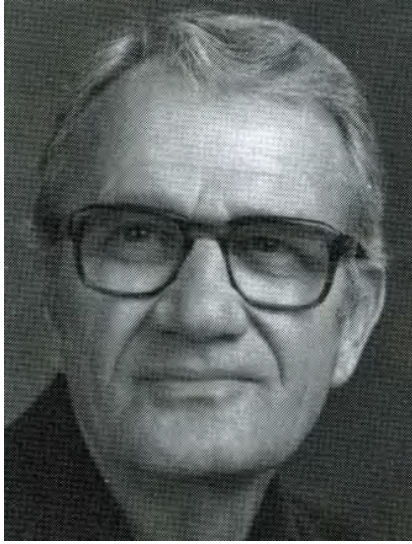


Wilbur P. Werner (1911-2006)



Wilbur P. Werner, 94, a founding member of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation and its president in 1975-76, died July 15 (2006) in Mesa, Arizona.

A long-time resident of Cut Bank, Montana, where he practiced law for six decades, Werner was passionately devoted to Lewis and Clark, and he led countless tours to nearby Camp Disappointment and the site on Two Medicine River where Meriwether Lewis had his deadly encounter with Blackfeet Indians in July 1806. He wrote numerous articles about the expedition for a wide variety of publications, including *WPO*, and donated his many books on Western Americana to the Glacier County Library, in Cut Bank. He served three terms as county attorney and was active in community organizations, including the Boy Scouts and Chamber of Commerce.

Werner was born in 1911 in Falls City, Nebraska, raised on a farm, earned a law degree at the University of Omaha, and moved to Cut Bank in 1937. Through his legal and community work he befriended many Indians on the nearby Blackfeet Reservation. In 1941 he was inducted into the tribe and given the name Weasel Head (Ah-Po-Tu-Can).

He was predeceased by his first wife, Mary, in 1980, and is survived by his second wife, Martha, and by five children, 17 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

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(Werner was Vice President of the Foundation, 1974-1975; President, 1975-1976; and Director, 1976-1977 and 1979-1981.)

*Prepared by Bob Gatten, 2011*