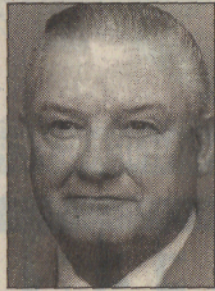


Buster K. Nickell

Buster Nickell was born in Victor, Idaho, son of Alvin Earl Nickell and Olive Audrey Campbell. Buster joined the Air Force shortly after graduating from high school and served his country in WW II as a B-17 radio operator and tail gunner of the 39th Bombardment Group, later splitting off into the 301st Bombardment Group flying 50 missions based out of North Africa.



After the war, Buster returned home and married hometown sweetheart Beth LaRue Jones of Victor, Idaho, on Feb. 12, 1944. Buster and Beth have enjoyed 59 years of love and marriage. Buster served nine years in the Air Force

and after his discharge in 1953, they moved to Portland where he worked as a meat cutter for Safeway.

In 1963, they moved to Corvallis and continued meat cutting for Richey's, Albertson's and Fred Meyer. In 1972, Buster studied and began work for the Federal USDA as a meat inspector in Corvallis and surrounding areas. In 1976, he transferred to Olympia, Wash., where he continued his career and retired with 21 years of federal service.

After retiring, Buster's health declined and decided he would like to move back to the Willamette valley area where he felt comfort in familiar territory and centrally located between family and friends. Buster was a member of the church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and devoted lots of love and time to family, Temple work, and genealogy.

Buster is survived by his wife Beth (Jones) Nickell, five children:

Katherine Ballard of Portland, Sandra O'Dell of Arcada, Calif., Debra Smith of Salem, Rex Nickell of Graham, Wash., and Kim Nickell of Yelm, Wash., along with 20 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Also surviving are two brothers Afton Nickell of Albany and Scott Nickell of Roy, Utah, and sister Vanda Petersen of Aberdeen, Wash.

Services will be held at the LDS Church, 4550 Lone Oak Rd. SE, in Salem on Saturday, Aug. 23 at 2 p.m. There will be visitation at the church prior to the service starting at noon. On Wednesday, Aug. 27, there will be viewing at the Valley Funeral Home in Driggs, Idaho, starting at 11:30 a.m. with a graveside service at 2 p.m. at Victor Cemetery. Arrangements in Salem are by Virgil T. Golden Funeral Service.

B. F. H. Jones
8-28-03