

# A Shining Starr

*Angus breeders remember the life of past president Andrew Starr.*

*by Megan Silveira, assistant editor*

“Angus genetics are not a toy or a plaything. Breeders should strive to bring out their cattle’s best balance of traits.”

It’s a quote that’s relative to the modern breeder of 2022, but the words were spoken in 1992 by then-president of the American Angus Association Board of Directors, Andrew Starr.

The industry celebrates his past, but Angus breeders know they lost a powerful advocate when Starr, Sunbright, Tenn., passed away at the age of 87 Oct. 15, 2022.

His time on the Board was marked by hard work, determination and thoughtful insight. The ability to work in the cattle industry was a dream come true for Starr, so he granted the northeastern Tennessee operation with the name Star Dust Farm.

“Angus cattle are our livelihood,”



Starr said in an *Angus Journal* article published during his presidency. “They’re the reason we’ve worked hard over the years. But it’s been worth every effort. We really enjoy the cattle and the people connected to this breed.”

His Angus legacy was his knowledge of and appreciation for the Angus breed, as well as his eagerness to listen to and represent Angus breeders of all sizes.

He never shied away from challenges that arose during his leadership, and was a part of many decisions that helped propel *The Business Breed* into the powerful position it holds today.

“If you’re going to keep up with today’s competitive beef industry, you have to take on challenges,” Starr said. “You can’t just sit there and say, ‘No, we can’t assume this risk.’ Because two or three years down the road, if someone else is successful with it, you look back and wish you’d taken the risk.”

His Angus career was larger than just his leadership positions, however. Starr served as a dedicated judge, showman and breeder. Memories he made on the road and in the show ring are left in the hearts of his family. Starr helped instill a love for livestock in his children and grandchildren — a love that ensures the legacy of Star Dust Farm will continue for years to come.

His family describes him as a strong man who demanded attention when he entered a room. He was known for his faith and will be remembered as a devoted husband, a great father and a generous member of his community.

Starr was preceded in death by his parents, Andrew and Lila; his first wife and mother of his children, Billy Mae; and infant sister, Janet. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Kathleen; children, Andrew (Angie), Dana (Tom), Bill (Yvette) and Carla; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; siblings, Annetta (Charles), David (Karen) and Max (Cindy); and six nephews. **AJ**



Andrew Starr spent his life serving his family, his community and the cattle industry.