



Below Bunny Flat is where Everitt died in the Bear Springs Fire during his first year of service. Flames moved up the southern slopes of the mountain. Everitt scouted the fire alone and when the winds changed direction, he was surrounded by the fire and killed. He became the first forest supervisor killed defending the forest he oversaw.

Close to the location where Everitt died, a vista point was established in his honor. A guard rail and a paved driveway are all the warning a driver has to its location. Trees have grown into the view. The circular parking lot remains, along with a restroom. In the summer, a trail moves through to the forest to the viewing area and what is left of an old ski shelter.

Winter or summer, the highway passes through the curtains of tall trees which fade near the old ski bowl to smaller, hearty survivors of fierce winds and towering layers of snow. From time to time, the Trinity divide and Strawberry Valley appear, a green expanse of trees,

often carpeted by the snows of winter. Mount Shasta's peak looks down upon many of the curves.

To get on the highway, take Lake Street exit from Interstate 5 and head toward the mountain, and follow the curve of the road to the left past Mount Shasta High School.

Once, the views along this highway were only open to daring hikers. Now, they can be driven to and enjoyed within minutes. Each trip should be taken in the spirit of John Muir, who enjoyed this mountain and said, "Keep close to Nature's heart... and break clear away, once in awhile, and climb a mountain or spend a week in the woods. Wash your spirit clean." •



Gary VanDeWalker grew up in Mount Shasta, returning to the area from San Diego with his wife Monica. He manages the Narnia Study Center. A Ph.D. in philosophy, he writes on a variety of subjects, including more than 100 articles for Enjoy.