

August 2020

Smokejumper Obituary: Flink, William Thomas (Missoula 1942)

National Smokejumper Association

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Recommended Citation

National Smokejumper Association, "Smokejumper Obituary: Flink, William Thomas (Missoula 1942)" (2020). *Smokejumper Obituaries*. 457.
https://dc.ewu.edu/smokejumper_bios/457

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Smokejumper Obituary

Flink, William Thomas (Missoula 1942)

Bill was born on March 8, 1921 in Missoula, Montana. He graduated from Missoula County High School and worked in a local laundry until becoming a smokejumper in the summer of 1942.

Bill joined the U.S Army in October 1942, earned his paratrooper wings in March 1943, and served as a member of the 508th Parachute Infantry in the European Theater making combat jumps in Europe.

He was released from the military in November 1945 and went into the laundry business in Warm Springs, Montana. He was active in local organizations, including serving as Montana president of the Fraternal Order of Elks. After retirement in the laundry business, Bill retired in Missoula where he died November 24, 1997 at age of 76.

(end of excerpt)