

Carter Luther

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LUTHER, CARTER VAN



June 18, 1914-March 3, 2011

GOODING — Carter Van Luther was born June 18, 1914, in Gooding, Idaho. He is the fifth child of Charles Augustus and Ora Ellen High Luther. On June 11, 1937, he married Perny Luella King in Tacoma, Wash.

Carter graduated from the University of Idaho at Moscow, Idaho, in 1937. He received his master's degree in agricultural science in 1965. He started his teaching career at the University of Idaho in 1937. Carter is responsible for starting the first classes under the National Youth Administration. He taught vocational agriculture (vo-ag) in Buhl, Idaho, for four years before becoming the procurement and quality check man for Pet Milk Company in Buhl. He continued in that position for five years while also farming. He started teaching vo-ag in Jerome, Idaho, in 1946 and taught until 1979 before retiring. While teaching in Jerome, Carter started programs in soils, entomology and welding, which are now standard fare for vo-ag classes. He also started the first cooperative work education programs in the Jerome School system. For several years, he ran the canning kitchen in Jerome.

In 1986, he received an award for distinguished service from the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Association. He was secretary-treasurer of the Idaho Vocational Association and president of the Idaho Vocational Teachers' Association. Carter was also recipient of the Distinguished Service Award and Honorary State Farmer Degree from the Idaho FFA Association and Honorary American Farmer Degree from the National FFA Association. In 1997, Carter was awarded a certificate of recognition as a founding member, listed in the Founders Registry of the FDR Memorial, Washington, D.C.

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He helped his brother farm for three years in Gooding after retiring. He and Luella moved in 2002 to the home on the Luther ranch that was settled in 1903. He loved it there and loved the memories that came flooding back of his childhood. In March of 2010, he and Luella went to stay with his daughter, Lorna, and husband, Jay, in Susanville, Calif. He passed away in Susanville on Thursday, March 3, 2011, from complications of old age. Just days prior to his death, he was visited by his children, Gary, Gerald and Lorna.

Carter was preceded in death by his son, Vernon Lee Luther. He is survived by his wife, Luella; two sons, Gary (Marcia) and Gerald, both of Jerome; a daughter, Lorna (Jay) Buckalew of Susanville, Calif.; two sisters, Oretta "Pat" Lindell of Twin Falls, Idaho, and Edith Byram of Gooding, Idaho, and a brother, Martin High Luther of Anderson Island, Wash. He is survived by seven grandchildren, three step grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, three step great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

The family is requesting, in lieu of flowers, letters and stories of remembrances of Carter for assembly in a book of remembrance. Services are pending.