

They Made A Difference

Five individuals who have made significant contributions to the Angus breed were selected by the American Angus Association Board of Directors for induction into the Angus Heritage Foundation, which identifies and honors those who have made a difference in the improvement and advancement of Angus in the United States.

Special ceremonies honoring the inductees were held during the American Angus Association's Annual Banquet Nov. 17 in Louisville, Ky.

The 1997 inductees include Russell Denowh, Sidney, Mont.; AF. "Frankie" Flint, Bard, N.M.; and Dr. Don Good, Olsburg, Kan., as well as Vern Kerchberger, Sioux Falls, S.D., and Milton "Milt" Miller, Brady, Texas, who will be inducted posthumously.

Each inductee, or their family, received a framed Angus Heritage Foundation certificate. Their names will be engraved on a permanent Heritage Foundation plaque in the American Angus Association headquarters in St. Joseph, Mo.

Photos and brief biographies of the inductees are included in the 1997 edition of the Angus Heritage Foundation booklet that lists inductees from the Foundations beginning in 1983.

A short biography of each of the 1997 Angus Heritage Foundation inductees follows:



RUSSELL D. DENOWH

Russell Dale Denowh, Sidney, Mont., partnered with his father-in-law, Joe Gartner, to establish Gartner-Denowh Angus Ranch in 1955. The family's goal was to develop a line of cattle with strong maternal traits.

Their first production sale was held in 1967. Since then, the ranch has sold genetics all over the United States and internationally. In 1974, Joe Gartner sold out and Russ' sons, Michael and Paul, are now partners in the ranch.

The Gartner-Denowh herd was one of the first herds to enroll in the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) program. Russ, for his dedication to improving the breed, was honored by the Beef Industry Federation (BIF) as the Montana Seedstock Producer of the year in 1981.

The American Angus Association's Fall 1997 Sire Evaluation Report lists 85 bulls bred by the ranch, and these sires have had more than 16,500 daughters in production to date.

Russ served as Montana Angus Association president for two terms and as a director. In 1996 he received the Wayne Stevenson Memorial Award of Excellence.



A.F. FLINT



DON GOOD



VERN H. KERCHBERGER



MILTON E. MILLER

A.F. "Frankie" Flint is known as a performance-minded Angus breeder, a conservationist and a man devoted to his church and community in his hometown of Bard, N.M., where he was born and the family's Angus ranch still operates today. He purchased his first Angus in 1942 and since then has marketed his cattle in 47 states and two foreign countries.

His efforts to promote performance record keeping led him to help start the Tucumcari Bull Test, one of the most respected bull testing programs in the United States. He is a former chairman of the New Mexico Angus Association and served as a director of the American Angus Association, where he played a leading role in getting the Association to establish its blood-typing program.

In 1980, he was recognized as the New Mexico Cattle Growers "Man of the Year." He also received the BIF Seedstock Producer of the Year award in 1982 and was honored with the Performance Pioneer Award in 1988.

Don Good, Olsburg, Kan., is recognized as an educator and a leader in the livestock industry, not only in the United States, but worldwide. He was born on a farm in Van Wert County, Ohio. After spending four years in the service during World War II, he earned his bachelor's degree at The Ohio State University in 1947, his master's degree from Kansas State University (KSU) in 1951 and his doctorate from the University of Minnesota in 1953.

He served on staff at KSU for 40 years, including 20 years teaching and as a livestock judging team coach, and 20 years as head of the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.

He has been honored by his peers in animal science countless times and has judged livestock shows worldwide. He was a pioneer in promoting carcass evaluation following market animal shows. In 1969, he selected an Angus-Charolais-cross steer as grand champion of the Chicago International, a landmark event in the acceptance of crossbreeding.

Good and his family own and operate a registered Angus herd near Olsburg, Kan.

Vern H. Kerchberger helped bring Angus cattle to a place of prominence on ranches and in feedlots in the Midwest, as well as across the United States. His life in agriculture began growing up on the farm in Hay Springs, Neb.

He graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1942 with a degree in animal husbandry. He taught at Iowa State University and coached meat and livestock judging teams, receiving his master's degree from there in 1946. After leaving Iowa State, he served as a county Extension agent in South Sioux City, Neb., for several years.

In 1950 he married Mary Ann Parks and soon after joined the staff of the American Angus Association where he worked for 34 years as a regional manager. He was first located in Nashville, Tenn., then moved to Sioux Falls, SD., in 1962, where he worked until his retirement in 1985.

He and his family lived in the Sioux Falls area until his death in 1995.

Milton Edward "Milt" Miller was born near Caseyville, Ill., in 1909. He graduated from Pennsylvania State University in 1932 and was later inducted into the Pennsylvania State University Alumni Hall of Fame "for his many contributions to the development of the cattle industry worldwide."

He married Eva Mae Carley in 1934 and joined the staff of the American Angus Association in 1943 as a regional manager in the eastern United States. In 1949, Milt and his family moved to Brady, Texas, where he was a regional manager in the states of Texas and New Mexico. During his tenure, Miller moved to St. Joseph, Mo., where he worked out of the American Angus Association headquarters as director of field services, then relocated back to Texas after his retirement in 1976.

During his retirement, he traveled to Central and South America, helping breeders there realize the benefits of Angus genetics and working to sell Angus cattle and semen into that area. He passed away at his ranch home near Brady, Texas, in 1990.

