

July 2009

Smokejumper Obituary: Yoder, Floyd F. (Cave Junction 1943)

National Smokejumper Association

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Smokejumper Obituary

Yoder, Floyd F. (Cave Junction 1943)

Floyd, 89, died July 4, 2009, in Iowa City, Iowa. He was born on a family farm April 13, 1920, near Kalona, Iowa into a family of seven children. Floyd graduated from Kalona high school where he played basketball and was all-conference for two years in football in addition to being Junior class president.

Floyd was drafted into Civilian Public Service in 1942 and was in the first group of 60 CPS men to start smokejumper training at Seeley Lake. Floyd then was among the group of 10 that went to Cave Junction, Oregon, to start a new smokejumper base where he jumped for two seasons.

After the war he returned to Kalona and dairy farming which he did for the next 32 years. Floyd was a leader in the Mennonite Church in the Kalona.

(end of excerpt)