

George Blackwell (1923-2008)

George Edward Blackwell, 85, died Oct. 7, 2008 at his home in Barstow. He was born Feb. 17, 1923 in Limon, Colo.

George attended Barstow High School, graduating in 1943. He graduated from Chaffee College in 1949 with an Associates degree, and the LA School of Art and Design in 1952.

He was a World War II veteran, serving from 1943 to 1946. He was in the Pacific Theater, Philippines, in Latey, Mindoro, Mindanao, and also Matsuyama, Japan. He was wounded at Zig Zag Pass in Luzon, Philippines during the battle for the recapture of Bataan on Feb. 5, 1945.

George worked many jobs for the City of Barstow for 30 years, retiring in 1983, and also at North American Aviation as a graphic designer for three years. He was a life time member of the Kiwanis, serving as secretary-treasurer for 25 years. He loved being with his grandchildren, and other children in Barstow, attending their sporting events.

Surviving George are his wife, Jeannie Klein Blackwell; children, Ward Blackwell and his wife, Joan, of Barstow, Gail Salinas and her husband, Rudy, of Palmdale, and Mark Blackwell and his wife, Karen, of Winslow, Ariz.; step-children, David Klein and his wife, Monica, of Barstow and Daniel Klein and his wife, Julie, of Carson City, Nev.; 13 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren; and sister Elaine Hudson and her husband John, of Hudson, Ore.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, Oct. 10, 2008 at 10.

(Source: Desert Dispatch)