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Smokejumper Obituary: Stucky, Winton Howard (Cave Junction 1943)

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Smokejumper Obituary

Stucky, Winton Howard (Cave Junction 1943)

Winton died July 18,1991, in Moundridge, Kansas. He was born August 3, 1916 in a farm house near Moundridge. As a young man he was a good enough baseball player to be invited to spring training with the St. Louis Browns. A torn rotator cuff ended his baseball career.

In 1934 he joined his father in the grocery business before moving to Needles, CA, to work for the railroad where he worked his way up to engineer.

Winton was drafted into the Civilian Public Service in 1941 and was accepted into the first group of conscientious objectors to train as smokejumpers in 1943. After his training at Seeley Lake, MT, he was one of the first group of smokejumpers to staff the new base at Cave Junction, OR. He got three fire jumps that season before being injured.

Following his discharge from CPS, he returned to Moundridge and continued in the grocery business retiring in 1977. After a long battle with cancer, he died in 1991.

(end of excerpt)