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Farewell, Don Bartlett



Donald E. Bartlett, a pillar of the California avocado industry, and a past president of the California Avocado Society, died on August 20, 1999. He was born in Pomona in 1933 and became the third generation of the Bartlett family to grow citrus in southern California. He graduated from Claremont High School and continued his education at the University of Arizona and California State Polytechnic College. After a series of jobs in farm management and development, in 1967 he purchased a grove management business in Fallbrook — a business that was to become Bartlett Grove Management.

Don's work on behalf of his fellow farmers included service as a Board Member and President of the California Avocado Society and the San Diego County Farm Bureau. He was active with the California Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, The Agricultural Production Consultants Association, and the Men's Lemon Club. His service to community included membership in the Rotary Club, Scouting, and the United Methodist Church of Fallbrook.

He is survived by his wife, Carlynn, daughters Karen and Stephanie, two granddaughters and his brother Gordon.

Don was awarded the California Avocado Society's Award of Honor in 1997 - the Society's highest award. Few men rise to the high level of leadership and service that Don Bartlett achieved. His contributions to the building of the California avocado industry were many, and his presence will be missed.