

William V. Inman

William V. Inman, missing since May 23, 1991, was found on an embankment of the Flathead River, about six miles south of the Montana Veterans Home in Columbia Falls.

He was pronounced dead on May 12, 1994, by Flathead County Deputy Coroner Dennis Updegraff. The cause of death was established as accidental drowning. Pending positive identification, cremation was withheld until Thursday, May 26.

Known to many of his friends throughout the Flathead Valley as Jack or "Cowboy," he indeed left footprints on all our hearts.

Born June 11, 1919, in Plainview, Texas, to William and Exie D. Inman, he completed his education, married Judy Hayes Inman in 1941, served in the Navy during World War II in the Aleutian Islands and went on to father five children.

Being a lover of nature, his dream was to one day live in Montana. After many years spent working in California he finally realized his dream in 1977, when he moved to



Lakeside.

He spent his retirement years living in the natural surroundings he so loved, riding horseback, lending a helping hand and teaching the "cowboy jitterbug" to anyone able to keep up with him.

Due to ill health, the last five years of his life were spent at the Montana Veterans Home with his extended family, where he received excellent care. It was during one of his traditional early morning walks along the Flathead River in the spring of 1991 that he lost his footing.

He lived by the laws of nature and died by the laws of nature. All who knew him are comforted by this.

Survivors include his son William H. Inman and his wife, Ruth, of Puesco, Colo., daughters Marie E. Peeler and her husband, Lowell, of Helena; Sybil Brown and family of Lakeside; MaryAnn Inman Smith and her husband, Ralph, of Bigfork; Katherine H. Inman and family of Kalispell, plus seven grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Services will be held at Ben Williams Park in Lakeside, 2 p.m., June 4. His family wishes to extend an invitation to all who would like to join in the celebration and bid farewell to this delightful man known as "Cowboy."