Aerospace journalist receives UM award posthumously

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AEROSPACE JOURNALIST RECEIVES UM AWARD POSTHUMOUSLY

MISSOULA, Mont. --

World-renowned aerospace journalist Jeffrey G. Cole will be honored posthumously during this year’s University of Montana Homecoming celebration Friday and Saturday, Oct. 12-13.

Cole is one of six outstanding UM graduates chosen to receive a 2001 Distinguished Alumni Award. His widow, Maria Little Cole, of Federal Way will accept the award for him at the University’s traditional Singing on the Steps of Main Hall ceremony.

Cole received a bachelor’s degree in journalism from UM in 1980 and then joined the staff of the Missoulian, where he started his career. He died in an airplane crash in January while on assignment as aerospace editor for the Wall Street Journal. While there, he wrote more than 800 stories, often breaking some of the biggest exclusives the newspaper published. Cole received many prestigious awards during an illustrious journalism career that spanned more than two decades. In June he won the Boeing Decade of Excellence Award, which is nominated by peers and granted for sustained achievement over a 10-year period.

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