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Smokejumper Obituary: Buller, Walter Ralph (Cave Junction 1943)

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Smokejumper Obituary

Buller, Walter Ralph (Cave Junction 1943)

Walter, 69, died April 21, 1991 in Newton, Kansas. He was born September 29, 1921 in Inman, Kansas, and a member of the Mennonite Church.

He entered Civilian Public Service in December 1942 and was among the first group to report to Seeley Lake in 1943 for smokejumper training. After training, Walter joined nine other men at the Redwood Ranger Station in Cave Junction, Oregon, for the initial year of that base. He jumped at Cave Junction for the 1943-44 seasons before transferring to NCSB for the 1945 season. His wife, Ruth, was the assistant cook at NCSB in 1945.

Walt left CPS in March of 1946 and returned to Hesston, Kansas where he was self-employed in drilling for oil and gas and involved in farm sales.

(end of excerpt)