

June 2011

## Smokejumper Obituary: Kauffman, Norman Daniel (Missoula 1945)

National Smokejumper Association

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### Recommended Citation

National Smokejumper Association, "Smokejumper Obituary: Kauffman, Norman Daniel (Missoula 1945)" (2011). *Smokejumper Obituaries*. 885.  
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## Smokejumper Obituary

### **Kauffman, Norman Daniel (Missoula 1945)**

Norman, 87, died June 6, 2011, in Kalispell, Montana. He was born on a farm east of Kalispell on July 19, 1923.

He was a conscientious objector during World War II and served 13 months in Idaho in the Civilian Public Service before jumping from Missoula in 1945. "The one distinctive event I claim during my time as a smokejumper was that I was the only one who had to use his emergency chute on a fire jump."

Norman joined the crew of the U.S.S. Mount Whitney in 1946 and helped transport horses to Poland as a part of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Act.

He attended Hesston College in Kansas before earning a degree from Eastern Mennonite College in Virginia.

He then became a teacher and school administrator, continuing until 1970, when he became a pastor in the Mennonite Church. He enjoyed church volunteerism capacities following retirement from the pulpit, including service with Gospel Echoes Prison Ministries.

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