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POSTCARD FROM A JUNIOR



Avery Mather

The Angus Family

It takes a village. Life is no fun all alone. If you have been around the Angus industry for any length of time, it won't be long before you hear someone say, "my Angus family."

No matter what role you play in the industry or even if you are simply a supporter, you are a part of a much larger family. A family that works every day to be the best and continue living the true Western lifestyle, the way God intended.

We are all brothers and sisters in Christ, one more reason we are one big, happy family.

Often, when talking to others outside the cattle industry, they are surprised when I say some of my best friends live states away. It is hard for them to comprehend the number of friends and relationships I have developed with people who live so far away. But that is what this industry does when we get involved and make the world a little smaller. When we make the world smaller, we are

making our family bigger. The more, the merrier!

Our family's biggest reunion of the year is the National Junior Angus Show (NJAS). Often you see people helping others or a whole team walking to the ring to support one of their own. No matter who wins the show, everyone claps.

Like any family, there must be some healthy competition. Without competition, there is no reason to push each other to do better, breed better cattle and produce more elite animals. Have you ever been still and taken in the hustle and bustle in the barns during the NJAS?

Watching the water guns be sprayed, wagons and pitchforks race to tie outs, and parents catching up on life over the sound of the

crackling loudspeaker calling the next class to the ring — all these things and more make our family who we are.

Many agree that to be the best, you must surround yourself with the best people. This is why Angus is *The Business Breed*. We have surrounded ourselves with talented people who combine their strengths to conquer challenges. Like Roy Bennett said, "Good things happen in your life when you surround yourself with positive people."

This family, the Angus family, is growing every day. But we still maintain the integrity and legacy our ancestors established.

— Avery Mather

Missouri State Fair 4-H Angus Show, Aug. 10, Sedalia



Jace Pipkin (left), Republic, won champion 4-H showman, and Cecelia Hulse, Hannibal, reserve champion.

Missouri State Fair FFA Angus Show, Aug. 10, Sedalia



Annaliese Mead (left), Barnett, won champion 4-H showman, and Alexis Koelling, Bowling Green, reserve champion.

