

Bonnors Ferry Herald June 17, 1998

Smith, Hollice John

Hollice John Smith, age 75, passed away suddenly at his home in Bonnors Ferry, Idaho on June 14, 1998. Funeral services are planned to celebrate Hollie's life on Friday, June 19, at 1 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Bonnors Ferry.

Hollie was born April 15, 1923 in Bonnors Ferry. He has lived most of his life in his beloved Boundary County. To him there was no finer place on earth than home in north Idaho. He felt fortunate to enjoy the beauty and good life in "God's country".

He was the youngest of seven children born to John Isaac Smith and Frances Ann Chervenka. Hollie attended the old Pine Grove Needles Grade School and graduated from Bonnors Ferry High School in 1941. Hollie was a talented trumpet player and traveled with the Harry Walden Dance Band to perform at regional dances.

He worked briefly for the U.S. Forest Service packing mules on the Westside; did construction work at Farragut Navel Station; and did surveying work for the Engineering Department of the Great Northern Railroad.

Hollie served in active duty in the U.S. Army during World War II from December 1942 to October 1946. He was sent to the European Theater of Operations and served under General Patton's "Third Army" throughout Germany. After returning to the states he was promoted to Captain and recalled to serve in the Korean War as commander of "C" company in the 31st infantry.

In 1952 he returned home and continued to serve in the retired reserves with the rank of Major until the time of his death. For four years Hollie was the commander of the National Guard unit in Boundary County. Proud to serve his country, he was awarded the Purple Heart, Silver Star, Bronze Star, and the Combat Infantryman Badge with one star. Hollie was a 50-year member of the American Legion Post #55.

Hollie married Dorothy Jean Danquist on October 23, 1948 in Bonnors Ferry. Hollie owned his own electrical contracting business for 10 years; in 1963 he began working for the City of Bonnors Ferry as an electrician, retiring in 1985.

With a fondness for the out-of-doors, Hollie was an avid hunter and fisherman. Gardening was his passion that provided many hours of pleasure and bountiful harvests that he gave to family and friends. Hollie also enjoyed woodworking and bird watching. At the end of a full day's work, Hollie could always be found in his favorite chair reading a good book for hours on end.

Hollie had a soft spot in his heart for family and friends and so adored his children and grandchildren. Those who remain to lovingly remember him are his wife, Dorothy at home in Bonnors Ferry; daughter, Debbie and husband Ken Wombacher of Pleasant Hill, California; son Hollie and wife Christina of Spokane, Washington; daughter Kelly and husband Kim Orison of Bonnors Ferry; brother Earl Smith of The Dalles, Oregon, brother, Wilfred Smith of Sumner, Washington; nine grandchildren; Joseph and Kelly Wombacher, MacKenzie and Hollice Connor Smith, Osa and Winter Rose Orison, and Zena, Sadie and Ellia Shelton, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Hollie was preceded in death by his mother and father, John and Frances Smith, brother, Ray Smith; brother, Gordon Smith; brother, Arthur "Artie" Smith and sister, Ethel P. Smith.

The family requests that memorials be sent to the City of Bonnors Ferry for use in a memorial to be dedicated in Hollie's memory.