

A Lifetime of Service

David and Carolyn Gazda were inducted into the Honorary Angus Foundation.

by Karen Hiltbrand, American Angus Association

David and Carolyn Gazda of Athens, Ga., are known across the country for their service-leadership style and commitment to the Angus breed. The Gazdas were inducted into the Honorary Angus Foundation during the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) July 20-26 in Tulsa, Okla.

“There are few more recognized faces in the Angus family than the Gazdas,” says Mark McCully, American Angus Association CEO. “David’s 32 years of service to the Association and its members is a commitment that is truly worth recognizing.”

It wasn’t until his high school graduation David Gazda and his father purchased their first few cows. Soon after they became members of the Georgia Angus Association.

Before David began his career with the Association, he managed a three-species unit at Stephen F. Austin (SFA) State University as Carolyn finished her master’s degree at the same college. David then managed RSE Farms, and later they took positions at Quercus Farms in Gay, Ga.

Upon returning to Athens, David accepted his current position as a regional manager for the American



David and Carolyn Gazda were named as Honorary Angus Foundation inductees. Pictured (from left) are Dylan Denny, NJAB Foundation director, presenting; David and Carolyn Gazda; and Thomas Marten, Angus Foundation executive director.

Angus Association in 1988. Today, he still covers Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. After more than 30 years, he is the longest standing regional manager to have worked for the Association. He also serves as the director of field services managing the 12 other regional managers.

Like family

To the Gazdas, the Association has become a second family. David has partnered with the states to plan six Eastern Regionals and two NJAS. He has been active in the Georgia Cattlemen’s Association, serving on the executive committee and as president in 2013. In 2014, the Young Cattlemen’s Council established

the David Gazda YCC Visionary Award and made him the recipient of the first award. In 2014, he was inducted into the North Carolina Angus Hall of Fame, and in 2018, the Georgia Angus Hall of Fame.

“The commitment and servant leadership the Gazdas have exhibited is truly second to none,” says Thomas Marten, Angus Foundation executive director. “We are extremely thankful for their support.”

Carolyn also has devoted much of her time to the Business Breed, specifically to the Georgia Junior Angus Association (GJAA). She was recognized as the Advisor of Year at the 2010 NJAS for her efforts as a longtime advisor of the GJAA. In 2019 she served on the committee of judges for the acclaimed National Junior Angus Showmanship Contest.


Family has always remained the top priority of David and Carolyn. The couple raised two daughters, Katie and Taylor, in the Angus breed. They also have one grandson, David Hudson Stipe, who is already a member of the National Junior Angus Association (NJAA) and has his own small herd of Angus cows. 

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