

July 2018

Smokejumper Obituary: Olsen, Wilford L. "Ole" (Cave Junction 1950)

National Smokejumper Association

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Recommended Citation

National Smokejumper Association, "Smokejumper Obituary: Olsen, Wilford L. "Ole" (Cave Junction 1950)" (2018). *Smokejumper Obituaries*. 587.
https://dc.ewu.edu/smokejumper_bios/587

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Smokejumper Obituary

Olsen, Wilford L. "Ole" (Cave Junction 1950)

Ole died January 21, 2018, in Spokane Valley, Washington, at the age of 88. He was a longtime resident of Townsend, Montana, and had recently moved to the Spokane area to be near family. He was born September 9, 1929, in Jamestown, NY.

Ole graduated from Michigan State University in 1951 with a degree in Forestry and jumped at Cave Junction during the 1950 season. He was a Marine Corps veteran having served in the Korean War from 1951 until 1953. Ole worked in the private timber industry for nine years after his discharge. He finished his career with the USFS putting in the next 24 years in Washington State and Montana.

Ole was an avid hunter and fisherman and longtime supporter of Ducks Unlimited. He carved thousands of working wooden duck decoys, many of which he contributed to DU events.

(end of excerpt)