

## A CENTURY OF DEDICATION

*Three families honored with the American Angus Association Century Award.*

*by Julie Isbell, American Angus Association*

The work of Angus breeders is more than a business — it's a way of life. The American Angus Association initiated the Century Award to recognize its members and their families who have been in continuous production of registered Angus cattle for at least 100 years.

Three operations marked a century of American Angus Association membership in 2023.

Miller Angus Farm, Estelline, S.D.; Mike Sitz Angus Ranch, Burwell, Neb.; and Williams Angus, Gray, Tenn., were recognized as 2023 American Angus Association Century Award recipients during the Awards Reception and Dinner, Nov. 5, at the Angus Convention in Orlando, Fla.

The passion and dedication to the Angus Breed is clearly shown in this group of producers' stories,

persevering through hardships that both the cattle industry and Angus breed have faced over the past 100 years.

"I commend these breeders for their relentless dedication to producing Angus cattle and their willingness to continue to be leaders within the Angus Family," said Mark McCully, American Angus Association CEO.

### *Miller Angus Farm*

With five generations of hard work behind it, Miller Angus was originally started by Gust Miller.

At 17, Gust moved alone from Germany to the United States. He deboarded the train in Goodwin, S.D., and worked for farmers there. Their first registration for the Miller herd dates back to 1923, and they have developed their herd based on calving ease, good mothering abilities and good growth during the years since.

Around 1900, Gust moved to the property northeast of Estelline, S.D., choosing a spot with a spring on the hill to build his house, where Don, Gust's grandson, and his wife, Georgia, live today. While Don's generation focused on performance and growth, his grandsons are

breeding for phenotype, power, structural integrity and good-footed cattle. Their grandson,

Kody, says he looks to another 100 years with enthusiasm.



Miller Angus was awarded the American Angus Association Century Award. Pictured (from left) are Kelsey Theis, 2023 Miss American Angus; Georgia, Don and Kody Miller; and Mark McCully, Association CEO.

## Mike Sitz Angus Ranch

William August Sitz and his wife, Frieda, purchased registered Angus cows from William Williams of Clarks, Neb., in 1923. When those heifers calved, the bulls were traded back to William Williams for more heifers, and the expansion of the Sitz Angus herd began.

Years later, William's grandson, Mike Sitz, married Debra Cook, a cattle feeder's daughter. The young couple struggled in the 1980s, unable to purchase a single candy bar for years. Throughout the financial hardship, Mike continued to artificially inseminate (AI), performance test and register calves. Advised by their banker to either crossbreed to Charolais bulls or move to town and get

a job, Mike stood strong on his belief that there was profitability right around the corner.

The Millers say unwavering optimism and a calm approach has been their key to survive and thrive for 100 years. The 1920s

cow lines live on strong today as their daughter, Bethany, and her husband, Joel, plan to keep the operation going for generations to come.



Mike Sitz Angus Ranch was awarded the American Angus Association Century Award. Pictured (from left) are Kelsey Theis; Debra, Mike and Jesse D. Sitz; and Mark McCully.

## Williams Angus

For more than a century, the name Williams has been synonymous with Angus cattle in upper East Tennessee.

In 1921, J.T.E. Williams, a Jonesboro businessman and political figure, bought an Angus bull for use on the small herd of commercial cows owned by his son, George A. Williams. In that same year, George purchased his first registered Angus as a 4-H club project. That initial purchase sparked a love for Angus cattle that continued to grow and expand until his death in the fall of 1975, which occurred while packing his bags to travel to Chicago for the final showing of the famous International Livestock Exposition.

George's son, Alex, is now at

the helm, and is concentrating on continual improvement of the herd. Known as "the genetics man," he spends time working with customers to help them

understand genetics, which in turn contributes to their long-term success. **AJ**



Williams Angus was awarded the American Angus Association Century Award. Pictured (from left) are Kelsey Theis; Alex Williams; Staley Smith; Linda Carmichell; Bebe Reed; Betsey Gregg; Dottie Reed; Trey Reed; and Mark McCully.



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YW+174  
DOC+11  
MILK+29  
CW+82  
MARB+.69  
REA+1.18  
SM+52  
SF+139  
SG+66  
SB+205  
SC+318



## WILKS REGIMENT 9035

Reg: AAA +\*19401188

CED+6  
BW+1.3  
WW+87  
YW+152  
DOC+24  
MILK+26  
CW+67  
MARB+1.78  
REA+.62  
SM+52  
SF+109  
SG+105  
SB+214  
SC+330



## DB Iconic G95

Reg: AAA \*19611994

CED+9  
BW+.9  
WW+80  
YW+138  
DOC+27  
MILK+32  
CW+79  
MARB+.91  
REA+.81  
SM+88  
SF+137  
SG+68  
SB+204  
SC+353



## POSS REMINGTON

Reg: AAA +\*20060430

CED+9  
BW+.8  
WW+83  
YW+147  
DOC+24  
MILK+27  
CW+84  
MARB+1.92  
REA+.84  
SM+56  
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