

Mickey S. Hewitt passed away Tuesday, October 15th at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center from complications after surgery.

MICKEY SIMPSON HEWITT was born June 25, 1932 in Boise ID to Lawrence and Elsie Rhodes Hewitt. He spent his early years in downtown Boise. During middle school the family moved to Fruitland ID where Mickey attended high school. This is where Mickey met Jeanie, the love of his life and wife of 61 years up until her death in July 2013.

Mickey attended high school in Fruitland and was Captain of his football team and they won the high school state championship his senior year. He continued to be a leader of men from that point forward until his last days.

Mickey and Jeanie were married July 15, 1950 in Winnemucca NV. They soon started their family in Boise ID where Mickey worked as a warehouseman and delivery driver for Booth Fisheries. Mickey was also a professional boxer, boxing under the name Mickey Rhodes and earning the title of Pacific Northwest Champion for both middle-weight and welter-weight division. In 1952 Mickey traveled to New York City where he fought in Madison Square Garden, but missed his new son Jim and Jeanie so much only stayed 4 months. In February 2002 Mickey Rhodes was inducted into the Northwest Boxing Hall of Fame along with his long time buddy Jimmy Grow of Lewiston, Idaho. They traveled together in the boxing circuit and trained together in Boise.

Between matches Mickey went to work in the construction business as an Operating Engineer. The family moved with him to many places where he could find work on a dam, or a road project. Mickey settled his family in Lewiston ID in 1964. He continued in the construction business, eventually starting his own company.

During the 70's Mickey and his son Jim became very active in thoroughbred race horses. Jim was a nationally ranked jockey and trained race horses for Mickey. Mickey owned several race horses and travelled around the Pacific Northwest and Northern California to watch them run.

In 1980 Mickey moved to Venezuela SA with his wife Jeanie to work for his long time friend Ron Maxwell who represented Nello Teer a large international construction firm from North Carolina. He was the Project Manager for the building one of the worlds largest dams on the Orinoco River.

Upon his return from South America, Mickey and Jeanie moved to Maui Hawaii where Mickey worked for Goodfellow Bros Construction Company as an island manager for the next 19 years. Mickey was very active in charity work for his local community of Kihei. This is where they built their dream home and lived during those years. The Governor of Hawaii gave Mickey the honor of nominating him as Hawaii's Citizen of the Year in early 1990's. Mickey is very well known and loved by the people of Maui.

In 2001 Mickey retired from Goodfellow Bros and they moved back to Idaho so they could spend time with their kids and grand-kids. Mickey felt fortunate to have come from a place like Idaho. As a board member Mickey was active in the Lewiston Gun Club and fought very hard to retain the now closed club.

While on Maui he also owned a sporting clays shooting range. He loved to shoot sporting clays and trap to the end. In 1996 Mickey won the Sporting Clays National championship in his class that was held in San Antonio, TX. Right up to the end, Mickey loved shooting targets. He attended a shoot just 3 weeks prior to being hospitalized.

Mickey was preceded in death by his parents and his loving wife of 61 years Jeanie. Mickey is survived by Jeanie's brother Alan Ray Blackburn, Bangkok, Thailand. Mickey is also survived by his 4 children: James Merrill (Tammy) Hewitt, Cindy Marie (Gale) Wilson, Judi D Tierney, and Charles Lawrence (Jessa) Hewitt. He is also survived by 10 grand children and 11 great grand children. Mickey was very close with his children and grand children. He will be greatly missed.

Surviving Mickey at the family home is his companion Jo Bills. Jo and dad were like teenagers again both being same age and being united after all these years as they knew each other when children. Dad loved Jo deeply and she loved him as well and it was evident when you saw these two together. Jo made dad younger and vibrant again and dad was deeply in love with her as well. We thank Jo so much for what she gave our beloved father this past year. Thank you Jo, we are so sorry that you have to share in our loss, as we know how much you loved our dad.

Mickey travelled the world, met many movie stars, politicians, recording stars, high powered business owners and the ordinary man. With his sense of humor he made it easy to love him and he never met a stranger and helped so many people financially along the way.

Mickey had countless friends, who all meant so much to him. He was truly one of a kind. There will never be another man like MICKEY SIMPSON HEWITT. He will be missed by all who had the opportunity to know him.

The family invites all of you to Mickey's celebration of life services to be held Saturday November 1st at 1pm located at the Lewiston Elks Lodge located at 3444 Country Club Drive, Lewiston, Idaho.

Any donations would be appreciated to the Lewiston Animal Shelter.