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Smokejumper Obituary: Harrison, James Oliver (Missoula 1947)

National Smokejumper Association

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Smokejumper Obituary

Harrison, James Oliver (Missoula 1947)

James, 20, died August 5, 1949, in the Mann Gulch Fire. He was working as a fire guard that season and had been working on the fire. He met the 15 jumpers once they were on the ground. He jumped at Missoula during the 1947 season but stopped jumping as his mother consider it "too dangerous." Jim had four fire jumps during the 1947 season. He was born February 8, 1929, in Spokane, Washington, grew up in Missoula and received his education at St. Anthony's grammar school and Missoula County H.S. where he graduated in 1945.

James would have been entering his senior year at Montana State University in the fall where he was a chemistry major.

(end of excerpt)