

December 2004

Smokejumper Obituary: Stoll, Rudy John "Skip" (Missoula 1951)

National Smokejumper Association

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Smokejumper Obituary

Stoll, Rudy John "Skip" (Missoula 1951)

Skip, 72, of Whitehall, Montana, died Saturday, Dec. 25, 2004, of pancreatic cancer. He was born on July 9, 1932 and graduated from St. Ignatius high school and the University of Montana. While at the university, Skip was a member of ROTC. He later attended basic infantry officers training at Fort Benning, Ga., and graduated first in his class.

Skip then worked as a pharmacist in Great Falls, Bozeman and Butte before returning to Whitehall to manage Whitehall Drug, where he worked until his retirement.

During the summers of his university years, Skip was a smokejumper and was an NSA member. Upon his retirement he worked on trail maintenance crews in the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

Skip was an avid University of Montana football fan, missing games when only absolutely necessary. His "Go Griz" sign became a fixture on Interstate 90.

(end of excerpt)