



2010 Missouri Livestock Symposium Person of the Year **Mr. Paul Wilson** Shelbyville, Missouri

Paul Wilson was born in Shelby County in 1937. He attended a one-room school and went on to graduate from Shelbyville High School and Northeast Missouri State University, which is now Truman State University. Prior to raising livestock and farming full time, Paul taught school for six years in Meadville, Shelbyville and Troy, Missouri. Today Paul and his brother Jim own 1,100 acres and rent four additional farms that bring their operation to about 2,000 acres. The operation now consists of beef cattle and forages. The cattle operation includes an automatic feeding system and several silos that utilize high moisture corn and other commodities to finish from 500 to 1,000 cattle annually.

Paul has always had a good eye for livestock and his continued involvement in livestock production programs and education has helped build our rural communities. Paul worked with feed companies to adjust protein content and feed sources to maximize results from feeding programs and he has worked relentlessly to address the importance of forage harvest timing as it relates to forage quality and animal performance.

Paul has been an advocate for livestock producers throughout the state of Missouri. He served as treasurer on the first Board of Directors for the Missouri Beef Industry Council and later as their president. He has been involved with Farm Bureau for over 30 years where he served on numerous committees, was a Director for Area 3, vice-president of the Farm Bureau Board, and a national delegate representing Missouri. In terms of the latter, Paul worked on agriculture trade with Japan and assisted with the farm crisis of the 1980's when he worked on challenging issues related to elevator bankruptcy. He has also spent time working with the conservation commission on issues related to clean water, erosion and odor related to livestock production. In addition, he and his family have hosted numerous beef cattle tours for former Missouri Governors, Missouri Senators, producers and media.

Over the years Paul Wilson has received numerous awards. He has been the recipient of the Shelbina Chamber of Commerce Farmers Day Award, the Shelby County Extension and Grange Community Service Award, and the Jefferson City Honorary Citizen Award. He has also been awarded the Farm Credit Services Leadership and Dedicated Service Award; University of Missouri Extension Distinguished Leadership Honor Roll; University of Missouri Honorary Alumni Award; University of Missouri Farm Management Award; and the Missouri Farm Family Award.

Paul served 3 years on the Interstate Livestock Board and was a member of the Mississippi River Parkway Commission. He was chair of the Beef Resolutions Committee and served as a University of Missouri Extension Council member since 2001. He was involved with a bio-diesel production study to benefit local communities, served on the Northeast Missouri Development Authority and is currently a Director on the U. S. Highway 36 and Highway 72 corridor Board of Directors. He has been a member at his Lutheran Church for over 40 years and is the current Civic Club President and Mayor of Shelbyville. He is a member of the Shelby County Economy Development Board and active supporter of 4-H and FFA.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium is proud to recognize Paul Wilson as the 2010 Northeast Missouri Livestock Person of the Year. On behalf of our communities and the livestock industry we congratulate Paul, his wife Louise, sons Robert and Mike, and daughter Diana for this accomplishment and recognition. The livestock industry and our communities have all benefited from the hard work and service provided by Paul Wilson and his family.