

PYR Morris Cook obit

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MORONI-- Morris Sharp Cook was born Aug. 13, 1919, in Birch Creek (Fountain Green), to his parents, George Edward and Edith Justesen Cook. He attended grade school in Fountain Green and went to Moroni to attend junior high and high school where loved to play basketball.

May 9, 1941, he married Betty J. Allred in the Manti Utah LDS Temple. Shortly after getting his family started, he was drafted into the army in March 1945 during WWII, where he would serve in the Philippines, leaving behind his wife, two children and his sheep ranch.

Upon his return home they moved to Milburn, where a portion of his ranch was located. There, he started the first A grade dairy in Sanpete County. He loved the sheep business and soon returned to Fountain Green and then on to Moroni where he would spend the rest of his life.

He operated on the west desert during the open range period and experienced the transition when the BLM and Forest permits were established. Millers Flat became the headquarters of his summer range and a favorite place for his family to be.

Before livestock transportation by truck existed he would trail his sheep to Nephi where they would be loaded on train cars and moved by rail to Black Rock on the west desert. In the mid 1960s, while raising his sons, he bought the Harmon Ranch north of the golf course in Nephi to add to his turkey operation.

Morris grew up when cars where ordered by catalog and picked up in person. At 16 years old he and his good friend, Asel Olsen, only 15 years old, traveled to Springfield, OH, to pick up a two ton truck, a car, and a pick-up truck. While stopped for breakfast in Evanston, WY, they were arrested and put in jail for transporting vehicles without a license which was required in the state of Wyoming. His father wired the money and they were on their way.

Morris was an outstanding example to his family. Of his eight children, four of them served missions and two served in Vietnam. He spent his life in the service of the Lord. He served in the Milburn bishopric; he was a high councilman under President George Anderson. He was the bishop of the Moroni First LDS Ward and later on he became an ordinance worker in the Manti LDS Temple.

Morris was a man of great wisdom, always sharing sound advice; one of his often expressed sayings was "Taking care of what you have, is like finding hidden wealth." His life was guided by what he knew. His choices were made from an eternal perspective. He

possessed profound reverence and childlike faith, his testimony of God the Father and Jesus Christ were undeniable.

Surrounded by his loved ones, Morris passed away in his home May 13, 2009, due to natural causes. Morris was preceded in death by his parents and all of his siblings; Clark, Winifred, Booth, Scott, Ina, and his twin brother, Mark. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Betty, his grandsons, Justin Cook and Heath Cook, his great-grandson, JJ Cook.

He is survived by his children, Mark and (Nanalee) Cook, Moroni, Jewel and (Leon) Hatch, Mapleton, Roger and (Marianne) Cook, Moroni, Lawrence and (Jeannine) Cook, Moroni, Orson and (Mary Ellen) Cook, Moroni, Tracy and (Marian) Cook, Moroni, Daniel Cook, West Jordan; and Molly and (Art) Lamb, Mt. Pleasant; 41 grandchildren; and 104 great-grandchildren.

Funeral Services were held May 18, in the Moroni Stake Center.

Interment was in the Moroni City Cemetery.