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National Smokejumper Association

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Smokejumper Obituary

Webb, Wayne R. (McCall 1946)

Wayne R Webb passed away Sunday, November 7, 1999, at the VA Center in Boise, after a nine year, courageous battle with amyloidosis and multiple myeloma. Wayne was born July 21, 1925, at Weiser to Calvin and Golda Roger Webb. He grew up in Weiser and received his education there.

Wayne served with the 517th HQ Co. 2nd Bn. Airborne in World War II and was at the Battle of the Bulge. On November 15, 1945 he married Wilma Jackson, and they raised three sons and one daughter.

Wayne went to work for the U.S. Forest Service in McCall as a smokejumper in May 1946 and became the parachute loft foreman and parachute technician, retiring August 2, 1975, with 300 jumps of which 175 were forest fire jumps. He was extremely honored and deeply overwhelmed when the new smokejumper facility in McCall was designated "The Wayne R Webb Parachute Loft" in August 1990. Wayne and Wilma spent 23 winters in Yuma Arizona.

(end of excerpt)