

Honour Roll Ernie & Marge McDonald



The Canadian Hereford Association congratulates Ernie and Marge McDonald on their induction into the Canadian Hereford Association's Honour Roll.

Ernie was born January 28, 1948 in Shoal Lake, Manitoba. Marge was born December 5, 1951, in Teulon, Manitoba. Ernie graduated high school from Strathclair and continued on to take Insurance courses at Brandon, Oil rig courses, and explosive and first aid courses. Marge graduated high school from Gimli, and went on to Assiniboine Community College Health Care where she completed home care courses. Ernie and Marge spent their first year in Alberta after being married June 19, 1971. They moved back to the farm in March of 1972, starting with no Herefords and three quarters of land. In 1973 they started their family with twin boys, Tom and Tim, thus starting the farm name Twin View Polled Herefords. It had always been Ernie's dream to have Hereford cattle. In 1974 Ernie started his Hereford herd by purchasing heifers from Whitegate Polled Herefords and

Vern Kartanson. Their first bull came from the Fulford brothers. In 1976 their daughter Janelle was born. Marge says this was a blessing because boys prevail in both sides of the family. The entire family was involved in the 1987 Bonanza and they enjoy being a part of the Royal Manitoba Winter fair in Brandon. Janelle was Manitoba Hereford Queen in 1988. Ernie and Marge assisted in hockey and volleyball tournaments, 4-H and fair setups, interclub 4-H set-up and show and Strathclair Ag Society for 10 years.

Ernie and Marge were both 4-H leaders for years. Ernie worked on the oil rigs when times were tough, and both Ernie and Marge say there were times when things were tough! He managed and owned his own carpentry company for about 15 years while farming, buying cattle and expanding their land base. Some of Ernie's carpentry projects were their house in 1993, barn in 2003, and retirement home in 2010, just down the road from the farm. Marge served as a Girl Guides Club leader and a health care aid for 22 years. She was appointed by the Minister of Agriculture to the Manitoba Crop Insurance Appeal Board for 9 years.

Ernie and Marge started showing Herefords on the "Milk Run"; Monday in Oak River, Tuesday in Strathclair, Wednesday in Shoal Lake, Thursday in Hamiota, and Friday in Harding. They also showed at Minnedosa and Rivers. Ernie believes in his AI program to help influence their breeding program, but he prefers walking bulls. Ernie is very particular with his females. The femininity and udder development have to

meet his profile. Over the years Twin View Polled Herefords kept growing in cattle and grain land. The operation is now 23 quarters in total with an additional eight rented quarters. The kids helped a lot on the farm in addition to their extra-curricular activities which included hockey, volleyball, 4-H, interclub and 2 plays in Strathclair.

Ernie was a director of the Manitoba Hereford Association for 4 years and president for 1 year. Ernie was director of the Manitoba Beef Cattle Performance Association Bull Test Station at Douglas for two years. Ernie was Hereford Man of the Year in 1986. Ernie and Marge provided sponsorships to juniors, by sponsoring classes at Bonanza and Ag Expo. They have participated in various sales throughout the years including the Spring Fever Sale in 1987, Genetic Edge Sale in 1989, Good as Gold Sale, three production sales in 2005, 2009 and 2016, and they also sell bulls and female packages to commercial breeders. They have had many successes at shows including Reserve Champion at Lundar Bull Show & Sale, two Grand Champion Bulls at Brandon Ag EX, premier breeder and exhibitor in 2017 and premier breeder in 2018 at Brandon Ag Ex.

Twin View Polled Hereford genetics have been sold to Russia, Australia, Chile, Uruguay, New Zealand, Denmark and Spain. They have also attended the Denver National Stock Show.

