

A COURAGEOUS CATTLEMAN

A Tribute to Frank Baker

by John Crouch

Franks H. Baker, 69-year-old animal scientist and senior advisor at Winrock International, died February 15 at Baptist Medical Center in Little Rock, Ark. His memory and contributions to the livestock industry, however, live on.

Baker was a son, student, soldier, husband, father, Extension agent, instructor, teacher, professor, scholar, researcher, leader, organizer, college dean, motivator, innovator, negotiator, diplomat, author, foreign ambassador and above all, a dear friend.

Born May 2, 1923 in Stroud, Okla., to Dewitt and Maude Hamon Baker, Baker became an animal science educator. He served on faculties at Oklahoma State University, University of Nebraska, University of Kentucky and Kansas State University. He also was an Army veteran of World War II, serving as a paratrooper and earning the Purple Heart.

His best known work at Winrock International, located at Morrilton, Ark., was the Heifer Project International.

For the above characteristics and contributions, a portrait of Baker hangs in the Saddle & Sirloin gallery in Louisville, Ky.

I personally, the American Angus Association, and the American livestock industry are better for having known Frank and we shall miss his presence.

Frank and his wife, Melonee, who survives, resided in Conway, Ark. They have four daughters – Rilda Baker, San Antonio, Texas; Twila Martinez, San Francisco; Necia DeGroot, Mobile, Ala.; and Dayna Johnson, Lincoln, Neb. He is also survived by three sisters and nine grandchildren.

The following memorials have been established in honor of Frank Baker:



Frank H. Baker

Oklahoma State University Foundation

*Attn: Don Wagner
101 Animal Science Department
Stillwater, OK 74078
(This will be a scholarship fund)*

The First United Methodist Church

*1610 Prince Street
Conway, AR 72032*

Arkansas Cattlemen's Foundation

*Attn: Howard Young
310 Executive Court
Little Rock, Ar 72205
(This will establish an educational fund for
different types of scholarships to benefit young
Arkansas cattle producers.)*

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