



Bob Janes

Robert C. Janes (Bob), who recently turned 92, passed away at the Juneau Pioneers Home on March 21, 2014.

Bob grew up on the beaches of California, but his love for the mountains and forests lured him to a career in Forestry. After graduating from the University of California at Berkeley, Bob was able to move to the Sierra Nevada Mountains as a Ranger with the U.S. Forest Service. He fought fires, jumped from helicopters, cruised timber, and managed recreation. His young family shared in the adventure of moving to another ranger station every three years. He was elated when selected as a Snow Ranger for the 1960 Winter Olympics at Squaw Valley.

Bob moved to Juneau with his family in 1965 for what was meant to be just another three year assignment. Instead, he chose to embrace the community as home for the next 49 years. Skiing was his passion, and he brought that passion to Juneau. He spent many days working on the rope tow and snow cat at 3rd cabin, and became involved with the Juneau Ski Club and the Juneau Ski Patrol, with which he was a member and leader for the next several decades. Bob was instrumental in selecting the site for Eaglecrest, and played a large part in the funding and permitting of the Eaglecrest road, as well as in the planning and funding of the ski area. As a member of the Juneau Lions Club, of which he eventually became District Governor, Bob donated countless hours to Gold Medal Basketball tournaments. He also developed the Lions Club Handicap Ski Program, where he could be found most Saturdays teaching many new found friends the joy of the outdoors and of adaptive skiing. Bob's tireless efforts in the 1980s eventually evolved into the ORCA adaptive ski and snowboard program, a mainstay of Eaglecrest for many years now.

Bob loved to fish, and sported a large collection of Salmon Derby participation pins. Bob's biggest achievement though, was that he considered his family his best friends. Hiking and skiing with his kids, traveling with his grandkids, or simply showing up every morning to share coffee and stories; these were special moments; moments that will be forever remembered and cherished by all of us. Bob is survived by his three children and their spouses: Bob Jr. (Dawn Wolfe), Bill (Annie) Janes, and Kathy (Jeff) Jeffers; all whom still call Juneau home. His five grandchildren and four great grandchildren will carry on his legacy for many years to come; as will several generations of nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held
Sunday, April 20th at 5:30 PM at the JACC.
All who know Bob are invited to attend.