



## Ralph Duwain Kirkpatrick

July 23, 1931 - October 6, 2014

Ralph Duwain Kirkpatrick, age 83, of Glendive, Montana, went to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, Oct. 6, 2014, of natural causes. Visitation will be from 10:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. and 6:00 until 8:00 P.M. on Monday, Oct. 13, 2014 at the Silha Funeral Home in Glendive. A service for family and friends will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, Oct. 13, 2014 at the Silha Funeral Home in Glendive with Pastor Dan Bartl officiating. Funeral services will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2014 at the Glendive Alliance Church in Glendive with Pastor Dan Bartl officiating. Interment with military honors will be held at the Dawson Memorial Cemetery in Glendive. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive is entrusted with arrangements.

Ralph was born on July 23, 1931 on the Kirkpatrick homestead in Sentinel Butte, North Dakota, the son of Ralph Theodore and Almira Odense (Myhre) Kirkpatrick. The oldest of three children, Ralph was raised on a combination ranch and farm north of Sentinel Butte. He attended grade school at the country school and graduated from Sentinel Butte High School with the class of 1950.

Ralph enlisted in the United States Navy in 1951, where he served as a Boatswain's Mate on the Destroyer USS Lowery D.D. 770 during the Korean War. During this time he met and married his best friend and the love of his life, Leona Mae Swanson on July 26, 1953 in Big Timber, Montana. To this union four children were born. Ralph continued serving with the Navy until 1954 when he was honorably discharged from the military.

In 1955, Ralph began his career with Mountain Bell Telephone Company, where he remained until he retired in 1987 as the Outside District Plant Construction Manager in the Glendive District. Following retirement, Ralph and Leona started volunteer Christian hands-on work at various colleges, universities and Bible camps. They spent a month at the Trails End Bible Camp in Ekalaka, Montana. This was the beginning of them working with the Roving Volunteers in Christ Service Organization where they were part of 53 projects ranging from locations from Seattle, Washington, down the coast into Brownsville, Texas. They spent fourteen winters volunteering their help with RVICS.

Ralph and Leona were members of the Glendive Alliance Church and the local Gideon Camp since 1972. He enjoyed working and helping to support the Eastern Montana Bible Camp near Bloomfield, Montana, fishing, camping (especially camping on the Boulder River south of Big Timber, Montana), time with his family and friends, woodworking, gardening, early morning coffee at Subway and lunch at Trail Star Truck Stop in Glendive, catching up on local news. Either with a phone call or a card, Ralph never forgot any family member's birthday or anniversary.

Survivors include: a sister, Karen Peterson of Sun City, Arizona; son David Kirkpatrick of Billings, Montana and his children: Sara (Tom) Bond and children, Nyah and Stella, of Missoula, Montana and James Kirkpatrick of Billings, Montana; son Douglas (Geri) Kirkpatrick of Glendive, Montana and their two children: Jade (Mickayla) Kirkpatrick and their son Bence of Bismarck, North Dakota, and Kayleigh Kirkpatrick (Nathaniel Packineau) and their daughter Nevaeh of Parshall, North Dakota; daughter Diane (Paul) Anderson of Terry, Montana and her son Jason Erhardt of New Mexico; daughter Terri (David) Moore of Sidney, Montana and their children: Jennifer and Jozi Moore, both of Sidney, Montana, and Josh (Hailee) Moore and their daughters Ainsleigh and Jamisen of Sidney, Montana; sister-in-law Carol Kirkpatrick of Billings, Montana; brother-in-law Raymond Swanson, Manhattan, Montana; numerous nieces and nephews; and KoKo, his Siamese

cat and loyal companion.

Ralph was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Leona; brother, Glenn Kirkpatrick; granddaughter, Janae Susanne Moore; and son-in-law, Kenneth Erhardt.

Memorials are suggested to Gideons, Box 1392, Glendive, Montana 59330.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: [www.silhafuneralhomes.com](http://www.silhafuneralhomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Dawson Memorial Cemetery

2816 West Towne Street  
Glendive, MT 59330

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 13. 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Home  
221 North Meade Avenue  
Glendive, MT 59330

## Visitation

OCT 13. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Home  
221 North Meade Avenue  
Glendive, MT 59330

## Family & Friends Service

OCT 13. 7:00 PM (MT)

Silha Funeral Home  
221 North Meade Avenue  
Glendive, MT 59330

## Service

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OCT **14**. 2:00 PM (MT)

Glendive Alliance Church  
105 Highland Park Road  
Glendive, MT 59330

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ralph Duwain Kirkpatrick*

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December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *Terri*

*I am very sorry to hear about your Dad. He was a great guy even when he did catch us coming home late past curfew and I will never forget when we would pull up in your green car and try to sneak in your house without being caught coming home late but we could not get anything past your Dad. He would come out of the house and we knew we were in trouble but we also knew it's because he cared about us and didn't want anything happening to us. I will always remember his smiling face and words of wisdom he always gave us to guide us. My PRAYERS are with you in this sad time and I hope you are BLESSED by all the beautiful memories you have of him. You were very BLESSED to have a father and mother like you did. Take care of Yourself Kathy Winkley(Stagner)*

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**Kathy** - October 20, 2014 at 09:26 PM

BJ

“ Dear Kirkpatrick Family,  
We were out of town and were saddened to hear of Ralph's passing.  
Ralph and Leona were the leaders of our couple's "Bible Coffee" study group when we were first married. What genuine and comfortable people they were! We soon found that they were the "real deal". We also came to love and admire them and value our time together.  
Merv enjoyed working with Ralph at EMBC in the last few years, and admired his "pluck".  
Ralph will surely be missed by all who knew him!  
Praying for you, the family as you go through this hard time!  
Merv and Barb Johnson

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**Barbara Johnson** - October 16, 2014 at 07:29 PM

DS

“ Dear Kirkpatrick Family,  
I am very sorry for your loss. I first met Ralph when I was promoted to management with Mt. Bell in 1978. I worked with him and his crews until he retired. The best compliment I can say about Ralph is that he was a true phone guy. After he retired I rarely saw him except when he visited Glen in Billings.  
Ralph was truly a Christian, and I feel God already has Ralph and Leona continuing their Christian work, whether it being a guardian angel or some other Heavenly work.  
God Bless,  
Dave Stebbins  
Billings

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**Dave Stebbins** - October 14, 2014 at 10:13 AM

JL

“ *Janette Legato lit a candle in memory of  
Ralph Duwain Kirkpatrick*



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**Janette Legato** - October 13, 2014 at 08:48 PM

DH

“ *So very saddened to hear about Ralph but yet so happy that he is  
now with his beloved Leona, sitting at the feet of Jesus!*

*We sorrow when a loved one boards a ship and departs from our  
shores. As we stand on the dock and watch as the ship disappears  
over the horizon, we grieve because "he's gone" . . . but imagine the  
joy of those on that distant shore as they welcome his arrival!*

*Craig and Dea Hostetler*

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**Dea Hostetler** - October 08, 2014 at 11:43 AM