



Henry George Ripley Jr., 90, of Bozeman passed away in his sleep early in the morning of October 29, 2007. George was born on February 28, 1917 in Avalon, Pennsylvania to Henry George Ripley and Edith McGary Ripley.

He graduated from high school in Oak Park, Illinois, and enrolled at Montana State College in 1938. After a year at MSC he attended aviation mechanics school in Los Angeles, and upon graduation worked for Lockheed in LA and Dallas. He was drafted into the Navy in 1942, and serviced airplanes in the South Pacific during World War II.

On June 7, 1946 he married Dorothy Chidsey Rhame in Oak Park, Illinois, and in 1947 they moved to Bozeman. He worked in the building industry for a number of years, including the construction of the library and fieldhouse at MSC. He graduated from Montana State in 1962, and from 1965 to his retirement in 1973 he owned and operated Butte-Bozeman Delivery.

George will be most remembered by his four children for his patient, loving ways, and for the wonderful lives he and Dorothy provided for them when they were growing up. Their early involvement in the building and running of Bridger Bowl in the mid-fifties began a lifetime of enjoyment for the whole family. George was the first operator of Bridger, and he continued to enjoy skiing into his later years.

He was the first fire chief of the Bridger Canyon Volunteer Fire Department, and his duties during his tenure from 1978-1984 included overseeing the building of the first fire station.

He loved to read, and in his retirement traveled the world with his wife.

Survivors include Dorothy, his wife of sixty-one years; his children, Joan (Steve) Salusso of Divide, Ann Ripley of Helena. Carol (Bob) Sisk of Sedan, and Mills (Amy) Ripley of Gallatin Gateway; also nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

If desired, suggested memorials may be made to Eagle Mount, 6901 Goldenstein Lane, Bozeman 59715 and Bozeman Deaconess Hospice, 915 Highland Blvd., Bozeman 59715.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held in the near future. Arrangements are in the care of Dokken-Nelson Funeral Service.