

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



Duane Franklin Martin passed away Aug. 17, 2022, in Lone, Calif., at the age of 82. He was born in Hayward, Calif., March 6, 1940, the

son of the late Inez (Perry) and Frank Martin.

Duane was raised on his father’s dairy in San Jose, Calif., where he learned the value of hard work and perseverance. Growing up, he had a love of cool cars and regularly talked about his ’57 Chevy two-door hard top. When Duane attended Call Poly, San Luis Obispo for an entire quarter as a dairy science major, he decided he “knew more than the teachers did,” so that was short-lived. Returning home, he joined the Army for a brief period of time.

Duane discovered his real passion when he got his start in the cattle business at the age of 24. He was driving a ready-mix truck when he purchased his first 20 cows from his father. Through years of hard work and determination, he grew his operation with the help of his son to become one of the top 25 largest cow-calf producers in the United States, while running a large stocker operation and feeding cattle.

He always said “buy dirt,” and that he did — accumulating numerous ranches along the way and leasing

many others. He also had several red cattle trucks to keep the cattle moving from ranch to ranch. Any “vacation” always had to involve cattle, or it wasn’t really a vacation for him.

Duane took great pride in his cattle, his business and his family. He was very proud to bring the third generation into the family business. Meeting others in the industry and sharing his knowledge was also a passion; he was never short on encouragement.

Duane always said the cattle business “isn’t an exact science.” When things got tough, he would insist you “stay with it; don’t weaken!” He lived those words until his final days.

Duane is survived by his wife, Penny; son, Duane Jr. (Lynette); daughter, Lisa (Tom); stepdaughter, Whitney (Nic); stepson, Dallas (Laura); and nine grandchildren.



Lorimer “Lem” Eldon Nelson, 89, of Lyle, Minn., passed away Sept. 25, 2022, at the Mercy Hospital in Mason City, Iowa.

Lorimer Eldon Nelson was born Nov. 27, 1932, in Austin, Minn., to Newell and Bellena Nelson. He attended Pinehurst Country School and Lyle High School.

Lorimer went on to farm and raise Angus cattle. Aug. 18, 1978, Lorimer and Sandra Burt were united in marriage at the Six Mile Grove Lutheran Church in Lyle, Minn. Together, Lorimer and Sandy raised five children.

Lorimer enjoyed raising Angus cattle, attending Angus shows and summer baseball games in Austin, and taking daily road trips. He loved birds, animals, walking along the creek at the farm and was a big Green Bay Packers fan.

Lorimer loved the Lord and his wife, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He could make friends wherever he went and was known for his kind soul. He was rarely seen without a big smile. Lorimer will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Sandy; children, Larry (Judy), Dawn, Joelle, Kelly and Michael (Jodi); 10 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; brothers-in-law; sisters-in-law; cousins; and friends.



Randee Kay McKim Patton, 76, of rural Crawfordsville, Ind., passed away Sept. 25, 2022, in Franciscan Health Lafayette East

Hospital. She was born in Scottsburg May 9, 1946, daughter of the late James and Pauline Mills McKim. She

married Jim Patton March 16, 1974, in the New Richmond Christian Church, and he survives.

Randee was a graduate of Emmanuel High School in Indianapolis and attend the first eight grades in North Vernon. She developed a strong work ethic as a young girl.

While in grade school, she worked as an assistant for a neighboring seamstress, where she made enough money to purchase a bicycle, which she used as her source of transportation. Following her mother's untimely death, Randee moved to and was raised by an aunt in Indianapolis.

Randee was a hardworking homemaker and farmwife. Along with raising their children, she assisted her husband on the farm and with their Angus cattle operation. She enjoyed working with and showing their purebred Angus cattle around the country.

She was a member of the Indiana Ladies Angus Auxiliary. Besides being busy on the farm, she was a great supportive wife, mother and grandmother, always putting her family first. She was friend to everyone she met and was a great caretaker for anyone in need.

Randee always gave back. She understood, as a result of growing up "without" and in difficult circumstances. She was a very strong-willed woman, and was incredibly proud all of her children were college graduates. She was a talented decorator and assisted her daughter, Susan, in decorating the interior of several Autumn Trace Senior Communities, until her health

would not allow her to continue. She enjoyed volunteering at Autumn Trace in Attica, assisting with life enhancement activities.

Surviving along with her husband, Jim, are three children, Steve (Kelli), Susan (Jim) and Beth (Kent); eight grandchildren; one great-grandson; and sister, Geraldine.



Mary Kaehler, 73, of Saint Charles, Minn., passed away Oct. 4, 2022, at Season's Hospice House in Rochester surrounded

by family, ending her battle with cancer. Mary was born June 16, 1949, in Blooming Prairie to Thomas and Mary (Renchin) Burke.

She was raised on the Burke Blacktop Angus Farm and was involved with showing livestock.

She dreamed of adventures beyond Blooming Prairie, so she completed nursing school at Mayo Clinic, then became an international airline stewardess.

Mary and Frank Kaehler were married Nov. 4, 1972. After marriage Mary continued flying, then decided to raise her family and support the operations at Homedale Farms. Later she worked for Herff Jones and then at Mayo Clinic as a radiology tech. Mary and Frank were married nearly 50 years and lived on their family farm, just northwest of Saint Charles. Mary's greatest accomplishment in life was raising their six children, but she loved her grandchildren even more.

She also devoted time to managing the farm, keeping tabs on Frank,

making her famous chocolate candy treats, baking, decorating cakes, canning and gardening. She was a great cook and baker, serving many guests at their table filled with delicious meals and desserts. She welcomed everyone.

Survivors include her husband, Frank; daughters, Nicole (Lowell), Rachel, Leah (Andy), Angela (Kyle) and Lyndsie (Kyle); 12 grandchildren; and siblings, Thomas and Patty.

Angus Announcements



Quanah and Greta Gardiner were married Sept. 3, 2022, at Gardiner Angus Ranch in Ashland, Kan. Quanah works

for the American Angus Association as the regional manager of region 13, serving the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Hawaii.



Curtis and Jaclyn Boester were married Sept. 10, 2022. Jaclyn works for the American Angus Association as the executive director of the Angus

Foundation. 