



Ned was born in Newton, N.C. on October 12, 1932, one of four children. Jarrett was introduced to cars early in life, his father let him drive the family car to church on Sunday mornings when he was nine years old. Ned started working for his father in the Lumber business by the time he was 17, but racing was what he wanted.

Ned is the father of Glenn, who did some stock car racing but now covers cable television as a race broadcaster. His other son Dale, just earned his first NASCAR championship in 1999 and is currently battling Jeff Gordon and Ricky Rudd for the 2001 championship. Ned also has a daughter Patti, who before becoming a mom, also worked in racing. Patti is married to Jimmy Maker, crew chief for Bobby Labonte.

Ned drove in his first race in 1952 at Hickory, NC, driving a Sportsman Ford finished tenth. This did not go over well with his parents. His father told him he could work on cars but not drive them. Once Jarrett's driver was sick for one race and he ask Ned to fill in for him. Ned used the drivers name and came in second in that race. That worked out so smooth that Ned went and drove in a few more races under an assumed name, but was finally caught by his father. His father told him if he was going to drive to at least use his own name.

Jarrett came in second driving in the Sportsman series in 1956 and by 1959 he was looking to pursue a career in Grand National racing. He purchased a Junior Johnson Ford for \$2,000. , which he waited until the bank closed to write the check then went out and ran two races , won them both and covered the cost of his car. In 1960 he won five races and took the championship over Rex White in 1961. He was among the top five drivers in 22 races and missed being among the...

Ned Jarrett

Speech Topics

Sports

