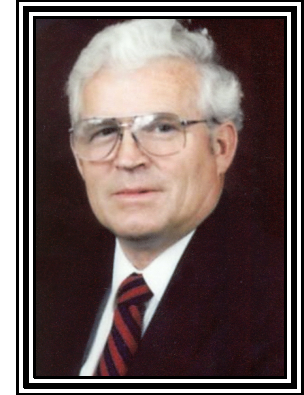


# Obituary

## Jack Edwin Merritt, 77



Jack Edwin Merritt, 77, longtime businessman and resident of Blackfoot passed away Thursday, May 26, 2011 at his home. He was under the care of his dedicated and loving wife and the staff of Blackfoot Home Health and Hospice.

Born January 5, 1934 in Afton, Wyoming the third of eight children to Paul Merritt and LaFawn Skinner Merritt. After graduating from Rigby High School, he enlisted in the Army and served in Newfoundland during the Korean War.

He married BernaDine Hawker on Friday, July 13, 1956 in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple.

He was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served as High Priest Group Leader, Young Men's President, Bishop's Councilor, Blackfoot Stake High Councilmen and Bishop of the Blackfoot 1<sup>st</sup> Ward.

He was also very active in Scouting, serving two separate terms as the Blackfoot District Chairman and on the Executive Board of the Tendoy Council and was responsible for the physical facilities of Camp Little Lemhi. Together with his brother he helped build the Director's Cabin, trading post, shower house and an addition to the main lodge. He was a recipient of the District Award of Merit and The Silver Beaver.

For over 38 years he owned and operated Merritt's Chevron and Repair, starting out on the North end of old Highway #91 and then to the South Broadway location, both in Blackfoot. When Interstate #15 was completed, he moved his operations just off of Exit 93 where he served the public for over 25 years. When Chevron decided to close up that operation, Jack opened Merritt's Repair in Wapello.

He loved to hunt and fish and enjoyed the outdoors. He was very proud of his 1957 Chevy Cameo Pickup that he and BernaDine had purchased new when he worked for Western Electric.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, BernaDine Hawker Merritt of Blackfoot; children, Jackie (Donavan) Harrington of Blackfoot, Brent (Janeen) Merritt of Provo, Utah and Barbara (Kelly) Ferrin of Montgomery, Alabama. He is also survived by ten grandchildren and eight great grandchildren; sisters, Pauline (Leland) Flint of Rigby, Marjorie (Brent) Gamble of Blackfoot, Virginia (Dean) Hammond of Marysville, Washington and Nancy (LaVarr) Moore of Blackfoot.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Lloyd Vernon Merritt and James Eldon Merritt.

The family would like to thank members of the Blackfoot Home Health and Hospice, especially Robin Clemens and Jessie Wadsworth who were assigned to care for him.

A funeral service will be held 11:00 a.m. Thursday, June 2, 2011 at the Blackfoot 1<sup>st</sup> Ward LDS Chapel, 187 N. Ash St., with Bishop Tad Pearson conducting.

The family will meet with friends on Wednesday evening from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Hawker Funeral Home, 132 S. Shilling Avenue in Blackfoot and from 10-10:45 a.m. prior to the service at the church. Interment will follow at the Blackfoot Grove City Cemetery. Military Rites will be performed by the Stewart Hoover Post #23 of Blackfoot. Condolences may be sent to the family at [condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com](mailto:condolences@hawkerfuneralhome.com).