

Mike (Myron) E. Leavitt

June 24, 1895- November 6, 1976

1944 2 years

Mike E. Leavitt was born in Bunkerville, Nevada in 1895. His father, Thomas D. Leavitt was one of the pioneer settlers of that area. Leavitt was elected to the Clark County Commission in 1944 when he defeated James Down, and was one of only a handful of Republican elected during the period. He worked as City of Las Vegas street superintendent and later in the same role for Clark County.

Leavitt grew up in Bunkerville and by age of fourteen was driving horse teams. He began working on roads, and as a young man helped build the road between Las Vegas and Tonopah. He served in the military during World War I. Following the war, he returned to Bunkerville and worked on his father's ranch for a short time. He then took a position with the State Highway Department. In 1925, Leavitt moved to Las Vegas and became the City Street Superintendent.

In 1944, Leavitt won a two-year seat on the Clark County Commission. The mayor of Las Vegas worried that Leavitt's new county position would conflict with his job with the city. The Las Vegas City Commission voted 2 to 1 to allow Leavitt to continue his work as City Street Superintendent while serving on the County Commission. In 1948, Leavitt ran for the County Commission again, but this time as a Democrat. He lost the election to George Franklin. In 1952, Leavitt ran unsuccessfully for the Nevada State Assembly.

Leavitt remained in Las Vegas and worked as the City Street Superintendent and later as Clark County Road Supervisor. During his time in these positions, he oversaw tremendous growth in the Las Vegas area as roads were paved at a breakneck pace. Leavitt died in 1976 of a heart attack. His son, Myron E. Leavitt went on to serve on the County Commission, as a District Court judge, and Nevada Supreme Court Justice. The Leavitts are the only father and son to both serve on the Clark County Commission.