

November 2002

Smokejumper Obituary: Dobbins, Wallace J. (Missoula 1947)

National Smokejumper Association

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Smokejumper Obituary

Dobbins, Wallace J. (Missoula 1947)

Wally passed away November 18, 2002. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Marian. He grew up in the northwest and served in the Army with the Corps of Engineers in the Philippines and Okinawa during World War II.

After the war, Wally joined the smokejumpers and fought forest fires for eight summers. He jumped at Missoula 1947-51, 55, 57, and Grangeville in 1952.

He graduated from the University of Montana in 1952 and was recruited by the CIA on a project in Taiwan. In 1969, Wally returned to his passion of teaching and coaching for Marana Public Schools until his retirement in 1987.

(end of excerpt)