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Smokejumper Obituary: Hoffman, Vernon Sherley (Missoula 1943)

National Smokejumper Association

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Smokejumper Obituary

Hoffman, Vernon Sherley (Missoula 1943)

Vernon died December 3, 2007, in St. Paul, MN. He was born July 6, 1922, in Muscatine, Iowa. "My unusual middle name came from the doctor who delivered me." Vern graduated from Muscatine H.S. and continued his education going to a local junior college. He was drafted in 1942, and as a member of the Brethren Church, went into Civilian Public Service work.

Vern was in several camps during his over three years in the program. "While all the projects were interesting, the smokejumping experience was the highlight." He jumped the 1943 season.

After his discharge from CPS, he continued his education at Manchester College and finished at Earlham College (Quaker) in 1949 with a degree in Sociology.

Vern did Brethren Church projects in Puerto Rico, Dayton, and Baltimore involving community service. After five years he took a job in St. Paul working with the Housing and Redevelopment Authority from which he retired.

(end of excerpt)