



## **JAMES CASHMAN, JR. - Class of 1944**

Jim Cashman was the second-generation leader of Cashman Enterprises, a family owned business that included car dealerships and heavy-equipment dealers.

He was dedicated to making Las Vegas a better place to live, and was dedicated to his family. He was a strong civic and business leader in Las Vegas and in Northern Nevada as well.

Jim was born in Las Vegas in 1926 to notable local businessman “Big” Jim Cashman and his wife, Leah Barker. He left Las Vegas High School in 1943 to enlist in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He served in the Army as a gunnery instructor in Texas until 1945, when he returned to Las Vegas. He then went to work for his family business. He started at the bottom, driving a tow truck in the middle of the night, according to his son, Tim Cashman.

Jim made his first foray into community service in 1948, when he joined the Las Vegas Junior Chamber of Commerce. He went on to become State President of the junior chamber and National Vice President of the organization’s national chapter.

In 1962, upon “Big” Jim’s death, Jim, Jr. took the helm of Cashman Enterprises, which then included the Cashman Cadillac auto dealership and Cashman Equipment, a Caterpillar tractor franchise.

In addition to running the family business, Cashman served in a variety of community organizations. He chaired the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce in 1971 and 1972, and served on the state’s Public Works Board from 1963 to 1978. He was President of the United Way’s Southern Nevada campaign in 1974, and he was a charter member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Las Vegas. He also helped mount the annual Helldorado Days rodeo and parades from 1945 until they ended in 1997, and he was a founder of the Las Vegas Invitational, a golf tournament that was the first PGA Tour event to offer a \$1 million purse.

Jim passed away in December, 2005. He was married to Mary Carmichael Cashman (LVHS Class of 1943) and had one son and two daughters, nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

These biographies are based on research and could contain discrepancies.  
If there are any excerpts you feel should be changed please feel free to contact [Dave@lvhsaa.com](mailto:Dave@lvhsaa.com).

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