

Same Bright Spots, New Vantage Point

Celebrating the life of former Board of Directors President Bill Davis.

by Megan Silveira, assistant editor

“The main thing is you’ve just got to enjoy life.”

William Dale “Bill” Davis’ advice was spoken with a smile during his interview for a segment of the *I Am Angus*® video series published by the American Angus Association. The words reflected the joy for life that Bill always was proud to showcase.

The Business Breed lost a great man May 5, 2022. Bill passed away at his home in Belgrade, Mont., after a three-year battle with pancreatic cancer. Though he will be missed by many, everyone who had the pleasure of knowing Bill — and even some who didn’t — have a long list of memories to treasure.

Shining forever

Bill Davis more than just enjoyed life — he loved it. He called Sidney, Mont., home, raising Angus cattle under the name Rollin’ Rock Angus. The Big Sky State and the agriculture industry always held a special place in his heart.

He was born Sept. 25, 1947, in Bozeman, Mont., to Dale and Betty Jo Davis. His youth was spent juggling football, basketball and rodeo. Though Bill found himself in California for a few years, he came home to take over Rollin’ Rock Angus from his father.

Bill was honored to share his life and the ranch with the love of his life, Jennifer. Together, the pair



raised quality cattle and a family. Bill leaves behind Jennifer; daughter, Julie (Doug); son, Justin; brother, Tom; sister, Patti; grandkids, Logan, Lane, Lindsay, Stella and Gus; great-grandkids, Paisley and Wyatt; and lots of cousins, nieces, nephews and special friends.

Bill was proud of the life he had created for himself. He never thought of his time on the ranch as work.

He was also proud to be a part of such a vital industry, and he happily utilized the land of Montana to turn grass into a protein that could feed people across the world.

Bill was most tied to the people he got to work with as a cattle producer. It was this comradery that led him to a life of service. He served as president of the Montana Beef

Performance Association, a member of the board of directors for both the Montana Angus Association and the Montana Stockgrowers Association, and president and chairman of the American Angus Association’s Board of Directors.

Bill was also a member of the Springhill Go Getters 4-H club, attended Boys State, Demolay, Belgrade Masonic Lodge, Associate Guardian for Job’s Daughters, Montana Rodeo Association, a Northern Rodeo Association director, Montana Pro Rodeo Association, a Montana Rodeo Hall & Wall of Fame director, Gallatin Beef Producers, Montana State Rodeo Endowment Committee (Magnificent 7), Valley Bank board of directors, Gallatin Association of Realtors, Montana Association of Realtors and American Marriage Ministries.

“You can find a bright spot every day,” Bill said in that same video series interview. “Sometimes you’ve got to look for it a little harder than others, but there’s always a bright spot in every day.”

His words rang out across the pasture where he was interviewed, as he smiled at the sun shining down on the cattle grazing behind him. His earthly presence will be missed, but his friends and family can rejoice in the fact that Bill is enjoying the same bright views from a higher vantage point. **AJ**