 years. As a young boy, he grew up on a farm in central Minnesota, where he learned to work hard, treat people kindly and grew to love the outdoors. He hunted, fished and ran trap lines in the winter. At 16, he joined the Marine Corps and became a sharpshooter, holding the base sharpshooting record for a period of time. He was also a drill instructor, training other men how to shoot. In the Korean War, he was sent in to help fight as a sniper and at 18 was seriously wounded by a mortar explosion, for which he was hospital-bound for 18 months. He was honorably discharged and began working for the U.S. Forest Service. This began his 30-year career as a land surveyor in Colorado. He helped build the Flaming Gorge Dam on the Green River in Utah. He was one of the only few registered mineral land surveyors in the U.S. Many land disputes were resolved and roads built through Dave's guidance and help.

He retired and moved to the Olympic Peninsula, where he and his wife of 53 years, Joanne, continued to raise and enjoy their four children, 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Raymond Roy Busby



Raymond Roy Busby died on July 24, 2014 in Denver. He was born on December 22, 1923. He worked for many years on communications in Region 3 in engineering and operations sections and came to the Rocky Mountain Region in the late 70’s in and was responsible for Communications and Electronics in Administrative Management in the Regional Office. He retired from the Forest Service on 2/23/1980. He is survived by his children, Connie McLain, Randy Busby and Carla Busby, 10 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren (with one on the way) and sister Carol (Richard) Shaver. Preceded in death by wife Gladys, his brother, sister and parents. He volunteered at Meals on Wheels for 30 years, was a member of the

ELKS and worked for the Forest Service for many years. He enjoyed playing senior softball and bowling. He will be lovingly remembered.

Jacqueline Helen Cables



Jacqueline Helen Cables, 83, a Canon City, Colorado native, died October 25, 2014. Jackie was born June 2, 1931 to Chester and Hazel Bundy. Pre-deceased by her husband of 48 years, Val Jean Cables and survived by her five children: sons, Kelly Cables (Patricia), Michael Cables (Jennifer), Rick Cables (Cynthia), Andy Cables (Trude) and daughter, Candy Hazen (Jeff); 14 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren with a 16th due to arrive shortly. Her son Rick was Forest Supervisor of the Pike-San Isabel-Cimarron-and Comanche in the late 90's and R-2 Regional Forester from 2000 to 2011.

After high school Jackie Cables started her Forest Service career in 1955, as a GS-1 clerk. She worked at the Post Office in downtown Pueblo, Colorado at the time and the Supervisor's office for the San Isabel National Forest was across the hall. When the clerical position in the SO opened up, Jackie "transferred" to the U.S. Forest Service and began her career with the "outfit". Rick Cables, retired Forest Service, remembers that at the Forest Service's 100th anniversary in 2005, his mom reminisced that she remembered the 50th anniversary – in her first year as an employee.

Her career took her to positions such as resource clerk (Region 2 RO), personnel officer (Coronado NF), Job Corps asst. Center Director (Heber Job Corps Center), administrative officer (AO) (Lincoln NF), Region 3 Regional Director of Civil Rights (the very first Regional Civil Rights Director in the agency), Special assistant to the Deputy Chief of Research in Washington, Deputy Station Director at the Rocky Mountain station in Ft. Collins, Colorado, and finally back to Pueblo, Co., as administrative officer on the Pike/San Isabel NFs and the Comanche and Cimarron National Grasslands. She retired from the AO job in 1986: and promptly became the "AO" at Candy's tortilla factory in Pueblo. They loved her there because she could do anything.

Chief Max Peterson once gave Rick this advice, "Rick, you will do alright if you have as much common sense as Jackie." Jackie wanted all of her Forest Service friends how much she appreciated the friendships, work relationships, and support over the years. She lived and loved the Forest Service and often talked about the wonderful opportunities that the agency provided.

Pete Chidsey



Pete Chidsey of Powell, WY died on Thursday, March 6, 2014. Pete was born in New York City, New York on September 30, 1937, and lived in Arizona, New Hampshire, Washington D.C., Virginia, Illinois, Texas, and Vermont in his youth. He graduated high school from the Vermont Academy in Saxtons River, VT. Growing up, Pete loved the outdoors and capitalized on those interests by obtaining bachelor's degrees in forestry and range management from Utah State University and later Colorado State University. While attending college in Logan, Utah, Pete met Deborah "Deb" Taylor and they

were married on December 24, 1960, in Yakima, WA. Upon graduating from college, Pete was hired by the US Forest Service and stationed his family in many beautiful places, including Alaska, Texas, Arizona, Big Creek and North Fork, CA; Ft. Collins, CO; Stub Creek Ranger Station during the summers in Colorado; Custer, SD; and Douglas, WY. He retired as District Ranger of the Medicine Wheel Ranger District of the Big Horn National Forest in Lovell, WY in September 1990.

Pete is survived by his wife Deb of fifty-three years; his daughter Ginny (Cliff Smith) Chidsey of Cheyenne, WY; Allison (Woody) Evans of Cody, WY; Catherine (Paul) Willard of Manson, WA and four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. A memorial service will take place this summer at St. John's Episcopal Church with burial at Crown Hill Cemetery in Powell, WY with a view of the Big Horn Mountains – one of his favorite places.

John Charles Englebert



John Charles Englebert, born in Green Bay, WI on August 23, 1936, passed away at his home in Livermore, Colorado on July 22, 2014 with his dog, Cody, by his side.

John entered the Army shortly after graduating from high school in Green Bay. After his military stint, where he received several medals in Marksmanship, he worked in Colorado Springs as a machinist while attending CSU in Pueblo. He later moved to Fort Collins to work with the Colorado State

Forest Service and to finish his college career, earning a double major in wildlife biology and forestry. John had hoped to become a game warden, but that was not his calling.

After graduating from CSU, he went to work for the Larimer County Sheriff's Department in Fort Collins as Captain of the Search and Rescue Team. John thrived in the position becoming an advocate for the Hug a Tree and Whistle programs, aids in helping to find lost children which John found the most rewarding aspect of his career. As part of the Search and Rescue team, John oversaw numerous wildland fires in conjunction with the State and U.S. Forest Service, as well as searches for lost airplanes, lost and injured children, snowmobilers, rafters, mushroom pickers and hikers. One mushroom picker told John, after he and his team found her, that she didn't need a map because she knew if she got lost, he would find her!

He was extremely proud of the men and women who made up the Larimer County Search and Rescue Team, relying on them not to stop until the lost child was found or the last ember was extinguished. Of all the searches, fires or rescues that John oversaw, the Big Thompson Flood in 1976 was the largest.

When John left the Larimer County Sheriff's Office, he started a new career with the U.S. Forest Service on the Redfeather Ranger District, Arapaho-Roosevelt N.F. His skills as a firefighter and knowledge of resource management were highly valued by the Forest Service. He ended his career with the Forest Service as a Range Technician working with area ranchers making sure the cattle allotments were fully utilized. Throughout his career, he was able to save many acres of delicate grassland due to his continuous efforts. John's knowledge and experience with wildland fires took him to over 500 fires from Colorado to California during his career.

David Girty



David Girty of Hayden, CO was killed in a work accident on August 11, 2014 on the Routt National Forest. He was a member of the road crew on the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest when the accident occurred.

David was born on October 21, 1951 and was raised in Cincinnati, OH. He enlisted in the army after graduating from high school in 1971 and was honorably discharged in 1979. After leaving the service he moved his family to Steamboat Springs, CO.

David was an easy going person that could talk your ears off. David never knew a stranger. He loved the outdoors, snowmobiling, camping, his horses & his pets.

David's favorite sport was football; both of his sons played for Steamboat Springs and David got involved with helping the coaches but mostly the kids. He was a devout Ohio State Buckeye fan. There was nothing better than watching Buckeye football & basketball on game days. He even became a closet Nebraska fan for his daughter-in-law but would never let her know that. David is preceded in death by his son David Jr, and his parents Art and Ruth Girty. He is survived by his wife Diane, son & daughter-in-law, Jacob & Elly, his greatest blessing, his grandson, Nicholas Peter and his brother Paul.

David V. (Dave) Grove



David V. (Dave) Grove passed away on March 28, 2014. He was born on August 16, 1960 to Florence and Vernon Grove.

David was a man of many talents and skills. He was self-taught and could learn anything! He was a humorous prankster who spent twenty-six years with the Forest Service working on the South Platte and South Park Ranger Districts on the Pike-San Isabel National Forest. He was an emergency medical technician, a professional builder and contractor, and a forest technician for the Forest Service. He was instrumental in rebuilding the lookout tower at Devil's Head among other things.

He was a unique man who was a people person but was just as comfortable all by himself up in the wilderness. He was respected and loved by many and will be missed by all who knew him. He missed his favorite hunting dog Smokey greatly.

He is survived by his wife Catherine J. Grove, his father, and four brothers and sisters.

JoAnn F. Hagan

JoAnn F. Hagan died on December 30, 2014 in Lakewood, CO. JoAnn was born in 1943 to Joe and Juanita French. She grew up in Louisiana on a cotton farm with her seven siblings. She attended the University of Louisiana at Monroe, LA, graduating with B.S. degree in accounting.



JoAnn, in her career as an accountant, was employed by the Forest Service and the Department of the Interior (DOI) - Minerals Management Service and the Office of Surface Management. JoAnn retired in 2002, working 36 1/2 years. She opened doors for women in professional positions in the federal government. She was the first woman hired by the Forest Service in Region 2 in a professional position in 1965. JoAnn was awarded the Distinguished Service

Award, the highest award an employee of DOI can receive. She also received the Meritorious Award from the Department of the Interior.

She is survived by husband of 51 years, John; and her daughter, Lori (Brian) Wardlow of Nebraska, and a son, Todd Hagan (Liz) of Colorado and four grandchildren, Madeline, Natalie, Grant and Blake.

John Patrick (Pat) Halligan



John Patrick (Pat) Halligan died on May 31, 2014 in Denver. He was born in 1939 in Topeka, Kansas to Harold John and Cecelia Ellen Halligan. Pat graduated from Washburn University with a Bachelor of Arts in 1963. From there he went on to Kansas University and earned a Master's in Public Administration in 1968. After several years of working for governmental entities in Kansas and Colorado, he began working for the Forest Service in 1978 as a Planning Forester for the White River National Forest. After receiving a law degree from the University of Denver and being admitted to the Colorado Bar in 1986, Pat went on to work in the Regional

Office in Appeals and Litigation, and as Assistant Director of Human Resources for Employee and Labor Relations until retirement in 2004.

Pat enjoyed raising alpacas, wood-working, focusing on an unusual pastime that involved researching and building small-scale-model half-hulls of northeastern U.S. fishing vessels. He and Sandra traveled to Maine each fall where John attended classes on this uncommon wood-working craft. Pat's grandchildren treasure his half-hulls. Pat was a voracious reader, interested in history, particularly the American Civil War, and Catholic theology, particularly the writings of St Augustine. He was a wonderful father and grandfather, supportive in both word and deed. Always willing to listen and contribute thoughtfully, Pat enjoyed a wide circle of close friends.

He is survived by his wife Sandra and three children, John in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Jennifer, in Glenwood Springs, and Tom in Denver. Pat's son Timothy preceded him in death in 1972.

Leslie "Jock" Hendry

Leslie "Jock" Hendry died on June 18 in Lakewood, CO. Jock was born in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1925. His father was a golf pro from Scotland who immigrated to the U.S. after World War I. Jock got his degree in forestry from the University of Minnesota in 1947. Before he graduated, he worked a number of seasonal jobs for the Forest Service, including work on the St. Joe N.F.,

the Rocky Mountain Research Station, and the White River N.F., and then the Roosevelt N.F. He got his first permanent job on the Harney N.F. and then the Black Hills N.F. as ranger on the Spearfish District and then later to assistant land staff on the forest. He then went to the Pike N.F. in 1960 as a staff officer.



In 1962, Jock transferred to the Regional Office in V.I.S. and I & E. His last assignment before he retired in 1980 was the Director of Administrative Management in the R.O. Jock is survived by his wife Shirley and they were married over 65 years ago. They have two sons Gregg and John and five grandsons.

James Everett Jacobson



James Everett Jacobson died on May 29, 2014 in Grand Junction. He was born on October 25, 1940. Jim was a gentle man, quiet, unassuming, and loving. He was cherished by his family and friends. He proudly served as an officer with the US Navy aboard the USS Bon Homme Richard. He had a long career with the US Forest Service where he especially enjoyed his early days in Deadwood, SD. Jim was a lifelong model railroader. He enjoyed building his layout and reading about the world's railway systems. He was a Master Gardener and was involved with the CSU extension office.

He leaves behind his wife Linda of Grand Junction, son Michael (Lori) grandson's Ethan and Luke of Williamsburg, VA, son Eric (Jackie) of Ocala, FL, step daughter Colleen Poling (Dan) grandchildren Marissa, Landon and Kylee of Camarillo, CA, step daughter-in-law Corrina Kiso of Grand Junction.

George Norman Mandeville

George Norman Mandeville, age 90, of Dunning passed away on February 1, 2015. He was born in Mullen, Nebraska to Robert G. and Ruth A. (Ferguson) Mandeville on March 12, 1924, and Married Zelda Josephine Little on February 15, 1947. George was a veteran (Marine), rancher and retired U.S. Forest Service Range Manager. He was a member of the VFW, American Legion and the Custer Masonic Lodge 148 Broken Bow. He was a dedicated and loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather and will be greatly missed. George was preceded in death by his parents; brother, John Mandeville and wife Zelda (Little) Mandeville. Survived by his children Linda (Leonard) Cowdin of Lincoln, George (Billie) Mandeville Jr., Gillette Wyoming, Sheri (Wayne) Rodocker, Halsey.

LeRoy Leonard Manley

LeRoy Leonard Manley, 86, of Fort Collins, CO, died November 12, 2014. Lee Manley, son of Leonard and Mabel Manley, loving husband of Joan Manley, passed away at Pathways Hospice at McKee Medical Center in Loveland, CO. Lee was first married to Lois Mortensen for 33 years and she preceded him in death. He remarried and is survived by his wife, Joan; a daughter, Sheralyn Dudley (Robert); a son, Tim; a step-daughter, Dixie Sanchez (George); and two step-sons, Paris Powell and Pat Powell (Lana). He is also survived by eleven grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren. Lee worked for the U.S. Forest Service as Director of Personnel for the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station until his retirement in 1988. He



loved photography, the outdoors, working on genealogy, and spending time with his family. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.

Dale Douglas Matlack

Dale Matlack, 80, of Meridian, died on March 21, 2014. Dale was born on January 17, 1934 on a farm near Burrton, Kansas. He attended a 2 room school house about one mile from their farm.



In 1944, the family move from the farm to Virginia where his school had 600 students. He joined the Boy Scouts and decided forestry was for him. He attended Colorado A&M College where he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and where ROTC was mandatory for young college men. He graduated with a degree in Forestry. Dale was married to Sheila Riley in 1955 and to this union three sons were born. They later divorced. In 1986, he married Louise Bailer.

Following college, Dale became a pilot in the USAF. This introduction to aviation influenced everything he did for the rest of his life. In 1959, Dale started his career with the U. S. Forest Service on the Pike National Forest. He became the Forest Air Officer/pilot on the Black Hills N.F. and later Assistant Ranger at Sundance, Wyoming. In 1964, he returned to active duty with the U.S. Coast Guard. Following his military obligation, he accepted an assignment with the U.S. Forest Service in Boise as Infrared Pilot-coordinator. Besides Infrared duties, he performed leadplane and smokejumper co-pilot duties. In the early 1970's he became active in aviation safety which resulted in his moving to Ogden and later was promoted to the Regional Aviation Officer with the BLM.

In 1981, Dale was reassigned to Aerial Attack Systems Specialist for the Forest Service National Office in Boise. He was promoted to Washington D.C as National Aviation Safety and Training Officer in 1987 and retired in 1989, returning to Boise to live.

During retirement years, Dale and Louise traveled the US and to Europe. Dale was an active member of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Dale is survived by his wife of 27 years, Louise; his children: Brad Matlack (Ogden), Todd (Lori) Matlack (Ogden), Dean (Jennifer) Matlack (Thailand), and Hal (Heidi) Bailer (Germany)

Loretta Fern Erwin McCorkle



Loretta McCorkle, of Redding, CA, died on May 11, 2014, in Sanger, CA. She was born in 1946 in Gridley, CA to Jack and Ruth Erwin. Her family worked as migrant agricultural workers. Loretta graduated from high school in Stockton, California and college in Longview, Washington.

She worked with the federal government in several different locations. She was a secretary in the Old Executive Office Building in Washington, D.C for the Carter

administration. She worked in Missoula, MT and at Mt. St. Helens with the Forest Service; in Sacramento as a writer/editor for the Fish and Wildlife Service; on the PSICC in Leadville on the District from 2005 until 2009; and then retired from the Shasta Lake Ranger District in Redding, CA in Region 5 effective 4/21/2012 and remained in Redding.

Loretta was an avid artist and writer. She also enjoyed making jewelry, sewing, genealogy research, and computer games. She had a quick wit and a great sense of humor.

She is survived by her daughter Autumn Bell of Sanger, California and her brothers Charles "Bud" Erwin of Redding, CA and Thomas Erwin of Sumner, WA. She was predeceased by her daughter Amber, as well as her three sisters: Muriel, Christine, and Jackie.

Norbert V. (Ski) Milanowski

Norbert Vincent (Ski) Milanowski passed away February 14, 2014. He was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan on April 16, 1932 to Alexander and Josephine Milanowski and graduated from

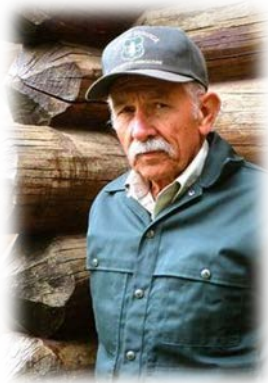


Michigan State University with a bachelor's degree in forestry. He was a veteran, having served in the United States Army. He married Marlene Putzel on September 17, 1960 in Hibbing, MN. Ski started his career with the Forest Service in the early 60's on the Piedra District, San Juan NF. His first District Ranger position was on the Buffalo District on the Bighorn N.F. He then went to the Routt N.F. as the North Park District Ranger and later to Steamboat in the Supervisor's Office as timber staff. From 1977-79 he was the Recreation, Lands, and Minerals staff on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison N.F. in Delta. Ski then transferred to State and Private Forestry, Area Planning and Development in the Regional Office and was there from 1980-82. In 1983 he became the Deputy Forest Supervisor on the

Santa N.F. in R-3 and was there until he retired in 1990. After retirement, he and Marlene returned to Delta, CO and lived there until around 2003 when they moved to Las Vegas, NV.

He is survived by his wife, Marlene (Putzel) Milanowski; children, Joseph (Cynthia) Milanowski and Mary Milanowski, both of Las Vegas, and Charlene Milanowski of St. Paul, MN; his brother, Thomas (Mary) Milanowski of Grand Rapids; two grandchildren, Alexandra and Sophia Milanowski.

Lloyd McNeil



Lloyd McNeil, 76, died in Durango in the spring of 2014. Lloyd retired from the San Juan National Forest where he worked for 37 years as a forestry technician. He started his career on the Mancos Ranger District in 1969 and retired as trail foreman for the Delores Public Lands Office. Among his most noted accomplishments was his work to save the Jersey Jim Fire Lookout. He helped maintain hundreds of miles of trail on the west side of the La Plata Mountains and worked to restore both the Aspen and Glade ranger stations. The Durango Herald story reprinted in this edition of the Rendezvous chronicles his life and his contributions to the Forest Service on the San Juan National Forest. He is survived by his wife Clara of Mancos, CO and ten children and 26 grand-children.

David W. Molinaro



David Whitney Molinaro died on August 28, 2014. He was born on March 11, 1929 in New Jersey to Emil and Marion Molinaro. After high school he joined the Navy and mustered out aboard the Navy tank landing ship, LST 590, in June 1945. Dave was a 1954 graduate of Washington State University and began his career in Alaska in 1956. He worked in the Alaska Region as District Ranger on the Kasann Ranger District of the South Tongass National Forest until 1963. He then was District Ranger on the Delores Ranger District of the San Juan N.F. In 1968 he moved to the Black Forest and was the Recreation Staff on the Pike National Forest in Colorado Springs. In March of 1969 he moved to the Regional Office and was responsible for Visitor Information Service in the Information and Education staff group. In 1976, Dave moved over to Recreation and Lands and had responsibility for Special Uses and Land Uses until his retirement after thirty years on September 17, 1982. He is survived by his children Nina, David, and Tony and by his grandchildren Brianna, Joseph, Elle, and Emme.

Carolyn J. Peterson



Carolyn J. Peterson passed away on August 8, 2014 in Denver. Carolyn was a Manpower Development Specialist for the Rocky Mountain Region and worked in the Regional Office on various manpower programs including, Job Corps, Youth Conservation Corps, and Young Americans Conservation Corps. She started her work with the Forest Service in September 1965 and retired in December 1984.

Carolyn was a graduate of North High School in Denver and had a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Metro State College where she attended classes from 1974 until 1981. She was preceded in death by her husband Lloyd.

John H. (Jack) Ott

John H. Ott died on November 18, 2014. Of all of Jack Ott's wonderful accomplishments, his family is most grateful for his stewardship of his land on Mancos Hill land and for marrying their mother Mary Ann, a young widow with five small children in 1959.



Jack was born December 3, 1929 to Viola and Herman J. Ott in Grand Haven, MI. on December 3, 1929 in Grand Haven, Michigan. He enjoyed a free childhood exploring the Grand River and Lake Michigan with his two little brothers and sister in tow. He graduated from high school in 1947, and from Michigan State University School of Forestry in '52. Upon graduation he hired on with the U.S. Forest Service, heading a spruce bark beetle survey crew near Kremmling and in the Black Hills. He was drafted in 1953 and served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps as a high speed radio operator during the Korean War. Returning to Colorado in 1955, he worked out of the Dunton Guard Station, then the Animas Ranger District as assistant ranger. He transferred to the Mancos District in 1957. He purchased

his land on Mancos Hill in the spring of 1959 with winnings from poker games he'd saved over the years and immediately began reclaiming the soil and oak woods. He began building a house with the help of his little brother Pat in June. On December 24, 1959 he married Mary Ann Rawlings whose husband Bill Rawlings, a Forest Service colleague, had been killed in a line-of-duty horse accident near Stoner earlier that year. The Rawlings' children are Bill, Jeannie, Woody, Larry and Mark. Jack adopted these children and had two more children with Mary Ann, John, b. 1961 and Grace, 1964. Jack retired in 1981 after 30 years of federal service. He went right to work on his place, helping his son Woody who owns Ott's Mill and Logging, and helping out his other children. He made up for the honeymoon he and Mary Ann never had with winter travels, eventually buying a beach condo in Hilo, Hawaii where they have spent the last 27 winters. In 2004 his name was read into the Congressional Record in honor of his service to the Forest and his community. Jack volunteered with 4-H, the Boy Scouts; he was a member of the Society of American Foresters, the Masonic Order and the VFW. He served the Mancos United Methodist Church over the last 55 years in many capacities including Treasurer, Sunday School

Superintendent, Board of Trustees and perpetual handyman. He loved to work, especially on his land and on his children's homes, he was an avid fisherman, hunter and old fashioned outdoorsman. On November 18, Jack passed peacefully after a short illness in his own bed, in the house he built on the land he loved surrounded by his wife and grown children. He was two weeks shy of his 85th birthday. True to form he met his death with dignity and no fuss.

Edgar H. Palpant



Edgar H. Palpant was born October 19th, 1925 in Ypsilanti, Michigan and died October 4th, 2014 in Buena Vista, Colorado. His parents, Pierre and Elise, were French immigrants and he grew up on the family farm in Michigan called "Terre Haven Farms" where he raised turkeys and milked cows most mornings before school. He went to a one room school for much of grade school.

Ed joined the Army Air Corp from 1943-46 at the end of WWII. In 1946, he began his degree in Forestry at Michigan State, and fell in love with Jeanne Crusinberry, from Adrian, Michigan. Ed flew a small plane and once took Jeanne on a flight with engine failure, ending up in the middle of a pasture with the cowling against a barb wire fence. Still she decided to marry him and the two were wed on June 14th, 1947.

After graduation, Ed joined the US Forest Service and spent most of his career from 1950-65 in the New Mexico and Colorado region. He worked in rural land management, as a forest ranger on the Pikes Peak district, and then as a reforestation nurseryman in Monument, CO. In 1966 he joined the Forestry Department at Penn State University where he did research, growing Christmas trees on the side and subsequently serving as Executive Secretary of the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association. He ran his own nursery outside of State College, PA and international tree seed business with many connections in Europe.

Ed was the founder of WTLR (Way, Truth, Life Radio), a Christian radio station in State College, PA that went on the air January 1, 1978. It continues to the present day. He obtained the FCC license, and constructed the radio station and 109 foot mountain top transmission tower. He was a mean hand with the chainsaw, until he fell from a tree and broke his neck in 2007. After refusing an ambulance, his daughter and wife drove him to the hospital, where he amazingly recovered without any paralysis. Ed and Jeanne subsequently moved to Buena Vista, Colorado where Ed built lamps on his lathe during his later years. His favorite Bible verse was Proverbs 3:5-6. He is survived by his wife Jeanne, 6 children, 18 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Robert M. (Bob) Rankin



Robert (Bob) M. Rankin, age 81, passed away on December 19, 2014 after a lengthy illness. Bob was born in Shawnee, Oklahoma on December 27, 1932 to Sam Rankin and Eulene (Edwards) Rankin, and moved to Colorado when he was 11. He graduated from Englewood High School, then served in the U.S. Navy at Buckley Naval Air Station. After working at a couple of positions after the Navy, Bob opened his own business in Glenwood Springs. In 1961, Bob joined the U.S. Forest Service in Buffalo Creek and then in 1963, moved to Fort Collins so he could complete his degree in forestry at CSU, which he did in 1967. His Forest Service career took the family to Colorado Springs, Aspen, and then back to Fort Collins in 1976. He retired from government service in 1989, then worked for RSVP as the Handyman Program Volunteer Coordinator, a true passion. Bob enjoyed being in the woods, especially camping, fishing and skiing. He took great pleasure in do-it-yourself projects for the family and others in the community. He was a member of Golden K Kiwanis and Plymouth Congregational UCC Church, where he has been deeply involved. Also, he had been active in the Jaycees, Elks Club, and Habitat for Humanity. Bob will be remembered as a good, caring, special man who will be dearly missed (particularly his sense of humor.)

He is survived by his wife and loved best friend of 62 years, Jodie and children Robb (wife Molly and children Ben and Nick); Darrell (children Rachel, Ashley and Jake); and Jeralyn (husband Drew Davis and daughter Kalli).

Aubrey Lee (Bud) Roach



Aubrey Lee (Bud) Roach died on March 20, 2013. He was born in Texas on September 24, 1929 to William and Farrel Roach. He was married to Francis Roach and lived in Mancos, Colorado. He completed one year of college and studied engineering. Aubrey worked for the Soil Conservation Service until about 1977, when he started working for the Forest Service on the Delores Ranger District of San Juan National Forest. He was encouraged to take the Project Engineering test and even though he only had one year of college he passed the test with a very high score.

He retired from the Forest Service in 1983 and worked for the Montezuma County Road Department as an Engineer for a number of years and then started his own consulting business and did that until 2009.

Edra L. Robertson



Edra Lou Robertson died May 20, 2014, at Crossroads Senior Living in Delta. She was 80. Edra was born on March 22, 1934, to Orion and Vermel (Crawley) Beck in Delta, Colorado where she spent her childhood and graduated from Delta High School. She was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, Jim Robertson; her parents, and a brother. Edra enjoyed gardening, quilting, Bunco, the Broncos, and her family and friends. She worked as a supervisor for the U.S. Forest Service and a caregiver for family and friends for many years. She is survived by four daughters and their husbands, Lori and Jay Alsdorf; Jime and Randy Charlesworth; Terri and Gary Knob, and Toni and Rick Allen; son and his wife, Jim and Susan Robertson.

Gary E. Rorvig



Gary E. Rorvig, 72, died June 1, 2014, surrounded by profound love. He succumbed after a long battle with prostate cancer.

Gary was born Aug. 13, 1941, in Miles City, Montana, to Paul E. Rorvig and Gladys L. Sprandel Rorvig. He grew up in Denver, where he graduated from North High School in 1959. Gary received a degree in civil engineering from Colorado State University in 1963. He then served in the Coast and Geodetic Survey from 1964-1966.

In August 1966, Gary started a career with the United States Forest Service. His career enabled him to be immersed in his love of the mountains and the outdoors. He worked for the USFS throughout Colorado and Wyoming until his retirement in 1994.

Gary married Diane Moore on Jan. 15, 1977, creating a combined family of his two children and Diane's two children from previous marriages. Gary and Diane also had one child together. The family moved to Laramie in 1979, when Gary was transferred to work in the Medicine Bow National Forest. After retiring from the USFS, he started a second career as a property manager.

By 2000, Gary had several rental units throughout Laramie, and maintaining properties became a full-time job. Gary excelled as a landlord, and was well-liked and respected by his numerous tenants.

Gary was dedicated to family, and loved to spend time with his five children and six grandchildren. He loved walking, being outdoors and traveling. He traveled extensively to Hawaii, Norway, New Zealand and throughout the United States.

Gary is survived by Diane, his wife of 37 years; daughters, Michelle (Sherwood) Hoyt, of Austin, Texas, Becky (née Rorvig) Turner, of Jefferson City, Missouri, Molly Rorvig, of Cleveland, Ohio, Kristi (née Sherwood) Perryman, of Alvarado, Texas, and Carrie (née Rorvig) Illum, of Loveland, Colorado; grandchildren, Justin, Raelyn and Riley Sanchez, Megan and Morgan Turner and Loden Rorvig. Gary dearly loved his grandchildren and was proud of each of

them. Gary is also survived by two sisters, Carole Metzger and Nancy Scott; two nieces; and numerous cousins.

Charles D. Swisher



Charles D. Swisher, age 85, a lifetime Halsey, NE resident, died Wednesday November 19, 2014 in Kearney.

Charles D. Swisher died on was born on May 19, 1929 at Halsey, NE to Lewis and Mary (Ott) Swisher. Charles attended school at Rose Hill Country School and later Halsey School. In 1960, he was married to Brenda Oxford. Three children were born to this union; Jim, Bonnie and Charles Jr. They were divorced in 1981. Charles later married Marilyn Saner on April 21, 1984. They made their

home in Halsey. Through the years Charles worked as a ranch hand and later at the Bessey Nursery and Bessey National Forest.

Charles is survived by his wife Marilyn, a son Jim (Karen) Swisher of Halsey, a daughter Bonnie McCaslin of Kearney, a son Charles Swisher Jr. of Overton, stepchildren; Dave Bendig of Halsey, Lori (Craig) Cranwell of Broken Bow, Teresa (Dickey) Stadler of Axtell, Karen (Jim) Swisher of Halsey, 7 grandchildren, 12 step grandchildren, 1 great grandchild, 18 step great grandchildren, and two brothers; Leonard (Crystal) Swisher and Francis Swisher both of Halsey.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters; Mary Alice, Ida Mae, and Caroline, four brothers; Lewis, Cecil, Clarence, and Bernard, and numerous nieces and nephews

Clara Vaughn

Clara Vaughn of Durango passed away December 27th, 2014 at her home. She was 77. Mrs.



Vaughn was born February 14th, 1937, in Wann, OK to Levi and Grace Dean. She grew up in Wann, OK and graduated from Antioch High School. She was married on Feb 18, 1956 to Johnny Vaughn in Carrizozo, N.M. In 1961, the family relocated permanently to Colorado. Mrs. Vaughn worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 33 years and served her entire career in Region 2 in SW Colorado on the San Juan NF. Her career included times when the San Juan consisted of separate Forests that were later combined. She retired in 1994. She

enjoyed camping and fishing, but most of all, caring for and spending time with family.

Stanley Francis Versaw



Stanley Francis Versaw, an active member of the Canon City community, died on Friday, September 26th, at his home in Canon City, surrounded by family. Stan was 75.

Stan was born at Del Norte, CO, on October 4, 1938 to Herbert Earl Versaw and Florence Lenora Holland. He met Donna R. (Stoddard) and was privileged to marry her on December 19, 1959 in Lakewood, CO. They were blessed with four sons, 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild. Stan is survived by Donna and their family: Randall F. (Karen), Jacob and Julianna; Douglas W. (Margaret), Levi, Kodi, (Maggie), Aeris; Todd M. (Myla), William, Marcus; Grant L. (Anette), Larissa (Jacob) Blackwell, Lindsay, Spencer and Sawyer.

Stan and Donna served together in the Gideons International Ministry for 47 years

Stan graduated from Hooper H.S. in 1956 and then attended the Colorado School of Mines where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Geological Engineering and a commission in the US Army Corp of Engineers in 1960. Stan also earned a Master of Science in Natural Resources in 1988 from Colorado State University. He had the honor of serving on active duty for two years as the Commanding Officer of the 697th Engineer Company (Pipeline). After serving in the Army, Stan had a 28 year career with the USDA Forest Service.

Stan had four God-honoring siblings who welcomed him into their home and remained supportive of Stan throughout his life: Raymond (Naomi); Dorothy (George) Kirkpatrick; Ardell (Estalita); and Lorene (Ed) Byrd. Stan had many nephews and nieces, as well as grandnieces and grandnephews