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Smokejumper biographies for 1946 rookie class, A - H

National Smokejumper Association

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1946 Smokejumper Rookies

Edward John Adams (Cave Junction '46)

Ed, 92, died April 3, 2016, in Dixon, Calif. He was born December 11, 1923, in Los Angeles. Ed was a Master Sergeant U.S. Army Airborne WWII. His gravesite lists service in WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. Apparently, he went back into the Army after jumping at C.J. He jumped at Cave Junction during the 1946-47 seasons.

James Charles "Jim" Allen (North Cascades '46)

Jim died August 15, 2016, in Redmond, Oregon. He was born in Livingston, Montana, March 25, 1923. Jim joined the 101st Airborne Division during WWII and got his first combat jump during Operation Market Garden on his 21st birthday. He was later wounded during the Battle of the Bulge.

After the war he joined the smokejumper unit at North Cascades and started his career with the USFS. Jim moved to Cave Junction in 1953 where he oversaw the Siskiyou Smokejumpers. Fourteen years later, Jim took the position to manage the Redmond Air Center and retired from there in 1976.

None of the jumpers, who worked with and for Jim at Cave Junction, will forget the respect we had for him and the base.

Norman Edgar Allen (Missoula '46)

Norm, 88, died May 18, 2013, in Thompson Falls, Montana. He was born December 7, 1924, in Pine Ridge, S.D. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and volunteered for the new parachute infantry. He earned a spot in the elite 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment, which operated independently, with the 82nd Airborne Division and later as part of the 13th Airborne. Norm specialized in reconnaissance and demolitions and participated in the Battle of the Bulge in 1945. He earned the Purple Heart and Bronze Star during the war.

Norm jumped at Missoula in 1946-48 and 1950-53 and suffered a broken back during his second refresher jump in 1954; recovery took two years.

He graduated from Black Hills Teachers College in South Dakota in 1951, teaching junior high social studies. Norm took a fire-control job with the U.S. Forest Service in 1961, retiring in 1980. He was also a rancher, and an expert in rawhide braid work through his Oglala Lakota heritage, developing a rawhide tanning method.

Richard “Dick” Anderson (Missoula '46)

Dick, 87, died Oct. 18, 2010, in Hailey, Idaho. He earned a bachelor's degree in Forest Management from the University of Idaho in 1949 and a master's degree in Forestry in 1953, having studied math, physics, and engineering at Long Beach (California) City College before entering the Army Air Corps in 1943.

While in the service, he was a B-24 tail gunner in Italy and took part in more than 50 missions targeting refineries and marshaling yards in southern Europe. He parachuted to safety after his plane was shot down in northern Yugoslavia. Dick worked as a snow ranger in Alta, Utah, from 1955 to 1965, and spent several summers building timber-access roads in Bridger-Teton National Forest in Wyoming. He also worked as a timber sales administrator in roadless areas. He served as a forest ranger in Idaho from 1965 to 1980.

Dick trained as a smokejumper in Missoula in 1946, finishing his stint after the 1947 season. After retirement, he built a 50,000-board-foot house in Hailey, also cultivating fruit trees as well as an indoor orange tree that never failed to produce, even in Idaho's winters.

Francis E. Anywaush (Missoula '46)

Francis died June 16, 2001. He jumped six seasons at Missoula after serving in the U.S. Airborne during WWII where he received the Bronze Star among many other decorations. Francis and his wife, Margaret moved to Bemidji, Minnesota in 1980 where they continued to live after his retirement from the U.S. Forest Service in 1986. After cremation, his ashes were taken to Montana and spread at Lost Johnny Creek on the Flathead River. Drummers from the Blackfoot Tribe were in attendance during the ceremony.

Herb Bartlett (North Cascades '46)

Herb died March 3, 1996, in Coupeville, WA. He served in the Navy from 1950-54 during the Korean War. Herb graduated from Western Washington in 1958 and from the Institute of Foreign Trade in 1965. After teaching school, he worked at the Naval Undersea Warfare Engineering Station at Keystone, WA, for more than 15 years.

George Dean Bate (McCall '46)

George, 85, died June 28, 2010, in Ogden, Utah. He was born October 23, 1924, in Logan, Utah. During WWII George was inducted into the Navy in May of 1943. At the time he was a student at Utah State. He served until

February 1946. George jumped at McCall during the 1946-47 seasons. He had 15 fire and seven practice jumps.

Richard H. Bauman (Missoula '46)

Dick, 74, died March 22, 2000, of cancer. He grew up and went to school in Alexander, N.D. and served in Naval Aviation from March 1943 through Oct. 1945. He jumped from 1946-48 while attending Montana State University from which he was graduated with a forestry degree in 1949. He worked for the Bureau of Land Management as an environmental specialist and retired from that agency in Portland, Ore. in 1980. He lived with his wife Betty Jo in Newberg, Ore.

Dick was a skier, hunter, fisherman and horseman, a member of the Yamill County Sheriff's Posse and president of Oregon Equestrian Trails for six years. Dick was also a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Newberg, a Mason, past master of the Newberg Lodge and the Newberg Lions Club. He was an active Shriner and a frequent volunteer at the Shriners' Children's Hospital in Portland. He is survived by his wife Betty Jo.

Albert V. Bellusci (Missoula '46)

Al attended the University of Montana for two years before transferring to Montana State where he graduated in 1952 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He was an All-State quarterback at Missoula County High School and helped lead their team to their third consecutive state football championship.

Al was a pilot in the USAF for four years where he was assigned to Special Weapons and Electronic Counter Measures. He worked at the USFS Equipment Development Center for ten years before being self-employed as a professional engineer.

Al jumped at Missoula 1946-47. He had four fire jumps in '46 and two in '47. "We were housed in the former CCC camp at Nine Mile and made all our training jumps from there."

Ozro Black (Missoula '46)

Ozro, 72, died from a stroke March 20, 1996, in Dillon, Montana. He was born September 25, 1923, in Red Bird, Arkansas, was widowed, was a WWII Navy veteran, had a college education and worked for the Forest Service. He had brothers who also were smokejumpers and jumped at Missoula 1946-49.

James E. Blowers (Missoula '46)

James, a resident of El Cajon, CA, died June 6, 2013. He was born in San Diego and joined the Navy at age 17 during WWII. After the war, he heard about smokejumpers needing men and he joined the group in Missoula jumping the 1946-47 seasons.

He spent his later career delivering water for Sparkletts, a pioneer in the bottled water business. Jim retired in the late 80s.

Michael Bober (Missoula '46)

Mike, 79, died April 15, 2005. He served in the 508 Parachute Infantry Regiment in WWII, was awarded three Bronze Stars, and was given a field promotion from private to sergeant for bravery in the Battle of the Bulge.

Mike jumped at Missoula for four seasons and joined the CIA in 1952 with postings in the Far East, Mideast, Europe and CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia. He retired in 1975 and moved to Corpus Christi, Texas.

Kingdon "King" Brady (Missoula '46)

King was born in Virginia, Minnesota, and graduated from high school in Yakima, Washington.

He served with the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment in Europe during WWII and graduated from Ohio University after the war. King jumped three seasons at Missoula.

He received his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Cincinnati in 1954 and practiced family medicine before going into Pathology in 1966. King then practiced Pathology in West Lafayette, Indiana until his retirement to Stuart, Florida, in 1989.

He was an NSA member and liked to keep up with smokejumping through the *Smokejumper* magazine.

James Brown (Missoula '46)

Jim died May 31, 2007, in Sandpoint, Idaho. As a young man he spent summers employed by the Forest Service doing Blister Rust control, mapping, surveying, cruising timber and firefighting. He graduated with a forestry degree from Washington State College in 1939 and worked as an asbestos worker in Alaska in 1940.

With such an extensive background, he was accepted for smokejumper training in 1941 but that was delayed by WWII when he worked on the "Manhattan Project."

When he started jumping in 1946, Jim jokes that Earl (Cooley) appointed him superintendent of firewood. In addition to splitting the firewood, his job was to get up very early and have the massive-iron cook stove hot and ready for the cook at the Nine Mile Camp.

At the urging of Earl Cooley, Jim took the Civil Service Forester exam and was offered work with the Forest Service at the professional level. However, the construction industry was booming in Alaska and Jim opted to set up his own company in that state.

In 1964 Jim established the 2,000-acre Homestead Ranch in the Pack River Valley near Sandpoint. He spent the remainder of his life on this property. He also owned land in Idaho, Washington, and Alaska. Jim loved flying and flew for many years in Alaska.

Walter W. Burton (McCall '46)

Walter jumped the 1946 season at McCall and had nine fire jumps that season in addition to his seven training jumps.

Robert L. Caldwell (McCall '46)

Bob died July 9, 1998, from Parkinson's Disease. He was a retired professor of Philosophy at the University of Arizona. Bob served with Patton's 80th Infantry Division when it was sent north to relieve Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge during WWII. He jumped at McCall 1946-47 and at Idaho City 1948-58.

John Leo "Jack" Carver (Missoula '46)

Jack, 74, died January 27, 1998, in the Montana Veterans Home, Columbia Falls, Montana. He was born February 22, 1923, in Hamilton, Montana. Jack grew up in Darby, Montana, and entered the Navy during WWII where he served four years. He was with the Bombing Squadron 14 with the USS Wasp when he and his pilot were credited with inflicting heavy damage on the Japanese battleship Yamato. His photograph of that bombing has been reproduced in the U.S. Navy's official story of the 2nd Battle of the Philippines and has been used in many newspapers and magazine to illustrate the actual sinking of the Yamato. He received a Navy Unit commendation Ribbon, the Air Medal, and the Silver Star Medal.

He married LeEtta May Carver in 1949. Jack attended Montana State College at Bozeman for two years and Montana State University at Missoula for two years. He jumped the 1946 season at Missoula. They lived in Kalispell where he owned and operated the Kalispell News Agency. After dealing in real estate, he purchased the Great Falls Beer

Distributorship, naming it Carver Distributing Co. which he owned until his retirement.

Edward T. Case (McCall '46)

Ed, 72, died peacefully at his home on Monday, November 15, 1999, surrounded by family and friends. He was born April 18, 1927, in Caldwell, Idaho, a son of Edward and Ida Delyria Case. An Idaho native, Ed graduated from Caldwell High School. He served in the Navy during WWII and the Korean Conflict as a Ship's Engineering Officer, Lt. Jr. Grade.

He spent several seasons as a smokejumper out of McCall, Idaho. Ed received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Oregon State College. He married Dorothy Godsey in 1949 and they were together 50 years. Ed moved to Utah in 1958 to work for Morton Thiokol before starting his own Ogden-based engineering firm. He led Case, Lowe, and Hart for 27 years and took great pride in the buildings and facilities he helped design. He took care of the people who worked for and with him.

Ed was respected for his talent, can-do attitude, and dedication to quality. He was president of the Consulting Engineers Council of Utah 1977-78, a member of NSPE, ASHRAE, and a life member of ASME. An avid outdoorsman, Ed had a great passion for the natural world. This past summer, he spent time fishing the West and on an anniversary celebration at Lake Powell with his family. He loved a great game of tennis and a decent round of golf. Ed was simply a good guy, good company, a class act. Ed is survived by his wife of 50 years, Dorothy Case.

Lawrence J. "Larry" Casey (Missoula '46)

Larry died April 21, 2009. He graduated from the Univ. of Montana School of Forestry in 1949. He started working for the USFS but got employment with the BLM in 1950. Larry worked as a timber manager/firefighter until his retirement in 1981.

Larry was a gunnery instructor in the Army Air Corps during WWII and continued to fly his Cessna 172 through 2001. He was a member of the NSA and the P-47 Pilots Association and lived in North Bend, Oregon.

Paul LeRoy Clabaugh (McCall '46)

Paul jumped at McCall during the 1946-47 seasons. He had ten fire jumps his rookie year and followed that with five more in 1947. Paul, 64, died, in Newport, Oregon, April 10, 1988. He was born in Republic, Kansas, April 19, 1923, and had been a millwright in Toledo, Oregon, since 1948.

Paul (PFC) was an Airborne medic during WWII and captured and a prisoner of war. He is buried in the Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, Oregon.

Robert Joseph “Bert” Collins (Missoula '46)

Bert, 90, died February 6, 2015, in Redmond, Oregon. He was born May 29, 1924, in Great Falls, Montana. His occupation in Redmond was listed as “Lawyer.” He jumped at Missoula 1946-48 and made 11 practice and nine fire jumps.

Oscar Richard Cook (Missoula '46)

Oscar, 71, of West Riverside, Montana, died April 14, 1993. He was born March 26, 1922, in Victor, Montana, and served in the Navy during WWII on the USS Pennsylvania. Oscar jumped at Missoula during the 1946-48 seasons. During the 1946 season he got four fire jumps in addition to seven training jumps. In 1947 he had six fire, one rescue and three practice jumps. Oscar was busy in 1948 with three practice and eight fire jumps.

After working for the USFS for a time, he became a construction worker for Hightower Construction. He retired from Structural System in 1984.

Richard J. Courson (Cave Junction '46)

Dick died February 20, 2018, in Pendleton, Oregon. He was a retired Umatilla County district attorney and district court judge. Dick entered the Marines before finishing high school, volunteered for the Para Marines and went into combat Feb. 19, 1945, when he landed on Iwo Jima at age 19. He spent 30 days in combat before being evacuated due to illness and wounds.

Back from the war, Dick used his military jumping experience to hire on at Cave Junction where he jumped from 1946-50.

Although he never finished high school, he enrolled in Willamette University for two years before entering Lewis & Clark Law School where he obtained his law degree. He moved to Pendleton in 1956 to practice law and was later elected Umatilla County district attorney. Dick was appointed to the district court bench in 1967 where he served 25 years.

Robert Craig (Missoula '46)

Robert jumped at Missoula during the 1946 season and got three fire jumps in addition to his seven training jumps. He is listed as deceased with no additional information.

Robert G. Cramer (Missoula '46)

Bob died November 30, 2005, in Missoula. After serving in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Campaign in WWII, he received his education and master's degrees at the University of Montana. He played basketball at Great Falls High and the U. of Montana. Bob was a teacher and administrator in schools in Montana, Alaska, and Idaho for over 30 years.

Robert A. "Bob" Crowe (Missoula'46)

Bob died July 29, 2017, in Miles City, Montana. He joined the military in 1943 and was a paratrooper in the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment. Bob was a decorated trooper and survived the Battle of the Bulge. After the war he earned his degree in Forestry from Penn State. He was an avid motorcyclist and rode his Harley back and forth across the U.S. while he split time at school and jumping at Missoula from 1946-49.

Bob moved to Missoula after graduation and went to work for the White Pine Sash Company until the mid-60s. He then went to work for the Montana State Forester's Office until retirement in 1979. Bob was active in scouting and was awarded a distinguished service award in 1971.

Bob jumped at Missoula 1946-49 and had 12 practice, 12 fire and one rescue jump.

Harry Lee Cummings #1 (Missoula '46)

Harry Lee Cummings Jr., 94, distinguished architect in the Greater Seattle Area, died at home in Kirkland on January 29, 2019. Harry was born in Conway, Arkansas and grew up in Oskaloosa, Iowa. He attended Iowa State University for one year before enlisting in the Army Air Corps, serving from 1943 to 1945.

Harry graduated with a BA in Architecture at Iowa State, then completed an MA in Urban Design at Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan in June 1950. He was one of ten graduate students accepted at Cranbrook to study under the renowned Finnish architect Eliel Saarinen

Harry worked briefly for several of Seattle's larger architectural firms before opening his own office in 1956 in the old East Side Journal Building in Kirkland. This was the beginning of a remarkable career spanning over 50 years on the Eastside and in the Greater Seattle Area.

Sometimes in partnership but more often on his own, Cummings Associates Architects designed and supervised the construction of hundreds of projects large and small throughout the region including health care clinics, recreational facilities, government projects, office buildings, and especially public schools. Cummings Associates designed 40 schools

for the Lake Washington School District alone, and well over 1,000 projects during his career. The firm grew and prestige to become the 22nd largest architectural firm in the Puget Sound region with some 27 employees.

Harry jumped at Missoula during the 1946 season and had seven training and five fire jumps.

Harry Lee Cummings (Missoula '46)

Harry died November 25, 2016. He was born May 4, 1923, in Orofino, Idaho. He grew up in Orofino where he worked in the woods fighting fires and manning lookouts for the Clearwater Timber Protective Association and the USFS.

Harry was inducted into the Army in 1943 and was a paratrooper in the 101st Airborne Division. He jumped on "D" at Normandy and later in Operation Market Garden. Harry was with the 101st in the Battle of the Bulge and was wounded twice during his time in the Airborne.

After the war he started a plumbing and heating business in Orofino and went to work for the USFS in 1962 as a Fire Control Officer. Harry retired from the USFS in 1980 and went to work for the Clearwater-Potlatch Protective Association.

Harry jumped at Missoula in 1946 and worked at Cave Junction during the 1947 season.

Note: There were two Harry Lee Cummings who rookied at Missoula during the 1946 season.

Paul Darchuck (Missoula '46)

Paul was born on December 29, 1924, in Scobey, Montana, his father, George, was 48 and his mother, Ustyna, was 46. He married on December 24, 1949, in Flathead, Montana. He died on January 4, 2003, in Asotin, Washington, at the age of 78, and was buried in Clarkston, Washington.

Paul jumped at Missoula during the 1946-47 seasons and had nine practice and nine fire jumps.

Leon L. Davis (Missoula '46)

Leon jumped at Missoula 1946-47. He got five fire jumps during the 1946 season and three during the 1947 season. Leon is listed in yearbook at the University of Montana in 1947 and shown living in Missoula in 1995.

Oroville N. Dodge (Missoula '46)

Orv, 89, died from congestive heart failure March 7, 2010, in Phoenix, Arizona. He was born August 24, 1920, in Jamestown, N.D. He attended

school in North Dakota and graduated from Sentinel Butte High School in 1938. He was active in all sports in high school and college.

Orv attended Dickinson State College and joined the North Dakota National Guard in 1939. Orv saw action in the South Pacific and stayed in the reserves after the war and was discharged as a major. His unit was the first Army unit who came ashore to reinforce the Marines on Guadalcanal; they became part of new division called the Americal. Orville was proud to be among those who helped secure Henderson Field.

He jumped at Missoula in 1946-47 along with his brother Bob. Orv received his bachelor's degree from the College of Great Falls, his master's from the University of Montana and his Ph.D. from Montana State University. He was the head of the education department at Carroll College from 1965-72 and retired in 1980.

James Aylward Dore (Missoula '46)

James, 65, died September 5, 1992, in Polson, Montana. He was born January 24, 1927, in Missoula. His occupation was listed as "Bar Owner/Long Haul Truck Driver." Also listed as serving in armed forces during WWII. He jumped at Missoula in 1946 and shows eight practice but no fire jumps.

Lawrence Ralph "Bud" Dunn (Missoula '46)

Bud, 23, was killed in an airplane crash August 17, 1947, west of Missoula, Montana. He was born July 5, 1924, in Portland, Oregon. He was a veteran of WWII, a Sgt. in the 327 Glider Infantry. Bud enlisted December 1, 1942, and was discharged November 30, 1945. Bud was working as a "Service Man" at the Johnson Flying Service in Missoula at the time of his death.

He jumped the 1946 season at Missoula and had four fire jumps during that season.

John Kiernan "Jack" Dunne (MSO-46)

Jack died March 19, 2021. He was born December 25, 1925, in Spokane, Washington. He started his Forest Service work during WWII in 1943 on the Libby Ranger District. He went into the Army Air Force in late '43 and was a tail gunner on a B-29. The 29's flew out of Guam and were involved in those dangerous missions over the Japanese mainland. Jack flew 30+ missions and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and several other air medals.

Back from the war in 1946, Jack and a friend applied for smokejumping and were accepted. Both were sawyers and that probably helped as he was the “tool man” at Missoula during his career there. He jumped four seasons (46-49) while attending Western Montana College at Dillon and getting his teaching credential. Jack taught 5th and 6th grade for 33 years, mostly in Whitefish. Jack had 15 fire jumps over those four seasons.

Jack’s teaching career ended in 1985, but when he was even in his 90’s, he would be recognized by former students who remembered his walls of chalk boards and how he made lessons come alive.

To show that jumpers are the same, whatever the generation, in a 2004 interview with *Smokejumper* magazine, Jack recounts the time when a circus moved into town at the Fairgrounds. There was a baby elephant that was “borrowed” and taken to the barracks. When the late-night drinkers arrived, some of them must have sworn off the bottle when they opened the door.

Robert “Bob” Dusenbury (Missoula '46)

Bob died September 23, 2017, in Anacortes, WA. After graduating from high school in 1942, he joined the Navy and served as a Petty Officer on LST 281. Bob delivered tanks and supplies to Charlie Sector on Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944. He moved to Missoula after the war and got his degree in Forestry from the Univ. of Montana.

Bob jumped 1946-48 at Missoula and moved to Charlo, Montana, in 1955 where he worked for the BIA, ending up in Cedar City, Utah, as a manager for the writing of the first Grazing Environmental Statement for Utah. Bob retired in 1981 and moved to Anacortes and started Dusenbury Marine Services, spending many hours on his 40-foot sailboat.

Donald Eugene Eastly (Missoula '46)

Don, 81, died January 16, 2007, in Seattle, Washington. He was born May 5, 1925, in Meridian, Idaho. Don was in the Army Air Corps 1943-46 during WWII. He jumped at Missoula during the 1946-47 seasons getting eight fire jumps.

Edward J. Eggen (Missoula '46)

Ed, 97, died July 25, 2020, in Colfax, Wisconsin. He was born October 9, 1922, in Colfax where he graduated from high school. Ed enlisted in the Army Air Corps in December 1941. He worked at United Hardware after the war. Ed jumped at Missoula 1946-50 making 17 practice and 13 fire jumps.

He was one of the four jumpers to make the historic exhibition jump June 28, 1949, in Washington, D.C.

Bruce Emil Egger (McCall '46)

Bruce, 93, died April 8, 2017, in Portland, Oregon. He was born on May 9, 1923, in Middleton, Idaho. He graduated from McCall High School in McCall, Idaho, in 1942.

After graduation from high school in 1942 he was inducted into the Army. As an infantryman in G Company, 328th Regiment, 26th Infantry Division, Bruce fought in the front lines in France and Germany. Discharged as a staff sergeant in 1946, Bruce was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and other decorations for his World War II service.

He jumped at McCall 1946-48 while obtaining his college degree from the University of Idaho. After his graduation in 1951 he began a 29-year career with the USFS.

After his retirement in 1979, he moved to Prineville, Oregon. During the 80s, Bruce completed a memoir of his World War II experiences for his children. This and the memoir of fellow soldier Lee Otis were published in 1992 as G Company's War: Two Personal Accounts of the Campaigns in Europe, 1944-1945.

Stephen Ambrose in his book, Citizen Soldiers, in talking about books by WWII veterans and their experiences, said: "Among the best of these are Bruce Egger and Lee Otts, G Company's War: Two Personal Accounts of the Campaigns in Europe, 1944-1945.

James W. Evans (Missoula '46)

Jim, 76, died January 10, 2003, from complications from Alzheimer's disease. He was a 1951 graduate from the University of Washington School of Architecture and was employed in that field for 40 years.

Jim was project manager on many large jobs including the Kingdome in Seattle; the U.S. Pavilion in Spokane for the 1974 World's Fair; The USAF Medical Facility at Travis AFB and the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Seattle before retiring in 1994.

Jim was also a private pilot who built several small airplanes over the years and served as Vashon (Wash.) airport commissioner from 1990 to 1997. He and his wife moved from Vashon Island, Washington to Sun City West, Arizona, in 1998.

Loren W. Fessler (Missoula '46)

Loren died February 21, 2002, and was buried in Thompson Falls, Montana. During WWII he was a member of OSS operational groups involved in parachuting behind enemy lines in France and China. It was this experience in China that led to his life-long involvement with the Chinese people and that country. Loren jumped at Missoula during the 1946 and '47 seasons, after which he went on to Harvard University to complete two degrees with an emphasis in Chinese.

Loren was a key journalist for Time magazine during the 60s and was the author of many books on China, including the Time-Life publication "China." He continued to live and work in China until health problems necessitated his return to the U.S. in 2000.

Henry J. "Hank" Florin (Missoula '46)

Hank died May 8, 2004, of natural causes in the company of his daughter and son. He grew up in Missoula and attended St. Francis Grade School, Missoula County High School, and the University of Montana. He was a hiker, and a hunter, and a skier, and an angler, and he canoed every river and crossed every stream in the Five Valleys.

Hank flew B-17s in World War II. That most intense year of his life and remained riveted in his memory ever after. When recently asked which 15 minutes he'd like to live over, it was the bomb run over Berlin. He was a smokejumper after the war in the company of other combat vets. They were winding down.

Hank worked for the *Missoulian* for 35 years. He provided security and an atmosphere that inspired a deep respect for life and nature. He was a liberal. He was inclusive. He believed men might respond to their better angels. Hank jumped at Missoula 1946-47.

John Albert Frankovich (Missoula '46)

John, 85, a retired Tucson attorney, died Oct. 24, 2010, in Tucson, Arizona. He attended Montana School of Mines, now known as Montana Tech, and earned a degree from the University of Montana School of Business and School of Law.

John joined the Army and served as a tail gunner in Europe during World War II. He jumped at Missoula in 1946-47 before embarking on a career with State Farm Insurance in Great Falls, Montana.

John then joined the legal department of the Anaconda Mining Company in Butte, Montana, and transferred in 1968 to Tucson during Anaconda's expansion to the Southwest. He was later lead counsel for the Twin Buttes

Copper Mine in Green Valley, Arizona; the open pit mine became a joint venture called Anamax, where John worked until his retirement.

Raymond John Froehlich (Missoula '46)

Ray died February 6, 1985, in Missoula, Montana. He was born November 20, 1925, in Missoula. Ray enlisted in the Army December 28, 1943, and was a Sgt. in the 97th Bombardment Group. He jumped at Missoula during the 1946-47 seasons.

Duane C. "Gil" Gilmore (Missoula '46)

Gil, 84, died July 10, 2012, in Bellevue, Washington. He attended Montana State University and spent the summers of 1946-47 jumping from Missoula. Gil and his wife operated Gillmore's Motel in Missoula for a couple years.

Howard Lee Gorsuch (McCall '46)

Lee, 91, died November 25, 2015, at his home in Colville, Washington. He was a graduate of the University of Idaho School of Forestry. Lee served in the Airborne during WWII and was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge.

After graduation Lee worked for the USFS on the Lolo N.F. and the Colville N.F. He jumped at McCall in 1946 and Missoula 1947-53.

Roy L. Goss (North Cascades '46)

Roy died, October 10, 2015. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII assigned to the battleship USS Indiana. Roy was a graduate of Washington State University where he earned his bachelor's degrees in Agriculture and Education and a PhD. in Agronomy.

Roy taught and worked 30 years as a research scientist and extension specialist for the WSU Agronomy department. In 2006, Roy was honored by Washington State University in the renaming of its primary turfgrass farm in Puyallup to "The Roy L. Goss Research Farm."

Roy retired in 1995 and was a resource person for master gardeners as well as being a keynote speaker at many seminars. He jumped at NCSB 1946-50

Robert M. Gossett (McCall '46)

Bob, 91, died April 21, 2014. The son of former Idaho Governor Charlie Gossett, he graduated from Boise Jr. College and the University of Idaho in Business.

Bob was a Navy pilot during WWII and jumped at McCall during the 1946 season. He continued to own and fly multiple aircraft throughout his life.

Bob combined the power of the computer and business accounting and founded Cougar Mountain Software (CMS). CMS was incorporated, became a national competitor, and remains a second-generation employer in Boise.

Lester Jerome Grenlin (Missoula '46)

Les died September 10, 1995, at his home in Oslo, MN from cancer at the age of 75. He was born December 22, 1919, in Oak Park, Minnesota. He was a WWII combat veteran serving in the South Pacific., Les was one of the first smokejumpers recruited by the CIA in 1951 and worked training Chinese airborne troops on Formosa.

Les jumped at Missoula 1946-48, 51-52.

Wilbur R. "Bill" Gropp (Missoula '46)

Bill started summer work for the Forest Service in May of 1940 (shortly before he turned sixteen) doing trail maintenance, smokechasing, and as a lookout. In a 2020 interview with *Smokejumper*, "I was visiting my brother, Howard, with my father and the Assistant Ranger came by. It was a bad fire season, and the Ranger asked my Dad if it was okay if I was hired? Dad was okay, so my USFS work started. I graduated from high school in 1942, worked as a lookout the rest of the summer.

Bill then went to a welding school and worked at the Kaiser Shipyard in Vancouver, WA. He joined the Marines in May of 1943. "I was in the battle of Iwo Jima and luckily to come out in one piece." He was discharged in March of 1946.

"I had been accepted to return to lookout duty but my brother, Howard, was returning to Missoula for smokejumping (he had jumped in 1942) and needed transportation, so I took him. At Missoula, Earl Cooley offered me a job, so I cancelled my lookout job and started training as a smokejumper." Bill jumped the 1946 season with two fire jumps.

"My brother and I went to Farragut College & Technical Institute to learn the 'body and fender' trade. We planned on opening our own shop. The work didn't suit me, so I applied for work at several utilities. I was hired by the Washington Water-Power Co. and started an apprenticeship as a Hydro-Power operator—did a three year 'on the job' stint and ended up as a power dispatcher for them. In 1962 I took a job with Bonneville Power Adm. to get away from shift work."

Bill moved to the Seattle area and eventually ended up in Albany, OR., where he worked until retirement in 1983. He was 96 on June 14, 2020.

Harold Hackman (Missoula '46)

Harold jumped at Missoula during the 1946-47 seasons. From research it is possible that this is the Hackman that was a smokejumper:

Harold Eugene Hackman died, 45, September 27, 1969, in Missoula, Montana. Born September 28, 1923, in Petaluma, California, and moved to Missoula as an infant. He served in WWII as a CPL in the Army Air Corps and in the USAF during the Korean War. He married June Phelps in Missoula in 1951 and worked as a logger for the John J. Hogan Logging Co.

Albin C. "Al" Hammond (Missoula '46)

Al died March 29, 2015, in Missoula Montana. Following graduation from Miles City High School, he worked as an ironworker for several years in his hometown. After the start of WWII, he volunteered as an army paratrooper and became part of the 11th Airborne Division sent to the Pacific, first to New Guinea and then to the Philippines. In 1945 he became part of the occupying force in Japan.

Upon his return to the United States, Al attended the university in Missoula for two years. He was one of the many returning WWII veterans that hired on as smokejumpers in the summer of 1946.

Al had a great and memorable 31-year career with the USFS during which time he made 98 parachute jumps. Because of his background in first aid, he was assigned to many rescue jumps, most notable, the 1959 Yellowstone earthquake that took 28 lives.

In 1961 Al was placed in charge of the Region 1 helicopter program becoming a helicopter pilot himself.

Paul Ellis Hankins (Cave Junction '46)

Paul Ellis Hankins was born on September 2, 1920, in Shenandoah, Iowa. He died on March 15, 2004, in Waldport, Oregon, at the age of 83, and is buried in Portland, Oregon. Paul entered the Army in May 1942 from Des Moines, Iowa. He was a paratrooper during WWII and records indicate that he served overseas. Paul jumped the 1946 season at Cave Junction.

William J. "Bill" Helman (Missoula '46)

Bill, 24, died August 6, 1949, in a Helena hospital because of burns from the Mann Gulch Fire on August 5, 1949. He lived in Kalispell, Montana,

and, at the age of 17, volunteered for the Navy where he served two years before transferring to the Marine Corps as a medical corpsman and took part in operations in the Pacific theatre. Bill completed high school upon his return from WWII and attended Montana State University for two years, one year at Northern Montana College and was three months away from his degree from Greeley State Teachers College in Colorado with the aim of becoming a science and botany teacher.

Bill was married to Geraldine Mather, and they had a son a month and a half old. Two weeks before the Mann Gulch Fire, he took part in an exhibition jump in front of the White House in Washington, D.C.

Steve W. Henault (Missoula'46)

Steve, 41, (Major/US Army) died February 19, 1971, in the crash of an Alaska Army National Guard aircraft at the 14,800-foot level of Mt. Sanford, Alaska. It was on a ferry mission to Ft. Richardson, Alaska, from Fresno, California. The plane developed engine problems, declared an emergency, and landed at Whitehorse on the way up. Major Henault was the Pilot in Command conducting a plane transition as well as qualify LTC. Caldwell (another passenger) in the U-8 aircraft.

He jumped in Missoula for seven seasons and was a stand-in for Richard Widmark during the filming of "Red Skies of Montana." Steve flew two tours in Vietnam and was a Major with the Air Medal with 10 oak leaf clusters.

Steve was born January 15, 1928, in Snoqualmie, Washington and graduated from Darby H.S. (MT) in 1947 and Montana State in 1952. He enlisted in the Army in 1953. He jumped at Missoula 1946-52.

Former jumper, Rex Post (MSO-54), a Pan Am Airways Captain on leave, and mountaineer, died during a rescue attempt on this crash.

Wallace D. "Wally" Henderson (McCall '46)

Wally was born on March 19, 1929, in Hot Springs SD. Moving to Oregon he attended Ontario High School, graduating in 1946.

In 1947, Wally attended Parks Air College, then transferred to the University of Colorado. In 1949, he attended Navel Flight Training, in Pensacola, Florida. He attained a BS in Engineering Physics and a MA in International Relations in 1966.

Wally had a remarkable military career, first with the Navy flying Corsairs and having to plow out of one in 1950. On to the Air Force as a 2nd LT, he was assigned to the 319th Fighter Interceptor Sq. in Korea, even having to bail out once. After a year and 72 missions over North Korea, Wally returned to the states assigned to multiple bases. Eventually he became an Air Force Advisor to the Maine Air National Guard at Bangor ME.

Significant positions held included managing programs dealing with aspect of nuclear weapons, Naval War College, National Reconnaissance Org member, Director of Intelligence & Warning Systems. Wally retired in 1973 as a Colonel, and with multiple civilian jobs fully retired in 1999.

Wally continues to fly light aircraft, hot air balloons and gliders, when not traveling the world from his current home in Albuquerque NM.

Two months after Wally's 17th birthday, he became a smokejumper assigned to McCall then Missoula for the 1946-47 fire seasons. He jumped 29 times for those two years.

Andrew H. "Ed" Henry (Cave Junction '46)

Ed, 74, died August 9, 2000, in Paso Robles, California. He was born September 1, 1925, in Scioto, Ohio. He jumped at Cave Junction during the 1946-47 seasons. Ed had an associate degree from Cerritos College and a bachelor's degree in English and Literature from the University of California Berkeley. He was an Academic Counselor at U.C. Berkeley.

Doy A. Herred (Missoula '46)

Doy died August 27, 2009, in Blaine, Washington. He was retired from the U.S. Border Patrol and jumped at Missoula during the 1946 and 1947 seasons.

Arthur E. "Art" Higbee (North Cascades '46)

Art, 84, died Feb. 7, 2011, in Arvada, Colorado. He attended pre-aviation cadet training at Montana State College and became a cryptographer in the Army Air Corps (predecessor of the U.S. Air Force) in 1945, serving as a first lieutenant with a heavy-bombardment squadron. After an honorable discharge, Art jumped from Winthrop for the 1946 season. He went back to the Air Force Cadet Training Program in 1948, graduating the following year as a first lieutenant troop carrier pilot. Art served in the Korean War.

Returning to civilian life in 1953, he worked for Guthrie Construction in Spokane, Washington, before joining the Washington State Patrol as an officer. Art left that position and moved to Seattle, where he began a 28-year career as a claims adjuster for Grange Insurance. The company transferred him to Denver in 1968, where he remained; he left the insurance industry in 1991 and worked for Cook Distributing, a Christian book distribution company, for two years.

Art then became an associate pastor at Faith Bible Chapel, retiring in 2008.

Howard Finnel Huelster (Missoula '46)

Howard, 90, died April 1, 2015, in St. Paul, Minnesota. He was born July 31, 1924, in St. Paul. A St. Paul Central High School graduate at age 16, he worked with the CCC in Aurora, MN and contributed to the war effort working on the Alaska Canadian Highway. Later he was a smokejumper and fire lookout for the USFS in Montana. Howard received his BA in English from Macalester College in 1949 and a MA from the University of Minnesota in 1959.

Howard was a Professor of English at Macalester, served as Assistant Dean of Students in the mid-60s, and retired after 41 years of service to the college. He and his wife were among the founders of the St. Paul Association of Retarded Children. He jumped the 1946 season at Missoula.

John Edward Hydes (Missoula '46)

John, 90, died December 22, 2016, in Helena, Montana. He was born September 10, 1926, in Helena. John enlisted in the Marines as a 16-year-old in July 1943. He saw action at Kwajalein, Guadalcanal, the Marianas, the Russell Islands and Guam. John jumped at Missoula during the 1946 season and had seven training and one fire jump.