

NEWSMAKERS

Compiled by Lindsay King, assistant editor

Within this "Newsmakers" column we share important news and accomplishments of our members, including state association activities, birth and marriage announcements, and news of Angus members' passing.

In Passing

Sgt. Michael Brett Dye, 33,



Wentzville, Mo., passed away Sept. 18.

Brett was born October 1, 1984, in Hannibal to Tonia Lynn Dye.

A long-time member and showman in the American Angus Association, Brett was the beginning of the fifth generation of registered Angus breeders in the Dye family.

While attending Missouri Western State University (MWSU), majoring in criminal justice, he worked for the Association in Saint Joseph.

Brett loved baseball, the St. Louis Cardinals to be exact, and took a job for the Sears Holdings Corporation in St. Louis after he graduated.

While serving as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserves for 10 years, Brett received well-deserved recognition..

Survivors include his mother, Tonia Lynn Dye, of Colorado Springs, Colo.; a daughter, Payton Dye of Wentzville, Mo.; grandmother, Alice Dye of Shelbina, Mo.; uncle and aunt, Kent and Daren Dye; and three cousins, Luke (Kesha) Dye, Breana (Michael) Mayes, and Krista Dye. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Gary Dye.

Casey Sparrow, 47, Harrodsburg,



Ky., passed away Nov. 3.

Casey was born Jan. 15, 1971, in Lexington to Roger Clay and Susan (Lewis) Sparrow.

Casey grew up in Buffalo. The family moved to Frankfort where Bridge View Angus Farms was started and continues to operate today.

Casey graduated from Franklin County High School in 1989. He went to Taylor University where he played football and ran track. He graduated in 1994 with a degree in elementary and middle school education. He later earned his Masters from Eastern Kentucky University in school administration.

Casey had a passion for sports and young people, which made him a great coach at the middle and high school levels for 18 years. He and his wife Lisa were co-coaches for the Lady Bulldog basketball program.

They had the honor of coaching the 2002 KY's Miss Basketball and were named the 9th Region Co-Coaches of the year, the NKY Enquirer Coaches of the Year and inducted into the Greater Cincinnati Basketball Hall of Fame. They were also named 2003 9th Region Coaches

of the year.

Survivors include his wife, Lisa (Cox) Sparrow, and one son, Austin Clay Sparrow, of Harrodsburg; parents Roger Clay and Susan (Lewis) Sparrow; three brothers Kyle (Jaime) Sparrow, Cory (Rachel) Sparrow and Kip Sparrow; mother-in-law, Mona (Tom) Curtsinger of Harrodsburg; father-in-law, Michael (Linda) Cox of Salvisa; brother-in-law, Larry Wayne (Sabrina) Cox; nieces and nephews, Kylie Paige Sparrow, Micah James Sparrow, Taylor Reed Sparrow, Shelby Claire Sparrow, Jay (Carter) Sparrow, Michael Skylar Cox and Zane Tyler Cox; and paternal grandfather, A.C. Sparrow of Owenton, Ky.

Casey was preceded in death by his paternal grandmother: Cordelia Sparrow and maternal grandparents, Charles and Saragarnett Lewis.

William "Bill" Barrett Couch, 67,



Owensville, Ind., passed away Nov. 12 after a long, hard-fought battle with multiple sclerosis.

Bill was born Aug. 21, 1951, to George Melvin and Margaret Jeanette (Barrett) Couch in Princeton. He grew up showing

cattle in 4-H and assisted in the cattle operation of his dad and uncle — Couch Brothers Polled Herefords.

After graduating high school, Bill started Couch's Custom Fitting Service. He fitted some of the first Simmental cattle to enter the country, including the first Grand Champion Simmental Bull at the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Colo. In the first 15 years Simmentals were shown at the NWSS, Couch exhibited a national champion or reserve national champion 14 times.

In 1983, Bill and his family moved to Stephenville, Texas, where Bill worked as manager of Diamond C Ranch. While in Texas, Bill also served as the Simmental manager for Pharris Farms in Hillsboro.

In 1986, Bill and his family returned to the home farm in Owensville, where he established C-Bar Cattle Company, breeding and raising purebred Simmental cattle.

After years of raising high-quality Simmental genetics at the home farm, Bill accepted the position of manager of Express Ranches in Yukon, Okla., in 1994.

He helped build the ranch's Angus and Limousin programs from the ground level. And, during his time with Express, Bill helped develop the Lim-Flex Limousin-Angus hybrid through the North American Limousin Foundation.

After numerous national championship titles with Express, Bill returned to the home farm for a final time in 2002, where he continued to raise Simmental, Angus and Sim-Angus cattle for many years.

Throughout his career in the cattle industry, Bill judged many of the world's largest cattle shows, including the NWSS; North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE); Canadian Agribition; Dixie National Livestock

Show; Fort Worth Stock Show; San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo; and Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo.

Bill was always willing to share his cattle knowledge with other breeders and mentored many young producers with his commonsense approach and "Couchisms" through the years. His slow, southern drawl and dry sense of humor were his trademarks.

He strongly believed the youth are the future of the cattle industry and worked closely with young people at the local, state and national levels. He also served as an official and provided stock for many collegiate and high school judging events.

This cattleman was recognized for his achievements in the cattle industry through the years, but said his greatest achievements were his family and their continued involvement in the industry.

He is survived by his mom, Margaret Jeanette (Barrett) Couch; son, Willy (Tracie) Couch of Fairmont, Okla.; daughter, Christy Couch (Craig) Lee of Wellington, Ill.; and three grandchildren: Waylon Lee, Nolan Lee and Caroline Lee, also of Wellington. He is also survived by special friend, Beth Russell, Mount Vernon, Ind. He was preceded in death by his infant brother Bobby Lee Couch and his father Melvin.

Trevor L. Lienemann, 51, Martell, Neb., passed away Nov. 24.



Trevor was born Aug. 12, 1967, to Leon and Nelvie Lienemann in Lincoln, Neb. He was the owner and operator of Lienetics Ranch, Lienemann Management Productions, and inventor of the Bextra Haysaving Bale Feeder.

He graduated from Norris High

School and pursued a degree in accounting at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). He was a member of the UNL Alumni Association, Lincoln Berean Church and St. James Catholic church.

A longtime member and contributor in the cattle industry, Trevor was a member and held leadership positions in many organizations: Nebraska Cattlemen's Association, local Cattlemen's affiliate, Nebraska Angus Association, and a lifetime member of the American Angus Association.

He was always a gracious host for state, national and international beef and chef tours at Lienetics Ranch. Trevor was also the host of the 2016 Cattlemen's Ball of Nebraska.

He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Torri Lienemann; children, Maci (Kale) Mueller, Taylon, Sydni, and Skylar Lienemann; parents, Leon and Nelvie Lienemann; mother and father-in-law, Fernando and Elnore Ortiz; grandmother, Dena Trauernicht; brother, Thad (Stormy) Lienemann; many nieces, nephews, family, friends and loved ones. He is preceded in death by his grandfather, Alfred Trauernicht; and his grandparents, Henry and Anna Lienemann.

In recognition

Don L. Good Impact Award

CattleFax, an organization created by cattle producers, won the 2018 Don L. Good Impact Award.

Started in 1968, CattleFax is a member-owned organization serving producers in all segments of the cattle and beef business. A global leader in beef industry research, analysis and information for half a century, its exclusive industry database has set the standard for market information and analysis.

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CattleFax has assembled a team of research analysts and experienced professionals who provide expert advice to customers when developing a marketing plan and a sound risk management program, including an assessment of their break-evens, in addition to evaluating different marketing alternatives.

The CattleFax staff monitors more than just cattle markets. Grain, weather, beef demand and competing proteins — not just domestic, but globally — are carefully monitored. Keeping up with the times to make sure producers have quality information on a timely basis, which allows them to make informed marketing decisions, is a daily challenge for the staff.

Through the years, Kansans have played an integral role in the success of CattleFax.

“The Kansas connection has been a key to success for CattleFax,” explains Randy Blach, CattleFax CEO. “CattleFax has been blessed to have a great working relationship with Kansas State University’s (KSU) faculty and staff and the Kansas Livestock Association’s leadership and staff.”

Blach credits many current and former board and staff members with Kansas roots who have contributed greatly to the organization’s vision.

The award, presented by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council Inc. (LMIC), is named in honor of Good, who is a former KSU Animal Sciences and Industry (ASI)

department head, and recognizes positive impact on the livestock and meat industry or agriculture.

“It’s humbling for our company to be recognized, because we weren’t formed to go out and try to get accolades or awards,” says Kevin Good, CattleFax VP of industry relations and Don Good’s nephew. “We were formed to serve, just as Don L. Good did.”

Angus Arrivals



Reid and Sally Harrison, Ridge Spring, S.C., announce the birth of their daughter Zoe Ruth on Oct. 13. She weighed 8

pounds, 10 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long.

Sally is a longtime Angus member, serving as Miss American Angus and on the National Junior Angus Board of directors (NJAB). She now works on the family operation, Yon Family Farms, with her parents Kevin and Lydia Yon, maternal grandparents, and her brothers.

Ben and Holly Harrison of Saluda, S.C. are Zoe’s paternal grandparents.



Jason and Emily Smelser, Mound City, Mo., announce the birth of their son Reid Clark on Nov. 7. He weighed 7 pounds, 6

ounces, and was 20 inches long. Reid joins his brother Zane at home.

Emily works for Angus Genetics Inc. (AGI), for the American Angus Association in St. Joseph.



Tyler and Paige Nelson, Rigby, Idaho, announce the birth of their daughter Lydia Jan on Nov. 9. She weighed 7 pounds, 9

ounces and was 20 inches long. Lydia joins her sister Sylvia at home.

Paige started with Angus Media as an intern a few years ago and has continued to work as a field editor ever since.



Christopher and Alex Blake, Blue Springs, Mo., announce the birth of their son Hudson James on Nov. 19. He

weighed 9 pounds even, and was 22 inches long.

Alex has worked as a digital specialist for Angus Media for the past year. **AJ**