



2003 Northeast Missouri Livestock Person of the Year

**Mr. Bill Sidwell
Queen City, MO**

Bill Sidwell has been selected as the 2003 Northeast Missouri Livestock Person of the Year. He will be inducted into the Missouri Livestock Symposium Wall of Fame at the 2003 Missouri Livestock Symposium on December 5, 2003 at approximately 8:15 p.m.

According to Garry Mathes, Missouri Livestock Symposium Committee Chair, "Bill Sidwell exemplifies the commitment to community and industry sought by the selection committee." Bill Sidwell served 3 times as President of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association (MCA), served as President of the Adair-Schuyler Cattlemen's Association, received the Missouri Beef Industry Council Award for "Outstanding Service to the Council", and was recently awarded the "Old Timers Award" by the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

Bill also received the MCA's Premier Award in 1995. He served on Governor Kit Bond's Agricultural Advisory Committee from 1977 to 1986 and was confirmed by the Senate to serve on the Veterinary Licensing Board Committee. In addition, Bill has served as a National Cattlemen's Association (NCA) board member, NCA Vice-President, and served on National and State Farm Bureau committees and projects.

In addition to serving the cattle producers of Missouri and the nation, Bill has also been active in his community. He received the Balanced Farming Award presented by University Outreach and Extension, was recognized by the Iowa Boy Scouts for his work with their organization, is past chairman of the Board and current member of his Methodist Church, served on the Faith Parish Council and is a charter member of the Queen City Lions Club.

Bill has said that more than all of the recognition he has received over the years, the most cherished thing he has gained by being involved in the livestock industry is the numerous friendships he and his family have been able to make with other producers all over the country. Paraphrasing Bill, "Livestock people are some of the hardest working and best people in the world and I have been blessed with the opportunity to have met my fair share of them over the years". Many of these acquaintanceships and friendships resulted from his travels when he was serving the National and Missouri Cattlemen's Association. He also traveled extensively throughout the Midwest and western states when he worked for Oppenheimer Industries, at the time the world's largest cattle producer.

Bill and his wife Eloise, reside in Queen City, MO where they presently run 120 beef cows and help with a hunting business ran by son Curtis. Other sons include David and Dennis. In addition, the Sidwells have 5 grandchildren—Sheila, Stephanie, Cole, Sarah and Jason.

Bill Sidwell exemplifies the spirit of which this award is based upon. His dedication and leadership to community and industry are testimony to his unselfish nature. As a founding member of the Missouri Livestock Symposium, Bill Sidwell continues to serve his community and industry. It is therefore, with great honor, that Bill Sidwell has been selected as the 2003 Northeast Missouri Livestock Person of the Year, and, as such, will have his portrait hung as a member of the Missouri Wall of Fame.