

# JIMMIE GOLDSTEIN

1929 – 2007

**J**immie Goldstein – his real name was James, but no one called him that – was born on October 18, 1929 to Irving and Victoria Goldstein of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, about 30 miles from New York City.

Jimmie came into a Scouting family. Irving was an active Scouter and received the Silver Beaver Award. In the early days of the BSA Jimmie's uncle had helped found the troop Jimmie would later join. Jimmie was a Cub Scout and Boy Scout, earning the rank of Eagle.

In 1947 Jimmie traveled West to attend the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. He fell in love with that part of the country and returned home only as a visitor. During college he was active in the Student Union and the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity, the national service fraternity that in those days was affiliated with Scouting. He graduated in 1951.

While in college, Jimmie made his first visit to Philmont Scout Ranch, BSA's 35,000 acre high adventure paradise in Cimarron, New Mexico. After college he moved to nearby Ute Park and opened the Chuck Wagon Café. In 1956 he returned to the University of New Mexico to work at the Student Union.

Jimmie married Barbara Gordon in 1957. Together they had three children: daughter Jamie Paul, married to Marvin, son Roger and his wife Stacy, and son Jay and his wife Libby. Jimmie and Barbara were blessed with eight grandchildren.

**I**n 1958 Jimmie re-entered Scouting as a professional. He served as Assistant Scout Executive in Albuquerque for nine

years, as Scout Executive in Harlingen for five years, spent four years as the Business Manager at Philmont, and 18 years as Director of Finance and Director of Business in Houston.

In Houston he encountered a young and energetic group of Jewish Scout leaders. With Jimmie's help and advice as professional advisor to the Jewish Committee on Scouting, the program exploded in the Jewish community, with new units, hundreds of Jewish boys joining Scouting, and regular programs to help boys earn their religious awards topped off by an annual Jewish Retreat, or *Kinus*. In 1990 Jimmie had half the Committee attend training at Philmont, and hosted them at his and Barbara's vacation home in Ute Park.

Jimmie's distinguished Scouting career was recognized with the Rio Grande Council *Paisano* Award and the *Shofar* Award of the National Jewish Committee on Scouting. He was a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow.

**A**s a volunteer, Jimmie was a Cubmaster in every place he lived. He was a veteran volunteer firefighter, helping to found the West I-10 Volunteer Fire Department, which he served as Chief for 13 years. In retirement he was president of the Ute Park Property Owners' Association, active with the Ute Park Volunteer Fire Department, and on the Board of the Cimarron Watershed Alliance. He was dedicated to music and culture, and was involved in the "Music From Angel Fire" arts festival.

Jimmie will be missed by all who knew him.