

Obituary

Bernard Joseph Henscheid, 83

Bernard Joseph Henscheid, 83, of Blackfoot passed away Saturday, November 20, 2010 at his home.

Bernie was born December 30, 1926 in Blackfoot, Idaho to Henry Joseph Henscheid and Mary Elizabeth Sieger. Bernie was born in Blackfoot, lived in Idaho Falls from 1950-1964, and then returned to Blackfoot. He attended St. Margaret's School until 1941, then he attended Blackfoot High School, graduating with the class of 1945. Bernie joined the U. S. Navy in December of 1944, at the age of 17 and served aboard the U.S.S. Miami as a Seaman 1st Class. He attended Mount Angel Seminary in Oregon from 1942 to 1943 and then Idaho State College.



On June 5, 1950, Bernie married M. DeLoris Ashliman in the St. Bernard's Church in Blackfoot, Idaho. Together they had nine children, Henry, Angelen, Tom, Mark, Jim, Mary, Jean, Elizabeth and Louise.

Bernie worked in banking, at the General Electric's Aeronautical Nuclear Propulsion Laboratory, was manager of Blackfoot Credit Bureau and was a recreational therapist at the State Hospital South.

Bernie may best be remembered for helping families in Blackfoot and the surrounding area celebrate Christmas through his unique mix of talents as a piano player, singer, and story teller. He was a naturally gifted musician who played piano, all brass instruments, and accordion. For decades, he was the beautiful bass behind the St. Bernard's Parrish choir. He was a member of the Army National Guard and played baritone in the 45th Army Band. Prior to that, he played in the Idaho State College pep band and the symphonic orchestra. Bernie learned music at his father's knee and passed that love along to his family. He was a leader in civic and volunteer organizations and was deeply committed to social justice. For his life-time of service to others, he received the 2005 Best Foot Forward Award from the Blackfoot Chamber of Commerce. He was an avid traveler, enjoyed fishing, following current events, and was instrumental in the success of Blackfoot's series of Legislative Breakfasts. He was a member of the fourth-degree Knights of Columbus.

Bernie is survived by his wife of 60 years, DeLoris; sons, Henry Henscheid (Esther), Blackfoot, Idaho; Tom Henscheid (Laura Hebert), Seattle, WA; Mark Henscheid (Cathy), Highland, Utah; Jim Henscheid (Donna), Meridian, Idaho; daughters, Angelen Parrish (Eugene), Blackfoot, Idaho; Mary Vaichus (Peter), Waterbury, CT; Jean Henscheid (Gary Brown), Moscow, Idaho; Elizabeth Foster (J.D.) Alexandria, VA; Louise Larsen (Greg), Nampa, Idaho; brothers, Raymond Henscheid and Norbert Henscheid; sisters, Cecelia Rausch, Leoba Engles, Mary Ray, Rose Bakoulas and Theresa Boykin; 31 grandchildren, and 12 great grandchildren (with one on the way).

Bernie is preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Mary; brother, Leo Henscheid; and sisters, Florence Ellsworth and Christina McKanna.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 24, 2010 at St. Bernard's Catholic Church, 584 W. Sexton in Blackfoot. A Rosary will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at The Shilling House Reception Center, 214 South University Avenue and the family will meet with friends and relatives from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. after the Rosary at The Shilling House, and for one hour prior to services at Hawker Funeral Home, 132 South Shilling Avenue in Blackfoot. Interment will follow at the Grove City Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions be made to St. Bernard's Church. Condolences may be sent to the family at condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com.