

2014 Fulton County
Agricultural Hall of Fame
Inductees



2014

Lloyd Graber

Clinton Township

Agribusiness

2014

Lloyd E. Graber

Lloyd Graber spent a lifetime of contribution to the agribusiness community in Fulton County before his passing in 2007. Lloyd began his agricultural career in 1946 as a farmer after serving a short time in the US Army. For 24 years he farmed and lived in Clinton Township, raising livestock and crops.

While Lloyd was known as a successful farmer, he was better known for his honest and fair dealings as the co-owner of G & T Agri-Service located next to the feed mill in Wauseon. In 1970, while still farming, Lloyd went to work for Custom Farm Services part-time. A year later, he sold all of his farm machinery and went to work full time. In 1973, he and his business partner, Bruce Tedrow, bought Custom Farm Services and renamed it to G & T Agri-Service. The business provided fertilizer, seed, chemicals and custom application for local farmers. Lloyd had great knowledge and insight of the products he sold and was able to help farmers decide which inputs were the best for their farm. He was interested in helping train future farmers and often hired Wauseon agri-business students as employees.

Outside of his agribusiness, Lloyd was a 4-H advisor to the Clinton Doodlebugs and active as an usher and trustee for Christ United Methodist Church in Wauseon. His business always supported the Fulton County Junior Livestock Sale by purchasing livestock.

Late in life, Lloyd volunteered with the Fulton County Senior Center, Community Works for Christ and Hands of Grace to build wheelchair ramps for those who had disabilities, hoping to enhance their quality of life. He continued this ramp building work until his death, as it meant so much to him.

Lloyd was considered by his neighbors, his community and his customers as a very smart and successful agri-businessman.

To the family of Lloyd Graber, we welcome your father and grandfather into the Fulton County Agricultural Hall of Fame.



2014

Harold Holland

Amboy Township

Farmer

2014

HAROLD HOLLAND

Harold Holland has been involved in Fulton County agriculture for over 60 years as a 5th generation farmer in Amboy Township. A love of the land has always driven Harold to practice conservation farming including use of windbreaks, waterways, strip till, no-till and control structures.

Harold served on the Farm Home Administrative Review Board for 6 years in the 1980's, helping many young, first time farmers get started in the business. He has helped his son and grandson get started in agriculture as well. Harold's home farm is now an Ohio Centennial Farm.

Harold was in the Lyons FFA and 4-H as a teen. Currently he is an Evergreen FFA alumnus. Harold has hosted FFA members on the farm to give them work experience in the agricultural industry.

Harold has been a lifelong friend of the Fulton County Fair and helped in the capital campaign to build Spangler Arena. He often exhibits or uses his farm equipment during the fair.

Harold has also been very active in his local community. As an active member of the Weston United Methodist Church, he helped build the church fellowship hall and volunteers his time at church events. Harold also volunteered at Oakshade Raceway and promotes its local events. Harold is a member of American Legion Post 275, Am-Vets Post 1957 and Farm Bureau.

Harold is known in the community as a great neighbor, family man, and successful farmer. He would help a youth with a 4-H project, a neighbor with a broken water pipe or a stranger in need by the side of the road.

Harold, for all your service and commitment to promoting Fulton County agriculture, we welcome you into the Agricultural Hall of Fame.



2014

Maurice Jones

Chesterfield Township

Farmer

2014

MAURICE JONES

Maurice Jones has been a part of Fulton County and Ohio agriculture for nearly 70 years. Maurice has raised cattle, hogs and turkeys as well as practiced many conservation farming efforts on his corn, soybeans and wheat farm in Chesterfield Township. Maurice earned his State Farmer Degree in 1948 and ever since has been actively involved in the Soil and Water Conservation District, Fulton County and Ohio Cattle Feeders, the Agronomy Committee, Ohio State Extension Advisory Committee and other community activities.

Starting in the 1960's Maurice was one of the first farmers to install a drop box on his farm and played an important role in the conservation Cooperative Agreement that addressed crop rotation, cover crops, wildlife habitat and tile drainage. Through Ohio State Extension, Maurice had one of the first multi-year no-till plots in Northwest Ohio and used wind tunnels to test erosion on no till fields. Additionally, he became part of the 100-Bushel Corn Club in the 1960's and was a member of the county Agronomy Committee, at one point, serving as president.

As an avid cattle producer, Maurice was one of the original members of the Fulton County Cattle Feeders Association when it started in the 1950's. He served as county president from 1957-1959 and eventually state president in 1963-64. Under his state leadership, the Ohio Cattleman's Association passed the first beef "check off" plan. He is the only one of the original four members of the T-bone Club who is with us today.

Maurice has been active in the Fayette Church of the Nazarene his entire life, serving on the church board and building committee. He is an FFA alumnus and continues his membership in the Ohio Cattleman's Association today.

Maurice is a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who is compassionate, hardworking and loyal to the agricultural industry.

For all of his efforts in promoting agriculture in Fulton County, we welcome Maurice Jones into the Agricultural Hall of Fame.

2014

WILLIAM SHININGER

William Shininger has contributed many years to Fulton County agriculture as a seed breeder through Shininger's Quality Crop seed and as manager of Shininger Family Farm. Bill's interest in agriculture and soil and water conservation is an integral part of his day-to-day farming operation located in Fulton Township.

Bill is continually adopting and trying new farming practices and techniques. He installed a system called "Wetland for Profit" with the help of the United State Department of Agriculture-Natural Resource Conservation Service and Fulton County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD). The site continues to be used for research and field demonstrations by these partnering entities and Ohio State University and University of Findlay. Bill utilizes this wetland for technical development of seed varieties, increased productivity, improved water quality and overall ecosystem impact. He is respected for his responsible nutrient management and creative approach to agriculture.

Bill has established crop and livestock enterprises, including beef, hogs, vegetables, corn, soybeans, wheat and livestock bedding. In 1978, he started the practice of no-till farming, which he still practices today. In a recent Farm Bureau article entitled "Grounded in Conservation," Bill was quoted as saying "I am passionate about [conservation]. I think it's the right thing to do. It's just who I am." Bill has been a supervisor to the Fulton County SWCD since 2003 and is currently the board's chair. Through this work, Bill encourages all Fulton County residents to consider conservation of our natural resources in their daily lives.

Bill has been a promoter of youth in agriculture as he actively participates in the Evergreen FFA Alumni and regularly instructs Evergreen agricultural students in the art of tree grafting. Additionally, he hires high school agricultural students to work on the family farm as a way to further train the next generation of agricultural stewards. Bill himself is an American Farmer Degree recipient and member of Lytton Fox Hunters Club and Pheasants Forever.

Bill is a well-spoken, agricultural leader who has spent his life promoting Fulton County agriculture.

It is for all these reasons that we welcome William Shininger into the Fulton County Agricultural Hall of Fame.