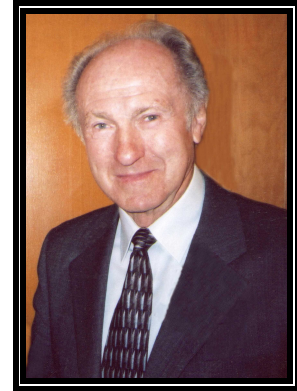


Obituary

Arthur O. “Art” Gardner, 76

Arthur Ott “Art” Gardner, 76, of Blackfoot, passed away Sunday, April 4, 2010 at his home with his family.

Art was born October 4, 1933 in Honeyville, Utah, to Leon Dewey and Margaret Annie Madsen Gardner. He attended school in Honeyville, Utah. Art rode the school bus nine miles morning and night. He played football and basketball his Freshman year and sang in the Boy’s Glee Club. He lacked three credits from graduating from high school so he decided to enlist in the Navy. His father signed for him and at age 17 joined the Navy.



He met his sweetheart, Audrey, at a dance at MacElroy’s ball room in Portland, Oregon. They were married in 1952. Received basic training in San Diego, California during the Korean Conflict. He served aboard the USS Boxer – CVA 21 – Navy Aircraft Carrier and toured the Korean Operating Area, Japan, Hong Kong, Phillipines, and Hawaii. He was Honorably Discharged in March 1954.

He earned a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education from Utah State University in 1958 and his Masters Degree in 1992 from Idaho State University.

Art enjoyed living in Blackfoot. He read the “Morning News” daily and was an active member of the Blackfoot community. He was a “behind the scenes” type of guy, always leaving things better than he found them. He always told people that they were “NBA – Nothing But Awesome”. And he never left a conversation without sharing a “little humor for the day”.

He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving in various callings.

He worked as an educator in the Blackfoot School District for 42 years.

He is survived by his wife, Audrey of Blackfoot; a son, Arthur Bradley (Elsa Suzanne) Gardner of Lake Havasu, Ariz.; daughters, Suzanne Louise Gardner of Blackfoot, Pamela Rae Gardner of Idaho Falls, and Cynthia Kay (Mark) Bewley of Blackfoot; siblings, James Rex (Janice) Gardner of Morin Co., Calif., Rula Jean Sorensen of Eugene, Ore., Barbara Rose Avondet of Ogden, Utah, sisters-in-law, Bonnie Gardner and Jean Gardner both of Blackfoot; thirteen grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers, Spencer Leon Gardner, Boyd Gardner, brothers-in-law, Vernon Sorensen and Mike Avondet.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 Thursday, April 8, 2010 at the Blackfoot 2nd Ward LDS Chapel with Bishop Collin Cook conducting. The family will meet with friends and relatives from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at Hawker Funeral Home, 132 S. Shilling Ave, Blackfoot, and again for one hour prior to services at the church.

Interment will be in the Grove City Cemetery. Military honor will be presented by Veterans of Foreign Wars.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Arthur O. Gardner Memorial Fund at Zions Bank in Blackfoot, Idaho. Call Darla Richards at (208)785-7899 for more information.

Condolences may be sent to condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com.