

The Uhrig Family
11/20/2025

Hailey City Council

Dear Mayor Burke and Members of the Hailey City Council,

I am writing to respectfully request your consideration in renaming the Hailey Rodeo Arena in honor of one of our community's most dedicated and influential figures: **Ted Uhrig**. His lifelong commitment to the Hailey Rodeo Arena and the Sawtooth Rangers Riding Club represents a legacy that has shaped not only the arena itself, but also the culture and spirit of our valley.

Ted's involvement began in 1947, when at just 17 years old he became the youngest founding member of the Sawtooth Rangers Riding Club. From the very beginning, he poured his energy, work ethic, and passion into building what would become one of Hailey's most beloved traditions. In 1948, he was instrumental in the creation of the original Hailey Rodeo—not through financial means, but through the “blood, sweat, and tears” that defined his approach to community service.

Over the next 50 years, Ted served the Sawtooth Rangers and the Days of the Old West Rodeo in nearly every role imaginable: founder, organizer, lead rider, arena director, president, roping competitor, and the steady, reliable heart of the organization. Him and his wife Maxine were even named **Grand Marshals in 1997**, a reflection of their lasting impact on the community. His guidance and leadership were foundational to the continued success of the Fourth of July rodeo tradition.

In 1967, Ted became the arena director, a position in which he set the standard for excellence and professionalism. In 1972, he encouraged the Sawtooth Rangers to establish the Eastern Idaho Rodeo Association (Semi-Pro), which eventually grew into the Intermountain Pro Rodeo Association (Pro). Under Ted's leadership, the rodeo was honored as **Rodeo of the Year seven times**—a testament to the quality, dedication, and vision he brought to the arena.

But Ted's legacy extends beyond titles and awards. Alongside his wife Maxine, their six children, numerous grandchildren, and a large circle of lifelong local friends, Ted helped shape the Hailey Rodeo Arena into the vibrant, community-centered space we know today. For decades, the arena echoed with the work and love of the Uhrig family, whose contributions created a home for tradition, sport, and celebration.

Sadly, Ted passed believing that the valley he devoted his life to didn't fully recognize the magnitude of what he contributed. Renaming the Hailey Rodeo Arena as the **Ted Uhrig Rodeo Arena** would not only preserve his legacy for future generations but also honor the countless hours, sacrifices, and leadership he gave in service to our community.

We ask the Council to consider this renaming as a gesture of gratitude—for Ted's unwavering dedication, for the history he helped build, and for the community spirit he embodied so completely.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,
The Uhrig Family



TED UHRIG RODEO ARENA

HAILEY, IDAHO