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## Smokejumper Obituary: Hamilton, William (Missoula 1949)

National Smokejumper Association

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## Smokejumper Obituary

### Hamilton, William (Missoula 1949)

Bill, 85, died Jan. 29, 2014, in East Wenatchee, Washington. He joined the U.S. Army after graduating from high school, qualifying for jump school and eventually becoming a paratrooper in an Airborne battalion.

Bill attended Wenatchee Valley College and transferred to Washington State College, and after earning his bachelor's degree he studied law at the University of Washington. He formed the Hamilton, Lynch & Kuntz law firm and later served as municipal court judge for 15 years. Bill also owned apple and cherry orchards.

After retiring from the legal profession, Bill moved to Carson City, Nevada, in the late 1980s to help a friend launch a business; he remained there until returning to Wenatchee in 2001. While in Nevada, Bill volunteered to help build water collectors for bighorn sheep and other wildlife. He also coached and judged youth debate teams. Bill jumped at Missoula during the 1949-51 seasons.

*(end of excerpt)*