

Leonard Jerome Burnett 1892-1963

Leonard Burnett, Native Of Bitter Root
Died Oct.19; Rites in Missoula

Funeral services for Leonard Jerome Burnett, 71, were conducted in Missoula Tuesday afternoon by Rev. R. A. Jones of the Presbyterian church. Burial was made in Missoula cemetery. Mr. Burnett died in a Missoula hospital Saturday following a protracted illness.

Leonard Burnett was a member of the pioneer Burnett family of the Bitter Boot. He was born at Stevensville May 9, 1892 and reared in that community. He was wed Feb. 26, 1916 to Ruth Fowler of Victor in Missoula. Since 1937 Mr. and Mrs. Burnett made Missoula their home where he was one of western Montana's outstanding brick construction contractors. Some of the more important Montana masonry structures were built under his direction, including a number in Hamilton.

Mr. Burnett was a member of Hellgate Lodge 383, BPOE and of the Missoula First Presbyterian Church.

In 1951 he acquired Missoula apartment buildings which he operated until 1962. Since then his health had been precarious. Those who survive are the widow, Ruth, two daughters: Mrs. Ray Ryan of Caracas, Venezuela and Mrs. Harley Beasley of Albany, Ore. who were with their parents during their father's final illness. There are also three brothers: Lloyd of Hamilton, Clifford of Richland, Wash.. and James V. of Philipsburg, and three sisters: Mrs. John W. Dowling and Mrs. Marlin Buxton of Hamilton, and Mrs. Neil Flanagan of Stevensville. There are also six grandsons and a granddaughter.

Not only was Mr. Burnett an outstanding builder, who leaves structures of great merit as testimonials to his craft, but he was a kind and friendly gentleman, always accommodating, ever solicitous of others, a really helpful contributor to the good of mankind.