

Jerome Benjamin Burnett 1891-1953

obituary of Jerome B Burnett in "The Coachella Valley Sun" of 8 Jan 1953

Funeral Held For Jerome B. Burnett

Graveside services were held at 1 PM Tuesday at Coachella Valley Cemetery for Jerome B. Burnett, 63, well-known oil man and Coachella Valley rancher, who died Sunday afternoon at an Indio hospital after a long illness.

An oil company geologist and executive for more than 25 years, Mr. Burnett purchased the former Paul's Pioneer Gardens, a date garden, in Thermal when he retired in 1945.

He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. William A Lucking, Ojai; one son, Jerry Burnett, a sister, Mrs. Octavia B Overton, and a brother, Leslie Burnett, all of Thermal, and five grandchildren.

Services were conducted by Rev. C. L. Conder of St John's Episcopal Church, Indio. Pallbearers were William A Lucking, Leland Yost, Earl Shumway, Elton Gebhardt, Bob McLendan and Norval Jarvis. Only members of the family attended.

Mr. Burnett was born in Nebraska and received BS and PhD degrees from the University of Nebraska. From 1919 to 1939 he was successively geologist with the Emerald Oil Company of Mexico, chief geologist of Mexican Eagle Oil Company, and chief geologist and assistant manager of Lago Petroleum, and manager of Huasteca Petroleum Company of Mexico.

In 1939 Standard Oil Company appointed him technical advisor to the New Zealand Oil Company and Standard-Vacuum Oil Company of Australia. In 1942 he became director of the Australasian Petroleum Company in Iraq and Iran.

He was a 32nd degree Mason. Considered an outstanding authority in his field, he was awarded fellowships to the American Geographical Society, Institute of Mining and Metal Engineering, and the Association of Petroleum Geologists.