

NEWSMAKERS

Compiled by Megan Silveira, 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



Franklin Paul Larson, 87, of Sturgeon Lake, Minn., died June 16.

Frank was born Sept. 26, 1933, in Denham, the son of Runo and Julia (Mahron) Larson. July 30, 1955, he married Marian Larson.

Frank served his country in the United States Air Force, and he was a proud veteran. He worked over the years as a well-known Angus breeder, and retired from Ulland Brothers Construction Company after many years as a heavy equipment operator. He was also a member of the International Union of Operating Engineers — Local 49.

Frank was honored for having many Pathfinder® females as a member of the American Angus Association.

He was the Logistics Officer for the Trans-World Snowmobile Expedition Team. He enjoyed woodworking and made hundreds of game boards over the years. He spent winters at his Arizona home since 1998, and summers at the farm in Sturgeon Lake. Frank attended Christ the Victor Lutheran Church in Arizona and Barnum Community Methodist Church in Barnum.

Frank is remembered as a wonderful husband and father. He

was an adventurous, loyal soul. Frank had many good friends, but claimed Jesus Christ as his best friend.

Frank is survived by his wife, Marian; sons Brian and Mark; one grandson; three great-grandchildren; three brothers; seven nieces; four nephews; and many great-nieces and nephews.



Vivian Reese Ficklen Barnett, 83, Washington, Ga., died June 19.

She was born May 29, 1938, in Dublin, Ga., to the late William Boyce Ficklen and Anita Boatwright Flanders Ficklen. She started first grade in Washington, Ga., after one year of kindergarten at the First United Methodist Church. After moving to Savannah Beach, she attended sixth grade there and seventh grade at Washington Avenue Jr. High in Savannah.

She and her family then moved to Augusta. After her mother’s death, they moved to Washington, where she graduated from Washington-Wilkes High School in 1956.

She attended Converse College on scholarship her freshman and sophomore years (1956-1958).

She then attended summer school at the University of Georgia, preparing herself for Emory

University Nursing School. She attended on another scholarship and graduated from Emory in 1961. While studying at Emory, she was a member of the Phi Mu Sorority.

Upon finishing at Emory, she worked at Emory University Hospital from 1961-1963 and then married Marion Hill Barnett. She had many nursing jobs, including Wills Memorial Hospital and the public health departments of Lincoln County, McDuffie County and Taliaferro County.

She also had worked at CSRA Health and retired from Wills Memorial Hospital in 2003.

She began the first Wills Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and was its first president. She was a member of the Washington Church of the Mediator and served on the Vestry.

She is survived by son, Wilkes; two grandchildren; sister, Boyce; nephews, Jay and Charles; and nieces, Anita and Marian.

Joe Carrol Stephens, 76, of Kenton, Tenn., died June 29.

He was a believer in his Lord Jesus Christ and an active member of the First Baptist Church in Kenton, where he had served as a former deacon and Sunday School director. He also was an active member of the West Tennessee Angus Association, where he served as president.

While the world has lost a great husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, friend and man of God, we know he is celebrating and worshiping at the feet of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Joe is survived by his wife, Linda Lou; children, Allan Ray (Beverly), Amye Lou (Rodney) and Abbye Carol (Gregg); seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; brothers, Marlon (Virginia) and William (Katherine); sister, LaJune; and a host of nieces and nephews.



William “Bill” Ragland, 96, of Clinton, Mo., died July 9.

Bill was born March 27, 1925, and as a 10-year-

old he accepted Christ as his Savior at First Baptist Church of Clinton. Graduating from Calhoun High School in 1943, Bill enlisted in the Navy and served as a Hospital Corpsman for the Marines. He served overseas at Guadalcanal in the Pacific. He completed his enlistment in 1945, and married Mary Helen Bradley June 2, 1946.

Bill graduated from the University of Missouri in 1951 with a degree in animal science. His first job was the farm manager for WD Windsor Angus Farm in Boonville, Mo. He then was herd manager for Hillside Angus Farm in Washington, Mo. Bill began his own Angus herd with one bull and seven cows in 1954.

Purchasing the farm where he lived in 1956, Bill began Ragland Angus Farm where he was a leading breeder of registered Angus cattle. From 1958 to 1965, Bill also worked as a chemist and weigh master for Peabody Coal.

From 1965 to 1970, he served as manager for Better Black Inc. From

1970 to 1988, Bill was field manager for Vigortone Pre-Mix. Bill sold health insurance from 1988 to 2012 for Houk Agency. In 2014 he founded Bill’s Indoor Croquet, with sales in California, Texas and even England.

Bill was an active member of the Quarles Baptist Church during several periods from 1938 to 1970, when he rejoined First Baptist of Clinton in 1970 where he served as deacon. He was ordained as deacon in 1955 during his employment in Washington, Mo., at their First Baptist Church and joined the Gideons in 1972 where he became an active speaker. Bill spoke to more than 100 churches and served on a mission trip to Venezuela.

He was a 4-H leader beginning in 1956 and coached the meat judging team. He served in leadership roles with the Missouri Grassland Angus, Missouri Angus and American Angus Associations. Ragland Angus hosted a dispersal sale in 1998, retiring Bill from the cattle business.

He was awarded a certificate of appreciation for his work restoring Historic Brown Cemetery. He was named the Missouri Agricultural Person of the Year in 2016.

Bill is survived by children, Janice, Nancy, William Burril II (Linda), Darrell (Val), and Roy (Chris); ten grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.



Henry Earl Stockdale, 67, died July 12.

Henry was born in Camden, Tenn., Oct. 12, 1953, to the late

Frank and Marcelle Stockdale. As a young boy growing up on a farm in West Tennessee, Henry developed a strong work ethic, humble

appreciation for God’s provision, devotion to family and spirit to live each day to the fullest.

Henry attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he received a bachelor’s degree in animal science. Henry managed multiple purebred Angus farms; built custom homes as a residential contractor; and, for the past 21 years, owned and operated Stockdale Livestock Transportation where he made deep and lasting friendships with Angus farmers across the country.

In 1972, Henry met Nancy Taylor, and so began a love story that spanned more than 49 years. They were married July 24 at Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Camden, Tenn. In their 45-year marriage, they were blessed with two children and four grandchildren, who lovingly call them Pop and Nonna.

Upon moving to Columbia, Tenn., in 1981, he and Nancy became members of Zion Presbyterian Church, where they have served and worshiped ever since.

Henry will forever be remembered for his kindness, generosity, loyalty, sense of humor, big smile and love for family and friends. Never has a man of so few words had such a profound effect on people.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy; children, Hank (Lindsay) and Laura Lee (Stephen); four grandchildren; brother, Robert (Judy); and sister, Bonnie.



John Steven “Steve” Grigsby, 73, passed away July 15.

He was born May 20, 1948, in Vinita, Okla., to John and Alene

Grigsby. Young Steve was shaped by a loving family and endless days

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playing baseball, basketball, hauling hay with classmates, and hunting and fishing with grandfathers. While in Welch, Okla., Steve met the love of his life, Kay Grigsby, to whom he was married for more than 50 years.

Steve attended medical school at the Oklahoma State University (OSU) College of Medicine after graduating from Michigan State University, OSU, and NEO A&M. Steve's doctoral research was integral in developing the radioimmunoassay to measure insulin levels that is still used today. He competed on National Championship livestock judging teams and developed lifelong friendships with people around the globe.

Steve started a family practice in his hometown of Welch and then moved to Miami, where he cared for multiple generations of patients. Steve served as Chief of Staff at Miami Integris Hospital and was a member of the Rural Health Board of Integris Health Systems in Oklahoma City, but he lived out his career being the consummate rural health care provider.

Steve Grigsby was a longtime member of First Christian Church in Miami and had recently attended First Christian Church in Big Cabin.

His passion was people, but being a cattleman was his lifestyle. His days growing up developed in him a love for the science of beef husbandry. With his son Derek he formed Grigsby Ranch. Nestled on the banks of Cabin Creek, he spent his days away from the office with activities for and around the ranch.

The true loves of his life were his family. He and Kay immensely loved their boys, their boys' wives who they considered to be daughters and, in more ways than can be measured,

their nine grandchildren.

They attended countless soccer, t-ball, basketball and football games along with plays, concerts and youth ranch rodeo events. They also spent many hours with their grandchildren at cattle shows, watching movies, eating "man-breakfasts," fishing, hunting, driving "gators," shopping and having sleepovers.

He is survived by his son, Bricen, and wife, Amber; son, Derek, and wife, Juli; nine grandchildren; sister, Carole, and husband, Jim; brother, Mark, and wife, Sharon; and cousins, nephews and nieces.

In Recognition Colvin Scholarships

Certified Angus Beef® recognized 10 undergraduate and five graduate students with scholarships through the Colvin Scholarship Fund, which carries the legacy of the brand's co-founder and executive director, Louis "Mick" Colvin.

Undergraduate awards:

\$7,500 – Abbey Schiefelbein,
Kansas State University

\$6,500 – Emily Saeugling, Iowa State University

\$5,000 – Lauren Lee, Texas A&M University

\$4,000 – Alexandria Cozzitorto, Texas A&M University; and Jaelyn Sewell – Oklahoma State University

\$1,000 – Lindsey Decker, Kansas State University; Sadie Vander Wal – South Dakota State University; Amelia Hayden, University of Minnesota – Twin Cities; Ellie Clark, University of Georgia; and Claire Stevenson – California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo.

Graduate awards:

\$7,500 – Ronald Trotta, University of Kentucky

\$6,500 – Emma Mortensen, Texas Tech University

\$5,000 – Becca Grimes, West Texas A&M University

\$4,000 – Kaitlyn Wesley, Texas Tech University; and Allie Martin – Texas Tech University.

Missouri Angus Ass'n Preview Show; June 13; Sedalia



Richardson Ranch, Lincoln, Mo., won breeders' best six head.

All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity Roll of Victory (ROV) Show; June 13; Louisville, Ky.



Ernie and Linda Bingman, Carmi, Ill., won the pioneer breeder award. Pictured are Ellie Kidwell (from left), Miss American Angus; Anne Patton Schubert; Linda and Ernie Bingman; Paul Hill; Ava Jain; and Neenah Jain.



Henry Smith, Russell Springs, Ky., won manager of the year. Pictured are Bryanna Smith (from left), Anne Patton Schubert, Henry Smith, Melissa Smith, and Ellie Kidwell.



Bruce and Amie Stertzbach, Louisville, Ohio, won master breeder of the year. Pictured are Ellie Kidwell (from left), Dillon Stertzbach, Bruce and Amie Stertzbach, Paul Hill, Cade Stertzbach and Taylor Duckett.



Seldom Rest Farms, Niles, Mich., won premier breeder. Pictured are Scott Foster (from left); Chance Myers; Tom Burke; Andrew Foster; Jake Scott, judge; and Paul Hill.



Cody Bock, Dameron Angus Farm, Lexington, Ill., won the Robert L. Asher Memorial Outstanding Herdsman Award. Pictured are Ellie Kidwell (from left), Cody Bock, and Paul Hill.



Four Corners Farm, Saint Francisville, Ill., won premier breeder. Pictured are Ellie Kidwell (left) and Eric McClure.

Photos by Next Level Images, courtesy of American Angus Association

Ohio Angus Ass'n Preview Show; June 20; Washington Courthouse



Maplecrest Farms, Hillsboro, Ohio, won premier breeder. Pictured are Kinsey Crowe (from left); Lindsey Hall; and Corbin Cowles.

Northwest Regional Preview Junior Angus Show; June 17-19; Ellensburg, Wash.



Nicholas Sheridan (right), Terrebonne, Ore., won premier breeder. Also pictured is Kass Newell, judge.