



## Leo LaVerne Morton

January 22, 1931 - August 16, 2017

Leo LaVerne Morton, age 86, passed away surrounded by loving family members at Colonial Vista in Wenatchee, WA, on August 16, 2017, at approximately 5:30 p.m. He was born January 22, 1931, in Gillette, WY, to homesteading parents. His early years were spent in Montana, running the family farm with his brother, George, while their father worked on the railroad, and mother was employed by the postal service.

When he came to Wenatchee, WA, around 1962, with his wife and two daughters, Leo worked for Pybus Steel, built his own business, Morton Welding, and became a firefighter for the City of Wenatchee. Upon retiring, he developed an orchard/farm near Quincy, WA, served as foreman for a large farming operation near Boardman, OR, and worked at Bethlehem Steel in Wenatchee, as a diesel mechanic.

He was a strong, quiet man who loved his family, his work, and a simple life. He was a problem solver, and could fix anything. He remodeled several homes,

including the "Warming Hut" on Badger Mountain.

He was preceded in death by his siblings: William "Bill", Irvin, Marie Davis, and infant boy and girl twins. Leo was also preceded in death by his daughter, Leona Gail O'Brien; and grandson, Jason Carter. Surviving relatives include his brother, George Morton of Maryland; his sisters: Charlotte and Loraine Morton of Billings, MT; numerous nieces and nephews; his wife, Genelle LaVanway Morton; daughter, Kathleen Smith (John); step-children: Kei LaVanway (Menchie), Aric LaVanway (Dawna), Lara Shemali (Michael), Tia Rex (Kyle), Ayon LaVanway, Ariana Chantee, Alex LaVanway (Natalie); and numerous grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held Monday, August 21, 2017, at 11:00 a.m., at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1621 Maiden Lane, Wenatchee, WA, 98801.