

I am honored to be here accepting this award and would like to thank Tom Field, Bill Wailes and the other members of the selection committee for selecting me. There are a number of outstanding livestock people present who are previous winners of this award and I am humbled to be grouped with them.

I was graduated from the School of Animal Sciences at Colorado State University in 1958 with a degree in Farm and Ranch Management. In order to graduate it was necessary for me to attend summer school and at my graduation I was honored to have my diploma presented to me by First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Her grandson, Tony Roosevelt, was in my ROTC class and graduated at the same time. The First Lady presenting me my diploma is something I will always remember. I had a great time in college and was very fortunate to earn my diploma. It was a struggle, but I did succeed

Margaret and I met in college and actually were married in Shove Chapel on the Oval at CSU on April 10, 1958. Margaret is a graduate of the Secretarial School at CSU and was a cheerleader for two years and Homecoming Queen in 1957. She worked for Hill & Coyte Attorneys in Fort Collins until I graduated. After graduation we moved to Byers, CO to a ranch my father purchased in 1958 and that was to be our home for 45 years. My father helped Margaret and I buy that ranch and it is still a significant part of our operation.

Margaret and I raised four children on that ranch and they all worked very hard. I feel if it weren't for the hard work of the entire family I wouldn't be accepting this award today. All of our children are college graduates and two of them have their Masters Degrees. Two attended CSU, as did one of our sons in law. We were blessed with 13 grandchildren and as a proud grandpa can assure you they are the smartest, best athletes,

hardest workers, best behaved, etc., etc. Our oldest grandson graduated from CU this past spring and is gainfully employed. We have a granddaughter and grandson who are currently sophomores at CSU and a granddaughter who is a freshman at Davidson College in Charlotte, NC.. We also have a granddaughter and grandson who show cattle here at the National Western every year. The others are successfully attending high school, middle school or elementary school.

If my parents hadn't been generous enough to help us buy the ranch we lived on, our lives may have taken another road. My mother and father were very good to me and I would like to share a little about them. My father was also a cattle rancher and wheat farmer. I guess the apple truly doesn't fall far from the tree, because I guess I always wanted to be like my Dad. He was a very sharp trader, a very hard worker and really had a knack of when to buy and when to sell. I think the thing I admired about him the most was his integrity and if he couldn't say something good about someone, he didn't say anything at all. My mother was a very tough businesswoman in her own right. If she felt you really needed help, she was there to help, and I don't think she ever said "no" to anyone she felt had an honest need. I had to go to them about four times and I usually got a little help but not without a pretty stern lecture. My parents were killed in an automobile accident in 1996 and at that time we found out some of the help they had given various people along the way. They tried to instill in all of us the need to give to those less fortunate.

During my lifetime I have been very involved with the Byers Fire Department and served on the District Board. I was president of the Bijou Telephone Coop for 25 years and continue to serve on the board. I served on the Byers School Board and helped form

the Byers Recreation District. I am a member of the Colorado Hereford Assoc., the American Hereford Association and served as its' national president. I am very involved with Racing Quarter Horses and have served as chairman of the Stud Book Committee of the AQHA. We have had a little fortune with our running Quarter Horses and had the World Champion in 1990. We exhibited the Champion Hereford Bull in Fort Worth and purchased the Champion Hereford Bull in Denver one year. We also exhibited the champion pen of Red Angus bulls in Denver. We certainly had our lean times also.

All of the areas in which I have been involved have helped mold me. A major factor in any success I have had in my career is to have had the privilege to do something I loved doing and continue to be able to do.

I truly look forward to trying to breed the best cattle that walk, raising a fast running quarter horse, and making our ranches a lot better than the way we found them. There was a sign at the old entrance of our Home Ranch that said "A CONTINUOUS EFFORT TO IMPROVE OUR LAND AND CATTLE". We tried to live by that motto. There is no hope for one that is satisfied. That statement sums up the way I feel about the cattle industry and about Colorado State University.

Thank you so much for this honor and for listening to me.