Honour Roll 2015 Wally Pugh



The Canadian Hereford Association congratulates Dr. Wallace (Wally) Pugh, for his induction into the 2015 Honour Roll.

Wally was born to Margaret and Lloyd Pugh in Stouffville, Ontario, as the middle child with an older sister and younger brother. The Pugh family raised Herefords on a mixed farm in Claremont, Ontario until 1970 when the farm was sold and livestock dispersed. Even from an early age, Wally knew he wanted to be a veterinarian and raise Hereford cattle.

A gifted student, Wally attended public school at Mount Pleasant Secondary School #12 and then Pickering High School. He was Honourably Graduated from high school and was accepted at the age of 17 to the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph University. After two years, he was accepted into the Ontario Veterinary College (OVC) where he completed his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 1972 at the age of 23.

Upon receiving his DVM, Wally joined a mixed veterinary practice in Forest, Ontario, where he practiced for four years. In 1976, he joined the Dufferin Veterinary Hospital in Orangeville, Ontario, to be closer to his family and shortly thereafter had the opportunity to buy into the practice.

In the mid-nineties, the large animal practice was sold. Wally and a partner purchased the small animal division which would ultimately expand into multiple locations, supporting a large staff. In 2009, Wally sold his interest in the practice but continues to work part-time, retaining loyalties to long-term clients.

While attending university, Wally met fellow student Fern and the couple married in 1972. Wally and Fern had two children - Trevor and Katie - and have since been blessed with four grandchildren. Trevor and Katie are still actively involved in the Hereford breed. Trevor has recently become a partner in the family Hereford operation, while Katie still enjoys helping at shows. She also helps announce at the local MOE show. Six-year-old granddaughter Abigail is continuing the tradition. She showed at her first Bonanza in Lindsay in 2014.

In 1984, with the purchase of the Pughs' first Herefords, Lian Mor Polled Herefords was formed. Over the years, the herd has grown to 45 head and now supports a second farm just down the road where Trevor and wife Amy live. Cattle are marketed through the Autumn Alliance Sale, through the Breeders of Wellington County Club Hereford influence sales, through Zone sales and by private treaty.

The Pughs exhibit and show their cattle at Mark of Excellence (MOE) Shows, including the Royal Winter Fair and Agribition. A couple show highlights over the years include winning the National Reserve Grand Champion Bull at the Royal, Grand Champion at the Royal and Champion Female at the Knob Hill Farm Show. Many cattle with the Lian Mor prefix have gone on to be Champions.

Lian Mor Herefords have been sold across Canada, the USA, Russia and Kazakhstan. Wally attends sales in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

As a strong supporter of the Hereford Breed, Wally has been active on many boards and committees over the years. He is on the Barrie MOE Show Committee and he Chairs the Orangeville MOE Show Committee. He has been a Director of the West-Central Zone since 1986 and a Director of the Ontario Hereford Association board since the early nineties, on which he served as President in 1999/2000. In 2004, he chaired the National Hereford Show at the Royal Winter Fair. Nationally, Wally has served as a Director on the board of the Canadian Hereford Association since 2006 and has led the board as President in 2008/2009. He has been a member of every CHA committee and Chaired both the Show and Marketing Committees. An active member of other beef and 4-H show committees, Wally rarely misses a meeting. Wally has also been invited to judge many beef cattle shows, some 4-H shows and some Hereford MOE shows.

To promote Canadian Herefords, Wally attends the National Western Stock Show in Denver and has travelled to Ireland, England, New Zealand, Australia, Russia and Kazakhstan. When Canadian Herefords were exported to Russia and Kazakhstan he assisted with the shipments and was instrumental in placing Canadian Expertise into Russia. When Canada hosted the World Hereford Conference in 2012, Wally organized Ontario's participation.

Growing up, Wally was a 4-H member and continued to be involved as Leader of the Dufferin Veterinary 4-H Science Club for over a decade. An active youth, he played hockey until Junior level and has enjoyed curling for over 20 years, serving the Orangeville Curling Club as executive board member. Wally is also a Life Member of the Orangeville Agricultural Society and has been acting President and Secretary of the Abby Investment Club for the past 15 years. He also volunteers for the Salvation Army at Christmas for the Kettle Drive and Food Hamper distribution.

Wally has always volunteered a large portion of his time and for nearly 40 years, the Lions Club has been a big part of his life. He holds a Lifetime Membership for the Orangeville Lions Club and has served in many capacities including Governor for District 9, which covers a large part of Ontario. Wally spent 15 years on the board of directors for Lions Homes for the Deaf and was the Ontario Chair of Fundraising for the Lions Canada Foundation where he led a campaign that raised over four million dollars to benefit their Dog Guides Program. He chaired the campaign to elect a Director for Lions Club International and chaired the Youth Exchange for Ontario and Quebec. Wally has received three awards for his High Level of Leadership and was awarded the prestigious Helen Keller Fellowship Award for his involvement with hearing and sight impairment. Wally is a Melvin Jones Fellow – a significant award from the Lions Clubs International.

A fantastic representative for Ontario and the Hereford breed, Wally is always happy to support juniors and welcome new breeders to the Hereford family.