

JACK McAFEE

Fifty, count them, more than fifty victories! Jack McAfee is without doubt the best racing driver from Southern California during the fabulous fifties who never turned professional. Jack's first sports car race was at Palm Springs in 1950 and he won it. His last race was in 1961 and he won that one too.

In 1958, *Road & Track* listed McAfee as one of the top nine sports car drivers in America. In 1951, he was the Pacific Coast Champion in the under 2-liter class; in 1956, the National Champion in under 2-liters; in 1958 and again in 1960, he won the under 2-liter crown again. As a true amateur, Jack seldom ventured outside California, but he did finish among the top ten at both the 12



Hours of Sebring and the Carrera Pan Americana.

When asked why he retired from racing after such a distinguished amateur career, Jack said that he had a family to raise and a business to run. Actually, appointed at age 29, he was the youngest franchised car dealer (VW and Porsche) in the U.S.

Jack Earnest McAfee was born on December 21, 1922 in San Francisco. His early years were spent in Bishop, California, but then the family moved to Hollywood and Jack attended John Marshall High where he was his schools' football quarterback. The team, with Jack at the

helm, played in the All-City Championship tournament.

Always interested in cars, after high school, Jack decided to be a mechanic. He attended various trade schools and, when WWII came along, joined the Navy where he served as a mechanic. After the war, he returned to California where he ran a roadster and a sprint car at local ovals.

In addition to racing, McAfee was active in governance. In 1958, he was the national vice president of the Sports Car Club of America; he served on the National Contest Board for a number of years as well as on the board of the Los Angeles Region of the SCCA.

After selling his dealership in 1974, McAfee worked with Porsche Factory Racing for ten years. Today, Jack is retired but very active. He rides his bicycle virtually every morning and ballroom dances two or three times a week. He also enjoys fishing, billiards and reading.

Quiet and unassuming, Jack McAfee with World Championship level ability, is respected by everyone in the racing community, not only as an outstanding driver, but also as a great sportsman.

Jack takes the checker at Pebble Beach in 1956.

Photo: Lester Nehamkin



