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Smokejumper Obituary: Hornumg, William Everett "Bill" (Missoula 1959)

National Smokejumper Association

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Smokejumper Obituary

Hornung, William Everett "Bill" (Missoula 1959)

Bill, 83, died November 14, 2021, in Austin, Texas. He was born July 31, 1938, in Tucson, Arizona. "Bill was an attorney, an Officer in the U.S. Navy, an F.B.I. agent, a farm and ranch hand, a smokejumper and forestry aid, a professor of criminal justice, a student of history, a writer and storyteller, and a European traveler. He was also an avid hunter-not only of wild game in his youth, but of corruption, crooks and Klansman, of books, beauty, and bargains.

"Bill had a special connection to the Texas landscape, its ruggedness and its rockiness, and he would often take his sons on treks to scout and re-home rocks so heavy they seemed impossible to move-their size almost comical in the bed of his pickup-as he worked to sculpt his enchanted land in Sunset Valley. Over a period of 50 years, Bill built and maintained perhaps some of the most intricate and personal dry stacked stone walls in Texas, each individual stone self-harvested from the native soil of his land and placed by hand with technical precision and a sacred sensitivity."

Bill jumped at Missoula during the 1959 season.

(end of excerpt)