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## Smokejumper Obituary: King, Thomas Patrick (North Cascades 1979)

National Smokejumper Association

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# Smokejumper Obituary

## King, Thomas Patrick (North Cascades 1979)

Tom, 64, died January 27, 2019. He was born March 3, 1955.

From his brother, Bill: "Tom's fire service started as a "Sleeper," living at the fire station on Western Ave., in Wenatchee, WA, during his first two years of college. He later finishing at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, WA, with a degree in Criminal Justice. Tom would go two quarters a year so he could jump during the summer. He also worked for Washington State DNR.

"Tom signed up with the U.S. Border Patrol after his smokejumper service but had to leave six months later due to an illness that may have been contracted during a fire in Alaska, earlier in the year.

"Tom then worked at the Washington State Penitentiary in Walla Walla before moving to Portland, Oregon. There he worked until his retirement and illness / death for a government/private construction organization building water and sewage systems for the fast-growing area west of Portland, OR.

"His time with NCSB was something very close to his heart and he visited and went to every event they put on. Tom jumped at North Cascades 1979-80, and 1984.

*(end of excerpt)*