

# 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



**Phyllis Nichols, 77**, Anita, Iowa, passed away Sept. 23, 2021. She was born June 20, 1944.

Phyllis met her future husband, Dave, at the Adair County Fair while they were both helping their younger brothers and sisters fit their steers. Her brother, Lans, won grand champion, and Dave’s sister, Evelyn, won reserve champion.

Phyllis exited Iowa State University in May of her junior year because of “the best sales pitch Dave ever gave.”

For the first half of her married life, she calved 150-200 first-calf heifers and had her own flock of Montadale ewes. Soon after she had babies of her own, she dispersed her flock of sheep.

After the death of Dave’s brother, Lee, in 1982, Phyllis became a full-time owner/manager of Nichols Farms, along with Dave and Lee’s wife, Lillian. Phyllis paid the bills and taxes, issued payroll, deposited and signed checks, printed invoices, handled insurance coverage and claims, and purchased cattle supplies.

She enjoyed interacting with the Nichols crew, customers and visitors. She was a great cook, active in many community service projects

and known as the “hostess with the mostest.”

Survivors include her husband of more than 50 years, Dave Nichols; children, Fletcher and Jennifer; brother, Lans; sisters-in-law, Edy and Lillian; several nieces and nephews; and two grandchildren.



**Mary Aileen Patton, 70**, Earl Park, Ind., passed away Oct. 12, 2021.

Deeply committed to her friends, farm, pets and Angus cattle, Mary was the daughter of now-deceased John and Lucile Patton and the granddaughter of John and Mary Patton and William and Clara Rheude. Her sister, Anne (Gordon), and nephew, Jamie, survive. Mary leaves many friends to cherish her kindness and concern for so many.

Mary graduated from South Newton High School and achieved a business degree from Ivy Tech College. She maintained her love of Angus cattle from showing her State Fair Grand Champion steer in her first year of 4-H to breeding a recent sale-topping heifer.

Mary’s Irish wit was enjoyed by friends across the country. She shared a bond forged by years of

involvement in Angus cattle and agriculture. She was a member of the American Angus Association, Indiana Angus Association, American Angus Auxiliary and St. Joseph Catholic Church.

## Angus Arrivals



Leann and Jeremy Schleicher welcomed Adeline Grace Schleicher to the Angus family Sept. 30,

2021. She was 6 pounds and 2 ounces.

Leann is a graphic artist for Angus Media. 