

Bonnors Ferry Herald August 29, 1985

Leslie, Miriam

Miriam Leslie passes

Miriam Elizabeth Butler Leslie died on August 21, in the Bonner General Hospital in Sandpoint. Funeral services were held on Monday, at 11 a.m. in the United Methodist Church in Bonnors Ferry with Rev. Bill Green officiating. Interment followed in the Grandview Cemetery.

Miriam was born May 17, 1919 at home on the 'Island' at Bonnors Ferry, the third child of Bill and Nora Sage Butler. Her mother passed away when she was eleven years old.

Miriam attended schools in Bonnors Ferry and worked as a cook in logging camps and restaurants in Bonnors Ferry. On August 7, 1937 she married Roy Buffin and to this marriage three children, Carol, Pat and Gene. They made their home in Meadow Creek and Moyie Springs where Roy worked for the railroad.

Roy preceded Miriam in death on March 22, 1944 leaving her with three children to care for. Miriam worked again as cook, managing as best she could during those post war years.

She married Bill Leslie on October 2, 1945 in Thompson Falls, Montana. They had two children, Ruth Ann and Steve.

They made their home most of their married life on the North Bench near Bonnors Ferry, where Bill worked in the woods and they always had a small farm. They left for short periods of time to the Kellogg and Republic Washington areas where Bill worked as a miner. They always called Bonnors Ferry home.

Miriam's most valuable possessions and sometimes her only possessions were her children. She prided herself in being able to grow her own food and be self-sustaining. She enjoyed music, birds, flowers, and watching people. She was an avid outdoors person.

Miriam is survived by her stepmother, Grace Gonzales; one sister, Ruth Klahn; five children, Carol Townsent of Jackson, Missouri, Pat Miles of Bonnors Ferry, Gene Buffin of Coeur d'Alene, Ruth Ann Wilson of Bonnors Ferry, and Steve Leslie of Hayden Lake; two stepsons, Bill Leslie of Roseville, California and Jerry Leslie of Redmond, Washington; seventeen grandchildren, Rhonda, Elizabeth, Elmer and Leroy Townsend, Patsy, Donna, Laurrie, and Walter Miles, Gene, Jeff, Tony, and Shelly Buffin, Shawn and Kelly Wilson and Michael, Annaka and Misty Leslie; six great-grandchildren, Crystal, Jennifer, Jake, James, Britt and Steven; four nieces, two nephews and many friends.

Miriam was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Roy Buffin and Bill Leslie, two brothers, Bud and Bill Butler, two sisters, Ethel Douglas and Ruby Hatchett