

## Obituary

### Norman James “Pete” Atkins, 83



Norman James “Pete” Atkins of Blackfoot, Idaho passed away on October 13, 2011 at the Portneuf Medical Center in Pocatello, Idaho.

He was born in Delta, Colorado in 1928 and grew up in Paonia Colorado. He was preceded in death by; his Father, James Perry, Mother, Lura May and Brother, Dale M. Atkins.

Pete has five children: Shannon Lamb, Wheat Ridge, CO; Shelley Atkins, Arvada, CO; Dan Atkins, Bend, OR; Cindy Walsh (Joe) Groton, CT and Perrie Atkins, Blackfoot, ID. He also has seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He attended Western State College and graduated from Utah State University with a BS in Animal Husbandry. Pete also served in the US Army during the Korean War where he received several medals to include the Korean Service Medal with 2 Bronze Service Stars and the United Nations Service Medal. He was a lifetime member of the Elks Lodge, American Legion, and supported the Idaho Youth Ranch.

He started out working with Armor & Company in Denver, CO and later accepted a job as a livestock broker with the John Clay Company in Ogden. After moving to Idaho, Pete went into business with Charlie Lau ( L&M Sheep Company in Idaho Falls, ID) and then on his own he started the Camel Sheep Company. For 60 years, he bought and sold livestock throughout Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Colorado and California.

Pete traveled around the world with family and friends; he enjoyed reading, growing a vegetable garden, cooking and following his favorite sports teams. Visiting his children was the highlight of his year. His creative interests even lead to him being granted a US Patent for a cooking fork in 1993. Anyone that knew him would tell you his favorite pastime was golf! He spent most of his life on the golf course here in Blackfoot and Idaho Falls and at many golf tournaments around the country. He played at several celebrity events and even traded his putter with Mickey Mantle.

The family would like to express their appreciation for all of the care and kindness given to him during this past year.

Memorial services will be held at Hawker Funeral Home October 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. In lieu of flowers please make donations to: Idaho Youth Ranch, Elks – Veterans Fund or the Elks-Youth Fund.