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# Smokejumper Obituary: On, Danny (Cave Junction 1946)

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## **Smokejumper Obituary**

### On, Danny (Cave Junction 1946)

Danny, a Forest Service silviculturist, died at the age of 55 in a skiing accident on The Big Mountain ski slopes January 21, 1979. He was a survivor of the 101st Airborne unit that fought in Europe during WWII, where he was wounded. Returning from WWII, Danny enrolled at the University of Montana to earn a master's degree in Forestry. Among his Forestry schoolmates and friends in Missoula, Danny was better known for his "break-away" and "long delay" parachute jumps, and love for hunting and photography.

As a Forest Service employee, Danny became widely known as a nature photographer, conservationist, and avid skier on Montana's Big Mountain ski slopes. Being revered by many, a Danny On Memorial National Recreation Trail was created in Whitefish, Montana, on the Tally Lake Ranger District of the Flathead National Forest. It is said to be by far the most popular trail on the forest with approximately 15,000 people hiking the trail each year.

Danny jumped at Cave Junction 1946-47 and 1952-53.

(end of excerpt)