

Esther Chrisman, in remembrance

Larry Wilson, Hungry Horse News Column

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The North Fork was saddened this week by the passing of Esther Chrisman, 89. She and her late husband, Baird, came to the North Fork to visit their close friends Orville and Helen Foreman in the 1950s and by the end of the decade purchased the Monahan and Talley homesteads and spent many summers here with their children Kari and Allen. Inevitably, the kids fell in love with Montana and as adults moved west from the family home in Illinois.

As a result, Baird and Esther moved to Kalispell when they retired and became full time Montanans.

Esther was a tremendous cook as well as a gracious hostess and continued to cook and entertain guests until her death. Her parties on the North Fork and in Kalispell will be long remembered by us all. If I were to remember Esther with one word it would be feisty. She combined that trait with a quick wit and a fantastic sense of humor. She also made the best snickerdoodles I ever tasted. When Baird passed away we were devastated and now, with Esther gone we feel their loss even more. Hopefully, they are together and our sympathies are with the family.