

**James Blaine McKay, Sr.**  
**1893 - 1980**



James Blaine McKay was a well-renowned oil and gas attorney in the state of Kansas, writing many of the oil and gas leases for the state. Arriving in El Dorado during the oil boom in 1916, he joined the practice of Alphius Lamont Hamilton, becoming Hamilton and McKay. Later, he and his son, J.B. Jr., formed the practice of McKay and McKay Attorneys at Law. During his lifetime, he was active in many professional and community organizations, including the American, Kansas, and Butler County Bar Associations, receiving the Kansas Bar Association's first Distinguished Service Award in 1971. The Butler County Bar Association honored him with its first Outstanding Contribution to the Law Award in 1978. J.B. was recognized as one of the best oil lawyers in Kansas, one of the best lawyers Kansas ever produced, and a fine gentleman in every respect. He and his wife, Mary (Linn), made outstanding contributions to the El Dorado community, leaving large footprints for others to follow. In May of 2017, J.B. was inducted into the Kansas Oil Museum.